

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	List Me	Don't List Me
PO Box 11423	in the directory	in the Directory
St. Paul MN 55111	but don't list	
address - phones: home - work - fax - cell - email - web page		
(mark items above you DO NOT want published)		

Name: _____

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

(optional items)
Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Fax: _____ Cell: _____

Email address _____

Web page: _____

Metalsmith Back Issue Service

Back issues of The Metalsmith are available to Guild members for only \$3.00 each, postage included.

Use your most recent copy of The Metalsmith's "How to" index to pick out the topics that interest you most. Then, if you don't already have those Metalsmiths in your collection, get them from the Guild of Metalsmiths Back Issue Service!

To order, write the Volume and Issue number(s) on the back of this form along with your mailing address.

Include a check for \$3.00 for each issue made out to Guild of Metalsmiths.

Send it to:
Pete Stanaitis
2476 10th Ave.
Baldwin WI 54002

If you have any questions about the service, contact Pete at 715-698-2895 or email him at: spaco@baldwin-telecom.net

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.

Join The Bellows, our email discussion forum.

Information at:

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

Request Form

Guild of Metalsmiths Video Library:

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

Tapes requested: _____

Include \$3.00 for each "T" number requested. Make check payable to:
The Guild of Metalsmiths

Send request and check to:

Rich Herman
1253 Danbury Way
Rosemount, MN 55068

email: racherman@frontiernet.net
phone: (651)322-1623

Metalsmith back issue service order form

Read directions on the reverse side of this form.

Please send me these back issues: (vol:issue)
Use additional sheets of paper if you need them.

Joining The Guild of Metalsmiths?

Please introduce yourself. Each month we welcome new members to the Guild and offer them a chance to tell us a bit about themselves. (who you are, your goals as a metalsmith, the services you provide, products you make, etc.) Whatever you want to share is fine. So, give us a statement of interests/services up to 254 characters long (letters and spaces). This statement is also printed in the member directory (optional).

Goings on...



...a calendar of TGOM events at a glance

Events in September

- Sept. 10 Guild Board meeting at Myron Hanson's
- Sept. 19, 20, 21, The Madness at Little Log House in Hastings!
- Sept. 26, 27, 28 Kirsten Skiles leaf workshop, Tunnel Mill

Events in October

- Oct. 4 & 5, Tunnel Mill Annual Fall Gathering
- Oct. 8, Guild membership meeting at Machacek in Northfield
- Oct. 11, A Class, 1st session, Beginners Blacksmithing, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Oct. 9, 10, 11, Tom Latane' Chased Door Knocker Class, Tunnel Mill
- Oct. 18, Tongs Making Workshop, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Oct. 25, A Class, 2nd session, Beginners Blacksmithing, MSH

Events in November

- Nov. 12, Guild board meeting at Myron Hanson's in Eagan MN
- Nov. 15, Beginners A Class, 3rd session, MSH
- Nov. 22, 4-inch Folding Knife Workshop (details TBA)

Our neighborhood of smiths

Check this page every month to see what's going on with our neighboring colleagues, and read about activities in their smithing groups.

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: Paul Branch

715-248-7788

715-222-9239

pbranch@frontiernet.net

Tobias Talsma

715 294-24707

tobyforge@centurytel.net

Lake Superior Metalsmiths

Lake Superior Metalsmiths (LSM) meet the fourth Saturday of the month at noon from October through April. The meetings are potluck at noon at Dave Hanson's house, 5873 Taft Road, Duluth, Minnesota, 218-721-4572.

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 up again, different name, www.nmmmetalsmiths.org

The Forum

September 2008



Vol. 10, No. 9

31ST ANNUAL GUILD OF METALSMITHS FALL CONFERENCE FRIDAY, SATURDAY, & SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 20, AND 21

Take a pleasant drive into the countryside near Hastings, Minnesota, and you'll find the Little Log House Antique Power Show Grounds. That's where you'll begin to learn, grow, experience everything blacksmithing has to offer at the annual Fall Conference.

"The Madness," as Guild members have affectionately dubbed each conference for many years, features demonstrations by two world-class smiths.

Howard Clark's career in knife making includes the study of metallurgy of steel blades, the microstructure of steel, and its transformation through various heat treating methods.

His career evolved into making damascus bar stock and damascus kit knife blades. Since 1998 he has made Japanese-style swords. Many steels now commonly accepted as good blade steels with standardized heat treating methods had their useful origins in Howard's shop. You'll find him at Morgan Valley Forge in Runnell, Iowa. His skill as a master smith in the American Bladesmith Society is world-renowned.

Mick Maxen's interest in pattern welding stems from his father's interest in gun collecting. In 1997 he entered blacksmithing competitions with pattern welding and received a few "Best Newcomer" awards during his first years. Since then he's received multiple first and second prizes in a variety of shows.

