

Classes

In addition to talks by our "Speaker in Residence", we offer an opportunity to learn new skills and gain lots of information through our classes. Listed below are those being offered in 2010.

Spring Session

April 23 – 29, 2010

Bob Jones, Speaker in Residence

Class	Description
Cabochons – Basic Instructor – Bernie Emery	Learn to transform a rough piece of rock into a shiny, well-formed cabochon. You will learn the use of the trim saw as well as basics of grinding, sanding and polishing. Slabs provided or students may use their own with approval of the instructor. Please bring an apron and safety glasses. 2-day class offered 1 st semester. No prior experience necessary.
Cabochons – Intermediate Instructor – Bernie Emery	Learn to cut different shapes and the techniques needed to do so. Please bring an apron and safety glasses. 2-day class offered 2 nd semester. Prerequisite: Students must have prior experience with cabling and use of the trim saw.
Chainmaille Jewelry Instructor – Roger Campbell	Learn the ancient art of chain maille using non-soldered jumprings. Handouts and copper jumprings to complete three bracelets provided. Participants may upgrade to sterling silver or 14K gold-filled jumprings (dependant on availability). All tools will be provided. An Optivisor or other magnification would be helpful. 2-day class offered 1 st semester. No prior experience necessary.
Exhibiting & Judging Instructor – B. Jay Bowman	Take an in-dept look at the AFMS Uniform Rules and how they apply to exhibits you may wish to prepare. Students will need to have the 2010 AFMS Uniform Rules (available for purchase at Wildacres). 4-day class. No prior experience necessary.
Faceting Instructor – Reivan Zeleznik	Students will learn to cut and polish a 57-facet round brilliant gemstone. In addition, they will learn how to identify well-cut stones, select rough material and see whether or not they enjoy this fascinating aspect of the hobby. Please bring an Optivisor if you have one. Jeweler's loupe needed and will be available for purchase from instructor for about \$3.00. 4-day class. No prior experience necessary.
Fused Glass – Advanced Instructor – Becky Edmundson	Students will learn to use a wet saw to cut shapes, a grinder to smooth the glass, and a jeweler's bit to cut a channel in the piece before it is fire polished in a kiln. You should expect to complete a minimum of 2 finished pieces. Please bring safety glasses. If you own them, please also bring a glasscutter and breaking pliers. 2-day class offered 1 st semester. No prior experience necessary.
Fused Glass – Basic Instructor – Becky Edmundson	Fused glass is the art of cutting and layering pieces of glass and then firing them in a kiln. Dichroic coated glass gives a 3-D look. Students will learn the basics of cutting and firing the glass and will complete at least 2 pieces of jewelry. Please bring safety glasses. If you own them, please also bring a glasscutter and breaking pliers. 2-day class offered 2 nd semester. No prior experience necessary.

