# - I A Registration extended to Sept 3rd CALIFORNIA SOUTHERN

# **PEARLS ROUNDTABLE** Led by "Pearl Goddess" Betty Sue King

Keserve your seat at the table to rejoice in having hands-on full immersion with 100+ choices of cultured pearls of every origin, variety, color, shape and size. Before you know it, you will have the "wants" and surprise yourself coveting inspirational pearls to spark your creative juices. There's something for everyone with wide ranges of wholesale price points, all complete with full disclosure. Betty Sue King, the Pearl Goddess is your pearl guide. No minimum purchase required to participate.

MASSC DEMO DAY

7

September 8th, 2018

El Camino College

Betty Sue King, the Pearl Goddess, is renowned for having pearls that extend the boundaries of opulence, she travels overseas several times a year to source her remarkable collection. Want to learn more about the "Pearl Goddess", listen to a BenchTalkRadio Interview with Betty Sue King or check our website.

**MEMBERS ONLY** November 15th, 2018 5pm - 8:30pm, Torrance RSVP to massc.vp@gmail.com before November 10th, 2018

> Location and details sent after rsvp More about roundtables from JCK here.





# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Angelina Smith

#### **Yo fellow Metal-Heads!**

**Demo day** is just around the corner, graciously hosted by Irene Mori at El Camino Community College in Torrance on Saturday Sept 8th, 10:00-3:00pm

We have Marta Bialy and Anne Wold demonstrating the art of Vacuforming, Jeff Fulkerson demonstrating what to do with Keum-Boo, Ali Krajewski showing us the ins and outs of pouring perfect Crystal Clear Resin, Bradford Smith making Design Stamps For Jewelry and finally Nohline L'Ecuyer Recycling Scrap with Charcoal Casting. It's a phenomenal lineup so I hope you all register for a space here! Deadline to register for Demo Day has been extended to Sept 3rd.

We also held our very first Panel Discussion in August in Santa Monica at one of our new favorite locations, Camera Obscura Art Lab. Topic: The Jewelry Challenge. The Panel was composed of all of our 2018 Jewelry Challenge Winners, John & Corliss Rose, Irene Mori, Nina Gibson and MaryAnn Groark and moderated by Virginia Hyatt, our Spotlighted Member (page 8) We all took part in a lively discussion about the past, present and future of the Jewelry Challenge, while enjoying a lovely ocean view, just off the Santa Monica Pier.

Our panelists spoke about their approach, inspiration, technique, and unavoidable frustrations, and the audiences feedback will be taken into heavy consideration for

Many of you have noticed some exciting changes happening within our Metal Arts Society. We're broadening our events and adding more locations to reach more members, and we're seeing new faces because of it! We enjoyed a fun little summer mixer up in LA in July, it featured "Metalsmith Trivia" a pub style trivia game, which was won by MASSC member (and proud new owner of a fancy MASSC apron) Betsy Manheimer. We will be moving this trivia night around the SoCal map, so keep an eye and ear out for when we're in your neighborhood. Be warned, some of the questions are silly and some are hard!



**MASSC Vision Statement** 

Shaping the future by preserving metal art heritage, discovering new methods while sharing our knowledge and resources.

#### **MASSC Mission Statement**

To educate the Community, inspiring and challenging those who seek excellence in jewelry and metal arts, while providing educational, visual material and experiential connections.

Our **Holiday Party** is going to be twice the fun this year, thats right, we're going to have TWO parties. One up in Camarillo for our Northern territory members, and one for our Southern territory members down in San Clemente. Check the dates in the Calendar section and members, keep an eye on your inbox for updated party info!

TOUT

PART









# **METALSMITHS IN FLORENCE**

#### Focusing on Granulation and Fun in Florence, Italy...

**Hot...**this summer has been HOT everywhere it seems. By the time you read this, I'll be taking off again to the Fall workshop of Metalsmiths in Florence where I'm hoping the tempurature will be a bit cooler.

