

'The Forum'



Celebrating Fifty Years of The Guild of Metalsmiths

"The lyf so short, the craft so long to lerne"

- Geoffrey Chaucer



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

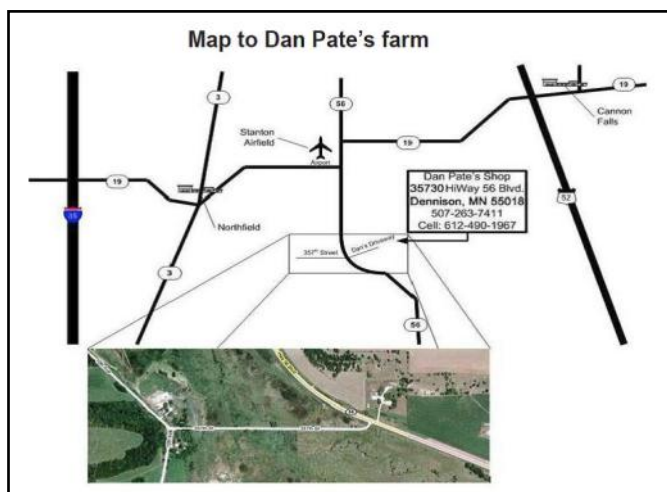
August 12 is TGoM's annual corn feed & hog roast membership meeting!

TGoM families will gather at the country home of Dan and LuAnn Pate, 35730 Highway 56 Blvd, Dennison MN 55018 (map below) on Wednesday, August 12 at 6:00 p.m. for the annual corn feed and hog roast. **NOTE:** There may be road construction in the area, so check your planned travel route before you leave home!

- * Herb Fick (The Guild's perennial hog roast organizer) has the hog ordered and will have his mobile hog roaster on site, along with his dedicated prep crew
- * We have a corn cook. Corn cooking equipment provided.
- * Bring your show- n' - tell items and a dish to pass. Herb suggests salads and desserts.
- * Myron Hanson will supply a forge for demonstrations.
- * There will be demonstrations.

As always, additional help will be needed to make this a successful event: set up crew the morning of the event and clean-up crew the day after the event. Contact Kim Maas, [Volunteer Coordinator](#), if you can help.

See you there! Demos all day.



Herb sez: Volunteer Opportunities for Corn Feed & Hog Roast abound!

Corn Administrator: Loretta Merritt has "voluntold" to be chief corn roaster. She will need help drawn from the attendees...a chance to sit in a circle and shuck corn. Approximately 10 dozen ears.

Demonstrator: I have once again convinced Brendan Stevens to demonstrate. This time I am asking him to work with the theme "This is how I would teach _____." A bow to my long-term interest in the Education Committee.

Preparation and Culmination: **Caution:** Try to connect to Hiway 19 at Stanton (the airport three miles North of Pate's). As always do not hesitate to come early; join an interesting group that preps Dan's site for the meeting. Think about what you can learn from this group about tree trimming, mowing grass, moving show cars that are being constructed, sheet metal working tools, settling up for a wonderful group feed, the tools available for working with sheet metal, and on and on.

— Herb Fick

Online Fall Conference Registration Now Open

Registration for the 49th Annual TGoM Fall Conference aka "The Madness" is open both online via <https://www.metalsmith.org/fall-conference/> and for mail-in registration using the form provided in the brochure delivered in early July.

A couple of reminders:

1. Pre-order your conference T-Shirt(s) to ensure that we will have your size available.
2. If you want to purchase meals for the conference, please ensure that your registration is received by TGoM **no later than** Friday, September 4, 2026, as that is our cut-off date for placing our catering order. A limited number of meals will be available for purchase at registration, but no guarantees.

I highly encourage everyone to use the online registration process as it simplifies both registration and check-in and takes about 5 minutes. Looking forward to seeing you in Ellsworth in September!

