

METAL ARTS

SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

November/December
2018

Pearl Roundtable

Prepare to embark on a fabulous journey through a shimmering rainbow of pearls. Freshwater? Saltwater? Akoya? Tahitian? South Sea? Classic Round or Keshi? Edison pastels or intense colors?

Betty Sue is known as the Pearl Goddess, and for good reason! She was recently honored as the 2017 Winner of The Award for Excellence at the Women's Jewelry Association in New York. She's also just back from the world's biggest pearl market in Hong Kong, and this will be a showing of some of the treasures she found. Join us at the table for this unique learning and buying experience. There will be refreshments, fun and lots of pearls!

No minimum purchase required, free to attend but space is limited so RSVP by November 5th: MASSC.vp@gmail.com - Address sent upon RSVP

Thursday, November 15th
5pm in Torrance



There will be a handmade ornament exchange at each party!
Bring a self made ornament, if you wish to participate in the ornament exchange.

SOUTH POLE PARTY

November 10th 1pm-4pm

Hosted by Trish McAleer & David Freida in San Clemente, CA
RSVP to Program Chair Erin Proctor - MASSC.VP@gmail.com with
subject SOUTH POLE PARTY

Holiday Parties

NORTH POLE PARTY

November 17th 1pm-5pm

Hosted by Stella Schloss in Camarillo, CA
RSVP to Program Chair Erin Proctor - MASSC.VP@gmail.com with
subject NORTH POLE PARTY

Parties are pot-luck style, bring something to share. If your last name begins with letter abcdefghijklm - please bring something sweet.
If your last name begins with letter nopqrstuvwxyz - please bring something savory.



Angelina Smith

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings fellow metals enthusiasts!

The holiday season is upon us and we have some really special events in store for you. Every year for the past 5 or so years MASSC has held a Pot-Luck Holiday Party complete with a Handmade Ornament Exchange. Members who attend receive a special handmade gift to take home with them, in the past it has included a soldering tripod, a hand forged and twisted scribe, this year it's something just as special and SECRET. With there being two holiday parties this year, I'm looking for people interested in helping us make the gifts. We will be meeting on Nov 8th in Torrance from 10-3pm to work on them. If any of you can join us on this endeavor they will be awarded a GOLDEN TICKET for their time volunteering.

Whats a golden ticket?? A Golden Ticket is a GOOL Card (get out of lottery) meaning any member who has one can use it to get out of the lottery system for registration of any one workshop, thus moving them to the front of the line ahead of others who enter the lottery with no ticket. It never expires and is only earned through volunteering for MASSC. If anybody is interested in helping to make the holiday gifts with us please email me at Massc.President@gmail.com.

This year we are thrilled to be able to announce two holiday parties, one for our members to the north in Camarillo, CA and one for our Southern members down in San

Clemente, CA. You are welcome to RSVP to one or both to MASSC.VP@gmail.com.

Sandwiched in the calendar between these two parties is a very special kind of event.



MASSC's first ever Roundtable Discussion and Pearl Buying Experience., led by Betty Sue King on November 15th in Torrance. This is a mid-week evening event and there are only 25 spaces available. I'm going to be there to learn all about pearls and their characteristics and quality. And for the mini tea sandwiches we are providing as a dinner-time snack.

Our Program Chair, Erin Proctor has lined up some really exciting upcoming workshops for 2019, including a one day Filigree Workshop, a two day Steel Wire Workshop in January and a Spinner Bangle/Keum Bo Workshop in March at Pasadena City College with Jeff Fulkerson. Jeff Fulkerson was demonstrating Keum-Bo for us at Demo Day.

