

LACE THREADS

News of the Pittsburgh Lace Group - Spring 2015

<http://pittsburghlacegroup.org>

pittsburghlacegroup@gmail.com

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year to us!

After the excitement of the holidays, I find I don't want to return to the everyday humdrum. With the coming of the new year, I am afraid that I often think of the Tennessee Ernie Ford song – "another day older and ..."



Fortunately for us, under Gretchen's careful stewardship, the Lace Group is not deeper in debt. We have lots of exciting things scheduled for the future. Be sure to let me know **early** if you are going to take Louise Colgan's workshop. Louise wants to send out pattern packets and so we need to know who is taking the workshop much earlier than usual. Louise is an excellent teacher and Joanie has worked hard to set up this workshop. It should be lots of fun.

The Annual Meeting is coming up soon, and because the first Saturday in April falls again in Holy Week, the date will have to be moved to March 28th. That will allow us to take advantage of the Knit and Crochet Festival in downtown Pittsburgh as an after-meeting activity. There are some constitutional issues that need to be addressed, as well as the election of Vice President and Secretary. After we handle those pesky details, we can carpool to the Festival. The yarns and tools available are always amazing!

I look back at the year past and am impressed by all the wonderful things that we have done. We demonstrated at Upper St. Clair's Gilfillan Farms, the Verona Historical Society, the Nationality Rooms, and the Pittsburgh Creative Arts Festival, just to name a few. We hosted workshops on Beaded Knitting and Color Tricks in Bobbin Lace. Summer camp gave us Joanie's favorite bells, which were a challenge for everyone. I hope that this year we can be as busy and happy as we were last year. If I left anything out, I am sure you will remind me. That is your job!

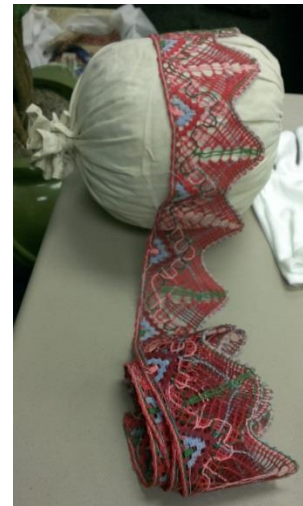
Amy Gibbons

Please note: no articles appearing in this newsletter may be reproduced without the express permission of the author. No photographs appearing in this newsletter may be reproduced without the permission of the editor. Many thanks to all who sent articles and photos for the newsletter, including Gretchen, Suzanne, Dewi and Amy.

***** RECENT P.L.G. HAPPENINGS *****

**EASTERN EUROPEAN LACE WITH JAN LETOWSKI
October 3, 2014**

On Friday night, October 3, 2014, the PLG was treated to a feast of loveliness provided by our friend, Jan Letowski. Jan has been collecting lace for many years and brought in some lovely examples of the laces and textiles of Eastern Europe. Members who attended that night learned much about the history of the laces, as well as their applications to the everyday and holiday life of the peoples of Slovenia, Russia, Poland, Ukraine, and other Eastern European countries and areas. Below are some lovely examples provided by Jan, who is always welcome to come again to our gatherings to share his latest finds.



For more photos of Jan's exquisite collection, check out the Pittsburgh Lace Group's Facebook page.

AND THEN THERE WAS A “COLOR TRICKS IN TORCHON” WORKSHOP:

Debby Does....

By Anon E. Mouse

She blew into town early, hoping to get her fix. By the time she left the blonde floozy was sated, and exhausted, like a horse ridden hard and put away wet. What happened in between is the stuff of legend. This covert sensualist came here disguised as an innocent bobbin lace teacher, with a contract for a weekend workshop. Little did the Lace Group realize that she was actually here to fondle, caress and ultimately smuggle.



The first day was spent visiting several out-of-the-way places, leaving with packages of undisclosed items. Flogging her driver to greater excess she spent hours at this undisclosed location, but came away with virtually no packages. What could she have been doing in this remote site?!! Forcing the poor broken down vehicle to carry even more, she visited another shop which supplied her particular addiction and filled the car to the windows with luscious, colorful goodies that satisfied her perverted needs. Returning to her rooms, she secreted her things and presented herself as a normal, everyday person to spend the evening with her host family unaware of her perversions.

