

## Silicon Folly 2006

# Holiday Exchange



A big thank you goes to Melodie for volunteering her time to organize this years exchange. Of course none of this would have been possible with out Angel & Webbie. Their creation and continuance of Silicon Folly has given us a place to share, learn and commiserate when we have had the need. Thank you Angel for letting us play!

### # 1 Tracy



#### Basic Fused Snowflakes

Supplies: Elmer's white glue, Toothpicks, Thinfire paper 3" square. Any glass (I used Spectrum iridized for most of the flakes), Fishing line or bead wire, Jewelry bails (optional) *See page 7 for pattern.*

Arms - 6 strips 1/4" x 2 1/2", 1 5/8" square

Fingers - Cut several strips just a shade under 1/4". (sizzle sticks and noodles can also be used)

Using nippers, cut 36 pieces about 3/4". I use the width of my thumb – Place your thumb on the bottom of the strip and nip just above the thumb, move the thumb up and nip again.

Assembly - Place the thinfire square on top of the Hexagon pattern. Place the arms on the thinfire using little dabs of glue. Make sure the arms are lined up nice and evenly leaving the center open and the arms are all touching at the center. Put dabs of glue on one of the arms using the pattern as a guide. I put the first dab near the bottom, the second dab near the middle and the last dab near the top. Pick up a finger with each hand and drop the two of them on the bottom dab, one on each side, angled away from each other. Continue until all 36 fingers are used. Let it dry for an hour or more. Slide the assembled snowflake onto your kiln shelf. Adjust any fingers that may have moved. Fire at the temp that is recommended for the glass that you used.

Finish - Glue a bail to end of one of the arms and hang with fishing line, or just wrap the line around an arm under the top fingers.

### # 2 NancyB



#### Double layer square with foil pieces

Inspiration for this was the cloudy , moonlit nights that seem to foretell snow on the way..

Spectrum Clear artique for the cap and Spectrum streaky blue either 339- 1S or 2S. Gold foil used for backing mosaic work, moon and star paper punches , super glue.

Cut blue glass to desired size and clear cap 1/8" larger, smooth any rough edges; clean glass, paper punch moons and stars. Peel backing and attach to glass , burnish with the end of a plastic paint brush or other flexible tool, apply dots of Super Glue to corners of blue base glass and smooch the clear on top; hold for 15 seconds and then place on kiln shelf,

Firing schedule: 400\*/hr to 1150\*, 150\*/hr to 1250\*, 300\*/hr to 1430\* hold 30 minutes \_ at this point watch carefully .. when done GO TO AFAP to 950, hold 10, OFF to room temp. I use a front loading Paragon 22" inside measurement kiln with a DC100 controller. Also used 1/16" FB on the smooth side. This is NOT Thin Fire. I would not use this schedule for larger pieces. IT is conservative for small stuff and seems to work just fine.

I had intended to drill holes for hanging .. I seem to have a bad batch of drill bits as all that I had broke after 1 or 2 holes.. I usually get at least 1 dz. holes from each drill bit with 2 layers of glass.. My wire wrapping skills need a lot of work and were not a option.



### # 3 Bec

Winter Trees

BE streakies & clear, Glassline paints, Hanovia Platinum, wire Trees, etc. were painted on the BE streaky with Glassline paints. One tree was painted on the clear. Squares were stacked and brought to full fuse. After firing, edges were ground and channeled with a jewelry bit. Hanovia Platinum was used for the stars and tree decoration and the pieces were fired to 1100. Pieces were then wire-wrapped (quite badly, sorry about that) to hang as ornaments.



### # 4 Pat O'Brien

Christmas tree ornament with an evergreen tree on it outside in the snow after a snowfall with bulbs on the tree.....

This is my first exchange in fact the first time I have ever fused anything. Melodie helped me with the kiln settings.

I used BE glass olive green opal/forest green & Be Tekta clear

I cut squares 2" and then cut those into a triangle. Fused the green on top of the clear. With a nichrome wire loop in between at the top. Then I cut small rounds from BE glass rods and tack fused them on.



### # 5 Lynda

My squares depict Christmas trees in a night-time snow landscape.

