

Guild of Metalsmiths. Monthly discussion FORUM

July , 2000 Vol 2 Issue7

Here we are again. Pull up a chair, get your coffee, reading glasses, and writing tools. It is time to discuss the news. The Guild currently has 309 members. Your renewal date is on the mailing label as 20XX.Q (year.quarter).

Attention Please!

If your label says. 2000.3 your membership is up for renewal. Please send your \$30 dues to:

The Guild of Metalsmiths
PO Box 11423
St. Paul MN 55111

Gene Olson, editor

The **GoM Forum** is published monthly by the Guild of Metalsmiths, St. Paul, MN. It is intended as a community bulletin board, a place for all members to express their opinions, concerns, debate policy, propose projects & workshops. In short, to help us run our organization.

Your comments can be mailed to The GoM Forum, c/o Gene Olson, 8600 NE O'Dean Ave. Elk River, MN 55330-7167, Faxed to 612-441-5846, or emailed to: forum@metalsmith.org.

Metalsmith articles:

Those of you working on those informative articles for our quarterly magazine. **The copy deadline for the issue 3 of 2000 is August 1.** Send them to: Marcia McEachron, editor, 451 Taft St. NE RM 8 Door 35, Minneapolis, MN, 55413, Fax: 612-781-8435

Please!

**!!!Metalsmith Back Issues
ARE Available!!!!**

The Guild of Metalsmiths will provide back issues of "The Metalsmith" to members for \$5.00 each at least until the September board meeting when I will report on our one year plus test of this service.

One of the main reasons for doing this is to make the "how-to" articles that are listed in the metalsmith index available to all members.

To order a back issue, just contact me, Pete Stanaitis anyway you can telling me the volume and the issue number(s) that

you want. Send a check made out to "Guild of Metalsmiths" for \$5.00 for each issue requested to me at 2476 10th Av, Baldwin, WI, 54002.

Some of the back issues will come from our Guild inventory and others will be reproduced in full by me.

In this Month's forum:

- ▶ The June Meeting
- ▶ Shop Crawl
- ▶ Open Studio
- ▶ Owatonna Hammer in
- ▶ Nowthen Threshing Show
- ▶ Tunnel Mill correction!!!
- ▶ directory updates
- ▶ Chris Ray
- ▶ letters: Latane, Olson, Colunga-Hernandez, Skiles
- ▶ Map to the Owatonna art show
- ▶ Map to Manuel's Open Studio in Deer River MN
- ▶ Map to Nowthen Threshing show and **AUGUST meeting**

The June Meeting:

The June Guild meeting was held at The little Log House Showgrounds near Hastings MN. We hold the Annual Fall Conference at this location. After pigging-out with another wonderful potluck dinner we had a business meeting where we set up a committee to handle the 501c-3 status filing, followed by show and tell. The demonstration for the evening was given by the Engstroms', Fredells', Hansons' and the Stanaitises'. This crew of eight attended the 1999 ABANA Tour of Germany, The Czech Republic and Austria. They displayed their photos and entertained us with stories of the trip. As usual, a whole lot of visiting was going on.

At the business meeting we talked about:

- 501c3 committee is Rome Hutchings, Dave Mariette, and Arlene Fuchs.
- MN zoo farm exhibit need blacksmiths to demo per Rich Herman
- Insurance; everyone is covered
- the coal is smoky, dirty, and burns fast per Mariette (*I assume this means we are looking for better stuff-ed*).
- the need for a new trailer
- Owatonna show is installed and the 8-6

Hammer in is on.

- Carol Adams, Barbara Hanson, Mary Fredell, and Sheri Stanaitis made a beautiful quilt that will be raffled off at the December Meeting, tickets avail from Sheri. \$1 ea. Mail to Sheri Stanaitis, 2476 10th Av, Baldwin, WI, 54002.

- that there is 3000 available for grants(actually 4000)

Report courtesy of Bob and Mary Fredell and Mike Fratalone.

