



LIZZADRO MUSEUM OF LAPIDARY ART

Newsletter & Calendar of Events

FALL 2013



Return Service Requested

Museum Hours

Tuesday to Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed Mondays.
Closed Thanksgiving Day,
Christmas Day, and New Years Day.

Admission

\$5.00 Adults, \$4.00 Senior Citizens,
\$3.00 Students & Teenagers
\$2.00 Children 7 to 12 yrs.
Free for children under 7 yrs.
Friday is Free day.
Members of the Lizzadro Museum and
active members of the Armed Forces
are admitted free of charge on any day
the Museum is open to the public.

Group Tours

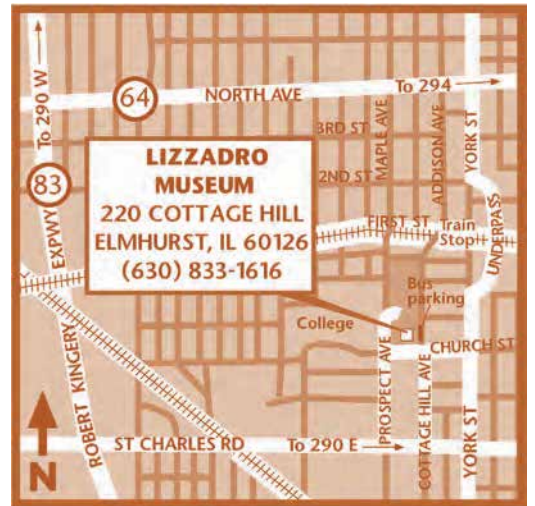
Tours can be arranged for groups
with special interests or needs.
Reservations are necessary
for guided tours.



The Museum has facilities
to provide access for physically
disabled visitors.

Visit us at lizzadromuseum.org

See the Museum Shop online.
Volunteer forms are available.



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A Bit About Scottish Jewelry

By Dorothy Asher



Star Brooch



St. Andrew's Cross



Clan Tartan Pin

The folk jewelry of Scotland, also known as Scottish Pebble and Cairngorm jewelry is unique. It is an important lapidary art form and it is historically significant. From a lapidary standpoint, the jewelry is easily recognizable by its Scottish symbolism, indigenous Scottish stones and exquisite silver work. From a historical viewpoint, the jewelry was so fashionable by the mid-nineteenth century that it spread across Europe and was made in different countries. It was popular and affordable.

Queen Victoria, who reigned as Queen of England from 1837-1901, was very fond of all things Scottish. She did not invent the jewelry. She simply adored it. And what Queen Victoria did, people followed. She was the fashion icon of her time. As a result, items of Scottish workmanship from Edinburgh firms sold numerous pieces to the English. The English firms began to copy the styles for sale and export. Soon the German firms chimed in with their great ability to work with stone. The market was abuzz with Scottish jewelry until it's wane in the early twentieth century. In fact, the jewelry is highly collectable and still replicated today.

How do we know which pieces are truly Scottish and antique? The proof is in the material and the craftsmanship. Scottish gems have particular colors and patterns. Scotland has all the necessary minerals to create the jewelry including the agates known as "Pebbles," jaspers including bloodstone, jaspagates (a mixture of jasper and agate), Cairngorms (smoky to citrine quartz), freshwater pearls, as well as gold and silver. Scotland is a geologist's dream featuring igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rock.

Stones aside, the symbols in Scottish Jewelry abound with all sorts of great lore about love, strength and religion. Three examples pictured here include the six pointed Star Brooch, the symbol of the six days of creation and attributes of God: Power, Wisdom, Majesty, Love, Mercy, and Justice. St. Andrew is the patron Saint of Scotland. St. Andrews Cross Brooch is designed with an X, as a symbol of the X shaped cross he was crucified on. The apostle felt he was not worthy to be crucified on the same shape cross as the Lord Jesus. The Clan Tartan Pin symbolizes the tartan, a woolen cloth with a woven plaid pattern that was distinctive for each clan's social group.

