



March-April, 2010 Newsletter

Meetings are held monthly at 6:30 p.m. at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 8600 Academy Rd, N.E., Rm. 407. Our next meeting is Monday, March 22

Contact us and more info:
BeadSocietyNM@gmail.com
BSNM.org

Notes from the Board

Two Saturdays in a row filled with classes and two back-to-back weekends with thousands of beads to buy plus more classes. Don't feel as though you missed something by not getting to Tucson. We will have it all this spring here in Albuquerque and in Santa Fe. Just get your checkbooks and track shoes ready.

The Society January (February this year) free member-taught classes were a big hit. More than 80 students took classes. We also tested the idea of holding member-taught free workshops again in September. If we can find a venue that we can afford, we'd find it easy to host and fill classes.

The board enjoyed hearing from members about ideas for the types of classes we should hold for our July workshops. We want to offer several different techniques and an advanced project in seed beads and other mediums. Plus if you know of a local professional teacher who could put together a day long seed bead stitch technique class where different fundamental stitches would

be taught, let Teresa Jones know. It sounds as if a "seed bead boot camp" would be a great class.

Beginning at our March (22nd) meeting we will have the possible instructors for the July workshops come to meetings to introduce themselves and tell about their medium and suggest a class and/or project for July.

Congratulations to the Beaded Iris. The new store is beautiful. There are several classroom spaces and a full class schedule planned monthly to hone your skills. See the *Classes Around Town* section in this newsletter for member stores class schedule listings.

At the February Board Meeting we had a lively discussion on how to do what was best for our members and for our member stores. The result was a new Bead-A-Gram and a streamlined business membership into just one category and annual cost. For \$48.00 per year, member stores get their ads and class schedules in every newsletter. The on-line version of the newsletter will have the member store's web address in their ad, hot linked directly to their web site. With a click of the mouse members can go directly from the newsletter to the member store's web site. Member stores will also have a link from the society's web site to their web site.

Did you get the first Bead-A-Gram from the society? That is a new feature dreamed up

by several board members as a way to keep you informed of sales, classes, and other special events of interest to the members. The idea was to group information into timely messages so that you stay informed but are not inundated by daily message we receive in our group mail. The hope is that you enjoy finding out about opportunities to learn something new or get a "bargain" on beading purchases. The Bead-A-Gram will carry information we receive from members, emails to our society's email account, and mailings about classes and special events in area stores that the members might find helpful.

Bead-A-Grams will come out about twice a month to assure the content is timely. If you do not see a class list from your favorite store encourage them to send their class schedules to BeadSocietyNM@gmail.com for inclusion in the new Bead-A-Gram.

Trying to always improve the Bead Society we tried out our new sound system at the last meeting. While the one microphone didn't seem to be set up correctly, the members sitting in the far reaches of the room reported that they could hear everything with the hand held microphone. The board hopes this investment will improve meetings.

Volunteers needed -- Free admission to Bead Fest!

There is still time to volunteer for the Bead Fest in Santa Fe, March 18 – 21.

\$10 admission is free for 2 hours of work! If you are interested, contact Geri Verble at Gverb@Q.com to sign up.

Upcoming Meeting Speakers

MARCH 22 MEETING:

Main Speaker: Stephanie Harp, gemologist. She is currently working at Santa Fe Jewelers Supply, in Santa Fe.

Stephanie will be speaking about her personal and professional background as a gemologist.

She will discuss the following questions: What is a gemstone? (precious vs semi-precious) How do they form? What sets value in a gem? How can you spot a simulated or synthetic stone? Which gems are best for jewelry and why? What does A+++ mean in grading stones?

There will be time of Q & A. Bring your questions! She has also asks members to bring in stones that need identifying.

Potential workshop speakers will present information on proposed July Workshop projects:

Beverly Tjarks will be speaking about Beaded Wire Weaving.

Lauren Tobey will be speaking about Metal Working and Enameling classes.

APRIL 26 MEETING:

Speaker: Mary Datwyler - owner and primary designer of Sunflower Glassworks.

Mary has more than 15 years of stained glass experience and 20 years of award-winning graphic design, and is also the author of the book, "Petite Prairie Patterns" and other patterns and articles for stained glass.

Mary is University of New Mexico (UNM) instructor in Continuing Education and has taught grade school children around the metro area about the wonder and science of glass.

Kudos to our volunteer teachers

Be sure to give a hearty thank you to the following members for volunteering to teach your February Workshop classes. In all, 60 members took more than 80 classes from these dedicated teachers. It takes a lot of work to put together the class materials, supply lists, kits when offered, and the time necessary to teach the class. Remember they don't get paid for teaching these classes, and some of them had to move way outside their comfort zone and teach for the first time. They do it for the love of beading and to share their expertise with members.

