

'The Forum'



June 2024

Vol. 26 No. 6

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

Next event: 2024 Hammer-In is happening June 7 & 8 at Nowthen Blacksmith Shop

The Nowthen Power Show grounds are located at 7415 Old Viking Blvd, Nowthen, MN 55303.

- Friday, June 7: 4:30pm-0dark:thirty.
- Saturday, June 8: 0light: thirty to 0dark:thirty (all day.)
- TGoM Membership Meeting Saturday, June 8, at the hammer-in

Hot stuff will be happening at the annual Spring Hammer-in taking place at the Nowthen Threshing Show grounds Blacksmith Shop (map below)

The blind forging competition will return on Saturday afternoon. The goal will be a friendly forge off.

Blind forging competition rules:

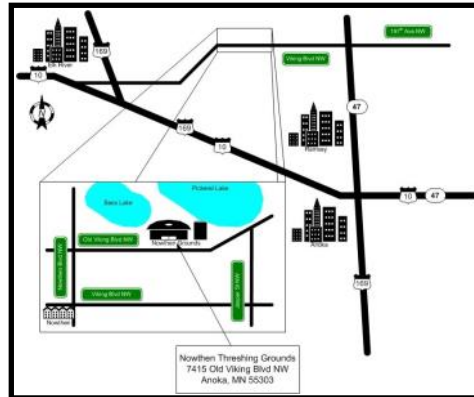
- An object is placed inside a box and you must create (forge) the unknown object by what you can feel. No peeking!
- We usually do a time limit with this as well.
- Prizes to be announced!

We will focus our efforts on the Fall Conference contest described below. Camping on-site is available Friday and Saturday night on primitive sites. Port-a-potties on site. Five forges are open for use. Coal will be provided. I will also bring another forge and anvil for use. If you want to bring your own equipment—please do! Bring any examples you have to share with others. Bring your own tools if you have them. Some limited steel stock is available, but if you need specific sizes, feel free to bring your own steel. Scrap pieces ok.

This event will hopefully give you some inspiration to help you to come up with your own design for the Fall Conference theme contest (details below) and help you learn how to make it. If you don't know how to make something, ask ahead of time, and we will try very hard to accommodate.

If you have some skills in the creation of items and/or tools and would like to demo or have any questions about the event, please contact me: **Wayne Olson, 320 280-0100**. There is no charge to participate in this event.

***** Also remember: we'll be voting on and choosing the t-shirt contest winner at this meeting!**



QUICKNEWS

Special Note:

TGoM's June membership meeting will be held on Saturday, June 8 at our annual Nowthen Hammer-In event! Contact Larry Wasmund for details:

poundedtreasures@gmail.com

2024 Fall Conference is September 20, 21, 22

Plan now to attend TGoM's 47th annual Fall Conference held once again at the Pierce County Fairgrounds in Ellsworth WI. Featuring blacksmithing demonstrations by Mark Asperry from Springville, CA and Peter Braspeninx from Grand Rapids, MI.

2024 Summer Volunteer Ops

Posted on page 5, summer 2024 events for which you can volunteer! There is a wide variety of opportunities to help out and/or learn!

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

2024 Fall Conference 2-Contest Theme

Design & create a unique item for one of two contests.

- Basic contest will be a **Bottle Opener**.
- Advance contest will be a **Picture Frame**.

You may enter *one* contest, not both. Contest is open to all. Must be made of metal. All entries must be donated to the Saturday auction.

Auction sale price will determine winners.

Basic Contest cash prizes will be awarded.

First Place:	\$50
Second Place:	\$30
Third Place:	\$20

Advance Contest cash prizes will be awarded.

First Place:	\$100
Second Place:	\$60
Third Place:	\$40

Umpteenth annual note from Herb!

People:

This is what I know about the hog roast at this point. I have a hog ordered.

I have full staff to prepare the hog. I have Brendan Stevens to demonstrate. I do this because he is an example of what I think is an exceptional preparation for such a demo. Jesse knows what we need at Pate's estate. And thanks again for this, the umpteenth time Dan and Lou have hosted this thing. Roger is backed up by Dick Carlson to deal with the sweet corn and tools.

Myron is on task to supply a demonstration forge.

