

St. Louis Lampworkers Society (SLLS) Secretary's Minutes

Meeting Date: 5-4-2008

Meeting Time: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Meeting was called to order by:

Kim Ownbey

We thanked our host for having us:

Glasshopper's

Guests were welcomed:

Les Krenning, Erin Elswick and Amy Wolff.

Les has been lampworking for 6 years and has a torch/studio in his basement. His sister makes his beads into jewelry.

Erin has taken classes at the Craft Alliance and torches in her parents' gazebo.

Amy Wolff also has a studio in her basement; her lampworking business name is Shanadell (sp?) Stones. She sells beads to her sisters who make jewelry, and is at Glasshopper's every Sunday.

Minutes from the last meeting were read by Patti Skonicki.

Attendees were: Linda Osterwise, Kathleen Osterwise, Tamara Hawn, Barb Crofton, Colton Hawn, Melissa Villadiego, Kim Ownbey, Karla Lester, Mary Jo Mueller, Les Krenning, Amy Wolff, Lendy Middendorf, Erin Elswick, Peri Hogrebe, Katie Elrod, Patti Skonicki, Joan Cross and Ariel (last name unknown).

Treasurer's Report:

Sue Wuest was not present, so there was no treasurer's report.

Announcements:

Kim Ownbey announced that the brochure is coming soon, and that the Bead Liner tool was available for checkout. There was no bead for the giveaway, so Kim donated a raku bead for the drawing.

Tamara Hahn explained how the library works, for new members, and said that the library guidelines were ready to be posted on the website.

It was discussed who would borrow the bead liner first. Also, there will be a larger late fee for tools such as the bead liner (possibly \$15 or \$20 a month) to encourage people to return it promptly. Checkout period would be one month.

Karla Lester stated that there were 5 spots open for the MO Bead Retreat in May. Over 60 people had signed up; it would include a mini bead show, and there will be 8-10 torches and many classes; \$60 for 3 nights.

Kim Ownbey described the bead show (Glass Galore) for new members.

Melissa Villadiego explained about the gallery show and 3rd Friday at the 3rd Degree Glass Factory that will be taking place shortly before Glass Galore.

To recap from the April meeting: “Melissa Villadiego stated that there will be a gallery show at Third Degree Glass Factory in September a week before the SLLS bead show. It will be up for a month, from Sept. 19th to about Oct. 15th. Participants need to fill out a form and give it to Melissa by July 13th. Beads or jewelry will be mounted in black shadow boxes; largest size of 16 x 20”, limit of 2 per person.

They also need volunteers for demos during the gallery opening on the 3rd Friday of that September. We will have Glass Galore postcards at the gallery show. The deadline to turn in your beads/jewelry will be August 8th.”

Q-tips: Vetrofond black was discussed, and the difference between thermal cracks and incompatibility cracks. Thermal cracks = cracks along the mandrel line; incompatibility cracks = all over, perpendicular to the mandrel.

The rule of 3's was explained = beads should be at least 3 times as thick as the mandrel so as not to crack.

Tubing size for Pandora/Biagi/Troll beads was discussed again. Patti Skonicki said that if you use 1/4” mandrels, you need at least 4.3 mm inner diameter tubing. Update: 3/16” mandrels work better than 1/4” if they are double-dipped.

Mary Jo and Karla explained what Biagi, Pandora and Troll bracelets are for those who were not familiar with them.

Joan Cross suggested using other metals for tubing other than silver, such as brass, copper, etc.

Bead-N-Tell: The challenge was using gray glass.

Melissa: Gallileo pendant in gray/pink.

Linda: bent organic beads.

Patti: organic beads using gray and silver.

Lendy: a rosary with lampwork beads and cross, and a sculptural iris pendant.

Mary Jo: silver organics

Les: dichroic beads

Amy: dots & flowers.

Karla: beads in her sorority colors, kitty cat bead.

Kim: dot beads and some beads her husband made.

Next challenge will be a July 4th challenge in red, white and blue.

Next Meeting: St. Charles Coffee House.

Demos: Melissa Villadiego demonstrated how to make a wigwag cane; several members used the torches after the meeting and showed various techniques, including making an off-mandrel tree out of soft glass.