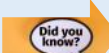
— Harvey Steele, Treasurer

2026 Fall Conference Brochures and Flyers

2026 Fall Conference brochures have been mailed. To see them online, follow the link below to our website. Thanks to Sara Bries and Kim Maas for creating them! Please help spread the word. Print our single page flyer.

[Click here to find brochure and flyer on our website.](#)

'QUICKNEWS'



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

Instructor's Workshop

August 8. Register page 2.

Touch Mark Class

August 22. Register page 2.

Mark your calendar!

2026 Fall Conference is Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Sept. 18, 19, 20 at the Pierce County Fairgrounds in Ellsworth WI.

Register now for 2-Day Pre-Conference Class

Sept. 17 & 18. Details page 2.

Open Forge Plus One

Oct. 4, details page 3

Fall Beginning Blacksmithing

Oct. 3, 10, 17. Register page 3.

OxyAcetylene Welding Class

Oct. 10 & 11. Register page 3.

Trivet Class 2026

Oct. 24. Register page 6.

Volunteer Opportunities

The 2026 list of demonstration opportunities is posted on our website. Follow the link below to see the entire list.

2026 Summer Demo Ops

The Guild is always looking for volunteers for numerous tasks that keep us in working order. Contact Kim Maas, our Volunteer Coordinator. tgom.volunteer@gmail.com or text/call 651-328-7219.



2026 Fall Conference Pre-Conference Class

Registration is now open for The Guild of Metalsmiths 2-day pre-conference class.

Two Lily Necklace

Thursday and Friday, September 17 and 18, 8 AM to 4 PM.

Instructor: Ellen Durkan, Fall Conference Demonstrator

Location: Pierce County Fairgrounds (Map on Page 4)

Cost: Members \$220, non-members \$280

Class Manager: Rick Wessling, 612-875-2240

Class Description: Students will forge a necklace with two lilies as shown in the illustration accompanying this class advertisement. Inspired by Ellen's body of forged fashion work, the students will create a necklace from 3/8" round, 3/4" x 1" bar, and 1"x 1/4" bar with lilies riveted to flared stock. There will be a fair amount of drawing out of the parent stock to create flairs, lilies, and curls on the end of several parts. The individual components will be riveted together to create the whole. The class is limited to 10 students and will have two days to complete the piece.

Note: Once the final list of registered students is completed, the class manager will send specific instructions to each student.

Tools: Bring your own forge (coal or propane), anvil, tongs, hammers, chisels, punches, etc. TGoM will provide coke as fuel. If you bring a coal forge, we highly recommend that the blower be electric as a hand-crank blower generally cannot keep the coke burning without a lot of frustration and time. If you bring a propane forge, you will need to supply your own propane/tanks.

Lunch Arrangements: Lunch will be on your own or the class assistant will organize an order to be sent to the Chinese restaurant next to the fairgrounds.

To Register for this class online: Go to The Guild of Metalsmiths website, <https://www.metalsmith.org/education>.

To Register for this class by check: If you register by mail, please contact Rick by phone to reserve your place and intent to mail a check. Send a check written to The Guild of Metalsmiths with your contact information to: Rick Wessling, 3442 Washington Ave N, Minneapolis, MN 55412. Please include your email address so we can contact you regarding acceptance to the class. Your reservation will be held for 7 calendar days from your phone call to allow your check to arrive, and if it does not arrive within 7 days, your reservation will be canceled and the opening will be passed to the next individual.

Questions: Email rgwessling@gmail.com

Acceptance will be in the order submitted, based on the online transaction date or the date of phone contact. Each person will be notified individually.



Touchmark Class 2026

Date: Saturday, August 22, 2026, 9:00am - 5:00pm (could run longer)

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing (map page 3)

Instructor: Stephen Olivo

Class Description: Ever wanted to make your mark on the world? Come make a maker's mark to mark your hot steel projects. Sign that cool steel project you just finished with a maker's mark you made. Will cover design, forging, and heat treat. Class is for intermediate to advanced smiths.

Class size: Max: 8 Min: 4

Price of Class: Member: \$120,

Non-Member: \$140.

