

# THE GADROON

*Newsletter of the South Carolina Silver Society, Inc.*

Early Fall 2022

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## **BROOKGREEN MEETING TO BE HELD IN OCTOBER**

The officers of the South Carolina Silver Society have announced a general membership meeting to be held Saturday, October 29, 2022, at Brookgreen Gardens in Murrells Inlet. Hosted by Brookgreen Gardens, the meeting is scheduled for 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the Jennewein Gallery of the Rainey Sculpture Pavilion. The meeting will feature a presentation on silversmiths from the Georgetown area and silver in the Brookgreen collection.

For those wanting to enjoy a meal after the meeting, and perhaps before exploring the gardens, Brookgreen offers three restaurants: the Old Kitchen that features sandwiches, quiches, and lighter fare, the Harvest Restaurant with full service dining that includes Low Country specialities such as she crab soup and fried oysters, and the Courtyard Cafe where one can find sandwiches, hot dogs, smoothies, cookies, beer, and other beverages.

Those planning to attend should text or email Judy Anderson who will work toward organizing car pools. Judy can be contacted by text at 803-530-3697 or by email at [anderson\\_judy@att.net](mailto:anderson_judy@att.net). It is important to let Judy know who will be attending since she will need to submit a list so that they may be admitted to the gardens free of charge.

Some attending may want to use the location to spend the weekend in the area.

A quick Google search will bring you information on a number of accommodations and other activities.

## **SCSS HOLDS PROGRAM ON MOOD SILVERSMITHS**

Members and guests of the SCSS were treated to a most interesting program on the Mood family of South Carolina silversmiths on Saturday, May 28, 2022. Following brief biographies of the Moods given by John LeHeup, Henry Brown and Frank White. Columbia attorney Frank Mood gave an outstanding presentation on his ancestors silversmiths Peter Mood, who was working in Charleston from 1785 to 1821, and his sons John and Peter Mood, Jr., who also worked in Charleston from about 1816 to 1865. There were a number of examples of Mood silver on display for the members to examine and study.

## **SCSS OFFERS TIPS ON THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN PURCHASING SILVER**

Collectors and others with an interest in silver would do well to do a bit of due diligence when considering whether to purchase a piece of silver. The following are ten general tips one should consider:

1. What is the silver content? Britannia or First Standard (950), Sterling (925), Coin (900), Continental (800)
2. What is the country of origin? American, British, Scottish, Irish, Continental, Asian, Other

3. Is the piece silver plate? Old Sheffield plate, Electroplate (EP), Electroplate Nickel Silver (EPNS), Nickel silver (NS), Electroplated on base metal (EPBM), A1 Plate, German silver, Brazil silver

4. Who is the manufacturer? The retailer? What is the pattern?

5. What is the approximate age? Pre-Victorian, Handmade Victorian, Turn of the Century/Machine made, Modern, Arts and Crafts

6. Is it a rare piece? How many examples have you seen? Are there similar pieces?

7. Why is the piece priced the way it is - high or low? Why is it so inexpensive? Why has no one else bought it? Does it look and feel right?

8. What is the condition? Normal wear, Repairs, Breaks, Erased monogram, Pitting

9. What would it cost to repair? It is worth repairing?

10. Is it for your personal collection or for immediate resale?

## **ARE YOU AFRAID YOU MAY BE A SILVER ADDICT**

One member of the SCSS recently revealed questions he thinks one should consider there is the idea that he or she may be a "silver addict," something that may be all but impossible to cure.

1. If you spend a weekend listening to silver lectures and consider it great entertainment, you really must be a silver addict.

2. If you spend more time on Ebay than reading or watching television combined, you may be a silver addict.

3. If you've ever hidden purchases from your spouse or significant other, you may be a silver addict.

4. If you think you may qualify for MENSA because silver experts are so highly intelligent, especially if you think the S in MENSA stands for silver, you may be a silver addict.

5. If your house were to catch fire, after family and pets, would you rescue silver before the family photograph album, you may be a silver addict.

6. If your silver books outnumber the other books in your library, you may be a silver addict.

7. If you see the UPS or mail truck stopping at your house and you begin to salivate because you think it may be bringing you a treat, you may be a silver addict.

8. If you've ever spent more money on one teaspoon than you spend on your entire wardrobe in a year or if your silver collection is worth more than your house, you may be a silver addict.

9. If you express verbal expressions of lust when viewing silver usually reserved for humans — Oh wow!!, I'm serious!, Or in the South, DAYUM! that is so nice, you may be a silver addict.

10. If you have copies of Silver Magazine and auction catalogs in your bathroom, you really are a silver addict!

## **SILVER PITTING CAN BE A PROBLEM**

Almost everyone has at one time or another picked up a piece of silver and noticed a black spot, a tell-tale sign of silver pitting. Some times, if caught early enough, the spot can be polished away fairly easily, but in severe cases, such as often found in mustard pots, salt cellars or on salt spoons, erasing the pitting would remove too much silver. (In an effort to



prevent pitting, such articles were often gilded or gold washed.) The SMP Silver Forums has an excellent discussion on pitting, what can cause it and what can be done about it. The discussion can be found here:

<https://www.smpub.com/ubb/Forum1/HTML/002135.html>

It's best to be proactive and keep silver away from salt and other harsh chemicals as far away as possible from sulfur, its archenemy, but there is hope: some pitting can be remedied.

## **REPLACEMENTS AGAIN OPEN FOR TOURS**

After having been halted due to the Covid pandemic, Replacements, Ltd, the well-known silver dealer located near Greensboro, North Carolina, in McLeansville, recently announced its facilities are once again open for tours. Tours of the company's showroom and vast warehouse are free and offered several times each day. Replacements, Ltd is open Mondays through Saturdays from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Replacements advertises as the world's largest dealer of silver, china, and crystal with more than eleven million pieces in more than 450,000 patterns.

## **MEMBERS REQUESTED TO OFFER IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS**

Members are asked to submit ideas for articles or other information that could be included in future issues of *The Gadroon* to Frank White at [fewwhite.50@gmail.com](mailto:fewwhite.50@gmail.com).

**SOUTH CAROLINA SILVER SOCIETY**  
Henry Brown, President  
Judy Anderson, Immediate Past President

John LeHeup, Vice-President  
Judy Anderson, Secretary/Treasurer  
Jane Barnhill, Recording Secretary  
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<http://southcarolinasilversociety.org>