

FIRE & RAIN MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 16, 2011

Stacy Frost, President, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

1. Board Reports & Announcements:

a. Treasurer's Report (Ellen Harbison)

i. Not counting the Bead Bazaar money, Fire and Rain has \$3700-3800 in the bank. We purchased a table cloth and 2 lamps for use at the Bead Bazaar. We will look into replacing the Fire and Rain banner prior to The Gathering with a new, larger one (8 ft.?)

ii. Bead Bazaar - 15 members participated in the Fire and Rain table at last weekend's Northwest Bead Society Bazaar. As a group, we made over \$6100 in sales. This is up from \$2900-3000 in 2009 and \$3700 in 2010. 10% was mailed to NWBS on Friday. Sale proceed checks will be go out to early next week to members. (Note: The board met after the general meeting to review the financial information from the Bazaar and decided that the \$15 table reservation fees and Paypal fees will be refunded to the participants, because the percentage fees taken in by Fire and Rain were sufficient to cover those costs.)

Dan Adams noted that next year's Bead Bazaar will be at the same location (Convention Center, lower level) and the contract is in the works, but it will likely be September 29-30th, because the rental price has skyrocketed for October. If our table is in the same location, we may want to see if we can use the tv screen behind the table to run a lampwork bead making loop (Mary Irvin is the contact person who can check with the Convention Center about this). Cynthia Toops suggested that we consider providing a video presentation with live narration in the demo room.

b. Community Events/Sales Opportunities –

i. NBWS - Cynthia noted that NWBS members can sell beads at the NWBS Christmas party. She also reminded members that NWBS holds an event every 3rd Thursday other than December at the Greenwood Masonic Lodge and these are open to non-members. Curtis Steiner will be the speaker on October 20th and Theresa Sullivan will be the speaker on November 17th.

ii. Janet Thompson noted that Donna Galstad is having a sale in November and is looking for people to sell at tables. Check with Donna for details if interested.

c. Next Meeting – Holiday Party

Larry Scott may be out of the country on our usual party date. We will know soon if he and his home will be available. If not, we may move the date or location. If the party is at Larry's home, there will be lampworking demos.

d. ISGB Report (Laura Bowker)

i. The Gathering will be in Bellevue this coming July. It is the 20th Anniversary. There will be field trips, including the Museum of Glass.

Stacy reported that the Fire and Rain board had a preliminary meeting with Kendra Bruno recently and will meet with her again in November to determine how Fire and Rain will assist with The Gathering. Stacy is chairing a set of projects that will require at least 1000 beads and she requests that members think about making a bead to donate each time they sit down at the torch. Some of the beads will be attached to the bags that are given to attendees and some will be given to hotel and convention center staff. Each staff member will get to select a bead to wear throughout The Gathering.

Laura reminded everyone about the Venture show. This is a juried ISGB virtual (internet show). All ISGB members who have not participated in an ISGB juried show are eligible to participate. The show is being put together by the regional directors. Each region has a theme. Ours is "The Great Outdoors." The top 5 beads from each region will be on display at The Gathering and will be part of the gallery tour. Deadline: November 30th.

Laura expects that there will also be a pendant show and the all members Beads of Courage community project at The Gathering. Laura's employers will be creating and donating the display case for the community project. A theme will be designated for the project and the beads will be donated to Children's Hospital.

ii. ISGB membership drive. New members who pay now will receive membership good through the end of 2012. Members will save the membership cost in the reduced Gathering fee. There will be a drawing for new members. The winner will earn a prize. Also, the person who gets the most members to join will earn a prize. The regional directors will each contribute one of their beads and the chapter that brings in the most new members will receive all 14 beads and will get to decide how to utilize the beads.

iii. Laura is working on next year's retreat. She is not sure yet whether Frantz will be an option. She is looking into an alternate option of having the retreat at Pilchuck. The cost would be higher but would include meals and lodging and would hopefully run Fri. night through Sunday. The date would likely be April or early May.

e. Event Chairs (Cheryl Matson)

Cheryl will send out a reminder to check the Fire and Rain website after changes are made to it.

f. PJ announced that he received an email from Mike Frantz with good news. Mike's test results have come back and he is cancer free!

g. Stacy announced that Larry Scott has 4 spots available in his October 29-30th intermediate bead making class. See Stacy for more information.

h. PJ generously offered pieces of a titanium rod that he cut into pieces. The pieces can be sharpened to a point and inserted in mechanical pencil holder or epoxied into a ball point pen to be used for signing glass art.

2. **Introductions** were made as we had a number of new members and guests present.

3. **Next Challenge** – make something that looks like something edible (that a non-crazy adult would eat), bring your glass item and a sample of your edible inspiration. Voting will be based on how alike your glass item is to the actual edible item. Your item does not need to be a bead but must be made on the torch. You can use any type of glass.

4. **Current Challenge** – voting took place and Cynthia won a set of Cheryl and Jim Matson steel punties for her creative use of light bulb glass.

5. **Garage Sale** – members bought, sold and swapped tools and glass.