

FIRE & RAIN MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 13, 2011

Stacy Frost, President, called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

Present: Laura Bowker, Johnny Chalapatras, Drew Cornish, Mike Fernandez, Pat Ford-Campbell, Stacy Frost, P.J. Hicks, Bob Hoffmeyer, Susan Jaeger, Ellen Harbison, Caroline Kuhkno, Louise Lafever, Lara Lutrick, Susan Mason, Cheryl Matson, Marion Northrop, Chuck Pefley, Donna Prunkard, Kirk, Salomon, Larry Scott, Marjorie Stratton, Lelsie Thiel, Felicia Wartnik

Board Reports:

President – Stacy Frost thanked Pratt for use of the studio for today’s meeting.

Past President – Cheryl Matson presented Stacy with a cast glass hat made by Leslie Thiel that has been passed down to the Fire and Rain presidents.

Treasurer’s Report – Ellen Harbison reviewed Fire and Rain’s financial situation. We began and ended 2010 with \$3600. That means we brought in and spent the same amount of money. We brought in approximately \$1100 in dues and a little under \$200 in challenge fees. Expenditures included credit card and pay pal fees, table fees, challenges, NW Bead Society Bead Bazaar, Bead Retreat (the money was funneled through Fire and Rain’s account), website cost. Fire and Rain’s table sold approximately \$3700 at the NW Bead Society Bead Bazaar, a large increase over the year before. \$118 was sent to Beads of Courage, money that was raised through our Christmas party raffle.

Introductions were made and the voting procedure was explained for the soft glass marble challenge. Leslie Thiel was later announced as the challenge winner. PJ brought a borosilicate marble display.

Old Business:

Houston Center for Contemporary Arts Show - Informational sheets were handed out and will be posted on fire-and-rain.com and the ISGB regional page. Leslie Thiel gave an overview of the show. There is a list of suggested categories. The show is intended to be educational. Members may submit beads or finished jewelry. Beads must be annealed and of good quality with good bead ends. They will be pre-juried locally for quality and category, but the museum will have the final say as to what is included. Please email events@fire-and-rain.org to let Leslie know what you want to work on. You can pick from the provided list or suggest other categories. Photos must be emailed to this same email address by 4/2/11. Participants will be notified by 4/30/11 whether their pieces have been accepted and the accepted pieces will need to be received by Leslie no later than 5/15/11. Please include a description of the glass/supplies used and how it was made.

New Business:

Postcard Project – Donna Prunkard announced that Fire and Rain will put together a chapter postcard for the ISGB Gathering's postcard project. We do not know the theme yet for the all member show at the Gathering but will likely adopt that theme as a requirement for the beads that are a part of the postcard. If the ISGB does a project similar to last year's children's hospital aquarium project, we will again donate our postcard beads to the project. All Fire and Rain members may have their beads included on the postcard and those who participate will receive a few of the printed postcards. Fire and Rain will do the photography and pay for the printing. The submission deadline will be approximately the end of April.

Beads of Courage – Cheryl Matson is working with artist Janice Miltenberg to put together a BOC bead-making day. Pratt will donate the use of the studio for the day. The date has yet to be decided. Beads can be as simple as spacers. Janice Miltenberg is working on getting glass donated.

BOC prefers beads with 3/32" holes that will be sturdy (not a lot of protruding parts). Small, fun, roundish sculptural beads are popular with the kids.

Lara Lutrick reminded members that the BOC Beads in Space juried project is accepting submissions right now. She will put the link on our Facebook page.

Next Meeting – The next general meeting will take place on Sunday April 10th at 1:00 and will likely be held at a library.

ISGB Regional Retreat – Lara Bowker announced that she is working with Mike Frantz on our spring retreat. The cost may go up by \$25/person, because Mike needs to pay staff to be there if the store is kept open for us. A discussion was held regarding whether to move the retreat to Fri./Sat., because the store is open on Fridays, but members preferred to keep it Sat./Sun. even if the store is not open on Sunday.

Bead Exchange was conducted.

Next Challenge – the next challenge is a mystery frit challenge. Bags of frit were provided for \$2. Participants must make a bead using the frit. The frit must be visible on the bead, but you may use anything else that you want along with it and make any kind of bead you want.

Bulk Buy – Cheryl put out a sign up for a R218 powder and frit bulk buy. If you would like to buy frit and/or powder, let her know how much you want. It must be purchased from OCR in even kilograms. A bulk buy would allow people to split up the powder and frits into smaller purchases.

Open Torch/Demos – the formal meeting concluded and attendees were invited to ask others to demonstrate things they wanted to see or to jump on a torch. A number of demonstrations took place, including use of R-218, soft glass masked dot marble, plunged dots and use of enamel sifters.