



Michigan Silversmiths Guild

Winter 2011 Newsletter

President's Letter - March 2011

Dear Members,

As usual, I am really excited to share with you the accomplishments of MSG and upcoming activities.

So far this year we have hosted a great workshop, *Pearl Stringing with Nikki Dechent*. Thanks to everyone who participated in this workshop and to EMU for hosting it.

In early January, we hosted a tour with G&S Metals and our Holiday Party. Both events were well attended, actually the attendance turned out to be much higher than we anticipated. This event has proven over the years to be really great for members to meet each other in a relaxed setting while having a chance to get to know our local suppliers and service providers. We are very much looking forward to seeing what next year brings in this regard. Thank you to G&S Metals for giving our group such a great tour and to Jennifer Thomson for opening up her lovely home for our party.

February 14th marked the opening for *Metals 2011* at the Gifts of Art Gallery in the U of M Health Care System. This exhibition features work made by Metals/Jewelry students and some of their mentors at Bowling Green State University, College for Creative Studies, and Eastern Michigan University. In addition to the exhibition at Gifts of Art we are hosting an online edition of this exhibition, which can be seen at misilversmith.org/metals2011/. I am really hoping to receive feedback from Guild members about our online exhibition and if it is

something that should be looked at for future exhibitions. This exhibition will be on view at the Gifts of Art Gallery through April 3rd.

By the time you receive this we will have completed the call for entry for our upcoming *Jewelry + Objects Exhibition*. Notifications will be mailed the first week in April. This year's 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. In

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www.misilversmith.org

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to this exhibition, the Guild will be printing a full color catalog. More information about how to purchase the catalog will be available in the *Spring 2011 Newsletter*. We will also host a two day workshop with Marilyn and Jack da Silva. Final arrangements are being made now, so stay tuned for more on this exciting workshop opportunity.

As for other things in the works for the 2010-2011 year, the Art Fair Committee is well underway towards planning MSG's participation in the South University Ann Arbor Art Fair. Applications to sell work at this event are now available on our website and were mailed out early February. Please do take a look and consider applying for this event. Applications are due March 15th. The request for volunteers and demonstrators will be out later this spring.

In April, MSG will host a casting workshop with Renee Zettle-Sterling who is an Associate Professor of Art And Design at Grand Valley State University. This workshop will be April 17th at Fritz and Friends in Franklin, MI. The workshop registration form will be available soon.

Last but not least, the exhibition committee has been working on a top secret event for next fall. I don't have many details to share at this point, but I did want to mention that we are currently reviewing the contract, stay tuned!

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

New Membership

Please welcome the following new MSG members:

COURTNEY BACHE

JAMIE L. GOODE

CHELSEY HAMMERSMITH

JESSICA TENBUSCH

RICHARD BERGSTROM

LORI BRAUER

JOSEPH D. GRUNOW

KATE BELL

JACK JELLIES

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



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UPCOMING EVENTS IN OUR AREA:

(check out our website for more info)

METALS 2011: MSG sponsored exhibition: Feb. 14 - April 3, 2011 at Gifts of Art Gallery, UM Hospital Main Corridor, Floor 2, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr., Ann Arbor.

IRON & STEEL PRESERVATION

CONFERENCE 2011: March 7-9, 2011 at Lansing Community College, Lansing, MI.

WORKSHOP: EUROPEAN CHAIN

MAILLE WITH MARY KERNAHAN: March 19, 2011 at Fritz & Friends, 32722 Franklin Rd., Franklin, MI.

WORKSHOP: WORKING WITH PEWTER

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

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

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.

Don't Miss the MSG sponsored exhibition:

METALS 2011

At the Gifts of Art Gallery, UM Hospital Main Corridor.

Or view the online version by going to:
<http://misilversmith.org/metals2011/>

CLASSES AT ARMSTRONG TOOL & SUPPLY

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

Tuesday, March 10, 6-9PM: **Make your own findings** with Helena Hatten.

