



Michigan Silversmiths Guild

Spring 2011 Newsletter

President's Letter - June 2011

Dear Members,

I am elated to share with you the accomplishments of MSG and plans for our many upcoming activities and opportunities.

Since the last newsletter, our Metals 2011 Exhibition held at the University of Michigan Health System's Gifts of Art gallery has come to an end. We received many compliments on the quality of the exhibition and a desire to see it continue in the future. If you have not yet had an opportunity to see this exhibition, it is available online at <http://misilversmith.org/metals2011/>.

On April 17th, we hosted a very informative one day casting workshop with Renee Zettle-Sterling at a new local facility - Fritz and Friends, in Franklin, MI. Everyone who attended this workshop was treated to a day of learning how to make low cost, easy to make molds and walked away with many samples.

Now for what's on deck!

For the sixth year in a row we have the distinct pleasure of presenting our MSG Booth at the South University Ann Arbor Art Fair, July 20th-23rd. For those of you who are not familiar with this event, it is a juried entry opportunity to sell work at one of Michigan's largest art fairs, with the purpose of

learning about how art fairs work, and within a group setting. This year we have 12 participants: Carolyn Bache, Danielle Blanchard, Lori Brauer, Janice Degen, Lesley DiPiazza, Joanne Huspek, Mary Kernahan, Paul Mergen, Emily Saling, Ron Suddendorf, Sue Szabo, and Jennifer Thomson. In addition to this event, we will host a full line of demonstrations throughout the art fair. More information about the participating artists, demonstration schedule and the booth space will be sent out at the end of June. I would like to thank Mary Kernahan, Jennifer Thomson and Danielle Blanchard for all their work on organizing this event. It's a huge endeavor and we all really
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www.misilversmith.org

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appreciate their dedication to making it work.

Plans for this year's *Jewelry + Objects 2011 Exhibition* are well under way. The exhibition will be held at the Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art of the Midland Center for the Arts (MCFTA) July 13th through September 25th. The opening reception is scheduled for August 6th. This exhibition will include 60 works of art by 39 selected artists along with 23 additional pieces by 16 selected high school students. Awards will be announced at a later date. This year's exhibition includes a surprisingly vast collection of pieces that is not to be missed. If you haven't had the opportunity to visit MCFTA, I would highly encourage you to attend the opening as they do a wonderful job. In addition to the physical exhibition, I am pleased to share that we have just finished a 68 page full color catalog that documents the exhibition and includes a jurors statement from our prestigious juror Marilyn da Silva and a statement from Steven Tracy, Chair of the Jewelry + Objects Exhibition. These catalogs will be available through MSG starting in July for \$20 each. Forms will be made available on our website.

In conjunction with the upcoming *Jewelry + Objects Exhibition*, I am pleased to announce that we will be hosting a weekend workshop with Marilyn and Jack da Silva. Over the course of two days, participants will be divided into two groups

and spend a day learning metal coloring techniques from Marilyn and a day learning forming techniques from Jack. Final arrangements are in the works and registration forms will be sent out via mail, email, website and facebook in the next week or so.

Finally, at our last Board meeting we set the date for our Annual All Membership Meeting. This year's meeting will be September 18th - location and lectures to be announced at a later date. In addition to reviewing last year's activities, previewing plans for the upcoming year, eating snacks, participating in the tool swap, meeting local vendors, and hearing a fabulous lecture, we will also vote for Board members. We currently have the world's most fantastic team of dedicated volunteers composing this Board. However, we could use a few more good eggs. Are you a good egg? Please consider joining us, or nominating someone else. Nominations can be sent to Dan Neville at eb2609@wayne.edu.

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

Sincerely,
Christine Bossler

CLASSES AT ARMSTRONG (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

Saturday, August 20: Silver Granulation
with Lesley DiPiazza

Tuesday, August 23: Wire Wrapped Rings
with Sig Lawson

Wednesday, August 24: Rivets with Lesley
DiPiazza

Wednesday, August 31: Undulating Full
Persian Bracelet with Mary Kernahan



ANN ARBOR ART FAIR

MSG is gearing up for this summer's booth in the Ann Arbor Art Fair. The Fair is July 20 - 23. Our booth is located in the South University Art Fair, booth # 157 and 158. The committee is still looking for volunteers to help with the booth set up on Tuesday, July 19 and for booth-sitting volunteers. For more information, please contact Mary Kernahan at: mckernahan@yahoo.com.

