

MASSC

METAL ARTS

SOCIETY OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Sept/Oct 2008



Enameling Fundamentals

The basics and some fun stuff

October 18 & 19, 2008

Barbara Minor

Location: LBCC Fee: \$130 plus materials kit (MASSC members)

This workshop will introduce participants to fundamental techniques for enameling on copper and fine silver.

The basics – such as enamel types and preparation, firing temperatures, sifted application of enamel, flat vs. formed metal and the importance of test tiles – will be covered.

The “fun stuff” – such as hot glue, found and Riso Screen stencils; silver foil patterning; using underglaze black for surface design; and enameling etched copper – will allow participants to understand how to create complex enamel surfaces.

This workshop will be filled via the MASSC lottery system with MASSC members receiving priority. To put your name into the lottery, contact Ketarah Shaffer by September 17th, 2008. Everyone will be contacted on September 18th with the lottery results. ketarah@earthlink.net or Day 714-055-6092, Evening (before 8pm) 949-643-9693. Please ask for Ketarah if calling.

More information about Barbara Minor can be found on here web site at: www.barbaraminor.com



Your support means everything.

I wanted to thank everyone who participated in MASSC's Barter Town Bash on Saturday, August 23, 2008. For an event held on the cusp of September's Dog Days, we drew a great crowd. It was very satisfying for the volunteers who coordinated this event to see so many

traders and buyers. Crowds started appearing early to get best pick of the wide assortment of books, tools, finished stones, jewelry, beads, circuit boards, fossils, found objects, bottle caps, corks, findings, printed tins, plastic parts, metal stock – and the list goes on. It was amazing what people brought to sell or trade.

The success of this event will certainly grant another to be scheduled next year and MASSC will be looking into air-conditioned comfort for 2009.

Through the efforts of our corresponding secretary, Diane Weimer, MASSC was able to procure some tantalizing raffle prizes. The generosity of our sponsors was completely overwhelming and we are so grateful to have such support.

All of us would like to thank the following companies for their raffle prize donations:

Art Clay World USA - Metal Clay Guide Box Set
www.artclayworld.com

Brynmorgen Press - www.brynmorgen.com
Books: Practical Joining, Practical Casting, The Complete Metalsmith, The Theory and Practice for Goldsmithing

Fire Mountain Gems and Beads
www.firemountaingems.com Dichroic Glass Necklace

Foredom – the Foredom Electric Company
www.foredom.com \$25. Gift Certificate

Jewelry Tools by Miland
www.jewelrytoolsbymiland.com
Synclastic Tool

Lark Books, a division of Sterling Publishing Co Inc.
Books: Wrap, Stitch, Fold and Rivet, 500 Pendants and Locketts

Monsterslayer www.monsterslayer.com
Disc Cutting Set

Myron Tobak Inc www.myrontoback.com
A Scale

Rio Grande www.riogrande.com
Laser Gold Saw Blade sampler (1 dozen each of 14 different blades, Bur-Life portable base, four cartridges and a

76mm saw frame.

Sassounian Tools & Equipment www.sassouniantools.com
Flex Shaft

The following lucky Barter Town participants won these selected raffle prizes:

Books from Lark Books and Brynmorgen Press were won

by:

Jack Ravin
Juliane Hoskins
Jenny Stavreva
Linda Harrington
Rachel Shimpock



Everyone who bought raffle tickets was certainly entranced with the books. The selections from Lark and Brynmorgen were paged, browsed through and tenderly held by many hopeful winners.

The coveted flex shaft was won by Erick Salazar He really went home a happy camper.

Again, thanks to everyone who made this event possible.

Corliss Rose
President, MASSC



Rio Grande announces the Saul Bell Design Award Emerging Artist competition. We're looking for student jewelry designers 18 years of age and younger.

The Emerging Artist competition wouldn't think of curbing the creativity of these inventive individuals, so there are no limitations on medium, as long as the finished piece is wearable jewelry. And because we know they already have their sights set on the future, we're recognizing the achievements of the three winners with financial rewards and industry recognition through publicity campaigns.

Visit saulbellaward.com for details. The deadline for entries is December 12, 2008.