<p>Jewelry 101 Instructor – Mia Schulman</p>	<p>Knotting is back! You will learn how to know a necklace and then to identify and properly use “findings” (those little metal parts) to connect and hold jewelry together. Once all that is mastered, the knotted necklace can be finished and you will use your creativity to fashion some “Picasso” (wire and bead) pendants and /or earrings. 2-day class offered 1st semester. No prior experience necessary.</p>
<p>Kumihimo</p>	<p>What’s that? It is a Japanese system of braiding. After learning how to set it up and doing a small 6-inch practice piece, you will create a necklace that has beads worked into the braid. It’s easy to learn and you will enjoy wearing this eye-catching necklace. 2-day class offered 2nd semester. No prior experience necessary.</p>
<p>Mineral Identification Instructor – Mike Wise</p>	<p>Students will learn the basic skills needed to identify a wide variety of rock-forming and “exotic” minerals. The class will focus on “non-destructive” and “semi-destructive” tests that the beginner can use to aid in mineral identification. 2-day class offered both semesters. No prior experience is necessary.</p>
<p>Scrimshaw – Basic Black & White Instructor – Roni Dietrich</p>	<p>Using hand tools you will learn the basics and the history of scrimshaw. You will begin practicing on polymer blanks that can be utilized to make jewelry or whatever your imagination comes up with. Then those who wish will progress to working with Woolly Mammoth ivory in black and white. Please bring an Optivisor or magnification if you have one, and a box of Kleenex. 2-day class offered 1st semester. No prior experience necessary.</p>
<p>Scrimshaw – Using Color Instructor – Roni Dietrich</p>	<p>Drawing from the basics of scrimshaw you will now learn how to colorize your work. We will be working with Woolly Mammoth ivory using inks and pigments of all kinds to make a true family heirloom piece. The class will also include an introduction to reverse scrimshaw techniques. Please bring an Optivisor or magnification if you have one and a box of Kleenex. 2-day class offered 2nd semester.</p>
<p>Silversmithing – Basic Instructor – Richard Meszler</p>	<p>Have fun learning the basics of working silver sheet and wire to fabricate jewelry. The projects will introduce you to annealing and bending/shaping/texturing metal, soldering, piercing and polishing. 2-day class offered 1st semester. No prior experience necessary.</p>
<p>Silversmithing – Intermediate Instructor – Richard Meszler</p>	<p>Continue your education in working with metals by doing a more complex project. You will learn to make a bezel and bail in which you will set a cabochon to make a pendant. 2-day class offered 2nd semester. Prerequisite: Basic silversmithing experience including soldering.</p>
<p>Wirewrapped Jewelry Instructor – Jacolyn Campbell</p>	<p>Using pliers, gold-filled or sterling wire, assorted beads or gemstones, and a few basic wirecraft techniques, learn how to create your own fashion rings, bracelets, pendants, and earrings to add that perfect accent to your jewelry wardrobe or to give as gifts. All tools and materials will be provided. Designed for beginners, participants will make an adjustable ring, two bracelets, a pendant and two pairs of earrings. 2-day class offered 2nd semester. No prior experience necessary.</p>

Fall Session

September 6 – 12, 2010

Lisa Carp, Speaker in Residence

Class	Description
<p>Cabochons – Basic Instructor – Al DeMilo</p>	<p>Hands-on instruction will be given to show how to transform a rough piece into a shiny, well-formed cabochon with no flat spots. The use of a trim saw as well as techniques to grind, sand and polish the stone into a standard size and shape will be covered. Slabs will be provided, but you may use your own with instructor's approval. Please bring an apron and safety glasses. 2-day class offered 1st semester.</p>
<p>Cabochons – Intermediate</p>	<p>This course is an extension of already learned skills. It will focus on the crafting of cabachons of difficult shapes and sizes. Much on-on-one attention will be given. Slabs will be provided, but you may use your own with instructor's approval. Please bring an apron and safety glasses. 2-day class offered 2nd semester. Prerequisite: Students must know how to use the trim saw, dop a stone, and use a grinding, sanding and polishing machine.</p>
<p>Faceting Instructor – Steve Weinberger</p>	<p>Students will learn to cut and polish a 57-facet round brilliant gemstone. In addition, they will learn how to identify well-cut stones, select rough material and see whether or not they enjoy this fascinating aspect of the hobby. Please bring an Optivisor if you have one.. 4-day class. No prior experience necessary.</p>
<p>Geology I Instructor – Rob Robinson</p>	<p>A basic introduction to rocks and minerals and the study of the earth. The class will include a discussion and class activity about how geologists interpret rocks to tell geologic history related to their formation, deformation, and sequence and timing of events. Weather permitting, thee will be a field trip to local rock exposures to illustrate local rock types, their deformation types, and how a geologist maps and interprets structures. (Only limited walking is required for these.) Please bring a loupe or other magnifier, hiking boots or sturdy shoes, outdoor clothes suitable for the half-day field trips, a geologic hammer and safety glasses if possible. (Do NOT bring a nail hammer – they are unsafe to use for hitting rocks). 2-day class offered 1st semester. No prior experience necessary.</p>
<p>Geology II Instructor – Rob Robinson</p>	<p>An overview of plate tectonics, geologic history, and the geology of the Blue Ridge region and its minerals. We will discuss the geologic environments hosting mineral and gem collecting sites. Come prepared to identify some of your favorite collecting localities to be part of this exercise. Weather permitting, there will be a field trip to the Blue Ridge Museum showing local rocks and geologic history and another to see local geology (a 1 mile walk over gentle trails is required for the geology trip). Please bring a loupe or other magnifier, hiking boots or sturdy shoes, outdoor clothes suitable for the half-day field trips, a geologic hammer and safety glasses if possible. (Do NOT bring a nail hammer – they are unsafe to use for hitting rocks.) 2-day class offered 2nd semester. Prerequisite: Some knowledge of basic geology preferred.</p>
<p>Glass Engraving & Etching Instructor – B. Jay Bowman</p>	<p>Students will learn the difference between engraving and etching. They will learn how to engrave using both hand and power tools. they will learn how to etch using acid and sand techniques with both commercial and self-made patterns. 2-day class offered both semesters. No prior experience needed.</p>
<p>Making Metal Beads – Cold Connections</p>	<p>We will explore making metal beads using cold connections, no soldering needed. We will work with silver, copper, bronze, brass and found objects/alternative materials. Students will explore texture with hammers, stamps and the rolling mill, riveting and tube riveting, forming with dapping punch and block, using alternative materials. Please bring an Optivisor. 2-day class offered 1st semester. No prior experience needed.</p>

