



I want freedom for the full expression of my personality.

- Mahatma Gandhi



**THE FLORIDA SOCIETY OF GOLDSMITHS**  
*PRESENTS*

**MOUNTAIN METALSMITHING**



Mountain Metalsmithing will be held at William Holland School of lapidary located in Young Harris, Georgia August 27th-September 2, 2006.

Contact: [Jean Marie DeSpiegler](mailto:JeanMarieDeSpiegler@earthlink.net) at (727) 822-7872 ext 28  
[fsgjm@earthlink.net](mailto:fsgjm@earthlink.net)

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**THE FLORIDA SOCIETY OF GOLDSMITHS**

**Westcoast Chapter Presents**

**Wildacres Workshop**  
**June 24-June 30, 2006**

For further information, contact: [Marylin Maier \(352\)-596-3062](tel:(352)596-3062)

This is the **20th Anniversary** the WestCoast Chapter has sponsored the workshops at Wildacres.

## From the President . . .

**Beth Katz (SE)**  
beth@myuniquesolutions.com



Hello to all members, This is the time of year when you start to plan the activities for the summer. I am hoping that you have included in your plans a trip to Mountain Metalsmithing or to Wildacres. Each offers a nice retreat with a class which is a wonderful way to get inspired and learn new techniques. Wildacres is celebrating its 20th anniversary and Mountain Metalsmithing, now in its second year and I think back to the first year I attended each venue with much happiness. What a wonderful experience to go to a class of this type and caliber. It is so nice to get away from the normal hum drum of everyday life and spend time with friends, both old and new, while working with metal. If you are shy, or do not think "your skills measure up", think again. There are many who are at the same skill level, many who are not as skilled and those who are "way over the top"; the instructors are talented at teaching all levels. Remember, everyone started out as a novice. Make a selection from the many classes being offered; expand your proficiency or learn new skills. Let your imagination run; you never know where it will lead you in metalsmithing.

## From The Editor . . .

**Arnold Lasris**  
alasis@alltel.net  
Helen, GA 706-219-1749



With this issue we are welcoming a new member of the editorial staff. Brandy Stark joins the FSG Newsletter staff as an Associate Editor. A short biography is located on page three along with a link to Brandy's web page. Her background and interests are very varied and different. Definitely different than mine. Maybe that's what I find so interesting. Brandy also wrote an intriguing article for us in this issue, titled : **A 3-D Artist Trapped in a 2-D World**, which you will find on page 8.

Tracey Egert came up with an idea of having a **Shop & Swap** section. I have a sneaking suspicion it's because Tracey has a desire to find something. I did notice she is looking for sinusoidal stakes. I don't know if we have ever had a shop & swap section, but we do with this issue and will have with the next issue if there is any interest. If you have something you would like to either sell, trade or buy, send me the info before the next issue.

Also, be sure and read the column by Jean Marie DeSpiegler on page three (3) of this issue. She has instituted some new ideas that will be beneficial to our members. It will also allow more members to become involved in the Florida Society of Goldsmiths. We can always use more help.

The section, "**About Our Members**" has been moved to page four (4) of this issue. We finally have more entries and needed more room. Hopefully more information will be forthcoming in future issues. I know our members have been more involved. So, don't forget to let me know so as to be able to post the information in our newsletter.

This is also the season for our many workshops to begin. The WestCoast Chapter sponsors the annual Wildacres Workshop this year from June 24th through June 30th. Information has been posted in this newsletter on the front page and notices throughout this issue. Following Wildacres will be the Mountain Metalsmithing Workshops from August 27th through September 2nd sponsored by the Florida Society of Goldsmiths. Then don't forget The Winter Workshops, January 7th through 13th, 2007, sponsored by the NorthEast Chapter. There are also plenty of local workshops sponsored by the various chapters.

