

Jones Creek Glassworks

Quarterly

Notes From The Cutting Edge

October 1, 2009

Volume 3, Issue 1

I LOVE STAINED GLASS, I WANT TO LEARN! NOW, WHAT DO I DO?

It seems to be everywhere, in homes you visit, in the doctor's office and other businesses, in the beautiful and intricate panels of older churches and temples. Most people love stained glass, but some of us just can't fight the urge to get our hands on it.

Stained glass supply shops draw you like a magnet and then, the inevitable question, "Do you have classes?" Usually, the answer is some version of, "Yes."

So, now what?

I'd like to offer some ways to get those "up front" concerns figured out so you can find what you need to know before investing time and money in what is usually considered an expensive hobby.

SHOP FOR A CLASS THAT MEETS YOUR OWN OBJECTIVES (DON'T ASSUME ANYTHING)

Make sure that your objectives for taking instruction are closely related to the objectives your instructor has for giving the instruction.

Possible instructor objectives:

- To facilitate a brief encounter where the student is provided a selection of materials which will be used to put together a souvenir of an experience. The role of the instructor, is to help in ways that make the experience enjoyable and

to handle any difficulty without diminishing the fun of the student who emerges from the experience with a beautiful stained glass artwork and little idea of how to repeat the process on their own. This type of activity is found more in glass fusing or glass blowing and can be great fun and may inspire you to seek more knowledge.

- To teach absolute beginners one method, for example copper foil method, of assembling a stained glass panel. If you are seeking a little "brush-up" and advancement this class may not cover enough technique.
- To give a "workshop," where some prior knowledge and a certain skill level is assumed. Often a workshop is offered to advance past the beginner's level, is usually specialized and very often expensive.

Don't assume that every aspect of stained glass will be covered by the instructor in a class.

COMMUNICATE YOUR OWN OBJECTIVES

Be specific about what you expect to learn beforehand. It may be necessary for you to do a little homework to gather some basic terminology and process information.

Look up what kinds of tools and equipment

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(Now, WHAT DO I DO? continued)

are often used in the form of glasswork you would like to learn. Public libraries and online resources can be very helpful. Learn basic differences between types of glasswork; some concepts overlap, some don't. For example, "annealing" is a process used in the warm glass realm, "scoring" is something most glass artisans do. Instructors often specialize, too. However, most are good about letting folks know just what to expect when asked.

There is some pretty confusing jargon in glasswork. It's okay that you don't have a thorough knowledge going in. A good instructor will understand if you fumble a bit and make the effort to answer your questions to your satisfaction.

BE CAREFUL BUYING TOOLS AT THE START

Ask if the instructor offers a syllabus or class information sheet that you can have several days before the class starts. There should be a list of tools and materials that you will learn to use as well as what items you will need to purchase or borrow for the class. Besides the cost of the class, you need to know what the money investment in tools will be to get started.

Before you buy any tool, ask the instructor what the tool will do. Some tools have multiple functions, while others have only one function that may be useful later as you become more advanced in your craft.

Don't go "hog wild" in a stained glass supply store or online outlet buying tools. Make sure you know how to recognize a gimmick. If you're not sure, ask a trusted and experienced stained glass hobbyist or professional.

Bottom line, tools are expensive enough without buying gimmicks or "one-trick-pony" tools. A beginner's basic tool box should be a simple glass cutter, a grozer/pliers, and a grinder (especially for copper foil method -some would even argue that one). Eye protection is no place to skimp, make sure you have it. Nice tools to have are a flat tip breaker, a running breaker, and some kind of device that will save your fingernails while grinding.

Holiday Specials



15% Off

Bevels, Gems, Jewels
Red, Green, Amber Cathedrals
All Clear Irids

This sale runs
October 1 until December 31
2009

(Now, WHAT DO I DO? continued)

CONCLUSION

Remember, any of the forums for learning within the realm of stained glass are great, the problem is that the word "class" seems to be used for all of them. It's up to you to make sure that what you're getting into is where you want to be.



JONES CREEK GLASSWORKS SPREADING OUT

Jones Creek Glassworks made a deal for a sales display window section of the newly expanded Antique Mall in Newport.

