

# 'The Forum'



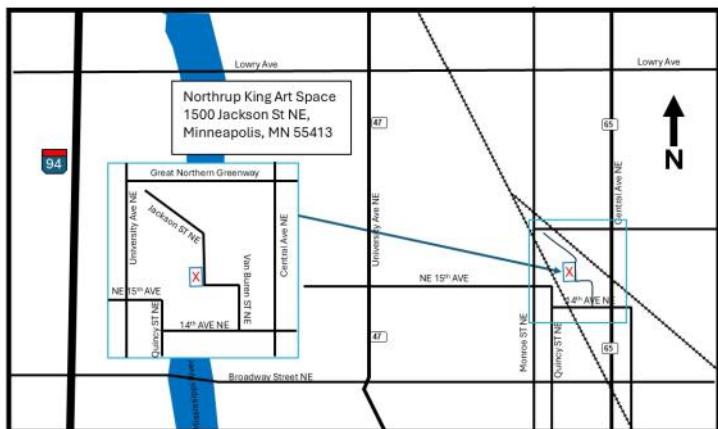
February 2026

Vol. 28 No. 2

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

## February 2026 Membership Meeting Feb. 7 at Northrup King Building Art Space, Minneapolis, MN

February's Membership Meeting will be on SATURDAY, February 7, 2026 from noon to 4:00 pm. Location: Northrup King & Co. located at 1500 Jackson St NE, Minneapolis, MN. The meeting will be in the 3rd floor gallery, followed by a potluck and show-n-tell. There is parking in front of the building. *Below is the corrected map to the Northrup King building. Last month's map was an error.*



ing that time frame. Some are just galleries, and some also include working studio.

Mary Schwartz will give a demonstration on lampworking. She uses a torch to create glass beads.

### History of Northrup King Building

The Northrup King Building is actually a complex of 10 buildings first constructed in 1917.

Originally built for and occupied by the Northrup King & Co. seed company, its location adjoining two sets of railroad tracks made it the ideal place to ship seeds across the United States. Northrup King & Co. occupied the building until the late 1980s, when it was sold to Jim Stanton of Shamrock Properties.

Through an ongoing process of renovation, Stanton and his daughter Debbie Woodward (Property Manager from 2001 - 2018) turned the Northrup King Building into the creative center of over 350 artists and arts-related businesses that you know today.

The building was sold to Artspace Projects, Inc. upon Woodward's retirement.

If you have questions about this meeting, please contact Kim Maas, Volunteer Coordinator, at [tgom.volunteer@gmail.com](mailto:tgom.volunteer@gmail.com)

## January 2026 Beginning Blacksmithing class graduates and teachers



Congrats to class members and thanks to teachers!

Top row: Kevin Stokes, Matt Dray, Nick Dray, Tony Nelson, Bubba (Chris) Saindon, Ken Schomburg, Patrick Navratil, \*Rob Bullis. Bottom row: \*Bob Brown, \*Matt Navratil, Lora Breczinski. Missing: \*Larry Wasmund and \*Laurel Larkin.

\* indicates instructor team

## 'QUICKNEWS'



When a person becomes a member of The Guild of Metalsmiths, their spouse and minor children also become members of the Guild. The membership is a 'Family Membership'!

Annual Fall Conference T-Shirt Design Contest Begins...**NOW!**

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Minutes Board of Directors January 2026 Meeting

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Open Forge March 1

Free to members. Details page 2.

Beginning Blacksmithing Classes March 2026

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Damascus Knife Class March 14-15

Details page 4

Beginning Blacksmithing Classes April 2026

Details page 5

Volunteer Opportunities

The Guild is always looking for volunteers for numerous tasks that keep the Guild in working order. If you haven't been asked or "vol-in-told" to help with tasks and would like to, contact Kim Maas, the Volunteer Coordinator.

[tgom.volunteer@gmail.com](mailto:tgom.volunteer@gmail.com) or text/call 651-328-7219. Not all help needed is smithing.

# Reminder: The Guild's Annual Fall Conference T-Shirt Design Contest Has Started!

What would you like to see on The Guild's 2026 Fall Conference T-shirt? Funny you should ask, because you get to decide! You don't have to be an artist to participate. You just need a neat idea for a shirt. The entry that receives the most votes gets a free conference shirt and bragging rights for the year! And, much like tools, you can never have enough T-shirts.

Send your ideas to Helper Minion Sara ([TGoM.Archive@gmail.com](mailto:TGoM.Archive@gmail.com)), and we'll get your design ready for the start of voting in June.