Friday, March 18, 6-9 PM: **Riveting** with Lesley DiPiazza.

Wednesday, March 23, 6-9 PM: **Friendship Knot Bracelet** with Mary Kernahan.

Wednesday, March 30, 6-8 PM:
Decadhedron Pendant with Mary Kernahan.

Saturday, April 2, 9:30 AM - 1 PM: **Flex Shaft Boot Camp** with Mary Kernahan.

Wednesday, April 6, 6-9 PM: **UV Resin Pendant** with Helena Hatten.

Saturday, April 9, 2:30- 5:30 PM: **Bezel Set Bracelet with Tab Closure** with Lesley DiPiazza.

Wednesday, April 13, 6-8 PM: **Vipera Star Pendant** with Mary Kernahan.

Saturday, April 16, 2:30-5:30 PM: **Intro to Etching** with Lesley DiPiazza.

Wed. April 20, 6-9 PM: **Grecian Drop Necklace** with Helena Hatten.

Wed., April 27, 6-8 PM: **Graduated Full Persian Necklace** with Mary Kernahan.

Saturday, May 7, 10AM - 1 PM: **Freeform Casting** with Mary Kernahan.

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY MSG MEMBERS:

DANIELLE CRISSMAN HAS TAKEN A JOB AT TIFFANY & CO. AS A STONE SETTER.

JULIE SANFORD'S PIECE "FIREFLIES AND MOON SHADOWS" WON THE GRAND PRIZE IN THE JEWELRY DESIGN CHALLENGE CONTEST SPONSORED BY RIO GRANDE, AND LARK JEWELRY & BEADING. JULIE DESCRIBES HER PIECE AS A "WHIMSICAL YET NOSTALGIC NECKLACE INSPIRED BY PLAYFUL CHILDHOOD MEMORIES."

CONGRATULATIONS, JULIE!

DAN NEVILLE IS CURRENTLY AN INTERN AT TILLERS INTERNATIONAL. TILLER'S IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION BASED IN SCOTTS, MI. THEY OFFER CLASSES IN APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY FARMING TECHNIQUES, DRAFT ANIMAL POWER, BLACKSMITHING, METAL WORK, TIMBER FRAMING, WOODWORKING, CHEESE-MAKING AND MANY OTHER FARMING AND ARTISANAL SKILLS. THEY ALSO HOST INTERNS. WITH 6 COAL FORGES, 1 GAS FORGE AND 12 ANVILS, EACH STUDENT ENGAGES CONTINUOUSLY IN HANDS-ON LEARNING. TILLER'S BLACKSMITH SHOP CREATES THE IDEAL ATMOSPHERE FOR BLACKSMITHS AND METAL WORKERS TO GATHER AND EXCHANGE KNOWLEDGE AND INSPIRATION. **CONGRATULATIONS TO DAN!**

SUE SZABO IS CURRENTLY IN "MATERIALS HARD AND SOFT" IN DENTON, TX AND HAS 2 PIECES IN MESA CONTEMPORARY CRAFT IN MESA, AZ.

CALL FOR ENTRY DEADLINES

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

MSG Booth at the South University Art Fair: due March 15, 2011.

Elizabeth R. Raphael Founders Prize: due June 3, 2011.

SNAG - Call for Presentation Proposals for 2012 Conference in Phoenix AZ: due April 1, 2011.

Lark Books "Heat, Color, Set & Decorate" : call for images due March 15, 2011.

SNAG Exhibition Planning Committee invites curatorial project proposals for a travelling exhibition, due March 15, 2011.

SNAG Educational Endowment Scholarships: due March 15, 2011.

Women's Jewelry Association Student Scholarships: due April 15, 2011.

Lark Books "500 Rings": submissions must be postmarked by March 30, 2011.

6th Annual Halstead Grant: business development proposal due June 6, 2011.