## Director's Perspective . . .

**JEAN MARIE DESPEIGLER**

Executive Director  
727.822.7872,  
fsgjm@Earthlink.net



I have heard from several members that they are enjoying the book reviews that are we have in the newsletter. This month you will find that we have invited a local goldsmith to review a book on gemstones. We are excited about the new books on the market and would like to share them with you.

We are trying to build a State Library by getting authors to send us books for review. Then we place them in the library. We are trying to have the latest books available on the market for you to check out. It is a nice way to preview a book you were thinking of adding to your own collection.

We are going to spread the review process around to different members each time we have a book to review. It is a nice way to be involved and a different view point is always welcome. We can have more than one review in an issue of the newsletter.

The books that we review will be available for checkout in the near future. We have a very limited selection, but are working at adding to the collection. If you have a book, or several books that you would like to donate to our library, I would be delighted to provide you with the documentation for a tax deduction. Feel free to include a book review to share your thoughts. If you have a new product that you would like our members to know about, please send information and samples to the office.

We are also looking for auction items to be donated for our upcoming Mountain Metalsmithing Workshop. I have been at workshops where they auctioned off everything from a bottle of homemade wine to a week's stay at a vacation home in the keys (too bad I was outbid). Please send your donations to FSG, 719 Central Ave., St. Petersburg, FL 33701.

The office has been busy lately. Our computer died after a very long and useful life. The backup recovery was an experience I do not want to repeat. The increase in your dues made it possible to purchase a new computer and I would like to thank each of you. We are still in need of a treasurer in the St. Petersburg/ Clearwater area. If you are interested in doing a one time volunteer job - feel free to email me at fsgjm@earthlink.net. There is something for everyone.

I look forward to seeing everyone at a workshop this year!

## Associate Editor

**BRANDY STARK**

stark\_brandy@hotmail.com



Inspired by her knowledge of ancient world mythologies and religions, Brandy Stark has produced her "Metal Myths" series since 1995. Ms. Stark utilizes contemporary mediums to resurrect ancient characters, deities, and ideals in the modern world.

Each piece is hand worked; there is no glue or welding involved in this process. The artist utilizes the natural colors of metals in creating her works. Employing a technique that combines "wrapping," "weaving," and "sewing" the metals, she combines heavy materials with open spaces to create a unifying tension throughout each piece.

Ms. Stark graduated with her Masters in Religious Studies from the University of South Florida and is continuing her education in the field of the Humanities. She is presently an instructor of World Religions and Humanities at St. Petersburg College, the University of Tampa, Eckerd College, and Hillsborough Community College.

As a former freelance arts reporter, Ms. Stark wrote for the St. Petersburg Times. She published additional topical articles for Bayside News, www.sterlingpowell.com, Pug Talk Magazine, The Pinellas Informer and for www.carolineyork.com.

<http://www.starkimages.homestead.com/Main.html>

### **Bulletin: Wildacres 2006, 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.**

The date will be June 24<sup>th</sup> thru June 30, 2006. Contact me as soon as possible. -**Marilyn Maier 352-596-3062**

#### **SPRING 06 INDEX**

	Page
About Our Members	4
Calendar	Throughout
Chapter News	4-5, 6-8
Director's Perspective	3
From the Editor	2
President's Message	2
Various Info	All Over
Bench Tips	11
Book Reviews	9
Workshops:	
Wildacres Workshops	1
Mountain Metalsmithing	1

## ABOUT OUR MEMBERS...

**Barbara Becker Simon** (SE) Two of her glass bead necklaces grace the entire cover of the April 2006 issue of the CraftsReport magazine. Plus an article on her on pg. 19. [I love these new beads! They are yummy!]

**Winter Park Arts Festival** held 3/17-19

Two FSG members won awards.

- **Lauren Sundin** (AL) won an Award of Excellence for her Had Woven Neck Piece.
- **Patricia Karnes** (NE) won an Award of Distinction for her Basket Weave Neck Piece

**Christine Marie Noguere's** work is included in "Unrestricted" at Florida Craftsmen, St. Petersburg, FL and "Bead International '06" at Dairy Barn Cultural Arts Center, Athens, OH.