METALS CLASSES OFFERED BY MSG MEMBERS:

Instructor: Beth Millner

Location: Bella Beads, Marquette, Michigan

Link for Prices & Details on how to signup: <http://www.bethmillner.com>

Silversmithing 1: 8/24 Wed Class 1 (sign up by 8/10)

Silversmithing 2: 8/25 Thur Class 2 (sign up by 8/11)

Silversmithing 3: 8/26 Fri Class 3 (sign up by 8/12)

Silversmithing 4: 8/27 Sat Class 4 (sign up by 8/13)



Instructor: Idelle Hammond-Sass, Jewelry Designer and Metalsmith

Location: Idelle's studio

This class is offered through Ann Arbor Rec and Ed. www.aareced.com 734-994-2300.

In this four week session, new and returning students will be introduced to hammering and forging techniques, and tube settings. You will learn soldering skills useful for soldering links, earring posts and stone settings. Tube setting will be demonstrated and discussed as a method for setting faceted stones. With these skills students can create a pendant or earrings with tube settings and forged elements. Other projects will be explored and worked on with students on an individual basis. Students are welcome to use the studio for up to 2 hours per week during the session with prior arrangement. A materials fee paid to instructor at first class of \$10. Silver may be purchased separately. Studio is not wheel chair accessible. No scholarships or discounts accepted for this class. 4 weeks. No class 7/20.

UPCOMING WORKSHOP:

MARILYN AND JACK DA SILVA WILL BE TEACHING A 2-DAY WORKSHOP IN JULY. THE DETAILS ARE STILL BEING FINALIZED, SO LOOK FOR A FLYER IN THE MAIL IN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO. THIS WILL BE A 2-DAY HANDS-ON CLASS: ONE DAY WITH MARILYN LEARNING METAL COLORING TECHNIQUES AND ONE DAY WITH JACK LEARNING METAL FORMING TECHNIQUES. DON'T MISS IT!

DON'T FORGET:

MSG ANNUAL MEETING has been scheduled for Sunday, September 18, 2011, 12 - 4 PM. At this meeting we elect the MSG Board, have a tool swap, renew memberships, talk with old and new friends, etc. Refreshments will be served. It's not too early to start thinking about volunteering on the Board - we are currently seeking new members. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Nominating Committee, chaired by Dan Neville.

New Membership

Please welcome the following new MSG members:

**LINDA MCKINLEY
ELISSA ACKERMAN
ARAM MOON
HEEJIN HWANG
LORI GIPSON
TINA LAZZARINE
MELISSA WALTER
SHARON BERKAN-DENT
JUN SUK MIN
KRISTI KLOSS
BECKY & TEDD McDONAH
JUDY WENIG
HELEN BUNCH
ROSE SCHLEMMER
RYAN BOGAN
LUCIA BEHMER
SUE AMENDOLARA**

**BETH MILLNER
NICOLE JACQUARD
CRAIG VANDEMAN
ALEX DRUMMER
JOSHUA CRAIG
KATHLEEN JANVIER
SARAH PERKINS
LISA JOHNSON
ANNA WADHAMS
DUKNO YOON
HEATHER BAYLESS
KATIE REARICK
JACKIE WESTERLUND
ANDREW KUEBECK
JENNIFER MARASON
LEAH HARDY**

**FOR INFORMATION ON JOINING OR RENEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP, PLEASE VISIT OUR
WEB SITE: WWW.MISILVERSMITH.ORG**

Renee Zettle-Sterling Workshop

Renee's workshop was held at Fritz and Friends in Franklin. What a gem of a location and a great place for a workshop. After ogling the studio space we quickly jumped into an awesome workshop. Renee showed us a table top full of items that were made using the techniques we were about to learn.

She wasted no time in getting us started, after a 20 minute or so explanation we were off. With so many choices it was really a blast. We had skin wax, 2 part epoxies, 2 part food safe molds and the good old fashioned plaster. The point was not to focus on a finished product but to make multiples of parts that could later be assembled or cast into finished pieces.



We experimented with organic materials, a multitude of children's toys and even our own body parts. At the end of the day we had shoe boxes and tins full of goodies and even materials to take home for later. Many thanks to Renee for a fabulous workshop and such a great job.



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UPCOMING EVENTS IN OUR AREA:

(check out our website for more info)

WORKSHOP: WORKING WITH PEWTER

BY FRED FENSTER: May 20-22, 2011 at Indiana University - Purdue University, Fort Wayne, IN.

