

MID-OHIO



Jewelry Arts  
GUILD

# Winter Newsletter



January 2026

## Meetings & Events

February 12th

Guild meeting  
at Flyers Pizza  
from 6-9 PM



March 7th

"UFO" Retreat  
at Spring  
Hollow Lodge



March 19th

Guild meeting  
at Flyers Pizza  
from 6-9 PM



## Announcements:

### • New officers for 2026:

- President: Debby Lewis
- Vice-President: Jackie Leisenheimer
- Secretary: Jane Garcia
- Treasurer: Cindy Salisbury



- MOJAG Retreat this year will be on Saturday, March 7 at Spring Hollow Lodge. This event is free to members, and lunch, soft drinks and snacks will be included. More information is in the article below.

## MOJAG "UFO" Retreat – March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026

By: Jackie Leisenheimer

Guild members – be sure to mark your calendars for our all day retreat on March 7<sup>th</sup> at Spring Hollow Lodge at Sharon Woods metro park. Come as early as 9am and stay as late as 4pm. Bring an unfinished project, a new project, any craft you enjoy (it does not need to be bead work). Or bring a book or a puzzle if you are not in the mood to craft. Or just bring yourself. It's our opportunity to enjoy a peaceful day in a beautiful setting with good friends!

We have some special plans for the day! Details yet to come, but how does this sound?

- Catered lunch provided by the guild
- One or two mini techniques workshops available during the day
- Free stuff table (bring craft items you no longer use and take anything you want!)
- Door prizes (good stuff!) throughout the day
- Snacks all day!



# Repairing Older Lunasoft Cabochons That Are Tacky or Sticky

By: Julie Hunkar

I set out to find out how to fix these after they were already used in a project. I really didn't want to rip a project up and try to put them back in. Especially this project, as the cabs are glued to the backing and bezeled.



I saw online someone suggested using Novus Plastic Polish. I tried it and it helped on cabs that weren't too far gone. It did not work on the ones that were really bad.

This fix comes from Glenda Paunonen, the owner of BeadsGoneWild.com, who designed this kit. She still sells the kit, Firefly Necklace Kit, online.

<https://www.beadsgonewildstore.com/products/firefly-necklace>



Glenda told me to use medical grade adhesive remover and some elbow grease. You do have to rub a lot and I had to use several of the wipes to fix each one. I have a lot of them I have not used yet and it restored most all of them perfectly.

I used Uni Solve 402300 Adhesive Remover Wipes (box of 50):

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00M3IKRFU>:

Sadly, when I fixed the green one, which was the worst one, some of the matte coating came off. The pink one has a few spots. I am going to try to remove those and replace with new ones. Results to the right.



# Spotlight On Sherry Serafini: Stories We Wear

By: Jen Mackan

Many of us remember the first time we encountered Sherry Serafini's work. It stopped us. Made us lean in. Made us realize that jewelry could hold far more than beauty—it could hold story.

Sherry's pieces feel deeply human. Faces emerge from metal, symbols appear and disappear, and layers of texture invite touch as much as looking. Her jewelry doesn't shout; it speaks quietly and confidently, asking the viewer to slow down and spend time with it. The longer you look, the more you discover.

Working in metal and mixed media, Sherry creates richly layered, sculptural jewelry that lives somewhere between adornment and small-scale art. Her work often draws from myth, memory, and personal narrative, combining metals, stones, and unexpected materials into pieces that feel both ancient and completely of the moment. Every detail feels considered, as if it carries a memory of its own.

For many in our guild—and far beyond—Sherry has also been a generous teacher and mentor. She has encouraged artists to trust their instincts, embrace imperfection, and make work that comes from a place of honesty rather than fear. Her influence shows up not only in finished pieces, but in the confidence of those she's taught.

What makes Sherry's work resonate so strongly is its emotional depth. These are pieces that ask questions, hold contradictions, and remind us why we fell in love with making jewelry in the first place.

We're honored to celebrate Sherry Serafini and the stories she continues to share—one powerful piece at a time.



Photos of Sherry  
Serafini's jewelry

# John Beads in Blasdell, NY (Buffalo area)

By: Cindy Salisbury

I hope this message finds you well. I recently had the pleasure of visiting the John Bead Outlet store located in the Blasdell suburb of Buffalo, NY, and I wanted to share my experience with you. The store is impressively large and offers a wide variety of beads, including Swarovski and Miyuki beads, along with findings, Czech glass, and their own line of Delica equivalent beads called Cylin Beads.