## March 1 Open Forge Free to Members

Have you heard of a work perk? Well, this is a membership perk!

Open Forge FREE TO GUILD MEMBERS

Sunday, March 1, 2026, from 9 AM to 4 PM

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing, 6250 Riverdale Dr NW, Ramsey MN (see map page 7)

Cost: FREE BUT ONLY AVAILABLE TO GUILD MEMBERS

Class size: No limit.

Class Description: There is no lesson or agenda except to get some iron hot and hit it with a hammer and hang out with fellow blacksmiths.

Class Champion: Harvey Steele [hsteele@handecleat.com](mailto:hsteele@handecleat.com)

Safety Equipment: The usual for forging with coal: safety glasses, hearing protection, clothing of natural fiber with no cuffs or fraying, and leather boots or shoes.

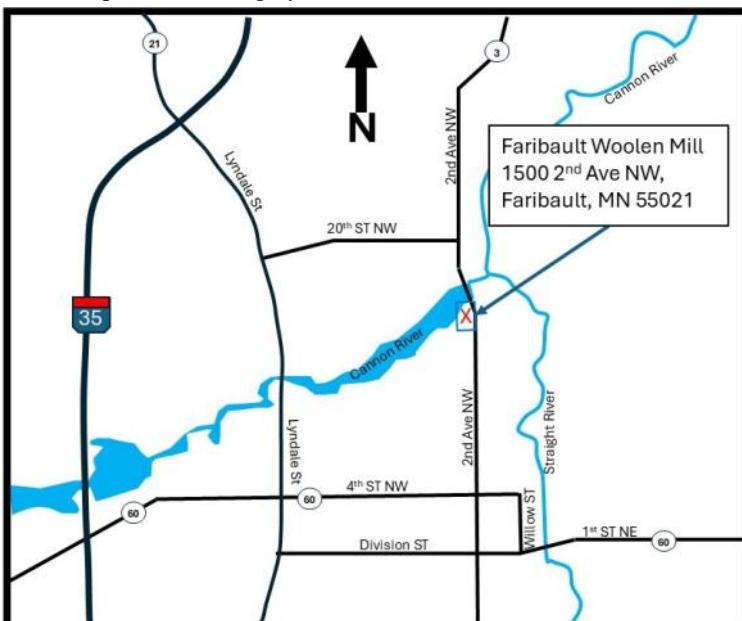
Lunch arrangements: You are on your own for lunch.

## April TGOM meeting coming soon!

*Champion Richard Zielike has been busy planning The Guild of Metalsmiths' April membership meeting. Details are still forthcoming, but here are some...*

We're having yet another Saturday meeting. Our April meeting is at the Faribault Woolen Mill, 1500 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave NW, in Faribault MN. See map below.

So, you'll need to change our April meeting date to April 11, with setup starting at 11:30, and our potluck starting at 12:00. It might be a little awkward arriving earlier, as there will be a tour before us. After our meal and meeting, we will be breaking into several tour groups, with the tours lasting approximately an hour. You can plan on leaving by 4:00.



## Associate Editor for 'Metalsmith'

Have you ever thought that being an editor of a magazine would be a challenge you would like to take on? Well, here is an opportunity just for you. This is a way you can impress your parents, children, and friends, plus have control over what you want 'Metalsmith' to feature and publish.

Our 'Metalsmith' team is looking for someone to create one issue of 'Metalsmith' per year, working with our lead editor, Peter Bettenberg, and our 'Metalsmith' team.

### Putting it together:

- Gather any articles from the members, and the President's letter.
- Try to take Show 'n Tell photos from the Membership mtgs and do photo layouts.
- Any extra space can be filled in with articles from other blacksmith groups. Only use those that are high-resolution; due to low-resolution copies don't look/work good.
- After laying out the magazine, send it to our 'Metalsmith' team for proofreading.
- Email articles submitted by members to get their approval after edits have been made.
- Request mailing list from the NEON administrator.
- When issue is completed, email final draft to printer, cc 'Metalsmith' editor and Communication Committee chair.
- The printer will print and mail 'Metalsmith' out.

### Requirements:

- Willing to assist members with their articles.
- Time management skills. We want 'Metalsmith' to be ready for printing and mailed in the month when members expect the magazine in their mailboxes.
- Basic computer skills. The magazine is created on the computer, sent to the printer via email.

You do not need to be a college graduate, professional reporter or a wordsmith. You will have support.