ATTENTION GUILD MEMBERS:

THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE IS INSTALLING 5 PERMANENT FORGING STATIONS FOR THE NOWTHEN THRESHING SHOW IN AUGUST. HOWEVER, WE NEED 2 LEG (POST) VISES WITH 5 INCH OR BIGGER JAWS TO COMPLETE THE INSTALLATION. IF YOU HAVE A VISE TO DONATE OR SELL, PLEASE CONTACT:

BOB FREDELL AT 612-721-2298 OR 763-389-5119

PETE STANAITIS AT 715-698-2895 OR spaco@win.bright.net

LYNN FORD AT 612-724-0092 OR topdog@bitstream.net

Help!!

Need members who have a shop!!!

How would you like a good excuse to clean up your shop?

I'm looking for members who have a metalworking shop that they would open for display to other members on some Saturday.

Many of our members would like the opportunity to see inside the shops of other members to get ideas for their own work areas. Often times our newer members don't yet have a shop of their own and they don't know where to start. And I think almost every member who has a shop is always looking for new ideas, too.

So, I'm proposing that we organize a "Metalsmith Crawl". "What's that?" you may ask. Well, I have heard of "Art

Crawls" and I guess this would be similar. The idea is that you list a bunch of places, like art galleries, for instance, then invite a bunch of people to visit them on a particular day. I think they would usually try to have all these locations close to one another so people could walk (crawl) from place to place to see what each one has to offer.

For the Guild of Metalsmiths, I think we would try to group 5 to 10 shops within easy driving distance of each other and maybe try to get people to start at someplace and car pool together as they go from shop to shop. So there would definitely be a social aspect to the day. We could maybe even choose some lunchtime meeting place. People wouldn't HAVE to car pool and it wouldn't even be desirable to have everyone show up at one shop at the same time. We have lots of options. We would probably hold this first "crawl" in the warm seasons of the year, say somewhere between May and October.

Anyway, to get the ball rolling, we need to start by getting up a list of those members who would consider opening up their shops to such an event. There would be no need to demonstrate. You'd just to be there in your shop to show it to the visiting members. They want to know the features, about the equipment, what you like about your shop and what you'd do differently next time.

We want to visit all kinds of shops. Big ones, small ones, complex shops and simple shops. Shops with electricity and shops without. Blacksmith shops and non ferrous studios. Modern Fabrication shops and shops under a tree (chestnut or not). Heated shops or unheated, etc, etc, etc. You get the idea.

I think the first "Metalsmith Crawl" should be held in the Twin Cities area. If we get enough names, we can make this a regular event. It would really be neat if we get a large list of shops outside the twin cities metro area. That way we could center one of these events out where members don't have to drive so far, let's say western Wisconsin, for example.

So, if you have a shop that you'd care to share, please contact me by phone, snail mail, email or in person. Pete Stanaitis

715-698-2895, spaco@win.bright.net

Pete,

Here I am going to insert a plug for **Manuel's open Studio happening the 21st thru the 24th of this month (July). In Deer River MN. That's on 2 between Bemidji and Duluth.**

All those lamenting the lack of stuff happening up North, go check out Nan and Manuel's workshop.

Look for the Map and info on page 6.

Ed.



Its time for that August Hammer In we started talking about a year ago.

Come help close the metalwork, art show and show off your latest tricks, or just come and be friendly. .

August 6th 1:00 - 6:30^{PM}

Potluck Dinner at noon

See you there!

Look for the attached map.

A Metal event in the Northland

Forest History Center's

Metalworking Weekend Aug 5-6th

This isn't an official Guild activity but if you are too far North to make the Owatonna hammer in, this could be fun.

Grand Rapids, MN. Join contemporary metalsmiths who work with iron, gold, silver, and brass for a weekend program highlighting the historic role of metalsmithing in Minnesota. (There is an admission charge) for info (218)-327-4482.

Nowthen Threshing Show

August 18 - 19 - 20, 2000

9:AM to 6:PM each day

The Nowthen Threshing Show Hammer-in will be in it's new shop. More Space. More forges. New building.

