

Guild of Metalsmiths. Monthly discussion Forum

June , 1999 Vol 1 Issue 6

The Guild currently has 276 members. Your renewal date is on the mailing label as 20XX.Q (year.quarter).

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. The length will vary due to space considerations as it rides piggyback on the workshop notices and must travel on one stamp. (Long letters may be edited to fit the space available)

Your comments can be mailed to me at The GoM Forum, c/o Gene Olson, 8600 NE O'Dean Ave. Elk River, MN 55330-7167 or emailed to: gene@mtn.org

The list of board members, officers, and other contacts is published on the inside rear cover of the "Metalsmith"

Metalsmith Copy Deadline:

All those articles for the next issue of Metalsmith, need to be in Marcia's hands by August 1st, 1999

Marcia McEachron, editor, 451 Taft St. NE, RM 8 Door 35, Minneapolis, MN, 55413, Fax: 612-781-8435

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The May Board Meeting:

Minutes of the May 21st, 1999 Guild of Metalsmiths Board Meeting
by Pete Stanaitis

Host Location: Bob and Mary Fredell's home

President Dave Feterl called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

IN Attendance: Dick Carlson, Dave Feterl, Mike Frattalone, Alexa Kelly, Bob Johnson, Fred McCluskey, Gene Olson, Guy Paton, Pete Stanaitis,

Minutes of the last meeting, which had previously been sent to the board members for review, were approved.

Financial, Mike Frattalone:

\$13,753.37 in checking account. This is \$5830 more than we had last year at this time. We have 272

current members (62 nonrenewed from last year).

Education committee, Bob Johnson:

The 1999/2000 workshop schedule is complete. copies for handed out to board members for their review.

Video Library: The new video request form is complete and has been published in the forum. May 19th will be used by the education committee as a tool making workday for beginners workshop tools from noon to 5 PM and then an education committee meeting will take place. All this will happen at the home and shop of Barb and Myron Hanson. Planning for the Instructors' Training workshop continues.

Program Committee, Dick Carlson:

Conference planning is going well.

A tee Shirt order is going to be planned soon. Volunteers are being sought to help with the conference.

Dick requests that any members associated with other businesses solicit items for the auction from them.

Publicity committee, Gene Olson:

The current "Forum" is at the printer.

Gene continues to update the website as information comes in.

Gene needs the final version of the conference publicity asap. Dick Carlson will get it to Gene by the end of May.

Old Business:

Directory Report, Gene Olson:

The plan: It'll be a 3 column print out with 11 point type. This will consume 6 double sided pages and will cost about \$1 each. We will print 350 copies. Project approved.

Coal Fence completion, Dave Feterl:

Gene Olson and Dave Feterl will see to it that the gate is installed by the next board meeting.

Status of changing to a 501(c3) corporation, Dave Feterl.

We received some documentation on this type of corporation. Dave Feterl will review it and report back to the board.

Reprint of The Blacksmithing Study Guide, Pete Stanaitis:

When preparing to reprint, as approved at the last board meeting. Bob and Pete discovered a number of EXTRA complete sets of texts that were given to us by the printer as penance for a mistake they made.

To this end, we have about 32 manuals in stock, needing only to buy 3 ring binders for about 20 of them.

So we will not reprint at this time. Bob and Pete will come before the board again in the future when the supply runs low.

New Business

Hubler Estate Committee, Dave Feterl:

The Hubler estate (Paul's sister Mrs. Drodek) is considering donating some of Paul's blacksmithing-related belongings to the Guild of Metalsmiths. Dave Feterl, Bob & Mary Fredell and Pete Stanaitis will meet with her at Paul's shop on May 25th for a fact finding visit. They will make no commitments of any kind without Board approval.

Owatonna Art Show, Dave Feterl:

All Guild members are invited to attend this show later this year. We approved a motion to allow them to publicize their event in The Forum. Dave Feterl will communicate this motion to Marcia McEachron for transmission to the Owatonna Art Fair people.

Tool needs for beginners' workshops, Bob Johnson:

Bob requested that the education committee be allowed to purchase up to \$275 worth of cut off hardies for use at the School of Horseshoeing, to be stored in the Guild toolbox. Motion carried.