The Antique Mall management plans an October 1st opening of the up-stairs (street level) area previously occupied by the Craft Warehouse

An invitation is extended to Jones Creek Glassworks customers: If you would like to display holiday inspired stained glass suncatchers for sale in the Jones Creek Glassworks window at the Antique Mall, please call 265-2444. Jones Creek will charge a standard consignment

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Tips and Tricks

- Looking for a place to sell your stained glass creations? Try Etsy. Etsy (rhymes with Betsy) is the online place where people from all over the world offer handmade items to buyers all over the world. It's not an auction and the site community is very helpful and professional. Goto www.etsy.com.
- Gravity, in time, will loosen glass from a lead border if the panel is being hung from a connection *on the border*; if the jump ring is soldered into the interior lead (solder) line, the strength of the connection will keep gravity from stretching the border away from where it belongs.
- If you are new to fitting pieces together, it might be difficult to determine where along the edge needs to be adjusted in order to get those pieces to snug up just right. Try rocking one piece next to the other to find the high spot. Mark the high spot in place, then take it to the grinder or use your carborundum stone to make the adjustment.

Please come in and let me know about tips and tricks you have heard or developed for working with glass. All points of view are valued; all readers are welcome to submit comments for print in the "Quarterly."

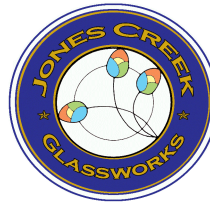
SPREADING OUT continued

fee of 25% on all sales. The artist sets the price for each piece. Sales will be paid through Jones Creek Glassworks following the Antique Mall payment schedule; the consignment agreement will be signed with Jones Creek Glassworks.

Traditionally, the Antique Mall gets a lot of holiday shopping traffic; the new expansion should bring in even more folks this coming season. That makes for a great opportunity to put your stained glass work in the path of holiday shoppers.

The ideal holiday suncatcher will be small enough to hang from a window suction cup. Halloween, Thanksgiving, Winter Solstice, Christmas, Kwanza, and Chanukah are all great holiday inspirations for stained glass artwork.

For more information, call Paula at 541-265-2444.



Just A Note . . .

I just noticed that this issue marks the beginning of the third year of the Jones Creek Glassworks Quarterly. I guess you could describe my feeling as cautiously THRILLED!

It's been a pretty rough time for all of us during what we've all been calling "this economy," but things are definitely looking up. It's time to get projects on the table for the holiday retail season and for gifts. Jones Creek will help out with specials on bevels, gems and more to get you started.

As always, your business is appreciated. Thanks for letting me serve you
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AT
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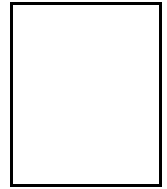
You may have heard of this international online mall of galleries. Etsy (rhymes with Betsy) provides a place to sell everything handmade. It's fun to check out all kinds of art and crafts and very easy to join.

Registration is free. If you register as a seller, you get a free online shop with several modification options. Etsy charges 20 cents per item listing and 3.5% commission on all sales.

Log into Etsy.com and see for yourself. Find Jones Creek at www.pclinejo.etsy.com.

JONES CREEK GLASSWORKS WILL BE CLOSED
ON THE FOLLOWING DATES THIS QUARTER.
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

Jones Creek Glassworks
419 SW Coast Hwy.
Newport, Oregon 97365



October “Quarterly” Newsletter

Sale at Jones Creek Glassworks ~ Bevels, gems, jewels & more 15% off Oct 1 through Dec 31, 2009

Semi-Private Lessons* **Copper Foil Method ~Beginners Welcome!**

☞ Lessons may be scheduled for Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Normal lesson time is 5PM until 7PM, however, special arrangements can be made if needed. Lessons are located in the studio area of the shop. (*Room for two students per session)

Lesson scheduling is extremely flexible. Schedule your first lesson to get started; when you're ready for the next step, schedule for your next lesson. Any time interval is fine. You choose!

☞ The cost is \$25 per 2 hour session. Depending on your project, you will need 3, 4, or even 5 sessions.

Factors that may affect the number of sessions needed are the number of pieces in your project, whether or not you have tools to use at home, and the difficulty level of your project. If you are a beginner, I encourage you to pick a project of fewer than 30 pieces (preferably 15 to 20 pieces).

☞ Jones Creek Glassworks provides the use of hand tools, grinders, and a selection of bulk glass to use in your project. Tools and glass are also available for purchase at Jones Creek.

**Questions? Call Paula at 541-265-2444 or visit jonescreekglassworks.biz.
Gift Certificates are available at Jones Creek Glassworks**