This fall's focus is "...all about Granulation". But don't let the title fool you, we always start with learning how to alloy our own gold from casting grain and then fabricate each component for our project. It's only then we turn to the technique we have chosen for the week. I'm looking forward to learning all about making little tiny granulation balls and fusing them to my designed project. What is also super fun about this workshop is that tons of other sneaky tips and tricks from Giovanni are always learned and he loves the "ohhh's and ahhhh's" of the participants having a "why didn't I think of that" moment. Speaking of Giovanni (our workshop's master Florentine goldsmith), he brought some of his jewelry pieces to the studio last Spring and I'm gonna let you peek at some of them that I got that chance to see...amazing!

I'm also looking forward to making a host of new friends in the metalsmithing world as we spend a week together living in a 14th century frescoed palazzo, eating delicious Tuscan food, drinking yummy wines, privately touring a famous museum, and experiencing Florence like a local.

If you missed out on this Fall's chance to join us in Italy, you can still join us for Spring 2019 for the week of April 7-14 where the topic is also "...all about Granulation".

Just go to: https://www.monicabranstrom.com/italyworkshop/ for all the details and to register...l'd love to have you join us!

As always, ciao! Monica Branstrom♦







### **ARTHROPODS & PLANTAE WORKSHOP** with Andrea Kennington of NC Black Co.

#### **By Charlene Aspray**

Mendocino is a charming town in northern California perched on rugged cliffs above the Pacific Ocean where the majestic redwood forests meet the sea. The beauty of nature abounds with lush gardens, natural bluffs and coastal beaches. Coming to Mendocino is a bit like stepping back in time, the rush of the city washes away, phone reception can be a bit sketchy at times and the nearest Starbucks is nine miles away.

The town is a haven for artists and since 1959 Mendocino Art Center has been offering workshops in ceramics, fiber arts, fine arts, jewelry and sculpture. Myself and three other MASSC participants made the 9+ hour drive north from Los Angeles to study for five days and ad-

vance our jewelry and metalsmithing skills with Andrea Kennington of NC Black.

Plantae & Arthropods Workshop focused on micro shell forming and fabrication methods to mimic shapes and textures found in insects and flora. Each student used a full kit of hammers and tools provided by NC Black. Andrea started off by walking us through her unique steps of fold forming so that we could take a sheet of irregular folds to create a spiculum shape which ultimately became the body of a bug. This technique had several offshoots including one that imitated the texture trick was to keep the curls loose until they are bouged. of bamboo.

We created florals with synclastic and anticlastic shapes using wood blocks and specialized hammers. Andrea

showed us several texture and coloration techniques for our creations. The use of traditional print making tools for stippled and hair like textures added depth to our insects. Spray paints, pencils, metallic powders and patinas were applied for color.

The overlapping synclastic "Wasp Nest", or bird nest shape, was one of the more challenging projects in the workshop. The multiple armatures, once carefully sawn out and filed smooth, are formed in order from right side bottom to the top then left side bottom to the top. The Then the last step, before the final bouging, synclastic forming down the center wraps the whole piece into the nest form. The whole process, while a little difficult at



#### EVENT REVIEW - NC BLACK MENDECINO WORKSHOP with Andea Kennington continued from page 7

times, was quite meditative and in the end quite rewarding. The entire workshop was a non-stop learning environment; Andrea Kennington did not disappoint us with her wealth of knowledge and amazing skills which she willingly passed on to us. I highly encourage everyone to take a class or two with Andrea and if you have the opportunity to do so in Mendocino it makes it even more special.

#### **\*\*\*\***

#### **By Angelina Smith**

I am not a big traveler. I didn't even leave LA County until I was in my 20s, so it's no exaggeration when I say that Mendocino California is the most beautiful place I have ever been. A few weeks back I and three other LA Metalsmiths made the 10 hour drive up north to this destination retreat for a one week metalsmithing class with Andrea Kennington of NC Black. The class was hosted by Nancy Gardener at the Mendocino Arts Center.



This is my second year visiting the gorgeous little coastal town and it certainly wont be my last. The hiking in the area is incredible, with dramatic ocean vistas that open up literally around every turn of the trail.