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MASSC web site: www.massconline.com

MASSC Newsgroup:

MetalArtsSociety-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

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 \$5 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 MASOnline.com

Tricks & Tips

from John Rose of 2Roses

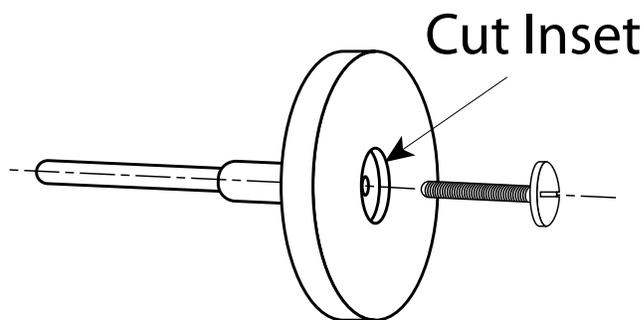


Cleaning stubborn files

Everyone has a clogged file or two laying around the shop. You know, those ones that are impervious to file cards and wire brushes. Clean'em up with a square brass rod by rubbing in same direction of the groove.

Polishing small details

Polishing the nooks and crannies of fine detail can be difficult. Tooth pick and bamboo skewers used with a little polishing compound do a good job of getting into those tight spots.



Ding-Proof abrasive wheels

Few things are more frustrating than working with rubber abrasive wheels and hearing a "thunk" as the mandrel screw nicks your work piece. Cut an inset into the wheel for the screw and you'll never have to worry about this problem again. The inset can be cut with an Exacto knife or a drill bit held in the fingers.

Got a tip or trick you want to share ?

-send it to DukeSprue@massconline.com

New legislation could be a huge problem for working artists - including jewelers.

A great deal of concern --- outrage, even -- is being expressed about the changes proposed to the nation's copyright law as it affects so-called "orphan works" -- works that may be protected by copyright, but whose owners cannot be found. The bill is currently in the House after being passed, in a slightly different form, in the Senate.

The stated intention is to help museums, libraries, documentary film makers and the like who have orphaned works that they would like to transform into new works or display, but because they cannot find the owner to ask permission or license the work, feel constrained from using it by the threat of copyright infringement which carries statutory damages as high as \$150,000 per work.

However, the proposed remedy includes all work created by any type of artist and has the practical effect of allowing anyone to use a work of art, and be protected from significant damages, if he or she can prove that they made a "diligent effort" to find the copyright owner. A "diligent effort" is defined as one that is "reasonable and appropriate," and will be determined by a set of "best practices" that is to be formulated by the government.

Artists will be able to protect their work by registering it with a commercial digital database system that is not even in existence yet. Presumably there will be a fee for this in addition to any copyright filing fee. In addition, any work that is currently protected by copyright will have to be re-registered with the copyright office at the artist's expense.

As the system works today, you don't have to register your artwork to own the copyright. You own a copyright as soon as you create something. Our current law was passed to bring it into line with international law which also takes this view. Nowadays, if you do take the option of registering your work, it allows you to sue for greater damages than unregistered works.

There are other objections to the new bill such as allowing an infringer to create -- and copyright -- a derivative work even if the copyright holder of the original work objects. Creators will be required to digitize all their intellectual property at their own expense if they want any protection at all. And the proposed legislation also reduces the size of penalties for infringement.

Every creative person -- especially those who make a living from their creations -- should familiarize themselves with this legislation and contact their representatives in both houses of Congress. It's a complex piece of legislation, so here are a number of links on the subject. There are lots more to be found with a simple search.

Member News

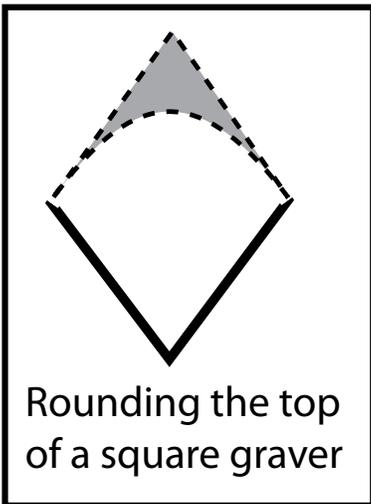
Belle Brooke Barr won the New Designer Award from The Jewelers of America (JA) the New Designer Award is presented to emerging designers in the United States.



Stone Setting Technique with Gravers

by Brenda Wey

The star setting is a good introduction to gravers. It can be done with just one, the square graver. It is prepared by rounding the top off (see diagram below). Since you only need the bottom corner for a cutting edge this gives you less mass for easier sharpening.