For those of you that missed out on Demo Day, you missed a fun day with some amazing presenters. Here's what this year's presenters had to say about the event:

"Demo Day is a great time to mingle with local jewelry artists and as a presenter share what you've been up to with others. I've attended just about every one of the events over the last 15 years. The facilities are always top notch, meaning that I don't have to pack a lot of heavy stuff. Most every tool and piece of equipment I need is available for the speaker. And I love the questions from the audiences. They often trigger ideas for new projects. -Brad Smith"



"I have loved Demo Day since I found out about it. It is a fun, cost effective and an educational way to spend a day with friends with a guarantee of always learning something new. I was quite thrilled, but nervous, to be invited to do a demo this year. Using silver or gold scrap, my demo was to cast in carved out charcoal to create new pieces of jewelry. It opens the door to so many possibilities with very little financial outlay – remember this was already scrap! The students of El Camino College were particularly enthralled with this idea because of the low costs involved and no need for special tools. I am anxious to see what the Midnight Angels create for their Holiday Market. -Nohline L'Ecuyer"



"Having never been to a "Demo Day" I didn't know quite what to expect. I was certainly impressed by the venue and the jewelry set up they have at the college. But more important was the enthusiasm of the participants! Everyone was in high spirits with a mood of anticipation that was contagious. I really enjoyed seeing old friends and meeting new ones. I love the spirit of collaboration and sharing. I'm looking forward to next year already! - Jeff Fulkerson"



President's Message- *continued from p2*

"It was a pleasure to present How to Get Great Resin Results at this year's Demo Day. I hope everyone had fun learning about how to pick a non-toxic resin and prevent all of the problems with pouring resin such as yellowing, bubbles, uneven doming, leaks, and wet embeds. All of the attendees were enthusiastic and had great follow-up questions. Not coming from a metalsmithing background myself, I found it fascinating to speak with members about the resin projects they had in mind, and trying to hash out the how-to-do-it with them. I learned a lot from the other presentations and from speaking with MASSC members. Demo Day was certainly a fun event, and a resource not to be missed. - Ali Krajewski"



"Hi, I'm Marta Bialy, I wanted to thank everyone that attended the Vacuum forming demo by Anne and my self. I had a great time demonstrating this very fun technique and introducing everyone to a new way to create molds for reproduction. I was pleased with all the interest in the technique. If you have any questions or want to follow up with me or need any vacuum forming please feel free to reach out to me on social media or by email. IG @martabialydesigns, martabialy@hotmail.com, marta@michaelschmidtstudios.com"



MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL DUE
JANUARY 1ST, 2019
<https://www.massconline.com/>

Call For Hosts

We are looking for more hosts!
Do you have a studio that can hold up
to 6 people for an activity?

Are you interested in networking and sharing your
passion with other metals people in your area?

Email massc.president@gmail.com and volunteer
to be a **SIG Leader** today!

What is a Special Interest Group - SIG?

A sig is a group of people that come together to enjoy a shared interest. The group usually meets monthly on the same day, and the topic changes month-to-month. Topics are chosen for the next meeting at the end of the previous meeting by suggestion or popular vote within the group.



Nancy Monkman

It is with our deepest sorrow that we inform you that one of MASSC's founding members, Nancy Monkman, passed away on October 2, 2018. Nancy was a well respected and talented Metalsmith and Enamelist. In addition to being our Newsletter editor for many years, Nancy also served as our organization's videographer. In fact, almost the entire current MASSC video library was produced by Nancy. She held a number of other board positions over the years and was also instrumental in organizing workshops for central California metalsmiths through the educational programs in Santa Barbara. Nancy also served as the editor of SNAG News for over a decade. She was kind, funny and charming and she will be missed.

In honor of Nancy's memory and her years of service, MASSC is proud to introduce the Nancy Monkman Memorial Scholarship, which will award \$1,000 toward fulfilling someone's Jewelry Arts Dream. Scholarship entry details will be announced in the January 2019 newsletter.

