

Washington Guild of Goldsmiths Newsletter

Winter Issue 2022

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year, WGG members!

After years as WGG President, Marla Rudnick has now passed the baton to me. Let me introduce myself to those of you who do not know me. I have lived in Old Town Alexandria for 5 years and began taking jewelry classes at the Art League during my first week here. I value all of the jewelers I have met since moving here and feel privileged to have studied under Michael Brehl, Mary Ellen Trozzo and Nick Barnes. My creative outlet turned to metalwork about 15 years ago, and I continue to love the medium and the hands-on work it requires.

We also have another new Board member: Jenny Peng Windheim, our new Secretary. The rest of our dedicated Board Members are continuing to support and lead the Guild as we move into this new term.

I hope the winter weather is inspiring new ideas for your jewelry designs. We also have many opportunities coming up to ramp up your creativity. With our continued online meetings and workshops, I hope more and more of us will take advantage of our activities. While online forums don't allow us to interact in person, they DO offer a very accessible way for everyone to glean and share valuable information.

Jan Solomon, Vice President and 3rd Tuesday Coordinator, continues to line up first rate speakers for our 3rd Tuesday meetings. Coming up, we will be visiting with guest artist (and former WGG President) Lisa Vershbow (https://www.lisaver-shbow.com) in March.

Jeanette Blix, our Workshop Coordinator, has also been bringing us excellent workshops. First up in 2022 is Carla M. Fox with "Lockets Shouldn't be Round," a wonderful forum for honing your hinge-making skills and thinking outside the box. Check out this workshop which will take place February 11-13, https://www.washingtonguildofgoldsmiths.com/workshops/

I look forward to seeing you all online soon!

Elyse Demaray WGG President

P.S. After 13 years, our stellar newsletter editor, Sherry Terao, has decided to step down. We can't thank Sherry enough for her dedication to keeping the Guild up-to-date on all of our key business. Please take this opportunity to express your gratitude to Sherry for her years of service to the Guild.

This also means that we now have an open position for newsletter editor. If you, or anyone you might know, would like to serve the Guild in this position, please contact me.

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 Biennual Metalwork Exhibition.
- Publication of a quarterly 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:

- 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, in the newsletter, and our monthly 3rd Tuesday meetings. The next issue of the newsletter and a copy of the membership directory will be distributed to Guild members.

Feel free to e-mail us if you have any questions.

WGG SHOW UPDATE:

The Washington Guild of Goldsmiths is pleased to announce **Metalwork 2022** will be hosted by The Strathmore Mansion in Rockville from September 6th through October 29th. Our jurors will be Tom Muir from Bowling Green State University, OH, and Sean Macmillan from Slippery Rock University, PA. Jurying will take place on Sunday, June 5th, at Cyd Rowley Studios, Kensington, MD. The show's photographer will be Pete Duval. Every artist in the show will get one photograph that will be featured in the **Metalwork 2022** catalog. The gap between jurying in June and the show in September is due to the need to prepare and print the show's catalog, by the opening of the show.

Our jurors will be teaching in-person workshops while they are with us. Please see "Workshop News" below for more information.

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 top of our website's Member Information Page. Go to:

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

RIGHT NOW is the 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!

3rd TUESDAYS Jan Solomon, 3rd Tuesday Coordinator

WGG 3rd Tuesday Meetings were established years ago to keep in touch with Guild members. Since the Covid pandemic, Jan Solomon, our 3rd Tuesday Coordinator, has successfully pivoted these meetings onto a Zoom format, with great speakers and plenty of social distancing!

3rd Tuesdays Go Virtual with Talks by Guest Artists Across the Country

Making lemonade out of lemons (aka meeting virtually because of Covid distancing), WGG began, in November 2020, holding 3rd Tuesdays via Zoom with extraordinary guest artists. Starting with our own Nick Barnes, we have now have had 11 artists who have shared their work, in many cases shown us their studios and demonstrated particular techniques, and all have engaged with WGG members and friends in wonderful conversation. These artists have answered our questions about their fabrication techniques, choice of tools, studio set-up, and how they are marketing their work. The artists, the links to their websites, and a brief summary of their talks follow:

Nick Barnes https://nickgrantbarnes.com/ Studio tour and demo about surface texturing fusing metal dust (gold/silver) to sterling, bi-metal or gold.

Doug Wunder https://edouglaswunder.com/ Studio tour and demonstration on how to create color and design patterns on the surface of the metal.