Class Manager Kim Maas 651-328-7219

tgom.volunteer@gmail.com

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

Forging hammer, jewelry files, scribes, punches, chisels, bring your own rotary tool (Foredom, Dremel, etc.) and bits for said tool.

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

Other Equipment: 5 vises post or hardy mount, reverse stamps, rotary tools, punches, chisels. Students, if you have these tools listed feel free to bring them

Lunch Arrangements: We will break for lunch around 12:00 for an hour. Bring your lunch or eat at one of the local restaurants. There is a refrigerator in the classroom. Bring plenty of water to keep yourself hydrated during the class.

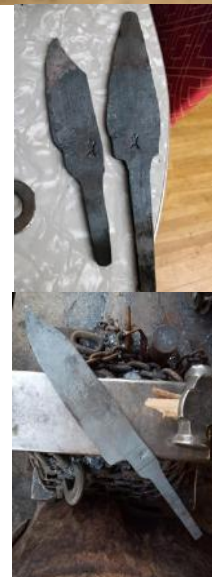
To register online go to The Guild of Metalsmiths website,

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

To pay by check, email the class manager listed above to reserve your place in the class and receive additional information on where to mail the check.

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 the date of phone contact. Each person will be notified individually.



Instructor's Workshop

Date and time: August 8, 2026, 9am - 4pm,

Doors open at 8:00am. Come early for coffee and conversation. Plan on being at least 15 minutes early for a prompt 9am start.

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing (map page 3)

The Education Committee offers 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.

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/>. 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) 3) 4) 5) 6). How to teach the lesson without wandering. The demonstrator/coach method of instruction. The proper time to interject alternate methods. Ideas on how to motivate a student. The right time to have fun. All attendees will receive a certificate of completion after the class.

Instructor: David Skaurud skaurud.gom@gmail.com; **Class manager:** Kim Maas: 651-328-7219, tgom.volunteer@gmail.com

Class size: Max 14 Min 4; **No cost.** **Tools and Equipment or other items to bring to the class:** Hammer, Tongs and Notebook for notes.

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

Lunch Arrangements: Bring lunch or there are restaurants in the area. There is a refrigerator in the classroom. Bring plenty of water to keep yourself hydrated during the workshop.

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's email address and phone number for additional information and to reserve your place.

Fall 2026 Beginners Basic Blacksmithing Class

Date and time: October 3, 10 & 17, 2026, starts 9 AM, ends between 3 and 5 PM

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing (map at right)

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.

Instructor: David Skaurud 218 849-4630

skaurud.gom@gmail.com

Class Manager: Kim Maas, 651-328-7219,

tgom.volunteer@gmail.com

Cost: Members: \$200, Non-Members: \$230. Covers everything you need: the facility, coal, metal tools, and workbook.

Class size: Maximum students: 8 Minimum students: 4

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. Bring plenty of water to keep hydrated.

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

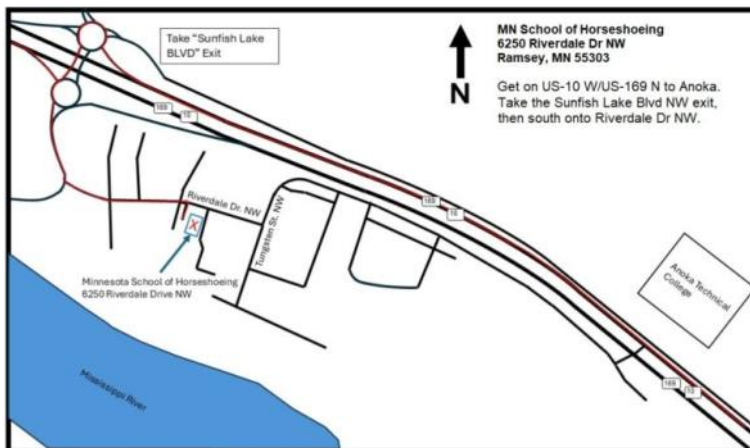
To register online: go to The Guild of Metalsmiths website,

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

Or to mail in a check, contact class manager's name, email address and phone number for additional information.

