



Michigan Silversmiths Guild

Fall 2010 Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear MSG Members:

Welcome to the 2010-2011 membership cycle! Right off the bat, I want to get to some important congratulations and thank yous.

Thanks to all our returning Board members and to our three new ones! At the All Membership Meeting this last September Alan Ardizzone, Danielle Blanchard and Dan Neville were elected to the Board. Congratulations! Big thanks to Masako Onodera for presenting such a great and insightful lecture, and to all our members who made it out to hear the lecture and participate in our annual meeting, vote and tool swap. Thank you sponsors: Armstrong Tool and Supply, CR Hill, Au Enterprises and G&S Metals for renewing your support of our community this year. Finally, I would like to thank all you for renewing your membership and the many people who have joined our Guild for the first time, Thanks!

So far, this year is off to a great start; I already mentioned our fabulous All Membership Meeting, time to move on to our first workshop. November 13th, Nikki Dechent taught a really informative one day class on pearl stringing. For those of you who don't know, Nikki has been knotting pearls professionally for many years in the Michigan community. Participants were provided with all the materials, snacks and knotting information one could handle in an afternoon.

By now you should have received the call for entry

for "Jewelry + Objects" 2011, which is MSG's biannual exhibition. This year's event will be held at the Alden B. Dow Museum of Science And Art of the Midland Center for the Arts, MCFTA. Marilyn da Silva is this year's juror, Marilyn is the Professor and Program Chair of the Jewelry and Metal Arts Department at the California College of the Arts in Oakland, CA and has been a member of the Michigan metalsmithing community for a long time. In addition to the exhibition, a catalog will be printed. Call for entry deadline is March 1st, 2011. Over the next few weeks I would like to put together a list of photographers who have experience with documenting metal and jewelry work. If you know of anyone, please do share your source with me.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- President's Letter..... page 1
- New Membership.....page 2
- Recent Accomplishments by
MSG Members.....page 3
- Classes at Armstrong Tool.....page 4
- Upcoming Events..... page 5
- Article: Metal Tempers..... page 5
- Ads..... pages 4,6
- Call for Entry deadlines.....page 6
- Article:Thompson Enamels.....page 7
- Workshop & Holiday Party flyer.. page 8,9

In addition to the "Jewelry + Objects" Exhibition, MSG will be hosting "Metals 2011" at the Gifts of Art Gallery which is part of the University of Michigan's Health

www.misilversmith.org

continued from page 1

System. The exhibition will feature work from the talented students of Bowling Green State University, Eastern Michigan, and College for Creative Studies. The exhibition will be held February 14th through April 11th. This event will start MSG's experiment with online exhibitions, so stay tuned. By the time the next newsletter rolls around, I will have a link to the exhibition.

Finally, I would like to mention MSG is getting ready to party! That's right, the MSG Annual Holiday Party is right around the corner! This year it is scheduled for Friday, January 14th. We will start the afternoon with a tour of G&S Metals followed by refreshments, snacks, and white elephant gifts in the Ann Arbor area. Please see the flyer on page 8 for additional details.

Thanks for your time and as always, if you have any ideas or concerns feel free to contact me at christine@misilversmith.org.

Sincerely,

Christine Bossler
MSG President



New Membership

Please welcome the following new MSG members:

KRISTINE HADDOX
SHEILA GADDIE
SHOKO KOZU
CHRISTINE KRAUSE
JULIE STOWE
CURTIS STOWE
KATHLEEN BISBEE
CLAUDIA BAY
PAT ALZADY
NEDRA DEGRAFFENREID
TRACEY SNOW
JANICE DEGEN
STEVE SOLOMON
DYLAN SOLOMON

NEW LIFE TIME MEMBER:
GORGEANN GALANTE

For information on joining or renewing your membership, please visit our web site: www.misilversmith.org

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY MSG MEMBERS:

KATHY PETERSEN AND SUSAN MATYCH-HAGER have received notice that their most recent ISGB Convergence II exhibition piece, **Queen of the Faeries**, will be included in exhibitions at the **Kobe (Japan) Lampwork Glass Museum** and at the **Bead Art Show in Yokohama, Japan: April - May, 2011**. The piece was designed and constructed by Kathy, using lampwork beads made by Susan. Also, their chainmaille bracelet has been chosen to be included in Kalmbach Publishing's volume of Best Projects, Creative Beading, vol. 6.

