



Washington Guild of Goldsmiths

Newsletter

Fall Issue

2018

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I write this, the last of my President's Messages to the Guild, I am reflecting on the last four years and how we as a group continue to move forward. We have continued to move into the digital world by having registrations and payments online in addition to via paper. Our 3rd Tuesday meetings are branching out to include members in Virginia and the District. The workshop program has made the Guild known nationwide for its offerings, and is getting revamped to include programs on both sides of the Potomac. Lastly, our Biennial Show and Sale, in its 18th year, manages to inspire all of us to extend our creativity by producing something wonderful. While our members change slightly over time, we all enjoy the comradery of working with metal and discussing techniques, materials, and the coolest tools that we have seen or used. In addition to these benefits, the most precious are the lifelong friendships we nurture through our WGG interactions.

Credit for the advances we have made goes to our member-Volunteers! We offer our time and energy to making the Guild a great organization. Tyler Kulenguski has enabled us to create a world-class exhibition, METALWORK 2018. Sherry Terao coordinates information for our quarterly newsletters. Peggy Shiffrin, our Secretary, remarkably records our Guild meetings with clarity and continuity. Our Treasurer, Michael Brehl, accurately calculates all the Guild's expenses and income. Jody Sachs commendably works with other guilds' CCC representatives to enhance the lives of artists and crafts persons in the DMV. Sharyn Bowman accumulates and organizes the membership data base and directory for the Guild. Our webpage shines with Natalie Barat's amazing attention. Workshop Coordinator Jeanette Ryan

works to bring us new instructors by reaching out to artists from all over the country. Cyd Rowley, our SNAG liaison, also coordinates our social media. Communications Coordinator, Sandra Zacharia shares email messages about all topics that might be of interest to our members. Nick Grant Barnes works tirelessly to promote our educational fund and student grant program for new metals artists with the WGG Linked Program. Advice from Jan Maddox and Winifred Anthony has been enormously appreciated.

In the near future we look forward to more 3rd Tuesday events, METALWORK 2018 opening on November 7th, Jeff Georgantes' workshop December 15-17, and time to celebrate our craft.

Marla Rudnick, WGG President

WGG ELECTIONS

WGG fiscal year ends Dec. 31 of each year. **That is why dues to renew our membership are required by 12/31/2018.** Elections for the 2-year terms for the Board positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer are required in our By-Laws to be held before 2018 closes. All other Board positions are appointed by the President and serve for 2 years. We offer our most sincere thanks to Marla Rudnick for her outstanding service as WGG President over the past two terms. Our current Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer have generously agreed to continue for another term (ending Dec. 2020). Elections will be announced shortly.

WGG MEMBERSHIP NEWS & INFORMATION

DUES REMINDER:

Membership dues for the Washington Guild of Goldsmiths are valid for ONE calendar year (January – December) and are **subject to renewal on January 1st of each year.**

TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP for **2019**, please use the application form on page 11, or you can now renew online on our website, www.washingtonguildofgoldsmiths.com Consider paying dues **BEFORE** due date; checks will **NOT** be deposited until after the due date, Jan. 1, 2019

WELCOME RENEWING AND NEW MEMBERS

Membership benefits:

Membership benefits include, but are not limited to: participation in monthly **“3rd Tuesday”** meetings *that stir your creative juices*, receipt of **quarterly newsletters** and other **Guild e-mailings** (i.e. Calls For Entries, business opportunities, etc.), inclusion in the annual **Membership Directory** (published each year), opportunity to **participate in the biennial METALWORKS Show** sponsored by the Guild, and ability to participate (at **reduced rates**) in **workshops** offered by the Guild and Creative Metalworks School. In addition, our Guild offers a **free 1-web-page posting on our WGG website** for members in good standing. This can be used to feature several pieces of your work in addition to a brief artist statement. Submission requirements are provided on the website page.

Help recruit members:

We encourage you to invite other jewelry associates to participate in our activities and to join our Guild. A membership application form is included with this newsletter and is also available on our Guild web page: www.washingtonguildofgoldsmiths.com. Completed applications and dues payments should be mailed to our Treasurer. Questions may be addressed to our Membership Coordinator. Contact information for these individuals is provided on the application form.

Keep your contact information up to date:

Please remember to keep the Membership Coordinator informed of any changes to your membership information (name, address, email, etc.) to be sure that you receive all WGG mailings. You can send the information to the Membership Coordinator as shown on the application form (page 11).