To respond to this ad, please contact either of the folks listed below:

Peter Bettenberg: [tgomeditor@gmail.com](mailto:tgomeditor@gmail.com)

Kim Maas, Volunteer Coordinator,  
[tgom.volunteer@gmail.com](mailto:tgom.volunteer@gmail.com)

## Discord platform for TGOM

Discord is a free communication app for voice, video, and text chat, functioning as a hub for communities (called "servers") built around specific interests, from gaming and hobbies to study groups and friend circles, offering persistent chat rooms (channels) and direct messaging across desktop, mobile, and web platforms. Originally for gamers, it's now a versatile platform for any group wanting organized, real-time interaction, allowing users to join public servers or create private ones with roles, content sharing, and various customization options.

Discord is an instant messaging and VoIP social platform. The service converts your voice into a digital signal that travels over the Internet. Users have the ability to communicate with voice calls, video calls, text messaging, media, and files in private chats or as part of communities called "servers".

Email a request to join the platform to:

[tgomdiscord@gmail.com](mailto:tgomdiscord@gmail.com) or [tgom.volunteer@gmail.com](mailto:tgom.volunteer@gmail.com).

The monitor will send you a link to join.

## Board of Directors Meeting January 14, 2026

Call to order: 7:04 P.M.

Attendees: Marty Masters, Cathy Herman, Harvey Steele, Gordon Barr, Derrick Phillips, Mark Lockwood, Richard Zieliak, Sara Gries, Laurel Larkin, Jesse Gavin and Taya Gavin. Absent: Kim Maas

### **President's Report:**

The CD at Key State Bank will be renewed on 1/15/26. Discussion as to whether to renew the CD, to roll over the entire amount, or to withdraw the approximately \$600 in gain and deposit it to our accounts. Decision was made to let the interest be reinvested.

Climate-controlled storage has been rented. Peter Bettenberg has already added AV equipment, and Richard has already housed the library at the storage site. Discussion about furniture needed for space, i.e. shelving, cabinets, etc.

Classes at SPPS are successful. We are starting to gather info on Class Evaluations Sheets where students heard about TGOM to increase promotion.

Should we continue our membership with NEEMA. Cathy is a member of NEEMA and will continue to promote TGOM. Therefore, we will halt our membership at this time.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Finance**

We have settled with the Fredells. They received a check of \$4,836. The Guild has also received a donation from the Fredells of \$4,836. There are still some items that will be sold during 2026.

Financial Report has been created (and is inserted below)

Motion to accept: Richard, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jesse. Passed

The Guild of Metalsmiths Financial Reports - Year Ending December 31, 2025			
Statement of Activities		Statement of Financial Position	
<b>Revenue</b>		<b>Assets</b>	
Membership Dues	\$8,390.00	Cash - Checking 6965	\$10,278.48
Class Registrations	\$14,975.00	Cash - Checking 8718	\$1,736.81
Coal Sales	\$4,451.40	Cash - Savings 7520	\$26,666.55
Fall Conference	\$16,043.30	Accounts Receivable	\$1,640.00
Donations	\$4,847.61	Other Assets - Certificate of Deposit	\$30,000.00
Iron Menagerie Sales	\$1,257.60	Other Assets - Inventory	\$4,631.75
Other Income	\$1,155.19	Other Assets - Security Deposit	\$200.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$51,120.10</b>	Property and Equipment	\$5,500.00
		<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$75,153.59</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	
Metalsmith Printing & Mailing	\$10,487.64	Accounts Payable	\$5,654.63
Website	\$1,005.86	Sales Tax Payable	\$339.00
Education	\$9,846.10	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$5,993.63</b>
Fall Conference	\$15,145.45	<b>Net Assets</b>	
Insurance	\$908.37	With Donor Restrictions - Rich Herman Fund	\$2,626.25
Software	\$2,861.43	Without Donor Restrictions	\$66,533.71
Bank & Credit Card Fees	\$1,272.31	<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$69,159.96</b>
Equipment & Supplies	\$1,423.47		
Postage	\$881.68		
Awards	\$427.06		
Membership Meetings	\$1,861.55		
Misc. Expenses	\$1,679.26		
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$47,800.18</b>		
		<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>\$75,153.59</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$3,319.92</b>		
<b>Net Assets, Start of Year</b>	<b>\$65,840.04</b>		
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b>\$69,159.96</b>		

 1/14/2026  
Harvey Steele - Treasurer

Coal Sales and Use Tax has been paid for 2025.

Balance with Duggan has been settled for 2024 and 2025.

Revenue in 2025 was \$51,120 and expenses of \$47,800, resulting in a \$3,300 gain.

However, we would not have had a gain without the donation from the Fredells. We will need to purchase coal again in the spring, which will cost about \$12,000.

