



Washington Guild of Goldsmiths Newsletter

Winter - Spring Issue

2020

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

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With sincere apologies to all WGG members for months of delay in getting you the winter and spring quarterly newsletters.

Due to my personal challenges, prior to the Covid-19 outbreak, I was unable to put the newsletter together. I deeply regret this and determine to get your newsletter back on track. Note that this is the Winter-Spring 2020 Newsletter to start fresh from this moment.

In February, we learned of the sudden death of Jerry Maddox, guild supporter and husband of our dear, long-time member, Professor Jan Maddox.

Then, due to sudden and severe illness in her family, Jody Sachs had to abruptly resign from her WGG position as President, and we all are sending powerful prayers for her entire family. Fortunately, past President, Marla Rudnick, generously stepped up to be our Interim President.

Then, we learned in 1978, the WGG had not been incorporated. Thanks to the efforts of our Secretary, Peggy Shiffrin, we are proceeding to incorporate and correct our legal status as a non-profit organization.

Next, the pandemic of Covid-19 imposed the self-quarantined life-style on us all, turning everyone's lives upside-down. Needless to say, the "new normal" and each of our efforts to prevent its spread has required serious re-evaluation of our plans and priorities, including our biennial METALWORKS 2020 Show and Sale, and the workshop and jurying that would have been starting about now.

Our intrepid Vice President, Tyler Kulenguski, and Marla have been very busy determining how best to proceed. Personally, I've gotten lost in the midst of all these changes. Hopefully, they will be able to provide new information on these matters in the near future.

Sherry Terao, WGG Newsletter Editor

CREATIVE CRAFTS COUNCIL (CCC) NEWS

The Creative Crafts Council's 32nd Biennial Exhibition ran from June 1 - July 31, 2019 at the Mansion at Strathmore. This year, again, was a great success. Several WGG Members were recognized for their excellence.

The next Biennial Exhibition will be held in the spring of 2021. CCC is currently looking for a new executive director.
www.creativecraftscouncil.org

WGG Membership Information

The Washington Guild of Goldsmiths is a cooperative association whose members' skills, energy and enthusiasm promote and sustain its successful programs. We welcome new members.

The Guild's principal activities are:

- Periodic workshops and lectures in technical and aesthetic aspects of metalwork and design, as well as in other areas of concern such as marketing, offered throughout the year and conducted by outstanding teachers, artists and craft professionals from all over the country.
- Juried participation in the Bi-annual Metalwork Exhibition.
- Publication of a quarterly email newsletter with information and articles of interest to guild members.

DUES REMINDER:

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

- Membership, open to all, is accepted throughout the year.
- Annual dues are currently \$40 per calendar year. Full-time students pay \$20.

If you would like to join as a member:

1. You can **print out, complete, and mail** the application form on p.11 of this newsletter **or** use the pdf form: [Membership Application Form](#) **along with your check** to the WGG Treasurer at the address provided on the form, or
2. You can **fill out** [the online Membership Application Form](#) and **pay dues electronically**.

We hope you will become an active participant in our program of workshops which are advertised on the website and in the newsletter. The next issue of the newsletter will be emailed or mailed to you, as well as, a copy of the membership directory.

Feel free to [e-mail us](#) if you have any questions.

Get *your* PERSONAL FREE WEB PAGE on the WGG 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!

WGG President, Jody Sachs' husband's health crisis caused Jody to resign her position in the WGG. We all wish Jody and her husband well and a full recovery. Meanwhile, WGG past-president, Marla Rudnick kindly stepped in as our WGG Interim President.

Condolences to long-time **WGG Member, Jan Maddox** whose wonderfully supportive husband, Jerry Maddox passed away February 10, 2020 at Suburban Hospital. Jan and Jerry were married for 61 years, and their love of art and art history enriched their international travels. Jan has now moved from Bethesda to Gaithersburg, MD. Jan is liquidating her jewelry tools and supplies at half retail price and some of her items are listed below.

Small Precision Square - \$10

Larger Precision Square - \$15

Mushroom Slight Curved Stake - \$40

Large Vice - \$50

Flex Shaft Sander - \$35

Double Spindle Polishing Wheel, Hood, Spindles, All polishing supplied - \$500

Knew Concept Saw - \$1,000.

Large Ball Punches/Stakes 1-2.5" - \$80

Various Delrin hammers - ?

Please contact Jan at 301-646-0393 or email at janmaddox0000@yahoo.com.