The next day her visits to various undisclosed shops were curtailed by the need to make a scheduled appearance with the innocent Lace Group. While there she consorted with a young man, Jan Letowski, who unknowingly tempted her to continue down her pathway of addiction. His display and discourse on European, Antique Lace was masterful. It was difficult to sort out who was tempting who to excess of admiration.

In spite of what must have been a horrendous visual hangover, she managed to teach competently both days, with her students mastering and some even completing, a bobbin lace sampler displaying unique techniques to manipulate color. (She always has been a master at manipulation) This project looked with its beads and bright color, like it could dangle from places best left unnamed.



When she left town, Debby had a suitcase full of contraband and she was wearing dark glasses to cover the dark circles caused by her tactile dissipation.

DISCLAIMER: Please note that the events, opinions, and terms expressed in the above article are those of the author of the article and have no correlation with any opinions or terms used by the editor. Don't blame me. Really. I had nothing to do with it.

December 7th, the date... (NATIONALITY ROOMS)

By Amy Gibbons

There we were again celebrating Pearl Harbor Day and it actually looked like someone might have dropped something, if not a bomb. When Barb, Suzanne and I arrived at Mary Schenley's ballroom, we discovered that one end of the giant table was broken and should not be used. While that sounds terrible, it really was just that the hooks which held the last leaf of the table to the one next to it were not working correctly. Not being strong men, we decided not to crawl under the table to lift it up and fix it. So while last year was the year I forgot the tree stand, this year will be remembered as the year the table was broken.

The three of us were joined by Joanie and Dewi and we all set ourselves up to make lace and chat. I took a break early and found Jan Letowski, who was selling things. He had this wonderful necklace which I bought. I think the pattern is simple enough we could draft or adapt it if we wanted to. It would make a lovely tree ornament too. Of course there was only the one. I am glad I got there when I did.



The crowd in the hallway was fairly dense, and the people coming through the rooms seemed really interested. There were two people who might actually come to make lace when the weather breaks. We were entertained by a gentleman who knew all about the architectural features of the room who stayed with us for quite a while. When it was over we gathered up the tree and ornaments and headed home.



Some lovely pieces of bobbin lace and Chinese knotting made by Dewi Wong.
See more of our demonstration on Facebook!

**LACE GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY
December 27, 2014**



Two days after Christmas, we were so pleased to see:

- 12 people laughing,**
 - 11 tassel-makers assembling,**
 - 10 necklaces blinking,**
 - 9 hand creams opening,**
 - 8 packages unwrapping,**
 - 7 ornaments sparkling,**
 - 6 lacemakers enjoying...**
 - 5 cooooookies,**
 - 4 tealights shining,**
 - 3 angels smiling,**
 - 2 elven slippers,**
- And a good time that was had by all!**

And one really, really uuuuuuuuuuuugly purse

***WHAT'S NEW IN THE PLG LIBRARY?

An Introduction to Mounting Lace

By Kate Riley and Pauline McLeod

Published by The Lace Guild



A lovely edging by Gretchen

After we have worked so hard and long on a lace edging, it certainly deserves to be mounted on the linen properly. This book will be of help in making beautifully finished projects.

The authors state that:

The lace should be eased to the fabric, never stretched.

All hemlines should be straightened by pulling a thread. Don't use ready-made handkerchiefs; the lines are hardly ever straight.

All of the lace should stand clear of the mount, not overlapping it.

This little book has very good illustrations for forming neat corners, hemming and finishing the linen, and for different stitches used to mount the lace. – **Gretchen Baudoux**

Bijoux et Accessoires de Mode en Dentelle

By Martinne Piveteau

Under the direction of Mick Fouriscot

This book is a recent acquisition of the Pittsburgh Lace Group. Like other books associated with Mick Fouriscot, there is no English text. There are excellent diagrams and fantastic projects that you want to make right now. It has pictures and prickings for bracelets, scarves, purses, pendants, earrings, and necklaces. Some have added beads. I can't begin to say what a visually exciting and inspiring book this is. I believe that this book has patterns that are actually makeable without taking years. If you are looking for something wearable in bobbin lace, be sure to check out this book. – **Amy Gibbons**

