

IMASSC

# METAL ARTS

SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

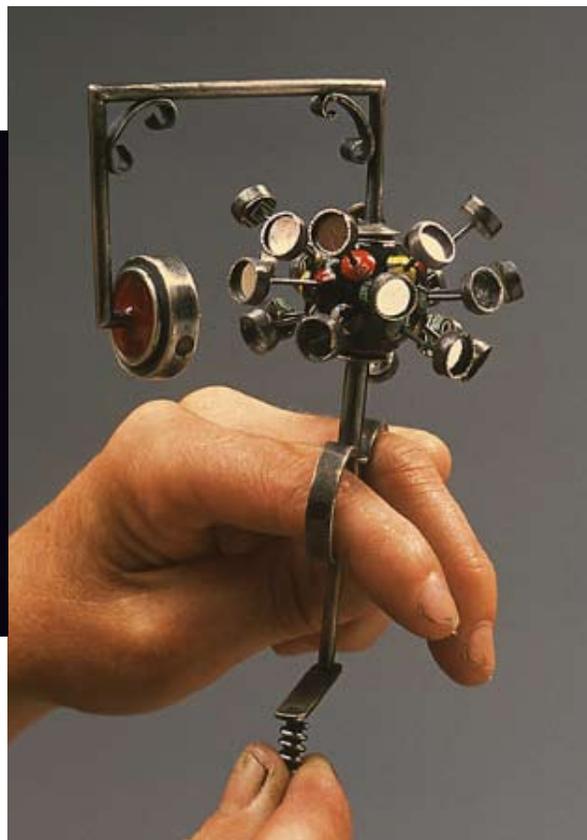
September / October 2012

## Kinetic Jewelry



Learn how to make your workshop students will learn rings expand and necklaces Kinetic Jewelry moves. Us-

mechanisms, you'll make jewelry do something! In this ways to make brooches spin, reveal hidden chambers. ing hinges, springs and other jewelry come to life. The top-



**Workshop with Sarah Doremus**



ing hinges, springs and other jewelry come to life. The top-

More information about Sarah Doremus can be found at: [www.sarahdoremus.com](http://www.sarahdoremus.com)

Dates: December 8th & 9th, 2012

Location: Pasadena City College

Fee: \$165 for MASSC members

\$190 non members

Materials fee: Approx. \$65 (payable to instructor)

This workshop will be filled via the MASSC lottery. To put your name in the lottery, send an email to Jeanie Pratt at [jeaniepratt@charter.net](mailto:jeaniepratt@charter.net) by September 21st. You will be contacted on September 22nd with the lottery results. MASSC members have priority over non-members.

# President's Message



Newsletters, Member Webpage, Workshops, Raffle prizes, and the friendship and camaraderie of some fine metalsmiths are what are offered to you through MASSC. Your membership is the very best deal in town. We offer several options, from the student membership for \$20 to the dual membership for \$45. You can go to the website at [www.massconline.com](http://www.massconline.com) to renew your membership or download a membership application to send through the U.S. Mail. This will be our first year when our newsletter comes in a colored digital format only. Because of added mailing costs in terms of volunteer time and money it was decided, after reaching out to the print option people for their input, to make the newsletter exclusively digital.

One of the perks of your membership is Demo Day on Sept. 9, Sunday at Long Beach City College. Ketarah Shaffer, Program Chair has been working hard to make it a successful event. She has lined up some excellent member presenters that I am sure you will find inspiring. They are:

**Melinda Alexander**

Micro Formed Bracelet with Beads  
-[www.etsy.com/people/metalmelinda](http://www.etsy.com/people/metalmelinda)

**Jennifer Blackwell**

Micro Wire Wrapping  
- [www.etsy.com/shop/glowfly](http://www.etsy.com/shop/glowfly)

**Deborah Jemmott**

File Carving on Metal  
- [www.debjemmott.com](http://www.debjemmott.com)

**Allan Mason**

Making Hand Stamps  
- [www.silvermason.com](http://www.silvermason.com)

**Ruth Shapiro**, Resin Inlay

- [growingupjewish.com](http://growingupjewish.com).

