

The Forum

June 2011



Vol. 13, No. 6

The Guild of Metalsmiths Meeting Wednesday, June 8, 2011 Minnetonka Center for the Arts

The June membership meeting of The Guild of Metalsmiths is set for June 8 at the Minnetonka Center for the Arts. Join your TGOM friends there at 6:30 pm for our traditional potluck, followed by the business meeting. Then take some time to learn all about the art center.

The Minnetonka Center for the Arts is a community arts center offering a broad range of visual arts instruction in metal and stone sculpture, ceramics, painting, weaving photography, and other disciplines. The Art Center has one of the only publicly accessible bronze foundries in the Midwest, and welcomes TGOM to tour this facility and observe the steps involved in creating an object in bronze—from making a design in wax, to pouring hot molten bronze to finishing a piece with a patina. There will also be a blacksmithing demonstration by Dave Mariette making a button scroll. Judd Nelson, a Guild member as well as an instructor at MCA, will also have some of his metal sculptures on display.

You are welcome to tour the studios of the various disciplines in the building as well as to view an exhibition of dozens of works of art, including paintings, sculpture, glass, stone, textiles, photographs, ceramics, and jewelry made by Art Center members in the gallery.

See you at the Minnetonka Center for the Arts on June 8!

**Minnetonka Center for the Arts
2240 North Shore Drive
Wayzata, MN 55391-9347**

See map below for details. Also visit the art center's website here: <http://www.minnetonkaarts.org/home.html>

■ Champion of this meeting: Judd Nelson.

MINNETONKA

Forum deadline for July: Monday, June 20, 2011

The deadline for The Forum is always the third Monday of the month. If you have activities that will be occurring in the next few months and wish to have them published in the next Forum, please send them by Monday, June 20, 2011 to Georgia Myers, editor, by email to:

gdmymers@embarqmail.com

or mail them to:

Georgia Myers

413 W Dakota St

Lake City MN 55041

Our neighborhood of smiths

UMBA

Visit <http://www.umbaonline.org/events.html>

UMBA DVD-R library

125 different titles

\$5 each, \$2 shipping per order

Never return them to library - www.umbaonline.org

Badger Blacksmiths meetings

Our contact information is as follows:

President: Ron Wendt

715-874-6141

ronblacksmithing@clearwire.net

Newsletter editor: John

Grump

715-835-0894

johngrump@att.net

Lake Superior Metalsmiths

Lake Superior Metalsmiths (LSM) meet the fourth Saturday of the month. Potluck at noon with meeting to follow.

Contacts are:

Norm Groehler, President, 715-399-8151

normanwgroehler@centurytel.net

Jim Sage, Vice President, 218-525-7265

sageforge@cs.com

Northern Minnesota Metalsmiths

The NMM meetings are the first Monday of the month, often, but not always, at Keith Johnson's shop in Bemidji. Contact Keith for monthly specifics at keith@greatriverforge.com. The Northern Minn. Metalsmith's website is www.nmmmetalsmiths.org

Central Minnesota Blacksmiths (CMB)

Meet on the first Monday of each month

Pot Luck followed by demo

Locations are different every month so please call or write for info

Contacts are:

President: Ken Zitur

1-320-746-2557

ken@kenstrom.com

Brian Johnson

16777 Co Rd 75 NW

Clearwater MN 55367

1-320-558-6898

New Members—June 2011

Jon Mastny

Aitkin, MN

Alesandro Cecere

Minneapolis, MN

UPDATE!

TGOM now has 93 members signed up to receive electronic only versions of The Forum!

According to membership database administrator Gordon Barr, we have 316 on the active membership list. 234 have email addresses. 59 of these are overdue on their dues. 93 have requested email only Forums. That's up from 61 last month!

For Sale

306 lb. anvil in excellent condition, \$700.

Contact:

Carl Nordquist

715-866-8807

carlsanvil@centurytel.net

OPEN FORGE TIME NOW AVAILABLE

Any member that would like to use a forge at the Minnesota School of Horseshoeing can contact Nancy at the school. Phone is 763-427-5850 or Nancyduggan@rtduggan.com. Forges are usually available Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9-4. Cost would be \$10 plus you buy your own coal. Make arrangements with Nancy to ensure time is available.

Treadle Hammer Kits Now Available

Treadle hammer kits are now available from Discount Steel for \$325. The kits have all the steel precut to size and include all the nuts, bolts, spring, UHMW, turnbuckle and bushings needed to build the hammer. Drilling, tapping, grinding, deburring and welding are required to assemble the pieces.