**Beth Katz** has won a Star Award from ArtServe (www.artserve.org) These awards are to presented to outstanding volunteers in the arts community. The Star Award is given in recognition to an individual who has gone above and beyond their call of duty in the cultural arts arena.

**Quincie Hamby** won first place in the finished jewelry category at the Havana Bead and Jewelry Show, April 8-9.

Congratulations to **Debbi Clifford** for obtaining her **Gemology Diploma from GIA**. This puts her more than halfway to becoming certified!

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### Deepest Sympathy

Our condolences to Marcia Jensen, whose husband Norman recently passed away.

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## SOUTHEAST

FOR CHAPTER / WORKSHOP INFORMATION  
CONTACT

**Tracy Egert (954) 680-3417**  
tnje@bellsouth.net

Presently searching for a new location  
for Chapter meetings

**SouthEast by  
Tracy Egert**



The SE Chapter is looking forward to a 2-day flatware workshop with John Cogswell on the 22nd and 23rd of April. The workshop will be at the Jewelry Studio at FIU in Miami and promises to be a great learning and fun experience. This is a "repeat performance" by John for us because everyone enjoyed the first workshop so much.

The workshop is full with a mix of new-to-flatware people and others who just couldn't get enough the first time. I'd also like to recognize Ben Sternberg for the Paula Sternberg Scholarship, which he established and continues to fund thereby enabling members to attend workshops. His generosity is very much appreciated.

For many years we have held our workshops at the Jewelry Studio at FIU. We have recently been notified that FIU has decided to close the small metals program at the end of this semester. This is a huge disappointment to our chapter and we are now searching for a new location.

Some of our members are very busy. Cathi Rivera's works were in the Annual Spring Juried Exhibition of the Dade Art Educators Association, Marthe Harwell and Jan Norris have jewelry at Gallery Five in Tequesta, Adrienne Gaskell and Joyce Nelson continue to propel the South Florida Bead Society. Adrienne will be off teaching at the Sonoma (California) Glass Arts & Bead Festival sponsored by Soft Flex Company and Bead Unique Magazine in August, and again at Lapidary Journal's Bead Fest show

in October in Reading, Pennsylvania. Locally she is teaching at Pinecrest Gardens. Joyce won first place for jewelry at the Pinecrest Gardens art show in January. Ruth Avra recently did the Baltimore ACC show and has another show coming up in LA. Laurie Yoder continues to teach at Miami Dade Community College.

Our Spring dinner is coming up on Sunday June 04. In addition to our "friendly" competition which always brings out some great artwork by our members we will be having a special exhibit in memory of Teddy Katzenstein displaying pieces that are made from techniques she taught us or otherwise inspired by her. Stand by for pictures!

We had our workshop on flatware with John Cogswell. As with anytime you have John in for a workshop this was an absolute success. John is a wonderful teacher. He has so much to share and does so with such enthusiasm that everyone gets motivated and is sorry for the end of the workshop. He leaves us hankering for more!



## **SOUTHWEST**

### **WORKSHOP**

Meeting

7:00 p.m. every 2nd Monday of the Month  
Cape Coral Arts Studio in Rubicond Park  
Bev Fox

FOR CHAPTER / WORKSHOP INFORMATION  
CONTACT

**BEV FOX 239.671.4429**  
<sleepingfox@comcast.net>

***SouthWest by  
Pilar Baker***



In January, Kathy Krand demonstrated creating hollow wire beads. She wrapped 24ga. wire around a burnable form (i.e., cellulose clay, wood, paper mache or cork) and then burned it out with a torch. Mo Anderson also presented a slide show from SNAG's library entitled "Ulytensils" and "2001 Exhibition in Motion - Flatware." February's meeting included Pilar Baker's demonstration of various patina techniques on copper. And as an incentive to April's Chain Challenge, Bev shared examples of different types of chain and demonstrated several chain soldering and fusing techniques at March's meeting.