### **Membership**

Membership trends were discussed and centered mostly around new members vs. existing members. There is a gain and loss of approximately 25% each year. Gordon noted that many of the new members are beginners who would like to take advantage of the member price for the classes and after they've completed them often do not renew their membership. Strategies to increase new member recruitment was discussed including improving online visibility and some kind of welcome packet for new members. Gordon will speak with Monica about Neon's capacity to send welcome information.

### **Program**

Next meeting 2/7/26 at Northrup. Logistics discussed regarding meeting trailer parking and unloading.

April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting is at Faribault Woolen Mills.

June meeting is at Nowthen

August meeting is at Dan Pate's

### **Education**

Classes are proceeding according to the calendar. The new calendar planning is in motion. Analysis of class fees will be done to ensure our classes are priced appropriately.

### **Communication**

No report

#### **Old Business**

Objections at the holiday party to changes in the by-laws were discussed, specifically, the need for clarity on grounds for expulsion. Marty and Sara have agreed to discuss separately to come up with more specificity and will bring suggestions to the next board meeting.

### **General New Business**

Why do we limit voting to in-person meetings? In the 21<sup>st</sup> century we should consider opening the voting up to other means.

Overhead cost reduction opportunities are being missed. Sara suggests there are many opportunities specific to non-profits to reduce overhead costs. She and Marty will discuss separately and bring specific ideas to the next board meeting.

**Motion to Adjourn: Richard, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jesse**

## Taste of Blacksmithing 2026

Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026 Time: 9:00am – 4:00pm

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing (map page 7)

Instructor: Rebecca Hrobak 612-226-8608 [rebellhornbrook@gmail.com](mailto:rebellhornbrook@gmail.com)

Class Manager: Laurel Larkin 651-955-9379 [frogwench@comcast.net](mailto:frogwench@comcast.net)

Cost of Class: Member: \$100.00 Non-Member: \$120.00

Class size: Maximum students: 8 Minimum students: 6

**Class Description:** Ready to unleash your inner blacksmith? Today's the perfect day to give it a try – no experience, secret skill, or Viking ancestry required.

We've crafted this workshop specifically for newcomers. If you know which end of the hammer to hold, you're already ahead of the game.

With iron glowing in the forge and an anvil waiting for your command, you'll create take home treasures: a drive hook, an S-hook or an entirely new species of metal object formed through enthusiasm and questionable geometry.

Bring your creativity, your curiosity, your safety glasses (if you have some), and your natural fiber clothing. We'll take care of the rest – tools, material, guidance, and plenty of encouragement to whack hot metal responsibly.

**To register:** To register online go to The Guild of Metalsmiths website, <https://www.metalsmith.org/education>

Or to mail in a check, contact the manager's name, email address and/or phone number for additional information and to reserve your place.

Acceptance will be in the order submitted, based on the online transaction date or postage date, and each person will be notified individually.

## Instructor's Workshop

Date & Time: Feb. 21, 2026, 9 am to 4 pm

Lead Instructor: David Skaurud, 218-849-4630, [skaurud.gom@gmail.com](mailto:skaurud.gom@gmail.com)

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing (map page 7)

Class Manager: Kim Maas 651-328-7219 [tgom.volunteer@gmail.com](mailto:tgom.volunteer@gmail.com)

Cost of class: Free to Guild members

Class size: Maximum: 20 Minimum: 4

**Class Description:**

The Education Committee will be offering Instructors Workshops for ALL who are or are interested in becoming part of the Instructor Team. We feel it is important, and we strongly encourage all instructors (new and experienced) to attend this informative session, whether teaching the beginners class, any other class in the Guild setting or starting out by assisting with class.

The workshop will be offered again in August, if the February workshop does not work for you. You are more than welcome to attend all the workshops.

**Agenda:** Morning will start in the classroom with the introduction of the curriculum for *The Beginners Blacksmithing Class* three-day class. And discuss other possible classes. The Guild's classes have used bits and pieces of lessons 1-25 of the *Controlled Hand Forging*, the curriculum used since 2014. Lessons can be viewed at: <http://www.abana.org/resources/education/chf.shtml>. The class will move to the shop to continue with discussions and role play. There will be some initial training for instructors on

- 1) How to do a demonstration of a written lesson.
- 2) How to teach the lesson without wandering.
- 3) The demonstrator / coach method of instruction.
- 4) The proper time to interject alternate methods.
- 5) Ideas on how to motivate a student.
- 6) When is the right time to have fun.