I will remember to set aside a bit of the roast for Taya who doesn't deal well with garlic. (Anyone else?) We have always had adequate numbers and yard tools show up, and I think we can do it again.

Any time after 7:00 am works.



August Membership Meeting Wednesday, August 14

Yes, that's the date! Save it! We'll be enjoying our corn feed and hog roast, along with potluck, at Dan Pate's country home. See page 2 for opportunities to help with this family-oriented bash!

NEW! Craft Sale at Fall Conference!

We will have a craft sale at the Fall Conference. Watch for news in next month's *Forum*.

New: Intro to Arc Welding Class

The first ever TGoM “Introduction to Arc Welding” class was held at the Jackson Street Roundhouse (aka Minnesota Transportation Museum). Ben Groves was the instructor, and Marty Masters was the champion. Overall, it was a success. We learned some things to incorporate into the next class, which will probably be held in the fall.



Above: Ben's welding trailer. (Note dragon figurehead)

(Below) Susan Wood checking her weld.



(Above, l to r:) Students Susan Wood and Kevin Klein, with Ben Groves (instructor) in the roundhouse welding area.

Congrats, 2024 Hammer-Making Class!

The folks in the photo below either learned how to forge a hammer or taught how to forge a hammer or championed the class!



2024 Hammer-Making Class: (L to r:) Steve Lamphere, Soren and his dad Tim Graff, Steve Moreland, Stephen Olivo and Derrick Phillips (champion).

MN Zoo Babies exhibit brings joy to kids and adults!

One of the summer volunteer opportunities available in May for TGoM's blacksmiths was the Minnesota Zoo Babies exhibit.

Thanks to Jesse Gavin for supplying the blacksmith shop with wooden anvils and modeling clay for kids to try their hand at “smithing.”

Thanks also to Gordon Barr for the photos. He said there was quite a line-up of kids eagerly waiting to try it.

See page 5 for a list of volunteer opportunities still available throughout the summer.



Thanks to Gordon Barr, this photo shows a line-up of kids waiting to “forge” with the wooden anvil and hammer, and modeling clay “iron” set up in the blacksmith shop at the Minnesota Zoo by Jesse Gavin.



Once again, help is needed for August membership meeting!

Volunteer Opportunity Available

August Membership Meeting - The Corn and Pig Roast

Hosted by Dan and LuAnn Pate

The Program Committee is looking for a Set up Crew for the August 14th, Membership Meeting.

Position available: Set up Crew, August 14th.

Requirements/Qualifications: Willingness to do what it takes to set up for the August membership meeting.

Specific Tasks and Responsibilities: Show up at Dan Pate's home at 8:00 a.m. on the day of the event to help get the homestead prepared for a fun-filled evening. The tasks will include moving items to make room for tables/chairs, mowing and trimming the lawn. Please bring your chainsaw and hedge/lawn trimmers. Dan and LuAnn's address: 35730 Highway 56 Blvd., Dennison, MN 55018

Why Should You Join the Team? This is an awesome opportunity to mingle (work) with fellow members or if you are a new member, meet fellow members.

Contact: Kim Maas, Volunteer Coordinator
tgom.volunteer@gmail.com
 651-328-7219

Volunteer Opportunity Available

August Membership Meeting - The Corn and Pig Roast

Hosted by Dan and LuAnn Pate

The Program Committee is looking for a Cleanup Crew for the day after (the 15th) the August 14th, Membership Meeting.

Position available: Cleanup Crew, August 15th.

Requirements/Qualifications: Willingness to help clean up after the August membership meeting.

Specific Tasks and Responsibilities: Show up at Dan Pate's home at 8:00 a.m. the day after the event to help get the homestead back in order. This means moving items back that were moved the prior day. Dan and LuAnn's address: 35730 Highway 56 Blvd., Dennison, MN 55018

Why Should You Join the Team? This is an opportunity to hangout (work) with fellow members for another day.

