

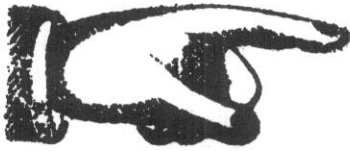
METALSMITH

VOL. III
#3
MAY 1979



"The lyf so short- the craft so long to lerne"- Chaucer

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.

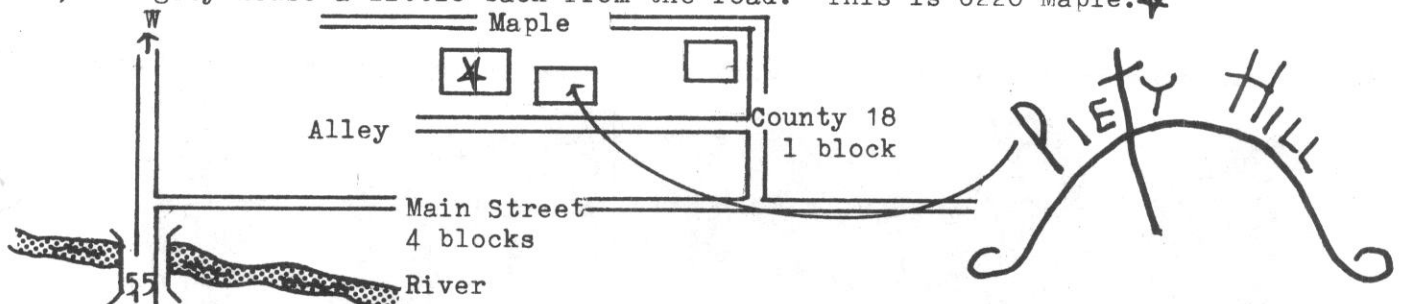


THE MARCH GUILD NEWSLETTER was late last time as many of you may have noticed. It was mailed on time (look at your postmark) but seems to have been lost in the system. It has been suggested that we replace the newsletter with smoke from various forges. This can be discussed later but in the meantime, if you are a paid member or subscriber and did not receive your March METALSMITH, a note or phone call to the Sect/Treas/Ed will get you a replacement.

Wednesday evening, June 6th, is the date-6:30 is the time & Paul Hubler's PIETY HILL BLACKSMITH SHOP is the place for the next general membership meeting & potluck. Directions & map to Paul's shop are included & he will demonstrate making those special Hubler leaves.

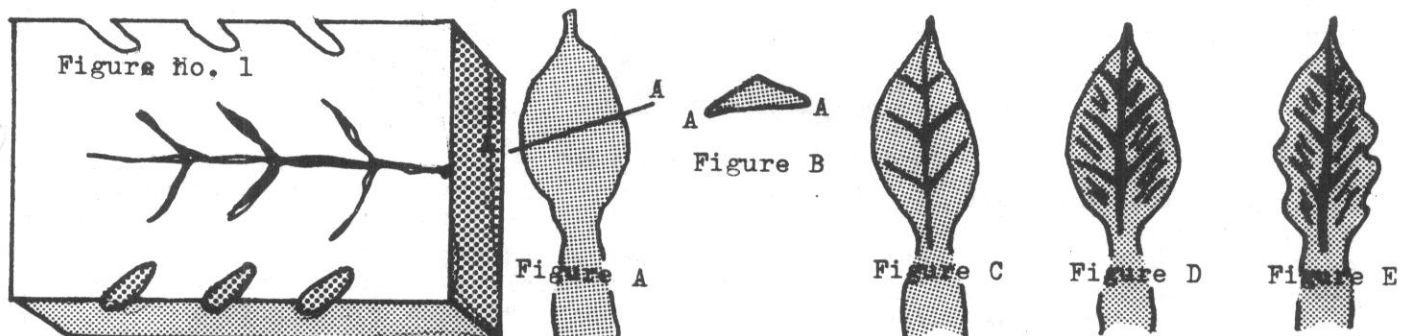
FLASH!!! As this newsletter is about to go to print we received word that Joe DeLaRonde will be coming in from South Dakota to participate in the Metalsmiths Madness. Joe has offered to give a power hammer seminar on Friday night at 7:00 sharp at Bob Walsh's shop (2953 1/2 Lyndale Ave. So., Mpls.) Joe has also offered to bring a blacksmithing movie that was made in his shop for viewing at the Madness. This should prove to be THE WEEK THAT WAS with the meeting at Paul's on Wednesday evening, a power hammer seminar on Friday evening and then the Madness all weekend!

