

The Forum

February 2012



Vol. 14, No. 2

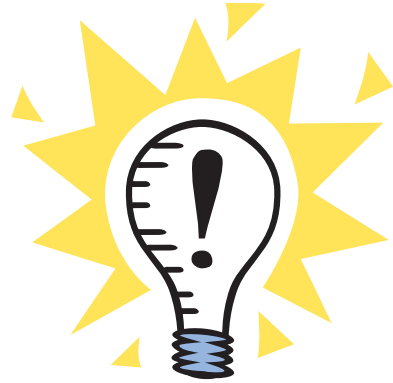
Broaden your knowledge of oxyfuel at February 8, 2012 TGoM meeting at OSC

Oxygen Service Company at 1111 Pierce Butler Route, St. Paul, MN, 55104, will host the February 8 Guild membership meeting. OSC is an employee owned welding supply company and will offer a safety presentation/oxyfuel seminar by welding instructor Pam Lesemann.

There will also be a plasma cutting demo and if time permits, a wirefeed demo with the opportunity for members to actually try out the equipment. The retail store will also be open. Visit their website at www.oxygenservicecompany.com.

They didn't specifically mention any 'deals' that will be available in the store, but they usually treat us well. OSC was one of the companies that donated to the fall conference auction.

So don't forget to mark your calendar now and meet on Feb. 8 at 6:30 pm at OSC for the first TGoM potluck of 2012! The business meeting will follow the potluck, with demos following that.



April meeting teaser!

We'll meet on Wednesday, April 11 at the Oakeshott Institute in Minneapolis to hear a lecture and slide show about the archeological finds from the Fort Snelling blacksmith's shop. Details soon!



Happy Valentine's Day!



Forum deadline for March: Monday, Feb. 21, 2012

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, Feb. 21, 2012 to Georgia Myers, editor, by email to:

gldmyers@embarqmail.com

or mail them to:

Georgia Myers
413 W Dakota St
Lake City MN 55041

Our neighborhood of smiths

UMBA

Visit <http://www.umbaonline.ning.com> (NEW WEBSITE!)

UMBA DVD-R library

125 different titles

\$5 each, \$2 shipping per order

Never return them to library - www.umbaonline.ning.com

Badger Blacksmiths meetings

Our contact information is as follows:

President: Brad Hegge

715-983-2131

heggeco@triwest.net

Newsletter editor: John Grump

715-835-0894

johngrump@att.net

Lake Superior Metalsmiths

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

Contacts are:

Norm Groehler, President, 715-399-8151

normanwgroehler@centurytel.net

Jim Sage, Vice President, 218-525-7265

sageforge@cs.com

Northern Minnesota Metalsmiths

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

Note: The NMM Spring Conference is April 28 & 29 near Park Rapids. Contact Keith for details and registration information.

Central Minnesota Blacksmiths (CMB)

Meet on the first Monday of each month

Pot Luck followed by demo

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

Contacts are:

President: Ken Zitur

1-320-746-2557

ken@kensiron.com

Brian Johnson

16777 Co Rd 75 NW

Clearwater MN 55367

1-320-558-6898

New Members

Charles Svoboda
New Prague, MN

Mike Hoffman
Clear Lake, MN

Steve Loscheider

Seth Jackson
New Hope, MN

James Frechette
Rosemount, MN

Jon Berry
Duluth, MN

Blacksmith Shop Open House

Ken and MaryLou Zitur, owners of Ken's Custom Iron, are having an open house on Saturday, March 17, 2012. They would like to invite everyone interested to come and tour their shop and introduce to you the KZ100 Power Hammer. The KZ100 Power Hammer is a 100lb utility hammer with steam hammer style linkage that Ken has recently built. Stop by and see the hammer in action. The fire will be going and steel will be available to anyone who would like to give it a try. Check out the KZ100 Power Hammer on their website www.kensiron.com.

Everyone is welcome. The address is as follows:

Ken and MaryLou Zitur / Ken's Custom Iron

37634 Co. Rd. 9

Avon, MN 56310

(From interstate 94 take the Avon exit #153 and go North 5 miles.