For the past eight years he has sold his work through the Fire and Iron Gallery in Leatherhead, Surrey (England). Currently he's interested in iron smelting and making steel. For details and photos of Mr. Maxen's work, go to <http://www.vikingdesign.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/maxen.html>.

The conference begins on Friday, Sept. 19 at 5 pm for potluck and a slide show featuring the two demonstrators. If you can, please come at 10 am for general setup.

Family registration for "The Madness" is \$35 for all three days. One day's registration is \$20 per family. A meal ticket is \$37 per person, and meal ticket reservations are due by Sept. 5. To register, either use the form you received in your pamphlet, or call Myron Hanson at 651-454-3984 or Rich Herman at 541-322-1623. If you prefer, you can also register at the site when the conference begins.

See you there!

Forum deadline for October: Monday, Sept. 15, 2008

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, Sept. 15, 2008 to Georgia Myers, editor, by e-mail to:

forum@metalsmith.org
(e-mails will be forwarded to Georgia Myers), or to
gldmyers@embarqmail.com
or mail them to:
Georgia Myers
413 W Dakota St
Lake City MN 55041



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.

For address change, or to submit comments, please mail to: The GoM Forum

Georgia Myers
413 W Dakota St
Lake City, MN 55041-1869
or e-mail to

forum@metalsmith.org or
gldmyers@embarqmail.com

Guild educational grants

There is grant money available for Guild members to study intermediate and advanced metal-working 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



'The Forum' is online

To read an electronic (PDF) version of The Forum each month, go to our website,
www.metalsmith.org.

TUNNEL MILL FALL GATHERING OCTOBER 4 & 5, 2008

It's that time of the year,
and we invite you to the mill

- ◆ There will be plenty of interesting demos.....(or just come and hang out. You are bound to learn something)
- ◆ Iron—we will be running the 500lb Little Gaint
- ◆ Saturday we will be running our ongoing Iron bloom project
- ◆ Copper—learn some texturing techniques
- ◆ Raku—glaze and fire your own piece of pottery
- ◆ Tie-dying or bleaching—make your own t-shirt
- ◆ (I will have some available for sale)
- ◆ Quilting—bring your sewing machine.
- ◆ Make a table runner. Call for more information.

Wine and cheese has become a regular for Saturday afternoon.

Directions to Tunnel Mill: Tunnel Mill is located 20 miles south of Rochester. Take Hwy 63 south to Stewartville, turn east on Hwy 30 to County Rd 1 (approx 5.5 miles). Turn south on County Rd 1. Follow CO RD 1 6.5 miles to Tunnel Mill on the left side of County Rd 1. (Call about camping on grounds)

Lodging available in Spring Valley, 5 miles further south on County Rd 1; Shady Rest-507-346-2625—Spring Valley Motel & Suites—507-346-7788

REGISTRATION—Please fill out and return by September 25th, 2008

Name _____

Phone # _____

Weekend admission fee \$10.00 per person _____ Daily admission \$5.00 per person _____

Meals available for these costs.....

Sat morning _____ persons @ \$3.00 ea

Sat lunch _____ persons @ \$7.50 ea

Sat evening _____ persons @ \$12.00 ea

Sun morning _____ persons @ \$5.00 ea

Sunday noon _____ persons @ \$7.50 ea

POTLUCK-FRIDAY EVENING-WEEKEND RATE-\$40.00 ea

Send registration to:

Carol Adams

4505 Hwy 63 N

Rochester, MN 55906

Questions, call 507-289-4189 or 289-5246

NO PETS PLEASE

News from Tunnel Mill...

Openings still available in both classes!

KIRSTEN SKILES: LEAF WORKSHOP Sept. 26, 27, & 28.

This workshop has been upgraded from two to three days. You will learn how to create my style of forged leaf from sheet metal blanks and one style forged from 1/4 inch round stock. We'll start off by creating our tools and then make at least four different styles of leaves. We'll focus on texture and motion rather than literal veins in our leaves.

Tool blanks and leaf blanks will be pre-cut and ready to use during class. (as part of class fee or as part of an additional materials fee?)

You can see examples of my forged leaves at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/knitsteel/sets/72157600102782061/>

You will leave the class with a nice group of forged leaves that can either stand alone as art or that you can use in a future project.

<http://kaskiles.com>

TOM LATANE' ...CHASED DOOR KNOCKER CLASS—October 9, 10, & 11th, 2008

The students in this class will forge a door knocker in the form of an "s" scroll with a hinge mortisen into the upper back. The top of the scroll will be in the form of a grotesque, dragon, or human head. The lower scroll will be chased with the form of a stylized acanthus leaf. There could be simple escutcheons around the pivot and the strike or the back plate could be a larger rectangle with chased borders.

