

APRIL - MAY - JUNE 2009

# Pouncing Rain

## Jewelry & Metal Working Center

521 Kentucky Street, Bellingham, WA 98225 360-715-3005 [www.pouncingrain.com](http://www.pouncingrain.com)

### NEWSLETTER CHANGES

Our mailed Newsletter goes *Quarterly* starting this month. You will notice a bit of a difference in our format. The monthly calendar on the back of the newsletter is gone. It has been replaced with "News from the Shop" written by Ryan Albachten, our store manager.

Sending the newsletter out by mail four times a year instead of twelve times a year is our way of saving postage, printing and paper. It allows us the time to make the monthly email version bigger, better and include color pictures. We will continue to send out an email version of the newsletter monthly. We are excited to add color photos of the many classes and workshop projects! This is possible since we are not limited by paper size or black and white printing.

Our calendar will be available in two convenient locations for you. First, it will be emailed to everyone on our email list once a month along with our email version of our newsletter. It will also appear online at [pouncingrain.com](http://pouncingrain.com) under our "calendar" tab.

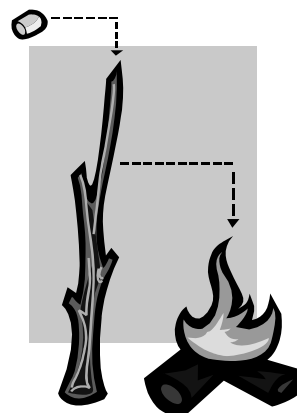
We must have your email address in our computer for you to receive our email newsletter. Contact anyone at Pouncing Rain to add you to the mailing list or email: [kathleen@pouncingrain.com](mailto:kathleen@pouncingrain.com).

### SILVERSMITH SUMMERCAMP

The words "summer camp" fill our minds with childhood memories of paddling a canoe, horseback rides, and bonfires. While Pouncing Rain's Silversmith Summer Camp has fire (in the form of torches) that is about as close as we get. First of all our Silversmith Camp is for adult learners. There are three sessions this summer for you to choose from; June 15th - 19th, July 6th - 10th, and August 3rd - 7th. We find it exciting to be surrounded by mature, creative, individuals who are seeking new ways to express their creativity and that is what the Silversmith Summer Camp is all about.

So, what will you be doing and what will you learn during the Silversmith Summer Camp? The week-long camp will focus on providing complete beginners, with no experience, an introduction to jewelry making by teaching you the skills to make many beautiful and fun jewelry items. If you have taken a beginning class with us in the past, this is a great way to brush-

up on the skills you've learned while getting more ideas and practice!



Let's break the week down to get a fuller understanding of what you will learn. On day 1 and 2 you will be learning two ways to cut metal and how to make rivets and tabs (cold connections). You will practice using the hydraulic press with a circle cutter and learn to imprint metal with patterns. By the end of day 2 you will start to use a torch. Don't be nervous, we will be practicing all these new techniques on copper first. Then when you are comfortable, you

can transfer your new skills to your beautiful silver projects. Silver is included in the tuition for the camp! With day 3 the skill of forging metal is introduced to make clasps, earrings and rings. You will be able to combine all your newly gained metalsmithing techniques to make a rivet set bead ring, twisted square wire earrings, or a swivel style locket. On day 4 you will learn to make a bezel and how to set a cabochon gemstone in a pendant or ring. Finishing and polishing techniques will be added to your skills on day 4 as well. On day 5 you will be able to spend the whole day exploring what you have learned and completing each of your silver projects. We will be having a "Camp Cookout" at the end of day 5 for everyone to show and tell about the treasures they made at camp. Visit our website to see pictures of possible projects from which you can choose. See Page 3 of the newsletter for additional info, or give us a call for more details!

### CALLOUT TO ARTISTS SELLING ONLINE

We are compiling a list of websites of our customers, members, and students who sell online. Whether you have your own site, sell on [etsy.com](http://etsy.com) or some other venue, we would love to check out your site! Please email Ryan, [ryan@pouncingrain.com](mailto:ryan@pouncingrain.com), by May 10th to have your site posted on our website and listed in our next newsletter!

