

IMASSC

# METAL ARTS

SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

July-August 2012

## DEMO DAY 2012

MASSC welcomes you to our annual lallapallooza of demonstrations, networking, learning, lunch AND... a raffle with incredible prizes.

MASSC Demo Day is open to all. You do not have to be a MASSC member to attend.

**September 9th, 2012 Long Beach City College**

Arrival - 9:30am Demos start at 10am Price - \$15.00 Includes lunch

To attend this event, go to <http://massonline.com/> and follow the Demo Day registration link. You must register for this event. All registrations, mail in or via the web, need to be received by September 4th.



### Micro Formed Bracelet with Beads

*Melinda Alexander*

~ <http://www.etsy.com/people/metalmelinda>



### Micro Wire Wrapping

*Jennifer Blackwell*

~ <http://www.etsy.com/shop/glowfly>



### File Carving on Metal

*Deborah Jemmott*

~ <http://www.debjemmott.com/>



### Making Hand Stamps

*Allan Mason*

~ <http://www.silvermason.com/>



### Its Not Just Glue - Resin Inlay

*Ruth Shapiro*

~ <http://growingupjewish.com/>

# President's Message

How does an organization best meet the needs of its members? The easy answer is people step up and help do the various jobs, but often times, it has been my experience, that about 5-8 people volunteer for most of the tasks. Interesting enough, Ketarah Shaffer, Program Chair, has had good luck enlisting working coordinators for the various workshops, since she took office last September. Most folks would probably volunteer, but they don't know which job is available and what it entails. Volunteering is always hard. It means giving of your time and today we have lots of "things" vying for our time. You might ask yourself these questions about your relationship with the MASSC organization and volunteering.

Might you be excited with a series of lectures on topics of interest to metalsmithing? Perhaps you would be interested in a demo and/or a PowerPoint presentation as the focal point. It might be on the subject of corrugation, or fold forming, shell forming or innovative stone setting, galvanic etching, or using china paints for color, or kinetic jewelry and mechanisms? Would you attend? Do you have access or have knowledge of a venue that could accommodate about 30-35 people? Would you be willing to pay a nominal fee to cover rental of the venue?

Would you be willing to work on a grant committee to help provide the fee for the lecturer, fee for the venue etc, from California Arts Council or other grant organizations? Perhaps a grant or scholarship could be awarded to someone to attend a week long workshop at Penland, Haystack, or Peter's Valley and then come back and do a workshop for the membership at a minimal fee.

Are you interested in having a juried MASSC show where prizes are awarded?

Do you know of a venue, perhaps a gallery? What ideas do have for a theme or possible criteria?

Are you interested in having a MASSC Art Fair around November or December or perhaps around Valentine's Day or Mother's Day? Would you be encouraged to sell your work at that occasion?



Would you be willing to offer your studio for a studio tour? Want to help on the committee by creating a schedule, preparing a flyer, preparing the handout for the studio visits, arranging the lunch location, contacting all members in an area and creating their schedule?

If any of this piques your interest, please email me at [diaweimer@verizon.net](mailto:diaweimer@verizon.net) to choose something tailored to your desires. You can choose a small job or a big job. These days when I am in the company of other metalsmiths and hear the chatter about a technique or see someone's finished piece, I am reminded how grateful I am for LaVerne Christensen encouraging me to get involved with the Metal Arts Society of Southern CA, because I am having the very best time!!

## Revere Academy Scholarship for Beaders

Open to anyone who makes beaded jewelry and would like to learn more about traditional jewelry making in metal. The winner receives full tuition for a 3-day Beginning Fabrication class plus airfare from anywhere in the U.S. as well as lodging in San Francisco, and kit fees.

Submit examples of your work in beaded jewelry along with a statement of why you want to attend the Revere Academy.

Application deadline is October 15, 2012. There is no entry fee. For more details, visit <http://www.revereacademy.com/guide/scholarship/scholarship-for-beaders/>



## MASSC Board of Directors

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**MASSC web site: [www.massconline.com](http://www.massconline.com)**

**MASSC Newsgroup:**

[MetalArtsSociety-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:MetalArtsSociety-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

MASSC on FaceBook: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/134035216002/>

MASSC serves the needs and interests of artists working in metals and provides an environment for the exchange of information, instructional workshops, demonstrations, lectures, and panel discussions. Annual dues Sept 1-Aug 31; Regular Member, \$30; Family, \$45; Full-time Student \$20. Please add \$20 to your annual dues if you would like to receive a printed copy of the MASSC newsletter. All others will receive the newsletter via email. Membership forms are available at [www.MASSCOnline.com](http://www.MASSCOnline.com)

# MASSC Video Library Now Available on DVD

The MASSC video library currently has 19 videos on DVD of past workshops that members can check out. These DVDs are direct videotapes of actual workshops and have not been edited. Watching a MASSC workshop video is akin to being there in person.

