

FIRE & RAIN MINUTES
DECEMBER 11, 2011
HOLIDAY PARTY & MEETING

Stacy Frost, President, called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

1. Board Reports & Announcements:

a. President's Report (Stacy Frost)

Pratt Tiles – Pratt is selling tiles that will become a permanent installation in the building in the yellow building as part of the building renovation. We would like to purchase a 6" by 6" tile in support of Pratt for all of the support they've given to Fire and Rain in free studio use for meetings and Beads of Courage beadmaking days. They have committed to providing us free use for BOC days in the future and another such day will occur in 2012. The tile will have the name Fire and Rain on it. To raise funds for the tile, 3 items are being raffled off today: an infinite marble mold made and donated by PJ Hicks, a Viking knit draw plate made and donated by PJ Hicks and a tin flame box full of goodies (blinged Kevlar fingerless gloves, felted tool cozy, DH and striking glass rods, a variety of frits, powders and murrini, blue aventurine, green aventurine and gold aventurine, and a beadable bracelet and spoon). The tin and items in it were donated by the Fire and Rain board. Drawings were held at 3:00 and the winners were: Marble Mold – Donna Prunkard, Draw Plate – Susan Jaeger, Flame Tin – Susan Jaeger.

b. Treasurer's Report (Ellen Harbison)

We have approximately \$300 more than we did at this time last year, mostly thanks to the good economic management of the retreat budget.

Fire and Rain is now set up to take credit cards with a Square.

NWBS Bazaar – Fire and Rain was the highest in vendor sales, bringing in approximately \$5300. 10% went to NWBS. 10 or 20% per participant went to Fire and Rain (depending on whether participant worked a shift). F & R's take was sufficient to cover the table rental cost and credit card fees so all participants were reimbursed their \$15 table fee. We had 3 – 8ft. tables and have committed to the same spot for next year. The show will be Sept. 29 – 30th.

We may have a chapter table at The Gathering, but that has not been decided yet. If so, it will be one table and participants will have a small space each.

c. Membership Report (Donna Prunkard)

We ended the year with 51 members. Ellen and Donna are collecting dues today. Members may pay by credit card. A dues reminder email will be sent out

for those that were not able to attend today. * Renewing members must pay their dues by the end of February to be eligible to participate in member-only events, such as the Fire and Rain table at the NWBS Bead Bazaar and chapter events or table(s) at The Gathering. *

All board and general meeting minutes are posted on the Fire and Rain website.

d. Event Coordinators (Cheryl Matson and Leslie Thiel)

The February meeting will probably be at a library. Info will be posted on the website and facebook once a location has been selected. A calendar of this year's events/meetings will be posted on the website soon.

e. ISGB Report (Laura Bowker)

i. ISGB membership drive is going on now. This is an especially good year to join/renew because The Gathering will be in Bellevue this coming July.

Laura noted that there are many benefits to ISGB membership not the least of which are the friendships and connections that can be made. More concrete benefits include the magazine, monthly e-newsletters, scholarships, early notification and registration for Gathering classes if dues are paid by January 31st, insurance, regional webpages, participation in ISGB shows, volunteer opportunities, online forum, discounted glass magazine subscriptions, car rental discounts and credit cards. Professional members may also receive a 50% Pro-pay discount. Individual memberships are \$55, family memberships are \$75, student memberships are \$30 and professional memberships are \$100.

ii. NW Regional Retreat will be at Pilchuck! Dates will be Friday April 27-Sunday April 29th. Attendees must be ISGB members. The cost per person will be somewhere in the \$300-400 range and will include lodging, meals and flatshop/equipment use. We will stay in the dorms (2 to a room with shared bathrooms). There will be a 30 person limit.

iii. The Gathering -- Fire and Rain will be in charge of several things, some of which are still being determined. One project we will spearhead (chaired by Stacy Frost) is what Stacy has named the "Project of 1000 Beads." We will be making & collecting beads for the hotel and conference center staff to wear throughout The Gathering and for the participant bags. Beads must have 3/32" or larger holes and be sturdy with good bead ends and no protrusions that are sharp or insufficiently attached. Please bring beads to donate to any F & R meetings or make arrangements to get them to a board member. Laura Bowker has volunteered her home studio for bead-making events for this project, dates to be determined. We will be looking for volunteers to serve on committees. Pat Ford-Campbell, Susan Mason and Bob Hoffmeyer volunteered to help out.

iv. ISGB shows – Donna Prunkard encouraged members to participate in ISGB juried shows. They are a great way to push yourself to try something new and to get your work out there. She and Stacy Frost collaborated on a necklace for Convergence II and their piece was shown in Rochester, NY, the Houston Arts and Crafts Gallery and 2 galleries in Japan.

2. New Business

a. 2012 Board – There were no nominees for the board and the 2011 board has agreed to stay on for another year. Larry Scott moved to re-elect the board by acclamation, PJ Hicks seconded the motion and the board was voted in by voice vote.

b. PJ Hicks moved to have Fire and Rain pay for any portion of the Pratt Tile not covered by the raffle proceeds, Laura Bowker seconded the nomination and it passed by voice vote. (Note: we sold enough raffle tickets to cover the entire cost of the tile.

3. Door prizes were handed out.

3. **Next Challenge** – make a big-holed hollow bead on a “puffy mandrel.” Members were able to purchase mandrels for \$2, thanks to Cheryl and Jim Matson who bought hollow tubing and cut, filed and pierced them. * Members are encouraged to take good care of their mandrels as they will be used for at least one more challenge.*

5. Bead Exchange took place.

6. Voting on this month’s bead challenge – make something out of glass that looks like something edible. Leslie Thiel was the winner with her oreo cookie bead and won a food gift basket.