

With These Hands

the Bucks County Guild of Craftsmen Newsletter



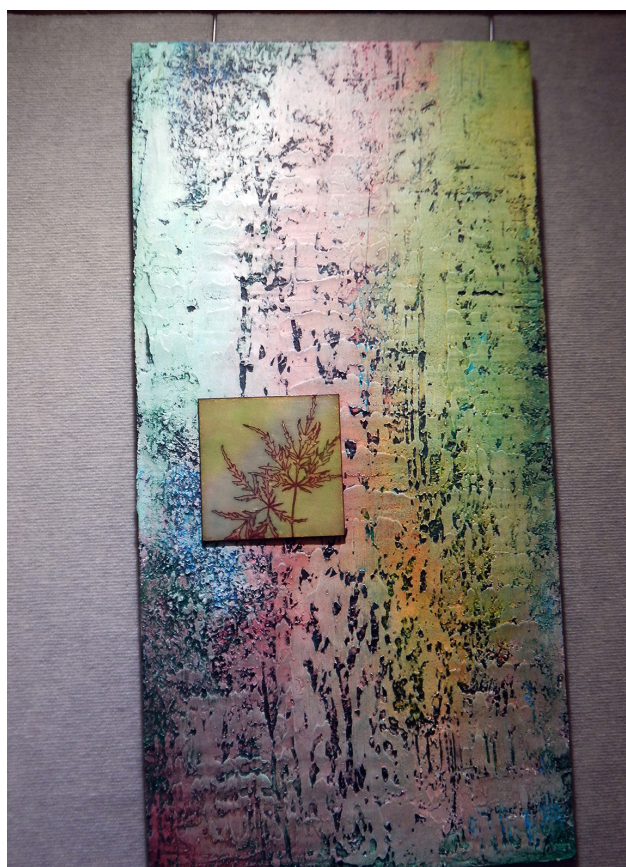
SEPTEMBER 2019

PGC Celebrates Its Diamond Jubilee

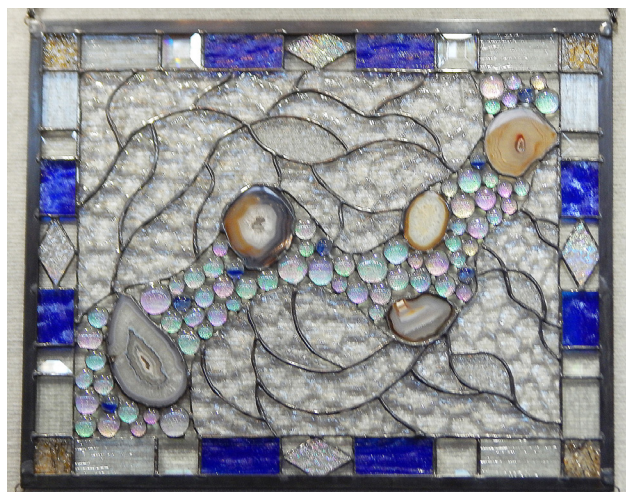
On the evening of Thursday, June 6, 2019, members and devotees of the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen gathered in the Yellow Barn at the Landis Valley Museum in Lancaster, PA to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the PGC. Founded in 1944, PGC now has 1300 members in 30 states. PGC is proud to support individual members while hosting four fine craft fairs annually. PGC offers nearly 400 workshops each year in all types of craft.

Several BCGC members donated their artwork to the auction held that evening. Dan Hayward (stained glass) and Paula Lewis (enamelist) both donated a piece of their work to the live auction while several artists donated items to the BCGC auction basket including Nancy Gibbs (coiled woven wool basket), Dan Holmes (ceramic vase), Monique Perry (cloisonne earrings), Cynthia Prediger (sterling silver bracelet), Merle Slyhoff (ceramic bowl), Jill Tarabar (stained glass business card holder) and Mindy Trost (handmade journal). Also included was a gift certificate donated by the Bucks chapter to PGC for a workshop or for a purchase at PGC's Lancaster shop. Red Tulip Gallery, the artist co-op of BCGC, also donated a gift certificate to be used at the gallery.

The BCGC Board thanks all for their generosity!



Paula Lewis



Dan Hayward



The items that made up the BCGC auction basket.

From the President's Studio...



September for me always brought the excitement of going back to school (yeah, I was “one of them”). But it also brought the fear of the “what I did over summer vacation” report. Other than a week in Atlantic City my summers were pretty unexciting.

