

July 2017 Class News **by Jan Schulte, 1st VP (Classes)**

Thank you for your interest in AGMC and its classes. All official class information and schedules can be found here and in the Class Schedule published monthly by Jan Schulte. Classes or information received after the Class News has been published will be announced at the monthly club meeting. Below are some of the new classes coming up, plus important general information about classes and how to sign up for them. Only current club members, in good standing, may take classes and workshops, or class labs, or use the lapidary equipment.

New Classes:

Dave Tarver will be here August 12, 1-4 pm to share his knowledge on Indian Makers Marks and Period Piece Recognition. Dave's seminar will be in the main meeting area so there will be plenty of room for all those who wish to participate. Please sign up so we have a rough idea of how many people to expect. Contact Bob Boyd or Sam Howeth with questions.

Water Casting Class Learn how to create unique pieces of art to wear or as a decorative conversation piece by using water. Nadia Charaniya will show you how August 17, 1-5 pm.

Tufa Casting Class Learn how to carve a tufa stone into a mold and cast your one of a kind piece. Katiri Peters will show you how August 23, 1-6 pm.

Casting Stones in Place Class Has been added for July 20-21, 1-5 pm each day. Learn how to use lost wax casting to create a pendant with the stone already in place, no stone setting required after the piece is cast.

Broomstick Casting Class Has been added for July 27, 1-5 pm. Use a broom to create unique pieces of art to wear or as a decorative conversation piece.

Class Reminders:

Keum Boo Class The art of applying a thin sheet of gold to silver. Linda Trahan will be teaching this technique July 22, 1-4 pm. You must have a finished fine silver piece ready for Keum Boo application.

Argentium Basics Class Argentium is a silver alloy that can be used to create various types of jewelry and components. Ilene Kay will be teaching a 6 week series on working with Argentium. The first class will be July 23, 1-4 pm.

New Beginning Silversmithing Class In an effort to accommodate demand and to get more members involved in the silversmithing program, AGMC will be offering a new beginning silversmithing class beginning on Thursday, July 20, and going for 20 weeks, from 7 – 10 PM.

The class will be taught by Emie Stewart and John Crabb, and will be using essentially the same curriculum as the current beginning class. However, some changes have been made to allow more focus on basic skills such as filing, surface finishing, and soldering. The class will meet in the new classroom.

Signups will be at the ***July*** meeting (July 11, not July 4) in the capping room, beginning at 6:45 p.m., and is limited to 10 students. Instructors will give an overview and answer questions during that time. Students are required to purchase their own materials, hand tools, and a Smith Little Torch for oxygen/propane.

The cost for the class is the AGMC building usage fee of \$240 (due at signup), plus approximately \$600 for tools and the torch (depending on the quality of tools you purchase and the source), plus approximately \$150 for sterling (depending on market price at the time of purchase), totaling approximately \$996. The vast majority of these tools will need to be purchased before the class begins. However, students will continue to use these tools throughout the silversmithing program and in their own studio practice.

Jurgen Maerz is here July 15-16 to teach the Tiffany-style ring pictured on the right. This is an intermediate-level project that teaches you how to forge a shank, fabricate a head using a jig for prong layout, use a bezel block for shaping the head, filing details to refine the head, and cutting seats on the prongs for the stone. Jurgen will have kits for \$20. The usual ***non-refundable*** instructor fee of \$160 should have already been paid, and the AGMC building usage fee of \$56 or 14 Arlie Bucks will be due the day of class.



Class goes from 10 - 6 on Saturday, and 9 - 5 on Sunday. If you have any questions, please contact her at schueler@flash.net. Step-by-step photos of the project are available on the Ask Jurgen page on Facebook, and Jurgen will have handouts for class.

More Classes Needed / Teach a Class

Our club has a long history of encouraging the study of lapidary arts, earth sciences, and related fields. One of the ways this is accomplished is through our classes. Please share your talent, knowledge, and experience with other club members by teaching a class.