For those who knew Nancy that wish to pay respects, there will be a celebration of her life on November 3rd in Pasadena. RSVP kmonkman32@gmail.com

If you wish to make a donation in Nancy's memory, her family has suggested the following options:

- [Craft and Folk Art Museum](#)
- [Descanso Gardens](#)
- [People for the American Way](#)
- [American Lung Association](#)



Members Share

NEW Special Interest Group Michele Ross

I've been working on a demo about making and using dies for the hydraulic press for the "New Metal Artists" group which is composed of artists working in all forms of metal from metal clay to fabrication. We are a small group in northern Los Angeles County that welcomes all metal workers.

Each member had the opportunity to make an original die out of masonite and use the press to make a copper pressing. I love to use my dies for torch fired enamel work which are most of the pieces pictured.

Every month we have a demo by a different member. If anyone is interested in joining the group they can email me at mross50@sbcglobal.net.



TIP by Diane Weimer

Paste Solder That Doesn't Dry Out Sold By MASSC Member Beth Katz

During the recent Drawing on Metal class with Deb Karash, we were introduced to a fabulous paste solder. Coincidentally it comes from an out of state MASSC member, Beth Katz. I have seen her name so many times, when I was membership chair and noticed when she rented videos. When I called I ordered it right from Beth. She did have to call me back but it was very easy.

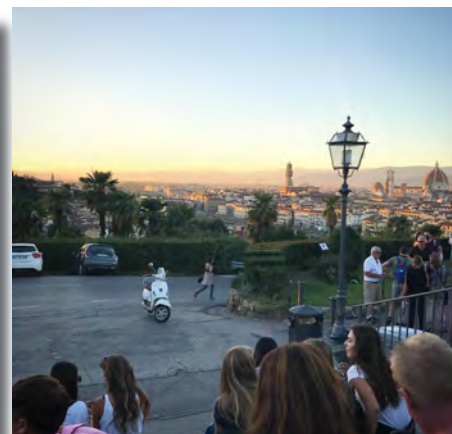
I got the 1 troy oz. in a small jar for \$30... and \$8 shipping. The best feature is that it doesn't seem to dry out and it is sticky so when you put a small dab someplace, like a round tube for a bail the bail stays right where you put it. It can also be purchased as a syringe. We just used the small jar and picked it out with a sharp wooden skewer. ... It can be ordered at 954-747-1919. The website is www.myuniquesolutions.com. It is located in Florida.



Tip by Angelina Smith

I don't know about other people but I destroy so many of these iPhone headphones that I've had to come up with an alternative use for all those little clear plastic lids that come with them. I feel bad throwing them away so I started to use them to keep my solder pallions separate at my soldering station. I usually clip my solder as needed so it doesn't have too long to oxidize before being used. Just a thought I'd share.





METALSMITHS IN FLORENCE

Metalsmiths in Florence Makes Millions... of Balls for the Granulation Technique!

Fall is the perfect time to be in Florence...the weather is delightful and the sunsets are magical. The wine grapes are being harvested for world famous wines and the olives are being pressed for that year's oil.

And so it was just a few weeks ago that six intrepid metalsmiths joined me each week for two consecutive weeks to learn "how to be the boss of gold" and the ancient Etruscan technique of granulation.

Don't be fooled, learning the granulation technique can be challenging...from making and keeping track of those teeny tiny balls (which have an agenda all their own), to getting the balls to fuse to the sheet right before the whole thing starts to melt. It's a delicate dance and boy did we get our practice. Some balls would fuse and some not. You can see in the photos that some were more successful than others, and some had enough time to get their stones set, some not. Some projects had heat bubbles, some not...All in all, it was the learning process that was the most important and everyone was stoked to learn not only how to alloy and form their gold from scratch, but also to learn several other additional techniques and tidbits along the way from Giovanni who has more than 50 years of

experience of being a goldsmith in Florence. During the week we definitely get our exercise walking across town meeting our expert guide to enjoy a private museum tour to the Duomo Museum where we were able to take an up close and personal look at the famous Baptistry doors which have been beautifully restored (among other things). And let's not forget the super fun wine tasting excursion to Chianti to taste several different wines and hear the fascinating true story of murder conspiracy of some of the members of the ruling Medici family that took place at one of our wineries! And of course there are other fun little surprises during the week...did someone say "tool store"? ;)

