

**NEW! Analyze This!**



George Sawyer rings, COVER

Identify which design element is most significant or your favorite - e.g., ■ color ■ texture ■ form ■ value ■ line ■ space ■ repetition ■ balance ■ contrast ■ unity ■ variety. Then riff on it in your own sketch.

**DESIGN AROUND THIS**



Sketch a setting for this 40x30mm red moss agate cabochon cut by Jake Castiaux and Tom Benham. PAGE 48.

**DEADLINES: DECEMBER 15**

E-mail digital scans at 300 DPI or send photocopies of no more than three sketches per challenge, indicating the design factor that is your starting point. Sketches will not be returned.

**Write to Us Anytime!**

*What do you think about what you've seen and read in Lapidary Journal Jewelry Artist?*

**SEND TO:**

Send your sketches and letters for print or online publication to: KRosenbusch@interweave.com (610) 232-5714 (fax); or Lapidary Journal Jewelry Artist, 300 Chesterfield Parkway, Suite 100, Malvern, PA 19355.

Please include your name, city, and state, and indicate "Your Turn" on the subject line or envelope.

**SHOWN:**  
A sample riff on George Sawyer's rings on the cover of this issue.



Line and Texture  
Helen I. Driggs  
Malvern, Pennsylvania

**SHOWN:**  
**TRANSITION**  
In August, we asked you to show us one thing becoming another.



Florence Slagel  
Plainfield, Illinois

Sally Franko  
Mississauga, Ontario



Margie Holzer  
Sammamish, Washington

**LETTERS**

**RE: "Hinged Blue Chalcedony Bracelet," July, 2011**

I was really looking forward to reading "Hinged Blue Chalcedony Bracelet" to see the approach Dave Harvey used for making hinges, but just as this description was reaching its conclusion, it seemed like it abruptly stopped. Maybe LJ will consider an addendum, showing the final steps?

**Kathleen Krucoff**  
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

Excellent article on making a chalcedony bracelet, except no explanation of how the second ball is attached to the wire hinge. Could you provide same?

**R.D. Williams**  
DENVER, COLORADO

**Betsy Lehndorff responds:** It appears the last few sentences of my chalcedony story were not published. The text below should have followed the text of the Photo 17 description about making the hinge pins.

**FINISH**

Dave cut away all excess sheet from each panel and stamped the hinges with a homemade tool. Then he polished all of the panels with black rouge.

After a good scrubbing with soap and a toothbrush, he joined the links with hinge pins, soldering the hinge caps in place. He set his own hand-cut and polished stones, using a piece of brass as a burnisher, and did a final polish to clean up the bezels. He made a clasp out of a hinge pin and a chain.



**RE: "Mokumé Gané Snake Pendant," July, 2011**

I have been reading through the July 2011 issue and have found a couple of errant areas in "Mokumé Gané Snake Pendant" by Roger Halas.

On page 45 (shown twice on this page), Rio Grande does not sell Copper/Sterling Silver Mokumé Gané. Rio sells a Copper/Argentium Silver Mokumé Gané. If one is picky, Argentium Silver is Sterling for hallmarking, but still not exactly what is expected.

The product does not look anything like photo #1. See page 176 of the current Rio Tools & Equipment Catalog.

Photo #1 appears to be a billet of another combination of metals. It is 17 layers, the Rio product is 27 layers. Offhand, I do not know a situation where copper would appear gray next to a white silver.

**Bill Seeley**  
COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA

**Roger Halas responds:** I see what Bill is talking about. In the article I mentioned Rio Grande as a source for mokumé bar stock merely as a suggestion for those who don't make their own billets. Yes, the combination they offer is specifically an Argentium Sterling/Copper combination, which in my experience, has the same working properties as a Sterling Silver/Copper combination when in billet form.

Argentium does have a tendency to crack under hot forging, yet in a laminate, the copper (or other metal) works as a stabilizing agent. Hence, there's no cracking unless you don't anneal the piece frequently. As an alternate source for billets, Reactive Metals sells many, many other combinations for one to choose from, including combinations with gold (if you dare). Regarding the combination I used, this was a piece of Sterling/Nickel Silver, and the PCB etchant would have the same effect on the combination offered by Rio Grande.