

# Georgia Metal Clay Guild



## Newsletter ~ February 2019

The February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting was called to order by Pam East at 7pm at Spruill Center for the Arts. Her major point of emphasis was that people who are interested in the Guild should join. The Guild email is [info@gamcg.org](mailto:info@gamcg.org). If you get on the list, you will receive the Newsletter and other information that is sent out. That way, you won't miss anything and will know what is coming up. There are no dues or fees and anyone can come to the meetings, you do not need to be enrolled in a class at Spruill. Pam continues to arrange for special presenters for our Guild meetings and you won't want to miss them. In addition, if the instructor is giving a workshop that brings them to Spruill and Pam has arranged it, Guild members always get first crack at registration. This is a really big deal and an incredible benefit to the membership. All this for free! We continue to manage expenses through income from the raffles – and everyone gets a shot at winning some really cool stuff! Talk about win-win!

### **Note:**

We've shifted some of our tasks around again. I'm back on the Newsletter and Helen Luttrell is managing a whole other host of things. Thank you, Helen, for the nifty Newsletters you did – and I appreciate the time off! Wish I could reciprocate but you know how it is. Our volunteer group is trying to bring our best efforts to all aspects of the Guild that we are responsible for.

**Carolyn Crutchfield, Editor**

## **February Program – The fabulous Cindy Pope presented her favorite non-metal clay uses of the Silhouette**

As Pam noted in her introduction, Cindy Pope is *the* “Queen of the Silhouette.”

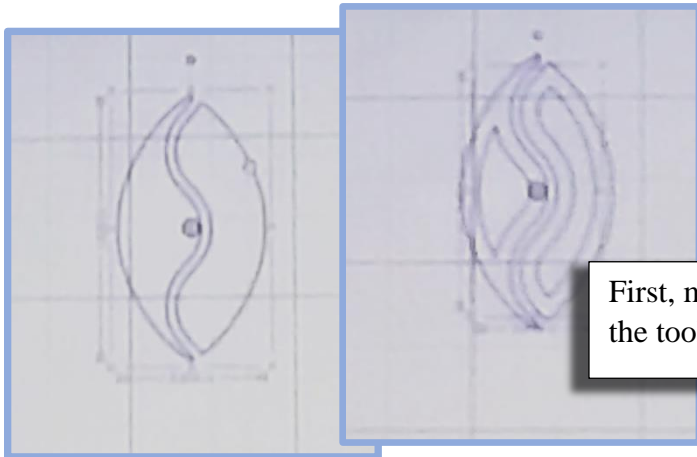
Cindy is a self-described “recovering CPA,” and has lived in Portland, Oregon for 12 years. She started out doing beading and went from there. She learned of the Silhouette for cutting metal clay from Wanaree Tanner – who cut bezels for metal clay on the Silhouette. That intrigued her and she was hooked. Over time, she has taken the integration of this machine to incredible new heights.

Cindy became best known for her work with the Curio and metal clay, creating fabulous designs and etching them into clay. She went from there to etching leather as another application. In fact, she was at Spruill over the weekend to present a workshop including metal clay focal on a leather cuff. For our Guild presentation, she presented many other ways to use the machine in our jewelry craft.

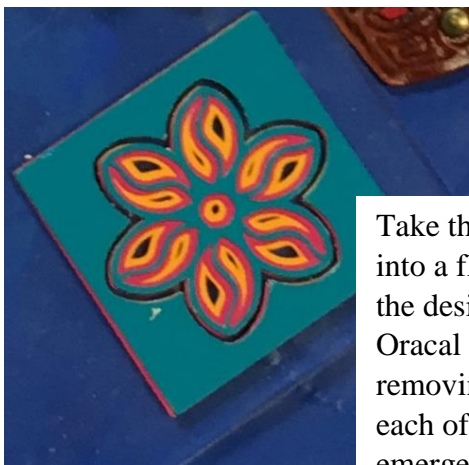
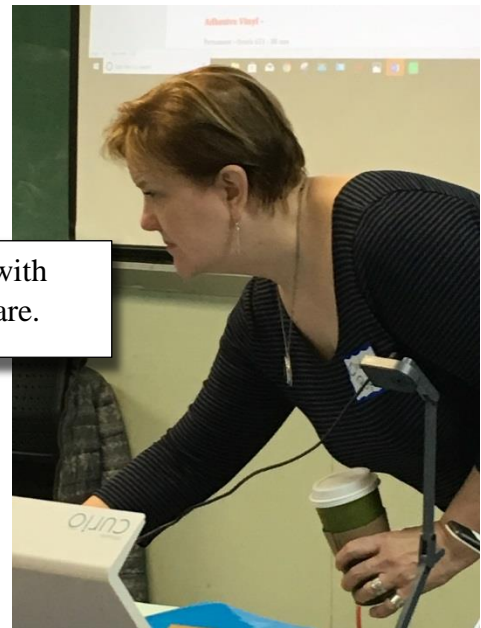




A small array of types of items Cindy has made with the Silhouette Curio.