### Workshop Videos Include:

- Alison Antleman** - Custom Clasps
- Belle Brooke Barer** - Sculptural Hollow Ring
- Diane Falkenhagen** - Mixed Media Techniques for Jewelry
- Leslee Frumin** - Classy Clasps
- Mary Lee Hu** - Weaving and Chains
- Charles Lewton-Brain** - Fold Folding
- Betsy Manheimer** - Fold Forming
- Trish McAleer** - Metal Corrugation
- Bruce Metcalf** - Jewelry Alternatives
- Ben Neubauer** - Wire Fabrication
- Harold O' Connor** - Surface Embellishments & Efficient Workshop Methods
- Katherine Palochak** - Tufa Casting
- 2Roses** - Metal Patination
- Carol Sivets** - Metal Reticulation
- Lisa Slovis Mandel** - Hydraulic Press
- Carl Stanley** - Cuff Bracelet
- Pauline Warg** - Metal Beads
- Wayne Werner** - Stone Setting
- Betty Helen Longhi** - Forming Techniques
- Jeanne Jerousek McAninch** - Chain Making

A \$20 donation is necessary to check out each DVD. This includes the use of the DVD plus 2-way shipping. There is no additional security deposit. Members can keep each DVD for up to 30 days. Videos can be checked out on the MASSC website at [www.massconline.com](http://www.massconline.com). Click the "Video Library" link on the home page.

## MASSC WORKSHOP

I have had a lifelong interest in textile arts. In 1998, I took a workshop with Susan Elizabeth Wood on Fiber Techniques in Metal. Since that time I have transitioned from being a fiber artist to a metalsmith, incorporating textile techniques in my work. My objective is to combine my love and knowledge of metalsmithing and textile arts. This workshop is one of the results of that journey.

Earlier this year I was privileged to have taught two workshops on metal weaving to MASSC members. It was a fabulous learning experience for me (and I hope the others too). I developed this workshop at the request of Corliss Rose and continued to refine it with the generous help of the workshop participants. I have been weaving in the solitude of my studio for years. As a first time workshop instructor, I realized that I needed to document what steps are actually involved in weaving with metal. This was followed by developing a handbook, and then developing the



by Jeanie Pratt

workshop. As a past participant of numerous workshops, I have renewed respect and admiration for those well prepared and enthusiastic instructors that I have had.

The objective of the workshop was to weave small sheets of metal from flattened wire to incorporate in jewelry. It is very important to have STRAIGHT pieces of flattened wire to weave with. We started out practicing how to straighten and flatten wire to a 30 gauge thickness in a rolling mill. The best and easiest way to do this is

# DESIGNS IN METAL WEAVING

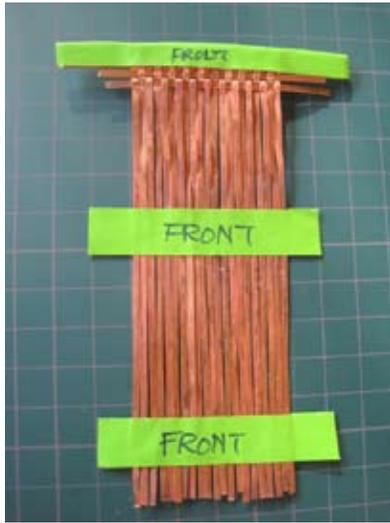


to work in teams of 2 or 3 people, but in a pinch one can attach a jig to the front of the rolling mill to guide the wire.

The next important process is to anneal the warp wires (one of the two elements used in weaving). We used the “Susan Wood Annealing Spool”. The flattened wire is wound onto the spool and the torch heat is directed to the inside of the spool. This allows the copper wire to be annealed without melting it.