You will be divided up into groups and you will be able to hear all the presenters. Nancy Monkman will be video taping the sessions so we can place the video in the video library. Janette Parker, Fund Raising Chair, worked tirelessly to solicit tools and equipment from well-known vendors. As a side note, next time you order from one of these vendors let them know how much you appreciate their contribution to our organization. For your \$15, Doreen Endo, our Hospitality Chair, provides refreshments and lunch. The little touches that Doreen adds to the table are indicative of

her attention to detail. All these people volunteer, so you can have the very best day possible. Thank you to all of these volunteers for giving their time and efforts to our Metal Arts Society.

The first Tuesday of the month is always a special day. That is the day the MASSC Moving Metals SIG group meets in my garage. Too, too fun! In July, Cheryl Lommatsch was our instructor for a Torch Fire Enameling, hands-on session. Our group had varying degrees of experience with enameling, so it was tough keeping us all quiet. However, Cheryl handled it was great aplomb. Her handout was provided and she went to work explaining what she had planned for us to do that night. We had a table outside the entry to the garage where the firing took place.

Angela Roskelley, MASSC Recording Secretary had brought the perfect tool. It provided a platform with a screen on top, through which the fire would heat up our metal. The tip of the torch was placed right below the screen. The bottle of MAPP gas was secured in two rings that were welded on the adjustable rod that screwed into the table. The hose snaked its way up to the torch tip and above that was the platform. We couldn't WAIT to find out where Angela had gotten the tool. After all, we are such tool junkies. Come to find out she had made it and offered to make some for us. During the next meeting in August Angela showed up with them. We were NOT disappointed. They are the best!  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/aroskelley/sets/72157630530738302/>

MASSC will host a holiday kick-off potluck on Sunday, November 18 from 1:00 pm - 4:00pm. following the Annual Board Meeting from 10-12, at Angela Roskelley's house at 10808 Pangborn Avenue (Cross Street: Firestone Blvd) Downey, CA 90241. Bring an ornament you have made, for the exchange. Call 562 818.8468 or [angelaroskelley@gmail.com](mailto:angelaroskelley@gmail.com) to RSVP by . A blast will go out after Demo Day on Sept. 9 for the party with more information.



## MASSC Board of Directors

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<b>Pat Wierman</b>	goddesswoman@hotmail.com

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

**MASSC Newsgroup:**

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.

# Chris Hentz Soldering and Construction Workshop Review

by Ruth Shapiro

This workshop was like graduate school for soldering. Chris covered way more than I can possibly recall here. If you ever get a chance to take this workshop in the future, drop everything and run to it!

The typical bullet points for a lecture on soldering metals includes the following items, which Chris did indeed cover:

- 1/ Metal must fit together perfectly
- 2/ All surfaces must be clean
- 3/ Use adequate flux
- 4/ Heat and air circulation
- 5/ Practice at least once a week
- 6/ Solder like you mean it- pay attention!

However, the next item on his highly useful and entertaining presentation included how to quickly and neatly fold a T-shirt! I can solder, but I still can't get the hang of this! You ask how folding a T-shirt and soldering metal is related?

Chris said, "Anything worth doing is worth doing quick!" "Rules are made to be broken, but you must first understand the rules to be exceptional!" Another gem was "Don't forget what you already know unless you replace it with better information!"

The biggest difference in the way Chris solders from how most of us solder, is his use of applying liquid flux. He really doesn't like paste flux. It breaks down long before liquid flux does, and is generally harder to clean up. Paste flux dissolves oxides at 800 degrees.



Liquid flux prevents oxides!

He uses a form of Pripp's flux which he boldly called "Chris's Famous Flux (recipe to follow)". He applied it liberally with a spray bottle, brush, or medicine dropper, then heated, reapplied, heated, reapplied, etc., at least 3 times. He fluxed small chips of solder and heated them until they were tiny balls, before applying to a joint. (BTW, he scored wire solder with a dulled-down nail clipper, and bent off pieces as he needed them.)