See the attached August Meeting map for directions

.For thirteen years, or so, The Guild of Metalsmiths has demonstrated at the Nowthen Threshing Show. We will be back again this year on August 18, 19 and 20, 2000. All members of the Guild, be they experienced or newly hatched blacksmiths, come to the threshing show. This is a fun time to spend some time with your fellow Guild members and beat on iron. Here is the scoop--Come to the August meeting and sign up to demonstrate at the show. Maps to the show grounds will be distributed. If you can't come to the meeting, show up at the threshing show anyway. If you can come for all three days, do it. If you can come for part of a day, that's just fine. Bring your favorite hand tools. A limited selection of stock will be available. If you must have a specific size stock to make whatever you want to make, it's best to bring the stock with you. We will informally take turns demonstrating between the hours of 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM. This year we will be in the brand new blacksmith shop. A number of our Guild members have been working hard to get the shop ready for the show. Come and join us.

Tunnel Mill Correction:

Tunnel Mill Gathering will be the weekend of September 30th, not Oct 7th as previously listed in the Forum.

Directory Updates:

We left space. Get out your pen.

A hearty welcome to our New Members:

HOMSTAD, GREGG
2010 E HENNEPIN AVE BOX 1
MPLS MN 55413
Home Phone: 651-592-8828
Email: homstad@bitstream.net

NYGARD, NOBLE
1067 COULEE TRL
ROBERTS WI 54023
Home Phone: 715-425-9739
Work Phone: 715-426-0405

SALO, CLINTON R
14543 PINE RD NE
PRIOR LAKE MN 55372

Welcome Back:

LYNCH, TOM
33805 57TH AVE
CANNON FALLS MN 55009-4215

MANN, BRUCE
N2426 810TH ST
HAGER CITY WI 54014
Home Phone: 715-792-2131
Email: bruce.a.mann@uwrf.edu

Address Changes:

BERG, TIM
31752 20TH ST
ELMORE MN 56027

Erhard, Paul -(Address til Labor Day)
GENERAL DELIVERY
DODGE CITY KS 67801

FRIEDLANDER, DAVID
25048 277TH AVE
NEVIS MN 56467

HELD, KEN
PO BOX 4
SUPERIOR WI 54880
Home Phone: 218-393-1085

KITTLESON, CORKY
300 4TH S E APT 201
ST PAUL MN 55101-1441

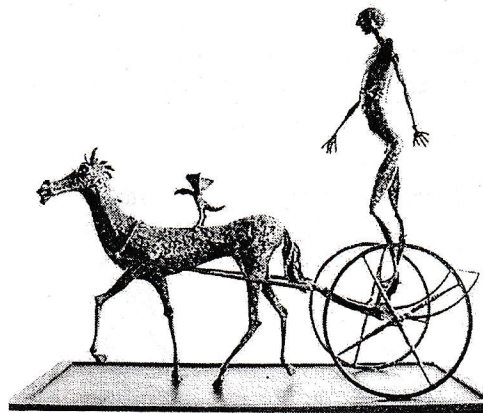
Christopher Ray - Philadelphia, PA.
Artist, Metalsmith, philosopher, teacher,
poet, Guild member.

1937-2000

Some of you may have known Chris from some of the ABANA gatherings, others through pictures of his work published in Dona Meilach's book *Decorative and Sculptural Ironwork*, or the *Anvil's Ring*. Still other's may have met him on the forge or ArtMetal maillists on line, where he was a constant inspiration and font of useful information.

Chris has written some wonderful articles and we will try to get some of them to Marcia for the "Metalsmith".