Take Highway 55 out of the Cities (west) to Rockford. Cross the bridge & turn to the right. This is Main Street. Go 4 blocks to the intersection of Main & County Road 18. Turn left one block & make another left turn. Hubler's is the second house on the left, the grey house a little back from the road. This is 6220 Maple.★



A DEMONSTRATION PREVIEW From Paul Hubler

This is a raised-veins leaf jig. Figure no. 1 is the leaf jig. It is made by cold chiseling the center vein with the branches coming out. The little notches on the side are ground in & this one is made to fit the hardie hole on the anvil. Figure A-with a 3/8" rod make a leaf as shown. Figure B shows a cross section with the center raised. Take a good bright red heat & lay the leaf, raised side down, lining up straight on your jig. Give it several good blows with the hammer & you will have Figure C. Take another light heat & with a real sharp pointed hammer make lighter marks on the edges as indicated in Figure D. Take another heat & lay the leaf on the ground out spots on the jig & hammer leaf into the hollows. This will make the wavy sides of the leaf as in Figure E. Paul will be demonstrating this at the June meeting at his forge.



FROM THE PRESIDENT-

For those of you who missed the April meeting, it was a super success in every way! Our new business format kept the business part of the meeting down so there was plenty of time for two excellent demonstrations, one by Jock Spurgin & the other by John Moriarty. Thank you both from all of us.

People volunteered to fill the void areas in the 2nd Annual Metalsmiths Madness & the whole event came together like clock-work, roast pig & all. Imagine coming in the gate at Gibbs Farm & seeing a pig roasting & hearing 17 anvils ringing. Are you ready for that? If there's anyone who would like to participate that I haven't talked to, let me know as there is plenty of room & we'd love to have you.

Paul Hubler volunteered his shop for the June 6th meeting & will demonstrate making some beautiful leaves. I'm excited about this as I've never seen Paul's shop but hear from everyone that it's a super blacksmith shop & well worth the short drive to see. Paul has a line shaft.

Dan Kral volunteered the Minnesota School of Horseshoeing & Blacksmithing for the July meeting. Besides teaching blacksmithing at the school, Dan was the resident blacksmith at Ft. Snelling for 6 years. I'm sure we can all learn a very great deal from Dan. Let's all try & make both of these meetings as I don't think they can get any better.

I brought up the subject of putting together a gallery exhibit of Guild members work & it was a unanimous decision in favor of the event. It was suggested that it be held in November so we'd all have time to pound something out during the summer. If this gallery exhibition is as successful as the Metalsmiths Madness looks like it's going to be-WATCH OUT MINNESOTA! At the next meeting let's put together a committee to get this project in motion. At the next meeting bring photos or be prepared to give a written description of what you'd like to exhibit so the committee can estimate the size gallery we'll need & can start working on obtaining it. If we're going to do this in November & a gallery needs 4 months planning time, then we have no time to lose!!

At the next meeting I'll have posters for everyone designed to attract silversmiths, metalsculptors, coppersmiths, tinmiths & knife makers. If we all place our posters in galleries, craft shops, supply houses or shops that do business with the kind of people that we're trying to attract, I'm sure that they'll be very effective. The effectiveness of these posters will depend on how well they're placed...this is up to you. Let's all pitch in & make this drive successful as we all have only to gain. During the summer months I'd like to see that every silversmith selling in an art & craft fair gets a poster. Remember, if you'd like to get work into the gallery be prepared to give some size requirements so the committee can select the proper size exhibit space.

See you all at Paul Hubler's on the 6th!