Debra Lynn Gold https://www.debralynngold.com/ Slide show and discussion about design as it relates to making jewelry with a look at numerous artists and a discussion of what makes them a visual success.

So Young Park https://www.soyoungparkstudio.com/wpsyps/ Studio tour and demonstration of how she makes her surface texture with her favorite chasing tools and applying keum boo on the textured surface.

Liaung Chung Yen https://www.liaungchungyen.com/ Slide presentation about his work, a studio tour, and a demonstration on how he solders his wire forms and structures.

David Bacharach http://www.bacharachjewelry.com/ Studio tour, survey of his recent work, and demonstration of off-loom basket weaving and several basketry techniques he employs in his metalwork.

Deb Karash https://www.debkarash.com/ Slide show of her work and demonstration of her unique tools.

Thomas Mann https://www.thomasmann.com/ Studio and gallery tour, slide presentation about the books in which his work is featured, demo of how he has adapted the bench environment for efficiency in production, and a discussion of his paper "Ten Reasons--How the World Has Changed for Makers Since the Turn of the Century (aka How to Survive Economically as an Artist).

Carol & Jean-Pierre Hsu https://www.hsustudios.com/ Studio tour, historical overview of their work, and a demonstration of some of their processes and tools.

Blair Anderson https://www.silverworksglenechopark.com/silver_works_glen_echo_park/blair.html Studio tour, slide show of her work and an explanation and demonstration of her storytelling approach to the design of her pieces.

Robert Diamante https://robertdiamante.com/ Shared some of his photos, his views on the importance of jewelry artists having a clear and consistent story about their work to share with potential customers, and his current work in merchandizing and marketing for Artful Home.

WGG's 3rd Tuesday meetings are open to the public. Access to the recordings of the artists' talks are available to WGG paid members only.

WORKSHOP NEWS & REPORT

by Jeanette Blix Ryan, WGG Workshop Coordinator

The WGG hosted 3 virtual workshops via zoom since September, 2020.

In September, 2020, the Guild hosted Tom Muir, who taught an in-depth 3-day workshop on making three types of hinges: Standard, Invisible, and Universal. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend this workshop but I heard that it was excellent and the students walked away with a better understanding on hinge making.

In April, 2021, the Guild hosted Bette Barnett for her Etching Steel for Dimension and Depth. The workshop covered the process of electro-etching mild steel to create etched designs in steel jewelry and also how to create one-of-a-kind rolling plates.

In September, 2021, the Guild hosted Douglas Wunder, known for his layered riveting techniques and working with titanium, who taught his Art of the Layered Ring workshop. The workshop explored how to design rings that share a unique layered appearance but employ the use of basic, yet simple metalsmithing techniques. The emphasis of the class was to create a piece of jewelry using cold connections with rivets. Piercing metal and hand sawing was also covered.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS IN 2022

On February 11th, 12th, and 13th (afternoons), the WGG will host a virtual workshop with Carla Fox. Carla will be teaching her unique spin on lockets, called Lockets Shouldn't be Round. Please follow this link for details:

https://www.washingtonguildofgoldsmiths.com/workshops/

Below are samples of Carla Fox's lockets:







In conjunction with the Metalwork show in June, our jurors Tom Muir and Sean Macmillan will be teaching workshops. Tom will be teaching a workshop on Perfect Box Construction without warpage or bindings on June 3rd, 4th, and 5th (afternoon), while Sean will be teaching a half day Demo on TIG Welding and Enameling on Monday, June 6th.

More information to follow soon!

Dear members, if there is a particular technique that you would like to learn or an instructor that you would like to teach a workshop, please contact Jeanette at jeanetteblix@gmail.com.

Knowing the Difference Between Carat and Karat by Sandra I. Smith

Thanks to Ganoksin Jewelry Making Resources, Beginner's Corner

Carrot, caret, carat and karat, are all pronounced the same, but each has a different meaning. Carat and karat, of course, have very specific meanings in jewelry. Misusing either word can be an embarrassing, if not an expensive, mistake. Spelling carats or karats as carets or carrots will make you look foolish and unprofessional. How do you know which word is correct?

Let's look first at where the words came from, and then their current meanings. Many of us are familiar with carob, which is often used as a substitute for chocolate. Few of us, however, know that carat and karat both trace their ancestry to carob. Carob trees have grown in the Mediterranean region since antiquity. The trees produce small, edible seed pods containing carob beans. Carob beans are unusually consistent in size. This means that carob beans usually all weigh the same, no matter when or where harvested.