They are on right side of the road, Fire #875).

320-746-2557

Ken@kensiron.com

Beginning Blacksmithing Classes Feb. 18 and 19, 2012

In these beginner class you will learn the basics:

- ✓ Shop safety
- ✓ The correct tools used for blacksmithing (large and small),
- ✓ Proper hammer techniques (drawing out, curling, notching, twists, and hot punching)
- ✓ How to start and maintain a coal forge
- ✓ Proper stance
- ✓ Basic forging skills
- ✓ Shop layout and so much more.

Cost is \$100 for the 2 day class. Class time 9 - 4 each day.
Ken Zitur, instructor, Avon, MN.

Please call MaryLou Zitur to reserve your class spot
320-746-2557

Blacksmith Demonstrators Needed

The City/Chamber of Morton will be hosting Birch Coulee Days on Aug. 31-Sept. 1-2 of 2012. We are looking for individuals to demonstrate blacksmithing. Call 507-697-6912 for details.

From:

Shirley Dove

mortoncityhall@mchsi.com

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

Forging a Beaver Trap

Saturday, March 31 and
Saturday, April 28

Start time 9:00 a.m. both days

Cost: \$75 per student

Max class size: 8; minimum: 6

Where: MN School of Horseshoeing
(map below)

Instructors: Tom Sanders and Martin
Pansch



Actual trap will have two springs.

Class description: The double spring beaver trap was one of the staples of the fur trade. While the traps themselves are not as popular nowadays, they are still an excellent exercise in a number of blacksmith skills. Students will be expected to be able to slit, split, punch, drift, file, forge weld, shoulder, taper, forge spring steel to thin, uniform thickness, and temper steel by flashing (not the trench coat kind) and forge multiple parts that will fit together. In some steps students will find it advantageous to strike for each other. This class is for people with intermediate to advanced blacksmithing ability. The class will be two days roughly a month apart but even so students might have difficulty completing their trap entirely within the class time (read: some homework might be required). Join us in this deceptively complex project.

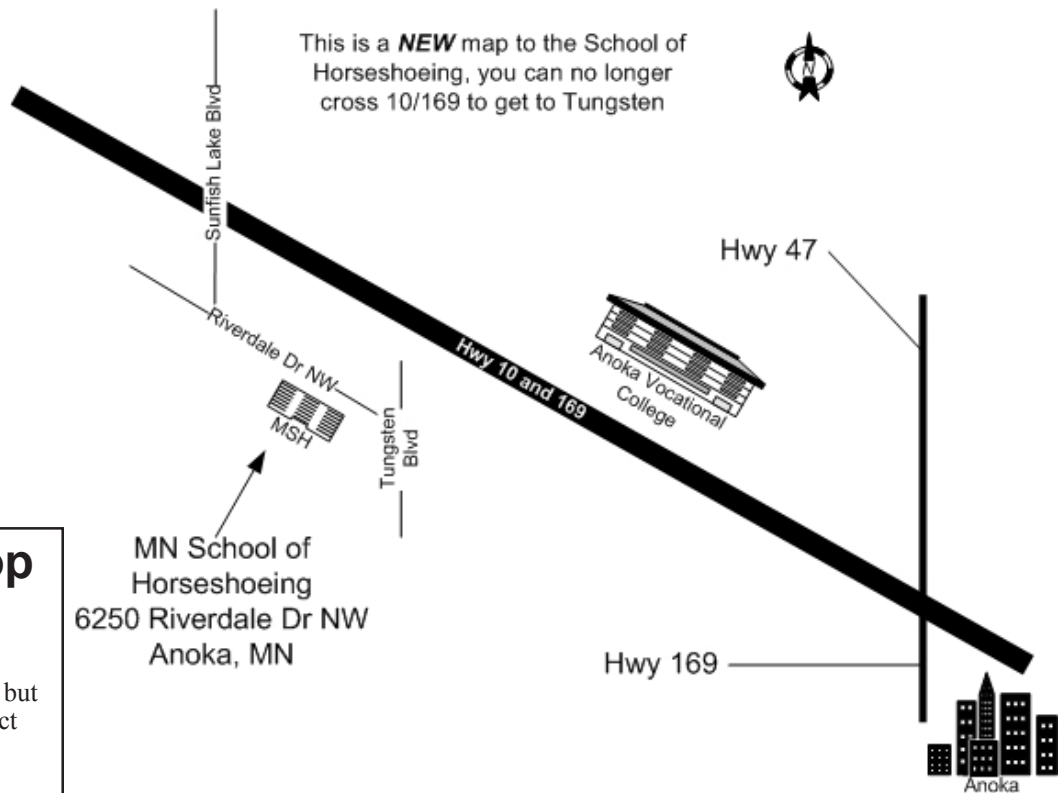
Bring: your favorite blacksmithing hammer, tongs for handling 5/8" square stock, 3/16" flat stock, a good selection of files, 1" slitting chisel, cutting plate, center punch, 7/16" round punch, small (3/16") square or rectangular punch, medium (3/4" or smaller) oval or round drifts, and flux. A 3/8" round spring fuller or top and bottom tool as well as a flatter and sledge hammer might prove useful, but there should be a couple floating around for your use.