FT. SISSETON



HISTORICAL FESTIVAL

June 2-3 1979

Andy Mack
RR #5
Watertown, S.D. 57201
605-886-6417
Kranzburg Black Powder
Club

Perry Vining
Coordinator
Box 390
Brookings, S.D.
57006
605-692-7171

★ **the STARR** ★
RENDEZVOUS

★ Set-Up Day: June 1st ★

Bring your lodges & your lean-to's & your kin for 2 days of powder-burning color & excitement. Muzzleloaders from 5 states at historic Ft. Sisseton. Primitive camping given preferred location. "Tin teepee's" in separate area, but near the action. *Shotgun trap shoot & quail walk *Rifle blanket shoots *Rapid fire post cutting *Tomahawk throw *Candlelight shoot *Seneca run *Prizes
For details contact Myron Olson, 909 W. Kemp, Watertown, SD 57201 or Andy Mack

Cedar Creek Forge is holding a show & conference in Cedarburg, Wisconsin, in Aug.-Sept. of 1979. Tentative dates are:
Show - August 19th to Sept. 30th
Conference with Dimitri Gerakaris, Francis Whitaker & Bruce LaPage - Sept. 27th thru 29th. Please contact Jim English for further information: Cedar Creek Forge

N70 W6340 Bridge Rd.
Cedarburg, Wisconsin 53012

The first regional meeting of the newly formed regional ABANA chapter will be held during the conference.

DAVID CHRISTOFFERSON volunteered to BLOW THE ANVIL at the Metalsmiths Madness. For those of you who aren't familiar with this, it consists of placing a powder charge between 2 anvils & lighting it, sending one anvil into the air. BOOM-BOOM may have gotten his nickname from the Renfest cannons but this feat certainly adds to it.

Board of Directors Meeting
26 April 1979

The minutes from the April general meeting at Jock Spurgins on April 11th have been omitted as they read over the same material covered at the Board of Directors meeting at Mike Knott's on April 26th. In addition, the Sect/Treas/Ed was unable to attend the general meeting & had difficulty with "the unidentified source" notes taken in her absence. Did I say that tactfully enough, Piet?

Meeting called to order at 6:50 PM. Bob Walsh, Bob Sharp, Bob George, Jock Spurgin, Mike Knott, Larry Garcia, Marcia McEachron, David Christofferson, Paul Hubler & Mark Nichols were present.

Bob Walsh presented & distributed the long awaited Guild brochure & presented a \$26.52 printing bill. The "WANTED: METALSMITHS" posters were shown & it was decided to give two to each member at the next meeting for distribution.

Jock suggested we develop an agenda for this meeting & it followed the progression below:

STATE ARTS BOARD BOOKING CONFERENCE Jock gave detailed report of program & function of the 18-19 May booking conference which gives arts related organizations an opportunity to present themselves & their program as a marketable entity to potential patrons. He will contact all Guild members involved with further details. The project was discussed in detail, a committee established & authorization given to rent certain audio/visual equipment.

FINANCIAL REPORT/FUNDING The Board discussed different types, qualifications, limitations, etc., concerning funding by organizations such as the State Arts Board, for Guild projects, newsletter, etc. The Guild has \$388.56 as per Treas. report of last meeting. Cost of mailing will be reduced upon approval of bulk mailing permit (Note: Mailing permit approved.)

METALSMITH MADNESS Suggestion to have visitors register for door prize drawing for purpose of developing a mailing list of interested persons. Spurgin, Hubler & Bob & Carol Sharp will donate prizes. Jock is working on awards for smithing competition. Bob George will contact Gibbs Farm concerning blacksmith shop sign.

NOVEMBER GALLERY DISPLAY Jock suggested the Guild set up a gallery-type display of non-functional examples of forged art to convince arts people we are an art form & to enhance our art image. David Christofferson said that Oral Thompson of Butler Square would be interested in having a display there & that banks are sometimes receptive to this type of function. These ideas will be addressed by a committee to be formed at the next meeting.

ST. KATES EVENT Paul & Mark have been trying to get specific info on this event. Paul wrote & received material relative to individual participation. Mark will attempt to gain info on group entry.

RAMSEY HOUSE CRAFT FAIR David mentioned his invitation to demonstrate metal working at this function in late July. He will see about having it a Guild Function.

ROSE FETE Mark reported that the Guild is invited back & given more space for the 17 June function. It will run from noon to 6:00PM.

GIBBS FARM FALL FESTIVAL A committee will be appointed at the next meeting to deal with this.