This characteristic of consistent weight led to carob beans becoming a unit of weight in early times. The Greeks were the first documented users of carob beans for weight. By 1500, Latin alchemists, still using carob beans as a basic unit of weight, measured things by the carratus. Carat and karat are the modern derivatives of carratus.

Although they have a common origin and are pronounced the same, carat and karat now have different meanings. A carat is a unit of weight in gemstones. A karat is a unit for measuring the purity of gold. Carat is abbreviated as c. or ct., while karat is k. or kt.

How much does a carat weigh?

Prior to 1913, a carat in the United States weighed 205.3 milligrams. In 1913 the United States accepted 200 milligrams as the international standard weight of a carat. (European countries and Japan had accepted this standard earlier.) Some jewelers use the term metric carat. A metric carat also weighs 200 milligrams. For those of us who still think in pounds and ounces, it takes about 142 carats to make an ounce.

The important thing to remember is that a carat is a unit of weight, not a unit of size. One carat of a dense (heavy) stone will be smaller than one carat of a lighter stone. For example, a one-carat sapphire will be smaller than a one-carat diamond, because sapphires are heavier than diamonds. A karat has nothing to do with weight, but instead refers to the quantity of gold contained in a particular item. The measurement uses a base of 24 units. Pure gold is twenty-four twenty-fourths (24/24ths) gold, and is called 24-karat gold.

As gold is a soft metal, other metals are often added to make it harder. Gold with other metals added to it is referred to as a gold alloy. The most common metals used in gold alloys are silver, copper, nickel, and zinc. Gold that is 14-karat gold is fourteen twenty-fourths (14/24ths) gold and ten twenty-fourths (10/24ths) other metals. The most common gold alloys are 14-karat gold and 18-karat gold. Other alloys, such as 16-karat gold, are sometimes available.

When buying gold or objects made from gold, remember that the higher the number of karats, the higher the proportion of gold. Only 24-karat gold is 100% gold.

In addition to carats and karats, we also have carets and carrots. A caret is the symbol ^. Use a caret to show where something should be inserted in printed matter. It is derived from the Latin word for lacking. Carrot began with the Greek word for head. Carrots are important vegetables for jewelry makers—they are a rich source of vitamins that help keep our eyes healthy!

As jewelry makers, may your life be full of gemstones, which you will weigh by the carat, and gold, the purity of which you will measure by the karat.

By Sandra I. Smith - © 1995

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For more, go to https://cerfplus.org

WGG continues to support the important work Cerf+ offers artists in need.

COVID-19: Federal Relief and Steps You Can Take

May 28, 2020 | CERF+ News, Feature

The CARES Act includes provisions for self-employed workers and makes financial disaster relief available. There are also steps you can take to ease financial strain from the cost of housing, car and credit card payments, and health insurance premiums.

CERF+ Response to Central US Flooding

Mar 19, 2019 | Feature

As emergency response agencies and residents in Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, Missouri and other states respond to the impact of recent flooding, CERF+ is reaching out to artists and arts organizations in affected communities to provide emergency relief and useful recovery resources. To read experiences from artists who CERF+ has helped, go to:

https://cerfplus.org/?org=808&lvl=100&ite=1264&lea=886496&ctr=0&par=1&trk

Cornelia Carey, Executive Director Cerf+

SNAG

Adorned Spaces Call for Applications

The 2022 SNAG x Providence Conference is seeking curators, organizations, schools, and individuals to offer a fresh look at the field of contemporary metalsmithing through a multiple-exhibition and sale event called Adorned Spaces. This juried event will highlight both established and emerging artists to celebrate innovations in metalsmithing through SNAG's lifetime.

The 2022 conference organizers are offering spaces to applicants interested in creating their own pop-up exhibition at the Rhode Island Convention Center, June 2-4, 2022.

This opportunity is an open call. Applicant must be a current SNAG member (or if group, the contact person should be a SNAG member). Upon acceptance, applicant should register for and attend the SNAG conference, day-pass attendance is permitted (or if group, the contact person should attend). https://www.snagmetalsmith.org/conferences/snagxprovidence/adorned-spaces/

Submit applications no later than: March 18, 2022. Free to apply. Fee for accepted exhibitors,

Please fill out application via Google Forms Adorned Spaces Application Form

Exhibitors will be notified of acceptance via email by April 8, 2022

BENCH TIPS

Step-by-Step Guide to Upsizing Rings - Skill level: Beginner

by Joel McFadden From Ganoksin Learning Center

When I ran a trade shop, time was money, and I often found myself sizing 50 to 60 rings in a day. When you're doing that kind of volume, being able to quickly size up rings can make a big difference on your bottom line. Here's my technique for sizing rings up quickly, accurately, and with the least amount of waste.