## METAL/SILVERSMITHING CLASSES

Register before classes fill at [www.pouncingrain.com](http://www.pouncingrain.com)

### BEGINNING JEWELRY

Beginning Jewelry will focus on the basic skills for the beginning student. Sawing, filing, cold connections and basic soldering will be covered. Additional training on the many uses of the flex shaft with all its bits and burs, really provide the students with skills they can use for many different projects. Making fun, modern jewelry projects with a focus on safety will help you to become comfortable in the metals studio. The class includes effective practice exercises so you can master each skill set. Creative design ideas make this introduction to jewelry a thoroughly enjoyable class. 4 week course: 3 hours, once a week with two *Instructed Studio Classes* during your instruction month. No experience needed

Cost: **\$240** Instructor: **Nanz Aalund**  
4/7/09—4/28/09, 4 Tuesdays, 9:30am—12:30pm or 6pm—9pm  
(choose 2 instructed studio meetings in April)

**MONTHLY CLASSES WILL BEGIN AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER**

### INTERMEDIATE JEWELRY

Intermediate Jewelry will expand on the skills learned in Beginning Jewelry 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. Learn many different ways to make a ring, a bale, a pin back and other options to make your jewelry more creative. Instruction on the safe use of the rolling mill, circle cutter, and hydraulic press as it applies to class projects promise to keep the class lively and creative. 4 week course – 3 hours a week with two *Instructed Studio Classes* during your instruction month.

Basic metalsmithing experience required.

Cost: **\$240** Instructor: **Nanz Aalund**  
4/9/09—4/30/09, 4 Thursdays, 9:30am—12:30pm or  
6pm—9pm (choose 2 instructed studio meetings in April)

**MONTHLY CLASSES WILL BEGIN AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER**

### JEWELRY 1 INTENSIVE

2-day intensive focused on Shop Safety and basic jewelry skills of Sawing, Drilling, Filing, Riveting, Finishing, and Polishing. The tools used in class will be the jeweler's saw, hand & needle files, the flex shaft with assorted bits & burs, brass slide gauge, dividers, assorted pliers, mandrels, hammers & mallets and polishing buffs. Students will practice sawing and make multiple samples of rivet connections. A brooch or pendant project will be completed.

Cost: **\$200** Instructor: **Nanz Aalund**  
5/30/09, Saturday & 5/31/09 Sunday, 10am—5pm

### JEWELRY 2 INTENSIVE

2-day intensive focused on Shop Safety and Soldering. Jewelry 1 or equivalent is a prerequisite and the skills from it will be built upon to complete a bezel set ring. The class will work with copper, brass, and silver and focus on gaining competency in soldering, torch handling safety, and bezel setting a cabochon cut gemstone. Additional tools used in class will be ring mandrels, torches, burnishers, and the rolling-mill. One Instructed Studio session with Nanz Aalund is included when registering for both Jewelry 1 & 2.

Cost: **\$200** Instructor: **Nanz Aalund**  
4/18/09, Saturday & 4/19/09, Sunday, 10am—5pm  
6/6/09, Saturday & 6/7/09, Sunday, 10am—5pm

### JEWELRY 3 INTENSIVE

2-day intensive focused on Shop Safety and a survey of multiple techniques for jewelry making. The class demonstrations will be on texturing metal, making 3-D forms, bracelet making, chain making, and filigree. Additional tools used in class will be the hydraulic press, circle cutters, dapping block & swaging block. Two Instructed Studio session with Nanz Aalund are included when registering for all three classes (Jewelry 1, 2, & 3). Jewelry 1 and 2 or equivalent are prerequisites.

Cost: **\$200** Instructor: **Nanz Aalund** 5/8/09, Friday & 5/9/09, Saturday, 10am—5pm

**CHECK THE POUNCING RAIN CALENDAR  
FOR OPEN STUDIO TIMES. ALSO FOR  
PMC AND ENAMELING STUDIO TIMES!**

## WORKSHOPS

### APRIL WORKSHOPS

#### CHAIN MAKING WITH JULIA LOWTHER

Learn to make in a 2-day intensive Open Maille, Ribbon (also called Snake), and Freehand Knit chain. start. The Ribbon chain will be made as a pair of earrings and the other two as bracelets. All are made in Sterling Silver. Cost: **\$199**

4/4/09 Saturday & 4/5/09 Sunday 10am—5pm

**\*Julia will be teaching three new chain making skills. Check our website for additional info\* 7/09 Saturday & 6/28/09 Sunday 10am-5pm**

#### INSTRUCTED STUDIO

Continue working in a group class environment with Nanz's help and advice. You will work on projects of your design with your supplies. Enrollment in the class allows you member discounts and participation in member events.