As we approach our first BCGC meeting of the season I again face “what I did over summer vacation” angst – this time in the form of our September Show-and-Tell meeting (details on the meeting can be found in this newsletter on page 6). What new pottery pieces did I make? Anything worthy of showing the group? What if it doesn’t compare to other members’ work?

My fears have been put aside because no matter what I bring to Show-and-Tell it won’t compare to the exciting chapter show-and-tell I’ll unveil! If you’ve tried to get to the chapter’s web page in the past few months you’ve discovered it isn’t there.

That’s because we’ve been working on an exciting, new, bright, contemporary web page! But you’ll have to wait until the September meeting to see it. Nobody likes to be teased so I’ll give you a couple of hints about the new page.

It will feature the bright, dynamic logo and masthead created by our own Mindy Trost and converted to web page format by BCGC member Don Schoenleber. The new web page will feature

- a calendar of events (both BCGC happenings and any classes our members may be teaching)
- a membership section that will feature your name, your medium, and email and web page links if you choose to add them. And you can opt out of having your name display
- an art-around-town section that will list nearby fine craft shows with links to information and applications, special art exhibits at area art museums and where our members work is being showcased

To-be-added features include

- a section for members to list art-related items you have for sale, giveaway or swap
- member pages on the chapter web page that will link from your name if you don’t have your own web page
- photos – lots and lots of photos – of YOUR work! On each section of the page, in a member gallery section
- and more!

A special thanks to Karen Goeller who spearheaded the creation of the former web page and to Karen and Nancy Gibbs who maintained it over the years.

Hope I’ve piqued your interest! Come to our September 11 meeting to see what your friends have been up to this summer and to be a part of the new web page reveal! And did I hear the possibility of BCGC t-shirts with our new logo????

Merle, BCGC President

2019 BCGC Board

PRESIDENT: Merle Slyhoff
merle.slyhoff@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT: Cynthia Prediger
ckprediger@gmail.com

TREASURER: Mindy Spray
dnmspray01@gmail.com

SECRETARY: Jen Blyth
Jenkaisa@gmail.com

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE: Jill Tarabar
jill@jistdesigns.com

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE: Mindy Trost
cartabooks@gmail.com

2019 BCGC Committees

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: Nancy Gibbs
nancygibbs.1@gmail.com

STANDARDS CHAIR: Monique Perry
monique@moniquesartjewelry.com

PROGRAMS CHAIR: Cynthia Prediger
ckprediger@gmail.com

SOCIAL MEDIA CHAIR: Jill Tarabar
jill@jistdesigns.com

NEWSLETTER CHAIR: Mindy Trost
cartabooks@gmail.com

COMMUNITY OUTREACH CHAIR: open

NEXT BCGC MEETING

**WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 11
7:30PM
AT
BOY SCOUT BUILDING
1 SCOUT WAY
DOYLESTOWN, PA**

**FEATURING
SHOW & TELL NIGHT
DETAILS ON PAGE 6**

BCGC Member Chosen to Receive Benchmark Award for Excellence!

Monique Perry, jewelry maker and BCGC member, won the “Excellence in Craftsmanship” Benchmark award at the PGC Rittenhouse Square Fine Craft Show in May 2019. This award is one of three that are given to Master Artisans at PGC shows by the Floor Jury. Each Benchmark award is monetary. The other two awards are for Resolved Design and Unique Style/Voice.

The distinction of Excellence in Craftsmanship is reserved for work that shows the highest standards of quality. The work demonstrates a mastery of the medium, far beyond basic and intermediate proficiency skills. Attention to details and a thorough knowledge of the medium is demonstrated. Materials used are of the highest quality and of the best choice to enhance the overall design of the piece. The entire work is executed without technical flaw and it meets its intended purpose — e.g., if it's a pitcher, it must pour, a jacket must fit, a drawer must glide freely. The appropriateness of technique and process are successfully united in a piece that shows excellence of craftsmanship.

Monique was pleasantly surprised to receive the award, which was presented to her in person at her booth by the Floor Jury Committee and Executive Director of the Guild. Besides the monetary award, Monique was given a blue ribbon which she proudly displayed for the rest of the show. Monique feels quite honored for her work to be recognized by the fine craft professionals who are tasked with reviewing artists' work and who give the awards to the artists they feel uphold the high standards of the PGC.

Monique began her jewelry-making journey about 25 years ago in a basic jewelry metals class at a local arts center. Since then she has discovered PMC (precious metal clay) and enameling. She lives and works in Churchville, PA, has been a member of BCGC for nine years, and achieved Master Artisan status in 2013.