There will be hot forging and modeling as well as cold chasing. Students may spend time making a number of chasing tools.

Email or call to register or for more information: 507-289-4189.

jc-adams@msn.com

— John or Carol Adams

Zumbrota Iron Pour Sept. 13

http://www.zaac.org/art_splash/

or

<http://www.zaac.org/Images/Pics/08ArtSplashBrochure.pdf>

Upcoming demonstration Saturday, October 25th

Traditional Japanese Kodai Tatara and making Tama-hagane steel
Prof. Wayne Potratz (U of MN – Dept of Art) will be doing a traditional Japanese Kodai Tatara and making Tama-hagane steel on Saturday, October 25th. Free and open to the public.

8 am - 6 pm

Regis Center for Art East Building Courtyard [Foundry]

Map at — <http://www1.umn.edu/twincities/maps/RegCtrE/>

Tongs Making Workshop

Saturday, Oct. 18

9 am to 4 pm

Minnesota School of Horseshoeing (map page 5)

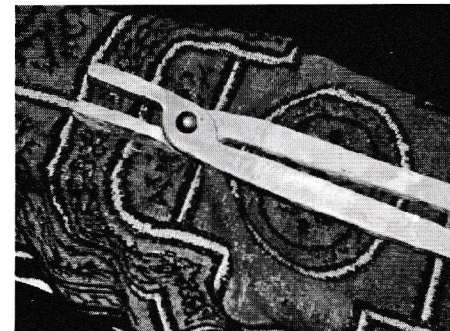
Instructor: Bob Johnson

Cost: \$35

Class size: minimum 4, maximum 8.

This workshop is intended for anyone who has completed the Guild's Basics workshops.

We will be making traditional style forged tongs, using the near and far edges of the anvil to create shoulders, adding to the techniques learned in Basics workshops. Reins will be drawn out. There will be no forge welding. Alignment and adjustment of the tongs is also covered. Skills learned will enable participants to make tongs of many styles in their own shops. There will be several pairs of home-made tongs available for examination. While tongs may now be easily purchased, there is nothing like the satisfaction of making your own tools.



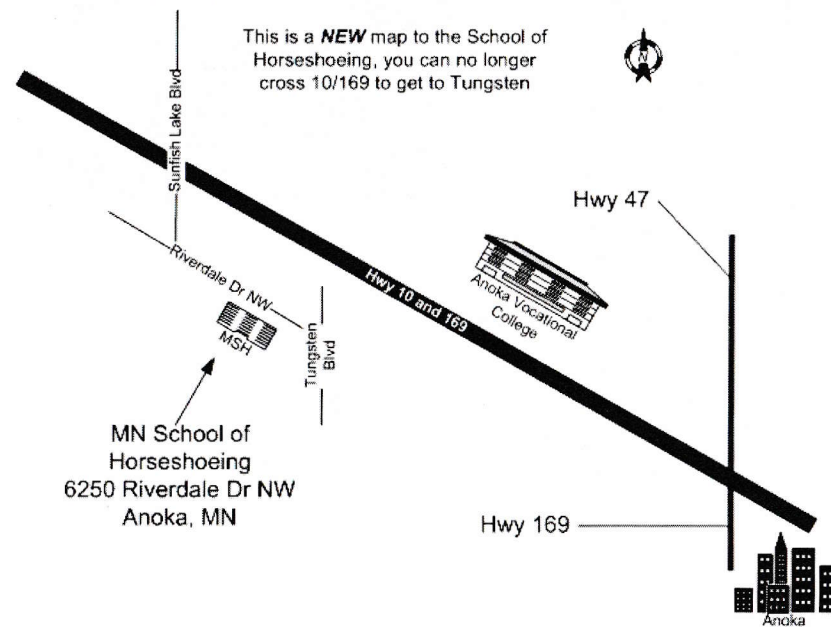
Register now for this first Guild class of the new fall season. Registration form is on back.

Tongs Making Workshop

What to bring: Hammer, ruler, center punch, scratch awl or other marking device.

Safety equipment: safety glasses & ear plugs are mandatory. Other safety equipment may include gloves, leather apron, cotton clothing, leather shoes. Be sure to include your home email address and phone number on the registration form, as the instructor will contact you before the class.

Lunch: bring a bag lunch, or there are restaurants nearby.



Register for "Tongs Making Workshop." Fill out form below and mail, along with check for \$35 made out to "Guild of Metalsmiths" to:

Guy Paton
939 Paris Ave Circle N
Stillwater MN 55082

For questions, call Guy at 651-436-1 520 or email bsgrp@earthlink.net

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

GALLERY ITEMS NEEDED FOR FALL CONFERENCE

One of the biggest draws every year at the Fall Conference is the Gallery, located in the main building. Great effort has gone into developing a display environment to make all of the items show off as much as possible.