Judging of the Chain Challenge competition was held at the April meeting. Open to all SW Chapter members, the challenge criteria was for a bracelet chain made of wire (any metal). Eight bracelets were submitted and Chaya Caron, a jeweler from Maine, using a criteria point system, awarded the following prizes:

First Place went to Bev Fox for a soldered 12ga wedding link with a toggle clasp set with garnet cabs on the ends of the toggle. Second place went to Bruce Carlson for his bracelet made with ovals of 10ga. square wire and third place was a tie between Tamara Lee's delicate spirals connected with Byzantine chain and Valerie Jewell's Jends Pind chainmaile copper bracelet. First place prize was a \$400 scholarship to a workshop of the winner's choosing

and Bev Fox will now be attending Wildacres this year. Registration for a One-Day SunDay Workshop was the second prize, and third place winners received a cash prize.

The first 2006 One-Day SunDay Workshop was held on March 19th with Valerie Jewell teaching beaded tassels and the second on March 25th and 26th, Bev and Pilar taught fold-forming along with some patinas and die-forming. The second day focused on the creation of a fold form leaf necklace with various patinas.

After much destruction to their house and lives from the hurricanes, Dianne Brooks and her family will be moving back to Texas. Mike Kaufmann volunteered to fill her position as Librarian after she leaves.

Dianne Brooks participated in the WGCU fundraiser on the Florida Gulf Coast University campus for Arts Edition Live. She was delighted to be in the company of some high-end artists. Though they did not have many sales, she sold about \$800. Congratulations Dianne!

The Tucson Gem Show in February tempted several members including Bev Fox, Mo Anderson and Pilar Baker who all returned with a great supply of wonderful gems and new inspirations.

The 50/50 raffle at each meeting has been successful with the petty cash fund growing each month.

And, Valerie Jewell had an article published in the News Press about her teaching. To view "Her metal art develops following," go to:

<http://www.news-press.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2006604080388>

Three years in the making, the Southwest Chapter, in conjunction with the Southwest Florida Glass Beadmakers, held its first joint exhibition at the Cape Coral Arts Studio gallery. Entitled "Ring of Fire"

signifying both groups' use of fire and rings or round items in their work, the show turned out lovely. Black-framed shadow boxes were primarily used to securely display jewelry on the walls along with a few pedestals. Including entries from both groups, the entire show consisted of 77 beautifully displayed pieces. Several members worked tirelessly on organizing the show. A special thanks goes to Sandie Passarello, a new member who also belongs to the Glass Beadmakers organization. She, along with Bev Fox and Pilar Baker worked many hours on entry requirements, posters with photographs of various processes for both groups and arranging pieces in each shadow box. Sandy also created breathtaking certificates for the winners.

There were two categories for FSG members, jewelry and sculpture, with ribbons and certificates awarded at the reception on April 14th, 2006. Pilar Baker won 1st and 2nd place in both the jewelry and sculpture categories. Bev Fox won 3rd place for her beaded wire stone base basket with labiodorite bullets set onto the posts, entitled "Blue Bird" and Bruce Carlson's "Hook, Line and Sinkers" chain necklace won 3rd place. The show runs April 7th through the 28th.

---

## **NORTHWEST**

FOR CHAPTER / WORKSHOP INFORMATION  
CONTACT

**Starr Payne**

president@fsgnw.com

Chapter meets Third Thursday Monthly at 7 PM  
1100 Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL

## **NORTHWEST**

by

**Zee Galiano**



Given everyone's hectic schedule, I don't know how we manage to accomplish as much as we do...but here are some highlights:

**Continued next page...**

### **NorthWest Continued...**

Shows: Diane Bower, Page Rozelle, Starr Payne, and Debbie Clifford had pieces in Gulf Coast Community College's Feminine Adornment Exhibition, Panama City, March 3-31.

