Vol. 25 No. 10

October 2023



'The Forum'

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

The Guild of Metalsmiths October Membership Meeting

Our October meeting on Wednesday, October 11, will be at the Brooklyn Park Campus of the Hennepin Technical College (9000 Brooklyn Boulevard, Brooklyn Park, MN 55445) at 6:30 pm for potluck, 7:00 pm for business meeting, and then touring the Welding and Machine Tool Departments.



Instruction on parking (see map): please park in the "Student Lot 4," on the right after you enter the school driveway off Brooklyn Blvd. We will eat in the cafeteria (follow signs provided by Kim Maas), and then proceed to the west side of the school to the Welding and Machine Shop departments.

HTC-Brooklyn Park has a rather extensive welding program. The welding program covers MIG, TIG, Stick, acetylene, and cutting. You can learn how to weld in the flat, vertical, overhead positions. They have a TIG welder that will weld .4-inch piece of stock, and a shear that will cut a 4-foot piece of 1/2" steel plate without any effort

I have been taking advantage of my (physical) maturity (over age 62) and taking some welding classes, and a CAD class for under \$10 a credit. They also have a machining program and auto repair and auto body.

Meeting champion: Richard Zielike Please call or email Richard with questions: richard@edinaclock.com or 612-860-6120



Part of the welding shop.



Part of the machine shop.



MIG welding stations.



This metal shear can cut a 4 foot piece of 1/2" steel without a problem.

Photos courtesy of Richard Zielike.



The grinding stations at the welding department.



55--ton bending press for testing welds.

QUICKNEWS...

Fall 2023 Beginning Blacksmithing Class

There are still openings in the Fall Beginners Class. Page 2 to register.

Fall Conference Contest

See page 2 for winners!

Oxy/Acetylene Class

Register on page 3 for this year's Oxy/Acetylene Class scheduled for Oct. 14 & 15.

Register now for these 2 upcoming classes

1. Pipe Tomahawk Project Class Oct. 22 at the MN School of Horseshoeing. Register page 3. 2. Hammer Rack Class (Project/ Joinery skills), 2-day class, Oct. 28-29. at the MN School of Horseshoeing. Register page 4.

Trivet Class 2023

Register info is on page 4 for this Nov. 18 Trivet Class to be held at the MN School of Horseshoeing.



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.

New 'Iron Menagerie' book

The new version of The Guild's IRON MENAGERIE workbook is now available to purchase.! Cost 20 (+10 S/H if mailed). Contact person: Peter Bettenberg tgomeditor@gmail.com



Registration is still open for Fall 2023 Beginners Blacksmithing classes

October 7, 14, and 21, 2023 at Minnesota School of Horseshoeing, Ramsey, MN

The beginners basic classes are designed to give everyone the same understanding of the basics, techniques and terminology. The basic classes or proficiency is required before taking any of the many other classes the Guild offers. This enables those classes to concentrate on advanced techniques without having to spend time on basic concepts.

This 3 day class covers the basics of: Safety, Tools, Fire Control, Forging Dynamics, Tapers (ribbon, fishtail, point), Twisting, Riveting, Shouldering, Upset, Cutting, Splitting, Punching, Heat Treat, Scrolling, Bending, Forge weld.

Cost: (covers everything you need: the facility, coal, metal tools and workbook) \$180 for members, \$190 non members

Minors (under 18) must have a parent present. There will be no sharing of forges.

Location: The classes are held on Saturdays at the Minnesota School of Horseshoeing, 6250 Riverdale Dr NW, Ramsey MN 55303, just off Hwy 10 near the Anoka Vocational College.

To register, Send a check made out to The Guild of Metalsmiths to:

George Auel

1865 Wellesley Avenue

St Paul, MN 55105

Phone: 651-262-7424 george.auel@gmail.com

(\$180 for members, \$190 non members)

Full details can be found at The Guild of Metalsmiths' website: https://www.metalsmith.org/education/beginners-blacksmithing-classes/

2023 Fall Conference Highlights

Fall Conference Contest Winners!