Receiving email notices from the WGG?

To save on postage and processing time (we're all volunteers, and we haven't raised the dues in a long time), members of the WGG Board use the email method of informing members of items of interest between Newsletter publication times. If you do not yet have an email account, please set one up at your convenience. Many are free (e.g. Yahoo, gmail) and computer access is available at your public library. If you are using a "spam filter" on your own computer and have not entered the email addresses of the WGG Board members into your email directory, the notices may be directed to your email spam folder. If you delete messages in your spam folder without reviewing them first, you may miss important news items from the Guild (for example: shows and workshops you can attend, key application and membership renewal deadlines, newsletter submission reminders, etc.). Each quarterly Newsletter lists the Board members with their respective email addresses.

Get *your* PERSONAL FREE WEB PAGE on the WGG Guild website.

Information on how to set up a personal web page can be found at the bottom of our website's Member Information Page. Go to:

<http://www.washingtonguildofgoldsmiths.com/members/>

RIGHT NOW it is time to **UPDATE YOUR MEMBER PAGE.**

Website Coordinator: Natalie Barat nb@nataliebarat.com (240) 893-1505

MEMBER NEWS

WGG Members – Please let us know about your achievements, recognition and awards. It is not bragging and will certainly encourage your co-members in their artistic endeavors. Please share your successes with your colleagues!

Regrettably, this issue does not have any Member News to report.

WORKSHOP NEWS by Jeanette Blix Ryan, WGG Workshop Coordinator

Workshop: **Fire, Forge and Flush Stonesetting**

Instructor: Jeff Georgantes Date: December 15-17, Montgomery College, Rockville, MD

This workshop will be taught by Jeff Georgantes who has a MFA in Jewelry/Metals from CSU, Fullerton and a BA in Art and a MA in Sculpture, both from CSU, Humboldt. He taught Art at College of the Redwoods, Eureka, CA, for fifteen years and has taught numerous visiting artist workshops across the USA. He helped develop and coordinate the Jewelry/Metals program at the Mendocino Art Center from the early 1990s until 2005 when he started his position as head of the Jewelry/Metals program at Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH. His work can be seen in Alan Revere's book, The Art of Jewelry.

Fire, Forge and Flush Stonesetting is a three-day workshop which will lead you on a journey filled with twists and turns to explore a variety of core metalsmithing skills that culminate with a finished silver ring. First, using your own recycled sterling silver you will cast an ingot. Then with the help of the rolling mill along with hammers and an anvil, you will forge out a silver ring. Next, you'll practice flush setting faceted stones, getting ready for the real deal, setting stones into your hand-wrought silver ring. The class will be filled with tips and tricks for ingot making, forging and flush setting, including how to make your own setting tools. There will also be an added bonus lesson in graver setting. To learn more about Jeff Georgantes please visit his website at <http://www.jeffgeorgantes.com/>

This workshop will be advertised via email to members on the WGG website and on the WGG Facebook page. The WGG website (www.washingtonguildofgoldsmiths.com) will provide an application form for both workshops that you can use to sign up. All instructions are contained on the application form. If you have any problems trying to sign up, or any questions, please contact me at jeanetteblix@gmail.com.

The Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society GEM AUCTION

Date: Friday, October 12th, 2018

Time: 7:30 pm (viewing at 7:00 pm)

Place: Westchester Community Center

2414 Westchester Ave., Oella MD 21043

Items that can be found are Gemstones, Cutting rough, Jewelry, Minerals, Fossils, Books, Magazines, and Lapidary equipment.

Refreshments are available.

Washington Guild of Goldsmiths Education Auction

The Guild is a cooperative association whose members' skills, energy and enthusiasm promote its successful programs. We welcome new members who share our goals, and in that spirit, the WGG METALWORK Scholarship began in 2016, to promote the Guild to up and coming student metalsmiths.

- All members of the WGG are invited to create and **donate** a piece for Auction.
- The pieces will be displayed and auctioned as one entity at "METALWORK 2018" to raise funds for the WGG New Student Fund.
- Each piece should be representative of the Artist's personal work style and can be made of any durable materials.
- An illustration of the required dimensions can be found below.

RULES: All entries are DONATIONS by the Artist to the WGG.



