

Minutes of the Society of Glass Beadmakers, Mid-Atlantic Autumn Meeting

Saturday, October 22, 2011
Columbia Art Center, Maryland

1. Introductions.
 - a. Present:
 - President Alice St. Germain-Gray
 - Secretary Jinx Garza
 - b. Unable to attend today:
 - Vice President Nolly Gelsinger
 - Treasurer Kim Edwards
 - Our new Regional Director, Kris Schiable, also sent her regrets but hopes to meet everyone at our next meeting in January.
 - c. After introducing herself and Jinx, Alice opened the meeting shortly after 10am, by asking everyone to introduce themselves and tell where they're from. Attending were: Pencie Newton, Tracey Alfaro, Ellen Howse, Dan Nickeson, Anna Bowman, Michelle Snider, Mimi Vellek, Louise Mehaffey, Julie Delaney, Debby Weaver, Linda Butcher, Paula Pennell, Linda Orbanac, Terry D'Addio, Patti Tolley Parrish, Jeanne Booth, Ruth Martin, Martha Goebel, Tuesdi Harmon, Gayl Harner, Katherine Doucette, Jesse Allen, Darragh Brady, Kathy Lagassey, Pam Sliwoski, guest Chad Pitts, and Dan Brucker from Wale Apparatus.
2. Show and Tell. Today's theme had been suggested by chapter member Mimi Vellek: "**Bead Collections.**" Members proceeded to set out their trays of treasures and everyone present cruised around the room admiring the amazing beads and analyzing the techniques used. Collectively, it was an impressive comprehensive snapshot of contemporary beadmaking history. Thanks for the suggestion, Mimi!
3. Beads of the Quarter. Nine members submitted their work to display and share with their fellow beadmakers. Jinx photographed the entries to post on the chapter website and Facebook page. The drawing was held just before lunch; Darragh Brady won the lovely gold-fumed heart pendant generously donated by today's guest artist, Chad Pitts.
4. Business.
 - a. At 11:00, Alice called the meeting to order, noting that with 30 members present we had a quorum of the general membership. She talked about two upcoming events:
 - i. Penny Diamante's Color Theory Workshop in November. The first session, held in September 2011, was a big success. Several members had to be placed on the wait list, so we're hoping to fill a second session. Details about the workshop will be sent via the chapter email (listserv) and Facebook page.
 - ii. Our next quarterly meeting on **January 14:**
 1. It will be our 14th birthday we'll have **cupcakes** to celebrate!
 2. Hot Demo: Kim Edwards will show us how she makes **glass chainmaille.**
 3. Show and Tell Theme: Your Favorite **Inspiration Magazine.**
 4. Members' Exhibit Theme: Beads made from your Favorite **Inspiration Magazine.**

5. Beads of Courage Theme: Food!

6. Membership Drive Raffle: Everyone who pays 2012 annual dues (\$20) by January 14 will be eligible for a prize drawing.

- b. Alice reminded all that as we begin to put together the 2012 meeting agendas, members are encouraged to let the board know about any leads they have for lectures, demos and field trips. Please send ideas to the board's email address: midatlanticsgb@gmail.com.
- c. Membership applications were available at today's meeting, and the 20 members who paid their 2012 dues early will be eligible for the January 14 drawing.
- d. Stepping in for Treasurer Kim Edwards, Jinx read Kim's written finance report as follows: current bank balance: \$5590.87, outstanding debits: \$1186.43, outstanding credits: \$338.48, leaving us with a net balance of \$4742.92.
- e. Putting her Secretary hat back on, Jinx called for a motion to approve the minutes from the July meeting which had been emailed to members and posted on the website. A motion was called to approve them, all present voted "aye," none opposed, and the July 2011 minutes were approved.
- f. Alice proposed that we continue the chapter's tradition of donating \$500 to the **ISGB Gathering Scholarship** program, and asked former SGBMA officer, Debby Weaver to lead a discussion on how the program works. Debby started by asking how many present had never been to a Gathering. Quite a few raised their hands, and we talked about some of the reasons why; limited finances was, of course, the most common. Debby described three ways that the ISGB can help offset costs: the ISGB Gathering Scholarship, the Cathy Finegan Gathering Educational Scholarship, and the Work Exchange Program. She explained that when a chapter donates money to the Scholarship Fund, its members are given first consideration in the application process. Debby had prepared handouts for everyone with more information about the program, and links to more information on the ISGB site: <http://www.isgb.org/gathering/111-2010-gathering-scholarship.html>
She, and other Gathering veterans, strongly encouraged everyone to consider attending a Gathering; next year's is just outside of Seattle, Washington. Anna Bowman shared her experiences as a past Scholarship winner to the Miami Gathering. She learned a lot and had a wonderful time. She highly recommends it and urged beadmakers to apply. Alice asked if there were any questions, then called for a motion. Debby moved that we approve donating \$500 to the 2012 ISGB Scholarship Program. Darragh Brady seconded the motion. A vote was taken: all approved, none opposed. Thanks Debby!