Folk jewelry in Scotland has its origins in tunic brooches dating back well over a thousand years ago. Few pieces exist today that were made or worn prior to the 1500's. The folk jewelry is exceptional because it had to be functional. The style of costume at the time dictated the original form of jewelry. Later, as clothing styles changed, the jewelry also developed and came to be used for ornamental purposes.

The Museum's founder, Joseph Lizzadro acquired a collection of over sixty pieces of Scottish Jewelry in the 1950s. No doubt he was drawn to the finely crafted jewelry set with agate, jasper, and varieties of quartz. The jewelry does not predate 1800. Most of the pieces are authentically Scottish. Some of the pieces are made in Germany and a few of the pieces are modern and set with glass. Don't worry you won't see those on display.

There is so much more to say about Scottish jewelry. If you are interested in learning more, there will be a lecture given by me, Dorothy Asher, on December 14 at 2pm. We will talk about the history, the stones, the symbolism and look at some replica pieces. Hope to see you there.

An Interview with Jill Buckingham



Jill Buckingham

What is your job, besides making jewelry?

I am a pediatric home care nurse caring for medically fragile children.

What do you do and how did you become interested in this profession?

I'm from a healthcare-oriented family with quite a few physician and nurse relatives so I have a BS in nursing and an MBA in marketing, go figure.

How long have you been creating jewelry?

For about 15 years. It's my passion. I have been fortunate enough to (at times) make jewelry full-time, however not at present.

What got you interested in working with stones?

I have been a rockhound since I was a kid, when my family took a trip to the southwest US and I discovered rock shops.

Do you cut your own stones?

Yes, I am an amateur lapidary, especially interested in agates and jaspers.

What have you found most challenging about working with stone?

Most challenging: cutting a good cab for wire-wrapping!

What influences your jewelry making?

First, it's the stone, then it's the current styles. I am always changing my look, I've been told I'm very creative. Right now I'm enjoying making steampunk jewelry using semi-precious stones, I haven't seen anyone else doing it.

What got you interested in steampunk?

I've always been fascinated by Victorian/Edwardian styles and the recent popularity of the first season of the PBS series, Downton Abbey (took place in the Edwardian era, circa 1910), sparked my interest in the jewelry styles of the period. That influence plus the fact that I've collected filigree jewelry since high school made the steampunk style a perfect fit for me. It also makes sense to me to use more base metals now (since they are the chosen metals for the steampunk style) given the exorbitant prices of precious metals.

What kind of new work do you see yourself doing in the future?

Whatever piques my interest! I will probably stay with cold connections though, I don't have an affinity for torches. I prefer wire-wrapping especially.

Anything else we should know about you?

Just that I'm grateful to be a Lizzadro-represented (Gift Shop) artist now for over 10 years!

Thank you again for taking time out to help us with this article!

No worries.

Jill Buckingham was interviewed by Sara Johnson on August 14, 2013.

VISITING ARTIST

JILL BUCKINGHAM



“Steampunk Jewelry in Stone” October 1, 2013 through January 5, 2014

Illinois artist, Jill Buckingham has been creating jewelry for 15 years. With a lifelong love of stones, she acquired her jewelry and lapidary skills as an adult. Jill says “As a child my parents took the family to the deserts of Arizona and California where I discovered the rock treasures of the American west. As an adult, I became an amateur lapidary and discovered the colorful world of agates and jaspers. All my jewelry is handmade, of my own designs.”

On October 19 Jill Buckingham will present “Jewelry Trend: Steampunk” a lecture on the current Steampunk fashion in jewelry design. Learn what influenced this retro-Victorian/Edwardian trend including literature, film and artists. See how Steampunk is used in jewelry design and where to see more of it. The lecture includes a discussion on how artists can use fashion trends in jewelry.