We set up looms to weave a sampler. The loom consisted of strips of flattened copper wire, a brass bar, and artist tape. The weaving tools consisted of a tapestry needle, a cutting mat and small screwdrivers. We had weave patterns diagramed on paper to follow for different designs.



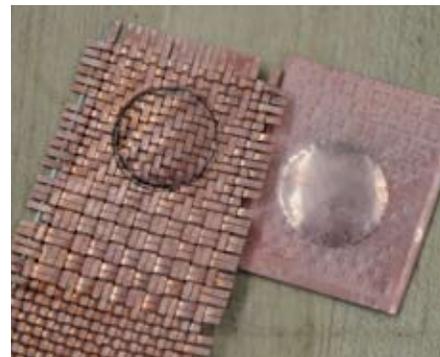
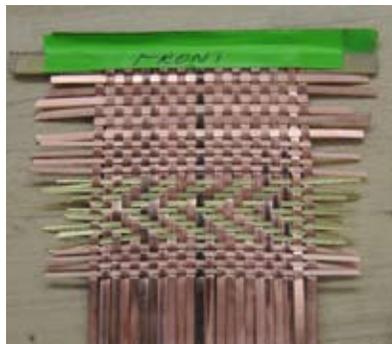
I usually puff the woven metal sheet in a hydraulic press with a lining of thin sheet metal and use it as a cabochon in a bezel setting. \*\*\*Sampler and Lining Puffed in Hydraulic Press Photo

The woven metal is soldered to the lining to secure the ends of the weaving. The soldering setup I use in my studio is a honeycomb soldering block on top of a magnesium soldering block. T-pins are used to secure the woven metal and lining in place. A ring of paste solder is applied around the lining. Typically I use sterling silver in my own work. In the workshop we used copper. This proved much trickier to successfully solder due to how quickly it oxidizes. This also needs investigating before I teach the workshop again.



There are a number of beautiful and interesting woven patterns that can be achieved in metal using very simple weave structures such as a plain weave or a simple twill. The secret is to vary the width of the wire elements in the weave and/or use more than one color of metal in the weaving. In my

brooch Mimicry #2, the wings are woven with a plain weave, but the widths of the flattened wires are graduated and there is a mixture of 14K gold and oxidized sterling silver. Below is a photo of LaVerne's woven sampler where she experimented with a simple twill and a weft of twisted brass wire. I included a wealth of information on drafting more complex woven patterns in the handout. Realistically this was more information than could be covered and grasped in a 2 day workshop. I will take this into consideration the next time I teach this workshop.



The whole experience was a great adventure for me. I live in San Luis Obispo County and don't have metal-smithing companions in my neighborhood. This

has provided a grand opportunity to meet all of sorts of creative, knowledgeable and most importantly fun people in the process. I would like to thank everyone who participated in the workshop for all of your good humor and great input. I would like to give special thanks to LaVerne who hosted me several times, Ketarah who organized it all and assisted me in the second workshop, Kathleen who was a fabulous assistant in the first workshop, Doreen who kept us fed, Raminta the photographer, and the great hosts, Elise, at Long Beach State University and Majesta and Jeff at their shop in Fountain Valley.



See more of Jeanie Pratt's work at [www.jeaniepratt.net](http://www.jeaniepratt.net)

In my own work

## Members in the News



**Jungwha Kim** was featured in Lark Books 30 Minute Bracelets.



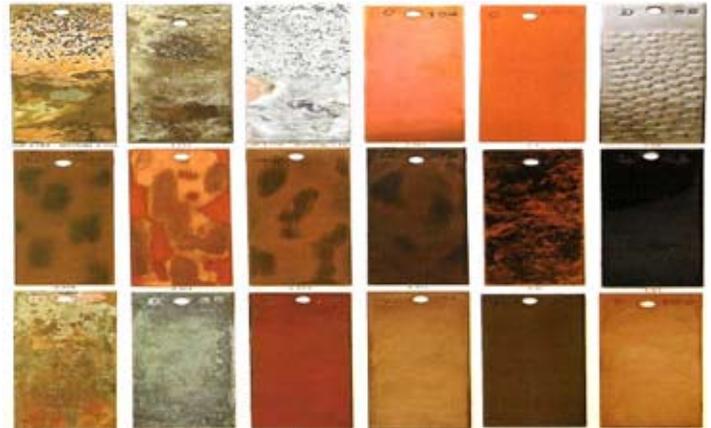
**David C. Frieda** was featured in the Huntington Library's Antiques Magazine



**2Roses** was featured in an exhibit at the 2012 San Diego County Fair

## TIPS & TRICKS

by: "Brad Smith



## PATINA RECIPES

I came across a couple neat web sites for those of you who'd like to explore the area of patinas, especially with high copper metals like copper, brass and bronze.