Washington Guild of Goldsmiths WGG Auction Entry Form 2018

Name: _____

Address: _____

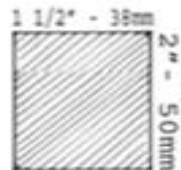
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Materials used: _____

ALL ENTRIES ARE DONATIONS BY THE ARTIST/SIGNEE TO THE WGG.

Pieces and Entry form should be delivered **no later than October 15th**, 2018 to Nick Grant Barnes, 808 Hollywood Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20904

Your piece should fit within the shaded area of 1 1/2" x 2"



Your piece should be able to be hung on a chain/cord as a pendant.



The hanging point may be part of the piece or placed on the outer frame or placed within the frame.



The point of contact should accommodate a 1/8" - 6mm cord/chain.



WGG AUCTION GUIDELINES 2018



Hurricane Florence hit the US East Coast, and caused enormous damage to a large part of the East Coast. We always urge all those in the potential path of any storm to take precautions. In this emergency alert, you'll find important information to help all who are in the path of the storm remain safe.

Disaster Preparedness Resources for Artists

We encourage you to take a moment now to review the disaster readiness tips found at CERF+'s *Studio Protector*.

Hurricane – Studio Readiness; Flood – Studio Readiness; Studio Evacuation

Additional *Studio Protector* emergency preparedness tips:

PLAN AHEAD

Evacuate or Stay Put; Emergency Communications Plan; Planning to Stay in Business

COVER YOUR ART AND BUSINESS ASSETS

- Keep Your Artwork Safe + Secure;
- Protect your Digital Business Records;
- Protect your Analog Business Records

DISASTER RECOVERY RESOURCES FOR ARTISTS

If you or a studio artist you know has losses due to the storm, disaster [relief](#) and [recovery](#) tips are available at the *Studio Protector*.

Disaster Relief Resources for Artists; Disaster Recovery Resources for Artists; CERF+ Emergency Relief for Artists Working In Craft Disciplines

If you have experienced a career-threatening loss, please contact us when able at relief@cerfplus.org. Our direct financial assistance to artists working in craft disciplines includes:

- \$3,000 Emergency Grants;
- Booth fair waivers at craft shows;
- Discounts from suppliers/manufacturers on materials and equipment

To learn more about our eligibility requirements and guidelines, [visit our website](#).

Arts Organizations

If you know of artists in the areas that may be affected or plan to correspond with artists in the near future, please pass this important information along.

CLASSIFIEDS

Available Studio Space: *FYI from Cyd Rowley* - There is space available for rent next to Cyd Rowley's studio, in what was Michael Schwartz' old school in Kensington on Metropolitan Ave. It is 1600 square feet (twice the size of Cyd's) for \$2,800 per month. Would work well for a group of metalsmiths to share the space. Contact Dennis Burke if interested at 301-943-1640

Foredom Dealer Contact: Cyd Rowley, WGG board member, is now a Foredom dealer. You can see all Foredom tools and supplies at <http://www.foredom.net/rotarytools.aspx>. She gives you 15% off all items. Orders must be submitted in writing to her via email (cydrowley@mac.com) and payment made at time of receipt. Items will be shipped directly to your house. You may also contact her by phone 301-996-2089 to discuss Foredom products and replacement parts.

Hey Maker, ARE YOU READY TO ADJUST YOUR POSTURE?

This year has taught me that change is inevitable, constant, and natural. The way the seasons shift from one to another. The way our bodies grow, strengthen, and wear. The way we move from one place to the next. The way relationships weave throughout our lives.

Change is inevitable. But we get to decide how we choose to engage with it.

As we get older, change inevitably affects our bodies. Not all of the things that change in our lives are within our control. But the physical actions you take can positively or negatively influence the changes that happen naturally over time. If you choose not to evaluate your posture and you sit hunched over at a desk for long periods of time each day, your muscles will adapt to that position: Overstretched in some areas and shortened in others. **Your body will physically lay down extra connective tissue where it thinks you no longer need access to range of motion (if you don't use it, you lose it). These changes your body's mobility and elasticity are a response to how you move.** Isn't that amazing?

How often do you check in with your posture? Just the act of noticing is a huge success. Take a moment to check in with your body. How are you sitting or standing? **How does your posture affect your breath?** What does it feel like to make subtle adjustments?