Lecture – Youth to Adult – 2 p.m. – 60 minutes

Regular Museum Admission

Reservations Recommended

Calendar of Events October thru December 2013



SPECIAL EXHIBIT "Scottish Jewelry"

OCTOBER 1, 2013 THROUGH JANUARY 26, 2014

Features over 20 pieces from the Lizzadro Collection including antique crest and kilt pins, brooches and bracelets. This unique lapidary art form was popularized by Queen Victoria in the 19th century. The jewelry emphasizes Scottish symbolism and gemstones in handmade silver work.



"Rock & Mineral Identification"

Geologist Sara Johnson presents an introduction to rocks and minerals. Learn to identify minerals through basic mineral testing. Hands on identification procedures include observation skills and hardness tests. Great for teachers and rockhounds, this program qualifies for Boy & Girl Scout merit badges. All materials are provided.

Activity - Ages 8 yrs. to Adult

10:30 a.m. - 75 minutes

Saturday Classes: October 12,
November 2, December 14

Admission: \$5.00 per person,

Museum Members: \$3.00

Reservations Required: (630) 833-1616.

Scout groups require adult supervision.

OCTOBER 12

"Multi-strand Bead Stringing"

For those times when a single strand is not enough, learn to combine various beads and chain to create one piece of jewelry with a layered look. Students will receive kits with sufficient materials to complete a 3-strand necklace. Use of stringing wire, crimp tubes, 3:1 connectors and various clasps will be taught. Tools for use in the class will be provided or students may bring their own. Round nose, chain nose and crimping pliers plus wire cutters will be used.

Activity - Ages 16 yrs. to Adult

1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

\$35.00 per person, \$30.00 Museum Members

Reservations Required: (630) 833-1616



OCTOBER 19

"Jewelry Trend: Steampunk"

October 19 "Jewelry Trend: Steampunk" Visiting Artist Jill Buckingham presents the current Steampunk fashion in jewelry design. Learn what influenced this retro-Victorian trend including literature, film and artists. See how Steampunk is used in jewelry design and where to see more of it. The lecture includes a discussion on how artists can use fashion trends in jewelry.

Lecture - Youth to Adult - 2 p.m.

60 minutes

Regular Museum Admission

Reservations Recommended

NOVEMBER 2

"Rock to Gem:

A Fascinating Journey"

What makes a gemstone unique among rocks? This presentation includes the geology of a gem's formation and the gemology of how a gem is identified. Hands-on activity stations at the end of the lecture teach the basics of gemstone identification. Presented by geologist, Sara Johnson, M.S. and gemologist, Sakina Bharani, G.G.

Lecture/Activity - Ages 16 yrs. to Adult

2 p.m. - 90 minutes

Regular Museum Admission,

Museum Members Free

Reservations Recommended



NOVEMBER 16

"Lapidary Day"

See demonstrations by artists from the West Suburban Lapidary Club including: beading, silversmithing, cabochon cutting, wire wrapping and faceting. Free hands-on activities and jewelry cleaning. The event is great way to see the Museum and learn more about lapidary art.

Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All Ages - Free Admission

DECEMBER 7

"Create A Gem Tree"

Lapidaries Bill and Lois Zima of the Des Plaines Valley Geological Society teach how to create a small tree using gemstones and wire. These beautiful trees never need water and make a great gift.

Activity - Ages 9 yrs. to Adult

1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Fee: \$25.00 per person,

Museum Members \$20.00

Reservations Required: (630) 833-1616

DECEMBER 14

"Scottish Jewelry"

See the history and symbolism of Scottish Jewelry and it's influence as a lapidary art form. Unique designs and the importance of gemstones such as agate, jasper and varieties of quartz will be discussed. Distinguish between antique pieces and replicas on the market today.

Lecture - Youth to Adult

2 p.m. - 60 minutes

Regular Museum Admission,

Museum Members Free

Reservations Recommended

Museum Shop

Annual Holiday Sale

November 16 through December 8, 2013

Become a Museum member
and receive 20% off purchases.



Shop online at:

www.lizzadromuseum.org/museumshop.php

LIZZADRO MUSEUM
OF LAPIDARY ART

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www.lizzadromuseum.org



We would like to hear from you. Please direct questions or comments to info@lizzadromuseum.org