We are all thankful to these members and hope you pass on what you learned.

- Linda Davis who shared a beautiful spiral bracelet
- Denise Falzone who gave us the technique for creating cute seed beaded Russian Leaves in earrings
- Beth Jones who showed you how to put all those "extra" buttons to good use
- Teresa Jones taught wire wrap technique and how to use all those lampwork beads you find to make a beautiful bracelet
- Vicki Kay who took what she learned last year and showed how to bead buttons for clothing as well as jewelry
- Marijane Oliver for teaching us how to do Kumihimo Braiding

Members in the News

From the March 4th *Alibi*, here's an excerpt from a very nice article about Robert Steinberg and the Stone Mountain Gallery. To see the entire article and photos of Robert, his store and his employees, visit our website.

Stone Mountain Bead Gallery

How did you get started in this business?

After 8 years of traveling in Asia, importing and wholesaling, I chose to settle down and open a store in 1993. I live in the neighborhood and never considered any place but Nob Hill.

- Linda Reyes-Alicea who taught us how to use the new resins.
- Marcia Ronquillo who taught us how to make a lovely necklace that combines seed beads, stone chips, and a focal stone pendant
- Pami Strangman for teaching us Beginning Polymer Clay
- Charlotte Souter for sharing how to make a glitzy crystal bracelet
- Geri Verble who shared with her students how professionally finish your projects

Spring Bead Challenge

Are you ready for a challenge? Jill Bartell has organized our 2010 Spring Bead Challenge and will have mystery packets of beads available for \$5.00 at our March 22nd Meeting.

This time the challenge will be themed with cash prizes for the top two jewelry and top two non-jewelry vote getters.

At least 20 packets of beads will be available for this so if you are up to the challenge, get your beads at the March meeting and start beading.

Do you just sell beads?

We carry much more. My background is in jewelry and Asian studies. We carry sarongs and bags from Bali and oriental sculpture and hundreds of pewter pendants. Lots of dragons and fairies, Celtic and spiritual items.

What is it that people don't know about you?

The fact that we carry hundreds of inexpensive handmade silver rings, bracelets, pendants, and earrings. Long before I sold beads I was dealing in Indian jewelry, including old pawn jewelry that is now in the store. In the '80's, I would buy gemstones in Thailand and have jewelry made by terrific silversmiths in Bali and Nepal. I bought thousands of pieces back when silver was 1/4 of what it costs today. This is why we can sell a handmade silver and amethyst ring for six dollars!

But obviously, your focus is beads?

Yes, but we're not your average bead shop. We carry more ethnic beads from Africa and Asia and loads of larger Czech glass. We have hand-painted ceramic animal beads and prayer malas and hemp and leather. To give two popular examples, we carry nearly 200 different heart-shaped beads and 70 different skull beads in bone, pewter, silver, ceramic, wood, stone and glass. Our prices are amazingly diverse as well; at the upper end we have beads in ruby and emerald, handmade Thai and Bali silver, and centuries-old African Trade beads for collectors.

So, your beads come from all over the world?

Over 60 countries at last count. To use the old "A to Z" cliché, we actually have beads in stock from Afghanistan, Bulgaria, China ... to Zaire!

What about local favorites?

You can't sell beads in Albuquerque without people expecting to find turquoise and coral, silver and heishi. The tourists demand it!

What significant changes have you implemented recently?

We made a huge move last year. After 16 years at the western side of Nob Hill I bought a building in Upper Nob Hill. The clincher was it came with a huge parking lot—try finding that in Nob Hill!

Three passions outside of work?

I play a mean harmonica.

Classes around Town

NEW! To promote our mission of educating beaders and jewelry makers, we're now posting local & regional class schedules on the Bead Society website. Check under "Events, Local Classes."

<http://www.bsnm.org/34.html> Watch it grow in the months ahead!

Mama's Minerals has a free newsletter highlighting upcoming classes. Go to <http://www.mamasminerals.com/rockznews.html> to get on their mailing list. And check their website every Monday for Mama's Mondays specials.

Lodi's has an updated class list. See it at the Bead Society's new section on classes at:

http://www.bsnm.org/resources/Classes_Lodis_2010_March-April.pdf.

Or, go to <http://www.lodisbeads.com> for up-to-the-minute details.

The Beaded Iris March Classes – 1517F Wyoming NE 299-1856. <http://www.thebeadediris.com/>

BEE-utiful Necklace

Sat. Mar. 13 10 AM-1 PM \$45 + tax & supply list.

To set a Spring mood, **Diana Martin** places miniature flowers in cheery, bright colors, and charms (bees, bugs, birds, or whatever you choose) on hanging rectangles. Use one rectangle as a focal or use several to create a beautiful collar effect.