Glass used is Uroborus 90, plain white, cobalt blue and transparent dark green. They have a red cord for hanging.

I wanted them to be fairly simple and hubby assisted with designing. I decided on a simple Christmas tree on a snow landscape. I did about 4 different designs initially to try different glasses and textures (tack fuse or full fuse, with snow flakes or without) and decided on the final design.

Because I didn't want anyone to have to wire wrap the squares, I decided to attach hooks. I made my own loop hooks (copper wire twisted round a pencil) and I cut, ground and arranged all 23 on 1/8" fibre paper, thinking that it would provide a bit of air flow. WRONG! When I opened the kiln, almost all were ruined. The trees had slipped and the hooks were all over the place, loose on the shelf, embedded on the top of other squares. Hubby explained that it was probably the tension in the twists of copper that had made them "ping" off. Well, it was back to the drawing board.

I re-cut and ground all of them and only fired in batches of 6 without fiber paper or wire loops - a much better result. So, how to hang them? I'd never drilled holes in fused glass before and I didn't have the correct size collet to fit my tiny diamond drills to my Dremel. So off to the supplier for the Glastar drill. After a couple of weeks putting it off, I finally drilled holes in all of them. I wasn't sure of the balance in drilling holes in the centre top, so I went for the easy option of a corner hole. Then I went off to the local craft shop to buy red cord for hanging.

I am sure that they are one of the simplest and easiest designs, but as this is my first exchange, I am quite happy with them. Although there are some aspects that I could have improved, such as grinding off a few sharp corners (not needles) and fire-polishing after drilling the holes. Some also have a fair bit of kiln wash texture on the back, but I don't have cold-working facilities - yet. Also, having drilled and attached the cord in the corners, I realized that I could have done the design diagonally, so that when they hang, the tree is upright!

## # 6 Michelle

glass used: coe 90: silver iridized on clear, clear, coneflower blue opal powder, cobalt blue powder

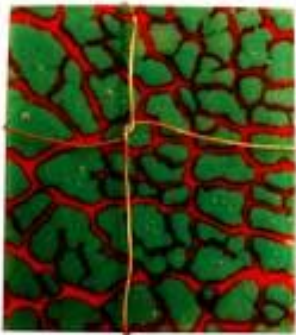
*Picture to come hopefully*

Ok, I realized just how much I am addicted to these exchanges when I signed up for this one just a few weeks before my 2nd child was due to be born! I definitely had motivation to finish this one early -- and do something simple :) I can't wait to see all the other ornaments -- I haven't been able to get near my glass room for weeks now!

I cut out 1.5" squares of silver iridized and clear glass. I used a craft punch to punch out the snowflake shapes from thin fiber paper (about 1/32" thick -- not thinfire). I "glued" the fiber paper snowflakes to the iridized side of the silver irid glass using hairspray. I then sprinkled the coneflower and cobalt blue powders over these squares and sprayed liberally with hairspray. After letting this dry awhile, I put these squares on the kiln shelf, powder side down. I had thin fire on the kiln shelf so I wouldn't get kiln wash stuck in the powder when it fired. I put a clear square on top of each piece, then fired them using my regular full fuse schedule. When these came out the kiln, I cleaned them in water to remove the fiber paper. I then ground a channel around the edges and wire wrapped them. This was my first time wire wrapping anything -- doing it 30 times gave me lots of practice with that technique!

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## # 8 Charlie Spitzer



Green/Red crackle squares

Jade green Bullseye powder, red Bullseye powder, clear Uroboros cap  
Make the crackle texture, clear cap, fire. Clean up crackle spaces, fill with contrasting powder, fire. Wet saw cut into squares. Edge polish on wet belt sander.

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## # 9 Zane Rozkalns



I love Christmas. To me, Christmas trees are such a beautiful, humble, good smelling piece of Christmas.

Thus I decided to make a representation of a Christmas tree. Since ornaments twirl when they are hung on branches

I wanted an ornament that could be viewed from both sides.