Firepots for the School of Horseshoeing, Dave Feterl:

Motion to spend up to \$1000 for up to 6 new firepots was approved. This cost will be eventually paid back to the Guild by Dick Duggan, through \$25 per day rent reductions. Installation will start approximately in July.

Next meeting: 6:30 PM, July 14th, 1999 at Fredell's home.

Adjourned at 8:45.

Pete & Sheri's Hammerin':

If you weren't there, you missed a good one. The Stanaitises were great hosts and the demonstrations were excellent.

Pete says he did this to tweak those who mistakenly say, "Minnesota" Guild of

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Metalsmiths. The member demonstrators were from Wisconsin, Iowa, and guest demonstrator from Zimbabwe. You can expect an article or two in Metalsmith on the Demos.

Paul Hubler Estate Auctions:

There will be two auctions to liquidate Paul's assets. The first is to be held on June 21st which will be household and collectables. The second will be held on July 24th and will include Paul's blacksmithing tools and supplies, the complete bill and time for the second auction have not been put together yet. Both auctions will be in Rockford.

\$\$ AUCTION \$\$

Paul Hubler Estate
Rockford, MN - 5:00 PM
Located on Maple Street in Rockford, MN.
1 block W of Main Street.

Monday, June 21

168 LANTERNS: I do not believe any two are alike. The following are a few different ones: Dietz #2 tubular sq. lamp; Dietz #30; Dietz side lamp; Adlake non-sweating lamp; Arlington Dressel lamp.

LAMPS: Aladdin B green; Aladdin B cream; Aladdin B clear; dbl. angle elec.; tin shades; angle parts; reflector lamp; (10) different kero lamps; Aladdin #12.

ANTIQUE FURNITURE: Drop-front writing desk; (2) 2-door glass cabinets; 3-door glass cabinet; 3-drawer dresser w/oval mirror; commode; 30 gal. wood barrel; sm. wood kitchen table; 12 drawer oak cabinet.

ANTIQUES: Very fancy wood case mantle clock; sq. glass case clock; very sm. hand crank Singer sewer; Edison #30 cyl. phono parts; (6) branding irons; old tools; draw knife; various animal horns; Western shell box w/drawers; shell wood boxes; wood decoys; (3) square trunks; horse collar; Johnson face box; buttons; books; lots of misc.

All items must be paid for within 15 minutes after auction.

Terms: Acceptable forms of payment are cash, personal/company check or VISA/Master Card.

All items must be paid for within 15 minutes after auction conclusion.

Fred W. Radde III MN Lic. 10-04

Tim's Auction Watch:

Guild Member Tim Petersen, has been watching the auction bills for years and has offered to let us know when he notices metalsmithing tools and equipment on the bills. If you have lead on an auction, let him know about it.

"Tim Petersen" <tlpeters@prtel.com> or PO Box 128, Underwood, MN 56586-0128, phone: 218-739-0743

Auction:

Items Listed Anvil and Vises

Location - From Thief River Falls, MN, Jct. Hwy. #32 and Hwy. #1: 3 Miles East on Hwy. #1, 4 miles North on Co. #12 "Range Line Road" and 1/2 mile West.

SAT., JUNE 19, 1999

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Very well-maintained farm equipment, quality shop tools and equipment and restored IH collector tractors.

Auction:

Items Listed: Lincoln 180 amp electric welder, Gas welder with tanks, Anvil

FARM AUCTION SALE

SATURDAY JUNE 19, 1999

AT 10:00 AM

LOCATION: FROM SHELLY, MN. GO 7 MILES EAST ON CO. RD 3 AND THEN V2 MILE NORTH

Auction:

Items Listed: Wagon Rim Maker, 2 - Forges
DAY 1 OF 2 DAY AUCTION

Location: From Shelly, MN, 2 miles South on Highway 75, 2 miles East on County 11. OR From Halstad: 5 miles North on 75 and 2 miles East on County 11.

Saturday, July 10, 1999

Starting at 10:00 A.M.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: After 18 years of an annual Threshing Bee, the Oistads have

decided to call it a day. They are offering their collection for sale by auction. some very unique and interesting items. From the early horse and buggy days to the early 40's. something for everyone Step back 70 years and join us for this 2-day auction. We will sell horse-drawn pieces and miscellaneous on Saturday, and on Sunday will be the tractors, trucks, collectible furniture and household.

