

'The Forum'

December 2022

Vol. 24 No. 12



Visit our website at <https://www.metalsmith.org>



TGoM's annual holiday gathering is set for Sunday, December 4 at the CSPS Hall in St. Paul, MN

Join Guild of Metalsmiths families for our annual holiday gathering at the CSPS Hall in St. Paul (address 383 Michigan St., St. Paul, MN 55102, at the corner of West 7th and Western). The hall will open at noon. We usually share hors d'ouvres as people arrive, so bring your favorites if you wish.

The annual business meeting is first on the agenda, including awards, elections, and the normal business stuff starting at 1:00 pm and going on for an hour or so. See article below for a proposed bylaws change to be discussed. Your participation is key to this. That leads into show and tell, and possibly an impromptu mini-auction. By then, we'll all have worked up an appetite to sit down to our always delightful holiday potluck. Please bring a dish to pass.

If you're a first-timer to this event, just go upstairs at the front of the building when you get there. An elevator entrance is also located on the side just off the parking lot. Bring your family!

Any questions about this meeting can be answered by contacting meeting champion Mike Fratton at icemanfratt@aol.com.

Proposed change to TGoM bylaws

Below is a proposed change in the Meeting section of TGoM's bylaws. The TGoM board is proposing to remove the words "THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE", in the paragraph about the membership meetings.

The new language proposes this sentence to state "GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS SHALL BE HELD SIX TIMES A YEAR. MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED FOR THE MONTHS OF FEBRUARY, APRIL, JUNE, AUGUST, OCTOBER, AND DECEMBER. THE DAY, TIME, AND PLACE OF THE MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS WILL BE POSTED IN THE 2 PREVIOUS FORUMS."

To read the entire MEETINGS section and/or the bylaws in their entirety, please follow the hyperlink below to the bylaws page on our website, under the "MEETINGS" paragraph:

<https://www.metalsmith.org/about/bylaws/>



About the CSPS Hall

Built in 1887, the C.S.P.S. Hall is the longest serving national hall in Minnesota as well as the longest serving Czech-Slovak hall in continuous use in the United States. In 1977 the C.S.P.S. Hall was declared a National and State Historic Site.

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota embodies more than 150 years of culture and tradition! They welcome all, regardless of nationality and cultural background.

Visit their website for background info at: <https://www.sokolmn.org/vitejte-welcome/>

QUICKNEWS...

Handled Struck Tools Workshop Saturday, Dec. 3

Handled Struck Tools Workshop featuring Jesse & Dave Gavin is full!

Flag Bar Tongs Class Saturday, January 28, 2023

Dave Gavin, Instructor. Page 2 to register.

Help Wanted: Audio Technician

Page 5 for details.

Zombie Killer/Chopping Knife Class

Saturday & Sunday, March 4 and 5, 2023. Paul Widenhoefer, instructor. Page 2 to register.

February Guild Meeting Announcement 'heads up'

Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2023 at the Minnesota Transportation Museum, Jackson Street Roundhouse. Page 4 for details.

Happy Holidays!



Volunteer?

Are you looking for volunteer opportunities and not sure whom to talk to? Contact: Kim Maas, Volunteer Coordinator at: tgom.volunteer@gmail.com or call 651-328-7219.

Handled Struck Tools Workshop is full!

Saturday, Dec. 3, 8 am to 5 pm

If questions, contact: Herb Fick, herb@phyque.com . Herb is very proud of the fact that this class has never failed to fill!

Flat Bar Tongs Class

Saturday, January 28, 2023, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing (map page 7)

Instructor: Dave Gavin – Jesse Gavin assisting and class champion

Cost - \$65

Maximum 8, Minimum 4 students

Lunch – Local restaurants or bring your own

Class Description – Learn to make flat bar tongs from bar stock. These tongs are useful for holding bar stock and forging the hard way. They could be used as a knife makers set of tongs. Flat Bar Tongs for 1/4" thick material – between 3/4" and 1" wide, the tongs will grab from the edge of the bar stock. A photo of the final design will be included in the next Forum.

Tools to bring: proper safety attire, favorite hammers, tongs to hold 5/16" X 3/4" & 1/4" flat stock, hot cut chisel, files – flat, half round, round

Suggested tools: an arm that is in shape to be able to swing your favorite hammer

To register: send a check payable to "The Guild of Metalsmiths" to Jesse Gavin N8214 330th street Spring Valley WI 54767 and/or call at 715-808-5891



Acceptance priority for this class will be determined by postmark.