Filigrane Koppelkunst- Ambiente, Schmuck & Geschenke

This is a compilation of projects by six German lacemakers. The patterns consist of simple flower-decorated cards, 3-D Easter eggs, jewelry and flower/monogram bookmarks. Though the text is in German, the prickings are clear and look easy to understand and do. The monogram bookmarks would make wonderful gifts. – Suzanne Potter

La Dentelle aux Fuseaux- il etait une fois un mariage

By Roseanna Origu

This is a beautiful pattern book of lace items for a wedding. Making up the projects in this book are a dozen ring-bearer's pillows, flowers for a bouquet, and many accessories. Some of the pillow edgings could be used for other things-- frames, small hankies, etc. The accessories include an especially nice BOW TIE for the groom! The umbrella project alone makes this a book to own. – Suzanne Potter

Please visit our website at pittsburghlacegroup.org to view our entire library collection.

*****IN WITH THE NEW: UPCOMING EVENTS*****
CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES –ANNUAL MEETING
SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2015

At the annual meeting on Saturday, March 28th, we will vote on changes to the group's bylaws in Articles 2, 7 and 11. This is mainly a housekeeping function to cover the name change of IOLI and to reflect the reality of what our group is doing. The changes will be in **bold** enclosed in brackets. Where there is a major change the original article will be included.

Article 2. PURPOSE.

Section 1. The Group shall be a not-for-profit educational organization whose purpose is to foster and promote interest in lace and lace-making by providing a means for members to meet and exchange ideas and information, by offering demonstrations of lace-making and exhibits of lace to the general public, and by providing programs and workshops on all aspects of lace, lace-making and related topics of interest to the members[, **furthering the aims of the International Organization of Lace, Inc.**]

Reasoning: to bring us into accordance with I.O.L.I. requests.

Article 7. MEETINGS. (Current language)

Section 1. There will be at least eight (8) meetings a year and one (1) workshop. The April meeting shall be known as the Annual Business Meeting. One (1) other meeting will be known as a Lace Day. At least three (3) other meetings will feature a program: a speaker, a demonstration, a study group, etc. Other meetings may be informal gatherings where members make lace and exchange information.

Section 2. The Annual Business Meeting shall be conducted in April to elect officers and review the business of the Group. In addition, there shall be reports from the Treasurer and the Workshop Committee Chairperson.

Article 7. MEETINGS. (Proposed language)

Section 1. There will be at least eight (8) meetings a year and one (1) workshop [**with other programs as deemed appropriate by the membership.**]

Section 2. The Annual Business Meeting shall be conducted [**on a date to be determined at the first meeting of every year,**] to elect officers and review the business of the Group. In addition, there shall be reports from the Treasurer and the Workshop Committee Chairperson.

These changes reflect the reality of what our group does and will allow us to schedule the Annual Meeting based on the events of each year, no longer having to shuffle around Easter Holidays, etc.

Article 11. DISSOLUTION.

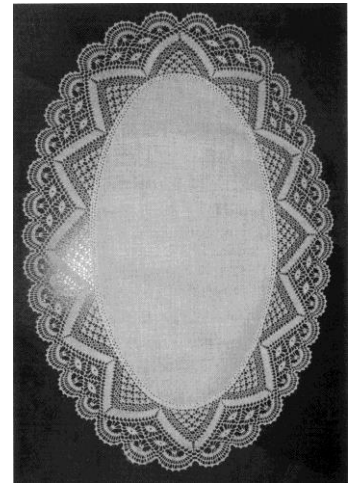
Section 1. In the event of dissolution of the Group while a charter chapter of International [**Organization of Lace**] Inc. (hereafter, IOLI), the IOLI charter [**and President's Pin**] shall be returned to the IOLI President accompanied by a letter of fact, and with records showing that all funds and property have been distributed to a non-profit organization under the IRS Code 501(c)3. Books, supplies and other assets of the group will be donated to another lace making group or sold and the proceeds donated to a lace-making group, or non-profit organization, to be chosen by the membership.

This reflects the change in name of IOLI and includes the President's Pin being returned to IOLI.