WORKSHOP: FREEFORM CASTING

with Mary Kernahan, June 4, 2011 at Fritz and Friends.

WORKSHOP: SILVER GRANULATION

with Lesley DiPiazza, June 5, 2011 at Fritz and Friends.

TRUNK SHOW: RUTH TAUBMAN

SPRING COLLECTION: June 9-11, 2011

in Ann Arbor. Visit www.ruthaubman.com for more information.

WORKSHOP: MOKUME GANE WITH

JIRO MASUDA: June 24, 2011 at Fritz & Friends.

MSG JEWELRY + OBJECTS EXHIBITION:

July 13 - Sept. 25, 2011 at the Midland Center for the Arts.

STUDIO SALE

Extensive variety of metalsmithing and jewelry tools and equipment including small hand tools, files, buffing unit, 36" foot shear, mini torch, huge anvil on stand, hammers, etc. Lots of stuff.

July 9 & 10, 10:00 - 4:00

Karen (Buffy) Gallup
buffigal@gmail.com

CLASSES AT ARMSTRONG TOOL & SUPPLY

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

Tuesday, June 14: Grecian Drop Necklace
with Helena Hatten

Wed. June 5 & Aug. 3: Basic Soldering with
Lesley DiPiazza

Saturday, June 18: Freeform Casting with
Mary Kernahan

Tuesday, June 21, 6-9pm: Coiled Again
Bracelet with Helena Hatten

Wednesday, June 22: Cold Connections
with Lesley DiPiazza

Tuesday, June 28: UV Resin Pendant with
Helen Hatten

Wednesday, June 29: Viking Knot Bracelet
with Mary Kernahan

Saturday, August 6: Flex Shaft Boot Camp
with Mary Kernahan

Tuesday, August 9: Freeform Wire Wrap
with Sig Lawson

Wednesday, August 10: Tube Set Soldered
Earrings with Mary Kernahan

Saturday, August 13: Intro to Metals, Tools
and Techniques with Lesley DiPiazza

Wednesday, August 17: Gridbox Bracelet
with Mary Kernahan

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY MSG MEMBERS:

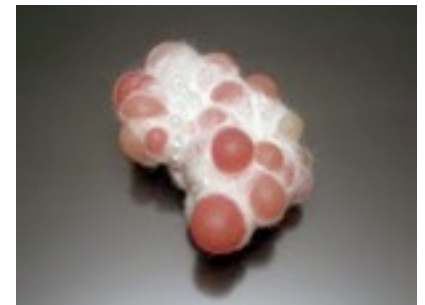
SUE SZABO HAS 2 PIECES IN THE **OHIO DESIGNER CRAFT SHOW**. SHE ALSO HAS 2 PIECES ACCEPTED INTO **ALCHEMY: THE INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL SHOW OF THE ENAMELIST SOCIETY** WHICH WILL TOUR AT THE NATIONAL METALS MUSEUM IN MEMPHIS, TN THIS YEAR. HER WORK WILL ALSO BE SEEN IN THE NEW BOOK **HUMOR IN CRAFT** BY BRIGETTE MARTIN.

CHELSEA HAMMERSMITH WON 3RD PLACE IN THE **2010 TOLEDO AREA ARTIST SHOW**. SHE ALSO HAD SHOWS AT **SPACE 237** IN TOLEDO, **RIVERHOUSE FINE ART GALLERY** IN PERRYSBURG, OH AND **THE PARKWOOD GALLERY** IN TOLEDO, OH. IN ADDITION, SHE HAS BEEN AWARDED AN ASSISTANCESHIP TO **BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY** TO GET HER MFA IN METALSMITHING.

MASAKO

ONODERA

WAS AWARDED AN **OHIO ART COUNCIL INDIVIDUAL EXCELLENCE AWARD** FOR 2011. ALSO,



HER WORK IS

INCLUDED IN THE EXHIBITION **"BEST OF 2011"** AND WAS AWARDED THE **OHIO DESIGNER CRAFTSMEN SCHOLARSHIP AWARD** - A CASH AWARD TO BE USED BY THE RECIPIENT TO ATTEND A WORKSHOP TO LEARN NEW STUDIO TECHNIQUES FROM A LEADING ARTIST. IN ADDITION, MASAKO PRESENTED HER WORK AS AN EMERGING ARTIST AT THE **SNAG CONFERENCE** IN SEATTLE ON MAY 28.