Fae Mellichamp's copper enameled beads went to Tuscon even if she couldn't make it in person this year.

Classes/Workshops taught by club members: Metals I: Torchless Jewelry Techniques, Hydraulic Press, and Prismacolor on Metal (Part 1 of 3 in a non-traditional color on metal series) - Fae Mellichamp Fast and Fun Jewelry Techniques (cold connections) - Sandi Jones PMC Basics - Starr Payne Viking Knit Chain - Page Rozelle (this was a new offering for us and netted a record turnout of twelve students!)

Community Events: FSGNW was invited to set up an information/display table at the Tallahassee Museum's Saturday Matinee of the Arts Event (one of the Seven Days of Opening Nights community events) on February 18th. We also made an appearance at the Havana Bead and Jewelry Show on April 8-9.

Our former blacksmith-in-residence Amanda Thon has now moved from her apprenticeship in Missouri to work with a metal sculptor in southern Illinois.

Leticia Domingues is finally getting serious about learning to speak her mother-in-law's language since she's planning to attend a jewelry school in Germany this fall.

Our condolences to Marcia Jensen, whose husband Norman recently passed away.

Upcoming events: Tana McLane will be participating in the Tallahassee Chain of Parks Art Festival on April 22-23.

### **NorthWest Continued...**

We're hoping to repeat last year's successful fundraiser by having another club garage sale this Spring.

Fae's Color on Metal Series, Part 2 (epoxy resin) is scheduled for May.

Kristin Anderson ([www.kristinworks.com](http://www.kristinworks.com)) will be here on June 3rd to teach the first in a series of project-centered workshops; this one features a forged fibula.

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## **WEST PANHANDLE**

**Stephanie Duty**  
by  
acting President

Folks, I am biased, but I have to say that the new West Panhandle Chapter, well, it rocks! Since our chapter was chartered and studio space leased in January, we have elected officers, set up our studio, scheduled a huge variety of classes through the end of the year, and signed up our 40th member. Already, 12 people have completed Metalsmithing 1.

With generous donations of time, tools, tables, and technical skills from our membership, here's what we're doing...

Our officers I graciously accepted the post of president. Diane Rennie and Diana Keenan are co-chairing our vice president position. Roberta Thompson is the treasurer. Renee Myers is the secretary. And Michelle McIlwain is our webgoddess. Thanks to them, all of whom ran unopposed, I am no longer carrying the torch alone.

From our classes it was easy to harvest the local talent for teaching workshops-people are eager to offer their skills and teach in our great studio space. The Metalsmithing Series offers the fundamentals of metal fabrication, a survey of advanced techniques, and soldering basics. Five other major

### **WestPanhandle Continued...**

series are upcoming: Precious Metal Clay, Wirework, Stone Setting, Beadstringing, and Design. Anyone coming to the area should contact us to teach or take evening, one-day, or two-day classes. Folks here are chomping at the bit to learn techniques in all jewelry related fields.

Our studio is unbelievable!! Each of our 10 work stations is equipped with its own set of basic tools: steel block, bench pin, chasing hammer, and jeweler's saw. Shop tools include rolling mill, acetylene torch, flexible shaft machine, tumbler, forming mandrels, swage blocks, daps, disc cutter, various hammers, pliers, and files. Considering we have just gotten started, this is an amazing inventory. It enables beginners to start classes here with almost no investment in tools. Among our many donations is a full sized color copier, also capable of spiral book binding. Hmmm, anyone need a workbook bound?

Check us out online at our website [www.westpanhandlemetalsmiths.com](http://www.westpanhandlemetalsmiths.com) to see the class schedule, student work gallery, regional events, and pictures of our studio.