Chris died of stomach, liver, pancreatic cancer at the VA Hospital in Philadelphia on Monday, July 9th.



locked in a box
an ordinary box
a box like any other box
boxed in, boxed up
but not like package goods
no, not like that
not like that at all
believe me it's not
there are boxes
and
there are boxes
I like boxes
perhaps so do you
they're great for storage
we like that, sure enough
but to live in a box
to think in a box
no

not for me I'm afraid
yet too often I find this to be my home
four walls a roof and a floor
no window to look beyond
to see the possibilities
to stir and stretch
to fly and bound
about
unfettered untied
that would be nice
indeed it would
in fact it could
except for the task I have to do
confounding me with questions
I have no answers for
while inside my box
my ordinary box
like any other box

"Break Out"

by Christopher Ray

more at <http://www.chrisray.com>

Letters:

To have your letter printed here, Address it Dear Forum: and mail it to The GoM Forum, c/o Gene Olson, 8600 NE O'Dean Ave. Elk River, MN 55330-7167 ; email it to: forum@metalsmith.org or FAX to 612-441-5846

Dear Forum:

Nothing that was said at the June meeting or in the Forum for June persuaded me that the Guild should file for a change in corporation status. The only advantages listed are that donors could deduct gift value and volunteers could deduct mileage from taxable income. Does this benefit offset the cost of filing originally and having an accountant annually? Lets take the accountant fee of \$500 and pay it to those who do the most work for the guild. Maybe milage should be paid to the board members regularly. The other advantage listed was credibility when applying for grants. For what are we looking for grants? We seem to be in a cycle of making and giving away money. Slow down and hammer. The education grants are a good idea but we seem to be too anxious over finances.

Tom Latané

A reply from Gene Olson,

Sorry that I was unable to make the June meeting.

I think Tom raises some valid concerns. We are overly anxious about finances. We are in good shape. We have been operating for years and doing just fine, why change it?

That is a good question.

I think the answer lies in the matter of classroom space for one place.

We currently have a good relationship with Richard Duggan and the School of Horseshoeing. Richard has said that at some point several years from now, that will change.

Having a tax exempt status will allow us to accumulate money to pay for whatever change is needed without losing a third of it to taxes. It would also put us in a position to apply for grants to help fund such a change. (I don't know what the solution to

this will be, but it will probably cost something and we need to plan.)

On the matter of the accountants fee, we already pay one. About \$300 for tax processing. The question is it worth the additional \$200 to avoid paying \$500 and more in income tax. (Assuming we have a positive cash flow)

On paying people for services. Who gets paid, for what, how much. . . This is a hard question in an organization that has historically run on volunteer sweat, love of craft, and appreciation for the other fine people in the organization. Perhaps we should look at the Phipps Art Center structure which runs with a few paid people and mainly volunteers and compare that to our organization.

This is one area where grants could be written to pay instructors or classroom space or administrative costs.

Could we have a week long evening course. Or a full fledged two week long intermediate blacksmithing class?

These things might be possible. It would require good proposals though. As the State Arts Board lady said to Mike and I. "People are sometimes surprised to find that the 'begging industry' is extremely competitive"

On the matter of the cost of filing, George Sutton, the fellow that ran the Leonardo DaVinci day thing at the Science Museum, suggested he could talk one of the big law firms into filing the papers for us pro bono (for free) We would still have to pay the filing fee, and provide the financial data. I think that is worth following up on.

I too wonder about tinkering with a running machine but I think that this will be a good move in the long run.

Gene

Those of you who lament the lack of activity north of the Twin Cities, check here.

