

LACE THREADS

News of the Pittsburgh Lace Group - Fall/Winter 2013

<http://pittsburghlacegroup.org>
pittsburghlacegroup@gmail.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello, all you lovely lace makers,

If you're like me, you don't get a lot of lace made when the temperature gets above 85 and the humidity feels like 100. I was really enjoying those recent fall like days when the humidity was low and the temperature was in the low seventies.

Just a few days ago I had a tragedy! I was peacefully making lace after supper and all was going well. It was getting late and I had reached a good stopping place in my pattern so I had decided to call it a day. My pillow was on my lap with the bobbins all in their accustomed places. I put my hand on the pillow, ready to pick it up and put it aside—the next thing I knew it was upside down on the floor! There was probably an unknown gremlin somewhere laughing his head off. Needless to say, I was not happy. I picked up that miserable pillow with its 16 pairs of bobbins and thumped it down on the table. I didn't even look at it until the next day. It took me several hours to get the darn thing disentangled. I don't think I've ever had a pillow that was as messy as that one.

On to better things. Be sure to read about our upcoming workshop on wire lace. It's taking place at the Churchill Borough Building on September 28 and 29 with Kim Davis as instructor. On Sept. 27, Kim will talk about the emergence of bobbin lace. There are more details further on in the newsletter, so keep reading.

I have seen one small piece of bobbin lace made with wire and it was quite lovely.

If you haven't made any bobbin lace for a while, or if you've never made any, why not join us at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church on the first Thursday of each month. You can find out what it's all about and, if you're interested, we can arrange some lessons. You can also check out our website at <http://pittsburghlacegroup.org>. You'll find lots of good stuff there.

I hope we'll see you all on Friday evening, September 27.

~ Louise Chuha

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WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN THE PLG?

SUMMER CAMP JULY 22-25, 2013

NETTED CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

BY Amy Gibbons

Since 2004, the Pittsburgh Lace Group has gathered together in the summer evenings for a week of learning. We have had various teachers and learned everything from knitting to beading and one year, we were even infested with bobbin lace spiders. It is usually a chance to avoid the hot summer evenings and to laugh and learn together.

This July, Joan Trimble delighted us with the opportunity to make beautiful beaded glass Christmas Ornaments. There were lots of guests and lots of "I can't make it one night." But in the end there were a number of us who learned the secret of the beaded ornaments. Joan provided kits with various colored beads, thread, needles, directions and ornaments. We all chose our favorites and set to work. By Tuesday, we had all discovered that the directions were in fact "guidelines" and did not exactly fit the ornaments in our hands. While many would think this was a bad thing, in truth it allowed us to become more creative and to learn how to adjust the pattern to suit our tastes. We talked about using other beads and of leaving the bottom open with beaded fringe.

On Thursday night, we gathered for a photo to show off our group and our ornaments. After the first picture, we asked that Angelina Wong take a picture of the group so that our teacher could be included. Before we could get re-organized, the unthinkable happened and Gretchen's ornament slipped from her fingers, crashing to a bunch of shards on the basement floor. Joanie took the parts home and managed to attach the bottom and top of the beads around another glass ball for Gretchen. We all learned to be very careful when we handle our ornaments.

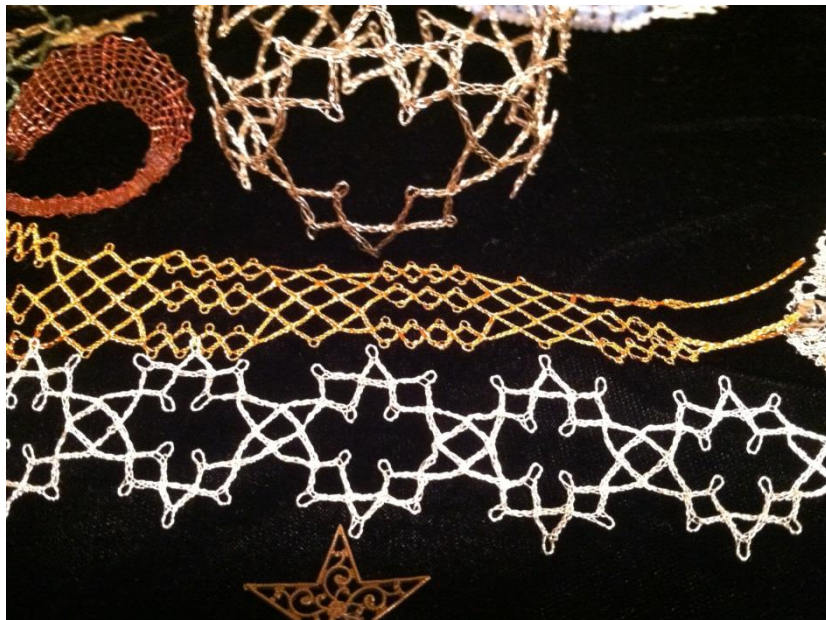
Below are some pictures commemorating our evenings of fun and creativity. Check out the PLG Facebook page for even more fun.