Basic Finishing Techniques

Sat. Mar. 13 10 AM-1 PM \$30 + tax includes kit

Wed. Mar. 24 5:30-8:30 PM \$30 + tax includes kit

Elisa Cummings teaches our basic stringing class twice a month. Students learn to use 2 stringing methods and how to coil headpins for earring – and take home a classic, and classy, crystal necklace, bracelet, and earring set.

Splendor Necklace

Sun. Mar. 14 10 AM-5 PM \$30+ tax & supply list: a minimum of 12 participants is need for this all day class. Sign up with friends!

Maria Teresa Stoa works with hand-made fibers, as well as fossils, stone, metal, and glass beads at her home in Ramah, NM. You are invited to work at the store with Maria Teresa to make a striking and unique necklace.

Multi-Strand Necklace

Wed. Mar. 17 6-8 PM \$35 + tax & supply list

Learn to string and finish 2 strands of beads that drape perfectly and look great.

Freeform Silk Beaded Bracelet

Sat. Mar. 27 10 AM-2 PM \$45 + tax & supply list

Cindy Chavez's fabulous color combinations of fabric and beads are truly wearable art. Cindy will share her passion for free form embellishing, and supply the beautiful silk material and the backing for the cuff bracelet.

Beginning Polymer Clay

Sat. Mar. 27 1-3 PM \$25 + tax & supply list

Want to make your own beads, clay figures, and embellishments? **Kathy Elrick's** class will introduce techniques and tools to get started.

Bezzled Rivoli (Swarovski crystal) Pendant

Wed. Mar. 31 6-8 PM \$25 + tax & supply list

If you like sparkle, this class is for you. **Elisa Cummings** teaches you how to enclose a crystal with beads on both sides to make a sparkly and elegant pendant.

Upcoming Beading Contests

Details are subject to change. Visit these websites for up-to-date contest details.

BeadingDaily.com Contests

If you're not a member yet, consider joining BeadingDaily (www.beadindaily.com). As a member, you have the opportunity to participate in numerous contests.

Fire Mountain Gems Contests

(www.firemountaingems.com/beading-contests)

Gemstones (deadline: 05/01/2010)

Pearls & Organic Beads (deadline: 07/01/2010)

Bead Dreams 2010 Contest

Deadline 04/05/2010

<http://www.beadandbuttonshow.com/bnbshow/Default.aspx?c=a&id=200>

Land of Odds Ugly Necklace Contest (2010)

(www.landofodds.com/store/uglynecklace.htm)

Upcoming events

SANTA FE BEAD FEST 2010

MARCH 18-21

YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS GRAND EVENT!

TWO GREAT BAZAAR LOCATIONS: SANTA FE COMMUNITY CONVENTION CENTER
AND THE LAFONDA HOTEL

90 GREAT WORKSHOPS AND 180 BOOTHS AT THE BAZAAR!

SANTA FE JEWELERS SUPPLY will be offering free limo service on Friday night to their store. They will run every 30 minutes from the San Francisco side of The La Fonda. Wine and snacks will be served; there will also be information on the tote bags the store is sponsoring.

INTERNATIONAL GEM SHOW

March 12 – 14

Pick up free admission tickets at The Beaded Iris, Mama's Minerals, and New Mexico Bead Trader Albuquerque, NM – March 12-14, 2010 – Three Days Only - The International Gem & Jewelry Show at the Expo New Mexico offers the best selection, highest quality at the lowest prices. From \$5.00 to \$500,000 – there is surely something to please everyone!

The International Gem & Jewelry Show is a wonderful exhibition of gems, minerals and jewelry from all around the world. The show features one-of-a-kind jewelry creations, gorgeous wedding bands and engagement rings, exotic gems, beads, exquisite fine jewelry, ethnic jewelry, estate collections and much more.

Free Beading Classes Too! We are proud to announce a sponsorship with Wendy Simpson Conner, author of The Best Little Beading Book and 14 other books about beading. Wendy will be teaching FREE beading classes all weekend (valued at over \$30). Wendy is well known for her jewelry – she was recently featured in Beverly Hills Magazine for her design work. During the show weekend, she will teach workshops on wire-work, making earrings and her patented pearl knotting technique.



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Local Member Discounts

One of the nicest benefits of being an NMBS member is the bead store discounts. Present your NMBS membership card before your purchase is rung up and enjoy big savings!

Beads & More	15%
Bead World	10%
Made in the Shade	
(Teresa Jones	
Lampwork beads)	10%
Mama's Minerals	15%
NM Bead Trader	15%
(off regularly priced items)	
Poppy Field	10%
Stone Mountain Beads	10%
Sun Country Gems	10%
The Beaded Iris	10%
Thomason Stone Supply	10%
White Feather Trading	10%