Hold the ring securely on your bench pin or on a ring pin on your bench. Split the ring using a jeweler's saw.



Pull the ring over a metal mandrel until it stretches. You may have to gently tap the shank with a rawhide mallet or plastic hammer to round it properly. Avoid tapping any hollow areas or close to gemstones.



I like to make my own sizing stock, preferring to use long square or rectangle pieces. These will work on almost every type of shank and are less wasteful than trying to make stock for different ring profiles. Take a piece of stock that is close to the cross section of the ring being sized. Cut a small chip of solder and lay it on a soldering block (the chip should be about the same size as the cross section of the ring). Heat it with a torch until it balls up. Holding one end of the stock with soldering tweezers, add a drop of flux to the other end of the stock and then apply heat and join the stock to the ball of solder.



Dip the ring into a mix of boric acid and alcohol, then place it in a third hand. Let the alcohol dry or burn it off with a torch. (Be careful not to do this near heat sensitive stones.) The boric acid coating will keep the ring from oxidizing and turning red. Use soldering tweezers to hold the sizing stock, then hold the end with the solder ball to one open end of the ring shank. With a torch, apply heat to the two pieces until the solder melts and joins them. A soft brusher flame with no hissing sound is better for this.



Quench the ring in water, then slide it onto a mandrel. Pull the ring to the appropriate size and use a scribe to mark where the sizing stock overlaps the open end of the shank.



Place the ring back on the ring pin and cut it where the mark is, removing the excess stock. If the cut isn't square, run a small flat needle file over it once. This will remove any flashing the saw may have left behind.



Use a pair of ring bending pliers to close the gap between the stock and shank end. Make sure that the seam is as tight as possible. Dip the ring in boric acid and alcohol and burn off any excess. Add flux to the seam and place a chip of solder the same size as the earlier one to the seam. Use a torch to solder the end in place.

Finish by filing the sizing stock to match the band's profile and then polish the newly upsized ring.

2021 WGG HOLIDAY PARTY REPORT: THE GIFT OF KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

by Jenny Peng Windheim

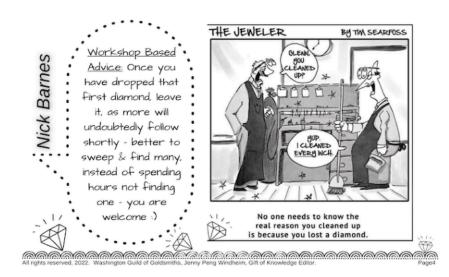
Despite the pandemic, WGG hosted a holiday party virtually via Zoom on the last 3rd Tuesday of the year. On December 21, at 7:00 pm, we rolled out "The Gift of Knowledge Exchange," a new way to celebrate creativity, resourcefulness, learning through sharing, and environmental ethics.

In reply to the WGG Board's call for a 2021 holiday party idea at the Annual Meeting in October, Jenny Peng Windheim proposed:

"What if we exchanged gifts that cost nothing yet are priceless? I'm thinking of 'gifts of knowledge.' How about sharing a bench tip? A source for a tool or equipment that saved you precious time?... This way none of us needs to busy ourselves with procuring stuff, sending things out during a crazy holiday season, and worry about it arriving on time, and whether the recipient would like it or not. We would not need to expend any materials; thus, totally circumventing any wastage in precious earthly resources. Truly, less would be more."

The WGG Board enthusiastically adopted the notion, and quickly formed a Holiday Party Team consisting of members Jan Solomon, Jeanette Ryan, Jenny Peng Windheim, and Sandra Zacharia.

An announcement was sent out to members, inviting participation via spreadsheets in Google Doc. Participants could indicate either what they wanted to share in the "Registry," or nominate a mystery tool for a fellow metal artist to demystify in the "Wish List." In order to keep the gifts "under wrap" until THE BIG DAY, participants were directed to follow up with Jeanette Ryan via email with their gift of knowledge details, including any images, videos, and website addresses. But anyone who attended the Holiday Party at the last minute was welcome to present a Gift of Knowledge by sharing a tip.