Join me in Fall 2019 where the subject will be Prong Setting faceted stones with both wire and sheet. Shoot me an email at monica7873@gmail.com for information and to be added to the email list so you can be first to know when I release the dates and open registration (mid November-spots fill fast). You can also visit www.monica-branstrom.com to get full details of what this workshop week entails.

Ciao for now! Monica Cardone Branstrom.





Trudy Adler



I have been making jewelry since gold was \$33 an ounce. At that time, in the late 60's, I made rings, pins and pendants. I had some special orders and had diamonds and other stones set into my creations. My first real jewelry class was the last year I was at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn. Since then I have taken many classes in many places.

My art training began at New York City Community college where my 2 year degree was in advertising and graphic design. I worked in the Mad Men days doing hand layouts and lettering. Although I liked it I wanted a fuller enrichment of art and went on to Pratt for fine arts, painting, etching, photography, sculpture etc.

As a bonus I took the required amount of art education classes and was certified to teach art which I did, first

in Junior High then in elementary schools as a roving teacher. I worked in package design (mid 70's) on Dixie cups and plates and had my floral little cups on the airlines (when you got your own water in a cup). They were also sold in stores as bathroom cups with colored dispensers.



MASSC Member Profile - Trudy Adler *continued from page 7*

I later worked doing textile designs mostly for men's shirting during the nylon print shirt days. Also did clothing design for men, boys, women and juniors. Then I wound up creating graphics on back pockets of jeans during the late 70's and 80's. This was "BC" (before computers), so all hand painted.



Jewelry was a thing done in my apartment. Then I moved from Brooklyn to Santa Monica California. Lucky me. I could walk to Santa Monica College and take ceramics, etching many times before computers kept track of how much you did. In 1982 I went to Idyllwild School of Music and the Arts, aka ISOMATA, and took ceramics with Juan Quezada (Mata Ortiz), Lucy Lewis (Acoma). For jewelry Michael (Kabotie Hopi overlay), Richard Tsosie (Navajo inlay) Gassoin family (Tufa casting) and many other classes that followed when Deb Jemmott finally brought a much needed and requested new era of

contemporary jewelry to the school, now renamed Idyllwild Arts Academy. I taught youth jewelry making for 5 years in their 2-week summer program to 14-18 year olds where we did everything including cuttlebone casting. It was great fun.

I moved from Santa Monica to Palm Desert 2 years ago. Big move but I love it here. I finally have a real designated workshop all done to code in a separate little 9'x14' building on the lot outside the house. I no longer teach or do workshops. I still use a few early tools from the original Allcraft in NYC. Now I have more than I ever imagined and can't always decide what to do or use first.



I decided early on not to be a slave to what I enjoy doing so I didn't go into galleries or do shows. I also was traveling quite a bit for work. Later on in 1993 I went back to making jewelry most of the time. There was a great facility at Venice Adult School that had a fabulous giving teacher, Anthony Chavez, who worked for Borget Brothers jewelry store. He got so many donations from his connections that the class was loaded with equipment! A big group of us spent many years

attending 2-4 nights a week learning and having the best experiences. Many friendships still exist as a result of this class.

I have done some shows over the years but not regularly. They cover 2, 3 or 4 days and are an amazing amount of work. You need to be prepared with lots of inventory and working full time on it, so not what I want to do anymore.

I always showed at the annual Jazz Fest in Idyllwild. Fun. Last year I did some of the one day shows in La Quinta. I have jewelry in the Middle Ridge Winery Gallery in Idyllwild. Going forward I may look into other galleries for specific pieces.