For the 2023 Fall Conference, members were to design & create a unique item for one of two fall conference contests. The basic contest was a *Key Fob Contest* and the advanced contest was a *Leafs/Flowers Contest*. Members could enter one contest, not both. **Rules:**

- Contest was open to all.
- Entry to be made of metal. All entries were donated to the Saturday auction.
- Auction sale price determined winners.
- Contest cash prizes were awarded.

Basic Contest cash prizes		Advanced Cash Prizes	
First Place:	\$50	First Place	\$100
Second Place	\$30	Second Place	\$60
Third Place:	\$20	Third Place	\$40

Basic Winners	Advanced Winners		
1st: Sara Gries	1st: Bob Brown		
2nd: Bill Lassiter	2nd: Tom Latane'		
3rd: Asa Pearson	3rd: Derrick Phillips		
The total income for both contests was \$1,275.			

'The Gallery' and the auction are always crowd-pleasers!



"Teddy Bear" by Allan Kress



Forge with all the fixins' created and donated to the auction by Patrick Sullivan. It went for \$260!



"Excavator" Found art project created by Dean Ziegenbaum and donated to the auction.

The demonstrators and their assistants



Glenn Horr was assisted by Jesse Gavin.



Pre-conference class students created decorative hinges as instructed by Glenn Horr.

Family Activities: potholders



(L to r): Dean Ziegenbaum, Paula Wasmund, Terri Lind (instructor), and Sheri Stanaitis created handwoven potholders during the afternoon.



Allan Kress was assisted by Rick Wessling.

Found Art



(L to r): Herb Fick, Marty Masters, and Don Hammer kept the artists at the found art trailer busy.



Artists at the found art trailer.

Oxy/Acetylene Welding 2-day class

Saturday & Sunday, October 14 & 15, 2023, 9:00 to 4:30 each day Location: Myron Hanson's East Eagan Blacksmith Shop, 4015 Dodd Road, East Eagan, MN Instructors: Myron Hanson, Bob Brown, and Dick Carlson

Cost: \$125 Guild member, \$145 non-member

Maximum students: 8

Class Description: New to gas welding? Just want to brush up your basic skills? This class focuses on safety and hands-on learning. Students will be working at individual stations on a shared workbench, with equipment and stock provided. If time permits, bonus demonstrations will show advanced techniques and uses of the oxyacetylene torch.

Tools & Equipment:

All tools, equipment, and stock are furnished.

Safety Equipment:

Students should be prepared for sparks and melted/hot metal: common safety garb (leather footwear and clothing

made of cotton, leather, or wool --no synthetics, no cuffs or frayed edges) plus eye protection with a #5 lens, either in a face shield (preferred), goggles or glasses. If you wear corrective lenses, bring those, too. Cloth cap is optional, gloves are recommended.

Lunch:

Pack a lunch, or there are convenience stores/fast food joints in the area. **To register**, send a check written to "The Guild of Metalsmiths" and mail, along with

your contact information, to: Kim Maas 965 Gorman Ave. West St. Paul, MN 55118

New: you can register online for this welding class here:

https://metalsmithdev.wpengine.com/education/description-and-instructions-for-oxy -acetylene-welding-2-day-class/

Acceptance priority for this class will be determined by postmark and each person will be notified individually.

Questions? Email tgom.volunteer@gmail.com

Pipe Tomahawk Class

Sunday, 22 October 2023, Start time 9:00 am, MN School of Horseshoeing (map page 7) Instructor: Martin Pansch, 612-599-4762 <u>blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com</u>

Class size: Max 8, Min 5 Cost: \$125

Class Description: A pipe tomahawk was a ceremonial item for Native American people from the late 17th to late 19th century. Often given as a gift at treaty signings, it was often a highly decorative item containing and access the theorem will be forcing a second se

tive item containing symbols of both violence and peace. In this class we will be forging one using mostly traditional techniques.

Students will start with a piece of thick walled pipe that is split. We will open the two halves, shape it around a drift, and forge weld the halves together. We'll forge weld a tool steel bit into the cutting end then forge and cut the blade to shape before turning our attention to the pipe end. If time allows we will dive into heat treating and decoration.

A firm grasp of blacksmithing basics is essential for the best chance of success in this class. Experience with forge welding is helpful as well.

Tools and Equipment or other items participants are to bring to the class.