Making Metal Beads – Hot Connections	We will learn to make metal beads using soldering skills. We will work with silver, copper, bronze, brass and found/alternative materials. Students will explore texture with hammers, stamps and the rolling mill, forging, twining, piercing with a jeweler's saw, marriage of metals. Please bring an Optivisor. 2-day class offered 2 nd semester. Prerequisite: Soldering skills.
Photographing Small Mineral Specimens Instructor – Bruce Gaber	Students will learn to set up, light and photograph small mineral specimens to show off their beauty. 2-day class offered 1 st semester. No prior experience necessary.
Photographing Gems & Jewelry Instructor – Bruce Gaber	Students will learn how to set up, light and photograph gemstones and jewelry to show off their beauty. 2-day class offered 2 nd semester. No prior experience needed.
Precious Metal Clay – Bronze Instructor – Lisa Blackwell	In this class you will learn what you need to know to work with and create beautiful pieces with the bronze clay, how it differs from PMC silver, slip, layering pieces and how to fire it. 2-day class offered 1 st semester. No prior experience needed.
Precious Metal Clay – Chain Making Instructor – Lisa Blackwell	Learn to make your own unique chain with PMC silver. 2-day class offered 2 nd semester. No prior experience needed.
Silversmithing – Basic Instructor – Lendall Hill	Students will learn the basics of soldering, fitting a stone, assembling and finishing either a ring or pendant. Starting with a flat piece of silver, students will learn to make a bezel setting, then solder it to another piece of silver and then add either a ring shank or pendant bail before finishing the piece on the buffer. 2-day class offered both semesters. No prior experience necessary.
Wirewrapped Jewelry – Basic	Using pliers, gold-filled or sterling wire, assorted beads or gemstones, and a few basic wirecraft techniques, learn how to create your own fashion rings, bracelets, pendants, and earrings to add that perfect accent to your jewelry wardrobe or to give as gifts. All tools and materials will be provided. Designed for beginners, participants will make an adjustable ring, two bracelets, a pendant and two pairs of earrings. 2-day class offered 1 st semester. No prior experience necessary.
Wirewrapped Jewelry - Intermediate	Using pliers, gold-filled or sterling wire, assorted beads or gemstones, and a few basic wirecraft techniques, learn how to create your own fashion rings, bracelets, pendants, and earrings to add that perfect accent to your jewelry wardrobe or to give as gifts. Designed for those with some experience (or a brave beginner), participants will make two fitted rings, a pair of earrings, and a cabochon pendant. 2-day class offered 2 nd semester.