The kits will be available through Discount Steel's website; www.discountsteel.com. Look for the photo on the front-page under "Featured Items." Place the order on-line and pay by credit card or cash when picking up the kit from Discount Steel. After payment is received, you will be able to download a 50 page set of drawings from their website. The entire kit weighs about 350 pounds and will be packaged on a small pallet for pick up. They will load so be prepared with a truck, van or trailer.

If unable to place your order online, contact Mike Klein, Mike@discountsteel.com and make the necessary arrangements. Any other questions, contact Gordon Barr at gdbarr@aol.com or Chris Rand at chris@corpertonforge.com. We can also email members a PDF set of drawings.

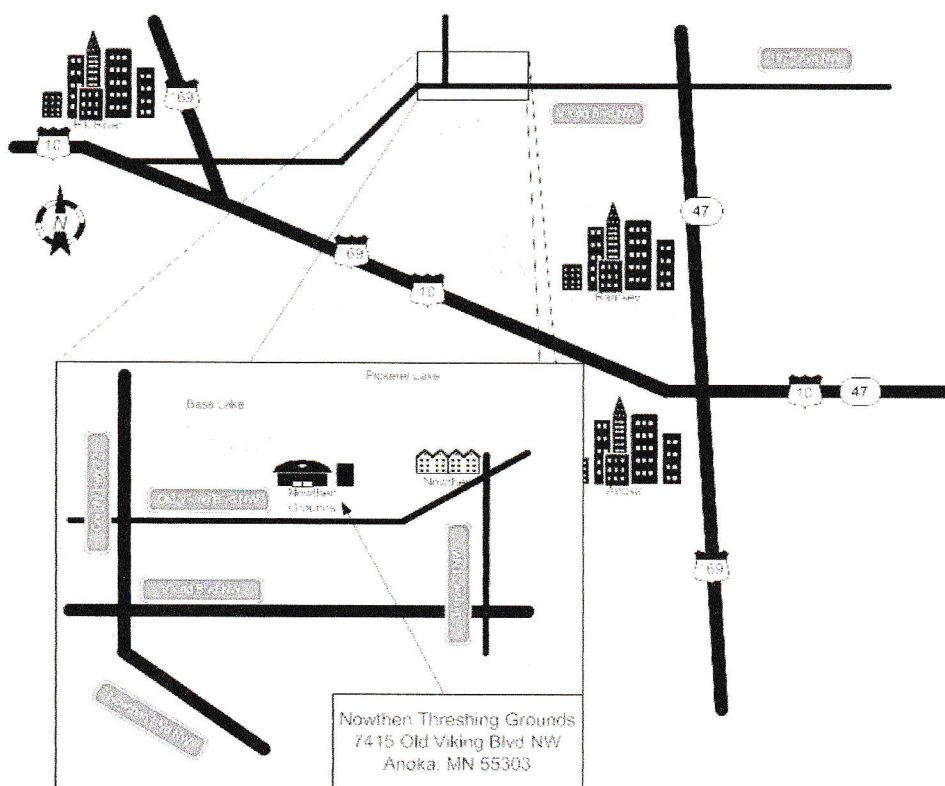
TGOM Spring Hammer-In June 3, 4, 5!

The annual Spring Hammer-in at the Nowthen Historical Power Association Blacksmith Shop is on for this year. Come and hang out with a bunch of your friends and share/learn some new skills.

- ✓ Camping on-site is available Friday night and Saturday night
- ✓ Five forges are open for use
- ✓ Coal will be provided
- ✓ Bring your own tools and steel

This year we will have some demonstrations on how to make leaves. If you have some cool techniques related to leaf making you would like to demo, or if you have any questions about the Hammer-in, contact Rich Herman (651-322-1623).

There is no charge to participate in this event. The Nowthen Power Show grounds are located at 7415 Old Viking Blvd, Nowthen, Minnesota. (Map at right)



Pre-conference workshop

Dates: September 15th and 16th

Location: Little Log House Blacksmith Shop near Hastings, MN

Workshop Title: Heavy Metal Workshop

Cost of Workshop: \$250. Make checks out to The Guild Of Metalsmiths.

Mail check and registration to:

David Mariette

4020 160th Street East

Rosemount, MN, 55068.

Questions: call or email 612-889-3291, david_mariette@anvildancer.com

In this workshop students will pair off to form forging teams. Students will be making tools for forging. Time permitting and based on ability, students will make a hammer, hardies, hammer drift, and top tool. Students will be double striking, a learned skill in and of itself. This would be considered to be a class for the more advanced smith, but all will learn a tremendous amount regardless of their ability level.