My memory of just walking the headlands has literally become my "happy place" that I sometimes go to in my head.





Andrea Kennington was an absolute wealth of knowledge, holding nothing back.



With over 34 years experience working in Metal and the Art of Tool Making, Andrea Harvin-Kennington created NC BLACK Company in response to the special needs of miniature

smithing, raising, and shell forming by making micro-tools to complete intricate commissioned works. The class took place over the course of 5 days; most everybody in the class had some previous experience with micro shell forming, and if they didnt they learned fast because

everybody in the workshop did an amazing job on their samples.





#### EVENT REVIEW - NC BLACK MENDECINO WORKSHOP with Andea Kennington continued from page 8

Charlene Aspray brought her own collection of bugs for inspiration.



First we were introduced to the use of foldforming with spiculums. This is used to make the illusion of articulation in a

solid form. We made flowers, twigs, leaves, bamboo, bugs and out of standard pine using just hammers to create indents bug wings. We experimented with roller printing, corrugation, and files to create grooves.



Andrea's tool kits provided to the class were full of so many amazing hammers, stakes and blocks, and she had a full class set of every hammer that they manufacture and then some! We were also taught how to make our own forming blocks



She even went as far as sharing her own patterns she uses to make her pieces so we could try and recreate them. And taught us the techniques to make each one.



One of the hardest samples to replicate was Andrea's Wasp Nest, which our very own MASSC member Charlene Aspray tackled like a champion after Andrea's demo. She was the only one who did but we all rooted her on as she did. I lost count of how many demos we witnessed. She showed us direct casting in delft clay, spiculum forming, fold forming, Die cutting guides and usage, die forming with a hydraulic press, edge treatment and ruffles, and so much more.



I came out of the class overflowing with so many new ideas and I'm sure everybody else did too!

**\*\*\*\*** 



# MASSC JEWELRY DESIGN CHALLENGE DISCUSSION PANEL 2018 How did they do that? By Betsy Manheimer

**have** to admit that I have never entered a Design Challenge, and I could give at least 20 excuses/reasons/ copouts as to why. But after attending the MASSC Design Challenge Discussion Panel on August 18, that might just change.

The Discussion Panel was held at the Camera Obscura Art Lab in Santa Monica. We had a good group which included not only MASSC members, but also a few jewelry students and even some attendees who aren't jewelrymakers but saw the flyer at the venue and were intrigued. We were fortunate to have all the winners there---John and Corliss Rose, Irene Mori, Nina Gibson and MaryAnn Groark. They each had the opportunity to talk about their creative processes in completing the challenge and showed some wonderful process slides that gave us insight into how they designed and fabricated their winning submissions. They talked about why they chose the category for their piece, how they used the items in the box either as is or altered, and the dilemmas they faced staying within the limitations of the challenge rules. After they spoke, we had a chance to ask a lot of questions about their works and gain some insight into the

concept of design challenges and how to step up and get involved in doing them. For those of us who are intimidated by the idea of this type of venture, the panel answered a lot of what if's and how to's in dealing with this type of contest. Virginia Hyatt was our moderator and led the discussion which covered both specific questions about this challenge and general questions about do's and don'ts and rules and regulations. We actually had to ask the venue if we could have a little more time than we had booked due to all the participation. (We could and we did.)

Virginia was our moderator and hostess and did a great job in presenting this event. I would recommend to anyone who has never tried something like this to jump in and give it a try. You don't have to be a professional and you don't have to win to learn a lot about creating art and about yourself and your process. And if you aren't familiar with all the entries, or even if you are, I would recommend that you buy the book—it's not only beautiful to look at but is a great reference book in itself.



**Since** retiring from 30 years in K-12 education I now have the time to concentrate on one of my passions which is jewelry design and fabrication. This allowed me to explore my creative side through jewelry classes from Penland, MASSC, Idyllwild Arts and Native American artists at the top of their fields. Although it was not a full time metalsmithing career, I was able to focus on areas of interest and learn new techniques and insights from them all. Now I have the ability to take my knowledge and apply it to my craft.