It's hard to categorize my style as I have done many different things. Maybe I don't have one. I know that I love texture. This was always apparent in both my ceramics and jewelry. Shadows, leaves, ocean, feathers, rocks, you name it, sparks inspiration in different ways. Mostly now, I just want to have fun with what I do.





Deb Karash "Flat to Fabulous" by Betsy Manheimer

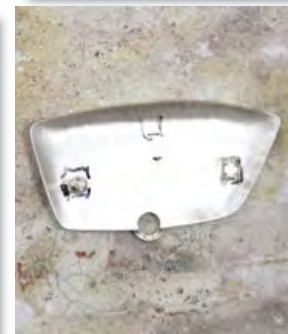
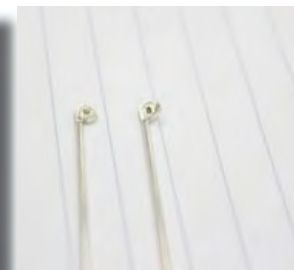
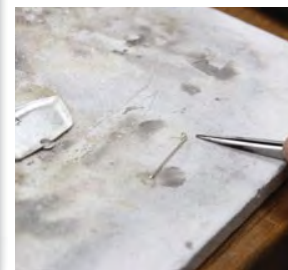
Deb Karash's "From Flat to Fabulous" workshop had something for everyone in it. Whether you are a newbie or a veteran in jewelry fabrication, this was a wonderful journey through the evolution of making a jewelry object.



Deb went into great detail about how and why we shouldn't be in a hurry to slap things together without completing the little things that make a piece look great without having to worry about fixing elements after the fact.



We got a lot of good information and suggestions about texturing, riveting, balancing and a highly comprehensive demo and explanation of pinbacks.

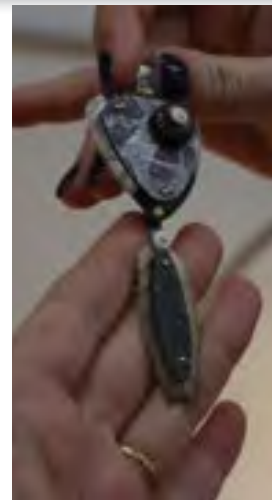
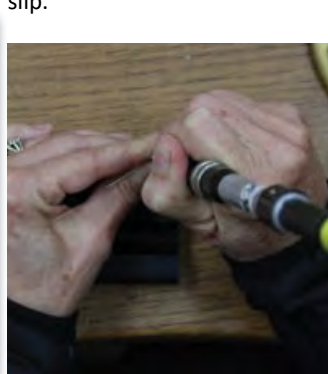


Event review - Deb Karash "Flat to Fabulous" by Betsy Manheimer *continued from p9*

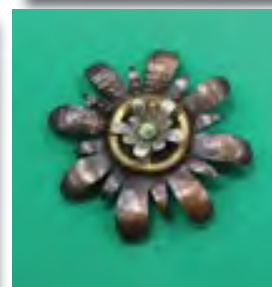
She also gave us a lot of tips and tricks for embellishing, making bails and applying patinas.



Note how Deb holds hers; the finger placement braces the tool and provides stability so the hammer hand-piece doesn't slip.



If this sounds like a lot, it was!



And we had the opportunity to get up close and personal with the hammer hand-piece for the flexshaft.



Deb is really good at explaining things and is a very patient teacher. She underscored the thinking process in creating your piece while still addressing the physical fabrication. The amount of information she covered in only two days was amazing, and all the finished projects came out great as you can see in the pics.

Thanks go out to our friends at LBCC, our Hospitality Chair Virginia for keeping us nourished, our VP/Program Chair Erin for setting it all up, and our Prez Angelina for all the pics and ordering the pizza!

