

Seraphim's Shards

Volume 6, No 1-3 Seraphim Studios, LLC Fall 2009
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Hope all of you had a happy and safe summer . . . we were able to spend a few days visiting with family, both here and on the Gulf Coast. We got to watch Biloxi's annual fireworks display with my sister Mickey & her family, while on a boat at the dock. Really is nice to watch the fireworks explode over the water while surrounded by people one loves! Hope whatever you did to celebrate our nation's independence was equally rewarding!

Later in July, my sister Bunny and her family from California came to see us. Bunny helped instruct the folks in the July fusing class, until her daughter, son-in-law, and grandchildren arrived! And then, for some reason, she left us! It was a wonderful visit, and my thanks to all the students who were very understanding of the chaos when everyone trooped in! [At least we were almost finished by that time!]

As this year has progressed, we've continued to evaluate the "mission" of our studio. In particular, we have been examining our retail sales effort, our commission and class schedules, and our community service activities, and have come to the conclusion that these aspects of studio operations do not always "meld" very well. We debated limiting -- or eliminating -- one or more of these studio duties, in an effort to better serve the remainder. As a result, we have experimented with a few changes this year.

Our first change involved extending our retail hours on Tuesday through Thursday, and adding hours on Friday mornings. Initially, it appeared that additional hours were advantageous to our clientele; however, as the summer has progressed, it appears that these hours may be counterproductive. We will retain the extended hours through August, but may revert to our old hours in September. If you like the longer hours,

please let us know, so that we can consider their retention.

Our **Second Saturdays** program ~ where we open from 10A - 2P the second Saturday of each month ~ concluded on August 8. As usual, 2nd Saturdays will **stop** for the fall months, due to conflicts with football season; they will resume in January 2010!

We also have reviewed our community service activities. Since the studio opened, we have contributed artwork to be auctioned in connection with various charities' fund raising events. Some of the organizations supported in this manner have included local chapters of the American Heart Association and the American Red Cross; Lauren Rogers Museum of Art; the University of Southern Mississippi, Gulf Coast Symphony Orchestra Guild; Southern Pines Animal Shelter; HAVEN House/Aids Coalition; Waiting for a Cure; The Pink Ribbon Fund; and others. This year, we are creating special pieces for two of these organizations, and we will donate gift certificates for classes to others, while maintaining our level of support to the Flowers of Hope project.

Speaking of the *Flowers of Hope* project: once again, we are sponsoring ~ with the Hattiesburg Area Breast Cancer Awareness Team (BCAT) ~ this breast cancer awareness project. Last year, twenty-one stained glass artists participated in making some thirty-one panels for distribution to breast cancer survivors in the 17 county area served by Forrest General Hospital, Wesley Hospital, the Cancer Center, and area physicians. Estimates for this year's project indicate that we will need **forty panels** this year. We already have five panels in house: many thanks to Tom Pittman for turning in the

first panel in early April, followed by Lyle Farley in early June, Pam Akins (two panels) in July, and Todd in August. However, we still need help with this project, so . . .

If you can make a panel for this year's project, your efforts will be greatly appreciated! We have received donations of glass ~ from a stained glass crafter in Georgia + three local glass artists ~ and this glass is available to any participant volunteering to make a panel.

Our exhibit of finished panels will be hung in the galleries and will be available for viewing by the public at the Library on October 1, 2009. On that same date, BCAT will hold the second annual Breast Cancer Awareness Walk through downtown Hattiesburg. **Flowers of Hope artists will receive a free registration and are encouraged to participate in this awareness walk.** Our **artists' reception will be held at the Library on October 15, 2009**, and the exhibit will close on October 16. All panels will be delivered to BCAT at that time, for distribution to the breast cancer survivors. The deadline for receipt of panels in the studio is **September 25, 2009** ~ all panels should be delivered ready to be hung, identified with your name and the reason you are making a panel. Thanks to all who continue to support this project!

The **"Great Glassers Program"**: Did you know that we keep a record of each of your purchases from the studio? A "Great Glassers Card" is prepared for each customer at Seraphim Studio and when you have completed 10 purchases, you get 10% off the next purchase. This is our way of thanking our regular customers. At the end of each year, all the cards are placed into a random drawing, and five names will be drawn to win prizes. Hmmm, wonder what the prizes will be this year???