Zombie Killer/Chopping Knife Class

Saturday & Sunday, March 4 and 5, 2023

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing (map page 6) 9 am to 5 pm both days

Instructor: Paul Widenhoefer

Cost: \$140 (covers metal, coal, handle material & some abrasives)

Minimum of 4 students. Maximum of 8 students (More if there are parent/child participants) Minimum age 14-Must be accompanied by an adult.

Lunch: local restaurants or bring your own

Do you fear the zombie apocalypse? Do thoughts of a worldwide economic collapse and pandemics send you scurrying for your bug-out bag? Or perhaps you just want a good chopping knife capable of doing some hard work? If so, we are offering a knife making class for you! It is designed for someone with little forging experience, but can accommodate those with a more advanced skill set.

We will be covering basic knife forging, knife design, heat treatment, grinding, sharpening and attaching handles. Participants should leave with a finished (or nearly finished) primitive style knife ready for rough use. Due to time and facility limitations this is NOT a class to make a kitchen knife.

Instructor will be Paul Widenhoefer, longtime member of the Guild and the American Bladesmith Society and all-around knife nerd.

To register, please send your contact info including email address and phone # where you can be contacted and a check for \$140 made to "The Guild of Metalsmiths" to:

Paul Widenhoefer

3618 Robin Lane

Minnetonka, MN 55305

Questions? Contact:

Email: pwidenhoefer@gmail.com

Phone: (952) 930-0070 (home) (612) 408-5007 (cell)



Acceptance priority for this class will be determined by postmark.

GUILD OF METALSMITHS' BOARD MEETING

November 9, 2022 BY ZOOM

Called to order @ 7:02 p.m.

Members present: Gordon Barr, Christina Dodge, Taya Gavin, Jesse Gavin, Mark Lockwood, Kim Maas, Derrick Phillips, Larry Wasmund, Paul Widenhoefer, and Richard Zielike

Absent: Martin Masters

Guests: Heather McNabney and Martin Pansch

Minutes: M/Derrick, S/Mark, Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report-Taya-

Business...#6965	\$4,964.61
Business.....7138	4962.12
Savings.....7520	64,673.87

Membership-Gordon-251 paid members, which is steady. 5-6 people are receiving multiple copies of the Metalsmith. Neon is working very well.

Program -Derrick-The Linder's meeting was very well received. The holiday party is going forward. Our February meeting is at the Roundhouse on February 8th. April's meeting location is undetermined, and the June meeting will be at The Landing in Shakopee. We have one demonstrator for the fall conference.

Education-Christina-Both the beginning blacksmith and oxy/acetylene classes went well. Kim will be the champion of the next oxy/acetylene class next year. The joinery class had only one person signed up, and the hand struck tools class is full. The tongs class is going to be January 28th, and the knife class is scheduled for March 4 & 5th and will be advertised in the December Forum.

Communications-Kim-The December issue of the Metalsmith needs the promised articles, and we still need the write up for the fall conference. Peter would like the board members to do articles for the Metalsmith. The Iron Menagerie is going forward, and we have two demonstrators who are willing to add more animal heads to the publication. There was considerable discussion on whether to have it published as a spiral bound or a coffee table book. We need to get pricing and let the membership decide on the binding.

We would also like to change the third-party provider for the website and would like to include the other classes under the Education banner on the website. We will be getting past issues of the Metalsmith downloaded on the website over the winter.

We send out 110 postcards to expired members and we have copies of the Metalsmith at the School of Horseshoeing and the Roundhouse.

We are looking at the Amazon Smile Program which donates 0.5% of eligible purchases to the charitable organization of the purchaser's choice.

We discussed getting a new laptop for Georgia. M/Jessie S/Derrick to authorize up to \$1000 for a new laptop for Georgia with the appropriate software. Motion approved.

Heather and Martin joined the meeting with a project they are looking at starting. More details will be provided once the initial stage is completed.

New business-Larry-Dick Carlson knows someone who has 2-3000 fire bricks-they're free, but you must take them all.

