

Madison Bead Society Newsletter

Vol. 22 No. 1

www.madisonbeadsociety.org

September 2011

UW Hospital Display

Once again, MBS has a display at the UW Hospital—this is the 8th time we have displayed there. It is a chance for the society to reach out to potential new members and gives us an opportunity to sell. Display items are sold through the Hospital's gift shop (20% of each sale is donated to the Hospital's art fund). Last year, we sold 12 items for a total of \$531.

The display went up around Labor Day and will be taken down at the end of September. Wally Brinkmann (who is coordinating this) will return all unsold items, as well as checks or cash for items sold, at the October MBS meeting. Let her know if you need your items before that date. Any items not picked up at the October MBS meeting will be available at the Bead Bin a couple of days after the meeting. A check for 20% of all items sold will be written out to the Hospital's art fund. Artists who had sold items will need to reimburse Wally. If you have any questions email Wally at wabrinkm@wisc.edu.

Fine Art and Craft Show: Volunteer Information

Our annual fall Fine Art and Craft Show will be held at the Exposition Hall at the Alliant Energy Center, Nov. 19 and 20, 2011.

The 2 day event means more opportunities to volunteer. Shifts will be 2 hours and I would like 2 people at the table at all times and 3 people from noon to 2:00 (to help vendors who need a break). A signup sheet will be at the next meeting or contact Pat Reichert (houseofpat@charter.net). I'm sorry, we are unable to provide free parking to our volunteers.

September Meeting: Circle of Youth Ring

Date: September 26, 2011

When: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Where: Meant to Bead, 1264 W. Main St., Sun Prairie

Instructor: Carol Schmid & Shannon Jambard

Cost of kit: \$6.50-8.00 for Sterling wire and \$2.00-3.00 for craft wire, depending on the stone

OR bring your own supplies: 12" of 18 or 20 gauge Sterling wire and 6-8mm round bead (make sure the wire can go through the hole)

Tools used (can be borrowed from Meant to Bead): ring mandrel, table vice, wire nipper, round nose pliers, chain nose pliers, wire straightener

See picture below for example of finished ring.

Circle of Youth Ring



MBS is now on Facebook!! Won't you be our friend? 😊

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sfmr=1#!/pages/Madison-Bead-Society/146773198696019>

Head Bead's Column: Ethics in Beadwork

The following is an article I wrote about 10 years ago for the MBS newsletter. I feel it is worth resubmitting as my Head Bead article for this month. I believe we all should think about the ethical implications when we make and sell beaded items and consider teaching classes. I hope you find this article interesting and informative.

-Gail Piper, Head Bead

"Ethics in Beadwork" Article Review

by Gail Loder

In the Spring 1998 issue of Beadwork there appeared an article by Sandi Graves entitled, "Ethics In Beadwork". The author asked six well-known bead designers what they thought about the subject and reported their responses. For the Madison Bead Society (MBS) newsletter I thought I'd give all of you who didn't have the opportunity to read the article an overview of their responses and the gist of the article.

Essentially, all the artists interviewed for the article pretty much all stated the following (which I'm summarizing):

- Beading techniques are not owned or copyrighted by the teacher of a class or the author of a book (or a magazine article) or by the creator of a certain beaded project. So, creating objects using techniques you learn from a class or book or article is OK. It IS, however, unethical to photocopy anything directly from a book to use for class handouts without permission and giving credit. It's OK to make a single "take-along" copy for your own use -- just don't make a dozen for a class you teach.
- Teaching a class on a technique that's covered in a book or you learned in a class is OK with adequate credit given, but, again, don't photocopy book (or magazine) pages for handouts at your class. And, don't photocopy class handouts you receive to use in a class you teach.
- Being inspired by a basic design you see in a studio, at an art fair, or on display at an artist's show is OK, but going home and producing an exact replica is unethical -- and mass producing a copied piece is even worse. It's OK to be inspired by the piece and use the basic idea for your own created item that reflects your own individuality.

My overall received message from the article was that an artist's creation -- the designed piece -- is what should be respected the most along with any printed instructions from a book, magazine, or class handout. Beading techniques are not copyrighted or owned by anyone. Many (most?) have been around for many, many years, so learning a technique then teaching others and/or using it to create your own designed pieces is totally acceptable.

The one exception to the taboo on "copying" designs would be, of course, when you purchase designs that are meant to be copied -- when you create an item using a pattern from a book you purchased. There's nothing unethical about buying a book containing patterns for amulet bags or earrings or whatever and making several items using the patterns supplied in that book. But, if you mass produce them without giving proper credit, you're stepping out of bounds on the ethics issue. And, some designers interviewed felt that if you use a design from a book for an item you sell you should give credit to the designer, saying "beading by (your name); design by (designer's name)".

I hope this sheds some light on the murky issue of ethics in beadwork and helps clear up some of the questions MBS members might have on that issue. After all, we all want to enjoy our beads and support our bead habits without stepping on any toes.

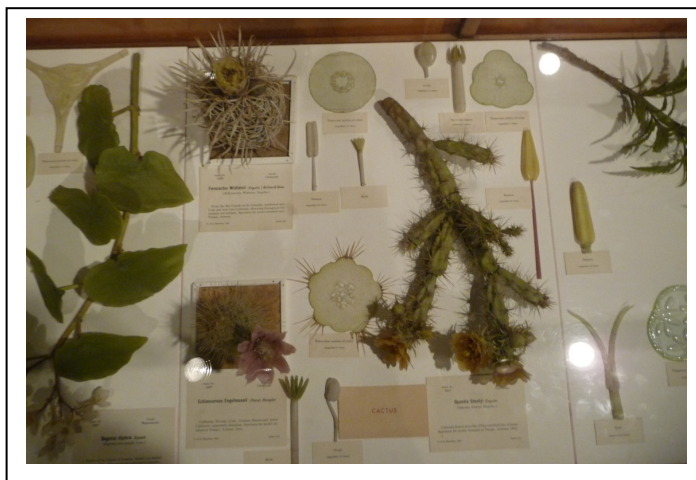
Bead of the Month: Glass Flowers

I know I just started this recurring column in the last newsletter but I saw something on vacation that was so cool I had to share (and I forgot to line up the next writer before leaving).

Between 1886 and 1936, Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka, a father and son team, created a collection of nearly 4,400 models of 830 plant species for the Harvard Museum of Natural History. They worked in Dresden using different coloring techniques which makes some more fragile than others. The pictures do not do them justice but after 100+ years they are fragile, the lights are kept low, and you can take pictures but no flash.

A professor at Harvard wanted life-like representatives of the plant kingdom for teaching botany instead of paper-mache and wax models. Go to http://www.hmn.harvard.edu/on_exhibit/the_glass_flowers.html for more information.

Pat Reichert



2011 Schedule

September

UW Hospital display

September 26

Meant to Bead

October 24

Oakwood Village West

November 19 & 20

MBS Fine Art Show and Sale

November 28

TBA

December (no meeting)

2012 Schedule

January (no meeting)

February 27

March 26

March 24 & 25

Art Glass and Bead Show

April 23

May 28

June 25

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