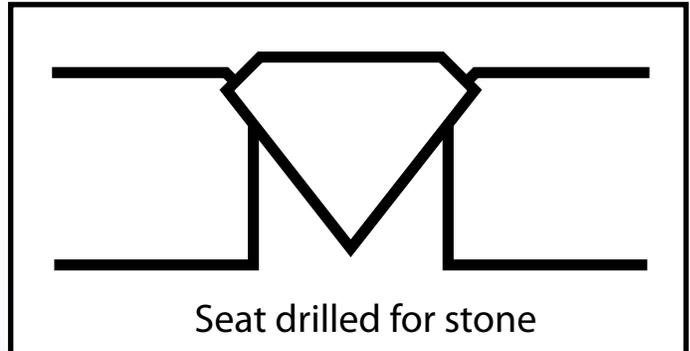
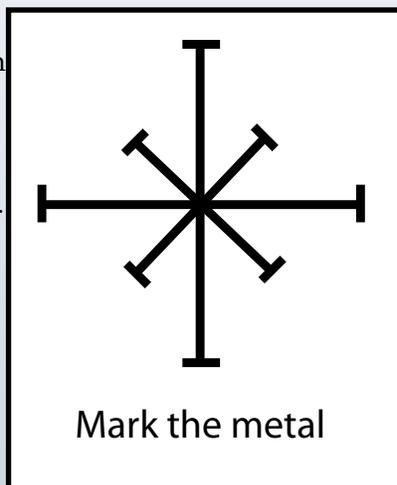


A 55° angle is given when sharpening. An India stone with oil is used and followed with 2500 grit sandpaper to remove any burs. A prick of the corner on the top of a finger nail will tell you how sharp it is.

It is important to mark all 8 arcs and their lengths before

starting. See diagram below for markings. For the demo a 4mm stone was used. The four long arcs were 6mm (4mm from the edge of the stone) and the four short arcs were 4mm (2mm from the edge of the stone).

Then the seat for the stone is first drilled (with regular drill bits) to about 3/4 the size of the stone. You want to start small and work to larger drills. With the stone setting bur you want the stone to sit with the crown a little below the surface. See diagram next column.



Clean the back for burs. Now the large arcs are cut without the stone in place. The large arcs are cut in increments. Start at the hole moving out 1mm at a time to get to the 4mm length. You want to go all the way into the hole shaving off the metal removed. Then I cut the sides of the arcs to give them more 'body'. I do this by tilting the graver to the side slightly. At this point the stone is set into the seat. You will raise beads when scribing the smaller arcs to hold the stone in. I do these arcs on one pass wiggling the graver to bring up lots of metal. As the metal gets near the center I increase the angle on the graver. Be sure not to go all the way up to the stone or you will cut the bead off. Come close, and increase the angle as you approach the stone. It will leave this scraggly thing up next to the stone. Make all 4. Now I use a beading tool to make these into 'pretty' beads as well as to push them up against the stone. Do not use a cup bur as that would tend to cut off your prong. I like to come in at an angle that would tend to curl the top under to give the bead a nice looking mass. It is surprising how little metal you actually need to hold the stone in. Lastly I go back into the smaller arcs and bright cut 'shave the sides' to remove the ripples I created from wiggling the graver. This setting can be done with many arcs, they can all be small and beaded. It really lends itself to a wide variety of things.

Manufacture and Sell Anything — in Minutes

By Ian Mount
Photo: Mauricio Alejo

From the rise in instant manufacturing to the growth of open-source business models, these trends show that innovation can bloom even in a grim economic climate.

Jeffrey Wegesin is a furniture maker. His most popular creation is a curvaceous side table, and even though he has sold only two copies of it, he has already turned a profit. He did it without so much as setting foot in a wood shop. And he is not alone. Wegesin is one of 5,000 merchants who have established accounts with Ponoko, a year-old on-demand manufacturing service in New Zealand. Designers upload their blueprints to Ponoko's servers; when a customer places an order, Ponoko's laser cutters automatically trim wood and plastic to create the product on the spot. Wegesin, a Web designer, sells the tables through the site for \$250, not including shipping. He then pays Ponoko \$124 for each table to cover the cost of materials and cutting fees. The \$252 he's brought in so far may not be much, but because he incurred no up-front costs it comes as pure profit.

Welcome to the age of the instapreneur. With nothing more than a design, amateurs can manufacture jewelry, robots, T-shirts, furniture — anything. No warehouses. No minimum orders. And no money down. The digital



economy isn't just digital; the same market forces that allowed midlist musicians to make a living distributing their songs online now give amateur clothiers the chance to sell their wares without having to persuade Barney's buyers to carry them.

