

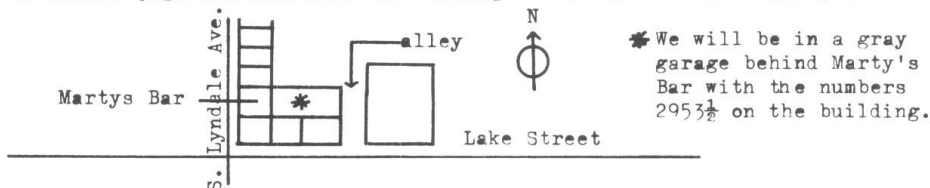


# METALSMITH

A NEWSLETTER OF THE GUILD OF METALSMITHS: an organization to promote appreciation and study of the Metal Smiths' Art; serving Smiths in any form of metal smithing.

## Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Wednesday evening, December 13th, 1978, is the date for the Guild general membership meeting and POTLUCK. We will meet at 6:30 at the forge of Bob Walsh who will talk on how to layout and measure scroll work and the making of scroll jigs and fixtures for bending hot or cold metal. DEMONSTRATION.



Attendance at this meeting is of particular importance due to the agenda: The Board of Directors recommend that the membership pass and adopt the following proposals and by-laws.

- PROPOSED: Change in annual membership dues  
 \$10 Member  
 \$12 Family  
 \$6 Newsletter subscription
- PROPOSED: Adoption of proposed by-laws

### BY-LAWS REVISED

### PURPOSE & OBJECTIVE

The Association is organized solely for educational purposes, accomplished by: encouragement of training programs and conferences for higher standards of craftsmanship, disseminating information about sources of equipment, literature and material, exposing the smith art to the public through craft fairs, publications and advertising acting as a clearing house for the smith industry to any and all inquiries.

### MEMBERSHIP

Any person or organization interested in blacksmithing and accepting the purposes and by-laws of this association may become a member. During the second year of membership you must contribute A or B.

- A. Give a demonstration or presentation of information on anything that would be beneficial to your fellow smiths (example, smoke, safety, toolsteel, grinding wheels, work procedures, forge-welding techniques, etc.).

It being the obligation of the people that pick A. to see that there be at least one but not necessarily more than one demo or presentation per meeting.

- B. Contribute time on a project that will help the Guild (example, Guild I.D. placques for display in shops, at art fairs, etc., Guild banners or flags, pamphlet explaining Guild functions, by-laws and how to join, newsletter, better exhaust system at Gibbs, etc.).

### FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the association shall begin on the first day of January and end on the last day of December in each year.

### DUES

The Board of Directors of the association, with membership approval may determine from time to time the amount of the annual dues payable, in advance, on the first day of each fiscal year. Presently dues are \$10.00 yearly. (See proposed changes in annual dues above.)

#### PROPERTY

The property of this corporation is irrevocably dedicated to charitable purposes, no part of the net income or assets of this corporation shall ever inure to the benefit of any director, officer or member thereof or to the benefit of any private persons. Upon the dissolution or winding up of the corporation, its assets remaining after payment or provision for payment, or all debts and liabilities of this corporation is organized exclusively for charitable purposes and which has established its tax status under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### MEETINGS

There shall be a minimum of seven (7) meetings each year, location and dates to be determined by the Board of Directors with membership approval. Whenever practical an agenda shall be mailed to all members before a meeting to permit membership participation by attendance, letter or phone. For major issues, voting shall be by majority vote of the members present and by proxy.

A. That Guild meetings be held 7 times per year, the second Wednesday evening of the month of June, July, August, then every other month, October, December, February, and April, unless a holiday in which case one week later.

B. That the newsletter that precedes each meeting explains what the upcoming demonstration will be about.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of the association shall consist of seven members. The members of the Board shall upon election proceed with performance of their duties and continue in office for a period of two years. Successors shall assume their duties within thirty days after the election. Official address of the association shall be that of the secretary-treasurer.