Noticing your posture in the studio is the first step to creating better habits when it comes to studio ergonomics. If your studio practice requires you to sit in a chair for long hours, either at the bench or computer, then it is important to sit well: Sit toward the front of your chair and position your knees directly over your ankles. Adjust the height of your chair so your thighs are parallel to the floor. Then sit up tall, keep your chin level, keep the back of your neck long, and relax your shoulders. Even though good seated posture is important, remember that sitting for long periods of time without breaks can result in pain and discomfort in your back, neck, and shoulders. Remember to get up and walk around to add some variety into your day.

Even the smallest actions create change. Little adjustments help to teach your body how to create new patterns and build strength in areas that might be lacking. **Every single time you make an effort to improve your posture, you're re-training your muscles to learn to sustain that structure.**

Xo,
Missy



Cyd Rowley, SNAG Mid-Atlantic Region Liaison will be sending out her quarterly newsletter very shortly. So please keep checking your email!

SNAG UPDATE

By Michael Brehl

As a member of the **SNAG** Board of Directors, I am writing this at a VERY exciting time for the **Society of North American Goldsmiths** (SNAG). When most businesses or independent endeavors fail to thrive within five years - our international **organization is turning 50** and this deserves to be celebrated in a very special way.



The first official meeting of the founding members of the Society of North American Goldsmiths was in 1969 in Chicago, and the first conference was held in 1970 in St. Paul, Minnesota. In SNAG's first year there were just 64 members. Today, we are 3,000 strong with a membership of studio artists, educators, students and others working in all metals, alternative materials, and all aspects of contemporary art, design, jewelry and metalsmithing.

Therefore, over the next two years, conference programming will be highlighting the founding and history of the organization, where we started, what we have accomplished, where we are going for the next 50 years, the future of our field and above all - **celebrating the membership that made it all possible**. We are planning multiple special events to honor this organization and the people that have helped to create the culture and community we all value.

Programs include:

- Publication of SNAG's history and major milestones
- Exhibition of the Masters of our field to be held during the 2019 conference
- Exhibition of the future of our field to be held during the 2020 conference
- StoryCorps video booth during the 2019 & 2020 conferences that will capture attendees' stories of our history
- Special birthday party event for attendees of the 2020 conference

Please take a moment to reflect on this **significant accomplishment** for the organization, one that began with a handful of people, an accomplishment that **YOU** are a part of. We hope that SNAG is meaningful to you and, in turn, please know that your participation forms the foundation for the future members of SNAG.

The SNAG Legacy Circle of Giving, "219 for \$220," campaign supporting our 50th Anniversary activities, officially closes on October 16th.

But all this cannot happen without financial support, and any support is appreciated.

So please consider a donation in order to help make these events possible and become a part of the **SNAG Legacy Circle of Giving**. <https://www.snagmetalsmith.org/219-for-220-donate/>

Best wishes,
Michael Brehl, SNAG Board of Directors

(Michael Brehl is *a/so* our WGG Treasurer)

INSTALLING SIZING BEADS

by [Alan Revere](#) *Courtesy of Ganoksin Orchid eNews*

Of all the arts and crafts, none is more intimately involved with the human body than jewelry. Neck chains, pendants and earrings are all dependent on the body as a stage and for movement. Certain items are often customized or even custom made to fit the wearer, and a ring must fit, well, like a glove. In addition to sizing rings to meet specific dimensions, sometimes the repair jeweler is asked to modify an item to accommodate a physical condition, such as arthritis.

Arthritis is a common malady which affects many people as they age. People with arthritis often have enlarged knuckles which make it difficult to wear rings. A ring that barely squeezes over an arthritic knuckle may be so loose on the finger that it slips around and around. The simplest solution is often to add two beads of metal on the inside of the ring. This basic approach works by effectively tightening the ring when it is on the finger. Yet the space between the beads permits the ring to be turned as it is slipped over the knuckle. Another situation justifying the addition of sizing beads is when a top-heavy ring spins, even on a person without arthritis. And still another reason to add them is on a ring that has a pressure-sensitive gem that cannot easily be removed during sizing. For instance, if the ring has a large opal mounted in a very thick bezel, one might elect to add sizing beads rather than try to reshape the shank.



Figure 7. 1. Ring before alteration

1. This gold ring with diamonds and sapphires is brought in by an elderly gentleman who had developed arthritis in recent years. He complains that the ring barely fits over the knuckle. But after he forces it on, the ring rotates loosely around his finger, partly because it is top heavy (Figure 7. 1). You suggest adding sizing beads as the simplest and most cost effective solution. The alternative choices are more involved and costly.