Thanks to our fabulous members, Jean Marie, and those who donated to our studio. Thanks (again) to the Northwest chapter for years of inspiration. If anybody out there has an excess of tools or equipment, we are happy to receive your cast-offs. Stay-tuned, we're just getting started...

## **WEST COAST**

FOR CHAPTER / WORKSHOP INFORMATION  
CONTACT

**MYRNA WHATMOUGH 941.383.2416**

<jjtwhat@comcast.net>

Chapter meets 2 PM, Third Sunday, Sept - May

### **Bulletin: Wildacres 2006, 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.**

The date will be June 24<sup>th</sup> thru June 30, 2006. Contact me as soon as possible.-**Marilyn Maier 352-596-3062 (Continued next page...)**

Members of the West Coast Chapter attended the ribbon cutting and grand Opening of the Manatee Art centers Metals Studio in March. Some of our members did demonstrations and the general public was quite taken with the Studio and the programs which are being taught.

Classes have been full since the studio opened with Sue Simon teaching basic metalsmithing and some advanced courses. Ed Brickman taught a weekend forging class which was very successful with students coming as far as Tallahassee. The Center will hold classes for children during the summer months, herein lays the future of Metalsmithing teaching the youngsters.

Two of Ed Brickman's pieces were selected by the Newark (New Jersey) Museum of Fine Art to be in a exhibit starting in April 27, 2006, Ed will attend the opening with Gloria.

The Wildacres applications were mailed in the beginning of April and plans were made by the committee to have some interesting and fun programs since this is our 20th year at Wildacres we hope many of you can attend. If you have never attended a workshop at Wildacres you should plan to attend at least one, it is truly a summer camp for Jewelry Artists and Metalsmiths.

The West Coast Library is now located in the Metals Studio in the Art Center in St Petersburg, Mary Winstead and Ken Wynsma picked up the Library from our former Librarian's home and delivered it to St Pete to be re-cataloged and placed in the new locking cabinets we purchased from Member Don Roberts who was able to supply them at his cost. (thanks Don) Sally Bedrosian is now the New Librarian and the membership really appreciates all the work that went into this move (thanks to Mary, Ken and Sally and anyone else who helped). We hope all members will take advantage of our extensive book and VCR/CD Library.

The West Coast Chapter is also Planning a Jewelry Show for the fall of 2007 at the Art Center Manatee, details will be in the upcoming newsletters and we were asked to participate in another show this fall, Details are being formulated and Ed Brickman will be our contact person, More information will be available in mid to late May.

Hope you all have a great summer.



## NORTHEAST

### 11<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL WINTER WORKSHOPS

January 7 – 13, 2007

FOR CHAPTER / WORKSHOP  
INFORMATION CONTACT  
HELEN HOWELL 386.734.6878  
Fsgne@aol.com  
142 South Woodland Blvd.,  
DeLand, FL



#### NE Chapter, Kay & Tom Benham Reporting:

Tom and Kay Benham demonstrated how to make leaf earrings using a fold forming technique. Enough interest was generated from this demo so that a one-day workshop will be held in the near future. In March, we held our meeting outdoors in the parking lot. Tom and Kay demonstrated broom casting for a number of members who were unable to attend the earlier demonstration. We had a good turnout and several members brought silver to make their own castings. See accompanying photo of Chris Carlson's results. A lot of fun was had by all.

FSG NE continues to offer metalsmithing classes each Tuesday and Thursday morning at our DeLand studio. Plans are afoot to also offer evening classes two evenings a week that will be geared to the beginning metalsmiths. Check the FSG website for updates on these classes. Any one interested in attending these classes or Open Studio should contact Helen Howell at 386.734.6878 or via email – Fsgne@aol.com.

(Continued.....)

Mark your calendars! The dates for the 2007 Winter Workshops are January 7 – 13, 2007. The committee is hard at work making final arrangements for this event. The applications should be mailed soon.