Name: Kim Maas: 651-328-7219 tgom.volunteer@gmail.com

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



Open Forge Plus One in October

Sunday, October 4, 9 am to 4 pm

The Education Committee is offering a Free Open Forge for Guild Members alone or with a Plus One. If you bring a "Plus One" you will share a forge/anvil station. There are eight forges available for our membership to use. There is no lesson or agenda except to get some iron hot and hit it with a hammer. You can reserve a forge via our website sign-up or by sending Harvey Steele an email, and we will hold a forge for you until 10:00 am. If you just want to stop by and hang out, you are welcome to do so. If there's space at a forge, have at it. This is an excellent opportunity to hang out with and learn from fellow smiths. Beginners are welcome and there are generally people around that can answer questions or provide assistance.

Instructor: Harvey Steele

Class Manager: Harvey Steele, 239-671-8887

hsteele@handeecteat.com

Cost: Free

Location: Minnesota School of Horseshoeing, 6250 Riverdale Drive NW, Ramsey, MN 55303 (map above)

To register online go to The Guild of Metalsmiths website,

<https://www.metalsmith.org/education> or email the class manager to reserve your place.

Minors (under 18) must have a parent present. Minors under 14 need one adult per child.

Oxy/Acetylene Welding Class 2026

October 10 & 11, 2026, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Class level: Intermediate (To have the best chance of success with an Intermediate class, prospective students should have practiced and achieved proficiency in the skills taught in the Beginners Blacksmithing Class.)

Location: East Eagan Shop (Myron Hanson) - map below

Class Description: New to gas welding? Just want to brush up on your basic skills? This class focuses on safety and hands-on learning. Students will be working at individual stations on a shared workbench, with equipment and stock provided. If time permits, bonus demonstrations will show advanced techniques and uses of the oxy/acetylene torch. Tools and equipment will be supplied.

Cost: Member: \$200 Non-Member: \$230

Instructor: Myron Hanson **Class size:** Max: 8 Min: 5

Class Manager: Kim Maas: 651-328-7219 tgom.volunteer@gmail.com

Lunch Arrangements: Pack a lunch or restaurants in the area along with fast food and convenience stores. Bring plenty of water to keep yourself hydrated during the class.

To register:

To register online go to The Guild of Metalsmiths website,

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

To pay by check, email the class manager listed above to reserve your place in the class and receive additional information on to where to mail the check.

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 the date of phone contact. Each person will be notified individually.



1

Myron Hanson

Take I 494 to Dodd Rd/ MN 149 exit and go South, turn left onto MN 55 and turn right back onto MN 149. Continue South to the sign that says Dodd Road and points right. Turn right, cross the tracks and make an immediate left turn onto Dodd Road. Myron's house is about .7 mi on the right. Coming North on Dodd Rd from Cliff Rd its about 1.8 mi (~.75 mi North of Diffley Rd.

4015 Dodd Rd
Eagan, MN 55123-1612
Home phone: 651-454-3984

South to Diffley & Cliff Roads and Fratallone's

49th Annual Fall Conference Features Smiths from Wilmington Delaware and Collingwood Ontario

Ellen Durkan is an artist blacksmith from Wilmington, Delaware. She creates wearable "Forged Fashion" art that she presents through performance runway shows and exhibitions. She teaches blacksmith classes and art related workshops as well as forging demonstrations for conferences and events. Her current body of work is inspired by the human body. It is designed to be worn and embraces physical and emotional vulnerability. She creates forged work to decorate the body as visual and metaphorical armor.

Terry Sheridan is a self-employed machinist, welder, and blacksmith based in Collingwood, Ontario, Canada. Much of his professional work supports the heavy construction equipment industry as well as the ski resort sector across Ontario. In his machine shop, Terry primarily forges industrial components using gas forges and power hammers. His true passion, however, lies in traditional blacksmithing at his home forge, where he works with a classic coal fire and simple hand tools to create historically accurate pieces inspired by centuries past. His work includes adzes, axes, chisels, knives, lead ladles, dividers, and other traditional tools. Terry has frequently demonstrated and taught at blacksmith organizations across the United States.