All attendees will receive a certificate of completion after the class.

**Lunch arrangement:** Bring lunch or there are area restaurants.

**Registration:**

Note: You need to register online so we can prepare properly.

To register online go to The Guild of Metalsmiths website,

<https://www.metalsmith.org/education>

Acceptance will be in the order submitted, based on the online transaction date or postage date, and each person will be notified individually.



## Introduction to Forge Welding 2026

Date and time: Saturday February 28, 9 am - 4 pm

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing (map page 7)

Instructor: Peter Ellison

Class Size: Maximum 8 Cost: \$100

**Class Description:**

Starting with how to manage the fire for forge welding and some basic discussion of the theory of forge welding. Jump right into the first project of making a simple flux spoon with a

fold over forge weld. Then work on a fireplace poker that is built up with lots of different forge welds including joining two bars, a basket twist, and a collar weld.

Depending on the time available: welding chain, welding mild steel to high carbon steel. The goal of this class is to walk away confident forge welding is something that can be done, and how to troubleshoot the inevitable issues that come up. Basic forging skills needed.

**Tools and Equipment or other items participants are to bring to the class:** Favorite hammer and tongs for 3/8 round if you have them.

**Safety Equipment:** Bring safety glasses and appropriate clothing the usual for forging with coal: safety glasses, hearing protection, clothing of natural fiber with no cuffs or fraying, and leather boots or shoes.

**Lunch Arrangements:** Bring a lunch and water or dine at local fast food places

**Class Manager:** Gordon Barr

**To register online** go to The Guild of Metalsmiths website, <https://www.metalsmith.org/education>

**Or to mail in a check**, contact class manager Gordon Barr [agbarr@metalsmith.org](mailto:agbarr@metalsmith.org) to reserve a spot or for additional information.

Acceptance will be in the order submitted, based on the online transaction date or postage date, and each person will be notified individually.



Tools needed and the output of the class.

## Damascus Workshop March 14-15

**Instructors Paul Widenhoefer, Brendan Stevens, Justin Klejeski**

Are you interested in learning how to make Damascus- that pattern welded steel with the cool designs that you see on many high-end knives? We will be offering a workshop open to a limited number of people (4-6) that will go over such things as steel selection, the preparation needed, the welding process, building a basic pattern and etching your steel billet. This workshop will be utilizing power hammers to weld and draw out the steel. Because of this, we ask all students to come with a moderate level of smithing experience.

Paul, Justin, and Brendan have been teaching knife making classes with the Guild for over a decade. We're running this independent of the Guild classes, but it is open to all Guild members and the blade smithing/blacksmithing community.

You should come out of the workshop with a Damascus billet big enough for some blades or other small projects and the knowledge to start your next billet, as well as the option to make a small Japanese style knife.

Cost \$125/person, with possibly an additional charge to be finalized at the end of the workshop. The cost is to cover materials used (steel, abrasives, propane, etc.). Contact Paul to arrange payment.

Please contact Paul with questions or to sign up:

Email [pwidenhoefer@gmail.com](mailto:pwidenhoefer@gmail.com)

Text msg: 612-408-5007

Workshop will be held at Brendan Steven's place:  
4764 118 St SW, Waverly, MN 55390

# Beginners Blacksmithing 3-day - March 14, 15, & 21 2026

Dates: The classes are held on Saturday, March 14, Sunday, March 15, and Saturday, March 21

Location: Larry Wasmund's Shop, 39213 20th St, Janesville, MN 56048 (See map below)

**Class Description:** The beginners' basic classes are designed to give everyone the same understanding of the basics, techniques and terminology. The basic classes or proficiency are required before taking any of the many other classes the Guild offers. This enables those classes to concentrate on advanced techniques without having to spend time on basic concepts.

This 3-day class covers the basics of:

- Safety,
- Tools,
- Fire Control,
- Forging Dynamics,
- Tapers (ribbon, fishtail, point),
- Twisting,
- Riveting,
- Shouldering,
- Upset,
- Cutting,
- Splitting,
- Punching,
- Scrolling,
- Bending,
- Forge welding.

**Class Size:** 6 **Class level:** Beginners

**Cost:** \$230 for NON members, \$200 for Guild members (covers everything you need: the facility, coal, metal tools and workbook)

**Class Champion/Manager:** Laurel Larkin at [frogwench@comcast.net](mailto:frogwench@comcast.net) or call 651-955-9379

**What you need to bring:** Eye, ear and skin 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. There will be sparks and brushes against hot metal.

