

Dear Readers,

Welcome to our Summer 2009 issue of *The Flow*, "Thinking Outside the Box." I think you'll agree that this issue is filled with inspiring articles about flameworking greats—people and events—as well as a wonderful lineup of tutorials that include tips for giving new life to wonky work, unique ways to decorate your beads, and the beginning of a series from Milon Townsend on glass casting. In this issue you'll also find a little on the background of how the first International Hot Glass Invitational (IHGI) came to be. It took an enormous amount of work on the part of a lot of people, but the event was an overwhelming success. Wil and I are very proud to have been a part of getting it together. The Fall 2009 issue of *The Flow* will be dedicated to a celebration of all things IHGI.

Looking ahead to Winter 2009, we're already getting submissions for the Fifth Annual Women in Glass issue, even though the final deadline for submissions is September 1, 2009. Due to the overwhelming response from all of you exceptionally talented ladies, we have found it necessary to switch up the female artist gallery selection process. Beginning with the Winter 2009 issue, the "Women in Glass" gallery sections will be limited to a juried selection of 100 artists. We will only be able to accept three photos of your work for consideration to be included in the gallery. The issue will also still feature tributes to the glass art of remarkable female artists plus a wonderful collection of tutorials from ladies involved in the exciting world of flameworked glass. Remember that you can send in submissions for this or any other issue at any time during the year, so let me encourage you to go ahead and get those articles and tutorials in to *The Flow*.

Unfortunately, I must close this letter on a sad note. We were so sorry to hear of the passing of Laura Rasmussen on May 13, 2009. For those of you who were not fortunate enough to have known her, Laura was a kind, generous, and talented lady who uplifted the lives of everyone with whom she came in contact. We were blessed to have her grace the pages of Volume 1, Issue 2 and the Winter 2008 issue of *The Flow*. She will be very sorely missed. In honor of Laura's exceptional grace and talent . . .

As always . . . Keep your light shining and your torches lit!



Jennifer Quaid
Editor

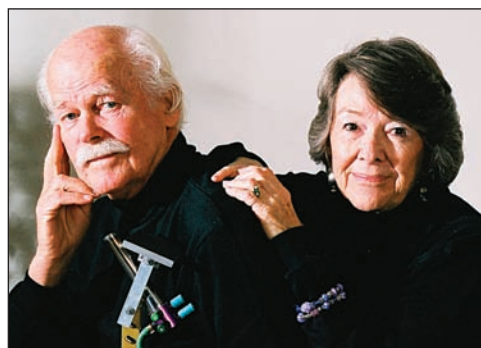
Upcoming Deadlines for Submissions

Winter 2009 September 1, 2009
Fifth Annual Women in Glass

Spring 2010 December 1, 2009
Nature

Summer 2010 March 1, 2010
Historical

If you are interested in becoming a contributor for *The Flow*, please e-mail editor@theflowmagazine.com for more information and author guidelines.



Bill and Laura Rasmussen

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as photographs and letters, and they will not be
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The Flow urges its readers to proceed cautiously
in respect to technical information or
step-by-step articles. Always take proper
safety precautions when working with glass.