From earning a statewide arts award in high school, to Venice Adult School art studio as my local base with the amazing Anthony Chavez, I was able to explore and develop my passion for the metal

# Virginia Hyatt

arts and learned to have confidence in my soldering skills which expanded design possibilities. I incorporate natural materials, buttons, African Trade and vintage beads from my collections into my designs. I collect vintage jewelry and find the craftsmanship of early jewelry amazing and love to figure out how they were put together, many using riveting. When I hit a creative block, I sit for hours going through my reference library or play with beads, dried plant materials or other collected random objects for inspiration.

And rocks! Wow I love lapidary and inlay work. Taking annual classes in the Native American Arts in Idyllwild Arts and one-on one classes with nationally recognized jewelers has really given me insights on not only the art but also insights into a culture that has become a part of me. Turquoise has an allure and peacefulness that I love to use both in fabricated and cast pieces.

I have been a tool geek since my childhood in my father's wood shop and definitely have an interest in collecting old and new tools. It is great to find tools and repurpose them into a jewelers dream tool.

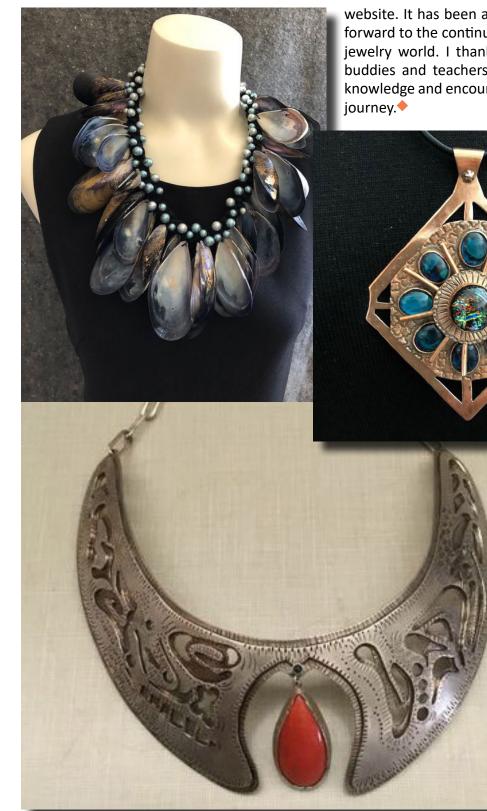
I could not live without my set of old forming pliers, riveting tool box, and flat lap. I really get a laugh when I take my drill into the hardware store for a belt and all the guys gather round and drool over my Cameron table top drill! She is a sweet one I must say! I am fortunate enough to have 3 studios in my apartment, Studio 1 is the fabrication/soldering studio in the basement (yes they do exist in southern California), Studio 2 is the lapidary studio on the back enclosed porch, and Studio 3 is on the second floor which is for beading. This of course allows for multiples of those tools we all need so there is always one within arm's reach.

I have found that in order to grow, you need to take classes with experts, yes their classes can be pricey at times, but it is worth it in the acquired skills. Everyone has something unique to offer. I don't think we play enough, and are so hard on ourselves striving for perfection that we tend to overlook that the best learning comes with failures.

This year has been spent developing product lines, determining avenues for sales and marketing and the development of my



#### MASSC Member Spotlight -Virginia Hyatt continued from page 9



website. It has been a great year and I look forward to the continual immersion into the jewelry world. I thank each of my jewelry buddies and teachers for helping me with knowledge and encouragement through this journey.



# **MASSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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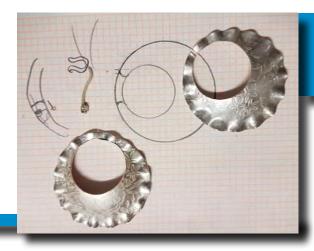
MASSC Instagram: @metalartssociety MASSC on FaceBook: http://www.facebook.com/groups/134035216002/

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 Jan1- Dec 31) Regular Member, \$30; Family, \$45 Full-time Student \$20.