WHAT'S THE NEXT BIG THING?

**FALL WORKSHOP WEEKEND
SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2013
WIRE LACE BY KIM DAVIS**

This year's fall workshop will be taught by Kim Davis, and will focus on wire lace. Below are some pictures (thank you, Robin Panza) from Kim's class at the IOLI Convention and from one of her previous workshops. This will be a truly exciting event for those of us who have never worked with wire before.



Bookmarks that could also be worked as bracelets



A wire medallion

INFORMATION ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

CHOOSING A PATTERN AND WINDING BOBBINS:

Kim will allow the workshop participants to choose a pattern on Friday night. She will be able to lend us some bobbins that are specifically designed for working with wire, and we will be able to wind those bobbins that night. These bobbins have a hook mounted at the top. Wire bobbins can also be purchased from Trudy Scholten of Lacy Susan, who will be the vendor at our workshop. Most of the patterns will be worked in 32-gauge wire, which is fine yet not too brittle to be crossed, twisted, and generally manipulated.

TOOLS AND MATERIALS:

In class, Kim will discuss different tools that can be used for wire lace, and she will have some of what is necessary for class on loan in the classroom. It is not necessary to bring anything other than your usual bobbin lace equipment including sturdy pins, a pillow, pricking material, and anything special you may use. Because different sized pins will be used to achieve varying effects, when the participants have chosen a project, Kim will guide you in deciding what type of pins you will need. She prefers sturdy pins such as the type with a glass or plastic head used for pinning fabric together. The pillow can be almost any type other than a roller or bolster pillow. She suggests not using a foam pillow since some people think that the large pins may break down the pillow very rapidly. An older pillow or something made of natural fibers is recommended.

STRUCTURE OF THE WORKSHOP:

Kim structures the workshop in this way. Most people who have not worked with wire before will start out with a plaited project. Some people stay on that project for the entire workshop and others are off to a new project the next day. She does not require everyone to move at the same speed or stay in the same place. She notes that after the plaited project, some people choose to begin something else with plaits, torchon, or cloth stitch.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2013 6:00-9:00 PM

LECTURE BY KIM DAVIS

“THE EMERGENCE OF BOBBIN LACE”

Kim will discuss the origins of bobbin lace and trace its development throughout history. Her talk will begin at 7:30, leaving time for shopping, visiting, and eating before, and questions and bobbin-winding after.

Admission is \$5.00 for members and \$7.00 for non-members

Our vendor will be Trudy Scholten of Lacy Susan.

Coffee and tea will be provided. Donations of finger foods for Friday night will be greatly appreciated. There will be a door prize raffle and a jumble table.

Donations of items for the raffle are always welcome and appreciated.

**WIRE LACE WORKSHOP WITH KIM DAVIS
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28 AND 29, 2013
CHURCHILL BOROUGH BUILDING**

Classes will be from 10:00 to 5:00 on Saturday and 9:00 to 4:00 on Sunday. To register for the class, please complete the form below and send it to Gretchen Baudoux.

A supply list and email will be sent with confirmation of registration.

Please remember to bring a dish to share for lunch.

Directions to the Churchill Borough Building

From Monroeville: Parkway East (I-376) to the Churchill Exit (Exit 10-A). Exit from left lane. Turn left at first intersection and immediate right into Borough Bldg. parking lot.

From Pittsburgh: Parkway East (I-376) to Churchill Exit (Exit 10-A); right at bottom of ramp to "Y" intersection with Beulah Rd. (Rt. 130-W); take the right branch and immediately get into left lane. Turn left at the light (left turn signal) onto Penn Avenue. Borough Bldg. is on the left; entrance to parking lot is just beyond the building.

You may use either parking lot, but if you use the lower lot, please park away from the building so the police can park close to the building. Enter through the side doors.

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Workshop Registration Form

Return this form with check payable to **Pittsburgh Lace Group** to:

Gretchen Baudoux, 4704 Bert Drive, Monroeville, PA 15146 (phone 412-372-8956)

Name _____

Address _____

Home phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Workshop \$100.00 members, \$115.00 non-members \$ _____

Workshop commemorative bobbins @ \$10.00 number _____ \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Number of dinner reservations for Saturday (not included in cost) _____

OTHER NEWS FROM THE LACE COMMUNITY CONGRATULATIONS, I.O.L.I.!