**Tools:** Tools are provided but if you have a favorite hammer, punches, chisels and tools, bring them along. A small 1 to 2 pound ball peen hammer would work. We have various hammers for you to try and get a feel for what is comfortable.

**Typical day:** Classes start at 9 but people usually show up earlier to swap stories or show off recent projects. Feel free to bring projects you are working on to show. We break for lunch.

**Lunch:** Bring lunch. Shop is in rural Janesville. Bring plenty of water to keep hydrated during the event.

**To register**

To register online go to The Guild of Metalsmiths website, <https://www.metalsmith.org/education>

Or to mail in a check, contact the class manager at the email address above for additional information and to reserve your place.

Minors (under 18) must have a parent present. Minors under 14 need one adult per child. There will be no sharing of forges.

Acceptance will be in the order submitted, based on the online transaction date or postage date, and each person will be notified individually.

# Beginners Blacksmithing 3-Day Class April 11, 12, and 18, 2026

The beginners' basic classes are designed to give everyone the same understanding of the basics, techniques and terminology. The basic classes or proficiency are required before taking any of the many other classes the Guild offers. This enables those classes to concentrate on advanced techniques without having to spend time on basic concepts.

This 3-day class covers the basics of: Safety, Tools, Fire Control, Forging Dynamics, Tapers (ribbon, fishtail, point), Twisting, Riveting, Shouldering, Upset, Cutting, Splitting, Punching, Scrolling, Bending, Forge welding.

**Instructor:** Marty Masters: 651-285-8731 [martin.masters@metalsmith.org](mailto:martin.masters@metalsmith.org)

**Class Champion:** Kim Maas Phone number: 651-328-7219 email address: [tgom.volunteer@gmail.com](mailto:tgom.volunteer@gmail.com)

**Price of Class:** Members: \$200.00, Non-Members: \$230.00

**Cost:** (covers everything you need, the facility, coal, metal tools and workbook)

\$200 for members, \$230 non-members. Minors (under 18) must have a parent present. Minors under 14 need one adult per child. There will be no sharing of forges.

**Class size:** Maximum students: 8 Minimum students: 4

**Location:** The Minnesota School of Horseshoeing, 6250 Riverdale Dr NW, just off Hwy 10 in Anoka (map page 7)

**Tools and Equipment or other items participants are to bring to the class:**

Tools are provided but if you have a favorite hammer, punches, chisels and tools, bring them along. A small 1-to-2-pound ball peen hammer would work. We have various hammers for you to try and get a feel for what is comfortable.

**Safety Equipment:** Eye, ear and skin protection. This includes safety glasses, earmuffs or plugs and suitable clothing which includes hard shoes, cotton or leather. Synthetic and polyester clothing will burn and melt. There will be sparks and brushes against hot metal.

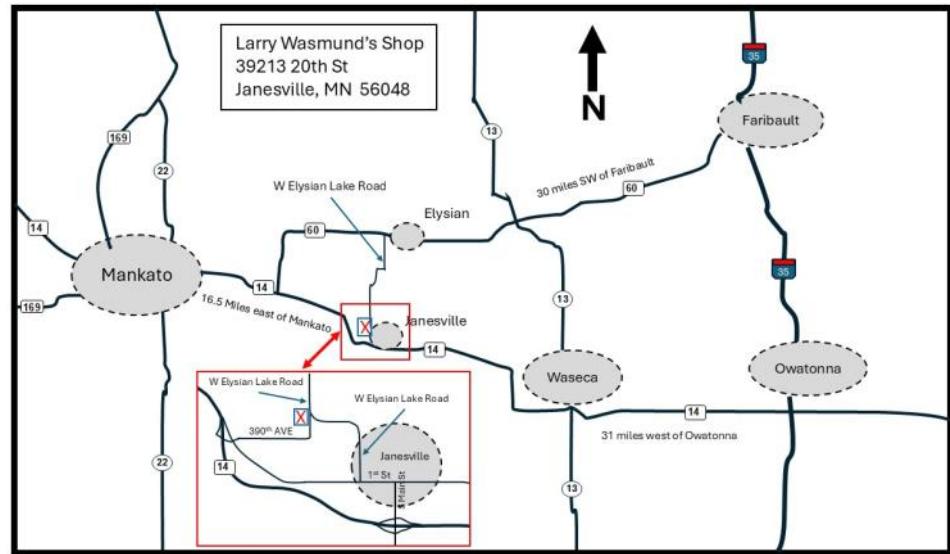
**Special Instructions:** Bring plenty of water to keep yourself hydrated during the class.