Figure 7.2. Fusing the spheres

2. The beads are made from two matching spheres of gold, about 2 mm in diameter. To make them, cut two yellow gold chips of equal size from a piece of clean 14k scrap. Lay them out on a charcoal block, add a bit of flux, and heat them until they fuse into balls (Figure 7.2). If necessary, add more gold to increase the size to 2 mm.

3. In order to accommodate the addition of two small balls and still fit the wearer, the ring should be enlarged by about one quarter of a size. This can often be accomplished merely by hammering the shank just a little bit. Examine the ring to determine if it has been sized before. If it has been sized, and there are seams in the shank, then it would be wise to use easy solder to attach the balls. If not, medium or hard solder will work well. Place a snippet of solder on the flat spot where each ball sat on the charcoal block. If there is no flat spot, make one by filing. Heat to flow the solder. The two-stage process of flowing solder onto one element prior to joining it with another is called sweat soldering (Figure 7.3).



Figure 7.3. Adding solder

4. Clean the ring in preparation for soldering. Make two marks on the shank at about 5 and 7 o'clock, to indicate where the balls will be soldered. Now firecoat the ring and use a pair of cross-locking solder tweezers to clamp one of the beads into place with the solder side against the ring. Add a drop of flux at the joint and heat the ring to warm it up. Solder tweezers are often helpful holding elements in place, but they also have the negative effect of absorbing heat away from the scam and slowing down the soldering process. One solution for this problem is to preheat the legs of the tweezers before heating the ring. When the tweezers are very hot, focus the heat on the ring itself This heats the bead by conduction and causes the solder to flow from the ball to the shank, which is hotter (Figure 7.4).



Figure 7.4. Sweat soldering a bead in place

Another approach to attaching the beads involves using a ball bur of the same size as the beads to make depressions at the two desired locations. Deepen the cavities to about 15 percent of the beads' diameters. Then melt solder into each of the depressions. Place the beads over the solder as you apply heat. When the solder in the holes melts, the beads sink into place at the desired locations and a strong solder bond is created.

5. When the job is complete, the two beads should be equal in size, shape and position. Buff and polish the inside of the shank, as well as the rest of the ring (Figure 7-5). These two simple little beads will go a long way toward solving the problem. Mr. Bumpstead is both surprised and pleased at the ease with which his ring now slides over his knuckle, when turned slightly to the side. And when on his finger, the ring no longer swims around loosely.



Figure 7.5. Finished ring with sizing beads

By [Alan Revere](#) - © Excerpts from [Ring Repair](#) - 1998

2017 WGG BOARD OF DIRECTORS Officers and Coordinators

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINES: (on the 20th of the month)

December 20th for Winter 2019
March 20th for Spring 2019
June 20th for Summer 2019
September 20th for Fall 2019

Contributed articles and suggestions for the Newsletter are ALWAYS welcome!



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JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Type of Membership: Individual One Year \$40 (Two Year no longer available)

Full-Time Student \$20

NEW Member -or- Renewing Member

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

ALL MEMBERSHIPS RENEW IN JANUARY - Due By Feb. 1st *

FIRST TIME NEW MEMBERS after 6/30 pay only 1/2 ANNUAL Dues

Please provide the following information about yourself and your business as you would like it to appear in the WGG Membership Directory:

Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

Website: _____

PLEASE CHECK HERE IF YOU WANT A HARDCOPY OF THE NEWSLETTER.

ALL MEMBERS RECEIVE AN EMAIL COPY OF THE QUARTERLY WGG NEWSLETTER.

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AND NEEDED

Please check those areas where you could help the Guild with its activities & programs:

- Third Tuesday Activities
- Teach Workshops
- Advertise and Promotions
- Newsletter
- Website
- Materials Supply Sources
- As needed, just call me
- Workshop Committee
- Biennial Show
- Hospitality
- Contribute to the Newsletter
- Legal Advice for Artists
- Serve on Guild Board
- Other _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please make checks payable to the WGG and mail via USPS to:

WGG Treasurer, Michael Brehl – 4407 29th Street, Mt. Rainier, MD 20712

Membership inquiries – Sharyn Bowman sharynbg@gmail.com 301-346-7033

*To be included in the Guild Directory

Rev. 10/3/2018



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FALL 2018 - NEWSLETTER

Dated Material

Please Read Now



Washington Guild of Goldsmiths

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