There are openings for twenty smiths, or ten teams. This will be an intensive two days of instruction from one of the premier teachers in the country today, Brian Brazeal. He will have an assistant with him helping teach the class.

Brian Brazeal began discovering traditional blacksmithing as a farrier over 25 years ago. Brian gave up shoeing to practice traditional forging full time. Traveling the US and Europe, Brian was fortunate to have been exposed to smiths like Professor Alfred Habermann, his sons Alfred Jr., Josef, and David, as well as Alfred's daughter Christine. Brian also mentored with Tom Clark, Bob Patrick, Bill Bastas, Darrell Nelson, Terry Carson, and Tsur Sadan.

Brian now continues to share and promote the techniques of this lost craft in an effort to bring traditional blacksmithing back to the world by demonstrating and sharing his practical experience and forging expertise in clinics and workshops for all skill levels. Such techniques include the forge welded bundle, tools to make tools, collaring, and "forged to finish" hammer.

Share your knowledge and skills!

Members of The Guild of Metalsmiths have a variety of opportunities to share their knowledge of metalsmithing to the public. Find out more below....

July 29, 30, 31: Little Log House Antique Power Show, Hastings, MN. Volunteer demonstrators in the blacksmith shop at the venue will receive passes to the show. Contact: Dick Carlson, 651-437-3329

August 6 & 7: Family Farm Festival at the Minnesota Zoo. Contact: Rich Herman, richherman@frontiernet.net or 651-322-1623.

August 13 & 14: Almelund Threshing Show, 7 miles northwest of Taylors Falls, MN. Contact: Carl Nordquist, 715-866-8807.

August 19, 20, 21: Nowthen Threshing Show. Again this year we will demonstrate blacksmithing at the Nowthen Threshing Show as we have for the past 25 years. Whether you are an old-timer or new to blacksmithing, come and participate in this Guild of Metalsmiths event. The threshing show is held on the third weekend of August, August 19, 20, 21, 2011. You may sign up in two ways. Come to the Guild's August meeting, sign up and get a pass for free entry to the show grounds. Or, if you won't be at the meeting, email Bob Fredell, bfredell@msn.com and request a pass and a map sent to you via US Mail. See you then.

So, have you marked your calendar yet for the Fall Madness – the Guild of Metalsmiths Fall Conference? The conference will be held this year on September 16th through the 18th at the Little Log House Power Show grounds, located six miles south of Hastings on Highway 61.

Friday afternoon is the Gallery setup; bring your best works to show off all of the great stuff you have made. This is a non-juried show; all items registered will be included in the gallery. New members are encouraged to bring things, because it is a great way to connect with the group and get free advice. If you cannot make it Friday, gallery registration is open on Saturday also.

Friday evening is the Grand Opening of The Gallery. Come early for the potluck dinner at 5 PM and join your friends to tour the wonders of the Conference gallery. We will have the demonstrators on hand, and they will talk about what they will be doing for their demonstrations.

Friday is also the opening of the tailgate area. If you need to buy or sell some equipment, the tailgate sales area is a great opportunity to exchange those hard-to-find smithin' tools. Sales are open all weekend, but the best deals usually go early. We will also have Al Kaiser the bookseller there with lots of books on blacksmithing and other crafts.

Saturday is when things really get going. Registration starts at 7:30 AM and demonstrations start at 9 AM. This year we have two wonderful demonstrators – Brian Brazeal from Brandon, MS and Tom Latané from Pepin, Wisconsin. Brian has developed meticulous hand hammer skill to master traditional blacksmithing techniques. Tom is a well-known local smith known for his meticulous style and amazing creations.

In addition to the demonstrators, other family activities for non-smithing spouses and children include Found Art creation, Altoid

Tin Repousse, Broom-making class with Mark Jackson, stacked brick bread ovens, a Scandinavian spoon carving class, and a custom leather knife sheath for your own knife with Johan Potgieter of Tandy Leather. There will be materials and instruction fees for the broom-making, spoon, oven, and sheath classes. Contact Sheri Stanaitis (2476 10th Ave. Baldwin, WI 54002-7204 ph – 715-698-2895) for more information.

If that isn't enough to keep you busy, browse the silent auction area to pick up that piece of steel you need or the other doodad you can't live without. And if you have an extra chunk of steel or a thingamajig you don't need, consider donating it to the silent auction.