Contact: Kim Maas, Volunteer Coordinator
tgom.volunteer@gmail.com
 651-328-7219



THE GUILD OF METALSMITHS, Board of Directors – May 8, 2024

Held At: Zoom

Call to Order: 7:04 by Larry Wasmund

Members in attendance: G. Barr, J. Gavin, T. Gavin, M. Lockwood, R. Zielike, D. Phillips, P. Widenhoefer, L. Wasmund, K. Maas
Missing: B. Stevens, M. Masters

Unable to approve of last meeting minutes due to lack of minutes

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Taya Gavin

Our finances are fairly steady, being sure to take into account our recent coal purchase.

Membership Services Committee: Gordon Barr.

Nothing new to report

Education Committee: Marty Masters

Program Committee: Derrick Phillips

2024 Looks good as all our meetings are scheduled for the calendar year

Communications Committee: Kim Maas

The March **Metalsmith** is sent out. Sara Gries is going to take on editing/publishing an issue of **Metalsmith**. Kim is also working with Larson Printing about t-shirt printing and embroidering clothes purchased through them.

After the committee reports there was a very intense discussion about the finances around the conference and how they are planned and tracked. After we worked through some rough spots, we agreed to look into the history of our conference costs more closely as a way to help plan for the future.

As part of this we agreed to raise the registration cost to \$45 for the weekend and \$30 for a single day

Before we adjourned it was brought up that both our President and Vice President will step back after this year so we need to recruit some more people to the Board

ADJOURNMENT: Not recorded.



TGoM's 47th Annual Fall Conference September 20, 21, 22, 2024

Featuring Blacksmithing Demonstrations by:
Mark Aspery from Springville, CA
and
Peter Braspeninx from Grand Rapids, MI

Including pre-conference class, gallery, live auction, tailgating, onsite camping,
great food, and events for the entire family!

Submit your best "Bottle Opener or Picture Frame" to the live auction for the chance
to win cash prizes!

(additional details to follow online).

Free attendance for members and non-members on Saturday after 5 pm for viewing
of the gallery & participation in the live auction.

Come join us!

Location:
The Pierce County Fairgrounds
364 N. Maple St., Ellsworth, WI

Registration, costs, and further details coming this summer!
Look for more information at our website: www.metalsmith.org
And check us out on Facebook



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 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. 800-657-4422
www.mwsc.com
 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. 763-551-5300
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

TGoM members attend BAM Conference

— Georgia Myers

The Missouri State Fairgrounds (MSF) Swine Pavilion was the scene of the 2024 Blacksmiths Association of Missouri (BAM) annual conference. Guild of Metalsmiths members from Minnesota who drove the 1,000 miles to Sedalia, MO helped celebrate BAM's 32nd annual conference May 2 through May 5.

We were proud to learn that our own **Brendan Stevens** was one of the demonstrators at BAM. During the conference Brendan forged a shiny new leg vice along with assistants Andrew Lundrigan and Travis Mizuhaton. This annual event also hosted demonstrators familiar to the Guild: Matt Jenkins from Cloverdale Forge near Winnipeg Manitoba, Charles Carpenter from Big River Forge in Arkansas, and Brett Smith from T-Star Leather in Oklahoma.

The first day of BAM was May 2, during which multitudes of vendors set their booths up within the Swine Pavilion, a huge MSF building that fills an entire city block and has no walls or doors, only arches. During set up day we met up with active BAM members Patti and Bernie Tappel, whom we had met in March at the annual LAMA conference in Louisiana. Patti was in charge of the "BAM Boutique," multiple tables filled with donations for sale.

On the second day we encountered another couple that we have known for many years: Marcus and Linda Melancon, also LAMA members from Louisiana. As the conference progressed, we met many new (and very busy) BAM folks, including Karen Bouckaert, in charge of vendors and tailgaters, Ashley Farnsworth II, in charge of answering all questions, and Paul Talaski, coordinator for "Dr. Iron's Slackwater Gallery."

BAM has been a recurrent annual destination for many of TGoM's members. This year was no exception. We enjoyed every minute, even the day it rained and the Swine Pavilion roof leaked!

2024 BAM Attendees from Minnesota

Myron Hanson	Dick Carlson	Cliff Larsen
Bob Brown	Wayne Olson	Lisa Olson
Roger Degner	Gary Myers	Georgia Myers
Nathan Robertson	Beverly Robertson	Brendan Stevens
Andrew Lundrigan	Travis Mizuhaton	



Missouri State Fair Swine Pavilion



Brendan Stevens (right) with leg vices forged during BAM, with assistants Andrew Lundrigan and Travis Mizuhaton



The eagerly anticipated arrival of Nathan and Beverly Robertson was received at the BAM conference. Shown here are BAM's Karen Bouckaert, TGoM's Dick Carlson, and BAM's Bernie Tappel welcoming them.