Instructor: **Nanz Aalund**

Cost **\$125 for 4 weeks** or **\$48 a session**

**\*\*4 Meetings in April Mornings or Evenings for \$125.\*\***

4/3/09—4/24/09, 4 Fridays, 6pm—9pm

4/8/09—4/29/09, 4 Wednesdays, 9:30am—12:30pm

**\*\*3 Meetings in May am or pm for \$93.\*\***

5/6, 5/13 and 5/27/09 Wednesday 9:30-12:30

5/1/, 5/15 and 5/29/09 Friday 6pm-9pm

**\*\*3 Meetings in June am for \$93.\*\***

6/3, 6/10, 6/24 Wednesdays, 9:30am-12:30pm

**\*\*2 Meetings in June eve for \$62.\*\***

6/5 and 6/12/09 Fridays, 6pm-9pm

#### PEARL KNOTTING

Pearl knotting 101 This workshop will focus on learning and refining skills for knotting with pearls. We will be covering standard and spaced knotting and finishing knotted pieces. We will practice knotting and begin a knotted pearl bracelet.

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! Cost: **\$45.00**

4/8/09 Wednesday, 6:30-8:30pm

#### MAKE A RING IN A DAY

Design and fabricate a sterling silver band ring. Learn basic sawing, soldering, texturing and forming. No previous jewelry making skills are required and all materials will be provided. Leave with your new creation on your finger! NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! Cost **\$135** Instructor: **Nanz Aalund**

4/25/09, Saturday, 10am-5pm

6/11/09, Thursday, 10am-5pm

#### WIRE WRAPPED CABOCHONS

Do you have a cabochon, beach rock, fossil or shell you would like to make into wearable jewelry? In this class, you learn how to create wire wrapped pendants! You will be provided with a cabochon and copper wire to make a pendant. But you may also bring along your own treasures to make additional pendants (as time allows). NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! Cost: **\$55** - INCLUDES ALL SUPPLIES!!! Instructor: **Nancy LaHatt**

4/11/09, Saturday, 10am-2pm

## MAY

#### A WEEKEND WITH PMC

A weekend with PMC. Work with all three PMC products, PMC standard, PMC plus and PMC3. You will make 10 or more charms using a variety of skills, including setting CZ stones, incorporating enameling on PMC, molding, painting PMC on leaves and twigs, and then combining your new treasures into a charm bracelet to wear home! Includes all materials. Kiln firing and torch firing will be learned. Cost: **\$250** Instructor: **Kathleen Yorston plus guest instructors!**

5/2/09, Saturday & 5/3/09, Sunday, 10am—5pm

## WORKSHOPS

### MAY WORKSHOPS

#### FLEXSHAFT MAGIC

In this 3-hour workshop you will learn the tips and tricks of using this inexpensive versatile power tool to make it an indispensable part of your tool bench. Cost: **\$50** Instructor:

**Nanz Aalund**

5/12/09, Tuesday, 6pm—9pm

6/30/09, Tuesday, 6pm—9pm

#### ETCHING WITHOUT ACID

Using salt water and a flashlight battery discover a family and pet safe way to etch copper, brass and nickel in your home. Cost: **\$ 115**. Instructor: **Nanz Aalund** No prior experience required (includes complete take home etching kit!)