By Betsy Manheimer

Anne Havel "Torch Fire Enamel" by Diane Weimer

Sept 14, 2018 was a hot Friday morning when the Anne Havel's Torch Fire Enamel class began in Diane Weimer's studio in Long Beach, CA. We were looking forward to a 4-day workshop that was going to be outstanding. The days were suppose to be hot, but luckily the studio was equipped with AC. However, with 11 students and 5 torch stations (3-Acetylene/Air, 1-Oxy/Acetylene Smith's Little Torch and 1-Oxy-Propane Meco Midget Torch) going, it was a real challenge to keep the atmosphere liveable.



The studio torch fire setup was a little different. We used a 28 oz. can cut with an opening like an open door, set up on a 9" tripod turned upside down with a firing rack on top. The trivet is placed inside the can and the torch heats up the piece from the bottom, moving the flame quickly back and forth at a 6" distance. As the piece heats up, we move the torch up and slow down our speed of movement. We were able to see the surface of the piece to check whether it was sugar, orange peel or fired to maturity by moving the flame to the back of the can and shining the flame to the top of the can. We could then see a reflection of the surface of the piece and how the enamel was firing.

I was especially curious to see the days unfold since

I have limited experience with enamel of any kind.

We would be doing:

- Sgraffito: using shapes of 22ga copper that are slightly domed
- 303 premix liquid enamel as the counter enamel, squish enamel with brush all over and then dab,
- 533 liquid enamel on the top, squish enamel with brush all over and then dab, dry,
- scratch top, then fire until the lines are red,
- painting with the wet packed transparent enamel exactly where you want it.



- Graphite: use another copper domed shape 1-1/4" or smaller
- do 1030 sifted counter enamel and enamel top and bottom
- Create "tooth" on the piece with either Etchall or by sand blasting
- use graphite pencils (HB, 2B, 4B) to draw our line design and any shading
- use acrylic paints, dry, redraw the graphite line and fire to sugar



Quill pen for design

- thickly sifted 1030 Foundation White on both sides, fire separately.
- use the brushes or the crow Quill Pens to draw lines on the front with the acrylic enamels that you placed on the palette from the tube.
- paint with acrylic enamels on the piece
- use 1030 enamel both sides, fire separately
- use Sakura pen to make a simple design and before it dries, sift on an enamel
- Tap off lightly and fire.

Tips which were new to me:

- According to Anne Havel, you don't have to clean your copper. Sift the 1030 using the 150 mesh and then go to the 80 mesh and you should be fine and we were.
- Put a penny in the sifter to make the sifting go faster and be more consistent.
- We never used Klyr Fire but rather a 150 mesh sifter followed by an 80 mesh
- Put your copper piece on a bottle cap to sift
- Another great quill pen is the Pen Art Ruling Pen that can be purchased for about \$15 from Amazon. It has a small knob down by the nib that when you loosen or tighten it changes the tip size... WOW.
- Jan Reimer who was in the class introduced us to the Tycomall Eyeliner brushes... 100 brushes for under \$10... Amazon too.

If you get a chance to take a class from Anne Havel, grab that spot up. She is very knowledgeable and has so much information to share. We all had a great time in the class and learned so much.



METALSMITH HORROR STORIES

I never work in the studio after 8pm. Ever.

It's been my policy since 1997, after several small incidents (like stabbing or slicing ones hand) but nothing so impactful as that freakish evening in 1997. Every injury I've ever had was after the magic hour, I call that time of day "the injury potential phase" of the evening. But this particular event, the incident that forever ended my late night career in any studio, was the turning point.

First - let's discuss safety glasses. I no longer wear safety glasses that do not have a foam seal around my eyes. At the time, I was (and still am) a metals instructor at the Sawtooth School for Visual Art in Winston-Salem NC. I was the original Harpy with my students about safety glasses. Always reminding them "PUT THEM ON!"