These two professionals will demonstrate their skills and talents during TGoM's Fall Conference on September 19 and 20. Full details are featured in our annual brochure.

Need Two People to Write 'Metalsmith' Articles on Fall Conference Demos

The 'Metalsmith' editorial team is looking for two people to write articles on the demonstrators at the Fall Conference: one person to cover the Ellen Durkan demonstration and the other to cover the Terry Sheridan demonstration.

- **Requirements:** Watch the demonstration, take notes and after the conference write an article for Metalsmith. Editorial team will assist and support you with this process.
- **Due date:** 30 days after the conference.

Contact Peter Bettenberg, 'Metalsmith' editor by email: tgomeditor@gmail.com and let him know you will be taking on this task.

Fall Conference Contest Open to All!

Design & create a unique towel holder for the contest. Must be made of metal. All entries must be donated to the Saturday auction. Auction sale price will determine winners.

Cash prizes will be awarded.

First Place:	\$100
Second Place:	\$ 60
Third Place:	\$ 40

Conference Family Activities Preview

Family Activities Contact: Terri Lund cell: (612) 716-8482 email: cikestate@gmail.com

Bronze Casting, Saturday, 9 am: The class will be using Delft Clay to make their molds. Two-part metal flasks will be used for the pour. Jack will do the pour. Jack Lassiter, instructor. No fee. Class limits: 6. To register email Terri at: cikestate@gmail.com
Tree of Life, Saturday, 1:30 to 4 pm

Create the Tree of Life. 20" x 12" finished project.

Paula Wasmund, Instructor. Class Fee: \$20 cash to instructor. Class limited to 10.

Altoids Tin Repoussé Sunday morning 9:00 am - Noon
 Learn fun ways to decorate Altoid tins.

Jesse Gavin, Instructor. Free class. No class limit.

Found Art Saturday
 Herb Fick and company will weld whatever you find on the trailer into your art creation. Free. Found Art closes at 4:00 pm Saturday!

Magnetic Art
 Design and build magnetic/ferrous creations. Located in the registration building. Free!

How to get to the Pierce County Fairgrounds



Pierce County Fairgrounds in Ellsworth WI



Key to Fairgrounds Map

1. Seyforth Building - Kitchen & Dining room, Friday night slide show.
 2. Kenny Heinz Building - Demonstrator at the north & south ends of the building.
 3. Home Economics Building - Registration, Gallery, Library, Craft Sale, and location of Friday night Gala.
 4. Location of Found Art
- Dotted outline - Restrooms
 Tailgating located on the road south of Picnic Shelter.

2026 Fall Conference Craft Sale

We will have a craft sale September 18 - 20 at the Fall Conference. If you are interested in selling your handcrafted items, please contact me, Paula Wasmund, by text or phone call at 507-469-0404. You can pick a table and let me know how much room you need. There are nine 8-foot tables available.

Setting-up craft tables will start at 12:00(ish) Friday.

Craft Sale hours:

- Friday 2 PM - 10 PM
- Saturday 7:30 AM - 6 PM
- Sunday 7:30 AM - NOON Packing up your crafts will be after lunch Sunday.

Cancellation policy: Please give at least 10-day notice if you need to cancel your reservation, unless it is an emergency. This will allow someone on the waiting list to take advantage of the cancellation.

— Paula Wasmund

July 8, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

Call to order: 7:03 P.M. via ZOOM.

Attendees: Marty Masters, Cathy Herman, Harvey Steele, Gordon Barr, Derrick Phillips, Mark Lockwood, Richard Zielike, Sara Gries, Kim Maas, Jesse Gavin and Taya Gavin. **Absent:** None

President's Report: The agenda was read and approved: moved by Derrick and 2nd by Mark.