5/16/2009, Saturday, 10am—6pm

#### CHINESE KNOTTING FOR JEWELRY DESIGNERS AND BEADERS

Learn how to use Chinese Knotting techniques as a part of your jewelry design. In this class, you will learn how to make sliding knots to make a cotton cord necklace or bracelet without metal findings. Several other decorative Chinese Knotting techniques to compliment your jewelry designs will be introduced. No prior experience required. Cost: **\$50** Instructor:

**Mieko Takahashi**

5/20/09, Wednesday, 6pm—8pm

#### EXPLORING INTERNET SALES (Etsy)

In this workshop, you will receive information about how to setup and manage your own storefront online with ETSY. We will cover basic photography tips, marketing and strategies for getting plenty of traffic viewing your store. Cost **\$40** Instructor:

**Ryan Albachten**

5/22/09 Friday 6:30pm—8:30pm

#### BEGINNING ENAMELING

Discover the uses of opaque enamels over copper. Learn different application methods such as sifting and wet pack and how to torch and kiln fire your pieces. You will also be taught basic metalworking technique of drilling a hole and doming your metal to use your finished enamel works as earring components or pendants if you wish. No experience needed.

Cost: **\$110** Instructor: **Kathleen Yorston**

5/23/09 Saturday 10am—5pm

#### BEGINNING BEADING

Learn how to make a matching set of strung bracelet and earrings using Swarovski crystals, freshwater pearls and sterling silver findings. You will go home with a matching set of a bracelet and a pair of earrings. No prior beading experience required. Cost: **\$40** Instructor: **Mieko Takahashi**

5/27/09, Wednesday, 6pm—7:30pm

#### PMC 101 LESSON 1: BASIC PMC SKILLS

This workshop teaches you the basic Precious Metal Clay ("PMC") skills and how to make medallions or charms. Learn how to roll out, texture, carve designs, cut, dry, file, torch-fire, remove fine silver oxidation & finish a PMC medallion. You will make two charms which you can use as earrings, pendants &/or bracelets. Cording, earring findings & chains are not included in the basic kit, but are available for purchase in the shop. No prior PMC experience needed. COST:

**\$60** Instructor: **Mieko Takahashi**

5/29/09, Friday, 9am—11am

7/11/09, Saturday, 9am—11am

#### PMC 101 LESSON 2: MORE PMC SKILLS

In this workshop, you will learn more useful Precious Metal Clay skills to add onto the basic skills learned in PMC101 Lesson 1. You'll be introduced to skills such as how to set a cubic zirconia stone and how to effectively use PMC sheet and

## WORKSHOPS

**PMC 101 LESSON 2 (Cont.)**paste. You will go home with two charms for necklace or earrings. Earring findings & necklace chains or cords are not included in the class kit, but are available in the shop. PMC 101 Lesson 1 or skills mentioned in the basic skill class above are required. COST: **\$65** Instructor: **Mieko Takahashi**  
5/29/09, Friday, 12pm—2pm  
7/11/09, Saturday, 12pm—2pm

#### PMC 101 LESSON 4: Double Fired PMC Ring

Have you always wanted to make a ring with PMC but hesitated because of the shrinkage rate? Then, this is class is for you. This class, will be provided a pre-fired flat ring band and learn how to form a ring shank on a ring mandrel. You will then learn how to add a decorative top to be attached to the ring shank. You will go home with a PMC ring. PMC101 Lesson1 or skills mentioned in the basic skill class above are required. Cost **\$90** Instructor: **Mieko Takahashi**

5/29/09, Friday, 3pm—6pm

7/11/09, Saturday, 3pm—6pm

### JUNE WORKSHOPS

#### EVERYTHING ABOUT EARRINGS

Learn all about earrings in this 5 hour workshop. You will learn to make ear wires, solder posts with a butane torch, cut with a jeweler's saw, corrugate metal, all to combine into beautiful sterling silver and copper earrings.

Cost: **90.00** Instructor: Nanz Aalund

6/8/09 Monday 12pm-5pm

#### BEGINNING WIREWRAPPING

In this 2-hour class, learn how to make a delicate wire wrapped bracelet and earrings. Cost: **\$50** Instructor: **Mieko Takahashi**

6/3/09 Wednesday 6:00pm—8:00pm

#### MAKE A RING IN A DAY

\*\*See Description in "May" Workshops\*\*

6/11/09, Thursday, 10am-5pm

#### SILVERSMITH CAMP

Learn silversmithing in a week! This is a beginning course that will teach you the basics of silversmithing. Skills include; sawing metal, forging, soldering, riveting, bezel setting, and finishing two or more pieces of jewelry! All tools, equipment and metals are included. Join us for a week of fun with metal. No experience needed.

