



## IMPORTANT DATES

**10/18, 7pm**

October CMAG meeting

**11/15, 7pm**

November CMAG Meeting

**No meeting in December**

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## October Presentation: Greg Wilbur

Our October presenter is Portland-based metalsmith Greg Wilbur. Greg has been raising metal into vessels and sculptural forms for forty years and was a founding member of CMAG as well as a founder of Art in the Pearl. He has taught internationally and participated in numerous craft shows, including the Smithsonian Craft Fair and Philadelphia Crafts Show.

Greg attended his first collaborative event, Emma Lake Collaborations in Saskatchewan, over twenty years ago. A hundred makers spent a week creating art together, and it was a transformative experience that led to Greg's further participation in twenty-eight "collabs" around the world. He'll be talking about [Frogwood](#), a biannual collaborative event that he helped found in 2007, and about the joys and educational benefits of all such events.



*"What comes from this free-flowing collaboration is an astounding collection of significant art."*

— TOM WILLING, FROGWOOD BOARD & PAST PRESIDENT



## In Memoriam: John Vesowate by Mary Wong

On Wednesday, October 13th our local jewelry community lost one of the best of our own - John Vesowate. His Portland, Oregon business, West Coast Findings, was not only the center of the jewelry and metals community, it was the heart and soul of the community.

John bought the business from Paul Todd over thirty years ago with little jewelry experience and set about learning enough to be a technical advisor to everyone who walked through the door or called on the phone. Whether you were a seasoned professional from a trade or design shop or a neophyte student walking in wide-eyed and curious, John Vesowate treated everyone with patience and respect.

"Go ask John, he'll know," was something frequently told people looking for supplies, tools, technical advice or opportunities - because West Coast Findings was also a "central intelligence agency" for job openings and general jewelry community information.



This sentiment from Kristin Fudalla sums up the feelings of many, "Oh My... This is horrible news. John had been instrumental in my sticking with metalsmithing. He respected everyone who came through his doors... Sharing his knowledge, always helping." This from Madeleine Moore, a former Creative Metal Arts Guild president, "He was a generous and much-loved member of our community who helped sponsor the Spring Show every year."

John knew my kids, now grown, and always asked after them. I showed him photos from my son's wedding last week and we reminisced about when they would accompany me to West Coast Findings as toddlers. We would spend much time talking stories about more than jewelry ... rock climbing, music (particularly, the Grateful Dead), general rumors and scuttlebutt.

A warm, generous, knowledgeable, and kind spirit, John Vesowate was a friend to all and will be greatly missed.



From the WCF Facebook page: "A rare photo of the staff in their natural habitat" - photo credit Shelley Cavanaugh

## Local Learning Resources: Paul Bartnik Helping People Make a Living Doing What They Love

by Mary Wong

At the age of 14, Paul Bartnik had the good fortune to attend Sherwood High School in Oregon, which happened to be the rare high school that offered a four-year curriculum in Jewelry Making. He entered the program and immediately found his passion for the Jewelry Arts that would direct and define his life trajectory.

By age 16 he was working in a local jewelry store. After high school he attended the famed Revere Academy in San Francisco, which led to studying hand engraving in Rome, Italy. Becoming a Certified Master Bench Jeweler followed, seven years at Kassab Jewelers as the head designer/goldsmith, setting up a trade shop, custom pieces for Cartier and Van Cleef and Arpels, and...well, you get the idea. Paul; is not your average home-grown jeweler.



Paul Bartnik and Office Manager, Donna Muno

Portland is fortunate to be where Paul Bartnik has set up his unique collection of businesses that reside on the eighth floor of the Willamette Building in downtown Portland, including the Nova Jewelry Collective, his passion driven jewelry school. People from all over the country find the opportunity to work with Paul through word of mouth, and there is a waiting list, though it is not a situation for beginners. Paul has found that a small class size of three students works best to be able to give students all his focus and energy (which seems limitless!).

Using no “curriculum” differentiates Bartnik’s teaching philosophy. He offers a collaborative process to help a student explore and expand needed skills and vision to design, create, produce, price and market what they want. At the same time they can be selling and making money from their efforts.

To break that down a bit – It is all individual student’s ideas, designs and creation. Paul teaches how to think about design and how to draw or render it for the client. Reasoning out the design and considering the appropriate materials and production techniques, which might include fabrication, wax carving, casting, CAD, etc. and why and when to use them. Learning to think and problem solve is an emphasis in his classes. Removing the barrier of, “But I don’t know how to do that”, is addressed by expanding the skills and, “Taking it to the next level”, as Paul says. “We manipulate their designs to go beyond their skillset, to go beyond what they even think they are capable of doing.” “There are a lot of “Whoa!” moments when the realization hits that anything is possible,” he says. Paul sums it by saying, “I am helping people make a living doing what they love.”

Many of Paul’s students have gone on to start their own businesses in the Willamette Building (and elsewhere) and two of them have won the Saul Bell Award.

*(continued on next page)*

## Local Learning Resources (continued)

In addition to his instruction, Paul has both space for your own bench and fully equipped benches for rent. Though not inexpensive, they come with access to the Willamette Building and full use of one of the best equipped jewelry studios around, including use of all the larger tools - casting set up, steamer, ultrasonic, polishing motors, and rolling mill. Another major perk is the use of the client meeting area. But the best thing of all is that it comes with access to Paul Bartnik!

