



GEM SCOOPS



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Pendleton District Gem and Mineral Society

March 2012

Lost-Wax Casting Model Making

Lost-wax casting is an ancient craft—at least 6000 years old. It is a method of casting whereby a model is created in wax. The wax model is then encased in a material called investment that is basically plaster of Paris. When the plaster has hardened, the invested model is placed in an oven to melt the wax to leave behind a cavity or mold into which metal can be poured to reproduce the original model.

Long ago craftsmen created casting models using beeswax. Today, various jewelry-making waxes are made from petroleum by-products. The jewelry-making waxes are available in the form of sheet wax, wax wire, or as blocks of wax for carving. The carving waxes are hard and jewelry models are formed by sawing and filing. Wax wire and sheet are softer and can be used to fabricate models much as one would use actual metal wire or sheets. Inexpensive tools are used to weld the wax parts together. This is the method we will be demonstrating.

Pondering from the Podium (Emeritus)

No President's message was received this month. [Ed]

APRIL MEETING April 17, 2012

Currently no speaker has been scheduled for the April meeting.

MARCH 2012 MEETING

DATE: Tuesday March 20, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Please remember the day has been moved to Tuesday.

PLACE: Hayden Conference Center, Clemson Botanical Garden.

TOPIC: Demonstration, Wax model making for Lost-Wax Casting.

SPEAKER: Fred Sias.

Lost-wax casting is a craft or technology that is used for making much of the fine jewelry we find in jewelry stores. Fred will demonstrate the method of fabricating wax models that may be used for lost-wax casting. He will have finished jewelry pieces to show the final results of using the lost-wax method.

Fred has taught the skill of lost-wax casting at SFMS Workshops and in classes taught at Clemson when the club formerly had a workshop. This will be one of the jewelry-making techniques we expect to teach when the club workshop is again established.

Refreshments will be served, and visitors are always welcome.

Pendleton District Gem and Mineral Society

Minutes of General Meeting February 21, 2012

Location: Hayden Conference Center, within the Clemson Botanical Gardens.

Attendance: We had an attendance of between ten and fifteen.

Speaker: Scott Brame, Clemson Assistant Professor of Geology, talked about a new approach to teaching Geology 100. His students have been visiting mineral outcrops in the northern half of the Clemson Forest since the fall of 2007. According to Dr. Brame, "We have catalogued rock types at over 300 locations. We have created a preliminary geologic map of the areas we have studied...."

Workshop News

I have been assured that Progress is being made on a new location for the Club Workshop. Things move slowly around a University and remodeling must take place after all approvals have been signed.

We have been assured that the club faceting machine is refurbished and will be shipped to Ted.

2012 Officers

President:
V.P.:
Secretary:
Treasurer: John Isler 864-885-9126

2012 Directors

Ted Wallenius 864-882-3940
Jim Duzenberry 864-654-5741
Fred Sias 864-654-6833
Rich Warner 864-654-0913

2012 SFMS WORKSHOP CLASS SCHEDULE

Wildacres Director, Julia Larson
 204 37th Ave North, #250
 St. Petersburg, FL 33704
 727-522-1254
 Email: wadir2011@yahoo.com

William Holland Directors, Denise & Carl Talbott
 216 Spring View Drive
 Murphy, NC 28906
 828-494-7213
 Email: dtalbott@bellsouth.net

Wildacres Registrars, David and Leslie Wayment
 8802 N US Hwy 1 Suite 10
 Sebastian, FL 32958
 Phone 772-532-6432
 772-539-2409
 Email: aastainedglass@bellsouth.net

William Holland Registrar, Joe & Addy De Pietro
 P.O. Box 928,
 Frostproof, FL 33843
 863.635.5138
Mysticalmelts@verizon.net

Education Chairman , Kathy Morris
 551 Grayce Lane
 Hiawassee, GA 30546
 706-896-3256
 252-571-5050
 Email: klmorris45@hotmail.com

The intermediate and advanced classes listed with an asterisk (*) require some prior experience by the student. Experience in a class provided by your local club,

classes, please fill out an application (see Lodestar Page 10).

**SESSION ONE - WILLIAM HOLLAND
 SUNDAY, June 10-16, 2012**

Beading, Seed	Ron Midkiff
Cabochons	Anita Westlake
Casting	John Iacullo
Chain Making	Case Leeser
Enameling	Bob Mattingly
Fused Glass	Addy DePietro
Lampwork	Ann Royer
Mineral ID	Scott Forward
Opals	Sarah Lee Boyce & Carl Talbott
Silver I	Allen Jewell
Silver Filigree	Paige Warrick & Shannon Stafford
Wire I	Bobbi Shumack
Wire II	Ruth Ann Moore

**SESSION TWO - WILDACRES
 MONDAY, August 20 - 26, 2012**

Cabochons	Anita Westlake
Digital Photography	Ron Gibbs
*Metalsmithing - Advanced	Jeff Sheer
Polymer Clay	Carolyn Stearns
Raku Beads	Jim Cullen
Scrimshaw	Bill Wetzel
Silver Cold Connections	Charlotte Caughman
Wire, Beginning	Rowan Rose

**SESSION THREE - WILDACRES
 MONDAY, September 10 - 16, 2012**

Beading 4 Holidays	Barbara Green
Cabochons	Pat Davis
Chain, Beginning	Marilou Hillenbrand
Faceting	Steve Hillenbrand
Fused Glass, Beginning	Rich Dillon
Mineral ID	Scott Forward
Silver, Filigree	Shannon Stafford
Stone Setting	Don Roberts
Wire for Beaders	Leslie Wayment

**SESSION FOUR - WILLIAM HOLLAND
 SUNDAY, October 7-12, 2012**

Beading, Seed	Barbara Green
Beading	Becky Patellis
Cabochons	Jerry Mason
Casting	Joe DePietro
Channeling	Don & Ann Monroe
Lampworking	Cindy Reed
Mineral ID	Scott Forward
Opals	Sarah Lee Boyce & Carl Talbott
Silver I	Mac Thornton
Silver Filigree	Paige Warrick & Shannon Stafford
Wire I	Diane Mason