Committee Reports

Finance

The Guild of Metalsmiths Financial Report - 1H26			
Statement of Financial Position		Statement of Activities	
Revenue	YTD	Assets	
Membership Dues	\$6,560.00	Cash - Checking 6965	\$4,801.54
Class Registrations	\$7,320.00	Cash - Savings 7520	\$26,667.71
Coal Sales	\$1,345.67	Accounts Receivable	\$960.52
Fall Conference	\$0.00	Other Assets - Certificate of Deposit	
\$30,680.55			
Donations	\$545.73	Other Assets - Inventory	
\$15,090.38		Other Assets - Security Deposit	
Iron Menagerie Sales	\$350.55		
\$200.00			
Other Income	\$4,594.54	Property and Equipment	\$5,500.00
Total Revenue	\$20,716.49	Total Assets	\$83,900.70
Expenses		Liabilities and Net Assets	
Metalsmith Printing & Mailing	\$1,724.87	Accounts Payable	\$2,590.00
Website & Software	\$2,470.04	Sales Tax Payable	\$138.78
Education	\$4,358.08	Total Liabilities	
\$2,728.78			
Fall Conference & Member Mtgs.	\$1,248.89	Net Assets	
Insurance	\$638.06	Restricted - Rich Herman Memorial	
Bank & Credit Card Fees	\$498.27		
\$2,531.25		Without Donor Restrictions	
Equipment & Supplies	\$1,396.07		
\$78,640.67		Total Net Assets	
Office Supplies & Postage	\$717.23		
\$81,171.92			
Legal & Professional	\$1,500.00		
COGS	\$242.99	Total Liabilities & Net Assets	
\$83,900.70			
Misc. Expenses	\$1,147.19		
Total Expenses	\$15,941.69		
Change in Net Assets	\$4,774.80		
Net Assets, Start of Period	\$76,397.12		
Net Assets, End of Period	\$81,171.92		
		<i>Harvey Steele – Treasurer – 7/8/2026</i>	

The option of purchasing QuickBooks to do the Financials has been decided to be canceled by Harvey as using Excel is easy enough.

Harvey presented financial reports showing the Guild took in approximately \$4,500 in revenue over the last two months and maintained break-even operations, with operating expenses totaling about \$1,900 annually after membership dues.

All necessary state registrations for non-profit status have been filed.

Harvey provided updates on bylaws, indicating delays due to attorney issues and predicting completion before the holiday party.

Harvey reported that the online conference registration system is operational and functions well, with 5 registrations already processed since launch. The registration process takes approximately 2.5 minutes to complete, and promotional efforts are underway through the forum and email communications to current and past members. Harvey also mentioned that conference brochures are being printed and mailed to approximately 500 people, including past attendees and non-members who took classes within the past year.

The treasurer's role training is in progress, with Kim being trained as a backup in case Harvey becomes unavailable.

Membership

Membership is holding steady.

Program

Next meeting date is the hog roast at Dan Pate's— all is setup and ready. Herb will ask as needed for additional help to get the site ready for the event.

The Fall Conference – has both demonstrators contracts in hand, contract with Pierce County Fair Grounds is imminent. October meeting is set for the Round House

Education

The education committee reported on their 2025-26 calendar which included 34 total events (25 classes, 5 scouts events, and 4 open forges), with classes booked through April 2027. The recent open forge event on June 28th was particularly successful with 16 participants including members and their guests, demonstrating the effectiveness of allowing non-members to attend. Upcoming events include the Twisted Magic Wand class, an instructor workshop, and various other classes including Taste of Blacksmithing through SPPS and a Touchmark class.

Communication

The team discussed transitioning from Microsoft Publisher to Microsoft Word for creating the Forum; still working on something for The Metalsmith publication. Sara will complete the next issue using Publisher before the full transition. TGoM announced that upcoming classes are now listed on the website through February to drive traffic and announced plans to promote the fall conference through various organizations, with an 11-page contact list being managed to avoid duplicate outreach. Martin suggested that board members take small portions of the contact list to help distribute the promotional workload more evenly.