Fall Class Schedule

Saturday, August 29 ~ 9AM to 2PM *Flowers of Hope Work Day.* To provide a little extra assistance to artists participating in this project, the studio will be open on Saturday, August 29, so that participants can use studio tools and/or get some hands-on expertise to complete their Flowers of Hope panel. As usual, there will be coffee and goodies from Café Bohème in the early morning, and perhaps some goodies from the Pastry Garden for any afternoon arrivals.

Saturday, Sept 26 ~ 9AM to 4PM **Introduction to Copper Foiling.** This one-day class is a hands-on introduction to the copper foil technique. In order to complete the class in this limited time frame, we will be using pre-cut kits and concentrating on foiling, soldering, and finishing techniques only. Class size is limited to 8 students. Cost for this session will be **\$100 per person**, which includes all materials (pre-cut kit, 2 rolls of copper foil, spool of solder, liquid flux, flux brush, choice of patina + class consumables & lunch). Complete **non-refundable** registration must be received by **September 17** to reserve space in this class.

Saturday, October 10, 9AM to 4PM: Box Class In this intensive one-day class, we will construct a small bevel box with a hinged lid. Although this is a beginning box class, some level of glass skill and familiarity with basic stained glass tools and equipment is necessary. **There is no cutting in this class; however, this is an intermediate level copper foil class!** Students will leave with a completed box and full instructions for making more. Cost for this class is **\$75 per person**, which includes all materials and supplies. Maximum class size is 8 people; a minimum of 3 people are required for this class to be held. Registration is on a first come, first served basis, based on receipt of the **non-refundable registration fee**, which must be received in the studio by **October 6** to reserve a place in this class. These make great gifts! **This will be the ONLY time this class is offered in 2009.**

Saturday, Nov 14, 2009 ~ 9AM - 4PM:

Introduction to Fusing: Ornaments. This beginner class will provide a brief introduction to the world of glass fusing! Students will use pre-cut materials (blanks & dichroic accents) to make holiday ornaments. Each student will have the opportunity to make up to four (4) items which will be fused at the conclusion of the class (will have to return for pick-up later). Cost for this class is **\$100 per person**, which includes all supplies and materials. Maximum class size is 10 people (minimum is 3). Deadline for receipt of **non-refundable** class fee is **November 10**.

Interested in hot glass? Don't forget that **Hot Glass Horizons** will be held in Portland, OR, during October. This annual event features "the" classes for hot glass enthusiasts ~ based on past HGH sessions, it looks like there will be quite a few interesting courses available. These classes fill fast, so if you are interested, check out their website www.hotglasshorizons.com, email fushionhq@aol.com, or come see the brochure.

Also, did you know we can order kilns? We don't keep them in stock, due to size constraints, but we can order them from the manufacturer and have them drop shipped directly to your door for about \$750. If you are thinking about purchasing a kiln, come in and let us help you select the one that is right for your particular needs.

Don't forget to check out the newest issues of **Stained Glass News** & **The Score** (from Spectrum)! Besides our studio, we leave copies at the Library, Main Street Books, and SouthBound Bagel downtown, and at the Peck House (on USM's campus) ~ the free pattern and the bonus patterns are available only at the studio. Did you receive your latest issue of **Glass Patterns Quarterly**? If not, we have it ~ and, if you are looking for back issues, we may have them in our reference set. Plus, we have quite a collection of free patterns accumulated over the years!

A word about pricing: As you probably are all too aware, metal prices are fluctuating wildly . . .

as is the price of anything made with petroleum products (in other words, just about everything we order!). We are trying to hold the prices on core materials, but be prepared for some "sticker shock" if you haven't been in in a while! Also, due to shipping cost increases, we are trying to consolidate special order items . . . so please be patient if it takes us a little longer than usual to get things in to the studio!

And since we mentioned special orders: Keep shipping times in mind, if you want to have something special ordered for Christmas. Whether it is a surprise tool for under the tree or a new custom window, we have to have plenty of notice to get it into the studio in a timely and cost effective manner! Deadline for special orders in time for Christmas deliveries is :

Custom glass work: November 1

Materials & supplies: November 30

Well, that's about it for this issue. Let us hear from you, so we know what to include next time. If you want to receive our newsletter, we'd like to shift as much as possible to electronic contacts, so please make sure your email information is correct.

**Take care, come see us
when you can, and
Happy glassing to you all!**

Upcoming Studio closure dates:

The studio will be closed

October 15, 2009

November 3 - 10, 2009

November 26-27

December 22, 2009 - Jan 4, 2010