Membership forms are available at www.MASSConline.com

# **ON THE BENCH**

These are earrings i'm working on after learning to make wavy ruffles from a workshop with NC black in Mendocino. Angelina Smith



**It's been** a minute but I've been swamped on this end, so unfortunately I haven't been able to be as involved in MASSC events as I was hoping to be this year. Just wanted to update you on the latest. Just launched my first collection in June (yay!). Most recently, I was invited by Vanity Fair to be among their picks for best jewelry designers to look out for this season. They will be featuring me in 3 consecutive issues starting September. Attached is the September issue which is supposed to be on news-

#### stands now. Christina Fandino

#### The Gold Standard. EXCLUSIVE 'I never gave up on love." 1234 A life-changing nance, bold new roles, and the right to equal pay Michelle Williams Won't Settle For Less TIN HAUS is contemporary fine jewellery that creates change and empowers through art. Sustainably made in Los Angeles, they celebrate individuality with a message of love for yourself and others. Shop bold minimalism at www.tin-haus.com and follow

# **CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS**

# **MEMBERSHIP Chair**

**This** volunteer is essential to our organization. The membership chair maintains and coordinates current membership records and maintains communication with the Treasurer and membership regarding the validity of their payment type and membership status.

This position requires a person proficient with Microsoft Excel or Access to maintain accurate name and member detail list as membership payments/checks as membership documents are received. Contact and coordinate with membership if there are deficiencies or questions in the membership application. Provide member list for distribution of all internal notices, newsletter and special reports as requested by the board. Non-renewing membership list may also be maintained for future MASSC contact purposes.



 We are also looking for

 **PHOTOGRAPHY Volunteers** 

 Taking photos at all events that allow photography.

**\*\*\*\*** 

Interested in volunteering? Email massc.president@gmail.com When I was in school at Cal State Long Beach, I was taking one of my very first metals classes and just beginning my understanding of the properties of metal. I was cutting out a circle in copper and happily sawing away. My cut was just about coming to an end and my finger was precariously perched just behind the path where the cut would finish into the previously cut path. I slowed my sawing at the end so that I would not cut my finger, but even so I misjudged the strength of copper, the force I was using, and how insanely delicate flesh is vs copper. It seems like common sense now, but was not so common at the time, because as the cut ended I sawed into the tender flesh of my index finger. Blood gushed out to the drum of my heart beat in neat little spurts, much more dramatic than the tiny cut warranted, in my opinion. I covered it and walked

**Back** in 2013 I was working long hours in my little garage studio filling orders, and rushing most likely. I remember I had started the day with my hair in a bun, but apparently had let my hair partially come down as the long day wore on. Not tied back tightly, and as I was foredoming, my loose locks got sucked into the foredom tool and it pulled out a nice swath of hair at the roots. Could have scalped that section but I was very lucky that it just broke it mostly at the roots. I had a short splotchy section right in the front of my head for months until it grew out!

And I never ran any motor with my hair down again.

#### **By Kristina Grace**

# METALSMITH HORROR STORIES

over to the sink, which for whatever reason was FULL of soapy bubbles someone else left behind, and began to rinse my cut out. Not sure how the physics work here but the entire sink full of bubbles turned immediately and horribly blood red like I had killed some animal in it. Capillary action? In any case, people around me began to panic, even though the cut was minor, it made such a scene that it made some classmates pale and sweaty, short of fainting. I cleaned and bandaged my cut, but clearly not well enough as I must have left behind copper particles in the cut, because to this day and likely forever after, I have a green line in my finger; a sort of self inflicted tattoo marking the fact that I now know how to hold my metal when cutting it.

**Was** teaching a jewelry class at a local community college. There was this one guy who was casting that night.

We always had a signup sheet and metals weight was noted on the sheet. Three or four people were casting and I had their flasks loaded in the kiln in order.

First up was this guy. I took one look at the silver he weighed out and said, "That's too much metal there." I had seen his wax model. He insisted that he weighed it and did the calculations. And went ahead and cast it.