BAM's Karen Bouckaert was a joyfully audible volunteer in charge of vendors and tailgaters. Here she staffs the "Iron in the Hat" table.



Bernie & Patti Tappel busy with "BAM Boutique."

2024 Volunteer Demonstration Opportunities

Date	Event	Location	Champion & contact information
7 - 9 June	Nowthen Hammer-In	Nowthen, MN	Contact champion for additional information Wayne Olson, wayneolson10@gmail.com . June's Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday the 8th.
8 June	Guild Membership Meeting	Also at Nowthen	
17 – 21 July	Rice County Fair	Faribault, MN	Lou Groth, loug_33@yahoo.com , 952-895-1515 Ann Rinkenberger, director@gammelgardenmuseum.org
22 June	Midsommarlagen Gammelgarden Museum,	Scandia, MN	
23 – 28 July	Rock County Fair	Luverne, MN	Larry Wasmund, poundedtreasures@gmail.com 651-322-6626
24 – 27 July	Faribault County Fair Sponsored by: Faribault County Historical Society (FCHS)	Blue Earth, MN	No Guild representative, Contact site directly. Randy Anderson, randwulfr@aol.com 507-525-0368.
24 – 28 July	Scott County Fair	Jordan, MN	Contact: Erika Ediger-Connolly, SCF manager fairofficestaff@scottcountyfair.com , 952-492-2436 Contact Erika by May 1 st .
26 – 28 July	Little Log House Antique Power Show	Hastings, MN	Dick Carlson, Blacksmith@onlinecarlson.com 651-437-3329
3 August	Fisherman's Picnic	Grand Marais, MN	Don Hammer, carshaper@yahoo.com , Bally's Blacksmith Shop 218-370-0122
2-4 August	Scott/Carver Thresher Show	Jordan MN	Steve Mitton, mittonps@gmail.com , 612-819-2693
8 - 11 August	Pierce County Fair	Ellsworth, WI	Jesse Gavin, jagavin6273@hotmail.com
9 – 11 August	Almelund Threshing Show	Taylor Falls, MN	Patrick Sullivan, smokiemilo@gmail.com 651-894-3765
10 August	Torii, Finland Heritage Ctr	Finland, MN	Don Hammer, carshaper@yahoo.com , 218-370-0122
17 August	Spelmansstämman Gammelgarden Museum,	Scandia, MN	Ann Rinkenberger, director@gammelgardenmuseum.org
16 – 17 August	Corcoran Country Daze	Corcoran, MN	No Guild representative. Contact site directly at corcorancountrydaze@gmail.com 612-314-3232
17 – 18 August	Nowthen Threshing Show	Nowthen, MN	Christina Dodge, christina.guildmbr@gmail.com
24 - 25 August	Pioneer Power Show	Le Sueur, MN	No Guild representative. No contact information.
24 - 25 August	Donnelly Threshing Bee	Donnelly, MN	Larry Wasmund, poundedtreasures@gmail.com 651-322-6626
30 August - 1 September	Rice County Steam & Gas Engine Show	Dundas, MN	Martin Pansch, blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com 612-599-4762
6 – 8 September	Lamberton Hot Iron Days	Lamberton, MN	Bob Brown, Bbrown474@msn.com , 651-260-2749
14 – 15 Sept	Laura Ingalls Wilder Days	Pepin, WI	Tom Latané, tcclatane@gmail.com , 715-442-2419
?? September	41st Annual Threshing Festival	1726 600th St, Kiester MN	Dewey Rol, 651-590-3634 (leave message)
?? October	Woodworkers Expo 2024	Canterbury Park Shakopee, MN	Paul Widenhoefer, pwidenhoefer@gmail.com 952-930-0070
TBA	Pumpkin Train	Dresser, WI	Gordon Barr, agbarr@aol.com , 952-894-4821
Most wknds	The Landing / Three Rivers Park District	Shakopee, MN	No Guild representative, Contact site directly. Zachary.Mohlis@threeriversparks.org , 763-694-1139
Memorial Day Thru Labor Day			Michael.Murray@threeriversparks.org , 763-694-7788 Main number for Three Rivers 763-694-7784
Various dates thru the year.	Boy Scout Blacksmith Merit Badge At the MN School of Horseshoeing	Ramsey, MN	Gordon Barr, agbarr@aol.com , 952-894-4821
TBD	Boy Scout Fall Camporee	Carver, MN	Contact & contact information -TBD.
Various dates thru the year.	Jackson Street Roundhouse, Minnesota Transportation Museum	St. Paul, MN	Gordon Barr, agbarr@aol.com , 952-894-4821