Queen of the Faeries by Kathy Petersen and Susan Matych-Hager



JAMES VISTE is the new coordinator of the Endowment Scholarships jurying for **SNAG's Educational Endowment Scholarships**. Beginning in 2011, SNAG has increased the amounts of the scholarships to 3 tiers: \$2,000, \$1,500 and \$1,000. Undergraduate and graduate students are juried separately and at least one award goes to an undergraduate each year.

SUE SZABO was in **Topography in Metal** in Cleveland this fall and is sending work to **Materials Hard and Soft** and 2 pieces to the **MESA Contemporary Craft Show**. Both shows will be starting soon.

RENEE ZETTLE-STERLING recently held a solo exhibition titled "**Objects of Mourning**" at the Gallery at Penn College, State University. The catalog can be viewed and/or purchased through: <http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/1745756>.

Tis the season to Shop Local

While you are making a list and checking it twice;
Looking for gifts for those who've been naughty and nice;
Please remember this - don't make me tell you twice;
Hand crafted art has come to your town.

We've been working while you are sleeping
We've been working when you're awake
We know you need to go shopping

So be good and come out and take a look for goodness sake!

see
detailed list
on our web
site!!



If this is not enough motivation then perhaps a list of places that are supporting the local art scene this holiday season will provide the final nudge to get out there.

CLASSES AT ARMSTRONG TOOL & SUPPLY

31541 W. Eight Mile Rd. , Livonia, MI 48152
(248) 474-1600 www.armstrongtool.com

December 4, 10am - 1pm. **Friendship Knot Bracelet** with Mary Kernahan

December 8, 6-8:30pm. **Loopy Wraps** with Mary Kernahan

December 13, 5-8pm. **Spinner Rings** with Lesley DiPiazza

December 14, 6-9pm. **Funky Band Ring** with Jason Burton

December 15, 5-8pm. **Last Minute Bezel Set Gifts** with Lesley DiPiazza

For January and February classes, please see the website.

STOP LOOKING FOR THE BEST.

The best is here.

We have over 50 years of service providing the artisan and craftsman with the very best in precision tools, supplies and hard-to-find equipment.

We have the largest inventory in the Midwest. So come to CRHill when you want the very best...or even less then best. It's here.

2734 W Eleven Mile Rd.
Berkley, Michigan, USA 48072
(248) 543-1555
(800) 521-1221 (Out of Michigan)

CRHILL
COMPANY

www.crhill.com



Precious Metals Refiner,
Manufacturer, Distributor
800.852.3860
gs@gsgold.com



In order to service our customers, we have made several *changes* to our procedures at G&S Inc. that we would like *you* to know about!

- *No minimums
- *Orders can be shipped or picked up
- *No price restrictions
- *Orders maybe placed 24/7 on our web site
- *Individuals may register at www.gsgold.com
- *Competitive pricing

Price Breaks for all
MSG members!

New!
www.gsmetals.blogspot.com

Phone: 1-800-852-3860, 1-734-662-9344.
Fax: 734-662-6881 e-mail: gs@gsgold.com



New from the blog of G & S Metals - <http://gsmetals.blogspot.com/> - Tues., Sept. 28, 2010

METAL TEMPER

Temper, or hardness, is commonly described in 3 ways:

Dead Soft - Dead Soft is extremely malleable (easy to bend/reshape) but does not hold its shape well and does not make a pretty right angle bend. It is good for knitting or weaving wire and it does become harder as you work with it.

Half Hard - Half hard is also malleable but it holds its shape better than dead soft. It can be easily used for sturdy connections with reasonable reliability in holding some tension.