This is a great place for members of all skill levels to show off what you are able to do for everyone else in the group. Even beginners are encouraged to participate since this is an opportunity to share where you are now with the other members and received encouragement and suggestions. Many of the more experienced members enjoy helping the newer members to develop and watch how their work improves year after year.

This year we will be improving the security of the gallery to ensure the safety of the items you display with a new video surveillance system being installed.

Bring your display items Friday evening to have them present for the Gallery Grand Opening party, or drop them off Saturday morning before going off to watch one of our demonstrators. Please note if the items are also being donated to the Saturday Night Live Auction, and thanks for your support.

— Rich Herman

FALL CONFERENCE FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Every year the Fall Conference has something for everyone, and this year is no exception. Check out this list of stuff to do. No wonder we call it "The Madness" from time to time!

Broom Making Class

Saturday with Mark Jackson and Sheri Stanaitis. \$15 material fee to be paid at conference registration.

Hoola Hoop rugs

Saturday morning with Sheri Stanaitis. Bring an unfinished project and join us. Call Sheri at 715-698-2895 for info.

Found Art

Saturday with Herb Fick, Don Hammer, Dillon Allen, and Ben Groves

Altoid Tin Repousse'

Saturday and Sunday with Jesse Gavin and Jim Breczinski.

Magnetic Art

Saturday and Sunday with Corky Kittelson

Blacksmithing Outreach

Introduction to blacksmithing, Saturday and Sunday

Native American Drum Making

A 2-sided wood and rawhide drum. Saturday with Jon Hanks. \$20 material fee to be paid at conference registration.

Support TGOM through United Way donations

Anyone that works in a large corporation knows that one of the sure signs that fall is approaching is the appearance of the pledge cards at your workdesk with a request for you to submit a new/renewal pledge to the United Way. Among the literature provided is a list of organizations to which your money will be sent, many of them good causes that you are familiar with, some you do not recognize, and perhaps others which you really do not wish to support. As you try to decide how much/little you wish to donate, I would like to suggest another option for how your donation is used.

Most companies recognize the fact that some donors have preferences of how their money is allocated and permit you to specify a charity for which your money is targeted. It is a little known fact that you can specify any non-profit 501C3 organization to be the recipient of your donation. Last year I specified The Guild of Metalsmiths as my targeted organization and the money was eventually received by our treasurer.

If you are interested in joining me in supporting the work of TGoM in this manner, please check your options at the annual drive appearing at a place of work near you. You will need to know the mailing address of the Guild (P.O. Box 11423, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55111). If any other information is required, please check with Mike Frattalone for additional details.

— Rich Herman

RING CONTEST AT THE MADNESS

As part of the gallery for the Fall Conference there will be a competition for the ring to be inserted in the top of the Garden Gate Project completed by one of the Guild classes earlier this year. Everyone attending our conference is encouraged to use their creativity to make and donate a ring for the gate. Put in a scene, design, pattern, or anything you think would be appealing as the focus of the gate.

The specification for the ring fitting in the gate is to use half inch square material with an outside diameter of 10 inches and an inside diameter of 9 inches. The outside of the ring must be smooth with no protruding heads. Due to the design of the gate, no design elements of the ring may extend beyond the outside edge on the lower half of the ring. Contact Dick Carlson for details on the ring. He has ring blanks.

Rings entered in the contest at the Fall Conference become property of The Guild of Metalsmiths. To be eligible for the contest rings must fit the space at top of gate.

The winner of the ring contest will be determined by popular vote. All conference attendees will be allowed one vote per family member registered for the conference. Voting closes at the beginning of the live auction on Saturday evening. Votes will be counted at that time, and the entry receiving the most votes will earn a \$50 prize for the entrant.

Finney Company will once again sell books at Fall Conference

Finney Company will have a booth at the Fall Conference. Books and publications related to metalsmithing will be for sale on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 19 & 20. Anne Prescott, Marketing Manager, shares that Finney Co. acquired a company last December called Astragal Press, which has even more books that all of you will be interested in.

Forge Welding Workshop

Saturday & Sunday, Sept. 27 & 28
Minnesota School of
Horseshoeing (map on next page)
\$75 per student



Join David Mariette, Gordon Barr, and Chris Rand on September 27th and 28th, at the Minnesota School of Horseshoeing for The Forge Welding Workshop.

David has studied forge welding under Bob Patrick at The Ozark School of Blacksmithing and has taught forge welding for the Guild of Metalsmiths. Gordon Barr is a student of forge welding through the Guild and has assisted teaching for several years, and Chris Rand, also a student of forge welding has also assisted. All experienced blacksmiths that will be there to help you.