CALL FOR ENTRY DEADLINES

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

2011 Designer Jewelry Competition: due June 15, 2011.

Crafts National Exhibition 2011: applications due January 6, 2012.

Call for Images: Online Exhibition of Jewelry Featuring Non-Precious Metals - entries will be accepted between April 1 - May 31, 2011.

Lark Books: 500 Beaded Jewelry - photographs due July 15th, 2011.

Art Prize Grand Rapids: application process starts March 14, 2011.

2011 Elizabeth R. Raphael Founders Prize: Mac compatible CDs are due by June 3, 2011.

6th Annual Halstead Grant: due June 6, 2011

FOR SALE - CASTING EQUIPMENT

1. **Kerr Injectomatic II.** Retail price \$718, selling for \$475.
2. **Grobet Vulcanizer.** Retail price \$425, selling for \$300.
3. **Procraft/Grobet Vacuum** assist machine for investment castings. Retail price \$334, selling for \$250.
4. **Vacuum pump.** Retail price \$457, selling for \$350.

All items are new, never used. There are additional items such as sprue bases, casting flasks, tongs, melting dishes, mixing bowl, etc. Contact Paul Bauman (517) 449-1060

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FARMING AND METALSMITHING? AN INTERNSHIP AT TILLERS INTERNATIONAL

by Dan Neville

For the last five months, I have been an intern at Tillers international which is a 430 acre farm located in Scotts, Michigan just southeast of Kalamazoo. At first glance, Tillers seems to be a school of traditional crafts specializing in blacksmithing, woodworking, and timber framing. I quickly realized that that wasn't the case. Tillers' real mission is to preserve, study, and exchange low capital technologies that increase the sustainability and productivity of people in rural communities.



They do this by studying our rural heritage, they look at the simplistic tools our great grandparents used, and share that information with developing farmers around the world.



I arrived in early January not knowing what to fully expect. Within the first ten minutes of me being there, I was hauling bales of hay out to the cattle in the deep snow. We spent a lot of time in the woods that month cutting down trees which were used to heat the house, blacksmith shop, woodshop and museum. After chopping up the wood we would load it on a cart and use a

team of oxen to take it through the woods to wherever we needed it. This was my first experience using any type of animal power. Tillers focuses on using oxen because they can be found almost anywhere, they don't require gasoline, and they rarely break down. Now that the snow is gone, we have been using the oxen and draft horses to plow the fields, so we can grow food for ourselves and the animals. I am surprised to say that I have become quite attached to the team I drive nearly everyday.

So what would a metalsmith be doing at Tillers International? The truth is, my nights and weekends are spent in the blacksmith shop. I had very little experience with forging steel before I came here and that was a huge reason I wanted to come. I have had the chance to work with a wide range of different blacksmiths during the weekend classes including Herb Nehring, Scott Lankton, Tim Carr and Jim Slining. Forge welding, tool making, heat treating, and the coal forge are things I have had a lot of practice with now. My hammer swing has improved as well!



My experience at Tillers International has, by far, exceeded my expectation. I plan on coming back to volunteer as much as possible after I am gone. I am excited to come home and share the things I have learned with my friends, classmates, and professors. I am curious to see how my work will grow from here. I will be home just in time for art fair, hope to see you there!



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Friday, April 29, 2011

~New, from our Blog!~

SILVER FILLED MATERIALS

SILVER FILLED ROUND WIRE

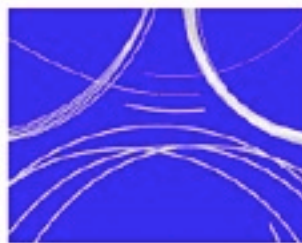
"Silver filled is similar to gold filled but made with silver.

Silver (usually sterling silver) is bonded to the outside of a core of base metal. As far as I know, there is no legal standard for silver filled, although gold filled must be 1/20th 12k gold minimum. Silver filled seems to be used primarily in flatware and serving ware because the bonded coating of silver is much thicker than actual plating with silver."

Having stated the above, I'd like you to know that due to the rising price of silver G&S Metals is always working for you! In an endeavor to find cost effective materials; we will soon be offering you Silver Filled round wire in popular gauges.

Keep an eye on our Blog for the latest news regarding the addition of this new wire to our inventories. Better still, sign up on our E-blasts and receive the news even sooner.

<http://gsmetals.blogspot.com/>



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*****CHECK IT OUT*****

G & S Metals and Refiners has added Rate Point Reviews. To write a review, just click on the "Review" logo on their home page (www.gsgold.com)

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
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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



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