



Michigan Silversmiths Guild

Winter 2010 Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear MSG Members,

I am pleased to report that progress on our 501c3 application is being made. Our revisions to the Articles of Incorporation have been accepted by the State of Michigan and our Employer Identification Number (EIN) application has been completed and accepted. The final steps for completing the actual 501c3 status are well underway. Hopefully by our annual meeting in September I will have a determination letter from the IRS to share with you.

In the mean time, the Board has been busy planning the rest of this year's events and looking forward to the following year as well.

This spring we hope to host several workshops. Please see Erica Bartels' letter on page 6 to see how you can help the Board choose what kind of workshops would most benefit our members.

By now you should have received an application for participating in our booth at the **Ann Arbor South University Art Fair**. This application is for selling work all four days of the art fair. If you have

not received the application, it is available on our website at the top of the news column. If you are not familiar with this event, it is an opportunity for guild members to show and sell their work at the South University Art Fair. This event is juried and usually supports between 8 and 12 artists. This event has been designed as a springboard for metals artists to participate within the traditional art fair setting while being supported by fellow artists. This lowers the cost of participation, encourages networking with peers and promotes dialog about the business end of being an artist within a supportive setting. In the near future, we

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will be looking for demonstrators and volunteers for this event, so keep an eye out for our volunteer and demonstration form.

Just recently, our website has been updated to include a link to MSG's new Facebook page. This addition to our services will provide us with an additional way to stay connected. We just launched our "member of the week" program, which will feature one person each week who has added their images to our "membership gallery". For seven days we will feature one of the posted images along with a bit of text provided by the artist. In addition, the Facebook page will feature new events and call for entry deadlines, along with other events you may wish to include.

In closing, I just wanted to mention that I've been doing a bit of research as to what all of you are doing. The outcome of this research has been really positive. I am so impressed with the level of activity of our guild members. Cheers to all of us!

As always, if you have any ideas or concerns pertaining to the Guild, please feel free to contact me at: christine@misilversmith.org.

Sincerely,
Christine Bossler
Board President

New Membership

Please welcome the following new MSG members:

MARY ANN ARCHER
BECKY GOODRICH
HELEN FISCHER

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

UPCOMING EVENTS IN OUR AREA: (check out our website for more info)

Exhibition: Calder Jewelry at the Grand Rapids Art Museum, Jan 29- April 18, 2010.

Workshop: Mixed Metal Jewelry from Metal Clay with Hadar Jacobsen at Brighton Beads and More, Feb. 28 - Nov. 30, 2010.

Friday Nights at GRAM: March Conversation - Jewelry, at Grand Rapids Art Museum:
March 5: Design Party of the Century
March 12: Design Jewelry Mixer
March 19: Calder Jewelry Gallery Talk & Bistro
March 26: Panel Discussion, Jewelry

2010 SNAG Conference: Going to eXtremes, March 10-13, 2010 in Houston, TX.

Workshop: Precision Fabrication with Christopher Hentz, Kendall College of Art and Design, March 26-28, 2010.

Workshop: LASERcutting with Phil Renato, Kendall College of Art and Design, April 11.

Exhibition: Dichotomies in Objects, Contemporary South African Studio Jewelry from the Stellenbosch, Ohio Craft Museum in Columbus, Ohio, Sept, 12 - Oct. 31, 2010.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE OPPORTUNITIES:

Houston Center for Contemporary Craft's Artist Residency Program application deadline is March 15, 2010.

www.crafthouston.org

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY MSG MEMBERS:

Sue Szabo's ring SWAY was awarded second place in the ring category of the *2009 Jewelry Arts Awards* sponsored by Jewelry Artist Magazine.

Cheryl Brooks recently participated in *Those Who Teach ... Can: A Metro Detroit Educators Extravaganza* at the Sisson Art Gallery, in Dearborn.



Masako Onodera

Masako Onodera recently had a solo exhibition titled *The Way of the Flesh* at the International Museum of Surgical Science in Chicago.



Sue Szabo's ring

Tom Muir is currently exhibiting his *Watercourse Teapot* in the *Hot Tea: 12th Biennial Teapot Exhibition* at the Craft Alliance's Delmar Loop location in St. Louis, MO. The show is January 15-February 28, 2010. He also taught a workshop titled *Clasps & Catches: Creative Mechanisms* in association with the exhibition.

Tom Muir also recently curated the exhibition titled *eXtreme Tea* which is on view at Houston Center for Contemporary Craft from January 16-March 21, 2010.

Idelle Hammond Sass recently held a workshop titled *Creating intriguing Surfaces: Etching and Texturing*.

Ericia Bartels and **Christine Bossler** recently curated an exhibition titled *Re/Thinking Design for Consumption* at the Scarab Club in Detroit. This exhibition included nationally recognized artists and MSG members **Cory Christensen**, **Jon Meyer**, **Kristine Bolhuis**, **Claas Kuhnen**, **Caroline Gore**, and **Phil Renato**. In association with this event, guild members **Cory Christensen** and **Alan Ardizzone** gave a demonstration on damascene and **Claas Kuhnen** gave a lecture on technologies in metalsmithing and his work.

Phil Renato recently had a solo exhibition titled *Flow / State* including work from his recent sabbatical, finished pieces and process studies at Kendall College of Art and Design.

MORE RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS: (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

Pam Thomford was recently interviewed for an article on found object works. It was published in the December 2009 issue of *Lapidary Journal/Jewelry Artist*.



Cory Christenson's tea infuser

Cory Christenson's Tea Infuser has been selected for an

exhibition titled *eXtreme Tea*, which is currently on view at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft from January 16 - March 21.