This workshop is a two day workshop, because there is just too much to cover in one day.

This class is geared for the intermediate smith. It will enable students to hone their skills and learn not only the basics of forge welding, but many other things as well.

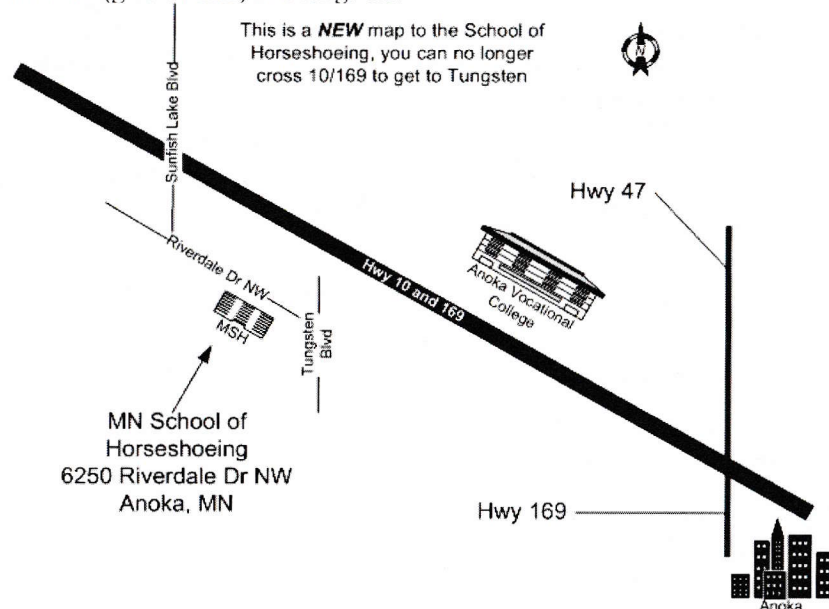
Such as: Hammer technique, efficient forging, fire management skills, and some ideas for projects to do at the forge. Students will go home with some neat stuff. The goal of this workshop is to send each and every person home with the knowledge that they can do some pretty neat stuff at their own forge and not necessarily need a gas or and electric welder.

Register for this Forge Welding Workshop by filling out the registration form on the next page.

Forge Welding Workshop (continued)

Cost of the two day workshop at the Minnesota School of Horseshoeing is going to be \$75.00. Participants will receive a scaling brush, and a tin of welding flux. All steel for the workshop will be provided.

Participants will need all standard safety equipment, (eye protection, ear protection, glove(s), cotton clothing. Also, you will need a two pound hammer (give or take) and tongs etc.



Register for "Forge Welding Workshop." Fill out form below and mail, along with check for \$75 made out to "Guild of Metalsmiths" to:

David Mariette
4020 160th St E
Rosemount MN 55068-6103

For questions, call David at 651-322-7981 or email anvildancer@aol.com

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Beginning Blacksmithing Workshops Registration form:

Detach & return with payment

Name: _____

Address: _____

ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Indicate workshop choice by letter B, or C:

First Choice _____ Second Choice _____ (NOTE: A Classes filled!)

Check one of the following:

_____ I am a member of The Guild of Metalsmiths. Enclosed is my registration fee of \$120, which includes payment for a copy of *The Blacksmithing Study Guide*.

_____ I am a member of The Guild of Metalsmiths. Enclosed is my registration fee of \$105. I have a copy of *The Blacksmithing Study Guide*.

_____ I am not a member of the Guild of Metalsmiths. Enclosed is my registration fee of \$150, which includes payment for a copy of *The Blacksmithing Study Guide* and membership in The Guild.

Make check payable to: The Guild of Metalsmiths

Return to: Gordon Barr
11021 27 Avenue
Burnsville MN 55337

NOTICE:

- > You are not registered until your payment is received.
- > You will receive confirmation of your registration.
- > Checks will be deposited at the start of the first scheduled workshop.

Beginning Blacksmithing Workshops

Workshop location: Minnesota School of Horseshoeing (map pg. 7)
6250 Riverdale Drive NW
Ramsey, MN 55303
(Just north of Anoka, one block south of the intersection of Hwy 10/169 and Sunfish Lake Boulevard.)

Workshop time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All classes are held on Saturdays.

Bring hearing, skin, and eye protection. This includes safety glasses, ear muff or plugs, and suitable clothing, which includes hard shoes, cotton or leather. Synthetic and polyester clothing will burn and melt.

Bring your favorite hammer. A small 1 to 2 pound ball peen hammer will work. We have various hammers for you to try and get a feel for what is comfortable. We have all the punches, chisels, and tools you will need, but feel free to bring your own tools if you have them.