A good cross peen hammer (the peen can't be too sharp), rounding hammer, hacksaw, wire brush, flux, hot rasp, hot set/cut, tongs for holding 1/8" to 3/16" flat, tongs for holding 1" round might be useful but not necessary. A good half round file and $\frac{1}{2}$ " diameter round file if you have them, in case we get into decoration. If you have a $\frac{1}{2}$ " round spring fuller or guillotine tool you can bring that too otherwise we will have several to share.

Safety Equipment – safety glasses, ear protections, work gloves, long pants, no open toe shoes, and no synthetic fiber clothing. A shop apron is suggested as forge welding will be occurring.

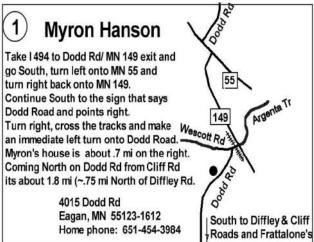
Lunch Arrangements: Either bring a bag lunch with you or money to dine at some of the fine dining establishments in the area.

To register, send a check written to The Guild of Metalsmiths, for \$125, along with your contact info to: Marty Masters 395 Bucher Avenue Shoreview, MN 55126 (651) 285-8731

mastersmw@yahoo.com

Acceptance priority for this class will be determined by postmark and each person will be notified individually.









Hammer Rack Class

October 28 & 29, 2023, 8:30 to 4:30 Instructors: Jesse Gavin, Dave Gavin, others Cost: \$225.

Class size: Max 8, Min 4

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing (map page 7)

Are you tired of bending over to pick up that dropped tool or hammer? Yes? Then this is the class for you. We will be leading a class to make a hammer rack with a table top where you can place all of those things that seem to always end up on the floor.

This is a project class to be taken after the Intermediate Joinery 1 class. The successful student will slot punch and drift ~ 13 holes to pass $\frac{1}{2}$ " square stock through and assemble a hammer rack with a table top. The table is one foot by two feet. Other sizes can be arranged if planned ahead of time. IF you want the table to be the same height as your anvil – please bring that height.

The slot punching will be done in a different way from what was taught in the Joinery class – we will use a treadle hammer. Some old favorites from the beginners class will be revisited: twisting and riveting.

Class Champion: Jesse Gavin , jagavin6273@hotmail.com 715-808-5891

Tools and Equipment or other items participants are to bring to the class: Favorite hammers, tongs for 1/2" square stock, hand files, 3/8" tenoning tool (if desired), Oxy-propane torch – (there will be quite a bit of torch work), treadle hammer if you have one that can travel.

Lunch Arrangements: Eat out or bring your own. We do order out from Willy McCoys.

To register for this class: Send a check for \$225 written to The Guild of Metalsmiths, along with your contact info, to: Jesse Gavin

N8214 330th Street Spring Valley WI 54767 Acceptance priority for this class will be determined by postmark, and each person will be notified individually.

Trivet Class 2023

November 18, 2023, 9 am to 5 pm Instructors: Derrick Phillips, and David Skaukrud

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing (map page 7) Cost: \$55 per student; Class size: Maximum 8, minimum 4

Class Description: This class is a beginner plus class. Students will hopefully have finished the beginners class, as this class will draw on those skills and add some more. The trivet is an introduction to joinery, forging tenons and using a monkey tool and hot riveting. This class is the making of a basic trivet, many variations can be made from this form. If you think you might be interested in joinery this is a starting project in that direction.

Class Champion: Derrick Phillips, 651-230-2363 derrickphillipsa3o3@gmail.com

Tools & Equipment or other items participants should bring to class: Tongs to hold 1/2" square stock, and your favorite hammer Safety Equipment: the usual for forging with coal: safety glasses, hearing protection, clothing of natural fiber with no cuffs or fraying, and leather boots or shoes Lunch arrangements: Eat out or bring your own.