GUILD BROCHURE This was discussed & dissected in detail with questions about content & format & recommendations for future improvement. Walsh & McEachron were commended for their hard work & success at getting the brochure produced. A brochure committee will be formed to deal



with this to include:

1. developing next brochure based on experience gained with this one.
2. not handing them out like candy, giving them to people who genuinely express interest.
3. listing past activities in next one
4. appearances & format when opened.

RENFEST

1. will cost Guild \$150 this year.
 - a. Guild members who sell their wares will give not more than 10% of their sales to cover this cost.
 - b. the Guild will pay the Festival from the treasury.
 - c. any collection in excess of \$150 will remain in the Guild treasury.
2. Guild will concentrate on beautification projects in the booth to include:
 - a. coats of arms
 - b. finishing touches
 - c. signage
 - d. banners
 - e. costumes
3. Larry Garcia is in charge of display dynamics - he has an award for his expertise in this area.
4. Bob Sharp suggested a PR person to be present at all times to represent the Guild.
5. A committee was appointed to assist Bob George as Renfest Coordinator: Larry Garcia, John Moriarty, Bob Sharp & David Christofferson.
6. A meeting for participants will be held at the Renfest site & will be announced in the newsletter.
7. A workshop will be requested to cover costuming, signage & period behavior.
8. A list of special demonstrations was discussed.

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING An agenda was discussed as follows:

1. Plan next newsletter
2. Metalsmiths Madness report
3. Renfest Committee report
4. Appoint committees for:
 - a. November gallery
 - b. brochure
 - c. Fall Festival
 - d. Rose Fete
5. Membership report
 - a. use of brochures
 - b. recruiting

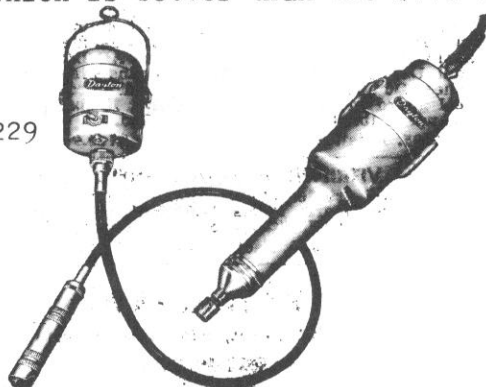


Tip of the Month from Mike Knott

The ideal tool for any metalsmith, particularly the silversmith, is the high speed hand grinder. The Freedom Company makes an excellent hand grinder but the price is high. This month's tip deals with that. Through many dealers the handpiece & flexible shaft may be obtained. By going to a local dealer a high speed motor may be obtained. When buying the parts separately make sure they match. The flexible shaft comes with various size sleeves to slide onto your motor. MAKE SURE THE SLEEVE SIZE & THE SHAFT SIZE MATCH.

Lapcraft sells the #30 handpiece & flexible shaft for \$45 wholesale. The motor can be gotten at Graingers. The best deal is to go to the various flea markets. Last year I bought a 5000 rpm motor & variable speed foot control for \$10. So a dependable grinder can be had for about \$50-60 which is better than the \$110 the Freedom normally sells for.

Lapcraft Company
PO Box 29485
485 Schrock Road
Columbus, Ohio 43229
(614) 846-1500