We start collecting names as soon as the classes are advertised in the August newsletter (this issue). Register soon--this class usually fills up by the Fall Conference.

Please sign up for one of the three workshops listed below. Each workshop contains four sessions. Please select the workshop in priority order A, B, or C (see registration form on next page).

<u>A Class (FILLED!)</u>	<u>B Class</u>	<u>C Class</u>
Oct 11	Jan 3	Feb 21
Oct 25	Jan 17	Mar 7
Nov. 15	Jan 31	Mar 21
Dec 6	Feb 14	Apr 4

What you will learn:

The first 3 Saturdays you will learn the basic techniques, including:

Safety	Forging Dynamics	Hammer Techniques
Drawing out	Upsetting	Punching
Fire Building	Bending	Twisting
Heat treating	Scrolling	Splitting

The fourth Saturday will be self-paced to build a few items that will include each of the techniques you learned earlier. Instructors will help guide you through any number of possible projects, such as forge rake, watering can, forge poker, spoon, shovel, etc.

Instructors are all volunteers with a wide range of experience, talent, and stories. They range from just finishing the basic beginners class to 30 years. There is usually one instructor for every two students, and many times we have had as many instructors as students.

This is a Guild-sponsored class.

**Call or email Gordon Barr with questions:
952-894-4821 or agbarr@aol.com**

Bylaws vote at October 8 membership meeting

In early 2007 we published a copy of the current bylaws of the Guild of Metalsmiths in our quarterly publication, "The Metalsmith." These bylaws were originally written in 1978 and were later revised and amended in 1990. At that time it was noted by many members that the current bylaws do not really reflect how our organization operates or should operate. In the January 2008 issue of "The Forum" we reprinted these bylaws plus a proposed updated version developed by the Long Term Planning Committee under the leadership of Gary Myers and reviewed by the Board of Directors. We felt this updated version was a better match for the way our organization works and provides a better framework for us to use.

The proposed changes were put to a vote of the membership on February 13 and rejected. The current bylaws are available both on the website and in the January 2008 issue of "The Forum." In this September 2008 issue of "The Forum," the proposed changes are included—printed in cream color so they can easily be located and removed if you wish. Please read through them carefully.

The following letter to the membership from the Board of Directors and Officers reiterates our proposed changes to the current bylaws.

Please plan to attend the October 8 membership meeting in Northfield, where we will again vote on the proposed changes to the bylaws.

The following is a letter to the general membership of The Guild of Metalsmiths

To the members of The Guild of Metalsmiths:

In early 2007, the Board of Directors assigned the task of updating The Guild of Metalsmiths bylaws to the Long-term Planning Committee. The directions to this committee by the board were to review and clarify bylaws that were outdated, propose changes and make the document more relevant to the current membership.

The reviewing committee was comprised of the Long-term Planning Committee chair and vice-chair and a number of Guild members that volunteered their time to work on this important task. In late 2007 the committee presented their work to the Board of Directors. At a regularly scheduled meeting, the entire board spent more than two hours reviewing the document, seeking clarification from the committee on changes that were proposed, and making additional edits. The board approved document was then submitted to the membership at the February 2008 membership meeting for approval, at which time it was voted down.

When the board discussed the rejection by the membership of the proposed changes, your board, including its newly elected members, felt that the original proposal was a good package.

("Letter" - continued on next page)

One issue that did concern the board was that no protocol was identified for conducting membership business meetings either in the current bylaws or in the proposed set. This was rectified by addition of procedures to the section titled "Meetings." Please take a moment to review this section prior to the next membership vote.

A second issue concerned the setting of the amount of annual dues. After considerable discussion, the board concluded that this should be a Board decision. The rationalization was that the membership has elected the Board to manage the affairs of The Guild. The directive in the current bylaws indicated that the duties of the Board include, but are not limited to, planning and staging activities for The Guild, contracting services, raising and disbursing funds, and conducting Guild business to best protect the interests and welfare of TGOM and its members. Based on this directive, it seems appropriate for the Board to be able to make a decision regarding the amount of dues based on budgetary and business needs of The Guild as they change over time.

The board does not take any of its management responsibilities lightly, and there is no reason to expect them to deal with the revision of the bylaws any differently.

An item posted on the Bellows expressed an opinion that the four officers' positions and the seven directors should all have a vote in board decision making. In reading the position descriptions in both the current bylaws (1979, amended 1990) and the proposed set, each group has a distinct role to play in managing TGOM, and those roles support, but do not overlap each other. The current board and officers feel that the two groups need to continue their work without overlap and possible conflict of interest. It is apparent that this was the consensus of the writers of the 1979 bylaws and the membership when it accepted the amended version in 1990.