The first is **The Science Company** at <http://www.sciencecompany.com/Do-It-Yourself-Patina-Formulas-W12C672.aspx> with plenty of formulas for a variety of colors.

Small quantities of chemicals for making your own patinas are available from The Science Company at <http://www.sciencecompany.com/Patina-Chemicals-C672.aspx>

There's even more at **Tim McCreight's Brynmorgen Press** at <http://www.brynmorgen.com/resources.html>

Small quantities of chemicals for making your own patinas are available from The Science Company at <http://www.sciencecompany.com/Patina-Chemicals-C672.aspx>

If you prefer to buy the patinas already for use, one of the best sources I've come across is **Sculpt Nouveau** at <http://www.sculptnouveau.com/> Don't miss all the instructional pdf's on the site and click on <http://www.youtube.com/sculptnouveau> for a series of videos showing how to use the products.



I graduated from California State University of Los Angeles with a Masters Degree in Art. My initial desire was in the field of teaching, but schools were cutting back on art programs and instead I chose to work in the fields of jewelry manufacturing and commercial business. It turned out to be a great happenstance as I learned more about jewelry making and setting than I had learned in school. With so much knowledge and information in my field I am able to create, with ease, any design my mind imagines.

I am not sure I have a specific style because my interest in so many different techniques keeps me trying new things and creating new forms. The one prevalent theme in most of my work is a sense of humor that pushes its way into my work. I have had pieces published in Lark Books (1000 Rings, 500 Plastic Jewelry Designs, and a new book being published this year called 30 Minute Rings) as well as having my work shown in many galleries and shows across the United States. I have an Etsy



# Melinda Alexander



site (user name metalmelinda) and my web site is being revamped by my son, who assures me it will be up and running this month.

Along with my business endeavors, I teach at the Irvine Fine Arts Center where I have been able to introduce more techniques into their catalogue, including a class in the fall on rubber mold making and wax carving and we will be starting a new 8 week class in the summer on metal forming including sinking, raising, micro forming, chasing and forging. I also teach at Studio Delucca in Long Beach which is a wonderful facility with so many great tools and resources. I have done workshops in some of the local colleges introducing the more commercial techniques of stone setting, including channel, flush mount, tube, prong, and two prong berring to name a few. The best part of teaching is that I get to meet some really wonderful creative people and feel like I can count on them as friends and not just students.

# Seen Online

Germany's **Georg Dinkel** has looked at polymer for many years in his job as a photographer for Staedtler, the maker of Fimo. This year he picked up a couple of leftover blocks and he was hooked.

Except for a wooden frame and the electronics, the rest of his Tone Shrine is polymer. Three speakers and an iPad are housed inside the structure which took three months to complete. He started with a smaller iPod Nano shrine for his seven-year-old daughter. For his "zaubertafel" iPad the project grew bigger.

Growing up surrounded by German Rococo and Baroque architectural masterpieces, Georg knew how to speak that visual language in polymer.

With a simple display change, the shrine can resemble Big Ben, cathedral windows or any other appropriate icon. Enjoy these photos and this video of his ornate celebrations of technology.

<http://bits-fuer-uns.de/tonschrein-ipad.html>



1644 S.CLEMENTINE ST, ANAHEIM CA 92802

## Upcoming MASSC Events

**November 10th 2012**  
**Sculpt Nouveau Patina's**  
with Ron Young - Lecture  
Irvine Fine Arts Center

**December 8-9, 2012**  
**Kinetics - Workshop**  
Sarah Doremus  
Pasadena City College

### MASSC Board Meetings

Sunday, July 8, 2012, 10am-12  
Sunday, Sept 16, 2012, 10am-12  
RSVP to Diane at:  
[diaweimer@verizon.net](mailto:diaweimer@verizon.net)

Did you change your address or email? Don't miss your MASSC newsletter and workshop announcements. Send changes to Janis Carlson at [janis@threehandstudio.com](mailto:janis@threehandstudio.com)