For more information:

WEBSITE: <https://www.paulbartnikdesigns.com>

POST: 534 SW Third Avenue, Suite 800, Portland, OR 97204

PHONE: 503-309-1390

EMAIL: [paulbartnikdesigns@gmail.com](mailto:paulbartnikdesigns@gmail.com)



## Artist Opportunity: Alberta Street Gallery

Alberta Street Gallery is looking for a new jewelry artist.

From the gallery: "One of our long-time members will be spending more time traveling so we are looking for a replacement. Being a member of a cooperative gallery does take some work, but the benefits include a better commission rate than consignment - starting at 70% artist/30% gallery, a much larger display space than you would get at most galleries, complete control over your display, and the community of your fellow artists."

The application deadline is October 18th. On October 20th the top applicants will be asked to come to an in-person jury on Sunday October 23rd from 8am-10am. Artists should be prepared to bring in work by Last Thursday, October 27th, or any time before. Official start date is November 1st.

[Visit the website](#) for more information and to apply.



## Upcoming Class: Bezels Less Ordinary with Rachel Morris

Live, Virtual Workshop with Rachel Morris

Dates: October 28-30, 2022

Time: 8:30am - 4pm PDT

Cost: \$425.00

[Click Here to Register](#)

Stone settings should never be an afterthought in design, but rather well thought out and integral. By expanding your understanding of both the function and forms settings can take, you open up a world of design possibilities in which gemstones and other set materials are elevated (literally and figuratively!).

In this three-day online class, we explore ways to set stones beyond the basic cabochon and walled bezel. We'll cover challenges in unusual stone shapes, with approaches including adding prongs to traditional step bezels, partial bezels, mixed structure, and tab settings. We also cover the foundations of faceted setting and modifications that spice up a traditional bezel for either faceted or cabbed stones. This is a techniques weekend and students should complete one or more stone settings for future use in a project. Strong basic soldering experience required.

Skill Level: Intermediate & Advanced (Advanced Beginners can [contact Rachel](#) to discuss suitability before registering)

Students should have a solid foundation of sawing, filing, finishing and soldering, and be able to create traditional large cabochon bezels consistently. Projects will be presented with a variety of modifications for easier or more challenging work, so students can level set based on their own skills and interests.

Registration includes:

- An optional follow-up Zoom open studio two weeks post-workshop to catch up, show off, and get any open questions answered
- Access to a private Facebook group with additional resources
- Access to the recordings for 60 days after class concludes

## Art in the High Desert is back for 2023

Art in the High Desert will once again bring over 150 nationally acclaimed, hand-picked, visual artists to the beautiful grounds of the Deschutes' County Fair & Expo in August of 2023.

The move north will afford Art in the High Desert an even better facility to present art lovers and collectors with an impeccably juried fine art and craft show, continuing a 12 year tradition as one of the top art events in the country.

[Join the mailing list](#) to stay up to date - applications will be on [zapplication.org](#)



Bezels Less Ordinary

October 28-30, 2022  
with Rachel Morris  
<http://EclecticNatureJewelry.com>

## CMAG Board & Staff FY2021

### Executive Board:

President: **POSITION OPEN**

Treasurer: Barbara Covey

Vice President: **POSITION OPEN**

Secretary: Anne Johnson

### General Board & Staff:

Member-At-Large: Mary Wong

Education: Madeleine Moore

Communications:

Social Media: Catherine Chandler

Web Site: Madeleine Moore

Spring Show: Tai Vautier

Programming: Madeleine Moore

Librarian: Kristin Fudalla

Refreshments: **POSITION OPEN**

Newsletter Editor: Jen McCaw

Membership Chair: Carli Schultz

Public Relations: Eric Little

Registrar: Francesca Kennedy

## GUILD BUSINESS

### GENERAL MEETING (MONTHLY)

When: General CMAG member meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month.

Meetings begin at 7:00 pm, and adjourn by 9:15

Where: Multnomah Arts Center

What: Meetings consist of general business followed by a program which may be a demonstration of a technique or tool, a slide presentation, a panel discussion, or other presentation of interest to CMAG members.

Who: Meetings are open to CMAG members and their guests

### BOARD MEETING

Board meetings are held prior to the General Meeting at 6:00 pm. Members are encouraged to attend and contribute.

## CONTACT INFO

Creative Metal Arts Guild (CMAG)  
PO Box 8946, Portland, OR 97207

Email: [cmag@cmaguild.org](mailto:cmag@cmaguild.org)

Web: [cmaguild.org](http://cmaguild.org)

## NEWSLETTER ITEMS WANTED

We're looking for news about you and from you! Virtual trunk shows, tools you can't live without, books you love, online workshops or webinars you've attended or upcoming classes you recommend. And photos of new work you'd like to show fellow CMAG members. Include body text in an email with any links, and attach photos (ideally jpeg format) where available.

Submit to: [cmag@cmaguild.org](mailto:cmag@cmaguild.org)

Upcoming deadline:  
November Issue: 11/7

## WAYS TO PROMOTE CMAG, OUR MEMBERS, & EVENTS

GENERAL:

Talk us up among your artist friends - invite them to a Third Tuesday meeting! Update your membership page on the website with photos, especially! Like our public Facebook page and Like, Comment on and Share announcements on your own page and on groups you think would appreciate them

<https://www.facebook.com/CreativeMetalArtsGuild/>

Follow us on Instagram, like our posts and tag us @creativemetalartsguild in your own appropriate posts

<https://www.instagram.com/creativemetalartsguild/>

Use hashtags in your social media posts:

#creativemetalartsguild

#creativemetalartsguildpdx