The 2021 Holiday Party opened on Zoom as planned. One by one, members "unwrapped' (literally, in one instance) and presented their Gifts of Knowledge. For example, Marla Rudnick shared a tip on soldering jump rings; Jeanette Ryan shared how to keum-boo on mild steel; and Peggy Shiffrin shared her know-how on how to drill holes on a round metal surface. The party kept going when members presented their mystery tools and bench questions for demystifying, an idea from Sandra Zacharia. Thanks to Michael

Brehl, Jan's mystery tool was identified as an old-fashioned ring stretcher. Michael described how it works, and provided insight on other items including Jenny's Safety Wire Twist Pliers, together with Jeanette, Marla, and the WGG members in attendance. We had such a blast talking shop that we didn't notice the clock. But Marla reminded us that we were running over time on Zoom, and gently bade us "happy holiday" and "good-night."

What's next? Currently, Jenny is designing a "Gift of Knowledge" publication, a collection of bench tips, jewelry making insights, and more from our 2021 year-end party which will be distributed to WGG members. An excerpt (the illustration) is included here for your enjoyment.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

JEWELRYCLASSDC

Jewelryclassdc LLC 1502 Massachusetts Ave. SE Washington, DC 20003 Daniel Valencia, Goldsmith/Instructor 202-641-5896 https://jewelryclassdc.com

WEAR EVER JEWELRY STUDIO SCHOOL in Old Town Alexandria, VA 1112 King St, Alexandria, VA 22314 (703) 299-0921 https://weareverjewelry.com

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE- ROCKVILLE CAMPUS

51 Mannakee St, Rockville, MD 20850

Phone: (240) 567-5000... Jewelry & Metalsmithing.

https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/academics/departments/art-rockville/

THE ART LEAGUE SCHOOL

Madison Street Annex, 305 Madison Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: (703) 683-2323 https://www.theartleague.org

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 metal-smithing 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. (Thanks to Interweave!) https://www.interweave.com/article/jewelry/free-jewelry-dictionary-crack-the-code-on-jewelry-making-and-lapidary-terms/

ORCHID FORUM, THE GANOKSIN WEBSITE - International chats among master jewelers and novices at: https://www.ganoksin.com/?s=orchid+forum From the Home Page, click "Join" (it's free) and sign up for the daily digest of Q&A flowing around the globe!

METALSMITH BENCHTALK - A podcast about all things jewelry and the art of metalsmithing. Master Goldsmith Jay Whaley interviewed artists in the craft on his podcast on Thursdays at 3 pm from San Diego for 6 years. Archived shows from 2011 to 2015 for your listening convenience at https://www.listennotes.com/podcasts/metalsmith-benchtalk-archive-JKcDUy5p9OV/

CLASSIFIEDS

Please consider volunteering for any of the "open" Board positions below. Do you have jewelry stuff to sell? It can be listed here for free. Do you have a job to fill in jewelry work? It can be listed here for free.

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.

2022 WGG BOARD OF DIRECTORS Officers and Coordinators

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Washington, DC 20015

Social Media Coordinator: Open

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

March 20th for Spring 2022 June 20th for Summer 2022 September 20th for Fall 2022 December 20th for Winter 2023

Contributed articles and suggestions for the Newsletter are ALWAYS welcome!



Washington Guild of Goldsmiths 2022

JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Type of Membership: ☐ Individual O	ne Year \$ 40			
☐ Full-Time St	udent \$20			
☐ NEW Member -or- ☐ Renewing Member		TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$		
ALL MEMBERSHIF FIRST TIME NEW M				
Please provide the following information al	bout yourself and /GG Membership		you would like it to appear in the	
Name:				
Business Name:				
Address:				
City:			Zip:	
Home Phone: Busines Fax: Email:				
Website:				
PLEASE CHECK HERE IF YOU WA		_		
VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCO				
Please check those areas where you c	ould help the G	uild with its activi	ties & programs:	
☐ Third Tuesday Activities	□ Work	□ Workshop Committee		
□ Teach Workshops	_	□ Biennial Show		
□ Advertise and Promotions	•	□ Hospitality		
□ Newsletter		ibute to the New		
□ Website	•	□ Legal Advice for Artists		
□ Materials Supply Sources		Serve on Guild Board		
□ As needed, just call me	□ Other	•		
Signature:		Date:		
Please make checks payable to the Membership Coordinator, KC Gray Si			#416, San Diego, CA 92106	
Membership inquiries – kcgraysiebert@co	mcast.net			
*To be included in the Guild Directory			Rev. 12/22/2022	



Washington Guild of Goldsmiths

WINTER 2022 - 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 12/31/2022.** 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 2023 Dues. Thank you.



Sherry Terao, WGG Newsletter Editor 720 Burnt Mills Ct. Silver Spring, MD 20901