Safety equipment: safety glasses and ear plugs are mandatory. Other safety equipment may include gloves, leather apron, cotton clothing, leather shoes.

Lunch arrangements: Either bring a bag lunch with you or money to dine at some of the fine eating establishments in the area.

To register, send a check for \$75 made out to The Guild of Metalsmiths to:

Martin Pansch
8750 Yale Avenue
Young America, MN 55397
612-599-4762
blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com



Struck Tools Workshop - FULL!

Date Saturday, March 17

Herb Fick, champion, says this class is full but he's still taking names for a waiting list. Contact him at:

herb@phyque.com
507 663 0569
507 649 1611 (cell)

Agenda – THE GUILD OF METALSMITHS, Board of Directors – January 11, 2012

Held at: Danish American Center, 3030 West River Parkway, Mpls. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 pm by Al Olson

Members in attendance: Olson, Frattalone, Wessling, Rand, Moenck, Sigurdson, Barr, Hicks, Pansch, Ponder, Murray

Missing:

Guest:

AMENDMENT / APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES: Motion to accept by Ponder second by Barr. Motion passes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee-Mike Frattalone

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE 1-11-12 BOARD MEETING

CHECKING / SAVINGS	30,945 (UP 12,483 FROM 1-19-11)
REMAINING GRANTS	5,334 (UP 3,259 FROM 1-19-11)
DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE	25,611 (UP 9,225 FROM 1-19-11)

EXPENSES SINCE LAST BOARD MEETING ON 11-09-11:

P.O. BOX FEE	46
METALSMITH FORUM (2 EACH)	1,695
AWARD PLAQUE	421
HANKES MEMORIAL	114
WORKSHOPS	50
HARLAND CHECK PRINTING	663
CSPS HALL RENTAL	42
COAL + DELIVERY	200
TOTAL EXPENSES	5,483
TOTAL DEPOSITS	8,714
	4,733

COAL	JUST RECEIVED 24.33 TONS 12-21-11
COAL	RECONCILIATION OF 2011 PILE- 3.4 TONS
MEMBERS	295 (UP 14 FROM 1-19-11)

Education Committee report-Pansch Vice Chair-Jim Moenck

- First meeting of the year in February, location TBD
- Conducting a review of what classes have been offered over the last 3 years, determine what old & new classes can be offered in 2012 and beyond. Seeking to fill in between beginning & intermediate levels. Members are welcome to submit ideas for classes.
- The Intermediate Class date to be announced soon.

Program Committee- Hicks, Vice Chair- Rob Murray

- February membership meeting at Oxygen Service Co in St.Paul MN.
- Oakeshott Institute in Mpls is scheduled for a future member meeting. Tom Sanders will lecture on an archaeological dig of an old blacksmith shop that he did at Fort Snelling.
- Prog-com July meeting will be held at the ABANA conference in S.D. October meet may be at Jackson Street Roundhouse.
- Madness demonstrators will be Bob Patrick & Alison Finn (<http://www.freedommetalsllc.com>)
- Discussion of 'themes' for member meetings with demonstrations, i.e. favorite fixtures/jigs

Publicity Committee- Sigurdson, Vice Chair- Chris Rand

• The Bellows currently cannot be managed, we are unable to add or remove people any more. It must be merged into the new website in order to fix it. A survey was conducted to determine what type of format the members would like. Result- online bulletin board with different threads, searchable, achievable, and members can choose whether or not to be emailed upon each new post. Password for each member can be their renewal date as a reminder of paying dues.