Half hard wire also makes and holds sharp bends!

Hard or Full Hard - Full hard is of course the least of the malleable choices, but, it holds its shape very well and is the best choice for making clasps.

As you work with any of these tempers, they become harder. This is called work hardening. Hammering your finished design will also harden the wire. Heating the wire (called annealing) will soften the wire again if it gets too work hardened. These techniques (hammering and heating) are beyond the scope of this article.

<http://ezinearticles.com/?The-Basics-About-Sterling-Silver-Wire-For-Making-Jewelry&id=4887759>



UPCOMING EVENTS IN OUR AREA:

(check out our website for more info)

RUTH TAUBMAN FALL COLLECTION:

December 2-4, 2010, Ann Arbor, MI

HERALDING THE HOLIDAYS: December 3-5, 2010 at the Toledo Botanical Garden.

HOLIDAY ARTISTS MARKET: December 3-4, 2010 at the Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, Grand Rapids.

PRECIOUS WINE AND METALS: December 5, 2010, Fritz & Friends.

ANGELINA ITALIAN BISTRO HOLIDAY TRUNK SHOW: December 9, 2010, 5-11pm. (featuring work by Ercia Bartels and Christine Bossler)

IVY WOODROSE HOLIDAY HOME SHOW: December 10-11, 2010, 13760 Sherrwood, Oak Park, MI.

ART ON ADARE. IDELLE HAMMOND-SASS HOME SHOW: December 11, 2010, 1510 Kearney Rd., Ann Arbor, MI

SAND CASTING WORK SHOP (2 days): December 11 - 12, 2010 at Fritz & Friends.

IRON AND STEEL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE 2011: March 7-9, 2011, Lansing Community College, Lansing, MI.

2011 SNAG CONFERENCE "FLUX": May 26-29, 2011, Seattle, WA.

MSG JEWELRY + OBJECTS EXHIBITION: July 13 - Sept. 25, 2011 at the Midland Center for the Arts.

CALL FOR ENTRY DEADLINES

(links to applications are available on our web-site - <http://misilversmith.org>)

REVERE ACADEMY: New Student Scholarship. Deadline: March 1, 2011.

2011 AMERICAN JEWELRY DESIGN COUNCIL NEW TALENT CONTEST. Deadline: January 14, 2011.

FRESH: METALSMITH EXHIBITION IN PRINT 2011. Deadline: Dec.10, 2010.

ANN ARBOR'S SOUTH UNIVERSITY ART FAIR. Deadline: January 16, 2011.

HARMONY JEWELRY DESIGN COMPETITION: a new competition for production jewelry. Deadline: January 15, 2011.

STATE OF FLUX: SNAG Annual Juried Student Exhibition. Deadline: February 1, 2011.

HUMOR IN CRAFT: Call for images for a book scheduled to be on the market in 2012. Deadline: Rolling, the sooner you send in your entry, the greater your chances.



WELCOME BACK TO FORMER SPONSOR

ARMSTRONG TOOL & SUPPLY COMPANY

*located at : 31541 West Eight Mile Rd.
Livonia, MI 48152*

Phone: (800) 446-9694

Check out their web site for available products and classes offered: armstrongtool.com

**FAST,
RELIABLE
SERVICE
IS WORTH
ITS WEIGHT
IN GOLD**

YOUR CUSTOMERS EXPECT BEAUTIFUL WORK DELIVERED QUICKLY, AND AU ENTERPRISES MAKES IT EASY TO PLEASE THEM.

WE CAST FIVE DAYS A WEEK TO ENSURE 24-HOUR TURNAROUND FOR GOLD OR SILVER, 24-48 HOURS FOR PLATINUM. WE OFFER 36 DIFFERENT ALLOYS, INCLUDING ALL KARATS AND COLORS OF GOLD, SILVER AND PLATINUM. AND WE HAVE THE EXPERIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO PROVIDE OPTIMUM CASTING EVERY TIME.