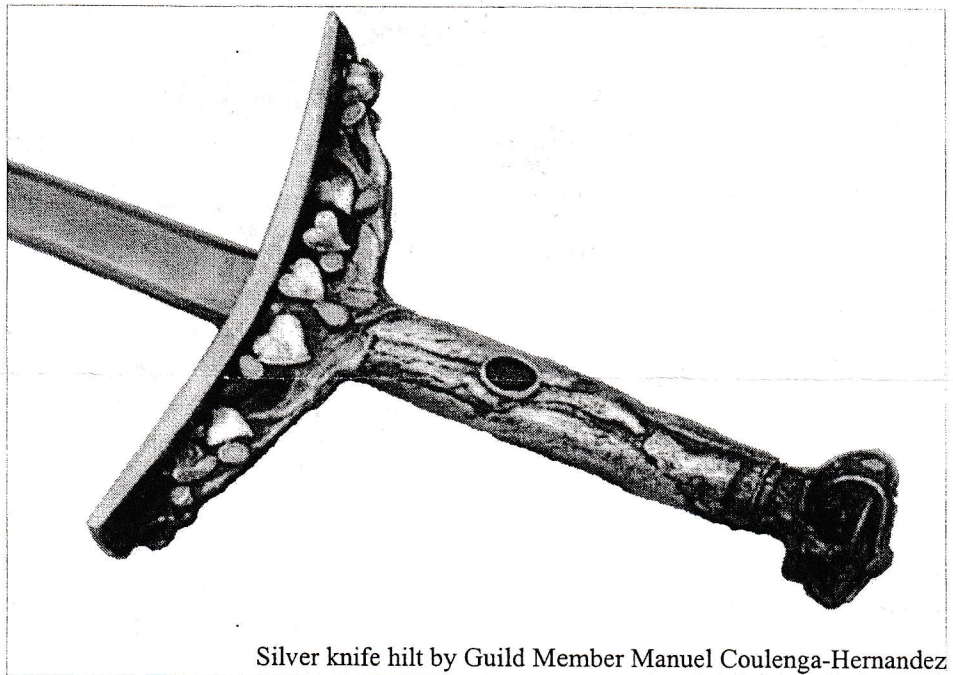
Dear Forum:

I thought you would like to check out the new addition to my website. The "Athame", is a combination of blacksmithing and silversmithing...(Athame: (pronounced

A-thu-may or At-hame) A ritual tool)

I have yet to get to a gathering! It seems like life is what happens while you were making other plans, you know what I mean?

I realize it may be a bit 'fancy', but it is a



Silver knife hilt by Guild Member Manuel Coulenga-Hernandez

combination of smithed high tensile steel and brass and silver. The piece is called 'Ravens Rowen', and though I know the handle doesn't accurately portray a Rowen or Mountain Ash, it is none the less what my friend needed. So if you get a chance please stop by the webpage and check it out. I hope to follow it up with a similar work only as a sword.

I have put the computer desk on hold whilst I wait for the Ash wood I had cut, to dry. And we are getting set up for an open studio the 21st thru the 24th of this month. Say don't forget to mention the Metalsmithing Bash at the Forest History Center in Grand Rapids! I will find out the date exactly and send it your way. (Ed note: I found some info on the Aug 5th-6th event see page 2)

Also since my Nan and I now have a digital camera (with an electrical input adapter no less...) you will be getting an article or two for the "Metalsmith". as soon as I can get them put together. Makes illustrating an idea so much easier when a person can see the process and thing clearly.

Hope to meet you face to face some day... I just have to find the time to make it to a Guild meeting... and of late gas prices haven't helped.

Well here's wishing you and yours the best.

Manuel, of Silver Spider Forge,

"mannynan@paulbunyan.net"

"http://www.paulbunyan.net/users/silverspiderforge" Soon to be SilverSpiderForge.com

For the Forum:

Can anyone recommend a laser cutter within a 4 hour drive of SE Minnesota (St. Paul, Mpls, Madison, Eau Claire, Iowa?) that doesn't mind working with artists on smaller production runs. I'm currently using Laser PrecisionCutting in North Carolina. They're great, but I need to have some draw quality steel cut and I'd rather not have to ship it all the way to NC.

-Kirsten Skiles

Koka Metalsmiths

Fiorini & Skiles

PO Box 237, Dakota, MN 55925-0237

phone/fax 507-643-7946

kokairon@clear.lakes.com

www.kokametalsmiths.com

Member Bob Werner volunteers at Farmamerica which is Minnesota's Agricultural Interpretive Center.

He asked that we post a request for volunteers for their blacksmith shop.

Farmamerica tells the story of the past, present and future of agriculture through its sites of 1850's settlement farm, 1920-30's dairy farm, one room schoolhouse, church, feed mill, blacksmith shop, and the present future agricultural site.

Farmamerica celebrates four festivals throughout the summer of which there are two left.