- Craig Johnson has gone far beyond his contractual duties to build our website and will be asked to submit a cost for integrating the Bellows.
- Michele Brennan has volunteered to assemble a cookbook of favorite recipes from Guild members and have it published. Looking into cost from Cornerstone and a digital version can be done for free. Mary, Sheri and others have done this in the past and will be contacted regarding the cookbook.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Redesign of the oval GOM logo, options with 'the' were presented, and it was determined to be fine without 'the'

NEW BUSINESS:

- Review the grant request from Paul Widenhoefer, motion to deny request by Pansch, second by Ponder. Motion passes.
- Motion to hold the March 14th B.O.D. meeting at the Danish American Center by Murray, second by Ponder. Motion passes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Hicks has been compiling an invite list for the Yust annual volunteer appreciation party.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:25 pm, Motion by Barr, second Sigurdson, accepted without dissent.

Another TGoM member passes

Sad news of the passing of another Guild of Metalsmiths member reached The Bellows on Saturday, January 28, 2012. Dave Feterl (Barb) suffered a massive stroke on January 27 and passed away on January 28. The funeral is Saturday, February 4 at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Iroquois, South Dakota. We send Dave's widow, Barb, our sincerest condolences. Dave was a long-time TGoM member, past president, and taught many classes for the Guild.

If members wish to send cards, the address is:

20953 416th Ave
Iroquois, SD 57353

Below are some feelings put into words from TGoM members after they heard this shocking news.

Jim Moenic: "This is a very sad piece of news. Dave always, and I mean always took time to visit with MaryAnn and me when he came back for the Madness. Dave was one of my first teachers when I started blacksmithing. He did so much for the Guild, and will be missed by a lot of people."

Mike Blue: "Dave was a great fellow, even when I spread hot flux all over his white shorts at Tunnel Mill one year...he'll be missed."

Tom Barnett: "This is really sad and disturbing news."

Sue Brockman: "Just like the rest of you I find this very hard to believe, I will miss him."

Roger Degner: "I rang my anvil in his honor today."



Warming by the forge...

Hello again. The January Program Committee meeting was certainly lively. There seem to have been a few positive conversations about themed meetings since our last meeting. That drove several ideas to the front. Stainless steel and bronze forging were two big ones. Both of these have potential acute health concerns, so more research needs to be done before they get pushed much further.

There also seems a strong interest in having mini hammer-ins with demonstrators. A hammer-in at Nowthen is in the planning.

The planning for the Fall Conference is going ahead well. The Guild meeting for April is mostly set up, so there is probably info on that elsewhere here in the Forum.

Several people brought sweets, which always brightens up the meetings. Still trying to figure out where and what for the June meeting, but August will likely be the corn feed again (yea!!!).

I was a little late to the meeting so I missed when Cliff brought out his finished mini forge, but it was great to see it, after the meeting some of us went down to Myron's shop to see his latest piece he is working on, what looks to be a large ornamental bracket, but I didn't remember to ask exactly what it is.

— Derrick Phillips, Program Committee member

A Request from TGoM's Education Committee

The Education Committee is beginning to develop the 2012-2013 class schedule. For those of you that haven't been on the committee, deciding what classes the Guild membership presents is not an exact science. We usually either resort to having classes we find interesting, or we consult a Magic 8 Ball.

To help us better serve you I would ask that **if you have any requests for the subject of a class or workshop let me know**. If there is a skill you want to learn or a tool you would like some guidance making, there are probably enough other folks interested in it to make it a class. I can't guarantee we can make it happen, but we can't even consider it if we don't know what you want.