When I arrived at the store, I wasn't quite sure what to expect. Luckily, the friendly staff were more than happy to explain how everything worked, including the rewards club discount that offers 10% off regular-priced beads. Excited to explore, I started browsing row by row, even though I still had a long drive home ahead of me. I must admit, it was a bit overwhelming at first, especially since I went without a shopping list!

I was particularly impressed with the Cylin Beads, which are very consistent in size and can easily be substituted for Delicas. They are priced at \$5.99 for 25 grams. During my visit, I was primarily looking for beads to make snowflakes and ended up purchasing 22 grams of 11/0 Miyuki seed beads in Silver Lined White Opal for just \$2.79.



I feel fortunate that this store is conveniently located along the route I take to visit my sister and dad in Rochester, NY. On my next trip, I plan to be better prepared with a list and a clear plan to see what treasures I can find. I'm particularly excited about their January promotion, which offered 50% off Czech glass beads.

For those of you who might be interested in checking it out, the John Bead & Craft Outlet has locations in both Toronto, Canada, and Blasdell, New York.

[The John Bead & Craft Outlet - Canada and USA Locations - Toronto, Canada and Blasdell, New York](#)

Happy beading!





What an incredible time we had at the **Orlando Bead Retreat**, thanks to the fabulous **Bead Society of Central Florida**! This retreat has been a hit since 2013, and last year



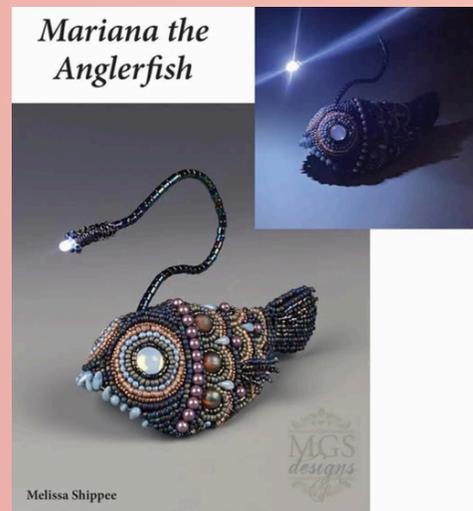
was no exception. In August of 2025, a fabulous group of MOJAG members headed south for a beading extravaganza at the Orlando Marriott to attend a mega-retreat with over 70 classes to choose from.



The marketplace was a treasure trove of goodies! From extra kits to colorful cabochons and beads galore, there was something for everyone – perfect for those “Oops, I forgot” moments.

SWAG Bags filled with practical and fun items. 🎁

Nearby Eats: With various restaurants nearby, everyone had options for quick meals to recharge during the retreat.



Left: Sea Tangle designed by Holly Bean, beaded by Adriane  
 Center: 2Faith, designed by Isabella Lam, beaded by Cindy  
 Right: Mariana the Angler Fish, soon to be beaded by Lynda



# Winterfair 2025



By: Gigi Roach

Winterfair 2025 was a very successful event for MOJAG. We had sales that were twice what we had in 2024. We had 12 members offering almost 500 items to sell, including some which were donated to MOJAG for sale.

Dena Baby was this year's chair, and she did a great job! Sellers provided their inventory of items for sale, and tags were provided with the inventory code and price. The tags gave our items and booth a more unified look. The booth itself was set up and decorated very attractively. The practice run days before the event helped considerably.

We had a lot of interest, attracted some new members, sold quite a few earrings and Christmas ornaments, and Jackie L's donation of a basket of bracelets to give away one with a purchase of \$25 or more was a big hit (thank you, Jackie!!)

Our make & take was also very popular, with about 60 people who wanted to make our metal and beads snowflakes.

A big thank you to all the sellers and volunteers that helped make the 2025 Winterfair a big success for MOJAG!

Sellers: Dena, Debby, Dot, Gigi, Jane G, Jackie A, Jen, and Marti

Donors to MOJAG for sales: Jackie L, Lynda, Teresa H, Jane G, Dot, Barb and Cindy

Volunteers who helped with set up and take down, manned the booth doing a demo or helping with sales, and/or helped with the make & take table: Jackie A, Dena (and her husband), Barb, Jane G, Dot, Debby, Jen, Marti, Gigi, Cindy, Lynda and Lorna.

Continued on page 7





# Winterfair 2025

(continued)



## Special thanks to:

Debby and Jen for tags, stickers, and method of tracking sales.

Jackie for her idea for a giveaway with sales, and the basket of bracelets.

We are already making plans to make the 2026 Winterfair even better. If interested in participating, either as a seller or volunteer, more information will be forthcoming in late spring or summer.



Hot  
COCOA  
AND  
Cold  
DAYS

## Contact Us

For more information about MOJAG, contact us through [MOJAG.org](http://MOJAG.org).



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