To register for this class: Send a check for \$55 written to The Guild of Metalsmiths, along with your contact information, to:

Derrick Phillips

2461 Como Ávenue

St. Paul MN 55108

Acceptance priority for this class will be determined by postmark, and each person will be notified individually.





bmage Credit: BlackForestArtWorks

Handled Struck Tools 2023

Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023, MN School of Horseshoeing (map page 7) Instructors: Jesse and Dave Gavin and others Cost: \$85 Class size: Max 8. min 6

Class champion: Herb Fick, herb@phygue.com

Class Description: The tools made will be punches with a wire handle and chisels with a wire handle. We will offer the option to use treadle hammers supplied by the teaching staff. (Find out if you really need one of these by trying them.) Tools for the treadle hammers will be supplied. Steel supplied will be 5/8 and 3/4 inch round 4140 AN for the punches and chisels. Handles will be fabricated from 1/4 and or 5/16 inch round mild steel.

The instructor's goal for the workshop is to produce students comfortable with the process of forging and heat treating tools from nominal tool steel. A secondary goal is to have the students comfortable with the use of treadle hammers. We expect to have three treadle hammers of different styles available. The workshop gives one the ability and confidence to modify and/or repair legacy and or neighbor's tools. We forge in the morning, heat treat and install handles after lunch. Much of the time is spent focusing on understanding the heat treat process. There will be enough stock so we can encourage you to make a couple of serious mistakes and still go home with real tools to use.

Much of the time is spent focusing on understanding the heat treat process. There will be enough stock so we can encourage you to make a couple of serious mistakes and still go home with real tools to use or to offer for the next "iron in the hat". The photo represents the work product.

Power grinders are supplied. Bring your favorite hammers and tongs suitable for the stock if you have them. So far we have never run out of Guild tools to share. Bring your basic safety gear (leather, cotton, gloves, eye and ear protection and safety shoes). The building will be open by 8 am, introductions and coffee will start at 8:30, in the shop by 9 AM. We usually finish just before 5 pm.

History:

The lead instructor is Jesse Gavin. He is supported by Dave Gavin, Wayne Olson, and others. For reference probable students are invited to question former students including: Gene Thoma, Bryan Carlson, Derrick Phillips, Wayne Olson, Jim Moenck, or Bob Brown. This class has been going annually for quite a while and has always filled. Credit for that goes to Jesse and Dave.

To register: send a check made out to The Guild of Metalsmiths for \$85, along with your contact info, to:

Herb Fick

519 East Eighth Street Northfield MN 55057-2508

Acceptance priority for this class will be determined by postmark, and each person will be notified individually.

Tunnel Mill Crafts 2023 Classes and Events

We are located in southern Minnesota near Spring Valley. All classes are taught at 28036 County Rd 1, Spring Valley, MN 55975 For more information on any of the classes or to register, contact us at <u>ic-adams@msn.com</u>, or call 507-289-4189 Carol Adams.

2023 Upcoming Classes and Events Check the Tunnel Mill website for full details: http://www.tunnelmillcrafts.com

Annual Fall Gathering September 29, 30, October 1, 2023

Steel Making Workshop using the Japanese Hybrid Brick Tatara with Wayne Potratz

October 6, 7, and 8, 2023

- Cost per person:-\$275.00 (includes material fee)-plus \$75 for room and board (Friday and Saturday nights with 6 meals)
- Minimum of 6 students
- Start time: Gather at 5PM on Friday October 6 for conversation, then a light meal at 6 PM, followed by Wayne's presentation at 7 PM.
- Discussion and charcoal processing to follow.

The workshop will explore steel-making from the direct reduction of Minnesota Magnetite iron ore into high carbon steel using a charcoal fired Japanese Hybrid brick tatara. The resulting steel bloom can be consolidated, hot cut, and hammered into billets suitable for blade making. The workshop will be of interest to blade smiths, blacksmiths, sculptors, metallurgists, and those interested in the history of technology. The workshop will feature a PowerPoint presentation about the process and comparisons to other iron smelting traditions. Each workshop participant should come away with a piece of high carbon steel in an amount suitable for a small blade or other tool.

Pumpkin Days Festival Oct. 20, 21, 22!

Minnesota Transportation Museum (Roundhouse) is having their annual Pumpkin Days Festival in Dresser Wisconsin Fri/Sat/Sun Oct 20/21/22.



Larry Wasmund will have his trailer there. Anyone who wants to help demo there is welcome. You can bring a forge if you want and sell items. You don't have to be there all three

days. Contact Gordon Barr **agbarr@aol.com** if you want to help.