Awards were discussed. Nominations were to be sent to Larry over the weekend and then we will vote on them. The Roundhouse has lights and heat. Most of the tools are wired for power. We could use some more blowers and larger anvils.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Richard Zielike, Recorder

Hello from your library!



DECORATIVE IRONWORK -by the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas-London-final reprint in 1973.

This month's book has only 79 pages (and that includes the index) but it's written for a skilled smith. It includes 127 photographs and illustrations (black and white) on how to make grills with flat stock—the grill in the front cover (shown below) was made with 1 X 1/4-inch flat stock. There is a total of seven different designs in the book and a step-by-step process on how to make each one. Despite showing each process, you still need to be able to measure, cut, drift, and rivet REALLY, REALLY, ACCURATELY. (again-just look at the front cover).

Almost all the work can be done with just a forge and an anvil. If you need some tools there are patterns on how to make those. There is only one grill that requires an 'arc welding plant' (it's a British publication, anyway) and that's just to hold the scrolls in place for forge welding.

This book is meant to be followed in a step-by-step process. The table of contents begins thusly:

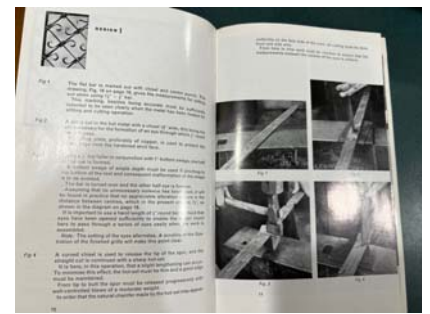
Important

A famous American humorist once described a certain type of film as "films which began in the middle for the benefit of people who come in the middle."

Unlike such films, this volume has been designed to be read from the beginning. It is directed principally at craftsman: men who start the job at the beginning and patiently carry on through their task with the determination to achieve results of the highest quality in the end.

We respectfully ask readers to begin at the beginning. You can begin by asking for it. It's currently at my nightstand. We got it from the Bob Werner estate.

— Richard Zielike, Librarian



This is a picture of the cover and a picture of Step 1.

February 8, 2023, TGoM Membership Meeting 'heads up'!

The Wednesday, February 8, 2023, membership meeting will be at the Jackson Street Roundhouse. (193 W. Pennsylvania Ave, St. Paul, MN 55130)

For the meeting, we will have blacksmithing and tool sharpening demonstrations in the blacksmith shop.

We invite all the members to bring items for show and tell. Please remember items that you have shown in the past may not have been seen by some of the newer members.

The usual potluck will start at 6:30 followed by a short business meeting, then show and tell. The champion is Kim Maas ([TGoMvolunteer@gmail](mailto:TGoMvolunteer@gmail.com)), and Gordon Barr (agbarr@metalsmith.org) is the site contact, so contact either one of them if you have any questions

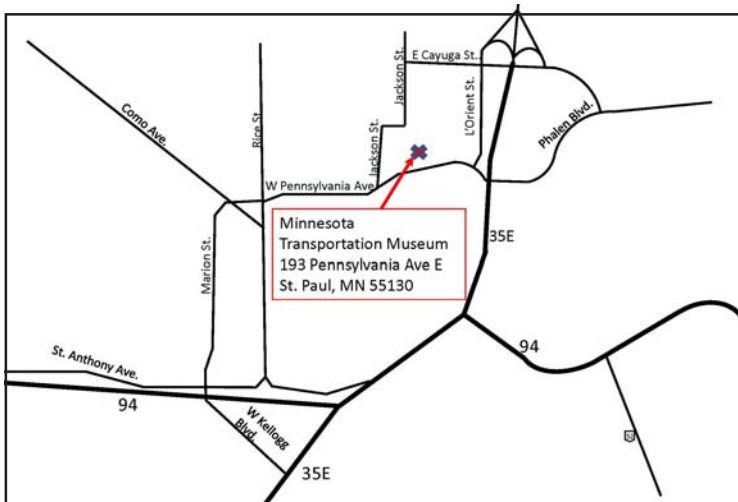
If you have never been to this location, it is loaded with history and activities for the entire family. Check out their website at <https://www.transportationmuseum.org>. If you look at <https://mtm.my-free.website/blacksmith-forge>, you may see some of the pictures of what the blacksmith shop looked like when Nick Heinen, Charlie Bateman and Gordon Barr created it in 2012.