And let's not forget the highlight of the conference, the Saturday Night Live Auction. This is a major event of the year and provides you an opportunity to pick up some wonderful items for either your shop or your living room wall. We are asking everyone that participates in a public demonstration this summer at a fair or power show, please donate an item to the auction and identify what event it was made at. Tools would in particular be appreciated for the auction.

Now you may expect an opportunity to experience all of this would cost lots of bucks – well we will take it if you want to give it to us, but all we ask is a measly \$35 per family for the entire weekend or \$20 per family for a single day of the conference. Meal plans are available for \$37 for the weekend per person. Camping is available on the grounds for no charge except for a nominal fee if you connect your camper to the electricity.

More information on the conference will be showing up in your mailbox in a month or two.

— Rich Herman, Guild of Metalsmiths President

Dear TGOM Members,

At our recent TGOM Board meeting, we reviewed our annual financial situation. After doing a bit of "back of the napkin" mathematics, we reaffirmed our notion that mailing costs are a huge drain on our financial solvency. In fact, if you do the math, you will discover that approximately 66 percent of your annual dues go toward mailing you *The Forum*. Maybe it's just me, but I think we can do more interesting and useful things with our money than buying paper and postage.

To that end, members of TGOM Board have stepped up and voluntarily offered to stop getting their paper copies of *The Forum* and simply get an electronic version delivered to our email. We are asking you to do the same.

We know that not everyone in our organization is ready or capable of moving to a 'paperless' world, but for those of you that are able and willing, we would appreciate it and know that it will strengthen the financial status of the organization.

If you're ready to go paperless, please send an email to Gordon Barr at: agbarr@aol.com with a message in the subject line reading: *E-Forum only please*.

Thank you.

TGOM Board



PREVIEW: The TGOM August corn feed is right around the 'CORN'--er!

August is a date. August when used with a small a is an adjective indicating some level of magnificence, grandeur, and impressing awe. We, on behalf of Dan Pate the host, aim for all of the above.

A larger set up crew would be nice. Herb will be putting the screws on people to help during June and July.

Myron is obligated for a demo. He is in charge of his own help which for sure includes BTW™ and Carlson.

Trust Dan Pate to be able to show blacksmiths something in light gage metal that they have not thought about but will want to try.

The food fight is pretty well organized.

The contestants will at this time include the Leprechaun, the chip Moenck, Dick Carlson, and at least Gary Myers, who has already offered to help Herb with the hog.

I am guessing that others will offer to put their backs into what has become a good time for Herb and Dan and Myron and Cliff and Dick and, well you get the drift.

Potluck will be as always, but **people should focus on appetizers, vegetables and desserts to bring.** (Unless they have something against pork and chicken.)

Jim Moenck could perhaps be convinced that a bit of venison sausage would make a good appetizer.

Maybe we can talk Breczinski into some horseradish for condiments.

This has been a fun, family oriented, and well attended meeting for years now. Your attendance is what makes it work.

--Herb



News from Tunnel Mill

Tunnel Mill is located 85-100 miles south of the Twin Cities in the country five miles north of Spring Valley, MN on County Road 1.

Contact for class registration:

Carol and John Adams, 507-289-4189 or 507-289-5246

Email: ic-adams@msn.com

Website: www.tunnelmillcrafts.com

Note: there are still openings in these classes! Carol and John are looking for interest in the Doug Wilson class. Please contact them if you're interested!

Upcoming in 2011...

Bernard Heer: 3-day class on June 3, 4, 5 is cancelled due to a change in Mr. Heer's plans. He has a chance to work on a six to seven month project in Beijing, China, and obviously could not pass it up!

Roger Degner: June 11 & 12, Roycroft hammered copper vase, Quarters mokurne, pipe forging from chili peppers to flowers

Peter Ross: 2-part class June 20, 21, & 22 and June 24, 25, & 26, 2011. If you missed his 2010 class, plan now to attend!

We are discussing the possibility of tool making for the first 3 day class...more than likely a hacksaw, the second 3 day class would be making a Betty Lamp with a flip lid, or Bracket part II (covering water leaves, flat leaves, more forge welding).

Don't miss this opportunity to study with this Williamsburg Blacksmith. We still have 3 openings in Peter's class.

Mike Blue: Damascus II, July 8, 9 and 10. Advanced patterning techniques. This class is intended to spend time in further pattern development beyond simple welding of a flat laminate and the incised patterns discussed in the previous class. Any beginners should really try to keep their projects within this domain. The complex patterns discussion will be beneficial but not an expectation.