ONLINE JEWELRY INFO SITES

FREE JEWELRY DICTIONARY: CRACK THE CODE ON JEWELRY TERMS- Do you know what a boule is? Have you ever heard of a collet hammer? What's the difference between iridescence and luster? There are hundreds if not thousands of terms, techniques, and tool names specific to metalsmithing and working with gemstones, and we've compiled every one we could think of into this handy downloadable and printable jewelry-making dictionary or glossary. In our free eBook, you'll learn about everything from abrasives to zirconium oxide and hundreds of terms in between. You will need to create a free account with Jewelry Making Daily to download the e-book. (Thanks to FSG Newsletter!) <http://www.jewelrymakingdaily.com/jewelry-dictionary/?a=je141024&mid=651311&rid=3647131>

ORCHID FORUM, THE GANOKSIN WEBSITE, internationally chat among master jewelers to novices at: http://www.ganoksin.com/site-map.htm?utm_campaign=orchid-digest&utm_medium=email&utm_source=- From the Home Page, click "Join" (it's free) and sign up for the daily digest of Q&A flowing around the globe!

METALSMITH BENCH TALK- Jay Whaley interviews metalsmiths on his show live Thursdays at 3pm PST. Shows are archived for your listening convenience at <http://www.blogtalkradio.com/whaleystudios>

CLASSIFIEDS

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.

Jan Maddox Liquidating Tools &Supplies

Please contact Jan at 301-646-0393 or email at janmaddox0000@yahoo.com

WGG METALWORKS 2020 Update

Our Metalwork 2020 Show at The Strathmore Mansion IS STILL ON!!!

Although we have had to make some changes and **postpone due dates, jurying, and the workshop**, we are still on course to open the Show at The Strathmore Mansion on September 8th.

For now, the online **APPLICATION DEADLINE** has been moved to July 9th 11:59pm.

Tom Muir's **WORKSHOP ON HINGES** is rescheduled to August 1-3(Sat-Mon).

JURYING has been rescheduled for Tuesday, Aug 4th.

The WGG METALWORKS 2020 Application is on The Strathmore Mansion's website:

<https://www.strathmore.org/visual-arts/artist-opportunities/entry-form> to sign up for the "Entry Thingy".

Click on EXHIBITIONS, then click ARTIST OPPORTUNITIES, and then click METALWORKS to get to the application prospectus. <https://www.strathmore.org/visual-arts/artist-opportunities/metalworks>

The bios of our Jurors, Tom Muir and Sean Macmillan follow the application. Anyone having difficulties can follow a wonderful video TUTORIAL by Gabrielle Tillenburg to fill it out.

We will continue to keep you posted, but things can still change due to Covid-19, so we will make a FINAL decision around June 30th on moving forward with the Show.

WORKSHOP NEWS

Renowned metalsmith, Tom Muir will be jurying our METALWORKS 2020 entries this August. Our Lead Juror will be Tom Muir from Bowling Green State University in Ohio. He will be teaching a 3-day workshop on **hinge making**, which will include three types of hinges. The timeframe for jurying and his workshop is tentatively set for the beginning of August. More info will be emailed to the WGG members. Samples of Tom Muir's work are shown here:



Dear SNAG Members,

We hope this finds you and your loved ones safe, healthy, and maybe even embracing a bit of mandatory downtime.

As you read this, you are very well aware of the impact COVID-19 is having on businesses -- especially small businesses and nonprofits-in addition to individuals. SNAG is not exempt from feeling the economic impact. For the past couple of years, the Board of Directors was working to improve the long term financial stability of the organization. Before the pandemic was declared the organization was just breaking even, but canceling our annual conference has taken a significant toll.

We are writing to let you know that we have been working very hard behind the scenes to come up with a plan to keep SNAG moving forward during these challenging times. In order to keep SNAG solvent, the Board of Directors had no choice but to implement significant cost-cutting measures. We assessed staff positions, programming, and considered recent membership feedback on what you value most about the organization. Multiple scenarios are being explored in great detail to determine the best path forward.

As we look back at our first fifty years and consider how we can best assure our future, we have faced challenging decisions. Like many similar organizations, over the last few years, we have overextended and grown much larger than is sustainable, especially during this pandemic. As part of this streamlining and reorganization, we have found it necessary to eliminate both the Executive Director and Director of Education positions.

In the coming weeks, we will share more with you about our decision making process, restructuring plan, and details on what you can expect from SNAG in the coming days, weeks, and months. We want to hear from you, and hope many of you will reaffirm your commitment to the organization by lending your continued support and time as a volunteer.