Monique's enamel, PMC, and gemstone jewelry can be found in her online shop on her website, at Red Tulip Gallery in New Hope, PA (<https://www.redtulipcrafts.com/>), at the museum shop of the James A. Michener Museum in Doylestown, PA (<https://www.michenerartmuseum.org/>) and at Gallery 23 in Blairstown, NJ (<https://gallery23.net/monique-perry>).

Monique teaches metal clay classes and introductory enameling workshops at Tyler Park Center for the Arts. The next metal clay workshop is scheduled for Saturday, September 21st. Go to <http://tylerparkarts.org/> for details and registration information.

Check her website for show information or follow her on Facebook and/or Instagram (links on her homepage):

<https://www.moniquesartjewelry.com/>



Above: Karen Pfeiffer, Executive Director of PGC, (left) and Paula Lewis, Head of Standards, (right), presented Monique Perry (center) with the Excellence in Craftsmanship Benchmark Award at the spring Rittenhouse Square PGC show.
Below: A sampling of Monique's work.





From Science to Art

An Interview With Fused Glass Artist Katherine Cheetham

Katherine Cheetham, a BCGC member, shares her insights and inspiration

NAME: Katherine Cheetham

CONTACT INFO

website: katherinecheethamglass.com

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/katherine.cheetham.3>

phone: 856-858-3605

email: katherinecheethamglass@gmail.com

HOW DID YOU DISCOVER THAT YOU LIKE WORKING WITH FUSED GLASS? When I heard there was a shortage of scientific glassblowers in 2001 I immediately enrolled in school. Originally, I was excited about working with glass because it meant working with fire. Quickly I discovered I liked how the glass flowed and formed objects.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN WORKING WITH THIS MEDIUM?

I have been working with glass for 18 years. The first six I worked with a torch and manipulated rod and tubing. The last 12 years I have primarily been fusing glass.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT IT? I love the process of developing the work, especially my fused glass panels. The glass does not always behave in a consistent manner. It necessitates flexibility and change in subsequent layers. It is exciting when the work turns out better than I expected because of these changes.

IS THERE ANYTHING YOU DON'T LIKE ABOUT IT? Even though I know most of my panels can take anywhere from 3 weeks to 2 months to finish, it would be nice if I could make them faster.

WHERE DID YOU LEARN TO WORK WITH IT? I attended Salem Community College and Carlisle School of Glass Art in New Jersey, Corning Studio in New York, and Vitrum in Maryland.

DID YOU ALWAYS DO SOMETHING CREATIVE? IF YES, WHAT OTHER MEDIUMS HAVE YOU EXPLORED? Other than college, where I took classes in ceramics and life drawing, I really didn't do any artwork and had no idea that I would be creating glass art.



continued on page 5

Fused Glass Q&A: Katherine Cheetham

(continued from page 4)

ARE THERE DIFFERENT TYPES OF GLASS TO USE IN FUSED GLASS OR CAN ANY TYPE OF GLASS BE USED? Most any glass can be fused. How it behaves depends on the kiln firing schedules. There are some limitations because the glass needs to fuse to like glass. There are companies that make lines of glass that include a full range of colors and are designed to be compatible with each other for fusing.

CAN OTHER MATERIALS BE ADDED TO THE GLASS TO PRODUCE DIFFERENT EFFECTS SUCH AS TEXTURES? There are many ways to create texture in glasswork. Fiber roll and kiln shelf material can be placed or shaped under the work when fired. Firing to a tack fuse will also create texture. Other effects can be achieved by using molds, metals, paints and decals.

WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR INSPIRATION? My inspiration comes from an emotional relationship with nature and experiencing the changes in light and color throughout the day as well as through the seasons.

HOW DO YOU BEGIN WORKING ON A PIECE? FOR EXAMPLE, DO YOU SKETCH FIRST? When I make a realistic panel I usually start with a physical image in order to recreate it in glass. Most of the time my pieces are made from a combination of trees, lighting and landscapes in my mind without the expectation of realism.

WHERE CAN YOUR WORK BE FOUND FOR SALE? My work is sold at craft fairs and art shows which are listed on my website. I can also be contacted by email and will send pictures of available work.

IF YOU COULD GIFT A PIECE OF YOUR WORK TO A FAMOUS PERSON, WHOM WOULD YOU CHOOSE? If I could gift my artwork it would be to someone who has fallen in love with my work and who normally does not collect artwork.