We believe answers to other issues listed in the posting on the Bellows can be found in the proposed set of bylaws. It may take some re-reading, but the board feels that they are covered.

We all need to remember that this is a document that indicates who we are and what we are about, not how we conduct business. Too much operational detail in the bylaws makes them cumbersome and unwieldy. This document needs to be clean and relatively simple.

Please feel free to contact any of the board members if you have additional questions regarding these proposed changes.

Thank you,

— The Guild of Metalsmiths Board of Directors and Officers

THE GUILD OF METALSMITHS

Beginning Blacksmithing Workshops 2008-2009 Program Year

The Guild of Metalsmiths comprehensive workshop in beginning basic blacksmithing processes is designed for people with little or no experience. After completing the beginning blacksmithing workshop, the student will be able to complete Unit 1, "Conquering the Basics" and Unit 2, "Beginning Projects" in *The Blacksmithing Study Guide*.

Please note—We do not issue copies of *The Blacksmithing Study Guide* to non-members. Therefore, membership in the Guild of Metalsmiths is required in order to take the workshop.

The course of instruction

Each workshop consists of four all day sessions. The primary instructional emphasis is on the student learning and practicing the basic (also known as traditional) blacksmithing processes of fire control, drawing out, upsetting, punching, bending, twisting, slitting and heat-treating. Safety is always stressed. In these workshops, we concentrate on practicing the basic blacksmithing processes rather than immediately making an item because the blacksmith must be well grounded in the basics.

As the workshop progresses from one session to the next, students will make one, or perhaps two, hand forged items requiring use of the skills they have learned.

The cost of a four session workshop varies depending on your situation (see the registration form). The fee includes use of the tools that you will need, coal and iron stock that you will use, and a copy of *The Blacksmithing Study Guide* if you are a new member. Exception—if you already have a copy of *The Blacksmithing Study Guide*, you will not receive nor pay for a second copy.

Who are the students?

All are members of TGOM. The students come in all ages and experience. We have had ten -year olds and 70-year olds. There are always some women in each class also. Some students have never held a hammer before. Some students are skilled in other crafts and want to learn more about metal work. Some students are nearing retirement and want to learn a hobby. All share an interest in learning more about blacksmithing.

Typical Day:

Classes start at 9 but people usually show up much earlier to get the coffee brewing, have a donut, swap stories, or show off recent projects. Feel free to bring projects you are working on. We break for lunch. You can either bring a brown bag or go out to a local fast food restaurant.

11. Board-appointed Staff

- HISTORIAN: Shall be appointed by and shall serve at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The historian shall keep guild photographs, a set of archives of "The Metalsmith," "The Forum" and published articles, clippings, etc., pertaining to TGoM and its membership.
- MEDIA STAFF: The editors of "The Metalsmith" and "The Forum," the webmaster, and the book and video librarian shall be appointed by and shall serve at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

12. Nominating Committee

At least three (3) months before the end of the fiscal year, the president shall appoint a nominating committee which shall prepare a list of candidates of officers for one (1) year terms and of Board of Directors for two (2) year terms. The nominating committee may nominate more than one (1) candidate for each office and more candidates than there are vacancies for the Board of Directors. For this committee the president shall secure the services of three (3) members well acquainted with activities of TGoM. 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.

13. Election of Directors and Officers

Nominations from the floor shall be accepted at the time of the elections. Elections shall proceed by ballot, and those filled ballots shall be collected and counted by the recording secretary with the aid of the nominating committee. The elected officers and directors shall be those with the highest vote counts. The results shall be announced at the meeting and shall also appear in the next TGoM publications.

14. Succession of Officers

The order of succession to the office of president shall be: vice-president, recording secretary, and treasurer. Other vacancies are to be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors in consultation with the remaining officers.

15. Amendments

These bylaws may be amended, repealed, or altered in all or in part by a vote of the majority of the members present at a membership meeting of TGoM. The proposed changes shall be mailed to the last recorded address of each membership at least fifteen (15) days before the date of the meeting to consider the change.

The Guild of Metalsmiths

Bylaws

A Non-Profit Organization Dedicated to the Art of Metalworking

P.O. Box 11423
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55111



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October 8, 2008

BYLAWS OF THE GUILD OF METALSMITHS as adopted at a Board of Directors and General membership meeting December 13, 1978 for enactment in 1979, then as amended on August 8, 1990, and again on October 8, 2008 for enactment immediately.