To apply the solder balls, he uses a piece of wire coat hanger, a biology probe with a wooden handle, or a wooden pencil with the graphite sticking out. When using

a brush to paint on flux, he recommends a cheap, all plastic brush. Using a brush with a metal ferrule contaminates the flux.

He recommends quenching in water before pickling not just to prevent aerosolizing of the pickle, but to allow oxides to drop to the bottom of a water jar, and not in the pickle.

Another tip he presented: Label corners of your soldering surface, like solderite, with E, M or H for the types of solder you use. No more guessing as to what variety of pallions are floating about! Do as much as you can with hard solder- it just looks better, color-wise!

Chris talked about the differences between melting points and flow points, and recommended looking up these numbers each time you purchase solder, as they vary from company to company. Hoover and Strong's catalog has a wealth of information.

Liquid flux won't stay where surfaces have been brass-brushed, but paste flux will. Sandpapered surfaces work better for liquid flux. 3M Scotch-Brite pads work really well to prepare metal for soldering, as they open up the pores of the metal.

Other tips include adjusting the temperature of the torch by moving the torch further or closer to the work; make sure you use a neutral flame to avoid pitting in gold or silver; if you need a smaller flame, use a smaller tip, don't just turn it down; you can "suck up" excess solder from a jump ring with an unsoldered ring by holding the soldered ring in a third hand and holding the "virgin" ring in a tweezer, putting them close to each other, then rapidly pulling them apart. You can also suck up excess solder with a 10 gauge multi-strand twisted copper wire; he gave many examples of modifying pliers and tweezers to make them more useful!

Make balls of fluxed solder ahead of time and don't overheat. Logs of solder wire go with a seam, not across it. Don't try to fill spaces with solder. Tack solder seams with a gap, then hammer judiciously to close gap before soldering to close.

Chris talked about different kinds of soldering surfaces, including kiln furniture, and ceramic perforated pads from barbeque grills. He doesn't like charcoal blocks as they dry out the eyes from too much reflected heat.

Solder follows the heat, but gravity can help as well!

When melting balls at the end of wire, first dip the wire in flux up to the point where you want the ball to stop. Hold the wire in tweezers to the hot point of flame. The ball will melt up to the flux and stop.

When soldering a hollow form, always have at least 2 holes in case one clogs up. (For release of gases.)



Don't pick up red-hot soldered silver with copper tongs. That cools off the immediate area, stressing it, which can later crack. Let it cool or pick up with wood tongs.

Sometimes you have to consider the ease of repair in your design, should your piece need it in the future. For example, hinges might be the first part of a box or bracelet to wear out. Solder the hinges last, with easy solder.

To brite-dip a piece in order to remove firescale or copper plating, cover the piece with peroxide, and add hot pickle, a little at a time, until the solution bubbles. This will work with silver and gold. It also works to rid brass of copper that rises to the surface. Quick-dipping in regular pickle further brightens it.

To cut extra heavy wire, without ruining your wire cutters, hammer it against the edge of a steel plate or a vice, which will work harden the wire. Then you can bend it apart at that point.

It's possible to use cyanoacrylate (Super Glue) to hold multiple parts together, then flux and solder. Crazy Glue now is available with a brush. Ventilate well!

Chris spent some time showing illustrations made with the software called Rhino, which he recommended learning. It can make any shapes, in 3 dimension, and "explode" them. It will give you a list of each part and

cont. pg 6



send diagrams to service makers such as Ponoko or other shops.

Chris also demonstrated soldering tubing together for special affects, and rolling rod into the square space on a rolling mill to make “screws.” We made soldered boxes and learned different methods of twisting wires together.

Additionally, Chris showed various types of soldering jigs and devices, including his famous 3 nail pyramids. They are used to hold various metal constructions in place while soldering. I bought 4 of them!

The workshop was truly a delight. We came away with a great deal of information, and with a new friend! Thanks, Chris.