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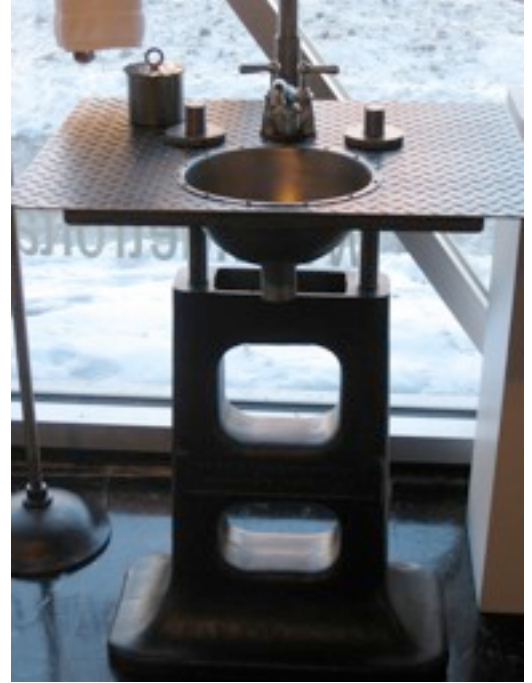
2011 Design Show at the Detroit Artists Market by Erica Bartels

January 14th – February 19th, 2011

If you haven't considered installing a urinal in your home, this show might just change your mind. With 28 local designers involved, it is a show that exemplifies why Detroit design is so unique.

While many people head out to the black tie event at the auto show, Detroiters in the know head over to the Artist Market for its annual artistic black tie party, fashion show and design event. Each year a design theme is handed out and artists are invited to create. This year was a stellar showcase that was brilliantly stitched together by local painter Slaw.

Walking through one fought the urge to hop into Steven McShane's shower installation, albeit with the notion that you were traveling in some sort of futuristic space ship and aliens might join you at any time. Along the same lines of deconstructed and reconstructed was Maxwell Davis's shelf and mirror combination. Classic Max design, you can see his influence on several of his students who also contributed.



For the minimalist at heart, Adam Shirley adorned his steel shelves for you with all the pertinent essentials. One would want the most pristine of bathrooms to showcase these pieces.

Alex Stchekine took concrete to a new level as in sinks and a birdbath for the highest degree of aesthetic. An old film projector stand is used for the base of a supremely industrial sink ensemble that truly looks back to move forward in design.

Fashion is also a part of the show and Cristin Richard steals the show. Her ethereal creations are simply stunning. However when you realize that they are created out of toilet paper you will be left speechless. These colorful and perfectly shaped gowns seem

perfect just hanging in the middle of a room or gracing the body of a goddess.

This show captures the spirit of design in Detroit perfectly. With the use of unusual, experimental and repurposed materials, it embodies a city rebuilding itself. There is such an abundance of great work here that you wonder if we are not just churning out great designers like we did cars?



Tuesday, February 15, 2011

~New, from our Blog!~

Silver Wire Wrappers Discoloration
SILVER WIRE WRAPPERS' DISCOLORATION

Are you experiencing discoloration?

We have recently had several inquiries from sterling silver and argentium® wire wrappers into the discoloration of their work. Our customer wrote that she has been using our Argentium® Silver for as long as we have been selling it. She crafts jewelry and when she sells it to her customers, she includes **care instructions**. She does not solder or heat the metal in any way. She simply uses the wire to hold the setting in place.

Therefore, it was perplexing when she received a complaint from her customer that there had been some discoloration to her jewelry. The customer was certain she had followed the care instructions. She attempted to clean the piece with a soft polishing cloth which returned the silver to its shiny state without any dulling affects except that there was a slight **coppery discoloration** and it no long looked like **white silver**.

G&S Metals and Refiners discussed this issue with our metallurgist. Judging by the description, the **coppery** surface suggested to him that there had been some form of **chemical attack**. This could be something as simple as a perfume or hand-cream residue which might have been left on the piece before it was placed in storage. Since hand cream contains **folic acid**; this is a very plausible explanation.

Washing your hands will not only keep you healthy but will keep your pieces of jewelry from discoloring.

<http://gsmetals.blogspot.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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