Spring Festival and Dairy Days
Summer Festival and Ethnic Celebration
Harvest Festival and Old Time Tractor Jamboree August 12th and 13th
Fall Festival and Draft Horse Expo September 9th and 10th

Farmamerica is looking for volunteers for these events, and also items for the

blacksmith shop. (Swedge block, good wood wagon wheels, old metal lathe, small tools, tongs, punches, fullers.)

If interested call Kim Lee (or Crystal) at 507-835-2052

Farmamerica is located four miles west of Waseca, MN.

Want Ads:

Any notice MUST be in my hands by the end of the month.

Tom Latané has become aware of a forge for sale:

Forge with hood and Buffalo blower
Call Don Salisbury, 715-664-8687
Menomonie, WI Price undetermined.

Two anvils for sale

Former Member Fred Lehman called to say he had found two anvils in a building he is gutting. He wants them to go to someone who will use them.

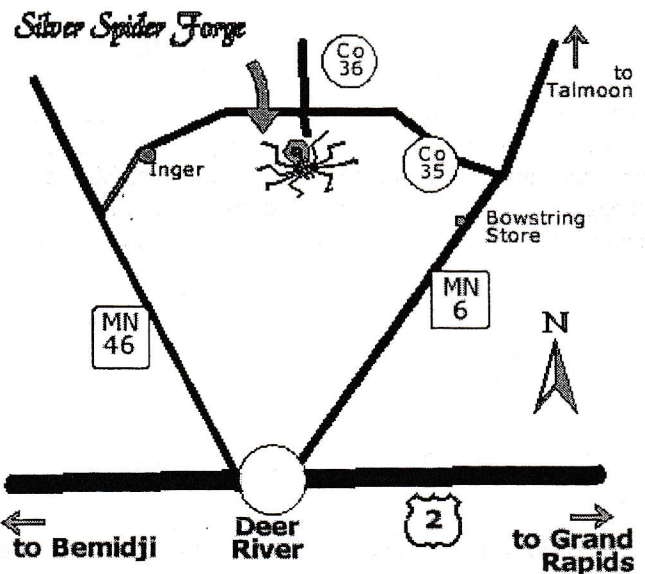
One is a Peter Wright, 160# actual weight The other is a Hay Budden 160# including the timber "stump". One is in near new condition, the other a bit rough.

Fred is in Beldenville WI. Where his phone is 715-273-4098, Metro ph. 612-867-5119

Hello,
I am a woodworker looking for a few pieces of handmade hardware for a box. I need two simple handles, 2 to 3 inches across, and a basic hasp/latch. ph 651 699 0685
Tony Pfaff, 1951 Highland, St Paul, MN

Map to Manuel's open House July 21-24

Silver Spider Forge - 48121 Silver Spider Forge Rd, Deer River, MN 56636 Telephone: (218) 798-2621 Email: mannynan@paulbunyan.net
Situating about 38 miles northwest of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, Be forewarned, don't go up hwy 6, take 46 and go through Inger... (at the Cutfoot Sioux Information station on hwy 46 north is a road to the east 'Sand Bowstring Road' otherwise known as Itasca Co. 35... that one!) Make a right and continue on 35 till the junction of County Roads 35 & 36. The sign is on the corner there. Turn right and follow the road down in.



Here is an attempt at showing you the quilt made by Sheri, Barb, Carol, and Mary.

It is a very complex quilt with many pieces and great detail work.