**Lunch Arrangements:** We have a break for lunch. Bring lunch or go to a local restaurant.

**To register online** go to The Guild of Metalsmiths website, <https://www.metalsmith.org/education>

Or to mail in a check, contact champion shown above for mailing address

Acceptance will be in the order submitted, based on the online transaction date or postage date, and each person will be notified individually.



# Our neighborhood of smiths

## The Guild of Metalsmiths (TGoM)

Most membership meetings are the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, and October, except December. 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). To check your membership expiration date, see the mailing label on your latest copy of "Metalsmith."

President: Martin Masters, [mastersmw@yahoo.com](mailto:mastersmw@yahoo.com)

Vice-President: Cathy Herman

Our website is: <https://www.metalsmith.org>

## Badger Blacksmiths

President: Dave Weiss Newsletter editor: John Grump

715-379-5007 715-829-4559

[diamondmetalworks13@gmail.com](mailto:diamondmetalworks13@gmail.com)

[johngrump@att.net](mailto:johngrump@att.net)

website: <https://sites.google.com/site/badgerblacksmiths/>

## Lake Superior Metalsmiths

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

Contacts are:

Charley Brown, President, [CharleyRB@charter.net](mailto:CharleyRB@charter.net)

218-428-7906

Dave Hanson, VP, [duluthblacksmith@yahoo.com](mailto:duluthblacksmith@yahoo.com)

218-391-4466

## Northern Minnesota Metalsmiths

The NMM meets the first Monday of the month at Lake Itasca Region Pioneer Farmers (LIRPF) show grounds, 1/4 mile east of the north entrance to Itasca State Park. Contact Jeff Olson for monthly specifics at [olsonironworks@gmail.com](mailto:olsonironworks@gmail.com). The NMM's website is <https://www.northernminnesotametalsmiths.com/>

## Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center (CAFAC)

Quarterly blacksmithing classes, exhibits, and open house events.

[www.cafac.org](http://www.cafac.org) email: [info@cafac.org](mailto:info@cafac.org)

## Tunnel Mill Crafts

Blacksmith shop, traditional iron work, classes

Located 20 miles south of Rochester MN, near Spring Valley MN.

507 289-4189 or 507 289-5246

Email: Carol Adams [je-adams@msn.com](mailto:je-adams@msn.com),

<http://www.tunnelmillcrafts.com/>

## Sandy Lake Forge on Raspberry Island

Blacksmith shop offering classes, workshops and more. See [raspberryislandfolkschool.blogspot.com](http://raspberryislandfolkschool.blogspot.com) for details or call: 218-851-6085

Gary and Janet Hill

Raspberry Island

50569 218th Place

McGregor, MN 55760

## TGoM Membership Perks

### Discounts

The following companies are extending discounts to The Guild of Metalsmiths members. You will need to ask for their Guild of Metalsmiths discount, show your membership card (found on the back of your "Metalsmith"), and a Picture ID. These discounts are a gift to us and can be taken away if they are abused. If you have a hobby shop, no problem. If you are a professional with a few employees, no problem. What is not fair, is turning yourself into a dealership by reselling/trading products that you have purchased with our discount or being a big company and using our discount for your bottom line. Please don't ruin this for everyone. These businesses deserve our recognition and patronage:

Please see The Guild of Metalsmiths website for additional information regarding discounts and products available:  
<https://www.metalsmith.org/about/friends-of-the-guild/>

### Carhartt at Work Program

Mall of America

144 North Garden Bloomington, MN 612-318-6422 or  
Riverdale Village Mall

12680 Riverdale Blvd. Coon Rapids, MN 952-885-8000

[www.carhartt.com](http://www.carhartt.com)

15% on almost everything in the store, except Flame Retardant (FR) gear, which is 10% off whether you shop online or at Mall of America

### Minnesota Glove & Safety & Bob's Workwear

West St. Paul, MN 651-552-8840

[www.minnesotaglove.com](http://www.minnesotaglove.com) 10% discount off merchandise not already on sale or discounted

### Smith-Sharpe Fire Brick Supply

2129 Broadway St NE, Minneapolis, MN 612-331-1345

[www.ssfbs.com](http://www.ssfbs.com) 866-545-6743

The quantity of product purchased dictates the normal "Level" of discount. Smith-Sharpe Fire Brick Supply is offering to discount "Level" better to Guild members. It will vary with types of products, but may average about 10%.

### Garellick Steel Company

Minneapolis, MN 612-521-8857

[www.garellicksteel.com](http://www.garellicksteel.com)

10% discount for members

### Toll Gas and Welding Supply

Eight Twin City metro locations. 763-551-5300

[www.tollgas.com](http://www.tollgas.com)

See website or phone book for location near you. 15% off of gases and most in-store items, for Guild members.