#### OFFICERS

The officers of the association shall include a President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be elected by the members at their annual meeting from the seven member Board.

#### DUTIES OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT shall preside at all meetings of the association and the executive committee, is ex-officio member of all committees with vote, shall communicate to the executive committee and the association members continually on promotion, effectiveness and welfare of the association.

VICE-PRESIDENT will act in absense of the president.

SECRETARY-TREASURER shall maintain records of all association meetings, have records available at meetings, be responsible for the NEWSLETTER sent to all members, handle all correspondence, maintain current association roster, have custody of all monies deposited in bank, maintain financial records and provide annual report to the members or when requested by the Board of Directors.

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

At least three months before the end of the fiscal year the President shall appoint a nominating committee which shall prepare a list of nominations for the Board of Directors for a two-year term. The nominating committee may nominate more candidates than there are vacancies for the Board of Directors. The secretary shall promptly notify the membership of the nominating committee personnel in the Association NEWSLETTER.

For this committee the President shall secure the services of three members well acquainted with activities of the Association, thus competent to select persons qualified for board membership. No incumbent director shall be a member of the nominating committee.

One month before the date of election the nominating committee shall report to the secretary a list of director nominees for publication.

Any member may furnish additional names of qualified persons for directorship to the nominating committee for consideration at any time before the committee renders its report.

#### ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

In the event more candidates are nominated for directors position than there are vacancies, the secretary shall, not later than two weeks before such annual meeting, mail to all members a ballot listing the names of nominees. The names shall be in alphabetical order. The secretary shall specify the

rules as to number to be voted for, validity of ballot, establishment of right to vote and similar matters. Ballots shall be held by the secretary unopened until polls are closed. The ballots shall then be canvassed by the secretary with a deputy of the association. The results of the mail or ballots will be included and read at annual meeting.

The 1979 Board of Directors election shall be three persons for one-year term and four persons for a two-year term. This process will overlap Board membership for continuity of administration.

#### AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended, repealed or altered in all or in part by majority vote at duly organized meeting of the association. The proposed changes shall be mailed to the last recorded address of each member at least fifteen days before the time of the meeting to consider the change.

Also on Wednesday's agenda:

ELECTIONS. The annual election of officers and the election of two (2) new board members to serve for two years. The Board recommended the following members for nomination:

OFFICERS: President  
Robert Walsh  
Vice-president  
Pieter Maas  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Maxine George  
Board of Directors  
Mike Knott  
Jock Spurgin

Nominations from the floor will be accepted prior to the voting.

Update of membership directory.  
Newsletter planning session/layout flow chart.  
Demonstration description.

#### JUST CUT THE BAD ONES OUT

They came to him; he trusted all-  
And turned no one away;  
They didn't have the money then,  
But some time they would pay. →

Work came in from every hand;  
More than he could do;  
He had to buy a lot more stock,  
And hire a larger crew. →

He's doing a thriving business now,  
If judging by the looks;  
More work than he had ever done,  
But he put it on the books. →

In opening up his mail one day,  
It made him look a feller;  
He got a notice from the bank,  
Your account is overdrawn. →

He started to collect some bills,  
And traveled around all day;  
From only a few did he collect,  
For only a few would pay. →

He's working at the same old job,  
With plenty of work to do;  
He expected to lose customers,  
But he only lost a few. →

To all who read this little poem,  
And many will, no doubt;  
If you wish to be successful,  
Just cut the bad ones out. →

By P. E. Whitney, Houlton, Maine

Oh that's all right, just come along,  
He would take his chances, too!  
He did the work for all who came,  
And how his business grew.

But what did he care for that,  
For he had money then;  
Money to pay for all his stock,  
And plenty to pay his men.

He labored hard from morn till night,  
From early Spring till Fall;  
While business still kept growing fast,  
His bank account grew small.

It was then he began to think,  
What shall I now do next?  
I've surely got to raise some cash,  
To balance up these checks.