#### Associate Editor

BRANDY STARK  
stark\_brandy@hotmail.com



#### A 3-D Artist Trapped In a 2-D World

As a metal and found-object artist I love what I do. While I do not object to experimenting with other mediums, I find metal is what I come back to time and again. Its malleability gives it a personal interaction unlike anything else, and its surface allows for a tangible reflection of time through various displays of light and shadows. It harkens back to the most ancient of times and persists through the present.

Yet, there are some drawbacks in working with metal. It has been my experience that many generalized art guilds are geared towards painting, print-making, photography and computer generated art. All of these are confined to the dimensions of length and width. I am a proud member of the three-dimensional set, and it turns out that a single dimension makes all the difference.

In reading criteria to join several local guilds, the listed requirements are limited to contextual ideologies related

to painting. There are few to no guidelines listed for the 3-D arts. It makes me wonder what they consider 3-D arts to be; do we fall to fine crafts, or remain within the scope of the arts?

I have experienced group shows where my work (as well as the statuary of other artists) was intentionally left out. It was not for the content or caliber of my pieces but because those organizing the show felt statues would be out of place. The gallery or museum space was, in their eyes, specifically designed for 2-D works. They made no allowances for self-standing or projecting works, though the rooms certainly would have allowed for pedestals and safe placement had the committee allowed it.

Some shows do not think beyond the scope that 3-D art must be self-standing. Many of my works are constructed of lightweight materials designed specifically to allow for wall hanging. I've even added a frame to works to mimic those of paintings to better put the idea across. Yet, time and again I've been relegated to tables for display work. The tabletops take away from the nature of the pieces and ruin the effect I wanted to achieve.

I have had to use my artist creativity to come up with unique solutions for displays of this sort. I now carry black bolts of cloth and use the boxes I pack my works in as miniature tables. By placing them on the tables and covering them with cloth I create a multi-level display area in which I can place my works in various ways. I also carry with me ornament holders and anything else I can utilize to show that these pieces can be shown both on and off of a wall.

Is there any known solution that we can offer to art administrators to let them know that 3-D art BELONGS in art shows? That it isn't a liability and it isn't in the way? That it forms an atmosphere unique to itself? Personally, I still work to educate and I am hopeful that the rest of the world will see the value of that extra-added dimensionality.

**FSG 2005 MEMBERSHIP DUES  
DUE OCTOBER 1, 2005**  
**\$40.00 SINGLE - \$60.00 DUAL**  
**\$20.00 STUDENT (18+ - F/T)**  
**FSG, ATTN: JM DESPEIGLER**  
**719 CENTRAL AVENUE**  
**ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33701**

The BULLETIN of the Florida Society of Goldsmiths is published quarterly by the Florida Society of Goldsmiths, Inc., 719 Central avenue, St. Petersburg, FL 33701, for its membership. All names, addresses, telephone numbers, trade names or other identifications are for the exclusive use of the membership and may not be used for commercial solicitation without the prior written permission from the Florida Society of Goldsmiths.

DEADLINES for submissions:  
 January 15 for February [Winter]  
 April 15 for May [Spring]  
 July 15 for August [Summer]  
 October 15 for November [Fall]

Editor: Arnold Lasris

Contributors:

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Beth Katz	Kay Benham
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Stephanie Duty	Brandy Stark

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**LIBRARY BOOKS & VIDEOS  
FOR ALL FSG MEMBERS**

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Southeast Chapter  
 BETH KATZ