On the other hand, if there is a subject you feel passionate about and would like to teach a class on, please let me know that too. We can always use more instructors, especially ones that volunteer instead of being "voluntold." Ask Herb about how one volunteers someone else. Tom Sawyer has nothing on Herb....

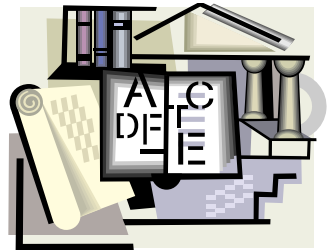
Finally, if any of you have the time and the desire to join the Education Committee, we can always use the help. You don't need to be the greatest of smiths or even worry about teaching yourself. If you have a desire to serve the Guild we'll find a job for you. We have some fun and there are certainly perks to the job.

The Education Committee is proud to consistently bring a robust, eclectic, and inexpensive selection of classes year after year. This is only possible due to the continued hard work of a small group of your fellow Guild members who plan, organize, and teach classes. As with any hard work, many hands make it easier. Please help when and where you can.

Martin Pansch

612-599-4762

blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com



Little Giant Rebuilding Seminar March 16-18 in Nebraska City, NE

Hello from Sid and Keri at Little Giant! Please join us March 16-18, 2012 for our annual Little Giant Rebuilding Seminar!

This 2 ½ day class is a hands-on format. You will help transform a 25 LB Little Giant hammer from functional but sloppy condition into a well tuned, quiet, hard working hammer. Sid Suedmeier, owner of Little Giant, will share all his knowledge and experience gained from working with Fred and from 20+ years of repairing and rebuilding Little Giants.

An old style 25 LB Little Giant will be rebuilt during the class, and a new style machine will be on hand to demonstrate proper assembly and adjustment of both styles.

The class is held in our shop in historical Nebraska City, Nebraska. The city has a wide variety of cafes, outlets (including Pendleton Woolen Mills), antique and gift shops, orchards, wineries and museums.

The class costs \$95, refundable up to 7 days prior to the class; advance registration is required. We limit the class to 25 participants. The class starts at 9 AM sharp on **Friday**, and usually ends by Saturday evening. The schedule runs Sunday until noon in case we encounter any exceptional problems in rebuilding, and to answer remaining questions. To register, contact us at 402-873-6603 or email lgiant@windstream.net. Our address is 420 4th, Corso, NE 68410. Please call or email if you have any questions, or prefer to register by phone.

News from Tunnel Mill

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

Contact for class registration:

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

Email: jc-adams@msn.com;

Website: www.tunnelmillcrafts.com



2012 Classes...

Tinsmithing, Kitty Latane', April 21 and April 22, 2012 (two one-day classes)

Come to Tunnel Mill and learn a century-old craft, Tinsmithing with Kitty Latane' from Pepin, Wisc. Design and make your one of a kind tin cookie cutter and other simple tin projects, including flour scoops and candle scones. In this one day workshop you'll learn traditional techniques for cutting, shaping, and soldering tin plate. \$65.00 per day plus \$15.00 material cost. Limit of 10 students. Class 9am to 5pm. Bring sack lunch.

Seventeenth Century Battle Axe or Hewing Hatchet, Tom Latane', April 20, 21, and 22, 2012

Students will forge an axe with a tapered rectangular eye socket. This shapely early form is made up of three pieces rather than the two used to produce an axe with a simple wrapped eye.

Parts will be forged to shape from 1/4" and 1/2" thick mild steel, forge welded together and further forged to refine. A high carbon steel bit will be welded between layers of low carbon steel, shaped, hardened and tempered. Students wishing to create a hewing hatchet may leave the blade thicker and less broad with the high carbon steel welded to one side rather than in the center of the edge. The low carbon body of the axe will remain soft enough that it can be decorated cold with punches (at home if there is not time in class) as the early ones were.



Crucifix Making Workshop, Bob Fredell, June 2 & 3, 2012

A number of years ago Bob saw Bernard Heer, a former Guild of Metalsmiths member who apprenticed in Switzerland, forge a crucifix. Having now made several himself, Bob now wants to share with others the making of a crucifix using this specific process. The 18 inch tall crucifix is made with one continuous piece of steel from the crown of thorns down to the base of the cross and up to the three tips of the cross. The participants need to have basic forging skills because the demonstrations will use modeling clay, not hot forged steel. Short demonstrations with modeling clay allows more time for the participants to work on the project.