### \*Recipe for Chris’s Famous Flux

50 gm Cascade (monosodium phosphate) dishwashing powder.  
80 gm 20 Mule Team Borax  
120 gm Boric Acid Powder. (don’t use Roach powder) Available in pharmacies.

Put in about a pint of boiling water. (always better to use distilled H2O) Or you can put 2 Tbs. of mix in a half cup of water, in a ceramic or heat safe cup and microwave it. Any extra powder falls to the bottom. Keep in a covered jar. Can reheat to re-dissolve as necessary



## Members in the News



Deb Jemmot

30 Minute Bracelets,  
Lark Books



Jeanie Pratt, Necklace  
2Roses, Belt



Heat, Color, Set and Fire  
by Mary  
Hettmansperger,  
Lark Books



Jeanie Pratt, Brooch  
2Roses, Earrings  
Pat Wierman, Brooch

Wrap, Stitch, Fold &  
Rivet, by Mary  
Hettmansperger,  
Lark Books



I always wanted to be struck by that figurative bolt of lightning and wake up knowing that THIS (whatever “this” turned out to be) was my one true calling. But, alas, it never happened. Designing and fabricating jewelry is my third career, following 8 years in software development and more than 12 in graphic design. I think that both careers helped prepared me for this one—after all, analytical thinking is required for skilled fabrication, and artistic sense is required for good design.

There were several diverse factors which drew me into jewelry making. The first was emotional: I liked the idea of making something tangible and something that people purchased because it made them happy. And I liked the idea of working with tools that did not become outdated simply by the



traveling constantly from one art fair to another.

I am a Certified Gemologist, and my love of gemstones is the primary influence in my work. I am awed and amazed by what nature produces—the way light interacts with labradorite or opal, the fantastic patterns created in agates, the luster of pearls. My style is contemporary, and I like simple, flowing lines. I am looking for both balance and contrast

when I design - faceted stones mixed with cabochons, silver with gold, purple with green. Although I keep a sketchbook of ideas, when I’m creating a new piece I begin by selecting the focal gemstone and picking out several others which might



# Lorraine Hornby

passage of time (as computers and software do). I remember a woodworker I know talking about how he used tools he had inherited from his grandfather. It seemed to me that this was a wonderful thing, that something was so well-designed and perfectly suited for its purpose that it could continue to be the right tool for the job generation after generation. And so it is with a jeweler’s tools. The second factor was logistical: I could work in a small space and didn’t need to rent a studio to get started. The third was practical: I am blessed with the opportunity to exhibit and sell my work at the Sawdust Art Festival in Laguna Beach, which is like having my own little shop for a couple of months each year. I do a few weekend shows in addition to the Sawdust, but I don’t have to be a “gypsy”,



complement it, then trying various arrangements to see which work best together. Designing is really my favorite part — it’s the creativity, not the actual construction, which engages me. Most of my pieces are one-of-a-kind, although over time I have developed a few styles which I repeat and which account for my “bread and butter” sales.

For others who wish to pursue jewelry making as a career, I would repeat what has been said a thousand times: develop your own style and be distinctive. But I would add something which I don’t hear said very much: be a business person. If you want to do this for a living, think about what you need to earn, understand your costs, plan how you will sell your work. And don’t lose sight of the fact that you are doing something you love.

# Seen Online : Tool Porn

Let's face it. We've all got lots of hammers. But golly, when something this stylish comes along ya kinda feel like there might be room for a few more.

Brent Bailey Tool Company offers a unique variety of custom forged hammers. All hammers can be made in any weight with a choice of several finishes.

[www.brentbaileyforge.com](http://www.brentbaileyforge.com)



1644 S.CLEMENTINE ST, ANAHEIM CA 92802

## Upcoming MASSC Events

**November 10, 2012**

**Sculpt Nouveau Patinas Lecture  
Ron Young**

**November 18, 2012**

**MASSC Holiday Party/Ornament Exchange**

**January 11-13, 2013**

**Charity Hall  
Examining the Brooch**

**March 16-17, 2013**

**Jillian Moore Resin in 3D**

**May, 2013**

**Pauline Warg**

## MASSC Board Meetings

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)