*Call us today and mention this ad.
You'll receive*

\$20 OFF YOUR FIRST ORDER!

800-637-CAST

au
enterprises

PRECIOUS METAL CASTERS

Awesome Experience at Thompson Enamels

by Steve Tracy

I have used Thompson Enamels in my artwork for years. I have made many trips to Kentucky over the years to visit family, always meaning to stop by Thompson Enamels. Recently I had an opportunity to make that short detour off of I75, in Northern Kentucky, to Bellevue only a few miles south of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Hidden in an industrial complex on the west side of Bellevue, is a cluster of gray, barely marked buildings. This is Thompson Enamels? Yes it is! Lets face it, we all enjoy going to CR Hill or Armstrong tools, maybe we will find something we just can't live without.

I walked into what seemed like the Main office entrance; I was met by Bill Helwig, "Facility Director". I asked to see their showroom. He led me to a small dusty room; the walls were lined with a variety of copper forms for enameling, one glass counter was heaped with tablets containing samples of all of their enamels on copper plates. I ordered some clear enamel and a copper form to practice on. Once I paid for my order, Bill asked if I wanted a tour of their facility and museum. Of course, I said yes.

Bill led me into the heart of the enamel manufacturing area. Bill explained and showed me every aspect of the enamel producing process. He started the tour by showing me the materials of silica sand, sulfates and oxides. Then we moved on to the various melting furnaces, the batch mixing areas, the grinding areas, and the sampling and packaging areas. Finally, I was shown how frit and cake are made. Once we were thru with the production side, it was on to the museum and ample instruction studio. The museum is still under construction. There is quite a variety of enameling examples in their museum collection, from small boxes of the Victorian era, to wall mounted modern art. Anything an enamelist may want to see, from plates, to portraits, to vases are represented here. I was particularly drawn to the Plique-a-Jour items they had on display. I even pulled up a chair and took them in for a period of time. Bill was even kind enough to tactfully critique a piece of my artwork "spot on". I was also given a brief instruction on how to properly sift enamel to get the proper granules for a desired effect.



In closing, I would suggest that given the opportunity, you should visit Thompson Enamels or any other place of wonder in the arts world; you could be blown away or otherwise inspired.

Michigan Silversmith's
Guild Presents the:

Annual Holiday
TOUR

**G&S
METALS**

Friday January 14th,

2011

2:30PM - 5PM

Registration is
required!!!

Refreshments will be
served.

G&S Metals has been in the precious metals business for over 50 years. We enjoy a reputation of integrity, quality products and friendly service at competitive prices. G&S continually strives to stay in stride with our dynamic customers and a fast-paced world.

To register for this fun filled afternoon
contact Erica Bartels @

ericiab@yahoo.com or 313-319-2777.

?

