

Highlights

- Schedule changed for 2017!
- Newsletter starts up again
- New Presidents
- New Mission Statement
- Event Updates
- Bead Bazaar Updates

Happy New Year to all RMBS Members and their loved ones! As we begin this new year we need to discuss a few changes, the most important of which is our schedule for 2017...

Due to scheduling conflicts at the church where we meet, we were required to change our meeting schedule to the 4th Thursday of the month for 2017. We understand that this is a significant change for some and we considered alternatives, but determined this to be the best option for this year. Remember, that in January, February, and March – meetings are actually on the 4th Saturday to accommodate snow travel. A meeting schedule for the next 90 days is included below.

Another change is the rekindling of the monthly newsletter! This is our first issue and we have a lot of information to cover. We are working to link the newsletter to our website, so that the information is always in synch. This newsletter will be the primary method of communications to all active members, supplemented by the web and the monthly meetings. Changes to the website have also begun, focused first on updating current

content, followed by minor redesigns and enhanced functionality.

A significant change is to say "Thank you for everything" as Char Peoples steps down as the President of the society, after 3 very busy years! Char will remain active (we couldn't imagine otherwise) in the society, but she eagerly handed the reins over to Laurie Marcum and Diane Markt, our new Co-Presidents of RMBS. Laurie and Diane were voted in at the October meeting and have been working closely with Char to learn as much as they can as fast as they can. What they've learned thus far is that there is a lot more to learn! Next month the newsletter will include brief bios on the dynamic duo, including a sneak preview of some of their ideas for the group.



At the December board meeting a new mission statement was proposed and accepted.

Our new Mission Statement is:

Learn – Educate members about the history and the future of beads and beadwork

Share – Expand the knowledge and skill sets of members with quality educational programs and thru knowledge sharing.

Create – Facilitate the use of current and new techniques to encourage artistic growth in our members

Enjoy – Provide a relaxed and supportive environment which nurtures creative development and expression

Event Updates

The Holiday Luncheon was a tremendous success, including donations of 225 jewelry items to Warren Village for children to select as Christmas gifts for their mothers'.

Our January event will be held on *Saturday, January 28th*, from 10am to 1pm at The Spirit of Hope Church in Englewood. (A link to a map can be found on our website). This event is a "Bead-In", which means bring a bead project to work on, hang out with other members, and enjoy a few snacks. A new aspect of our Bead-Ins is to provide Expert Assistance on specific stitches or techniques during each session. In January, Laurie Marcum will be available to answer questions and assist you with Bead Embroidery, while Rachel Hungary will do the same with Right Angle Weave! Bring an existing project or dare to try something new in a "chaperoned" environment!

Our *February 25th* event will bring the results of our annual Bead Challenge! Details of the Bead Challenge were distributed prior to the holidays and can be found [here](#) on the website. Any beading technique qualifies for the Level 1 category. Even if you don't submit for the challenge, stop by to appreciate the creativity and individual style of your fellow members.

Saturday, March 25th is our last Saturday event of this year, details to come!

Bead Bazaar Updates

Rachel and her team are already working fast and furious on this year's 25th Annual RMBS Bead Bazaar! Vendors are being signed up, classes have been selected and project samples have started arriving. The class guide is close to being sent to the printer and active members will have the first opportunity to register for classes during our January 28th event!

- Member referral: if you refer a Vendor and they sign up for our Bazaar, you will receive a \$25 gift card to the Business Member of your choice! Vendors who have already registered are not included.
- As incentive for members to register for classes earlier rather than later, we have an exciting new drawing! For each class a member registers for prior to 2/15/17, they will get three entries into the drawing. Class registrations done after 2/15/17, but before 3/1/17, will receive two entries per class. What is the drawing for? \$100 Gift card to the Vendor of your choice to use at the Bazaar!!

"Many hands make light work". We will begin volunteer signups soon, so please start thinking about how you can contribute to the success of our 25th Annual Bead Bazaar!