- 1. Name**
The official name of the organization shall be The Guild of Metalsmiths. The acronym shall be "TGoM."
- 2. Purpose and Objective**
The Guild of Metalsmiths is organized solely for educational purposes and preserving the historical traditions of the metalsmith's craft. The organization is strictly limited to purposes which qualify it as an exempt organization under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The education of the members and the general public is accomplished in a variety of ways. Some of these are workshops, publications, conferences, lectures, and demonstrations sponsored by TGoM or another organization. These activities promote the exchange of information and knowledge needed to preserve the metalsmith's art and support high standards of craftsmanship.
- 3. Membership**
Membership is open to anyone accepting the purpose and bylaws of TGoM and paying the annual dues. A strong organization is composed of members who are actively involved. They give back to the organization as well as receive from it. All members are encouraged to contribute of themselves on at least one occasion a year. This includes but is not limited to being an officer or board member, serving on a committee, helping plan an event, setting up a demonstration site, leading or helping teach a class, or contributing to the publications.
- 4. Fiscal Year**
The fiscal year of TGoM shall begin on the first day of January and end on the last day of December in each year.

5. **Dues**

The Board of Directors sets the amount of annual dues. Membership begins at the time that dues are paid, and membership is renewed annually during the quarter in which the original dues were paid. Membership includes all members of one immediate family. Membership may be terminated for non-payment of dues, effective ninety (90) days from the due date.

6. **Property**

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

7. **Meetings**

Guild membership meetings shall be held six times each year. Meetings are scheduled for the second Wednesday evening of the months of February, April, June, August, October, and December. If there is a conflict with these dates, the meeting will be changed to a date as close to the scheduled date as practical. The date, location, and time shall be determined by the board or their delegates. When board business requires discussion and/or a vote from the membership, that meeting or portion of that meeting shall be conducted adhering to "Roberts Rules of Order." For major issues, voting shall be by a majority vote of members present. For the purpose of voting, all members present at the meeting are entitled to vote.

8. **Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors of TGoM shall consist of seven (7) members elected from the membership. Three directors shall be elected to begin serving in even numbered years. Four directors shall be elected to begin serving in odd numbered years. 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 (30) days after the election.

Powers:

The business, property, and affairs of TGoM shall be managed by a Board of Directors that has the power to:

- Initiate and approve plans and events for the welfare of TGoM members.
- Print and circulate documents and publish publications supporting the purposes and objectives of the organization.
- Communicate with other organizations interested in metalsmithing.
- Engage, consult with, and contract for services.
- Adopt the annual budget.
- Raise and disburse funds.
- Set the amount of annual dues.
- Determine policy as required.
- Devise and execute such other measures as it deems proper to promote the objectives of TGoM, and to best protect the interest and welfare of TGoM and its members.

Quorum:

A simple majority of the Board of Directors must be present to constitute a quorum. In the absence of the president and vice-president, the quorum present may choose a chairman for the meeting. If a quorum is not present, a lesser number may adjourn the meeting to a later date, no more than thirty (30) days later.

Voting:

Each director shall have one vote at all meetings of the Board of Directors, except when a director has a conflict of interest. Motions require a simple majority vote of all directors present. Only the officer presiding at a Board of Directors meeting shall have a vote, and then only if needed to break a tie.

Vacancies:

Whenever a vacancy occurs on the Board of Directors, that vacancy shall be filled without undue delay. The president of TGoM shall nominate a TGoM member to fill the board vacancy. This shall require the approval of a majority of the remaining board. The appointee shall fill the vacancy until the expiration of the term of the replaced director.

Removal of Directors:

Directors may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of votes cast by the Board of Directors at a regular meeting, or a special meeting called for this purpose. A separate vote is required for each director sought to be removed. During the term of election, a board member may be removed for any of the following reasons:

- A. Failure to attend three (3) board meetings unless excused by the board.
- B. Expulsion for a charge of misconduct. Such expulsion shall be made only upon a majority vote of the full board.

Regular Meetings of the Board:

There shall be a minimum of six (6) board meetings each year. Regular board meetings shall normally be held in months in which no regular general membership meeting is held. All board meetings shall be open to any member except when the board has moved, during an open meeting, to go into executive session.

Emergency Meetings of the Board:

The board may conduct emergency business at the call of the president or of one-third (1/3) of the members of the board. An emergency meeting may be conducted via telephone, electronic mail, or in person. Any actions taken must be ratified at the next regular board meeting.

9. **Officers**

The officers of TGoM shall include a president, vice-president, recording secretary, and treasurer, who shall be elected by the membership at the December meeting for a one-year term.

10. **Duties of Officers**

- **PRESIDENT:** Shall preside at all membership meetings of TGoM and the Board of Directors, is ex-officio member of all committees with vote, shall communicate TGoM activities to the Board of Directors and TGoM members.
- **VICE-PRESIDENT:** Shall act in the absence of the president.
- **TREASURER:** Shall maintain current TGoM 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.
- **RECORDING SECRETARY:** Shall maintain records of all TGoM board and membership meetings, and have records available by request.