

From the President

Dear Artisans,

What a month it has been, cleaning out our bead cupboards for the **annual bead swap** – which was a smashing success! Members had a ball trading beads and bead-related items. Also at the September 21st meeting we had an amazing speaker, **Mrs. Sharon Cook, who is a member of the Community Relations Team for Central New Mexico and a year-round volunteer for Operation Christmas Child.** Sharon gave a riveting talk on what we can do to put in the shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child besides jewelry. The contents of the boxes that she shared with us were so simple, yet at the same time, fascinating. BSNM is continuing to ask members to make brightly colored jewelry (earrings, bracelets, and necklaces) to donate. BSNM has committed to making jewelry for this charity at the November 16th general membership meeting.

We are very grateful to the numerous BSNM members who volunteered at the New Mexico State Fair this year. A special thank you to Fran Hahn and Charlie Brinkman for organizing the volunteers and **a double thank you to our judges.** Congratulations to all of you who entered the jewelry competition and to the BSNM members who won ribbons! We are excited about next year, and want you to be sure to check the NM State Fair website next year for the Jewelry/Beadwork premium book for the categories and class descriptions and instructions with updates since this year.

I personally want to thank those wonderful die-hard volunteers that rose to the occasion at 4:30 am to go to the BSNM's Placitas flea market bead sale: Fran Hahn, Julie Fear, Elizabeth Reisinger, Helen Yackel and her superman husband Larry Yackel, Deb Novack, Caroline Bleil, Karla, and her very helpful husband Peter Bakke. It was a super-duper-sensational bead selling day!! We broke our record from 2019 and the Placitas flea market honored BSNM as the charity of the day and rewarded us with a \$320 donation! Thank you to James and Nancy Holley for designating BSNM as the Charity of the Day. We were tired, dusty, and thrilled by our accomplishments at the end of that day. P.S., we also shopped, as there were great buys out there!

Caroline Bleil's Painted Lady Pendant class in September was awesome and we loved it! Mama's Minerals treated the entire class to fabulous refreshments-as a welcome-back thank you. It was so much fun, and we shopped with our 15% discount too! **Caroline's next class will be at Mama's Minerals on Saturday, October 9, 2021 from 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm.** Let me know ASAP if you want to attend the class. See you there!

October 19, 2021 is the annual BSNM Halloween Party with refreshments – bring your favorite Halloween snacks – and cash prizes for costumes (costumes are optional) and the bead challenge (jewelry and non-jewelry categories). Vital to the life and longevity of BSNM will be **the all-important elections.** Review the offices available in the newsletter and what the duties are. Step-up and be a part of history with BSNM. We are a 501(c)(3) organization and very active. BSNM needs you now. ☺

At the **November 16, 2021 general membership meeting** we will be making jewelry (earrings, bracelets, necklaces) for Operation Christmas Child. Bring your beads, tools, and any completed jewelry that you have made to donate to this charity.

There will not be a general membership meeting in December 2021 due to holidays.

January 18, 2022 we are having our annual gala – "The Roaring Twenties" – fundraiser. BSNM will have the raffle items listed on the website. It's flapper time! Some of us have even ordered beaded dresses, which are very inexpensive on the internet. Wear it if you have one! I bought one – they are a riot!

Bead with love and charity, live graciously.

Pat Verrelle, BSNM President

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