Additionally, we started the process of refunding conference fees. We are offering additional ways to use that refund to buy books, renew your membership, or gift a *Metalsmith* subscription. We hope you will consider these new options! The refund process is going to take us some time but please know that we will process your refund as soon as we can. **Please be patient with us.**

Overall we value the strong sense of community within our organization, and your support is vital to ensuring SNAG's survival. Our hope is that we will come out of this as a stronger, more robust community of artists, designers, makers, educators, curators, retailers, students, writers -- all the unique individuals that are SNAG. Out of chaos can come innovation. We look forward to celebrating our perseverance and determination when we are able to meet again face to face.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors - Society of North American Goldsmiths

Brian Ferrell
Emily Stoehrer
Kat Cole
Michael Brehl
April Wood
Ke-Hoo Yuen
Becky McDonah

Dominique Bereiter
Elizabeth Shypert
Pat Madeja
Terri Baybutt
Diane deBeixedon
Anne Havel
Nicole Jacquard

The Society of North American Goldsmiths (SNAG) advances jewelry and metalsmithing by inspiring creativity, encouraging education, and fostering community. SNAG envisions a diverse jewelry and metals community that engages in thoughtful conversation and critical discourse while preserving tradition and embracing innovation.

OTTO FREI – BECOME A BETTER STONESETTER



SEEING MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE

Once you can truly see the work you are doing, your work will improve. Otto Frei sells microscopes ready to use for jewelry work, with easy to use stands and the proper space for your work and your hands. All on sale now when you use coupon code SETTOOLS in checkout.

[Save on Microscopes](#)



THIS IS REALLY A GOOD DEAL

Vendors are reaching out to us with some very good deals on tools and equipment as so much of our industry has shut down during this epidemic. This is a really good deal on our favorite quick change handpiece, the Technique Swiss-Made, Quick-Change Handpiece. Use code SETTOOLS in checkout and you will save 10% on this already discounted price.

[See the Handpiece](#)

[Watch it in Action](#)



SAVE 5% WITH HOME20

In California, we are staying at home to stay safe. Use coupon code HOME20 and save 5% on any order thru the end of the month.

[View Closeouts](#)



CERF+ Announces Formation of COVID-19 Response Fund

CERF+ is actively monitoring the coronavirus outbreak as it evolves and expands each day. In response, we are taking action on several fronts.

Today, CERF+ is launching the COVID-19 Response Fund to support artists working in craft disciplines. This fund is essential to our rapid and effective response to those artists who are suffering severe health impacts from the coronavirus, ensuring that CERF+ has the funds necessary to respond to this unprecedented crisis. [Please donate today to the CERF+ COVID-19 Response Fund.](#)

In addition to our [expansive information and resources for artists related to this crisis](#), we are aggregating all relevant information from artists, peer organizations, and the emergency management community. If you have information to share, please direct these resources to our education and outreach manager, [Carrie Cleveland](#).

As details about the CARES Act become available and portions of this federal package begin to roll out, it's important to know what is accessible to artists and other self-employed workers. While regulations are being drafted and the landscape is changing daily and hourly, here are some key components:

PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

ECONOMIC INJURY DISASTER LOANS

PAYROLL PROTECTION PROGRAM (PPP) LOANS

Please contact CERF+ directly for much more detail and assistance. info@cerfplus.org 801-229-2306

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TIPS & TECHNIQUES FOR ENAMELING

Courtesy of Ganoksin-Orchid eNews The world's largest online collection of educational materials for jewelry makers

Metal Preparation for the Enameling Process by Stewart Grice



A mesmerizing pattern of rainbow colored enamels catches your eye. The dynamic pendant is a wearable work of art. Its enamel coating tells a story. But if you dig a bit deeper, you'll find the metal underneath has a tale all of its own.

As a metallurgist working in the jewelry industry, I focus on the precious metal side of enameling. A decorative process, jewelry enameling can be explained simply as a technique that involves firing vitreous material (one or more layers) onto a precious metal base. The enamel, which is colored glass, bonds to the surface of the metal after being heated to the molten state and then being allowed to cool.

So, it stands to reason that anything preventing this bonding needs to be removed. Dirt and grease on the surface, oxide and tarnish layers, and even metallic elements in the composition that volatilize at or below the enameling temperature are all detrimental to the process. In this article, I will discuss the basics of metal preparation for the enameling process.

Some experienced enamelists may disagree with part of this. But remember, these are general rules from a metallurgist's point of view, not an enamelist's. The article is not intended to outline or recommend any particular preparation or enameling technique, but rather explain why we do certain things to precious metals during the process of enameling.

Alloy Selection

Enameling on fine gold or fine silver has obvious advantages: These elements do not generate oxides that can interfere with enamel adhesion. Base metal additions, which form alloys of gold and silver, complicate matters. For example, copper oxide prevents enamel adhesion and also results in color problems. Worse yet are the complications that arise when enameling precious metal jewelry alloys that contain zinc, which may be present in both karat gold and deox sterling silver alloys.