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE? What I really like is that my use of copper adds a dimension to my work that the glass does not have by itself.



Upcoming BCGC Programs

Chapter meetings are held once a month on the second Wednesday from September to June at the Boy Scout Building at 1 Scout Way, Doylestown, PA (unless otherwise noted). A brief business meeting is followed by a program. Occasionally, programs are at a special location, such as a museum for a tour.

WED, SEPT 11TH, 7:30PM: Annual Show & Tell. NO THEME but this is always an inspiring and fun evening. Did you attend a workshop over the summer? Bring the results! Did you experiment in your studio? Show us what you did! Did you try a new medium? Tell us about it! Spend 3 to 5 minutes introducing your pieces to your fellow BCGC members!

DATE CHANGE: WED, OCT 2ND, 7:30PM: “Using Body Language for a Better Craft Show.” Our speaker is Christine Wright who will share what she’s learned from the world of craft shows, antique and flea markets – and from her experience as an entrepreneur and full-time small business owner. Most of us know that craft shows and art fairs are not easy. And as artists, we often struggle with selling our work. Not because we don’t want to, but usually because we just don’t want to be “too sales-y.” So how can an artist sell without selling? How can we communicate in a non-threatening, non-sales-y way? It’s all in the body language. Come out to our meeting for a fun, interactive talk!

WED. NOV. 13TH, 7:30PM: Make & Take evening: Learn how to create a paper accordion book with pockets! This book structure is great to make with children and adults alike. Personalize your book by putting photos, drawings and other flat items in the pockets. All materials supplied. Come for an evening of folding fun!

WED. DEC. 11TH, 7:30PM: Annual holiday gathering and gift exchange! Enjoy an evening of conviviality with your fellow BCGC members!



Eileen Cressman-Reeder has fun presenting her polymer clay art at a recent Chapter meeting.

Teachable Moments

These BCGC members will be teaching classes or workshops in the next few months.

MONIQUE PERRY, JEWELRY MAKER, will teach a metal clay workshop called “Accents and Embellishments in Precious Metal Clay” on Saturday, September 21, 2019 at Tyler Park Arts in Richboro, PA. Accents and embellishments are small metal clay components such as vines, branches, leaves, petals, decorative balls, etc. Learn how to create and use them together to create a small scene in a piece of jewelry. You will also learn how to cut and use paper clay in these designs. Go to <http://tylerparkarts.org/> for more details and registration information.

JILL TARABAR, STAINED GLASS ARTIST, will teach a beginner stained glass class at The Art Center at Ambler on Wednesday evenings, 6:30 to 9:30, from September 25, 2019 to November 20, 2019 (no class October 9). Skills learned include pattern making, glass cutting, copper foil method of panel assembly, soldering and finishing. You will begin with an easy sun catcher and practice your skills while building a larger panel of your choice. Upon completion of the course, you will have the fundamental skills necessary for making basic stained glass windows and more. For fees and more information, go to www.artcenteratambler.org.

Are you teaching a class or a workshop between February and May 2020? Want to easily spread the word? Email a short class description, contact information and any links to Newsletter Chair Mindy Trost at cartabooks@gmail.com. Deadline to be included in the next issue of *With These Hands* is **Dec 15, 2019**.

ON THE ARTIST'S SHELF



This column will highlight recent publications in various mediums of art. Interested in a title? Search for it on Amazon.com or bn.com or check to see if your local library has it. If they don't, ask the librarian if they can get it through Interlibrary Loan (they will borrow it from another library for you. And as a librarian I know you will impress them with your library knowledge!)

Have a specific type of art or fine craft you would like me to search? Just let me know at merle.slyhoff@gmail.com.

See you On the Artist's Shelf! Merle

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A great way to explore a new craft or refine your skills is to check out books and websites. Glass can be used in a variety of crafts – glass beadmaking, fused glass, blown glass, slumped glass, stained glass. Below are books on the craft of using glass as well as websites with relevant information to get you started. Explore your library for more titles. Before buying a book why not borrow it from your local library? But remember... glass can be a dangerous medium. Classes should never be replaced by books and websites! BCGC does not endorse any of these books or websites. They're offered as a starting point for your exploration. ~Merle (wearing my librarian hat)

BEADMAKING/LAMPWORKING

More than you ever wanted to know about glass beadmaking by Kervin, James. Livermore, CA : GlassWear Studios, 2003.

The complete book of glass beadmaking by Adams, Kimberley. New York : Lark Crafts, 2010.