*****FINALLY, THE NEWS YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!*****

**SPRING LACE WEEKEND 2015:
WORKSHOP with LOUISE COLGAN -- BUCKS AND TORCHON
Saturday and Sunday, April 18-19, 2015**

In the Fall of 2002 Louise Colgan taught a "Color in Lace" Workshop for the Pittsburgh Lace Group. We were so delighted with her that we waited 12 ½ years to have her back! Seriously, I remember Louise as a quiet, thorough, patient teacher and an extremely nice person. I remember the workshop as having something to challenge every level of lace maker. This time she will be bringing patterns that should meet everyone's level of ability.

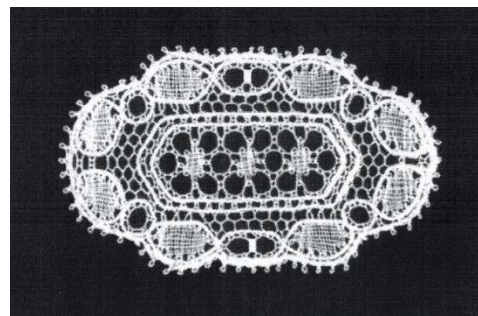
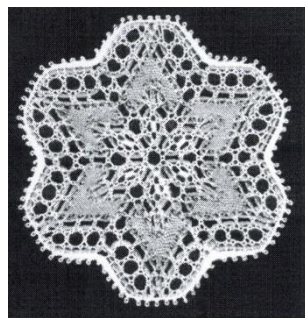
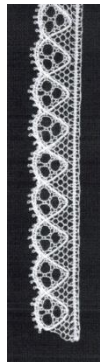


For those who want to work on their bobbin lace skills there is a Torchon Mat, which includes different Grounds, a more complex style of Spider, and Fans with a unique type of center and edge treatment.

If you are interested in Bucks point lace, there are two beginning patterns and two intermediate patterns (see below).



Beginning



Intermediate

Registration is being handled differently for this workshop. Since our Treasurer will be out of town, registrations should be sent to Amy Gibbons. Because Louise wants to send out packets prior to the workshop, they must be received by Amy by **March 25th**, **along with at least a 50% deposit.** Confirmations and supply lists will be sent by Louise. This should be a fun and challenging workshop for everyone.

On Friday night, April 17th, Louise will meet everyone at the Churchill Borough Building where we can shop to our hearts' delight with Lacy Susan, a.k.a. Trudy Scholten. 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. Please remember to bring a covered dish for lunch on Saturday and Sunday. 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 Amy Gibbons by March 25, 2015. Please include a check made payable to The Pittsburgh Lace Group. The amount of the check should be a minimum of half the cost of the workshop, with the balance due Friday, April 17th.**

An email confirming registration and listing supplies will be sent by Louise Colgan. As always, priority will be given to active members of the Group who send their registration prior to March 25th.



Workshop Registration Form

Return this form with a check payable to **Pittsburgh Lace Group** to:
Amy Gibbons, 214 Central Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15238 **by March 25, 2015.**

Name _____

Address _____

Home phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Workshop \$110.00 members, \$125.00 non-members \$ _____

Workshop commemorative bobbins @ \$10.00 number \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Balance Due if any \$ _____

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

Directions to the Churchill Borough Building, 2300 William Penn Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15235

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. The 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.

Hope to see you at the Workshop!

FUTURE EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Thursday February 5, 2015 -- 7-9 -- Monthly meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church
Thursday, March 5, 2015 -- 7-9 -- Monthly meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church
Saturday, March 28, 2015 -- 10-11 Annual Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church; field trip to Knit and Crochet Festival, Westin Convention Center, Pittsburgh, after meeting
Friday, April 17, 2015 6-8:30 -- Meet & Greet with Louise Colgan and Trudy of Lacy Susan; Churchill Borough Bldg.
April 18-19, 2015 -- Spring Workshop with Louise Colgan: Bucks and Torchon; Churchill Borough Bldg.
Thursday, May 7, 2015 -- 7-9 -- Monthly meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church
Thursday, June 4, 2015 -- 7-9 -- Monthly meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church

**Don't forget that 2015 dues of \$15.00 were due January 1, 2015.
Send checks payable to "Pittsburgh Lace Group" to Gretchen Baudoux, 4704 Bert Drive,
Monroeville, PA 15146**

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

<http://pittsburghlacegroup.org>

Contact us by email at pittsburghlacegroup@gmail.com

SPECIAL SECTION: Bylaws of the Pittsburgh Lace Group

Article 1. NAME.

