

## December 2009 E-NEWSLETTER

### Happy Holidays

Thank you for all for your support and patronage this past year. We wish you all a happy season and a peaceful new year.

### Ryan's Shop Talk

#### Pouncing Rain Retail Shop = Santa's Little Helpers!

This holiday season I thought I would give you out there some great gift ideas from the poll I took with the staff here at Pouncing Rain. Whether you celebrate Hanukah, Christmas, Kwanzaa or Solstice these items are perfect for the metalworking, jewelry making, craft-aholic in us all.

### Top Five Great Gifts Found at Pouncing Rain:

1. **Fretz Hammers:** These little precision beauties were unanimously number one on everyone's list. We are now carrying the standard set of five (sold individually and in a set) as well as the mini set, riveting hammer and newly in: chasing hammer. I can personally attest to the wonderful feeling of opening up a package and finding one of these quality tool as my husband and his family bought me the standard set a couple of winter's ago, I'm still thanking him!



2. **Quality Cutters/Pliers:** Both the Tronex and Lindstrom lines carried by P.R. make fabulous gifts. Ergonomic and comfortable to use, the Swiss made Lindstrom pliers and American made Tronex doesn't get better for precision cutting, bending and wrapping your wire and metals. Relieving strain on your hands and reducing mistakes in your work, I would recommend these lines to anyone working with wire or other metal crafts.



3. **Books:** Two top favs; Joanna Goldbergs's [The Art and Craft of Making Jewelry](#), great for all levels from beginner to the more experienced jewelry artist this book is full of inspirational pictures, clear and concise directions and tips useful for all studios. [Complete Metalsmith, ProPlus Edition](#) by Tim McCreight, the more in-depth version of his studio reference guide, this book takes you beyond just the basic techniques and into more of the technicalities and how-to's, great for anyone wanting to round out their studio selection of education, (in fact this one's on my wish list!) Comes with a CD.

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4. **Flex Shaft:** A must have for anyone setting up a studio at home. This invaluable tool can be used to sand, polish, drill, and texture. Think of it as your go-go gadget arm when working at your bench. Comes with motor, hand-piece, shaft and foot



5. **Sheet Metal/Wire:** Who doesn't love something bright and shiny, especially when we can take it and make something fabulous with it, having more fun while creating than if someone handed you a finish product. P.R. carries many different sizes of Sterling silver sheet and wire, as well as copper and brass. And don't forget the warm colors of bronze and gold-filled wire for those gold lovers!

### Top Five Favorite Stocking Stuffers:

1. Tool Pouch: We carry both the stiff "leather-like" variety as well as a soft canvas option. The canvas tool pouch closes securely with Velcro and holds up to 6 pliers with smaller slots for longer, skinny tools. (I have been known to fit in 8 pliers, set of mini files and my wire wrapping mandrels in my canvas pouch!) The stiffer, book-like option fits 5 pliers, and one skinny spot; a zip closed and has a nice soft interior. This option is great for traveling as it can be tossed around a bit without worrying that your pliers are getting nicked or scratched.
2. Files: Can you have too many? I think not, not when you have so many great options. Check out the medium key file set, 6 files, perfect mid-size for most all bench needs. The 10 piece mini file set is a must have, getting into and filing all those tight spots perfectly. And new to the shop, and Kathleen's favorite, the set of five mid-size files, attached to a key ring so you always know where they are, no more searching the bottom of your toolbox for each file at a time.
3. Stamps, Letters and Numbers: With the two sizes of letter and number stamps you can personalize your creations with names, dates of birth, a poem or saying or just make fun textures. Another great tool standard, and small enough to fit any stocking!
4. Wire Wrapping Mandrels: One of the handiest tools to have in your toolbox when making jumprings, chain, wire wrapping or making ear wires. We carry two sizes, each with five stepped levels for multiple use loop creations. (Also, they fit nicely in your new tool pouch!)
5. DVDs: Did you know Pouncing Rain carries educational DVDs? We currently have in stock Tim McCreight's [The Complete Metalsmith](#) as well as [PMC Basics](#). We also have Nanz Aalund's [Jewelry Workshop, Beginning Level](#) and [Jewelry Workshop, Intermediate Level](#). In these cold winter months ahead, one of my favorite things to do is cozy up with a cup of tea and watch a movie. Give the gift of inspiration you can return to again and again with a DVD you can watch in the coziness of your own home!

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### Flat Knit Wire Mesh Bracelet



Make a beautiful flat knitted bracelet out of brass wire. This delicate looking bracelet is knitted with a crochet hook and fine gauge wire. Yours will be made out of Merlin's gold (brass) but could easily be made with copper or fine silver. **Instructor: Nanci LaHatt**

**Cost: \$50.00**

**12/12/09, Saturday 2:30-6:30pm**

### Beginning Wirework

Loops for links and dangles, clasps and making better ear-wires. Come and learn the foundation techniques of wire-working. You will make a bracelet and a pair of earrings. Practice first with copper wire and finish your project with sterling silver wire. All materials provided.

**Cost: \$60.00 Instructor: Noelle Holland**

**NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED**

**12/13/09, Sunday 1:30-4:30**



### Beginning 3 Day Intensive

This class will introduce you to the vast and wonderful world of metalworking and jewelry making. You will learn about materials, equipment and safety in the jewelry lab. Through a series of demonstrations, you will learn: sawing, piercing, soldering, filing, polishing and texturing metal. This class will give you time to finish a few pieces. **NO EXPERIENCE**

**NEEDED! Cost \$240.00 All materials are included. The use of all tools is included.**

**January 8th, 9th and 10th, Friday, Saturday and Sunday 10:00 - 5:00**



### Beginning Six Week Class

This is the class that started it all. The class that most everyone at Pouncing Rain has taken to get started. This class will introduce you to the vast and wonderful world of metalworking and jewelry making. You will learn about materials, equipment and safety in the jewelry lab. Through a series of

demonstrations, you will learn: sawing, piercing, soldering, filing, polishing and texturing metal. This class will give you time to finish a few pieces. **NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! Cost \$240.00 All materials are included. The use of all tools is included.**

**1/12, 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9 and 2/16/2010, Tuesdays 9:30-12:30**

**1/12, 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9 and 2/16/2010, Tuesdays 6:00-9:00**

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### **Intermediate Jewelry Making**

will expand on the skills learned in Beginning Jewelry Making while adding more tools to your repertoire. Intermediate Jewelry is for those metalsmithing students who have had an introduction to jewelry making class in high school, college, or here at Pouncing Rain and want to continue their training.

You will further strengthen & develop your skills in soldering and jewelry techniques. Learn ways of forming and texturing involving the rolling mill, chasing and repousse. Fold forming and patinas will be introduced. Learn various ways of bezeing and setting stones and other materials into your work. 6 week course – 3 hours a week.

Basic metalsmithing experience required.

**Cost: \$240 Instructor: Judith Gauthier**

**Thursdays, 9:30-12:30, 01/14, 01/21, 01/28, 02/04, 02/11 and 02/18th OR**

**Thursdays, 6:00-9:00, 01/14, 01/21, 01/28, 02/04, 02/11 and 02/18th**



### **ALSO IN JANUARY**

**Etching Without Acid**

**Enameling on Copper**

**Learn How to Solder**

**Precious Metal Clay**

**Everything You want to know about Earrings**

**Make a Ring in a Day**