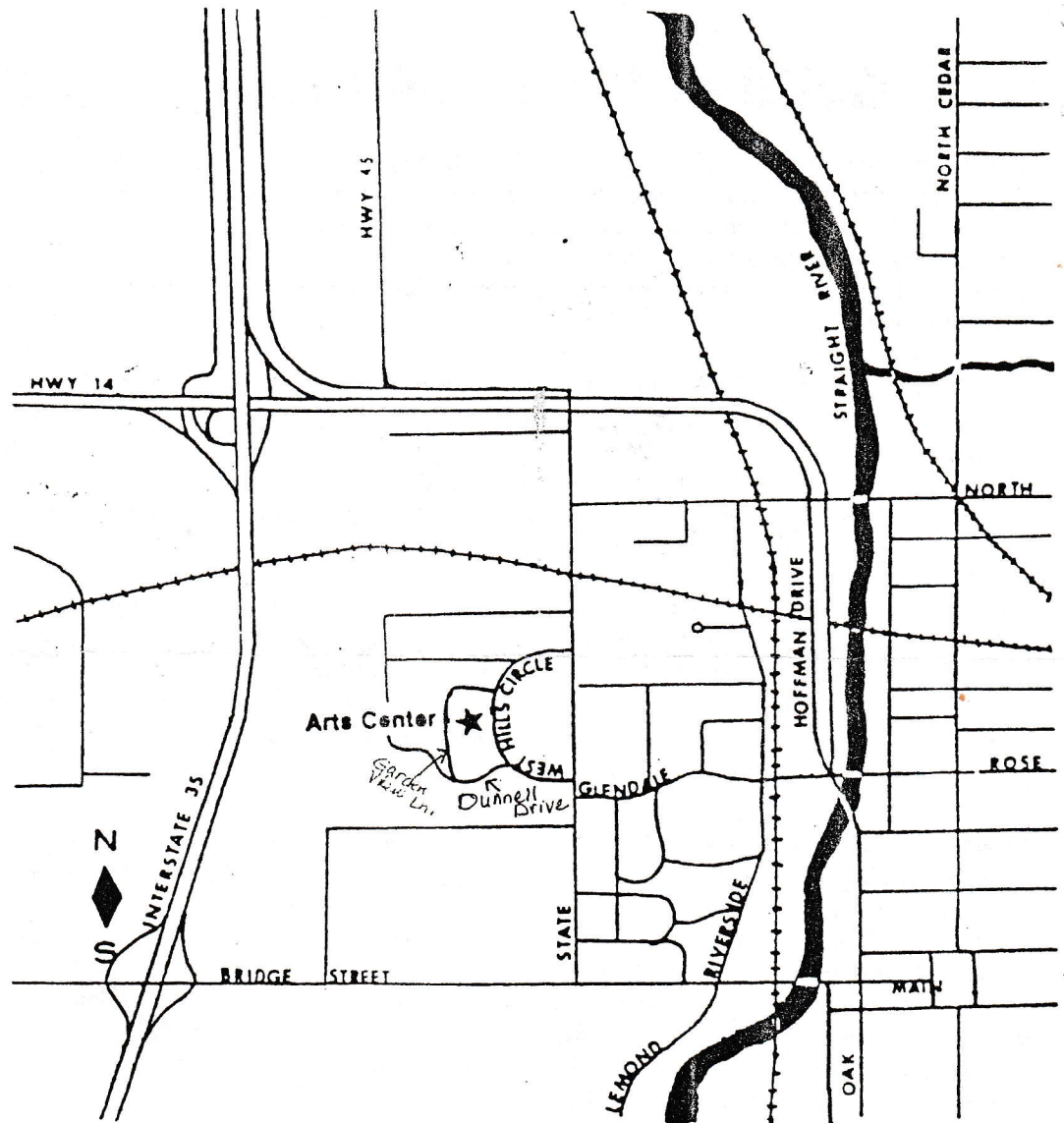
It is colorful! (hard to show in black and white) the center section is made of solid and patterned triangles in a rainbow of colors that sweep across the piece.

It will be displayed at future meetings and you can buy your raffle tickets there or from Sheri. \$1 ea. Mail to Sheri Stanaitis, 2476 10th Av, Baldwin, WI, 54002.

OWATONNA



Owatonna Arts Center
435 Garden View Lane
Owatonna MN 55060
(507) 451-0533



Turn off I-35 at the Bridge Street Exit.

Turn east into Owatonna onto Bridge Street. (Left if coming from the north)

Proceed on Bridge St. to the second set of stoplights.

Turn left onto State Avenue.

Proceed 2-3 blocks (they are divided unevenly) to West Hills (identified by a sign at the corner).

Continue to the left onto Dunnell Drive which will take you around the side of the castle-like Romanesque building, of which the Arts Center is a part of.

