

'The Forum'



January 2025

Vol. 27 No. 1

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

Wednesday, February 12, 2025, TGoM Membership Meeting

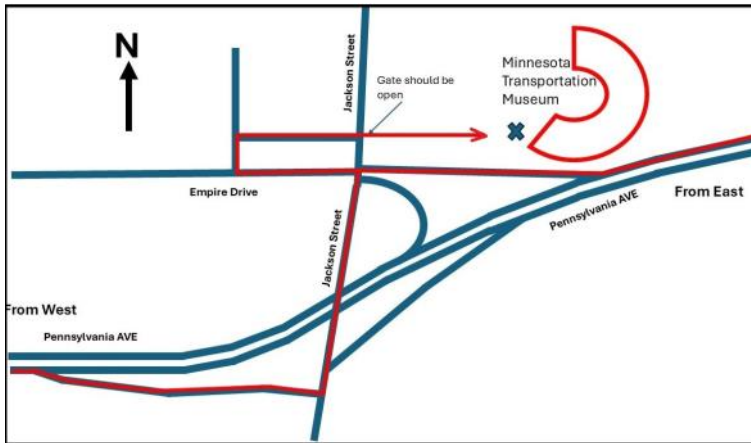
On Wednesday, February 12, 2025, the bi-monthly membership meeting will be held at the Minnesota Transportation Museum aka: Jackson Street Roundhouse, 193 W. Pennsylvania Ave, St. Paul, MN 55130. The potluck will start at 6:30 PM followed by a short business meeting, show-n-tell and a Martin Pansch demonstration in the blacksmith shop.

We invite all the members to bring items for show and tell. Please remember, items that you have shown in the past may not have been seen by new members.

If you have never been to this location, it is a historical train museum. Invite someone new who is interested in the world of metalsmithing to the meeting and introduce them to the wonderful community The Guild of Metalsmiths has to offer.

The champion is Kim Maas tgomvolunteer@gmail.com, and Gordon Barr agbarr@metalsmith.org is the site contact. You may contact either one of them if you have any questions.

Map to MN Transportation Museum



Thank you, Larry!

The Guild of Metalsmiths heartily thanks Larry Wasmund for his six years served as president of the Board of Directors!

We appreciate your service, Larry! Best wishes as you continue as an active member!

2025 TGoM Officers, Board member updates

Below is an update on the 2025 officers and board of directors. Election was held during the Membership Meeting on Sunday, December 8, 2024.

Officers:

- President: Martin Masters
- Vice-President: Cathy Herman
- Treasurer: Taya Gavin
- Recorder: Lee Meillier

Board of Directors:

- Derrick Phillips
- Jesse Gavin
- Richard Zielike
- Gordon Barr
- Kim Maas
- Mark Lockwood

Committees:

Programs: Derrick Phillips and Mark Lockwood, co-chairs

Education: Kim Maas and Laurel Larkin, Co-Chairs

Long-Term Planning: Cathy Herman

Membership: Gordon Barr
Volunteer Coordination: Kim Maas, Chair

Communication Committee: Peter Bettenberg and Kim Maas, Co-Chairs

Congrats to recipients of Juaire/Hubler Award and President's Award for 2024



TGoM President Larry Wasmund presents Rick Wessling with the 2024 Juaire/Hubler award



TGoM President Larry Wasmund presents John McDonald with the 2024 President's Award.

The Juaire-Hubler Award is TGoM's traditional way of recognizing an individual who has consistently lived up to high standards and helped TGoM to grow by sharing and giving of himself.

As an ongoing tradition, the previous year's recipient creates the hammer that appears on the current plaque. Last year Bob Brown received this award, so this year the hammer has a handle made from "leopard hardwood" an exotic piece given to him by his father.

The President's Award is occasionally given to a member who helps further the goals of TGoM with their outstanding support.

"Not all great works are wrought in iron."

QUICKNEWS

Class: Box Jaw Tongs

January 25, 2025. Register page 2.

Class: Zombie Killer / Chopping Knife

March 1 and 2. Register page 2.

Upcoming: Beginning Blacksmithing Classes

March 8, 15, and 22, 2025.

Register page 3.

Board Meeting Minutes Nov. 2024

Page 3

Volunteer Opportunities

Are you a smith looking for volunteer opportunities and not sure whom to talk to? Contact: Kim Maas, Volunteer Coordinator at: tgomvolunteer@gmail.com or call 651-328-7219.

