

**Black Swamp Bead Club – Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2009  
6:30 pm, Scrap 4 Art, Toledo**

The November 10, 2009, meeting of the Black Swamp Bead Club was held at Scrap 4 Art on Adams Street in downtown Toledo, with 11 people in attendance. Tom Klein reported a balance of \$739.09 in the club's bank account. He reported that although the club offered to reimburse Lucette Jones for the loss of one of her items at the Black Swamp Art Festival in September, she declined the offer.

The group was reminded that TFAS representatives should report back to the club details of TFAS meetings.

Since the club decided earlier in 2009 to forego regular officer positions, members are now responsible for providing programs for meetings. The idea is that everyone has leadership abilities and creative ideas for sharing topics. We circulated a sign-up sheet so that members could volunteer for the month of their choice in 2010. Various members volunteered for January through April. The sign-up sheet will be available at each meeting.

We received a brief introduction to Scrap 4 Art by the shop manager, Jessica. Tom Klein facilitated a warm-up creativity exercise in which we paired up to create an object based on a set of unrelated inspirational words, along with background music. The brief exercise produced surprising, sometimes whimsical results as each team scurried to create an evocative object in the allotted 20 minutes.

Next, the Green Jewelry Challenge was described. Scrap 4 Art is a community resource for recycled materials that would otherwise end up in landfills. Some of the items are somewhat new, such as fabric samples from furniture showrooms and tile samples. Other items include bottle caps, yarn, stickers, Styrofoam packing materials, hardware, and much more. Inspired by the concept of the TV show "Project Runway," each team was assigned a specific person and event to use as inspiration for creating some type of accessory, using only the resources available in Scrap 4 Art. A time limit was established, and teams were off and running.

The results of the exercise ranged from fun to couture. A wide, Nairobi-inspired collar created for a local news anchor featured animal print fabric and something that looked like animal bones or teeth. Another creation told the back story of popular TV celebrity Ellen Degeneres, while yet another one included shoulder-length holiday earrings, complete with green Christmas balls.

One member of each team modeled the creations for the group and for a photo record of the fun.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm. Next meeting is Tuesday, Dec. 8, at Rosie's Italian Grille, on McCord and Nebraska, in Toledo.