It was too much metal! The crucible was cemented to the flask. This was our last clean crucible so I had to use a hack saw to separate the two.People were waiting to cast. My head was pounding and I was sweating. And I was really, really angry at Mr. Over Confident!

After separating the two, I had to work on the crucible with a torch to clear the hole and dump the rest of the metal. Good thing there was a high enough shield around the casting machine to catch the over-splash.

We finished casting and I gave the class a big lecture on how weighing their waxes and calculating metal weight correctly was crucial to safe casting. I'm just really glad no one was hurt. And Mr. Over Confidant had a very sheepish look on his face for quite a while. By Teri Brudnak

# A MASSC Membership's

#### 10% Discount Allcraft Jewelry Supply!!

Allcraft's Tevel Herbstman is offering MASSC members 10% discount on list priced items. This includes all tools and supplies with exception of fine sheet metals, findings and fine wire products. Tevel says "After you obtain a price from another supplier, call me last to get a quote from me.rom

#### e e

Allcraft Jewelry Supply

(212) 279-7077

# **EVENTS / MEMBERS EVENTS / WORKSHOPS**

**MASSC Board Meeting** 

**October 20th, 2018** 

Saturday 10:00am - 12:00pm

All welcome

We encourage all members to attend, please rsvp to

#### Ongoing

ENDAR

CAL

MARK YOUR

Deb Jemmott occasionally offers small classes in her home studio a bit north of Escondido. If you would like to receive notification of the dates / times of future classes, please contact Deb metalsmithdeb@gmail.com and ask to be on her email list.

#### Ongoing

VENICE Metal Arts offers a variety of metal classes and workshops. https://www.facebook.com/venicemetalarts

#### **Kiff Slemmons: Collective Presence** August 11 - October 6, 2018

Craft in America Center An exhibition of paper jewelry by Kiff Slemmons executed during her residencies at Taller Arte Papel in Oaxaca, Mexico. www.craftinamerica.org

#### **HERE TODAY:** We Are SNAG Membership Series **Deadline September 15, 2018**

www.snagmetalsmith.org

**Lewton-Brain Foldform Competition** Deadline Sept 29, 2018 http://www.foldforming.org/2018call.html

# diaweimer@gmail.com

**MASSC Workshop October 6th & 7th, 2018 Deb Karash From Flat to Fabulous** Long Beach City College More info here

**MASSC ROUNDTABLE** November 15th, 2018 Pearl, Pearl, Pearl... Peggy Sue "Pearl Goddess" **Torrance** More info here

**MASSC HOLIDAY PARTY** November 10th, 2018 / SOUTH November 17th, 2018 /NORTH More details coming via email

MASSC members can advertise their workshops and related events for free in the newsletter and online. Send Newsletter event submissions to massc.editor@gmail.com, send website calendar additions to massc.president@gmail.com



MASSC DEMO DAY September 8th, 2018 **El Camino College** 

**Register here** Demo Day has been extended to Sept 3rd



Marla Anderson's collie Baron keeps her Marla Anderson's collie Baron keeps her alerted to mice trying to make a home in her studio and let's her know when she's been working too long by booting her hand off working too long by booting her hand off the desk with his long nose. That's Baron's signal it's time for a break. Marla's Author Website/Blog: http:// mlandersonauthor.com/ Marla's Jewelry/Art Website: https:// Www.marlaandersondesigns.com/ Did you change your email?

Don't miss your MASSC newsletter and workshop announcements. Send changes to Monica Branstorm at join.massc@gmail.com

# MASSC Video Library Now Available on DVD

The MASSC video library currently has 20 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.

Elise Preiss - Enameling with Decals Pauline Warg- Carved Bezels Jillian Moore - Resin in 3D Sarah Doremus- Kinetic Jewelry Charity Hall - The Brooch Approach Demo Day 2011 - 5 demos NC Black Micro-Shell Forming 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 Forming **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. Click the "Video Library" link on the home page.