Volunteer Coordinator

Kim provided an update on the storage unit organization, which now contains three full shelving units with labeled items including library materials, merchandise, banners, displays, and educational supplies, along with available file cabinet space.

Old Business

Equipment Ownership

The group discussed ownership of equipment between different locations. The equipment at Nowthen and MTM belongs to those organizations, with Gordon clarifying that forge pans at the MTM belong to the guild while fire pots belong to them. Harvey agreed to follow up with Dick about guild-owned items at Little Log House blacksmith shop.

Blacksmithing Study Guide Publication

The board discussed publishing The Blacksmithing Study Guide based on the work done by Bob Fredell and Pete Stanitis as a book on Amazon and other outlet options, with Harvey volunteering to handle the layout in InDesign and Sara offering to assist with artistic and editing work.

Guild-MTM Forge Access Partnership

The meeting focused on discussing the relationship between the Guild and MTM, particularly regarding forge access. Martin explained that the Guild purchases a corporate membership for \$300 annually, providing access to 100 days of open forge time at MTM, which costs approximately \$3 per day. Gordon clarified that while some non-Guild members occasionally use the facilities, the majority of users are Guild members, and the arrangement serves as both a promotional tool and helps fulfill the Guild's mission of expanding metalworking education.

General New Business

Foundry Equipment Motion by Derrick: to release their foundry equipment to Brian Finder from UW Stout, who will teach a class once a year and give the organization first right of refusal. 2nd by Richard Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to Adjourn: Derrick, 2nd Sara

Our smiths demonstrate annually at Little Log House Antique Power Show



Although this photo doesn't bfit the shop's busy weekend function, blacksmiths from The Guild of Metalsmiths demonstrated for three days to spectators gathered here during the 2026 Little Log House Antique Power Show just outside of Hastings, MN. Long-time Guild of Metalsmiths member Dick Carlson has been the blacksmith in charge for many years. This year's project was to mount iron "tires" for wood wheels on a wood wagon. With Dick's renowned blacksmithing background, this project helped the less experienced smiths in the Guild learn these early techniques.



Al Olson had a successful day at LLH. With the help of Rob Bullis, he straightened out an old truck coil spring of 5/8" diameter that netted 10' of high carbon steel round bar. That made 2 dinner bells with 2 clangors. Al said it made for a good day.



Bob Brown finished up a project at the end of the day Friday before the daily temperature rose to take over for the next two days.



Rob Bullis and Bob Brown spent the weekend demonstrating projects for spectators as they tolerated the extreme heat of the red hot forges and the even hotter weather.

Trivet Class 2026

Saturday, October 24, 2026: 9 am to 5 pm

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing (map page 3)

Instructors: Derrick Phillips & David Skaurud

Cost: Member: \$90 Non-Member: \$110

Class size: Max: 8, Min: 4

Class Manager: Christina Dodge: christina.guildmbr@gmail.com

Class Description: This class is a "Beginner Plus" class. Students will hopefully have finished the Guild's beginners class, as this class will draw on those skills and add some more. The trivet is an introduction to joinery: forging tenons and using a monkey tool and hot riveting. During this class, each person will be making a basic trivet. If you think you might be interested in joinery this is a starting project in that direction.

Tools and Equipment or other items participants are to bring to the class: Tongs to hold 1/2" square stock and your favorite hammer

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

Special Instructions: We'll be using coal forges. Please contact Derrick if experience with coal is limited – we might be able to provide assistance with fire management so you could still 'smith with us.

Lunch arrangements: eat at a local establishment or bring a lunch. We'll break for about an hour. The facilities include a refrigerator and microwave in the classroom area.

To register for this class:

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

To pay by check, email the class manager listed above to reserve your place in the class and receive additional information on where to mail the check.

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 the date of phone contact. Each person will be notified individually.