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## # 10 Pooch



Little snowman next to pine tree (how original)

Materials: Painted design using Glassline paints on double thick clear (System 96), medium coarse frit

How I did it:

- 1) Fused the painted design on 2" squares on an angle (1465 top temp)
- 2) Tacked fused on frit to create snow effect (1400 top temp)
- 3) glued on small sized jewelry bails for hanging



### # 11 Kim V

Holiday Wishes

Bullseye 3mm White and 3mm 1401 Clear, Fusible Decal Paper

I created the decals by combining text with graphics and printing them onto Fusible Decal paper using a laser printer. Applied these to the white squares, blotted out water and air bubbles, capped with the clear and then brought to a full fuse. The edges were coldworked to true up the squares and then firepolished.

I love these exchanges!! They make me try things that are new to me. I've read about this technique for quite a while and wanted to try it out. So you all are my guinea pigs. I actually had intended to try another new technique in conjunction with the photo decals, but time was my enemy. Maybe another time?



### # 12 Jenny

Snowflakes are a girl's best friend

List of glass and materials: BE crystal clear and irridized clear glass, BE black powder, mica, stamp, perfect medium, brush, canned air, 3mm CZ's, Glasstac, scythe stone (no I'm not kidding).

Cut and clean glass. Sift desired powder color onto shelf. Then place a piece of Saran Wrap over the stamp being used and place bottom layer of glass, shelf side up, on top of the Saran Wrap and placing it where you want the stamp to go. Glue the CZ's in the pattern desired based on stamp placement. Set aside to dry. Once the CZ's are dry, take the Saran Wrap off the stamp and load the stamp with Perfect Medium. Place the stamp on the table stamp side up. Bring the CZ covered glass to the stamp with the CZ side up and stamp the glass. Turn over and use the brush to

put mica on stamped design. Use canned air to remove excess mica. Place glass on the powdered shelf mica side up and CZ side down. Place clear cap on top of mica. I did not fire these to full fuse for a couple reasons. They didn't look as good full fused and because of the powder and CZ's. they got very misshapen and desperately needed to be coldworked. However, all I had to use was a scythe stone. So I decided to have them keep their shape by not full fusing. The only coldworking performed on these was breaking off the excess powder from the bottoms then using the scythe stone to dull any sharp points left from the powder.

This exchange was probably the most challenging for me because we are not living in our own house. I could bring a very limited amount of supplies and equipment with me. The only coldworking tool I had was a scythe stone. I really enjoyed the challenge though. It's also interesting because my original idea involved a snowman shape and fiber paper. I have no clue how it evolved from the original idea to the completed project.



### # 13 Melodie

Snowman

Fused clear to turquoise for bases. Used a flat grinder to refine shape and get straight edges. Torched centerpieces. Used jewelry bit to carve groove in sides. Sandblasted area for frit and filled with medium clear frit. Applied torchwork then sprinkled tiny amounts of small clear frit in center area. Tack fused everything. Sandblasted design on back and then used white paint pen to make the design show up better from the front. Wire wrapped pieces.



### # 14 Chris H

Christmas tree ornament with an evergreen tree on it outside in the snow after a snowfall with bulbs on the tree.....

Bullseye 90 and fuse master enamel paints  
cut 48 2x2" squares

used fuse master enamel paints on the first layer then used more paint on the second layer and put together in kiln with using a small piece of wire so you will be able to hang up attached to the corner.....vented the kiln to 1000 degrees and then continued to fuse till finished.....about 1550 degrees.

These were fun to do.



### # 16 Maggi

1 1/2 X 3" rectangle(hanger) with snowman & snow

Spectrum 96 Glass Irid, White, Black & Orange  
FRIT Irid and white  
STRINGERS black

Fused mega squares, all different sizes.  
Built snowmen added embellishments  
Tack fused, voila, snowman tree decoration!!!



### # 17 PamG

Snowy Star  
Well as usual my first design was a flop so this is what I came up with.

I used Spectrum 96 glass & Clear 96 Dicro (don't know which kind since they were in my scrap box of dicro)  
I cut out 4 light blue iridized triangles, 4 white triangles, 1 white square, 1 dicro square & 1 light blue square. I assembled the white square with the 4 white triangles around it. I then assembled the dicro square and 4 light blue triangles catty-cornered on top of that. I capped the dicro with the pale blue square and fused them between a tack fuse and a full fuse. For hanging I attached an Aanraku bail.