Invite and bring someone new who is interested in the world of metalsmithing to the February Membership Meeting. Show them the wonderful community The Guild of Metalsmiths has to offer.

Map to Jackson Street Roundhouse, 193 W. Pennsylvania Ave, St. Paul, MN 55130 at the Minnesota Transportation Museum



Gordon Barr is shown here at the Jackson Street Roundhouse blacksmith shop that was recently re-done and re-opened.



Getting 'Metalsmith' back on track.

Peter Bettenberg and Asa Pearson are working very hard to get METALSMITH magazine published on a quarterly basis. But as you know, the magazine is occasionally behind schedule. *Why is this??*

The simple answer is—lack of new content. METALSMITH magazine needs the membership to submit articles to tgomeditor@gmail.com.

What kind of content is METALSMITH looking for? Here are a couple of ideas (but not limited to):

- √ Photos of and a couple paragraphs about your projects – new or old.
- √ Share with the membership the work you do for The Guild.
- √ Subjects that you and other metalworkers might be interested in.
- √ Book reviews.

Do you need to be a reporter or English major to submit an article? The answer is *NO*. They except my submissions and I am neither a reporter nor have a degree in English. Everyone is invited to submit articles. The editing team members for METALSMITH are very competent at taking your rough draft and polishing it up to make an interesting, engaging article.

METALSMITH is a snapshot in time, a historical documentation of The Guild of Metalsmith, and really should reflect that. One of the goals is to publish Guild-related articles, not reprinting other organization's publications regularly.

One of the things I appreciate about being a member of the Guild is all the opportunities the Guild has granted me. One of many opportunities is that my 11 y/o grandson and I have our photographs and articles published in METALSMITH, therefore we are "published" photographers and authors (who would have thought)! This opportunity alone allows us to brag to our friends and family while sharing METALSMITH with them. A sense of pride comes with this opportunity.

Please consider writing articles and sharing your photographs with the membership via METALSMITH.

— Kim Maas, Volunteer Coordinator

Help Wanted: Audio Technician

Requirements/Qualifications:

- Ability to lift 50lbs.
- Possess basic knowledge of audio equipment, or interest in learning.
- Ability to store (temperature/humidity-controlled) and transport approx. 24 cubic feet of audio equipment.
- Must attend entire Fall Conference.
- Must attend majority of membership meetings and the Christmas Party.

Specific Tasks and Responsibilities:

- Bring enough/proper audio gear to each membership meeting.
- Bring all audio gear to Fall Conference.
- Set-up and personally manage all audio operations.
- Audio liaison to demonstrators and their helpers.
- Clean, maintain, and test audio gear on a regular basis.
- Determine audio needs for coming year and work with board on purchases.

Contact either: Kim Maas, Volunteer Coordinator, tgomvolunteer@gmail.com, 651-328-7219

or Peter Bettenberg, bettenberg@hotmail.com, 651-777-5300

For Sale

Selling a coal forge with hand crank blower, hood, 13 tongs, and a 350 pound steel top table. Blower works well. \$800 or best offer. Located in Stockholm, Wisconsin. Email Wallace Zick at wallace.zick.jr@gmail.com.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Contact Gordon Barr at agbarr@aol.com or 952-894-4821 if you would like to volunteer to help throughout the year with Boy Scout blacksmith merit badge at the MN School of Horseshoeing.
- Contact Patrick Sullivan at smokiemilo@gmail.com or 651-894-3765 if you would like to volunteer to help throughout the year with Boy Scout welding merit badge in Chisago MN.

FYI:

The Jackson Street Roundhouse (at the Minnesota Transportation Museum) is now open for blacksmithing! Contact Gordon Barr for details at agbarr@aol.com



TGoM Membership Perks: Discounts

The following companies are extending discounts to The Guild of Metalsmiths members.

You will need to ask for their Guild of Metalsmiths discount, show your membership card (found on the back of your "Metalsmith"), and a Picture ID.