Letters:

Hello Forum!

I'm writing you about the great meet that the New England Blacksmiths held a couple of weeks ago. The meet was extremely fun for those who participated and I wanted to share the format with you and the GOM.

The meet, as they call them around here, was led by Peter Catchpole, a local artist blacksmith who learned his trade in England. He showed slides and talked on Fri night, part of the program which I did not get to. (The meet was organized and held by Bob Valentine and a merry band of volunteers)

On Saturday morning the group of about 50 folks was divided into 3 groups: Those who wanted to participate in the hands-on design/build project; those who wanted to do a beginner project on their own; and, those who wanted to watch.

The beginner project was to create a copper bowl from a sheet using shaping hammers and stumps hollowed out for the purpose. Most of the rest of us signed up for the hands-on project and were divided into groups of 3. Each team was provided with an experienced blacksmith to assist the group when needed both in the design stage and on construction technique. I think there were 5 or 6 teams in all and each was provided with a forging station. The teams shared in common other tools including a power hacksaw, drill press and hand grinder. A stack of various sized stock was also provided. And of course, there was the 50# Little Giant, now off the new trailer. (A special low boy self loading/unloading trailer soon to be featured in an article in "Metalsmith"

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courtesy of the talented smiths of "NEB" - editor)

So on to the project. Prior to the meet, Peter had made up decorative upright supports which held 2 square cross members (3/4" square stock, 28" apart). Each team had to design an element for the "grille" and attach it to the frame before the end of the meet at Sunday noon. Each team got a space (width on the grille) of 8". They could do anything they wanted and fasten it to the cross members any way as well. Because it was an exercise in team design and construction, each team worked independently--the finished product became a sort of a "Pot-Luck Grille."

As you can imagine, there was quite a bit of excitement, bewilderment and flurry as Peter sent the groups off on their own to start designing at about 10:30 in the morning. A major part of the challenge, fun (and initial panic) was beginning to design collaboratively with people you may have never met before on a project that was so open ended. The initial anxiety of the "blank page" was multiplied by 3! Well, that soon gave way to excitement and satisfaction as the various members of the group offered ideas and a common design started to form and take shape. Sketches were made and paper was provided for full-scale hand drawings. Soon, the sound of the hack saw and propane forges could be heard. Several teams had coal forges and the rising smoke told onlookers that it was time to hammer.

We took a break for lunch and it was back at it until about 3 PM. That's when the big switch occurred--each group had to pass their now half-done element to another group and get another for themselves! We knew from the morning instructions that it was going to happen some time during the day, but when it did, many of us were surprised at how hard it was to give up your project--especially since group finishing it could do anything they wanted with the project they just received. You could continue on in a similar way with the new piece or go in a completely different direction with it. It was yours now.

So it was back to the design drawing board

again except this time it was with your team who you've spent most of the day working with. It wasn't hard to see that people were having fun, now at ease working with people who may have been strangers earlier that morning.

We broke for dinner, a business meeting and a "metal-in-the-hat" drawing where you hoped they pick your raffle tickets on any number of items donated or made by members. We were back at work finishing or elements on Sunday morning. The grille became the center of attention as each group finished their piece and fastened it to the frame.

Each element was completely different from the one next to it. Peter, with his eye for design and sense of humor, decided where each piece would go on the frame. Everyone wanted to see what happened to the piece that they started and passed off. Many followed the original design with slight modifications but some were completely different.

I'm sure the NEB news letter will have pictures of the final grille in an upcoming issue, you'll probably see them one way or another. There was so much that was good about the meet. It gave those of us

starting out a chance to forge with others and we had a experienced resource guy as well. It was a good experience to design in the small group. It was good to meet new folks. And it was great fun!

It's getting late. I'm going to send this off to you and go to bed instead of proof it. Please accept the rough spots. Tell me what you think. Take care,

-Rick

Want Ads:

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

Moving sale:

Coal and Coke 55 gal drum of each.

In North Branch, MN

Rick Stewart, 651-674-420

Please, DO NOT call after 9:00PM

Dick Carlson had a heart attack last night Monday 1AM.
He woke his wife Erma and they called 911 and got him to the Hospital.
He has been transferred to United Hospital in St Paul where he is in intensive care.
He can't have visitors just yet, and only silk flowers are allowed in the ICU.