W. W. Grainger, Inc.
2616 27th Ave. So.
Mpls., Minn. 55406
(612) 721-5531

Mokume

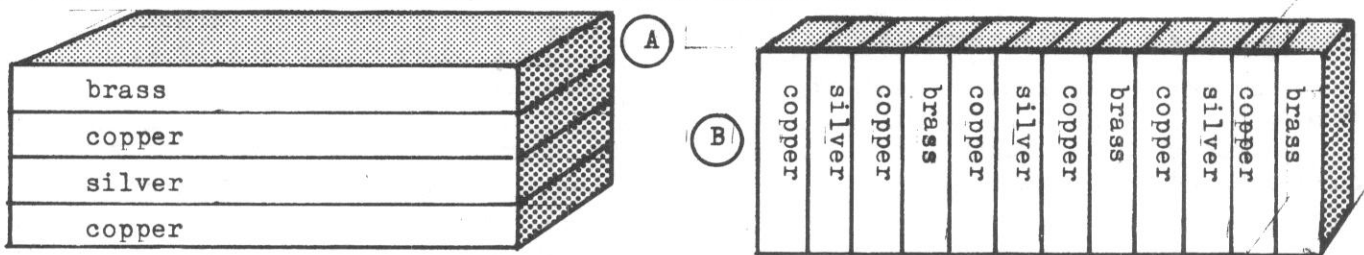
by John Moriarty

One of the less frequently seen decorative techniques is known as mokume. This technique derives its name from the Japanese word for wood grain - mokume. Mokume makes use of the different characteristics of various metals as they contrast against one another in stratified layers. The Japanese application used layers of forge welded irons with layers of various metal oxides between as the iron was welded together. The metal was folded & convoluted after welding & finally treated with acids which etched the various irons in varying ways producing a "wood grain" effect on the surface. Perhaps this process is an ancestor to the Damascus steel process or vice versa as they both seem quite similar.

In jewelry work the process is much the same except that non-ferrous metals are used & joining is done by hand soldering rather than forge welding.

First, the colors of the metals to be adjacent to each other are considered & size & shape considerations relative to the design are made. Second, the sheets of metals are thoroughly cleaned by pickling & any further contamination must be avoided. Thirdly, the adjacent surfaces to be soldered are fluxed & hard solder is applied in the form of filings or powder. Next, the sheets are stacked & dampened together in the desired combinations. It has been suggested that copper or brass be placed on the outside faces as a guard to the silver layer if any is present.

Heating is done with a soft flame & the sandwiched edges are observed for evidence of the solder melt which will appear as a thin bright line on the edge. After completing these steps, what we have is a layer of several sheets of metal.



Now, if this sheet is sawed lengthwise into strips & the strips are laid on their sides & soldered together, we will have a sheet of alternating strips of metals.- A. If, as they are soldered together they are placed in some kind of pattern then we will have a patterned sheet - B. This can be complicated or simple. Also the strips can be rolled to thin them before soldering or they can be soldered & then rolled to the desired thickness. The resulting sheet is a raw material that can be used as a stock for any article.

BLACK HILLS BLACKSMITHING & LOG CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP



BLACKSMITHING June 30-July 6 LOG CONSTRUCTION July-July 16

This summer Joe De La Ronde, Lynn DuChateau & Everett Akam will offer a unique opportunity for doing & understanding the essentials of log construction.

Beginning with a week long blacksmithing workshop taught by Jo De La Ronde, interested people will make log construction tools such as broadaxes, log dogs, draw knives & scribes as well as articles related to log construction & living such as fireplace andirons, door latches & hinges.

The blacksmithing workshop will be followed immediately with a complimentary experience - a B. Allan Mackie short course on log construction. Taught by a graduate of this internationally known school, this intensive, week-long course will consist of the construction of a hand-crafted log house. The Mackie School, in existence for several years now, adheres to a high quality craftspersonship & is setting the standard for log construction world-wide.

These experiences, worthwhile in themselves, will raise the level of self-reliance on the part of the participant & introduce a new standard for log construction in the US. The people who attend these courses will learn the skills to build a beautiful hand-crafted house, taking only what they need from the earth. To forge one's tools & then create a home of enduring beauty can only be experienced & then recreated through attendance of these workshops.

Places are limited to twenty students & are available on a first come basis. Fee for each workshop is \$150 or \$250 for both. Camping is available free on the worksite which is Touch the Earth, approximately 13 miles west of Crazy Horse Mountain on Forest Service Road 284, Custer-Limestone Road, in the southern Black Hills of South Dakota.

REGISTER NOW. Deposit of \$75 for 1 & \$125 for both workshops. Final payment no later than 1 month prior starting date. Everett Akam, 116 Medary Ave., Brookings, SD 57006

TO A WEARY BLACKSMITH



Are you tired or mad or weary?
Do your welds and work show poor?
Then brace up my man - be cheery -
I've a tonic that will cure.

It's an anvil old and ancient
Famed of name and fair of face.
Made of solid steel well shapened;
Any blacksmith shopt'will grace.

Forged by makers firm and sturdy,
Made by men of mighty brawn -
It will last a lifetime hardy,
For a Trenton is made strong.

All the years the other anvils
Work to please - at last they fall.
Back to dust they still do crumble -
But a Trenton beats them all.

Made to stand - without a strapping
To the floor where they are laced.
Formed to make welds without snapping,
Trentons cannot be disgraced.

