

Ivonnardona's Creations

Newsletter

"Sometimes you have to forget how you feel, and remember what you deserve."

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From the Editor

Tammy L. Sexton

I love to make jewelry, but I think I love buying supplies and other items even more. I think I am just a shopper at heart with BIG ideas. I have so many ideas swimming in my head that half of them drown before I can get to them. I found out recently that I like numbers very little and that I LOVE the arts, every area and aspect. My inspiration comes from everywhere and nowhere. I use the color theory for my pieces, sometimes. Mostly I like to just roll with ever comes up that needs to be created. I love to make friends and I love to talk to and watch people. I learn more about myself when I listen to others and I love to watch how other people react to the elements around them.

I am a member of the following Etsy Street Teams:
etsyBead
Military Brats
Pagans of Etsy

I am a member of the following Ning Social Networks:
Mixed Media Workshops
Bead Jewelry Making



Set B – Beaded Pendants

When I first purchased Nicole's [BeadBacking and Flatwork book](#), I honestly had no idea what I was going to do with it. I just had to have it though. Before we moved from Colorado to Oklahoma, I purchased the instructions for making those Scrabble tile pendants that everyone else is making on Etsy but didn't have the money to actually go out and buy any Scrabble replacement tiles. I just kept thinking I don't want to do what everyone else is doing. Then, I remembered Nicole's book and [bead backing](#). I frantically looked for both after I made the 1" wood disk pendants. So, there it was in easy to understand instructions with awesome pictures. After going around the pendant with the "contemporary" flatwork beading technique, I then decided that I wanted to use flatwork beading to hold the pendant down to the bead backing. This is where the "Fancy Bolo Tie" instructions for "shelving" came in handy. The pendants turned out

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absolutely amazing and I couldn't wait to let Nicole know about how I used the supplies and book I purchased to achieve this beautiful look around my pendants.

I have to admit, at first, I was totally intimidated by the book. My instinct for acquiring knowledge and my ability to sit and go one-step-at-a-time kicked in and I believe, no I know, I have found my next beading passion.



Ask Me

Looking For Answers?

If you are new to making jewelry, want to know where to look for instruction, or have a question about my jewelry; you need only to ask.

You can e-mail me with questions at:

tlsexton0913@cableone.net

Questions and Answers

Q: What questions do you have?

A: I will try my best to answer them in the next newsletter.



Jewelry Designer Review

R. Holmes Custom Leather

I know, I know, you thought I was only going to write about jewelry and beading. I've decided that I would like to write a review of one or more talented Etsy Sellers. I chose R. Holmes Custom Leather because of the intricate beauty and precision of the pieces made. In my blog "[This Blog Is For Me!!](#)" I picked [R. Holmes Custom Leather](#) for my blog article "[Pretty Poppies](#)".

What I wrote was this: "This is one of the most intricately hand carved and tooled leather cuffs I have ever seen. It includes a true California Poppy pattern and is made out of premium 8/9 oz vegetable-tanned cowhide. The finish is a dark antique, waxed and sealed. The gun-metal snaps makes for a secure closer. This is a highly dazzling piece and reminds me of some remarkable artwork, absolutely a wonderful addition to any outfit. This [Tooled California Poppy Floral Leather Cuff](#) was created by [R. Holmes Custom Leather](#)." I meant every word of it too.

[R. Holmes Custom Leather](#) is not currently taking custom orders for belts, but be sure to stop by their shop and check out the other wonderful items they have.



This Month's Recommended Jewelry Supplier

Fire Mountain Gems

[Fire Mountain Gems](#) has been in business since 1973. They are all about customer service and I love ordering from them. They have not always had the greatest reviews from fellow beaders, but I have never had an issue with them.

I'm always excited to get my packages from them too because they always send a special little surprise when you place an order with them.

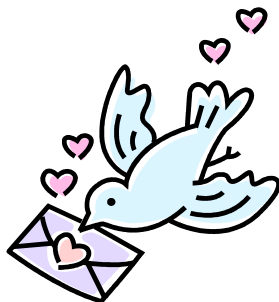
The other thing I really like about [Fire Mountain Gems](#) is they always seem to have what is currently trendy in jewelry making. They also offer free [Jewelry Supply Catalogs](#) and I love their [Jewelry Maker's Library](#), which is full of resources, articles, the [EncycloBEADdia](#), and much, much more.

They have just about anything a jewelry maker could ever want and their website is easy to use. My favorite section is the [Smart Bargains](#) section with lots of goodies marked down.

I'm not sure about you, but, I always wonder if I am classifying my seed bead finishes correctly. I have the [New Beader's Companion book by Judith Durant and Jean Campbell](#), however, the section on "Types of Glass

and Finishes Used for Beads” is only good for defining the finishes. [Fire Mountain Gems](#) has a section that actually shows you what the bead looks like for the type of finish it is. This is just too helpful as I have always had to search or guess based on what I was reading. Not anymore now they have images in the [Seed Bead Finishes](#) section to show what the bead should look like based on what its finish might be.

I could write about [Fire Mountain Gems](#) all day and trust me, when I get a job, I will be shopping with them again. You just have to check out their website for yourself.



Contact Me

Contact me via Snail Mail:

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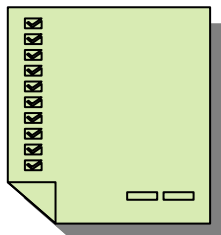
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Survey of the Month

Since this is my first official newsletter I wanted to get to know what other jewelry makers are thinking. So, I created a little survey so I can find out more about my readers! Please stop by and let me know your thoughts.

[Getting to Know the Readers Survey!](#)



Reader's Feedback

When I finally get some feedback from those who read this newsletter, I will update this particular section.

I would like to say that all opinions, critics, and ideas are accepted.

I would also like to add, ahead of time, that all opinions, critics, and ideas be positive and clean from profanity.