In prepping for fall shows every year like all artists, I worked extremely long days - and nights. One Indian summer evening around 10ish pm while working on a bracelet, I carefully nipped the tiniest sliver of gold wire off a formed leaf. BAM! I immediately felt a searing pain in my right eye. Instantaneously I thought "I have ON safety glasses - how could this happen!" I yelled across the studio to Chuck "OMG a wire went into my eye", ripping my safety glasses off my face and whipping my chair around. He stood up, I removed my hand covering my eye and asked "is it bad?" His face contorted and he yells "oh god put your hand back over your eye!"

...Comforting.

He runs out the studio door to grab car keys as I stumble my way towards the car. Off the ER. Oh. Joy.

I walk into the Emergency Room and walk up to the always surly intake person. She looks up and says "so what's your problem tonight?" I pull my right hand off my bleeding eye and say "I got a wire in my eye!" Her face contorts, and in a panicked voice says "put your hand back over it, NOW!"

...Comforting.

Well I'm here to tell you, if you want to NOT have to wait in the ER for 9 hours to be seen, have an eye injury. She rushed me back to the triage nurse immediately. The nurse is rather jarred, and runs down the hall to get the Dr.

...Comforting.

He shows up and looks at my now hamburger meat looking globe and says, "yup that's and eye injury." So then I get to have A SHOT IN MY EYE! Yippee. That was quite the rush. Lidocaine is my friend, and I did get the wire extracted. My eye looked like raw meat for a month and hurt like hell for the first 4 days. The following Friday, I walked into

my class with an eyepatch on, lifted it and said "THIS, this is why I ask you to wear safety glasses. Everyone screams "ewwwwwwww, cover it up!!!"

...Comforting. LOL

So how did it happen you ask? The eye doctor explained as he extracted the wire, that it hit my eyebrow at 100 mph, bounced through the gap between my face and the safety glasses, hit the lens at about 80 mph and bounced directly into the globe (white) of my eye. I was extremely lucky it did not go into my iris. I would have lost my eye if it had. Blind. Horrifying. And yes if hurt like a m..... after the lidocaine wore off that night I truly wanted to rip it out of my head.

So two things after that happened.

1 - I do NOT work after 8pm, ever.

2 - I got safety glasses that seal all the way around my eyes. They stay glued to my head in any studio.

Andrea Harvin-Kennington
NC Black Company LLC



Event / Member's event / Workshop

Ongoing

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 metalsmith-deb@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>

MASSC ROUNDTABLE

November 15th, 2018

Pearls, Pearls, Pearls...

Betty Sue "Pearl Goddess"

Torrance

[More info here](#)

MASSC HOLIDAY PARTY

November 10th, 2018 / SOUTH

November 17th, 2018 / NORTH

[See Cover for details](#)

MASSC Board Meeting

All Welcome

December 16th, 2018

10:00am - 12:00pm

We encourage all members to attend, please rsvp to

diaweimer@gmail.com

Ellen Weiske

Steel Wire Workshop

January 5th - 6th, 2019

Torrance

Lottery Opens 11/07, Closes 11/21 rsvp

Peggy Foy

Filigree Workshop

January 14th, 2019

CSULB

Lottery Opens 11/28, Closes 12/12

MASSC Board Meeting

All Welcome

February 17th, 2019

Time and Location TBD

Jeff Fulkerson

Keum Bo/Spinner Bangle

March 16th, 2019

Lottery Opens 1/25, Closes 2/08

Did you change your email?

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



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MASSC Instagram: [@metalartssociety](https://www.instagram.com/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.MASSOnline.com



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.

Petsmith

Dori and Jasper are BFFs. Dori is a beautiful little dog who was abandoned, terrified, skinny and missing fur, in a cardboard box between two dumpsters. Jasper is a former feral kitten whose mother was killed by a car. In the two years she has lived with me, Dori has gradually lost a lot of her fear. Jasper, who is outgoing, curious, and brave, has helped her with reassurance and by example. They set a great example for all of us about celebrating our differences! Gabrielle Lessard