Help Requested for Upcoming Boy Scout Jamboree

There will be a boy scout jamboree Saturday October 14 from 9 to 4. Location is Camp Philippo in Cannon Falls.

- I will be there with 1 forge and 1 anvil and all the stock and tooling needed.
- I am looking for others that would like to help.
- There are no demos or teaching involved.

The task is to have the scouts spend 10 minutes at the forge making a point on some steel. We will cycle thru as many as possible. Additional forges and anvils would be helpful.

Contact Gordon Barr agbarr@aolcom if you can help



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.ssfbs.com
 866-545-6743

The quantity of product purchased dictates the normal "Level" of discount. Smith-Sharpe Fire Brick Supply is offering to 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. www.mwsco.com 800-657-4422

800-774-1336

See website or phone book for locations. 15% discount on gases and most in-store 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.763-551-5300www.tollgas.com763-551-5300

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 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 <u>http://divisionv.com/</u> Architectural sheet metal company: zinc, steel, copper, Cor-Ten, aluminum, composite

Our neighborhood of smiths

The Guild of Metalsmiths (TGoM)

Most membership meetings are the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, and October, except December. For most 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 612-599-4762

Vice-President: Paul Widenhoefer <u>pwidenhoefer@gmail.com</u> 952-930-0070

Our website is: https://www.metalsmith.org

Badger Blacksmiths

President: Dave Weiss Newsletter editor: John Grump 715-379-5007 715-829-4559 <u>diamondmetalworks13@gmail.com</u> johngrump@att.netBadger website: <u>https://sites.google.com/site/badgerblacksmiths</u>/

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, <u>CharleyRB@charter.net</u> 218-428-7906 Dave Hanson, VP, <u>duluthblacksmith@yahoo.com</u> 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 Jeff Olson for monthly specifics at <u>olsonironworks@gmail.com</u>. The NMM's website is <u>https://www.northernminnesotametalsmiths.com/</u>

Central Minnesota Blacksmiths (CMB)

Meet on the first Monday of each month. Potluck followed by demo.

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 Email: Carol Adams <u>jc-adams@msn.com</u>, <u>http://www.tunnelmillcrafts.com/</u>

Sandy Lake Forge on Raspberry Island

Blacksmith shop offering classes, workshops and more. See <u>raspber-ryislandfolkschool.blogspot.com</u> 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

- **Most 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 Martin Masters, <u>mastersmw@yahoo.com</u>
- Program Comm. meetings are 7 pm the third Thursday monthly. Derrick Phillips, co-chair <u>DerrickPhillipsA3o3@gmail.com</u>
- Most 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. Stay tuned for changes.

Oct. 2023 Events

Map to MN School of Horseshoeing

- Oct. 7, Beginning Blacksmithing Class 1, MN School of Horseshoeing Oct. 11, October membership meeting, Hennepin Technical College, Brooklyn Park Campus Cafeteria (9000 Brooklyn Boulevard Brooklyn Park, MN 55445)
- Oct. 14 & 15, Oxy/Acetylene Welding Class, Myron Hanson's shop
- Oct. 14, Beginning Blacksmithing Class 2, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Oct. 21, Beginning Blacksmithing Class 2, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Oct. 22, Pipe Tomahawk Class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Oct. 22, Fipe Tomanawk Class, MN School of Horseshoeing Oct. 28 & 29, Hammer Rack Class, MN School of Horseshoeing

Nov. 2023 Events

Nov. 18, Trivet Class, MN School of Horseshoeing

Dec. 2023 Events

- Dec. 2, Handled Struck Tools Class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Dec. 3, Guild Membership Meeting at CSPS Hall

Jan. 2024 Events

Jan. 6, 13, 20, and 24, Beginner Blacksmithing Skills Jan. 27, Tongs, Class



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 Name:		Don't List Me in the Directory nes: home - work - fax - cell - email - web page <i>O NOT want published</i>)
Email address:		
Address:		
City, State, Zip Code:		
Primary phone:	Second	ary 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 <u>agbarr@aol.com</u>.





If you have items to be included in *The Forum*, please send them to Georgia Myers, editor, by email to: <u>gldmyers@embarqmail.com</u> 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."**

To reach our website quickly, just scan the QR code below.

October 2023



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