Class Instructors are all volunteers and receive no monetary compensation. They do however receive one Arlie Buck for each hour they teach. Each Arlie Buck may be exchanged for one hour of building use fees for classes labs or lapidary use. Instructors can list the materials, supplies, and tools needed for the class or offer a kit at cost (no mark up). Student skills or prerequisites may also be outlined by instructors to encourage success in the class. Length of the

class is also up to the instructor. Classes can range from as little as 2 hours to as much as 8 hours per day or week for multiple days or weeks, you decide. The Volunteer to Teach forms are available on the club's website (www.agemclub.org under the classes tab). The form is also available in the monthly email of Class News, The Hound's Tale, and on the class sign-up bulletin board. Please email completed forms to Jan Schulte at only4jls@sbcglobal.net or place a hard copy in the hot pink box located on the HVAC closet between the classrooms.

General Information:

Class Rosters: The roster holder is located on the door of the HVAC closet so it is easier to access. Instructors, after you have checked in your students, please put your roster in the holder so Jan Schulte can use it to compile end of year data and to verify your Arlie Bucks. You're welcome to keep a copy for yourself. Thanks!

Thank You: Thank you to all our instructors and supervisors. During the first quarter of 2017, our class instructors and assistants volunteered **737 hours** of their time to AGMC. While other clubs are dying on the vine, AGMC continues to experience robust growth, due primarily to active members just like you. Our classes bring in more revenue to the club than anything else we do, including the annual show. Our instructors, assistants and supervisors are volunteers and do not get paid for their time. Thank you for the generous gift of your time and talents.

AGMC Facebook Page: Hooray! Our Facebook page has over **923 Likes** and continues to grow!!! Many of our fans are not even members! Visit the page regularly to see what's new, and "Like" it and "Share" it with your Facebook friends. This is free advertising for the club and a great way to promote the hobby.

Class Postings: Please be considerate of your fellow club members during class sign-up times. Club policy states that you may not sign another person up for a class. If a person is unable to attend the meeting in order to sign up, they should contact the 1st VP, Jan Schulte. A line usually forms just before 7:00 PM when the sign-up sheets for classes, workshops, and labs are posted. Sign-up sheets are posted at 7:00 PM at the clubhouse on the 1st Tuesday night of each month. Cabbing classes are posted on the bulletin board in the hallway leading to the saw room. All other classes are posted on the bulletin boards in the short hallway between the "old" and "new" classrooms. They are usually posted a month before the class is scheduled to begin, unless there has been a late addition to the schedule. Please make sure you have any required pre-requisites before you sign up. Only current members in good standing, who have paid their membership fee, may sign up. Whenever possible, advance notice of upcoming sign-ups is given in The Class News which is emailed to the membership at mid-month, published in the monthly newsletter which is also emailed, and posted on the club's website. The class schedule is also published in these same forums. **When you sign up, please write legibly, include your phone**

number and email in case the instructor needs to contact you, and make a note of what you have signed up for, along with the instructor's contact information. Also, please note the club's **no show** policy, set forth below and on each sign-up sheet.

No Shows: If you sign up for a class and are unable to attend, you must let the instructor know before the class date so that they can offer your slot to someone on the waiting list. Failure to do so may cause you to be listed as a "no show." Club policy is that no-shows will be wait-listed for future classes at the instructor's discretion.

General Class Information: The building usage fee for each class or shop use is \$4/hr. This fee is in addition to any applicable supply fee as noted on the sign-up sheets. Students are expected to provide their own tools and materials except as noted on the sign-up sheets. The vast majority of instructors are volunteers who are not paid for their time but are willing to share their knowledge. Students are expected to follow instructor directions, cooperate in a classroom setting, and to observe all safety requirements. Failure to do so may be grounds for immediate removal from the class at the instructor's discretion. Occasionally, outside professionals may be brought in to teach a class. These instructors are paid by the students, and the instructor fees are due at sign-up and are **non-refundable** unless the Class Supervisor can fill the student's seat before the class begins.