He said: "Now I will change my plans  
Before business goes to crash."  
So he hung a sign up in his shop,  
We work for strictly CASH.

It's always safe to trust some men,  
For they are sure to pay;  
On others you are sure to lose,  
If you let them get away.

But if you have been in business long,  
To lose on some you must;  
But take advice from one who knows:  
Be careful who you trust.

Courtesy of Paul Habler,  
Piety Hill Blacksmith Shop  
Rockford, Minnesota

## Renaissance Festival 1978

The weeks prior to the Festival saw the usual flurry of building, adding-on and repairing of the Gild Hall. The roof leaks a little less now, the smithy was expanded and the courtyard was paved. David Christofferson salvaged all those paving stones from the Irvine Park area of St. Paul and stored them in his yard until they were hauled out to the site a few at a time! Huzzah to David! Would you believe that Karen VonEnde and Mary Skraba stuccoed the Gild Hall entrance? Well, we're tellin' ya it's true!

During the Festival Mike Knott, Marti Niesen, Furry Foote and David Christoffersen represented the jewelers craft.

Blacksmiths included Paul Hubler and his 'sales manager' Mouraine, Bob Olson, Jock Spurgin (who also spent a good part of his time in the Royal Stocks), David Christofferson, Joe DeLaRonde, Shirley Vedder, Bob Walsh, Pancho Peterson, Mark Nichols, Pieter Maas and Bob George. At one time there were more smiths than forges so an extra one had to be set up.

Bob Sharp and wife were there, faithfully sharpening dull knives and selling his beautifully crafted sharp ones.

Many dubloons of thanks go to the Bad Manor. Scullery maids Mary Skraba and Wendy Ward prepared sumptuous meals fit for a metalsmith. Tim Rooney the Skink and Bobo the Undersinker kept us in good spirits and "good spirits" before, during and after all the day's activities.

Next year's Guild Renaissance Festival involvement will be coordinated by Bob George who was appointed Guild Renfest Chairman at the November 5th meeting at his home, the George Forge. He will be receptive to suggestions until the close of the next Guild meeting after which policy will be immutably set (with some possible exceptions).



### GIBBS FARM FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL



On the 14th and 15th of October, members of the Guild of Metalsmiths demonstrated at the annual Harvest Festival held at the Gibbs Farm Museum and sponsored by the Ramsey County Historical Society.

Representing the Guild were David Christofferson, Andy Linninger, Mark Nichols, Pieter Maas, Bob Sharp and his wife, Jock Spurgin, Bob Walsh and Shirley Vedder. Also representing the Guild were ten of Bob Walsh's students: Jim Koskavich and wife, Marcia McEachron, David Moen, Wayne Zwicke, Debbie Stenger, Steven Sterba, Vicki Johnson, Roy Bohn and Peter Joseph.

The weather was chilly. Sunday was especially cold and damp. Shirley, Bob and their students, along with the Sharps, displayed tenacity and spartan character by manning outdoor demonstrations. David arrived with a cleverly designed store front display booth. His booth is portable, collapsing into pieces easily carried in a small trailer behind his car.

Andy Linninger demonstrated the forge welding process using his own unique compound. Andy's compound is a mixture of borax, sal ammoniac and powdered iron (instead of iron turnings as used in the commercial product CLIMAX.) The borax dissolves the hot metallic salts; the sal ammoniac lowers the melting point of the mixture; the powdered iron adds metallic mass to the welded joint. Andy's compound appeared to leave a cleaner weld than the commercial product.

Jock Spurgin also demonstrated the forge weld using CLIMAX forge welding compound in one case and clean white silica sand in another. The molten sand reacts with the hot metallic salts to form silicates which are like window glass (calcium silicate). These silicates are solid and brittle at the red heat and chip away during subsequent forging, leaving an exceptionally clean weld.

The Gibbs Farm folks treated Guild members to farm-style home cooked fare during the Festival.