So then sturdy blacksmith brethern,
Take heed, buy and learn from me.
Let a Trenton anvil make you
Just as glad as you can be.

E. H. V.

From THE AMERICAN BLACKSMITH
October 1917 - Ad for Trenton anvils
Courtesy of Hublers

A NOTE FROM THE SECT/TREAS/ED:

As the summer months approach with their monthly meetings (June, July & August are the months with a meeting every month) I have become aware of a potential problem with the newsletter. The newsletters are, by the by-laws, to precede the scheduled meetings by 3 weeks with newsletters article deadlines one week before that. When meetings are every other month, as they are the rest of the year, there is little or no problem compiling info & articles. With these summer meetings, however, there is no "composition" space. In one case the newsletter article deadline is immediately after the meeting. I see two solutions: the summer newsletters will, by necessity, be a bit shorter than the others & articles, tips, reports, ads, etc. can be brought to the meeting. I know no other way of handling this & would welcome suggestions & HELP with compiling.

GREAT LAKES COAL has informed us that when this shipment of coal is gone, they're not going to carry smithing coal anymore. If you want smithing coal you should get it now!!

each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it, because it is to be revealed with fire; and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work.
1 Corinthians 3:13

THE MINNESOTA CRAFTS COUNCIL Art & Craft Fair which is at St. Katherine's on June 23rd & 24th would like some metalsmiths to demonstrate. This is a juried fair & would not be for sales of products as it's too late for juring but would be an excellent opportunity to represent the Guild of Metalsmiths to the public with demonstrations from both silversmiths & blacksmiths. Lets put together a dynamite team & make St. Kates smoke!

HENNEPIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY has contacted us & asked if Guild members would like to put together presentations for their speakers bureau. Each member would write his own program & when you speak on your topic, you would get paid around \$50 or \$60. If you would like to speak, bring it up at the next meeting or let Bob Walsh know.

JOB OPENING

Heritage Hill State Park
2640 South Webster
Green Bay, Wisconsin 54301
c/o Nick Clark

An 1895 blacksmith shop on a 60-acre park needs restoring & work. Negotiable salary with free fuel & steel. 50% of the money made would go to the smith. Free apartment.

THE GUILD PORTFOLIO needs current photos & slides of members work. This portfolio is used to represent the Guild & its contents should be of the finest quality & workmanship. If you have photos or slides of something nice, lets get it in there.

ALL GUILD MEMBERS that are going to exhibit in the gallery at the GIBBS FARM should bring either a piece of their work or a good description to the meeting at Paul Hublers as we'll be setting up the gallery the following two days.



Please print:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

Please check one: _____ \$10 Single membership (includes newsletter)
_____ \$12 Family membership (includes newsletter)
_____ \$6 Newsletter subscription only

New memberships and renewals or newsletter subscriptions are due in January of each year. Make all checks payable to the GUILD OF METALSMITHS and mail to: 11898 Knolls Path West, Lakeville, Minnesota, 55044.

Please check one: I _____ have _____ have not received a membership card for previous membership.

Please retain your membership cards as stickers to place in your card will be sent out as receipt of renewal fees.



MALACHITE - calibrated sizes & freeforms.

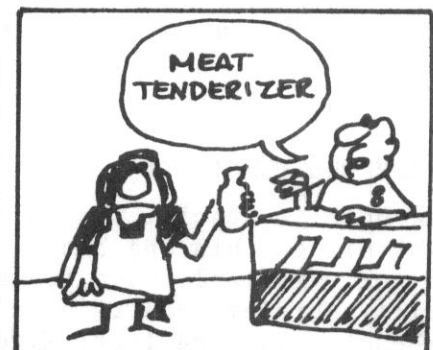
Mike Knott
West Side Studio
1523 W. Lake St.
Mpls., MN 55408
824-4750

FOLDING CHAIRS

We need to find an access to 24 folding chairs that we can use at our meetings. If you know where we can get them, please let Bob Walsh know at the meeting or give him a call at 825-2193.



GILDA



Books Reviewed by Mike Knott

FORM EMPHASIS FOR METALSMITHS, Heikki Seppa, Kent State University Press. Paperback 8"x10", 146 pages, \$9.50 Heikki Seppa is well known for intricate, flowing holloware. This book deals specifically with metalforming; it is intended for the advanced crafts-person, but gives insight to the making of complex forms. The chapter on soldering will be a good aid to everyone.