954.575.1098 - bethkatz@aol.com

**METALSMITHING CLASSES**

PHYLLIS ANNUNZIATO	561.997.6148
THE ARTS CENTER (St.Pete)	727.822.7872
ATLANTA Jewelers School	800.453.7608
C.BAUER Studio	212.643.8913
BOCA MUSEUM ART SCHOOL	561.392.2503
CAROLINE GANGI	201.567.0479
DUNCONOR WORKSHOPS	719.539.7519
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TAMPA REC. DEPT.	813.259.1687
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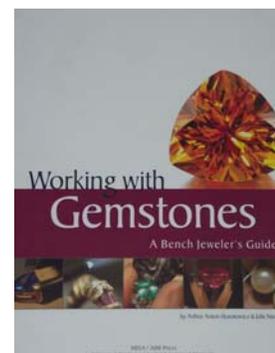
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**BOOK REVIEW**

by

**Rodney Carroll**  
**Goldsmith**  
**Lithos Jewelry**

**Working with Gemstones: A Bench  
Jeweler's Guide By Arthur Anton  
Skuratowicz & Julie Nash Pub-  
lished By MJSA/AJM Press**



When I was first asked to review this book I thought that it would be a quick read and I would not really gain anything from this book. I was very surprised by how much I did not know about a number of gemstones. I am a bench jeweler working in a high end store. I work with diamonds all the time easily up to 4 cts. I work with rubies and sapphires on a regular basis and a fair number of emeralds. I also work with all types of pearls from Chinese fresh water to South Seas and Tahitians. It was several of the minor stones that I found that I could get myself into trouble with.

This book covers the handling of 22 different stones. Each section of the book is set up sort of like a checklist of the "Do's" and "Don'ts" for that particular stone. I like the "Picture this" section in each chapter. Some of the pictures are not for the faint at heart. They show pictures of real life repairs of stones setting gone wrong. I like the way this book is written in such a way anyone can understand it and it is easy to read. If you are trying to check the facts on how to handle a particular stone, it will just take you a couple of minutes to get the information you are looking for. In fact it may have saved me from trouble the other day when I was sizing a ruby ring that was around 20 years old before heat treating was a common practice. Most of the time we take no measure to keep a ruby cool because they can handle the heat, but I had remembered from this book that heating this unaltered stone could have an unwanted affect on the stone. So in conclusion, I thought it was a good read and a book worth spending your hard earned money on.

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## Bench Tips

**Allen Brown (WC)** - When you are setting faceted stones, you can use a small cone of bee's wax (approximately 1 inch long) to pick up and hold the stone while placing it in the mounting. Hold the large end of the cone between your fingers, touching the tip of the cone to the stone face which then sticks to the wax and allows you to maneuver the stone into the mounting. If your bee's wax is too soft and sticky, add a tiny amount of powdered charcoal from your soldering block to the wax to make it harder. If your wax is too hard, add a drop of turpentine to soften the wax. The bee's wax can also be used to pull a stuck cabochon out of the bezel by pressing the wax to the cabochon face and then pulling on the wax and stone while holding down on the bezel

**Allen Brown.** When repairing or sizing a ring you should always check to see if the ring shank has previously been soldered, because a prior solder joint could open up when heat is applied causing new problems. To discover if there are prior solder joints on the shank, heat the shank with a torch so that the solder joint will oxidize and show up as a dark line. Alternatively, iodine solution applied to the shank will reveal any prior solder lines. Make your cut at the previous solder joint and proceed with your work.

**Kathrine Mears (AL)** - Attach a small hand towel to your shop apron with a large safety pin. The towel is readily handy whenever you need it and you avoid lumps of wadded up paper towels in your apron pockets.

**Alan Revere** Let's face it, not every snippet of solder winds up in your work. Some pieces fly away during clipping, while others jump on the floor or fall into your catch pan, never to be found again. You might even accidentally spill one tray of solder snippets into another, mixing two different grades and creating a useless chaos. (After all, unless you are 100 percent sure which grade of solder snippet you have, you cannot use it.)

To make your life easy, color code all your solders when you first get them. Use fat permanent marking pens of various colors to indicate the melting temperature. For instance, use red ink to cover both sides of your hard solder sheet (the hottest color for the hottest flow temperature). Use black ink for medium, and use blue or green ink for easy solder (the lowest flow temperature). Cover both sides completely

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