5. Member News

- a. The President of the Frederick Hot Glass Society, Tracey Alfaro, announced that their next meeting will be held at McFadden Art Glass Studio on November 5. Right now they have seven people signed up, and they'd love to have more. There's a good price break with larger groups. Chapter member Jennifer Fahnestock will be selling her hand-pulled glass cane there. Lunch will be at the

on-site restaurant, The Glass Grill. The theme of their challenge for this month is: "Socks & Scarves."

- b. Tracey also announced that Karen Leonardo is teaching "Wild Flowers" at the Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center on Nov 19 & 20. You can pay online, and if you join Delaplaine you get a price break.
<http://www.delaplaine.org/classes/master-classes/>
 - c. Ellen Howse announced that she was selling her retro bead liner, and some related equipment. //Sold!!!
 - d. Kathy Lagassey talked about **the new ISGB chapter being formed in Virginia** tomorrow at the Lorton Workhouse Arts Center: <http://workhousearts.org/>. As Lisa St. Martin had shared in her email to the membership, *"This has been an idea that has been kicked around for a year or so, so...we thought we would get things started. At this first meeting, we can talk about what would interest us and how we would like to go forward. I have the information from ISGB membership about the steps to forming an "official" chapter if we decide to move in that direction."* The idea of a new chapter in the region is very exciting, and several members present expressed interest in supporting both the new Virginia chapter as well as the SGBMA.
 - e. In related news, Kathy reported that the Hot Shop at Lorton opens today, and tonight is the Gala. They will be announcing a class with Emilio Santini in the spring; details are still being worked out.
 - f. Dan Brucker announced that Wale Apparatus will be carrying a new brass stamper from Karen Leonardo, and that he'll be taking preorders today.
6. **Beads of Courage.**
- a. Alice introduced past SGBMA officer, and current Beads of Courage Liaison, Terry D'Addio. Terry reviewed for us how the program developed: founded in 2004 by Jean Baruch, a pediatric oncology nurse, who was inspired to care for children and their families with an arts-in-medicine program, its headquarters are in Tucson, AZ. Today, Beads of Courage, Inc. is providing support programs to children in 100 hospitals in 40 countries. In the beginning, the program provided support to children with cancer, but over time they've expanded to provide support to children with other devastating illnesses: Blood Disorders, Cardiac Conditions, Burn injuries, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and starting this fall, they will include children coping with a chronic illness. Terry reported that the outcomes from the program include decreased illness-related distress, increased use of positive coping strategies, and helps restore a sense of self.
 - b. SGBMA members have been donating to the program for many years. As the chapter B of C Liaison, Terry makes sure beads are clean, removes any that have rough edges, then packs the good ones up and sends them to B of C Headquarters. In the past, Terry has paid for shipping them to Arizona, but the SGBMA board has decided to pick up the cost from now on. B of C examines the beads, organizes them, and sends them to participating hospitals. In the beginning, the program was happy to accept our, ahem, slightly less-designed beads, but Terry is challenging members to go beyond donating just our wonkies.

She led a discussion about increasing chapter participation in the program and where we'd like to go from here. As a result, all present agreed to make **next quarter's donation theme "Food."** Think about all the food beads you can make from cupcakes to scrambled eggs! Terry will collect them at the January meeting, but if you can't make it, contact her at tmdaddio@aol.com. Terry distributed handouts that she'd prepared, that include links to websites of interest, guidelines for glass beads, and a list of beads that kids like for Acts of Courage. <http://www.beadsofcourage.org/pages/beadsofcourage.htm> You'll find more about Terry's presentation on the new Beads of Courage page on our chapter website, coming soon. Thanks Terry!

7. **Hot Demo.** After lunch, Alice introduced glassblower Chad Pitts from Morgantown, West Virginia. Chad's demo was jam-packed as promised. He showed us the basics of working with borosilicate tubing, pulling points, vapping with gold and silver, and did some tricks with appendages and loops. He created several pieces, including an inside-out sea turtle, a hummingbird, a dolphin and a seahorse. Chad's demo gave everyone a taste of some of what he'll cover in his class here in the spring of 2012.
8. The meeting ended at 3pm.
9. Minutes submitted by Jinx Garza.