Contact the Champions and see what you can do to help with any of these events.

If you know of an event where a Guild member is demonstrating but not listed, please email TGoMvolunteer@gmail.com to get it listed. Information needed for listing: event name, date(s), location, brief description of event, champion's name, and contact information. Thank You!!

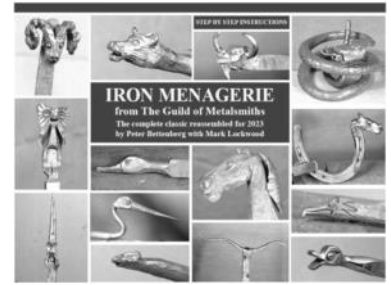
TGoM now has a 'Discord Account'

What is Discord? Discord is an instant messaging and VoIP social platform. The service converts your voice into a digital signal that travels over the Internet. Users have the ability to communicate with voice calls, video calls, text messaging, media, and files in private chats or as part of communities called "servers"

Invitations went out in October 2023 to all our members by email. If you did not get an invitation and want Discord, please contact Kim Maas by email at tgom.volunteer@gmail.com and you will be sent an invitation by email.

New 'Iron Menagerie' book

The new version of The Guild's IRON MENAGERIE workbook is available to purchase.! Cost \$20 (+\$10 S/H if mailed). Contact person: Peter Bettenberg tgomeditor@gmail.com Wouldn't this be a great Father's Day gift for your favorite blacksmith?



Tunnel Mill Crafts

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 jc-adams@msn.com, or call 507-289-4189 Carol Adams.

2024 Upcoming Classes and Events

Damascus with Rick Furrer—Damascus knife with handle

August 16, 17 & 18, 2024, \$450 per person

Mark Aspery

September (exact dates and duration to be determined)

Check the Tunnel Mill website for full details on these classes: <http://www.tunnelmillcrafts.com>



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. **Watch each Forum for date and location changes.** 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, mastersmw@yahoo.com
- Program Comm. meetings are 7 pm the third Thursday monthly. Derrick Phillips, co-chair DerrickPhillipsA3o3@gmail.com
- Most board meetings are the second Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November via ZOOM.

June 2024 Events

See page 5 for all summer volunteer opportunities
 June 7-9, 2024 Hammer-In, Nowthen
 June 8, TGoM Membership Meeting at Nowthen (during Nowthen Hammer-In)

July 2024 Events

See page 5 for all summer volunteer opportunities

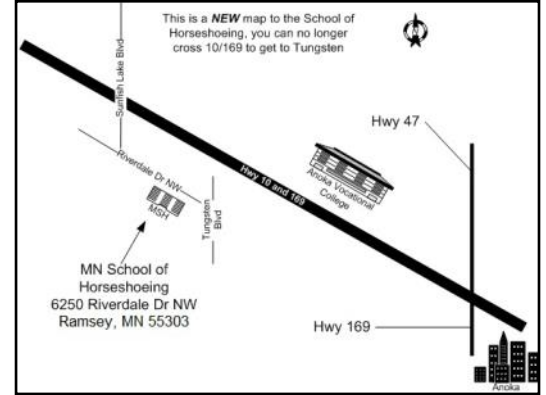
August 2024 Events

See page 5 for all summer volunteer opportunities
 Aug. 14, TGoM Membership Meeting at Dan Pate's.

September 2024

Sept. 20, 21, 22, Fall Conference at Pierce County Fairgrounds

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

Don't List Me in the Directory

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

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."

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

June 2024



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