Cost: **\$560/week** Instructor: **Nanz Aalund**

6/15/09—6/19/09 Monday—Friday, 10am—5pm

7/6/09—7/10/09 Monday—Friday, 10am—5pm

8/3/09-8/7/09 Monday-Friday, 10am-5pm

#### PMC 201 LESSON 1: PMC Chains

In this workshop, you will learn how to make flat rings and how to connect them into a chain. (see detailed description on website)

COST: **\$125** Instructor: **Mieko Takahashi**

6/5/09, Friday, 9am—12pm

7/12/09 Sunday, 9am—12pm

#### PMC 201 LESSON 2: PMC BEADS

In this workshop, you'll learn how to build bead around pre-dried cork clay mold. You will take home two PMC beads. "Basic plus" PMC working experience required. (see detailed description on website) COST: **\$90** Instructor:

**Mieko Takahashi**

6/5/09, Friday, 1pm—4pm

7/12/09, Sunday, 1pm—4pm

#### ROLL PRINTING & HYDRAULIC PRESS

Explore imprinting metal and then forming the textured metal into 3 dimensional shapes. Stencil making with wire, fabric and paper punches will be taught. Working with matrix dies will be demonstrated. Beginning level classes are a prerequisite. Cost: **\$185**.

Instructor: **Nanz Aalund**

6/22 and 23/2009 Monday & Tuesday 10:00-5:00pm

#### FLEXSHAFT MAGIC

\*\*See Description May Workshops\*\*

6/30/09, Tuesday, 6pm-9pm



521 Kentucky Street  
Bellingham, WA 98225

TO:

## TIPS FROM THE SHOP: LIVER OF SULFUR

Here at Pouncing Rain we like to be as informative as we can in our classes as well as in our retail shop. Recently I've been getting a lot of inquiries at the shop regarding liver of sulfur. "How long will my liver of sulfur last?", "How do I store it?" and "Can I reuse it?" to name a few. So I decided to do some research and here is what I found.

For anyone wondering what liver of sulfur (LOS) might be, it is a chemical acid patina, more specifically, a mixture of potassium sulfides, used to darken and color metals. (Have you ever been to a natural hot spring, forgot to take off your silver jewelry and all of a sudden your silver turned to black?) Used for silver and copper primarily, and less effectively brass and gold, it can be found in a few basic forms; lump, powdered, liquid, and, very recently, a stabilized gel

form. LOS degrades with light and moisture, and for this reason we carry only the lump form. We purchase most of our LOS directly from the manufacturer who claims that if stored properly should have a 1 year shelf life. Since that year starts at the factory, they keep their batches small, and we try to make small and more frequent orders. Tips for storing your LOS: store in a lightproof, airtight container. Although, the manufacturer claims that the plastic ones in comes in are fine, I really like old, dark vitamin jars with the screw top lid. Keep away from moisture sources and make sure it is stored in a cool dry place where the temp will not fluctuate too much, i.e. not under the sink, or out in your garage. Once you are ready to patina a piece, dissolve a small lump in warm or hot water and set to dipping or painting your metal. Once dissolved into solution you have really a matter of minutes to

hours for viability. According to Charles Lewton-Brain you can keep it in the liquid form, "It is possible to keep for months if poured in hot. As the hot air contracts after sealing and cooling,

less air is available to decompose it inside the bottle." I have never tried this as I just mix up a small batch as needed.

I highly recommend playing around with water temperature, metal temperature and strength of your solution to create some beautiful blues, browns, magenta and steel gray to black. Check out these two sites for more fun tips, safety, and recipes on using this patina, and we hope to see you in the shop soon!

[www.ganoksin.com/borisat/nenam/liver\\_of\\_sulfur.htm](http://www.ganoksin.com/borisat/nenam/liver_of_sulfur.htm)

[http://www.pmc-conference.com/techresources/resources06/Holly\\_Gage-LOS\\_article.pdf](http://www.pmc-conference.com/techresources/resources06/Holly_Gage-LOS_article.pdf)

-Ryan