### Oxygen Service Co.

St. Paul, MN 651-774-7273

[www.oxygenservicecompany.com](http://www.oxygenservicecompany.com)

15% discount on gases and most items that are not already marked on sale for members.

### Division V Sheet Metal

218 Ohio Street, St. Paul MN 55107

<http://divisionv.com/>

Architectural sheet metal company: zinc, steel, copper, Cor-Ten, aluminum, composite

# Goings on...a listing of TGoM events at a glance



- **Most membership meetings** are the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, and October. Date for December will be announced. **Watch each Forum for date and location changes.** For these 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).
- Education Comm. meets first Thursday of each month. Contact Kim Maas ([tgom.volunteer@gmail.com](mailto:tgom.volunteer@gmail.com)) and Laurel Larkin ([frogwench@comcast.net](mailto:frogwench@comcast.net)) co-chairs.
- Program Comm. meetings are 7 pm the third Thursday monthly. Derrick Phillips [derrickphillipsa303@gmail.com](mailto:derrickphillipsa303@gmail.com) or Mark Lockwood [mlockwood851@gmail.com](mailto:mlockwood851@gmail.com) co-chairs.
- Communications Committee meets 4th Thursday of odd months. Contact Kim Maas, [tgom.volunteer@gmail.com](mailto:tgom.volunteer@gmail.com), Chair.
- Most board meetings are the second Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November via ZOOM.

## February 2026

Feb. 7, Taste of Blacksmithing, MN School of Horseshoeing  
Feb. 7 SATURDAY! Membership meeting at Northrup King & Co. 1500 Jackson St NE, Minneapolis  
Feb. 21 Instructor's Workshop, MN School of Horseshoeing  
Feb. 28, Intro to Forge Welding, MN School of Horseshoeing

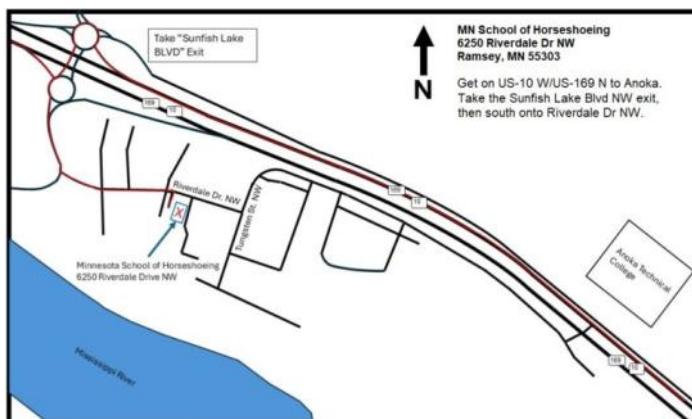
## March 2026

March 1 Open Forge for members only, MN School of Horseshoeing  
March 14, 15, and 21, Beginning Blacksmithing Classes, Larry Wasmund's shop in Janesville, MN

## April 2026

April 11, SATURDAY Membership meeting at Faribault Woolen Mills, 1500 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave NW, Faribault MN

## Map to MN School of Horseshoeing



## 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  
193 Pennsylvania Ave E  
St. Paul MN 55130

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**All memberships are family memberships. Persons of all ages, professionals, and hobbyists, are invited to join.**

**We do not sell our mailing list.**

## ELECTRONIC FORUM

If you have not been receiving an email notification that *The Forum* is available, please verify that we have your correct email address. Contact Gordon Barr at [agbarr@metalsmith.org](mailto:agbarr@metalsmith.org).



## Address Service

If you have items to be included in *The Forum*, please send them to Georgia Myers, editor, by email to: [gldmyers@embarqmail.com](mailto:gldmyers@embarqmail.com) by the third Monday of the month, if possible.

## The Guild of Metalsmiths on the web

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

Looking for something? Try the search engine. On our home page, at the top of the right sidebar, enter your query and click on "Search."

To reach our website quickly, just scan the QR code below.

February 2026



**Your membership expiration date will show on the address label of your quarterly "Metalsmith" magazine.**

### TGoM now accepts PayPal and most major credit cards

The Guild accepts PayPal and most major credit cards, in addition to paper checks, for the payment of annual dues. This should make it more convenient for members to pay dues.

### ***The Forum***

The Guild of Metalsmiths publishes *The 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

### **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, "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  
193 Pennsylvania Ave. E  
St. Paul MN 55130