Image Credit: BlackForestArtWorks

Help! Rice County Steam & Gas Show

Who would like to join me for demonstrating at the Rice County Steam and Gas Show? When: 4-6 September (Friday - Sunday of Labor Day weekend). 9ish to 4ish. Where: Maybe a mile south of Dundas, MN. About 45 minutes south of the Twin Cities. Who: In addition to me, Dean and Wes are normally there on Friday to work on the peddle lathes and buy all the good stuff from the flea market.

There is space for two people to forge at once and the lathe area. We can have about 4-5 people in shop at one time before we start getting in each other's way. What: It is a nice little shop in a nice little threshing show. It is a pretty relaxed demo; they can only fit about 10 visitors in the shop at a time.

There is a flea market there that is normally good for a couple finds (before Dean and Wes buy all the good stuff.) There are food vendors if you don't pack lunch. You just need to bring your hand tools and stock for what you want to work on. I'll bring the coal. Let me know if you are interested and what day(s) you can make it.

Martin Pansch

612-599-4762

Blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com

Rollag MN Reunion

The 2026 Western Minnesota Steam Threshers Reunion (WMSTR) in Rollag, MN, will take place over Labor Day weekend from Friday, September 4 to Monday, September 7, 2026. The event will feature the iconic Steiger brand tractors and equipment. Gates open daily at 6:00 AM.

Guild Members: Are You Aware?

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).

You as a Guild member may attend any of the Guild's Committee meetings and Board of Directors meetings. You do not need to be a member of the committee or the board to attend any of these meetings. All are done on computers using *Zoom*. Meetings are from 7:00pm - 9:00pm. You may attend these meetings from the comfort of your home.

To attend any of the meetings, email a request to the following people and request to be invited to the meeting. They will then email you an invitation with a link to the meeting.

Board of Directors meeting, contact: Martin Masters email at: martin.masters@metalsmith.org

Meetings are held every other month on the second Wednesday of the month, January, March, May, July, September, and November.

Communication Committee, contact: Kim Maas by email at: tgom.volunteer@gmail.com. Meetings are held monthly on the fourth Thursday of the month.

Education Committee, contact: Kim Maas by email at: tgom.volunteer@gmail.com. Meetings are held monthly on the first Thursday of the month.

Program Committee, contact: Derrick Phillips by email at: derrickphillipsa3o3@gmail.com

Meetings are held monthly on the third Thursday of the month. The best way for you to know what is happening within the Guild is to attend these meetings. This is where all the decisions are made. You have ideas and suggestions for the Guild, come to the meeting that pertains to your ideas or suggestions and share. Ideas and suggestions are welcome.

June 28, 2026: Open Forge Plus One



Sixteen people took advantage of the Open Forge plus One on June 28, 2026, at the Minnesota School of Horseshoeing. The event was hosted by Education Committee member Harvey Steele. *Photo by Harvey Steele.*

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

August 2026

August 8, Instructor's Workshop, MN School of Horseshoeing
August 12, Membership meeting at Dan Pate's home, corn and hog feed.

Aug. 15, Taste of Blacksmithing, SPPS

August 22, Touch Mark Class, MN School of Horseshoeing

September 2026

Sept. 17 & 18, Pre-Conference Class, Ellen Durkan, "Two Lily Necklace" at Pierce County Fairgrounds, Ellsworth WI

Sept. 18, 19, 20, 49th annual Fall Conference at Pierce County Fairgrounds in Ellsworth WI.

October 2026

Oct. 3, 10, 17, Beginning Blacksmithing Class

Oct. 10 & 11, Oxy Acetylene Welding Class

Oct. 14, TGoM membership meeting, Roundhouse, details TBA

Oct. 24, Trivet Class, MN School of Horseshoeing

Oct. 24, Copper Jewelry Class, SPPS



2026 Volunteer Opportunities

The 2026 list of demonstration opportunities is posted on our web page. Follow the link below to see the entire list.

[2026 Summer Demo Ops](#)

Celebrating Fifty Years of The Guild of Metalsmiths

"The lyf so short, the craft so long to lerne"

- Geoffrey Chaucer



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 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.

August 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