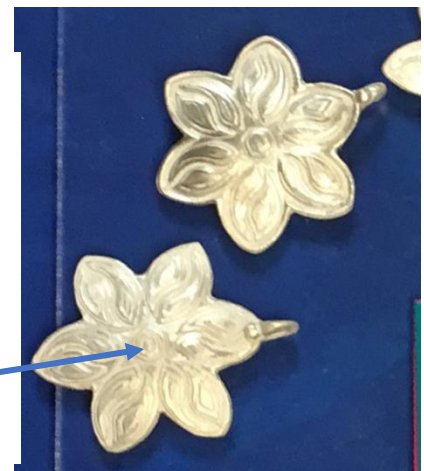


First, make a design with the tools in the software.

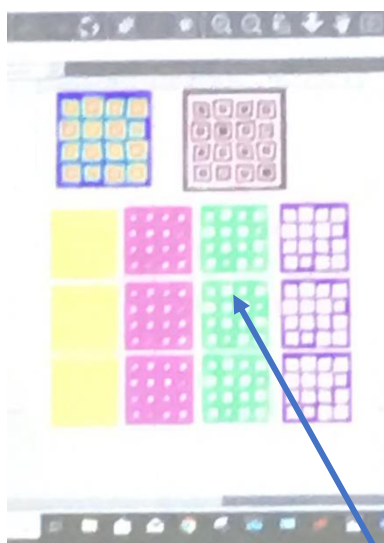
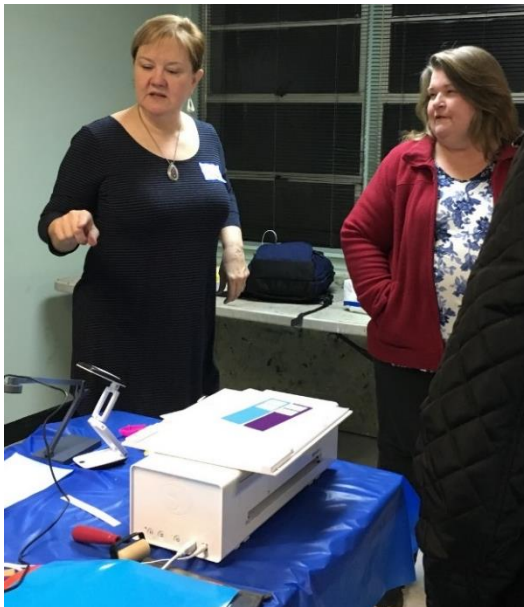


Take that single design element, replicate it into a flower-like form. The different lines in the design are cut into 4 different colors of Oracal 651 adhesive vinyl. By “weeding” or removing different elements of the design on each of the layers, a 3-dimensional pattern emerges.

That now textured pattern can be used to create metal clay items

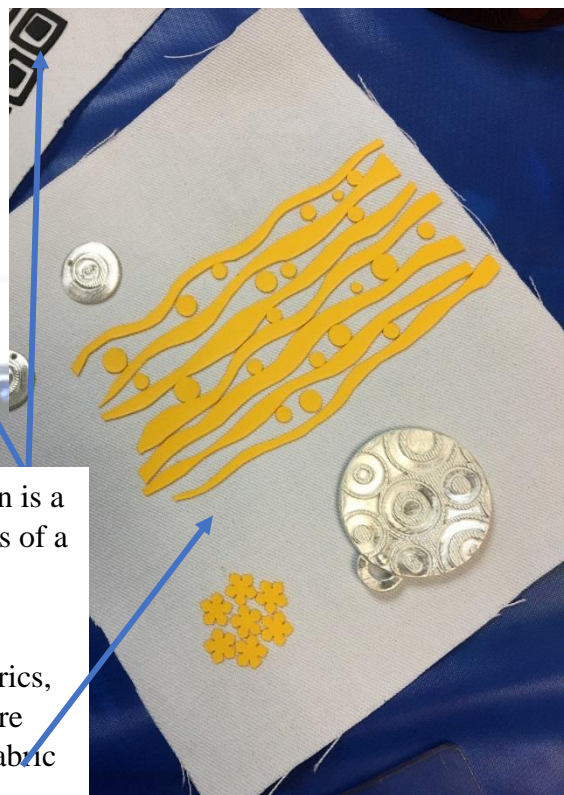






Visible on the computer screen is a breakdown of the various parts of a design into colors for specific cutting.