Turn right onto Garden View Lane, past the Sculpture Garden.

You will find parking there. The Arts Center door faces south onto the Sculpture Garden on the south side of the building.

The August Membership Meeting (and corn feed) will be held at the Nowthen Threshing Show Grounds on Wednesday August 9th, 2000

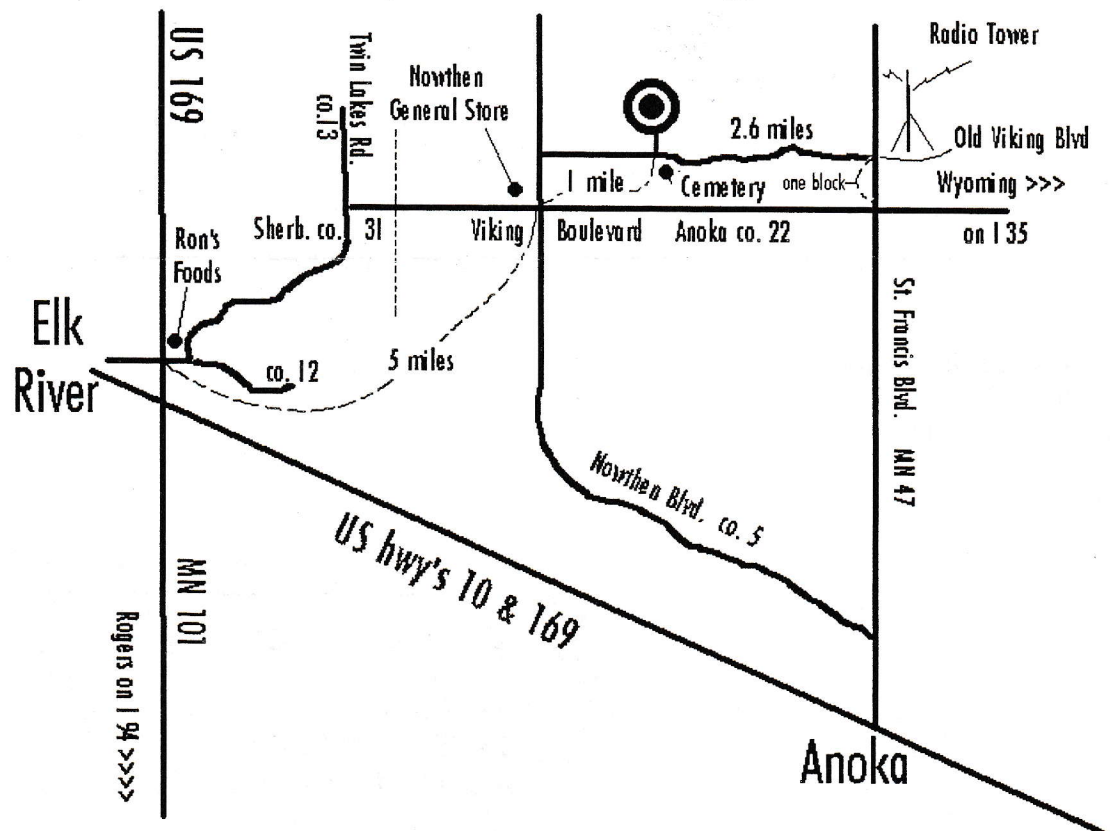
Nowthen Threshing Show

Potluck and Corn start at 6:30 and the Meeting at 7:PM followed by the Program:

Bob Fredell will be demonstrating a new trick he has yet to learn while attending the ABANA conference.

Don't forget Show and Tell!

We want to see what you have been up to. Bring it along and share.



The Nowthen Threshing Show Hammer in

August 18th, 19th, & 20th 9:00AM to 6:00PM ea. day.

Come join the fun in our new Smithy. Five forges, no waiting. Meet people, show us your tricks or learn some new ones.

Tell the gatekeepers that you are Guild of Metalsmiths members come to demonstrate. (hint: bring this sheet)

35WN to post 694
to 10