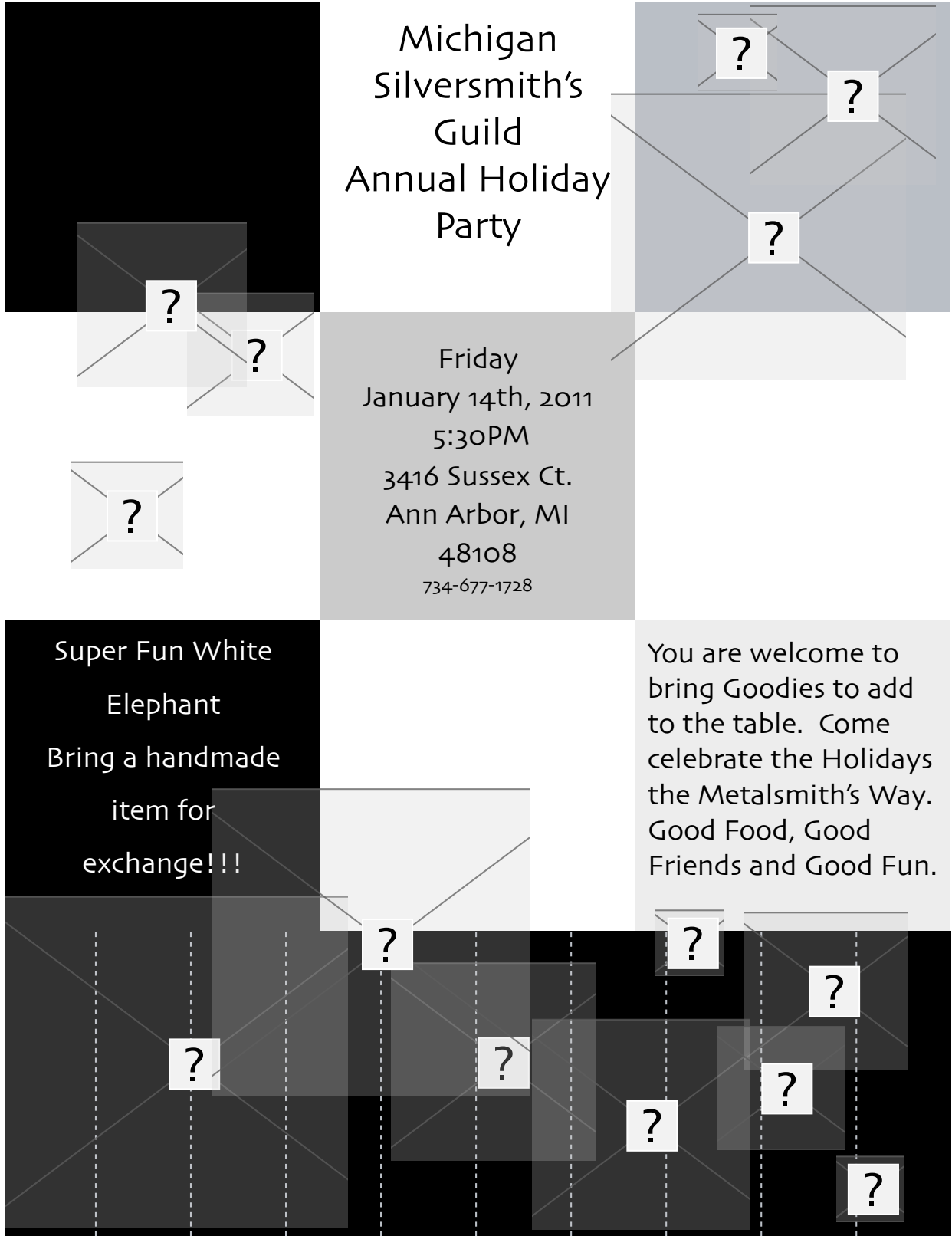
MSG holiday party:

Michigan
Silversmith's
Guild
Annual Holiday
Party

Friday
January 14th, 2011
5:30PM
3416 Sussex Ct.
Ann Arbor, MI
48108
734-677-1728

Super Fun White
Elephant
Bring a handmade
item for
exchange!!!

You are welcome to
bring Goodies to add
to the table. Come
celebrate the Holidays
the Metalsmith's Way.
Good Food, Good
Friends and Good Fun.



The Michigan Silversmiths Guild newsletter is published quarterly for members of the Guild. We would love to hear from you. Let us know what YOU would like to see in the newsletter -

Articles? About what?

Bench tips?

Interviews?

Book reviews?

Product reviews?

Please contact me with questions, comments or ideas!!

MSG Newsletter
3416 Sussex Ct.
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
-or-
jthomson3416@gmail.com

Officers

President - Christine Bossler
Vice President - Erica Bartels
Treasurer - Richard Locke
Secretary - Jennifer Thomson

Board Members at Large

Alan Ardizzone
Danielle Blanchard
Mary Kernahan
Tiffany Massey
Dan Neville
Steve Tracy

You can contact Board Members by going to the web site and clicking on the



Michigan Silversmiths Guild

3416 Sussex Ct.
Ann Arbor, MI 48108