METALSMITHING FOR THE ARTIST-CRAFTSMAN, Richard Thomas, Chilton Book Company. 175 pages, \$9.95 Thomas spends a major portion of the book dealing with metal raising & forming. The text is clearly written & supplied with a large number of photos. He also spends about four chapters on different methods of casting, ie, sand, ingot & centrifugal. The book is well worth the money.

Design is always hard, not only making sure a piece of jewelry looks good but to continually come up with different ideas. A great source for ideas comes from the interaction of fellow craftspersons. Even two people working on similar projects will end up with totally different results. A major source for my ideas comes from reading: newspaper ads, magazines & books.

The following books deal with design either from particular eras or from a specific group of people.

NORTHWEST COAST INDIAN ART
"An Analysis of Form"
Bill Holm
University of Washington Press
Paperback, 8"x10", 115 p., \$5.95

PUEBLO DESIGNS
H. P. Mera
Dover Publications
Paperback, 8"x10",
115p., \$2.50

ART NOUVEAU
"An Anthology of Design
& Illustration from the
Studio"
Edmund V. Gillon, Jr.
Dover Publications
Paperback, 8½"x11"
90 p., \$2.50

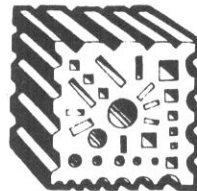


Lakeville, Minnesota 55044
11898 Knolls Path West
THE GUILD OF METALSMITHS

The following is information from the first Upper Mid-West Blacksmith Association Newsletter via Paul Hubler by way of William Fiorini-

After two years in the planning, a meeting was held 4/7/79 to organize a regional chapter of the Artist Blacksmith Association of North America. There were ten people at the meeting & it was decided to have membership from upper Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin & Iowa. There are five board members & two alternates as follows:

Chairman	Eric Moebius
Sect/Treas	Bill Fiorini
Board Members at Large	Bruce LePage Bob Shade Mark Nichols
Alternates	Jeff Moebius Tom Light



The first annual meeting will be held in the fall of 1979. Send notification of membership, if interested, to: William Fiorini

Walnut Bluff Forge & Kiln
Route 1 Box 248-1A
LaCrescent, MN 55947

MORE FROM THE PRESIDENT-

A quick note of special thanks: there are some people who have been burning the midnight oil on this 2nd Annual Metalsmiths Madness that I think we all owe a special thanks to: Vickie Johnson for a super nice poster plus a lot of hours on the Guild pamphlet; Shirley Vedder for sitting in the library for 3 days compiling a comprehensive mailing list; Marcia McEachron for many hours work on the Guild pamphlet, work on the press release plus work with the State Arts Board & obtaining grant info; Jock Spurgin has carried a double load with the Madness competition plus making the banner stantions plus representing the Guild at the Mpls. Institute of Arts.

There are a lot of people working in this organization really hard to make it successful & thanks to all of you, it's working.

Curt Leichtle	Managing Gibbs Farm
Doug Johnson	Poster mailing
Vickie Johnson	Poster paste-up & gate program
Debbie Stenger	Pennant flags
Bob Walsh	General coordination
Greg Vaut, John Moriarty, Roy Bohn, Larry Garcia	Pig roasting crew
Dan Kral & Mn. School of Blacksmithing	Blacksmithing competition judging
Jock Spurgin	Awards
Shirley Vedder & Marcia McEachron	Movies & 1st aid
Steven Sterba	General grounds & spectator safety
Greg Wind	Poster printing
Caroline Webber & Marcia McEachron	Gate crew back-up
Mike Knott, Doug Johnson & John Moriarty	Clean-up
Mike Knott	Jewelry case for competition
Bob Sharp, Paul Hubler & Jock Spurgin	Door prize makers



Demonstrators will include: Andy Lininger, Greg Wind, Mike Knott, Bobs Walsh, Sharp & George, Steven Sterba, Ky Michaelson, Jock Spurgin, Paul Hubler, the team of Nichols & Maas, David Christofferson, Dan Kral, Marcia McEachron & Mara Niesen.