We will discuss the development of the original mosaic designs found in European shotguns and the concepts involved in upset patterns like the current favorite "W" pattern and it's many variations including parquet development and the techniques to bring out that pattern on the surface of the billet. Another subject will be powder metal mosaic forms. This will include tool development for pattern manipulation and assistance in welding.

Anyone who wishes to explore the W pattern can bring along a lower layer count billet they prepared before the class. There will be less time talking and more time forging this go around. We're moving up into complex patterns where materials preparation will require a lot more time and the possibility of weld failures more likely.

Nathan Robertson: August 6, Heat Treated Hammer Class
Choose your hammer, shape, and size.

Doug Wilson: Date Sept. 8, 9, 10, and Sept. 11, 12, & 13
Doug was a demonstrator at Guild of Metalsmiths Conference 2010
Doug will do two 3-day classes.

1st class—Working on lighting with electricity and mica. This is a change from the originally scheduled class on tool making.

2nd class: 3 day Drawing & Design: Drawing, design, and transforming ideas to metal

You are cordially invited...

Dutch Oven Cooking Class

Saturday, July 16, 10:00 a.m.

Cliff Larsen's farm in Vermillion, MN
18190 Fischer Ave (south of Hastings)

Learn how to care for and cook with a dutch oven.

Bring: Your favorite pot

Hot gloves

Tongs

Lid lifter

Long handled spoon

Apron

Hot pad holders

Comfortable chair

Ingredients and recipe for your favorite dish to cook and share

Beverage of your choice

I will provide: Charcoal and wood

Eating utensils, flatware

Paper and pen to copy recipes

RSVP: As soon as possible to 612-437-2124

If possible, your dish needs to be done by 1:00 or 1:30 for all to share. I will need to know how many will be attending the class, so please respond as soon as possible. I will be limiting the class to 25.

I'm looking forward to your reply and hopefully, your participation. If it rains, we will move indoors. Feel free to call with any questions.

There will be no charge for this class.

Note: This information is provided as a service for our members. Members may submit items for sale and upcoming events that are considered relevant to our group, and they will be published as space permits. The Guild of Metalsmiths is not responsible for these items or events

Goings on...

A calendar of TGOM events at a glance

- All Education Committee meetings are the first Monday of each month.
- All Program Committee meetings are the third Thursday of each month.
- All membership meetings are the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, and October, except December for the holiday gathering. For most 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).
- All board meetings are the second Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November. Potluck meal begins at 6:30, with meeting starting at 7 pm.



Events in June, 2011

- June 3, 4, 5, Spring Hammer-In at Nowthen.
- June 8, TGOM membership meeting at Minnetonka Center for the Arts.

Events in July, 2011

- July 13, TGOM board meeting
- July 29, 30, 31, Little Log House Antique Power Show, Hastings, MN. TGOM demonstrators at the blacksmith shop.

Events in August, 2011

- August 6 & 7, Family Farm Festival at MN Zoo. TGOM demonstrators welcome.
- August 10, annual CORN FEED, Dan Pate's place!
- August 12, 13, Annual Almelund Threshing Show near Taylors Falls, MN. TGOM demonstrators welcome.
- August 15, 16, 17, annual Nowthen Threshing Show. TGOM demonstrators welcome.

Events in September, 2011

- Sept. 16, 17, 18, annual TGOM Fall Conference at Little Log House grounds south of Hastings.

ELECTRONIC FORUM

If you have not been receiving an email notification that The Forum is available, these may be the reasons:

1. We do not have your correct email address.
2. Your SPAM filter is not letting the following email address thru: Your GOM Forum is ready@mail.vresp.com

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 11423
St. Paul MN 55111

| | |
|---|--|
| 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: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Company Name: _____

(optional items)

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Cell: _____



Address Service Requested

Your membership expires at
the date & month next to your name.
Please send your renewal dues to the
above address.

June 2011

Note: Information in this publication is provided as a service for our members. Members may submit items for sale and upcoming events that are considered relevant to our group, and they will be published as space permits. The Guild of Metalsmiths is not responsible for these items or events.

**Join The Bellows, our email discussion forum.
Information at:**

<http://www.metalsmith.org/bb/TheBellows.htm>

The Guild of Metalsmiths, St. Paul, MN, 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.

The Guild of Metalsmiths on the web:

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

Looking for something? **Try the search engine.** On our main page, just below the index table, click on “Search this Site,” and enter your query.

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, “The 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 11423
St. Paul MN 55111