These discounts are a gift to us and can be taken away if they are abused. If you have a hobby shop, no problem. If you are a professional with a few employees, no problem. What is not fair, is turning yourself into a dealership by reselling/trading products that you have purchased with our discount or being a big company and using our discount for your bottom line. Please don't ruin this for everyone. These businesses deserve our recognition and patronage:

Please see The Guild of Metalsmiths website for additional information regarding discounts and products available: <https://www.metalsmith.org/about/friends-of-the-guild/>

Carhartt at Work Program

Mall of America
144 North Garden Bloomington, MN 612-318-6422
or

Riverdale Village Mall
12680 Riverdale Blvd. Coon Rapids, MN 952-885-8000
www.carhartt.com

15% on almost everything in the store, except Flame Retardant (FR) gear, which is 10% off whether you shop online or at Mall of America.

Minnesota Glove & Safety & Bob's Workwear

West St. Paul, MN 651-552-8840
www.minnesotaglove.com 10%
discount off merchandise not already on sale or discounted

Smith-Sharpe Fire Brick Supply

2129 Broadway St NE, Minneapolis, MN 612-331-1345
www.ssfs.com 866-545-6743

The quantity of product purchased dictates the normal "Level" of discount. Smith-Sharpe Fire Brick Supply is offering one discount "Level" better to Guild members. It will vary with types of products, but may average about 10%.

Garelick Steel Company

Minneapolis, MN 612-521-8857 888-521-8857
www.garelicksteel.com

10% discount for members

Mississippi Welders Supply

Seven locations between MN & WI. 800-657-4422
www.mwsc.com

See website or phone book for locations. 15% discount on gases and most instore items that are not already marked as a sale item or already at a discount from MSRP for members.

Toll Gas and Welding Supply

Eight Twin City metro locations. 763-551-5300
www.tollgas.com

See website or phone book for location near you. 15% off of gases and most in-store items, for Guild members.

Oxygen Service Co.

St. Paul, MN 651-774-7273 800-774-1336
www.oxygenservicecompany.com

15% discount on gases and most items that are not already marked on sale for members.

Division V Sheet Metal

218 Ohio Street, St. Paul MN 55107 651-291-8662
<http://divisionv.com/>

Architectural sheet metal company: zinc, steel, copper, Cor-Ten, aluminum, composite

Our neighborhood of smiths

The Guild of Metalsmiths (TGoM)

All membership meetings are the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, and October, except December. For these meetings a potluck meal begins at 6:30 pm and the business meeting begins at 7, with a demonstration or activity starting around 8 (times approximate). To check your membership expiration date, see the mailing label on your latest copy of "Metalsmith."

President: Larry Wasmund Vice-President: Paul Widenhoefer
poundedtreasures@gmail.com pwidenhoefer@gmail.com
612-599-4762 952-930-0070

Our website is: <http://www.metalsmith.org>

Badger Blacksmiths meetings

Our contact information:

President: Dave Weiss Newsletter editor: John Grump
715-379-5007 715-829-4559
diamondmetalworks13@gmail.com johngrump@att.net

Badger website: <https://sites.google.com/site/badgerblacksmiths/>

Lake Superior Metalsmiths

Lake Superior Metalsmiths (LSM) meet the fourth Saturday of the month. Potluck at noon with meeting to follow.

Contacts are:

Charley Brown, President, CharleyRB@charter.net, 218-428-7906
Dave Hanson, VP, duluthblacksmith@yahoo.com 218-391-4466

Northern Minnesota Metalsmiths

The NMM meets the first Monday of the month at Lake Itasca Region Pioneer Farmers (LIRPF) show grounds, 1/4 mile east of the north entrance to Itasca State Park.

Contact Keith Johnson for monthly specifics at keith@greatriverforge.com. The NMM's website is www.nmmetalsmiths.org

Central Minnesota Blacksmiths (CMB)

Meet on the first Monday of each month. Potluck followed by demo. Locations are different every month so please call or write for info

President: Ken Zitur

320-746-8161
mail@kensiron.com

Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center (CAFAC)

Quarterly blacksmithing classes, exhibits, and open house events
www.cafac.org email: info@cafac.org

Tunnel Mill Crafts

Blacksmith shop, traditional iron work, classes
Located 20 miles south of Rochester MN, near Spring Valley MN
507 289-4189 or 507 289-5246
Carol Adams jc-adams@msn.com,
<http://www.tunnelmillcrafts.com/>

Sandy Lake Forge on Raspberry Island

Blacksmith shop offering classes, workshops and more. See raspberryislandfolkschool.blogspot.com for details or call: 218-851-6085

Gary and Janet Hill Raspberry Island
50569 218th Place Mcgregor, MN 55760

Goings on...a listing of TGoM events at a glance



- All membership meetings are the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, and October. Date for December will be announced. For these meetings a potluck meal begins at 6:30 pm and the business meeting begins at 7, with a demonstration or activity starting around 8 (times approximate).
- Education Comm. meets first Thursday of each month. Contact Christina Dodge, co-chair: christina.guildmbr@gmail.com
- Program Comm. meetings are 7 pm the third Thursday monthly. Derrick Phillips, chair DerrickPhillipsA3o3@gmail.com
- All board meetings are the second Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November. Potluck meal begins at 6:30, with meeting starting at 7 pm.