Thousands are launching instant businesses. Zazzle, of Redwood City, California, offers a dizzying array of user-designed products from posters to tennis shoes. StyleShake, a custom-clothing site in London, received 25,000 dress designs in its first three months. Spreadshirt, founded in Leipzig, Germany, hosts 500,000 individual T-shirt shops. "These companies significantly lower the threshold for someone to bring anything to market," says Neil Gershenfeld, direc-

tor of MIT's Center for Bits and Atoms. "There's an industrial-age bias that you need volume to support a factory; but with this, much-more-creative low-volume businesses become viable."

These are not just CaféPress-style in-jokes — T-shirts and mugs meant to appeal to a small circle of friends. According to Spreadshirt CEO Jana Eggers, her site saw a 30 percent increase last year in the number of North American shop partners that sold more than 1,000 shirts annually. Even CaféPress has become a bona fide business platform. Jim Gamble, a Bay Area entrepreneur, uses the site to sell 50,000 of his T-shirts and bumper stickers — all emblazoned with conservative political slogans — every year, giving him an income "well into the six figures," he says.

Large brands are starting to see the appeal of manufacturing-as-a-service, too. Lexus recently used Blurp, an on-demand publisher, to print 1,800 copies of a book promoting the automaker's green practices.

Franchises from Dilbert to the Discovery Channel sell licensed merchandise on CaféPress. Disney has uploaded more than 3,500 of its designs to Zazzle, allowing the company to sell a wider range of products than just the blockbuster Mickey Mouse T-shirts favored by conventional retailers. The service also gives the Disney machine unprecedented agility. "Here, I can see that Hannah Montana is taking off, we can upload a design right into Zazzle's system, and in a day or two it's a product," says Patrick Haley, senior manager of customization for DisneyShopping.com.

As everyone gains the ability to create and sell anything, the long tail will apply to making things as well as to selling them. Amazon.com may be able to offer near-infinite inventory, but only as long as the products exist. On-demand manufacturing could eliminate that constraint, leading to a world where products are always available, nothing ever gets discontinued, and the virtual shelves are always stocked.

Sources: Laser Cutting for Jewelry (www.finelasercut.com)

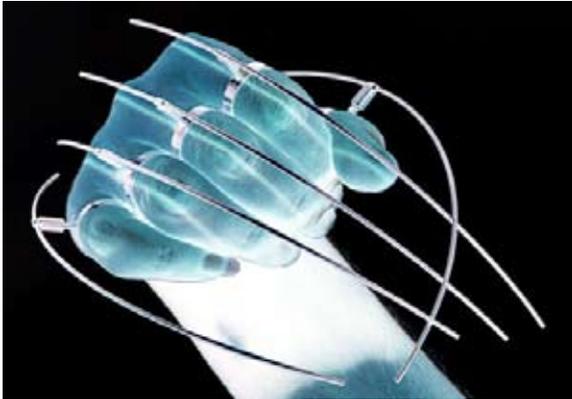
The Fine Laser Cut Company is a laser job shop that specializes in jewelry cutting. Laser cutting can quickly produce custom parts in most metals including: gold, platinum, silver (fine, sterling), copper, aluminum, brass, bronze, titanium, stainless steel, and alloys. The company lists its benefits as:

- * cost and time efficient manufacturing method that cuts irregular shapes
- * alternative to many other machining operations
- * ideal for short runs
- * easy to accomplish design modifications
- * unmatched accuracy and repeatability
- * ability to cut complicated and anfractuous detail that are not achieved by other processes.



Mi-Mi Moscow is a *tour de force* of creativity

Go take a look at what is coming out of a culture that invested in its arts education over the last several decades. Mi-Mi Moscow is a union of two independent artists, Mila Kalnitskaya & Micha Maslennikov. Both are exceptionally skilled craftspeople with a wicked sense of Russian humor. The work is inventive, diverse and utterly fantastic. Of particular note, the couple expresses extraordinary range not only in the work, but also how the work is presented. The pair was recently featured in metalsmith's exhibition in print. They sport a number of websites for thier work. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/7206021@N02/>, or <http://www.myspace.com/mimiart>, or <http://www.mi-mi.ru>



1644 S. Clementine St. Anaheim CA 92802

Mary Lee Hu Slide lecture
September 13th, 2008, 5pm.
CSULB, Bldg FA4,
Room 307 (3rd floor).

Upcoming Workshops

December 6th - 7th, 2008

Victoria Lansford - Russian Filigree

January 31st- Feb 1st, 2009

Diane Falkenhagen - Mixed Media
Techniques For Jewelers

May 2009 Demo Day

September 2009

Kathy Palochak - Tufa Casting