Cuttings can be applied to fabrics, and those provide a nice texture pattern in clay including the fabric background!



## Raffle

**Surprise Raffle Item** -- a Silhouette Mint - Won by Darlene Long!



**Silhouette Curio machine!** - Won by Kristine Richardson





## Jackie's Corner

Because Jackie Comet is our shopper without equal, and is always finding neat stuff cheap, we decided to give Jackie a column where she will clue us in on some of this!



How many ways have you tried to get the shot in and out of your tumbler? Various cullenders or mesh strainer baskets will work, but the holes need to be small enough to prevent the shot from dropping out. It's hard to stir the shot around in any of these to try and clean it. Often, if the strainer is not sturdy it will bend under the weight of the shot.

A very inexpensive minnow fish catching net can be very useful for this task. You can put your hand under the basket and work the shot around with your fist. You can use it with the very fine shot used in a magnetic tumbler as the mesh is much smaller than most. Even though, some pieces can come through if they are vertical. Just keep your hand under the basket and catch or pull out any that slip through while you are cleaning them.

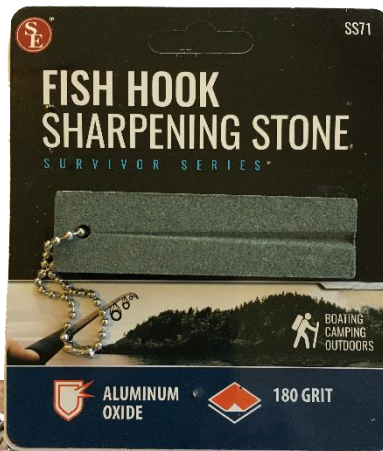
The wire rim and handle are a bit weak to completely hold the shot hanging in the air, but as you want to have your hand under to roll the bits around as you clean them, there need not be a problem.





## Tips and Tricks – Carolyn Crutchfield

### 1. Cindy Pope's New Tip



Cindy has found a great use for a fish hook sharpening stone!

It has a tapered groove that is perfect for re-shaping the many polishing tips we use with the flex shafts. Spin the tip on the abrasive surface and move up the groove until you get the shape you desire. How cool is that?

Obviously, items could be shaped or re-shaped multiple ways with this method. You need a pointed tip with a flat side? Just use the flat and grooved surfaces to your benefit.

You can get these at Amazon or sporting outlets for sure.

### 2. Tip from Vicky Thompson

How many times have you walked away from your pickle pot and forgot to go back? Nice pickle crust left on the dry bottom hoping the pot is still functional. Now you must clean it up and prepare it all over.

Vicky had a great idea to prevent that. Plug your pot into a timer. If you remember to set it – no more burned dry pickle.

This suggests lots of uses for a timer. Hook one up to anything you need to time or don't want to leave running forever. A tumbler might qualify if you're leaving the house for a longer time than you want to tumble. I'm sure you can come up with any number of applications.



Thank you, ladies, for sharing your excellent ideas!

## Program Calendar

### Spruill Center for the Arts, Rm 4, 7:00-9:00 pm Wednesdays

**March 13** -- Pam East will be presenting “Beyond the Stamp” – Alternate ways to texture clay!



**April 10** – Pam will hold a Photoshoot (she was a photography major, you know) Each attendee will get a photo taken by Pam of one of your pieces.

Other topics we are working on are holding a Flea Market to get rid of old tools and equipment (someone will pick it up!) and a possible riveting demo with the Riveting Tool. These and other working titles will be presented next Newsletter. In the meantime, if you have a topic you'd like to see or present. Let Pam know!

## Raffles



Derin Thompson had donated a Silhouette Mint machine.



Have you tried the best 2-part silicon molding substance? Castaldo molds have exquisite detail. 4 oz container will be raffled.

Remember that Pam East and Pat Lillie are always presenting weekend workshops and Semester Classes at Spruill. It's Spring Registration time. Positions are available. Check the Spruill Catalog for details, or check with Pam.