December 2022 Events

Dec. 3, Handled Struck Tools Workshop, MN School of Horseshoeing
 Dec. 4, TGoM holiday gathering and annual meeting, CSPS Hall, St. Paul

January 2023 Events

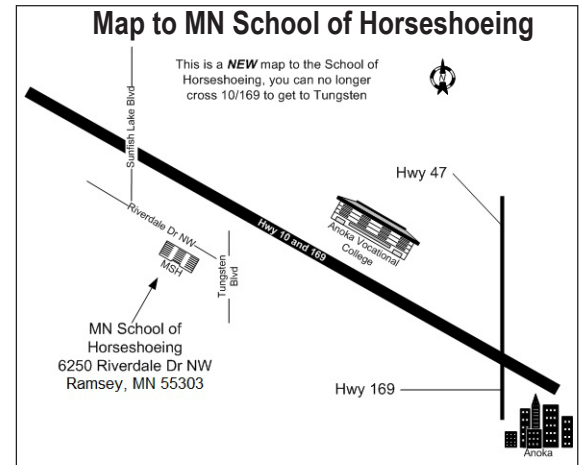
Jan. 28, Flat Bar Tongs Class, MN School of Horseshoeing

February 2023 Events

Feb. 8, TGoM Membership Meeting, MN Transportation Museum

March 2023 Events

March 4 & 5, Zombie Killer/Chopping Knife Class, MN School of Horseshoeing



Join The Guild of Metalsmiths

Send \$30 dues to the address below. Please circle if you want to be listed in our membership directory and/or check items you don't want listed.

The Guild of Metalsmiths
 PO Box 72
 Hudson, WI 54016

List Me
 in the directory
 but don't list

Don't List Me
 in the Directory

address - phones: home - work - fax - cell - email - web page
(circle items above you DO NOT want published)

Name: _____

Email address: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Primary phone: _____ Secondary phone: _____

All memberships are family memberships. Persons of all ages, professionals and hobbyists, are invited to join.
 We do not sell our mailing list.

ELECTRONIC FORUM

If you have not been receiving an email notification that The Forum is available, please verify that we have your correct email address.
 Contact Gordon Barr at agbarr@aol.com.



Address Service Requested

If you have items to be included in *The Forum*, please send them to Georgia Myers, editor, by email to: gldmyers@embarqmail.com by the third Monday of the month, if possible.

The Guild of Metalsmiths on the web

Visit our website at <https://www.metalsmith.org>

Looking for something? Try the search engine. On our home page, at the top of the right sidebar, enter your query and click on "Search."

December 2022

Your membership expiration date will show on the address label of your quarterly "Metalsmith" magazine.

TGoM now accepts Paypal and most major credit cards

The Guild accepts Paypal and most major credit cards, in addition to paper checks, for the payment of annual dues. This should make it more convenient for members to pay dues.

The Forum

The Guild of Metalsmiths publishes The GoM Forum monthly. It is intended as a tool to further our educational mission, to keep members up to date on current happenings, to publicize projects and workshops, a place for all members to express their opinions, concerns, learn more about each other—in short, to help us run our organization.

Guild educational grants

There is grant money available for Guild members to study intermediate and advanced metalworking techniques.

The Guild educational grant program is designed to bring new skills into the metalworking community. Participants are given money to pay for a portion of their expenses and are expected to learn some new or poorly understood skill, and then to share what they have learned with other members and the public through an article in our quarterly magazine, "Metalsmith." They're also expected to lead a workshop on the topic (or other educational service approved by the board).

Application forms are available from the president or treasurer at a regular meeting, or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

The Guild of Metalsmiths
PO Box 72
Hudson, WI 54016