<http://www.isgb.org/>

<https://glassalchemy.com/blogs/the-formula/glass-blowing-an-introduction-to-modern-lampworking>

<https://craftcue.com/lampworking-techniques>

FUSED AND SLUMPED GLASS

A beginner's guide to kiln-formed glass : fused, slumped, cast by Griffith, Brenda. New York : Lark Books, 2007.

Contemporary fused glass : a guide to fusing, slumping, and kilnforming glass by Walker, Brad; Walker, Brad. Clemmons, North Carolina : Four Corners International, Inc., 2010.

Kiln-formed glass : over 25 projects for fused and slumped designs by Hulse, Gillian. New York, NY : St. Martin's Griffin, 2010.

The fused glass handbook by Reynolds, Gil. Scottsdale, Ariz. : Hidden Valley Books ; Portland, OR : Distributed by Fusion Headquarters, 1990.

<https://fusedglass.org/>

<http://edhoy.com/learn/techniques/basic-glass-fusing-techniques/>

MOSAICS

Fused glass mosaics : master class techniques with Martin Cheek by Cheek, Martin. Atglen, PA : Schiffer Publishing, Ltd., 2011.

<https://www.thecrafttrain.com/mosaic-art-for-beginners/>

<https://americanmosaics.org/>

STAINED GLASS

Beginner's guide to stained & decorative glass by Hicks, Oriel. New York : Sterling, 2002.

Stained glass crafting by Zaccaria, Donatella. New York : Sterling Pub., 1998.

Stained glass in an afternoon by Payne, Vicki. New York : Sterling Pub., 2002.

<https://stainedglass.org/>

<https://www.americanglassguild.org/>



Fused glass by Katherine Cheetham.

Now It Is Six



photo by Don Schoenleber

Red Tulip Gallery celebrated 6 years in business in June! This BCGC artist co-op gallery continues to grow its membership, and expand its offerings of fine craft!

Red Tulip members welcome you to visit the gallery in person and see for yourself the beautiful quality fine craft of member artists! The gallery is staffed only by its member artists.

Red Tulip Gallery is located at 19C West Bridge Street, New Hope, PA 18938.

You can also visit and shop directly from our website at www.redtulipcrafs.com.

Other contact info:

(267) 454-0496

info@redtulipcrafs.com

Exhibit Excursions

Highlights of some craft and art exhibits at museums that are located within 100 miles of Bucks County.

HUNTERDON ART MUSEUM: “Cliff Lee — Porcelain Master” viewers can get a close look at Lee’s meticulously carved and glazed porcelain pieces.

Sept 22, 2019 through Jan 5, 2020

<https://hunterdonartmuseum.org>

MICHENER ART MUSEUM: “The Poetry of Sculpture: Raymond Granville Barger.” Barger believed that artists and sculptors should work hand-in-hand with architects and industrial leaders, shaping the contemporary scene.

Through Oct 20, 2019

<https://www.michenerartmuseum.org>

DELAWARE ART MUSEUM: “Mitch Lyons: The Hand Translated.” This exhibition surveys the developments and experimentations in Lyons’ 50-year-long journey to inventing the clay monoprint.

Sept 7, 2019 through Feb 2, 2020

<https://www.delart.org>

ALLENTOWN ART MUSEUM: “Maker & Muse: Women and Early Twentieth Century Art Jewelry” features more than two hundred pieces of jewelry and decorative objects that explore the significant role and impact of women on art jewelry design in the early twentieth century.

Through Aug 30, 2020

“Designing Hollywood: Golden Age Costumes from the Gene London Cinema Collection” explores the unique era in film history from the 1920s through the 1950s, when studios fostered close partnership between actors and costume designers in bringing each character to life.

Sept 29 to Dec 22, 2019

<https://www.allentownartmuseum.org>

MUSEUM OF ART AND DESIGN: “Vera Paints a Scarf” celebrates the work of artist Vera Neumann (1907-1993) and her contributions to the field of American design.

Through Jan 26, 2020

<https://madmuseum.org>

Interested In Attaining Chapter Juried Status? Here’s How!

Are you interested in obtaining Chapter Juried Status with the BCGC guild? This status is given to a member’s work that has been reviewed by peers within the chapter and exemplifies the mark of excellence that distinguishes their work from the mainstream. The next deadline to apply is **March 18, 2020**. The next jury session date is April 8th, 2020 prior to our regularly scheduled Chapter meetings. For application and information, contact BCGC Standards Chair Monique Perry at monique@moniquesartjewelry.com, or by phone at 215-962-0295.