At its Salt Lake City convention during early August of this year, the I.O.L.I. celebrated its 60th anniversary. For clarification, its name is now officially “International Organization of Lace, Inc.” We can only hope that eventually the logo will change, and the new designers will remove that “old” word from it.

The IOLI website offers some wonderful information and inspiration for lacemakers, including a blog and a forum for members who wish to share their accomplishments. Check out the new website at <http://www.internationalorganizationoflace.org/>

WELCOME, LACERS OF THE LAKE!

The Pittsburgh Lace Group would also like to welcome the newest addition to the lacemaking world, the Lacers of the Lake from Cortland, Ohio. LOL sounds like a really fun group of lacemakers. They have been deemed an official charter chapter of IOLI and were announced at this year’s IOLI convention. One of their recent meetings was just last week in the Cortland, OH, library, where they met library patrons and showed off their skills. They plan to move their monthly meetings to the library in Howland, OH, beginning this September.



A rare completed project by the editor

REMEMBER: YOU CAN ALWAYS ACCESS OUR NEWSLETTERS AT OUR WEBSITE:

<http://pittsburghlacegroup.org>

Email us at pittsburghlacegroup@gmail.com

UPCOMING DEMONSTRATIONS

MONROEVILLE HERITAGE DAYS (McGinley House) SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2013 (tentative date)

The McGinley House in Monroeville has invited us to join them for their celebration of Monroeville Heritage Days from 1:00 to 5:00p.m. It is a nice chance to learn about a local homestead, to meet nice people and to share your craft. If you are able to join us, please contact Gretchen Baudoux for more information.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH NATIONALITY ROOMS HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2013

Christmas is always right around the corner. Mark your calendar for the second Sunday in December from noon to 4:00 PM for the annual Holiday Open House at the Cathedral of Learning. Please arrive shortly before noon to join in the fun to kick off the Christmas Season. Enjoy the excellent multi-ethnic foods and browse the wonderful craft items from around the world that are available to give as Christmas gifts. We will again put up our Christmas tree and nativity set in the Croghan Schenley Room. Come and help us celebrate the season. It is a fun Sunday afternoon. (Please remember no food is allowed in the room.) Contact Dewi Wong or Joan Trimble for more information.

PITTSBURGH LACE GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY FRIDAY JANUARY 3, 2013



Don't start that post-holiday diet until January 4th! Come to the Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church and join the fun on a Friday night, so no one has to get up early the next morning. We plan to start setting up at 5:00 p.m. and hope to eat by 6:00. As usual, bring a dish for the potluck dinner, and a gently-used item **or items** for the "Put & Take" game. No one will go home empty-handed this year! The Christmas party is always a ton of fun, especially when Esther the Elf shows up!

FUTURE EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Thurs., September 5, 2013, 7:00 P.M. - Regular Monthly Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church
Fri., September 27, 2013— "The Emergence of Bobbin Lace," Lecture by Kim Davis, Churchill Borough Bldg.
Sat./Sun., September 28-29, 2013—Wire Lace Workshop with Kim Davis, Churchill Borough Bldg.
Thurs., October 3, 2013 --7:00 P.M. - Regular Monthly Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church
Sat., October 12, 2013 – Monroeville Heritage Festival, McGinley House, Monroeville, PA (tentative)
Thurs., November 1, 2013 --7:00 P.M. - Regular Monthly Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church
Thurs., November 28, 2013 – Thanksgiving Day -- No class
Thurs., December 5, 2013 -- Regular Monthly Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church
Sun., December 8, 2013, 12:00-4:00 pm --Holiday demonstration at the Nationality Rooms, University of Pittsburgh
Thurs., December 19, 2013 – no class
Thurs., December 26, 2013 – no class
Thurs., January 2, 2014 – no class
Fri., January 3, 2014, 5:30 pm-?? – PLG Christmas Party at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church
Thurs., January 9, 2014 --7:00 P.M. - Regular Monthly Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church

IT'S THE LAST NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR, SO DUES WILL SOON BE DUE!

Pittsburgh Lace Group Dues are due by January 1, 2014.

\$15.00 checks made out to Pittsburgh Lace Group

Name _____

Address _____

Email: _____

Home Phone _____ Cell _____

I am available and willing to teach _____ at an afternoon workshop.

I would like to take part in a workshop on _____

I would like to receive my newsletter by e-mail _____

or by U.S. Postal Service _____

Please complete and send to:

Gretchen Baudoux

4704 Bert Drive

Monroeville, PA 15146