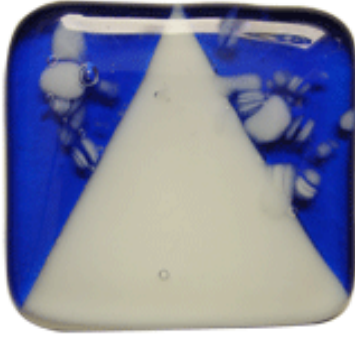
### # 18 Lynn

Star Glowing Bright

All Spectrum Glass. Base is a 2m. fusing clear circle of 2". Star is 8 pointed non-fusing Spectrum red. Snow is Med. White Frit. Gold Accent is Gold Ferro pen

Assembly: Longer points of star are painted with the Gold pen and star is glued down with diluted white glue to the base circle with the hook of high-temp. wire under one point. Once on the kiln shelf with plenty of space between them, I poured a teaspoon or less of frit over the star. Using a soft small paint brush I pushed the frit off the red star and let it spill over the edge to create the lacey edge. Fired fast to 1375 hold 12 minutes. One single firing is all they needed.

I tried gold mica painted on for the accents but didn't like it near as much as the Gold pen. My pen had been used in the last exchange project and I ran out with 12 more stars to make. Warner's got one to me within 24 hours of ordering.



### # 19 Suz

Snow. Either icicle one way or tree/mountain the other way.

Glass : spectrum blue or it could have been (bullseye they were side by side) and white with white frit capped with clear

Ok first off I am old and have seen snow twice in this lifetime in my area, ok any area i hate cold. I have had a kiln a short while and this was first project that wasn't making globs out of scraps. No lessons yet and dang the hardest part was making more of one thing that sorta matches with the rest, Next hardest thing was holding one hand behind my back so as not to keep using. I double fractured/ chipped my wrist and never realized how handy having two working arms are. I keep aggravating and it will take forever to heal.