The workshop is taught by Bob Fredell, a hobbyist blacksmith since 1981. Bob is a past president of The Guild of Metalsmiths during which time he emphasized blacksmithing education and established the Education Committee. Bob along with Pete Stanaitis established the present day Basic Blacksmithing Workshop, the Instructors' Workshop and wrote the Blacksmith Study Guide. You usually see him at Guild of Metalsmiths events with his lovely bride, Mary.



Cage head brace, Peter Ross, June 4, 5 and 6, 2012

Scissors project, Peter Ross, June 8, 9, and 10.

Peter is the legendary master metalsmith who spent 21 years as "master of the shop" at Colonial Williamsburg. Watch for details of his upcoming classes coming soon.

NOTE: We have had quite of alot of interest in Tom Latane' and Peter Rosses' classes. Be sure to contact us and register if interested in a class, to secure your spot.

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

Goings on...



A calendar of TGoM events at a glance

- All Education Committee meetings are the first Monday of each month.
- All Program Committee meetings are the third Thursday of each month.
- All membership meetings are the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, and October, except December for the holiday gathering. For most meetings a potluck meal begins at 6:30 pm and the business meeting begins at 7, with a demonstration or activity starting around 8 (times approximate).
- All board meetings are the second Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November. Potluck meal begins at 6:30, with meeting starting at 7 pm.

Events in February, 2012

- Feb. 8, Guild membership meeting at Oxygen Service Company, 1111 Pierce Butler Route, St. Paul, MN 55104
- Feb. 11, Beginning Blacksmithing C1 class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Feb. 25, Beginning Blacksmithing C2 class, MN School of Horseshoeing

Events in March, 2012

- March 10, Beginning Blacksmithing C3 class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- March 14, Guild board meeting
- March 17, Struck Tools Workshop, MN School of Horseshoeing - Class is full.
- March 24, Beginning Blacksmithing C4 class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- March 31, Forging a Beaver Trap class, part one, MN School of Horseshoeing

Events in April, 2012

- April 11, Guild membership meeting at Oakeshott Institute in Minneapolis, MN.
- April 28, Forging a Beaver Trap class, part two. MN School of Horseshoeing
- April 28 & 29, Northern MN Metalsmiths conference at LIRPF Steam Show grounds 27 miles north of Park Rapids

ELECTRONIC FORUM

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

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

Join The Guild of Metalsmiths

Send \$30 dues to the address below. Please circle if you want to be listed in our membership directory and/or check items you don't want listed.

The Guild of Metalsmiths
PO Box 11423
St. Paul MN 55111

List Me
in the directory
but don't list
address - phones: home - work - fax - cell - email - web page
(circle items above you DO NOT want published)

Don't List Me
in the Directory

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Company Name: _____

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

Cell: _____

Email address _____ Web page: _____



Address Service Requested

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

February 2012

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Join The Bellows, our email discussion forum. Information at:
<http://www.metalsmith.org/bb/TheBellows.htm>

The Guild of Metalsmiths, St. Paul, MN, publishes The GoM Forum monthly. It is intended as a tool to further our educational mission, to keep members up to date on current happenings, to publicize projects and workshops, a place for all members to express their opinions, concerns, learn more about each other—in short, to help us run our organization.

The Guild of Metalsmiths on the web:

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

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

Guild educational grants

There is grant money available for Guild members to study intermediate and advanced metalworking techniques.

The Guild educational grant program is designed to bring new skills into the metalworking community. Participants are given money to pay for a portion of their expenses and are expected to learn some new or poorly understood skill, and then to share what they have learned with other members and the public through an article in our quarterly magazine, “The Metalsmith.” They’re also expected to lead a workshop on the topic (or other educational service approved by the board).

Application forms are available from the president or treasurer at a regular meeting, or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

The Guild of Metalsmiths
PO Box 11423
St. Paul MN 55111