There are two problems associated with zinc: The presence of zinc oxide on the metal surface prevents adhesion and leads to color problems. The metal volatilizes from the surface at enameling temperatures, even if the surface has been pre-cleaned. Ever wonder why you get those yellow/white deposits on the inside of an annealing furnace? That's where zinc has vaporized from the solid metal and then condensed on the furnace surface. If zinc volatilizes from the metal surface during the enameling process, it becomes trapped by the liquid enamel and leads to the formation of bubbles as it expands-something no enamelist wants.

Karat gold alloys nearly always contain copper, but do not necessarily contain zinc. Most 18k and 22k alloys—with the exception of the majority of white gold alloys—have three components: gold, silver, and copper. Varying the ratios of the latter two elements results in yellow, green, and pink gold. From an enameling point of view, the lack of zinc content in these alloys ensures a better product. Zinc may be added to these higher karat alloys up to about one percent by weight for deoxidation purposes, but otherwise it is not strictly necessary.

On the other hand, gold alloys in the lower karats (such as 8k, 9k, 10k, 12k, and some 14k alloys) usually contain zinc in quantities up to 10 percent. Here zinc has a more profound effect on gold color, giving yellow alloys a warmer feel. Omitting zinc from these alloys results in a yellow color that has a pale pink (high copper alloys) or green (high silver alloys) hue.

White gold alloys may or may not contain zinc. There are three main families of white gold: The first comprises gold-silver-copper-zinc, the second uses palladium as the primary bleaching agent, and the third uses nickel. For enameling purposes, the first family can be treated in a similar fashion to the low karat yellow gold alloys. The palladium alloys do not require the presence of zinc, although this does not mean an alloy manufacturer will automatically omit the element. There is also potential for oxidation with alloys that contain copper, including gold / copper / palladium and gold / copper / silver / palladium alloys. (Some palladium white gold alloys do omit copper and consist of just gold, silver, and palladium.)

The nickel alloys usually include zinc—typically up to about six percent—for several reasons. Zinc bleaches gold and increases the malleability and ductility of the alloy during cold working operations, such as rolling and drawing. It can also act as a deoxidizer if the alloy is used for investment casting. While reducing the zinc content will improve enameling results as well as inhibit fire cracking, which can be a major problem with these alloys, it compromises the alloy's color and ductility.

Sterling silver alloys, another popular choice for enameling, typically include copper and sometimes zinc, which is used as a deoxidizer. (Deox sterling alloys may also contain germanium, which can cause problems during enameling because of its low melting point.) In addition to the potential complications associated with enameling on zinc-containing metals, sterling can be contaminated with trace amounts of the elements selenium and tellurium, which occur naturally in silver ore. As little as 5 parts per million combined of these elements will prevent enamel adhesion. I am unsure of the reason, but there are a number of compounds formed with these elements that may contribute to the problem. It's important to note that this problem occurs very rarely.

Considering the above complications, it's essential to discuss alloy content with your metal supplier when choosing a karat gold or silver alloy for enameling. Find out how much zinc is in the composition. If possible, choose alloys that are either zinc-free or contain very low zinc concentrations, typically less than 2 percent. Alloys containing higher zinc concentrations can be successfully enameled, but they require more care in the preparation stages. Precious metal alloys containing up to 10 percent zinc have been successfully enameled, particularly if opaque enamels are used, but they are not recommended if you are aiming for repeatable results.

To see entire report, go to:

https://www.ganoksin.com/article/the-metal-underneath/?utm_source=ganoksin&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=april_24_metal_underneath

2020 WGG BOARD OF DIRECTORS Officers and Coordinators

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Silver Spring, MD 20901

CCC Representative: **Open**
Email:
Phone:

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

June 20th for summer 2020
September 20th for fall 2020
December 20th for winter 2021
March 20th for spring 2021

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 ½ 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:

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

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please make checks payable to the WGG and mail via USPS to:
WGG Treasurer, Michael Brehl – 4407 29th Street Mt. Rainer, MD 20712

Membership inquiries –Membership Coordinator: **K.C. Gray Siebert** Email: kcgraysiebert@comcast.net

*To be included in the Guild Directory



Washington Guild of Goldsmiths

WINTER-SPRING - NEWSLETTER

Dated Material

Please Read Now

WGG Memberships Renew January 1st

WGG fiscal year ends Dec. 31 of each year. **That is why dues to renew our membership are required by 12/31/2020.** If you haven't already done so, Membership can be renewed online or mailing a paper copy of the Membership Application on page 11 of this Newsletter along with your payment for 2020 Dues. Thank you.



Washington Guild of Goldsmiths

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