Happy New Year!

'Metalsmith' is now on our website!

The first issues of "Metalsmith," from April 1977, to

December 2023, are now archived and available on The Guild of Metalsmiths website.

<https://www.metalsmith.org/publications/the-metalsmith/metalsmith-archive>.

This was a huge project that took a team to complete.

- Thank you, Martin Pansch, for finding and scanning the early years.
- Thank you, Peter Bettenberg, for helping collect the most current issues.
- Thank you, Myron Hanson, for allowing me to raid your collection of issues needed to complete the collection.
- Thank you, Craig Snyder, for uploading the collection to the website.

— Kim Maas, Communications Committee Co-Chair

Box Jaw Tongs Class 2025

Date & time: Saturday, January 25, 2025, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Cost: \$65

Class Size: Max 8, Min 4

Instructors: Dave Gavin & Jesse Gavin

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing ([new map page 7](#))

Class Description: This class will have you making tongs that will hold onto ¼" X 1" flat bar stock. This class is for beginners that have gone through and have had some additional practice beyond the basics class. You will finish drawing out the reins and forging the boss to shape and matching the two different jaws to hold the stock.

Tools and Equipment or other items participants are to bring to the class: Favorite hammer for forging and peening rivets, tongs to hold 3/4"x 3/4", 1/4" x 3/4", plus other tools as you see fit – i.e. grinder, files, etc.

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: local restaurants or bring your own.

To register online: [click here to our website Education page](#)

To register with a check: Contact class manager Jesse Gavin at 1-715-808-5891 or jagavin6273@hotmail.com for instructions.

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

Updated Directions to MN School of Horseshoeing:

Take US10 towards Elk River. Past the exits for Main St, Anoka and Thurston Ave there is a new stop light that comes up quickly, so be watching. Google and Apple don't have this intersection yet. Turn left and follow the frontage road to Tungsten St. Then turn right on Riverdale Drive.



Zombie Killer / Chopping Knife 2-Day Class

Date and Time: March 1-2, 2025 from 9:00-5:00

Cost: \$150 per student. This covers metal, coal, handle material and some abrasives.

Instructor: Paul Widenhoefer

Class size: Minimum of 4 students. Maximum of 8 students (More if there are parent/child participants) Minimum age 14. Must be accompanied by an adult.

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing—Map page 7

Class Manager: Paul Widenhoefer, Email: pwidenhoefer@gmail.com, (612) 408-5007 (cell)

Class Description: Zombie Killer/Chopping Knife Class

Do you fear the zombie apocalypse? Do thoughts of a worldwide economic collapse and pandemics send you scurrying for your bug-out bag? Or perhaps you just want a good chopping knife capable of doing some hard work? If so, we are offering a knife making class for you! It is designed for someone with little forging experience, but can accommodate those with a more advanced skill set.

We will be covering basic knife forging, knife design, heat treatment, grinding, sharpening and attaching handles. Participants should leave with a finished (or nearly finished) primitive style knife ready for rough use. Due to time and facility limitations this is NOT a class to make a kitchen knife.

Tools and Equipment or other items participants are to bring to the class: Forging hammer, tongs to hold tapered flat stock.

Safety Equipment: the usual for working at a coal forge: clothes of natural fiber, no cuffs or frayed edges, non-synthetic boots or shoes. Eye and ear protection are mandatory. In addition, grinders, torches, and hot quenches will be used so keep long hair and shirt tails contained.

Lunch Arrangements: bring a lunch or eat at a local establishment.

To register online: [click here to our website Education page](#)

To register with a check: Contact Paul Widenhoefer Email: pwidenhoefer@gmail.com Phone: (612) 408-500 for instructions.

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 Classes

Dates: The classes are held on the following Saturdays of 2025: **March 8, 15, and 22.**

Location: Minnesota School of Horseshoeing, 6250 Riverdale Dr NW, Ramsey MN 55303, just off Hwy 10 near the Anoka Vocational College (see new map below).

Class Description: 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, Heat Treat, Scrolling, Bending, Forge weld. The beginners basic classes are designed to give everyone the same understanding of the basics, techniques and terminology.

The basic classes or proficiency is 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.

Class Size: 8

Cost: \$190 for NON members, \$180 for Guild members (covers everything you need: the facility, coal, metal tools and workbook)

Minors (under 18) must have a parent present. There will be no sharing of forges.