### # 20 Terry



### #21 Nadine

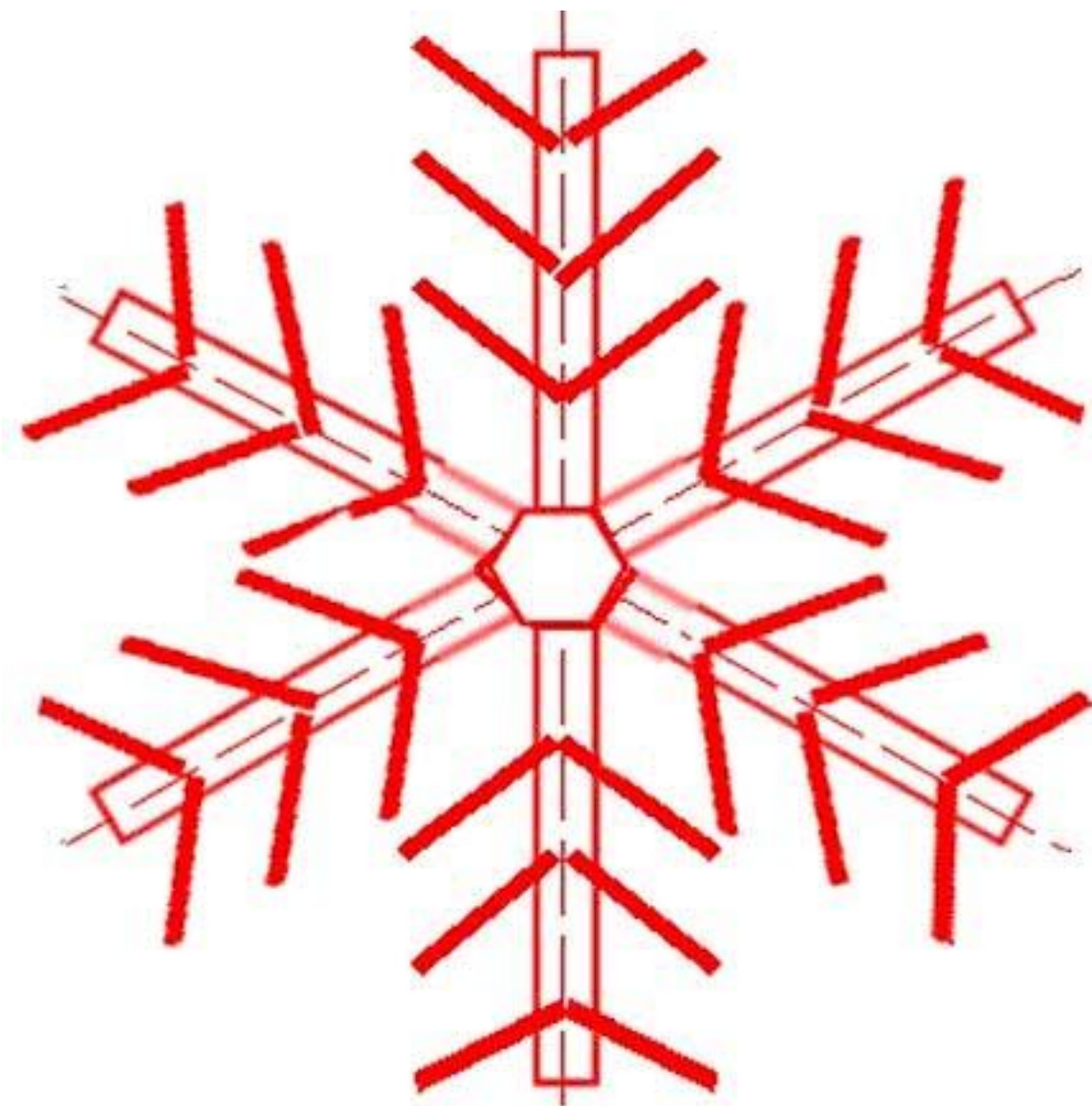
I USED SPECTRUM GLASS:  
BACKGROUND :MEDIUM BLUE OPAQUE 230-72SF  
CAP CLEAR  
DOTS: DARK GREEN OPAL 220-76SF EASTER GREEN 222-72SF AMAZON GREEN OPAL 226-74SF RED OPAL:60-2502-96  
LOLLY PART OF THE LOLLYPOP: FRIT POWDER CHERRY RED 151-96  
STICK : VITRIGRAPH MADE CANE I THINK THE COLORS AND NUMBERS ARE THE RIGHT ONES-I COULD BE MISTAKEN

1- CUT CIRCLES-BLUE AND CLEAR-CUT THE CLEAR A LITTLE BIGGER THAN THE BLUE BASE

- 2-MADE THE BAILS
- 3- FULL FUSED (1465 DEGREES) THE CIRCLES AND BAILS
- 4-MADE THE DOTS
- 5- PULLED AND TWISTED THE CANE THROUGH A VITRIGRAPH
- 6- MADE THE LOLLY WITH FREEZE AND FUSE METHOD
- 7-ARRANGED THE PIECES ON THE BASE AND TACK FUSED

I WANT TO THANK MELODIE FOR ARRANGING THIS MAGLESS EXCHANGE. A LOT OF HARD WORK AND TIME GOES INTO MAKING THE MAGLESSES. MELODIE GOES ABOVE AND BEYOND IN TAKING IT UPON HERSELF TO RECEIVE , SORT ,PACKAGE AND MAIL. AND IF THAT IS NOT ENOUGH SHE HAS BEEN TRAVELING AND CONSTRUCTING HER OWN BATCH OF MAGLESSES. A BIG THANK YOU TO MY PAL PAM . PAM --I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU HAVE THE TIME TO DO THE WEB PAGE BUT YOU ALWAYS PULL IT OFF-YOU AMAZE ME WITH YOUR COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE AND GRAPHIC DESIGN TALENT. THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED-YOUR DESIGNS WILL BE TREASURED AND SHOWN AS ARE THE ONES FROM PAST EXCHANGES. I SHOW THEM OFF ALL THE TIME!! THIS WAS A FUN PROJECT AND I WAS GLAD I GOT TO TRY THE FREEZE AND FUSE TECHNIQUE.

**ENJOY THE HOLIDAY SEASON! HO HO HO**



#1 Tracy - Snowflake Pattern