Pam Thomford's work

Caroline Gore will be exhibiting "*site: interventions, observations & simulations*" in conjunction with Fotofest 2010 and the Society of North American Goldsmith's 2010 Conference in the Mezzanine Gallery of the Lawndale Art Center, March 12 - April 17, 2010.

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Ericia Bartels recently participated in the *2010 DAM Design Show* at the Detroit Artist Market.

Christine Bossler is currently exhibiting in a solo exhibition titled *Repel-Allure-Adapt* at the Luke and Eloy Gallery in Pittsburgh. The exhibition runs through March 20th, 2010.

Karen (Buffy) Gallup will be exhibiting her sculpture and collage at the Lawrence Street Gallery in Ferndale, May 5-29, 2010 with the opening May 7 from 6 to 9 PM.

RECENT MSG EVENTS:

CASTING WORKSHOP

by Erica Bartels

Our recent informational workshop with **AU Enterprises** was really an eye opener. Linus Droogs and his staff were amazing. They not only gave us a first rate tour of their facility, but also demonstrated many of their wonderful technologies for us.

We began by filing into a conference room and catching up with old friends. Linus and Sydney joined us and gave a quick overview of our agenda.



From there we were all eyes and ears as we toured the 3D room with its Cad Cam design studio and the room where wax models come to life all by machine. All of the technology was somewhat overwhelming and foreign, so it was nice to see the room where molds and waxes are pulled which was the next stop on our tour.

From here we proceeded into the casting process itself. Mold rooms, furnaces and casting machines. All done with so much precision that it makes the sling arm seem archaic.

The final destination was familiar to most of us, a room full of benches, detail stations for the final cleanup. But if we had thought that all of this was cool, Linus had saved his new toy for last: The laser engraver. The light bulbs went off en masse as we were treated to the laser light show and metal was vaporized, leaving behind the most elegant of scripts. H-E-L-L-O.



Our greatest "Thanks" to AU Enterprises for their generosity.

HOLIDAY PARTY

The workshop was followed by our annual holiday party, held this year at Angelina's in Detroit. Great food, great company and a wonderful cake!!

Vice President's Letter: Workshops and Events

In September you elected me, **Ericia Bartels** as your Vice President. I currently have the responsibility of scheduling workshops and serving on the Board. First I would like to thank you for this opportunity and next ask for your input.

During the past few years we have seen some amazing events occur while also watching our economy rapidly degrade. This recession has impacted the arts dramatically and we have seen a steady decline in participation in our events as a result. One of our goals as a guild is to sponsor workshops and learning opportunities. I thought I might try a new approach and see if it would make these events more accessible to our membership. We will run several theme weekends and breakup the workshops into daylong sessions. We will try to keep the cost to a minimum. We will be offering several lectures and informative sessions for members as well. Then in the fall we will have a bigger two-day workshop.

In the past we have had many surveys that you have filled out and I have reviewed them all. There is too little real data there for me to really get the whole picture. I am asking you for your guidance and help. Please call, email or even text me with your opinions and wishes. I am not only looking for topics but the reasons you have not attended in the past. You can send it in any format and it will remain between you and I. I will take my collective results back to the board so that we can try to come up with a creative solution. It is my sincerest wish to hold events that benefit the entire community of metalsmiths and all of our members. I need your help to do this.

Sincerely, Ericia Bartels

313-319-2777 ericiab@yahoo.com

CLASSES AT ARMSTRONG TOOL & SUPPLY

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

March 3, 2010: **Basic Soldering** with Lesley DiPiazza

March 6: **Flex Shaft Boot Camp** with Mary Kernahan

March 10: **Freeform Bezels** with Lesley DiPiazza

March 17: **Freeform Wire Wrap** with Sig Lawson

March 20: **Silver Granulation** with Lesley DiPiazza

March 24: **How to Make Your Very Own Endcaps** with Lesley DiPiazza

March 31: **Forged Wire Earrings** with Sig Lawson

April 1: **Cold Connections** with Dan Neville

April 3: **Freeform Bezels** with Lesley DiPiazza

April 7: **Silver Reticulation** with Lesley DiPiazza

April 10: **Flex Shaft Boot Camp** with Mary Kernahan

April 14: **Forged Wire Pendant** with Sig Lawson

April 17: **Keum-Boo** with Lesley DiPiazza

April 21: **Basic Soldering** with Lesley DiPiazza

April 28: **Intro to Etching** with Lesley DiPiazza

May 1: **Set Soldered Earrings** with Mary Kernahan

CLASSIFIED SECTION:

FOR SALE: Jeweler's bench for sale: Approximately 39" wide, 20" deep and 36" high. It has 2 drawers on the right, one wide drawer in the center and a lined sweep drawer.

The wood is maple. It has sturdy metal legs. Will send picture upon inquiry.

Price: \$250.00

Contact: Nina Mann at (231) 946-4266 or email at: nina@ninamann.com.

CALL FOR ENTRY DEADLINES

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

True Colours - New Traditional Jewellery
Deadline: March 15, 2010

MSG Booth at the Ann Arbor South University Art Fair
Deadline: March 15, 2010.

Art on the Grand: fine arts fair in Farmington Hills
Deadline: April 2, 2010.

WJA Student Scholarship 2010-2011:
Women's Jewelry Association
Deadline: April 15, 2010

FLUX: 2011 SNAG Conference - proposals for exhibitions
Deadline: May 7, 2010

METAL Inclinations2: An International Juried Digital Exhibition
Deadline: June 30, 2010

International Competition 16: Silver Triennial 2010.
Deadline: July 1, 2010.

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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

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You can contact Board Members by going to the web site and clicking on the "About MSG" section



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3416 Sussex Ct.
Ann Arbor, MI 48108