Instructor: Larry Wasmund Phone number: 507-469-0205

email address: poundedtreasures@gmail.com

Class Manager: Kim Maas at tgomvolunteer@gmail.com or call 651-328-7219

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.

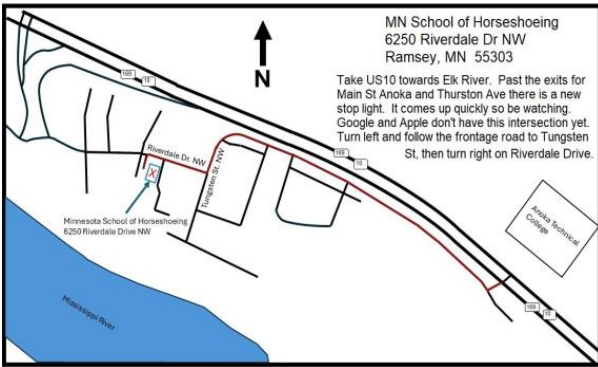
Typical day: Classes start at 9 but people usually show up earlier to swap stories or show off recent projects. Feel free to bring projects you are working on to show. We break for lunch.

Lunch: You can either bring a brown bag or go out to a local fast food restaurant. Classes end between 3 and 5.

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, Phone number: 651-328-7219, email address: tgomvolunteer@gmail.com



Scammer Alert!

It is being reported that members of the Guild are getting text messages and email from scammers using other Guild members' emails and/or contacting members via text messages from phone numbers not belonging to members they are claiming to be.

No one in the Guild will ever email or text message you to pick up gift cards, send money/ money orders for some sort of emergency, or any other way into your wallet.

Do Not Open any attachments from anyone you don't know...ever!

THE GUILD OF METALSMITHS, Board of Directors Minutes, November 13, 2024

Held At: Zoom. Call to Order: 7:07 by Larry Wasmund

Members in attendance: G. Barr, J. Gavin, T. Gavin, M. Lockwood, R. Zielike, D. Phillips, P. Widenhoefer, L. Wasmund, K. Maas

Missing: B. Stephens

Approval of minutes of last meeting: Motion by Derrick Phillips, 2nd by Kim Maas

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer Report: Taya Gavin

Checking-2,969.00 Savings-54,000.00 Neon Balance-2,079.00

All fairly consistent We made some money from the conference

Membership Services Committee: Gordon Barr.

There was a question about if our scholarship documents should be online and open the public, but no specific resolution was reached. The Guild's membership dues of \$300 were paid to the MTM.

Education Committee: Marty Masters

Program Committee: Derrick Phillips

2024 is finishing out, February and April meetings are not yet planned, waiting to hear about a couple of venues.

Communications Committee: Kim Maas

Discord has consistent use. We made a small amount from clothing sales with the online store.

Old Business:

We also continued the discussion of what we will do with Marcia McEachron's donation of the animal heads that Paul Hubler forged for the making of "Iron Menagerie". We were not to alter the pieces in any way, but it was agreed to with her to display them at the MTM

Also discussed the changes in the Board coming up, as Larry W. and Paul W. are stepping down

ADJOURNMENT: Not recorded

Respectfully submitted by Derrick Phillips

Paul Hubler Animal Heads Location

The animal heads used in *Iron Menagerie* are now on display at the Minnesota Transportation Museum, aka: The Jackson Street Roundhouse.

The display will also be shown annually at the “Madness”, The Guild of Metalsmiths’ fall conference.

The tooling that was used to make these animal heads would be a nice addition to this display. If anyone has any information on the location of the tooling, please contact someone on the board of directors.



New 'Iron Menagerie' book

The new version of The Guild's IRON MENAGERIE workbook is available to purchase.!

Cost \$20 (+\$10 S/H if mailed).

What a wonderful gift for your favorite blacksmith!

Contact person: Peter Bettenberg
tgomeditor@gmail.com



TGoM now has a 'Discord Account'

What is Discord? 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"

Invitations went out in October 2023 to all our members by email. If you did not get an invitation and want Discord, please contact Kim Maas by email at tgom.volunteer@gmail.com and you will be sent an invitation by email.

TGoM Membership Perks

Discounts

Learn about the companies that are giving The Guild of Metalsmiths discounts. 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 information regarding discounts and products available:
<https://www.metalsmith.org/about/friends-of-the-guild/>



Tunnell Mill Events—2025

GOTHIC DOOR CLASS, June 25 to 29, 2025

Tom Latané and Paul Nyborg

Tom will teach the metal portion on the first 2 days, June 25-26, and Paul will teach the wood portion on June 27-28th. Both Tom and Paul will be available to address any issues and work with students on the 29th. Cost of class is \$700.00 including room and board.

Quilt Retreat in the Country with Carol Adams, April 25, 26 & 27, 2025

Starting at 4:00pm Friday - Sunday afternoon. All meals furnished.

**Directions to Tunnell Mill
28036 Cty Road 1
Spring Valley, Minnesota 55975**

Tunnel Mill is located 20 miles south of Rochester Minnesota. Take Hwy 63 South out of Rochester to Stewartville, turn east on Hwy 30 to County Highway 1 (approx 5.5 miles). Turn south on County Highway 1. Follow CO HWY 1 6.5 miles to Tunnel Mill on the left side of CO RD. Call about camping on the grounds. 507-378-4983 or 507-289-4189, Carol Adams. Lodging available in Spring Valley, 5 miles further south on CO RD 1.

Shady Rest 507-346-2625---Spring Valley Motel & Suites-507-346-7788



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

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 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 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%.

Garelick Steel Company

Minneapolis, MN 612-521-8857 888-521-8857
www.garelicksteel.com
10% discount for members

Mississippi Welders Supply

Seven locations between MN & WI. 800-657-4422
www.mwsco.com
See website or phone book for locations. 15% discount on gases and most in-store items that are not already marked as a sale item or already at a discount from MSRP for members.

Toll Gas and Welding Supply

Eight Twin City metro locations. 763-551-5300
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 800-774-1336
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 651-291-8662
<http://divisionv.com/>
Architectural sheet metal company: zinc, steel, copper, Cor-Ten, aluminum, composite

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: Larry Wasmund poundedtreasures@gmail.com
612-599-4762

Vice-President: Paul Widenhoefer pwidenhoefer@gmail.com
952-930-0070

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
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
218-428-7906
Dave Hanson, VP, 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. 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 email: 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 jc-adams@msn.com,
<http://www.tunnelmillcrafts.com/>

Sandy Lake Forge on Raspberry Island

Blacksmith shop offering classes, workshops and more. See raspberrylakefolkschool.blogspot.com for details or call: 218-851-6085
Gary and Janet Hill
Raspberry Island
50569 218th Place
McGregor, MN 55760

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 Martin Masters, mastersmw@yahoo.com
- Program Comm. meetings are 7 pm the third Thursday monthly. Derrick Phillips, co-chair DerrickPhillipsA3o3@gmail.com
- Most board meetings are the second Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November via ZOOM.

January 2025

- Jan. 4, Beginning Blacksmithing Class C1, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Jan. 11, Beginning Blacksmithing Class C2, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Jan. 18, Beginning Blacksmithing Class C3, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Jan. 25, Box Jaw Tongs Class, MN School of Horseshoeing

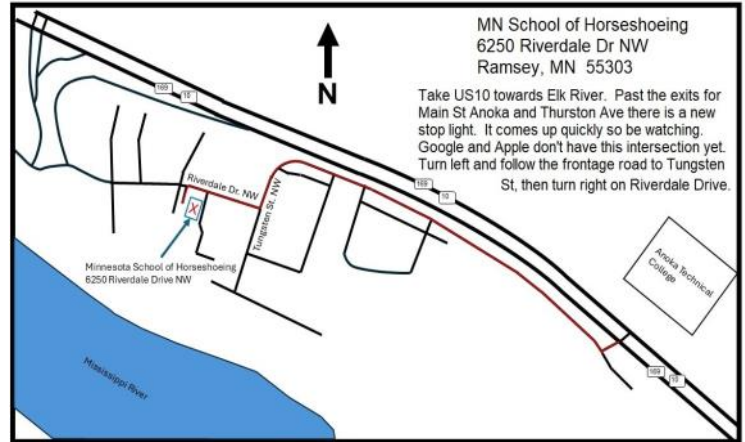
February 2025

- Feb. 12, Guild Membership Meeting, MN Transportation Museum/
Jackson Street Roundhouse

March 2025

- March 1 & 2, 2025, Zombie Killer / Chopping Knife 2-Day Class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- March 8, 15, & 22, 2025, Beginning Blacksmithing Classes, MN School of Horseshoeing

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
PO Box 72
Hudson, WI 54016

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@aol.com.



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.

January 2025



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 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

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
PO Box 72
Hudson, WI 54016