Section 1. The name of the group shall be the Pittsburgh Lace Group, hereafter referred to as "the Group."

Article 2. PURPOSE.

Section 1. The Group shall be a not-for-profit educational organization whose purpose is to foster and promote interest in lace and lace-making by providing a means for members to meet and exchange ideas and information, by offering demonstrations of lace-making and exhibits of lace to the general public, and by providing programs and workshops on all aspects of lace, lace-making and related topics of interest to the members, furthering the aims of the International Organization of lace, Inc.

Article 3. MEMBERSHIP.

Section 1. Membership shall be open to all individuals interested in lace, lace-making, collecting any type of lace, or the history of lace.

Section 2. Dues will be collected annually for the calendar year. Dues paid at any time from January 1 through October 31 shall be applied to membership for that calendar year and will not be prorated. Dues paid after October 31 shall be applied to membership in the following calendar year. Renewals not paid by March 15 will cause a member to be dropped from the roster for that year. The amount of dues shall be established for each year by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. A roster of all paid members shall be distributed to members who have paid the current year's dues.

Article 4. DIRECTORS.

Section 1. The business and affairs of the Group shall be managed by a Board of Directors, hereafter referred to as “the Board,” comprised of the officers and standing committee chairpersons.

Section 2. A majority number of the directors present, having constituted a quorum, shall be regarded as an act of the Board.

Section 3. Vacancies of the Board may be filled by a majority voting of the remaining directors. Each director so elected shall hold office for the remaining term of the vacancy being then filled.

Article 5. OFFICERS.

Section 1. The elected officers of the Group shall be President, Secretary, Treasurer and Vice President.

Section 2. President. Subject to supervisory powers of the Board, the President shall be the chief executive officer of the Group and shall preside at all meetings, both of the Board and of the members of the Group, and shall perform such duties and exercise such powers as shall be determined from time to time by the Board.

Section 3. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep a book of Minutes of all meetings of directors and members, shall compose and distribute notices of meetings of the members, and handle other correspondence as directed by the Board.

Section 4. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall keep and maintain adequate and correct accounts of all assets and business transactions of the Group, and present a written annual report to the members at the Annual Business Meeting. The President, Secretary, Treasurer and Vice President shall be authorized to transact the Group’s financial business. Two of the four officers’ signatures shall be required for such transactions.

Section 5. Vice- President. The Vice-President shall chair meetings of the Board and of the members in the absence of the President. The Vice-President shall also be responsible for scheduling and arranging meetings for the year. This shall include making arrangements for speakers, locations and refreshments, and providing the Secretary with the information necessary for announcements of these meetings to be mailed to the membership. The Vice President shall select members as desired, to form a committee to perform the functions above.

Article 6. ELECTIONS.

Section 1. The election of officers and directors shall be held each year at the Annual Business Meeting. The Membership Committee shall present a slate of candidates chosen from the membership. Additional nominations may be received from the floor. No name shall be placed in nomination without the consent of the member.

Section 2. Officers shall be elected for a term of 2 years. Two (2) offices will be eligible for election per year, the President and Treasurer in even numbered years, and the Secretary and Vice President in odd numbered years. The Chairpersons of the committees shall be appointed by the Board.

Section 3. A separate vote shall be conducted for each office being filled. Voting will be by ballot, tallied immediately. The office shall be filled by the member obtaining plurality of attending members in good standing.

Article 7. MEETINGS.

Section 1. There will be at least eight (8) meetings a year and one (1) workshop. with other programs as deemed appropriate by the membership.

Section 2. The Annual Business Meeting shall be conducted on a date to be determined at the first meeting of every year, to elect officers and review the business of the Group. In addition, there shall be reports from the Treasurer and the Workshop Committee Chairperson.

Section 3. Notices of meetings shall be given to each member, either personally or by mail or other means of communication addressed to such member at the address appearing on the roster of the Group. All such notices shall be conveyed to each member not less than three (3) business days before a meeting.

Section 4. A quorum necessary for the transaction of business shall consist of a majority of the members attending a meeting of the Group after notice is given as provided in accordance herein.

Article 8. COMMITTEES.

Section 1. Committees shall be established by the Board to help conduct the business of the Group. These shall consist of the standing committees: the Membership Committee, the Workshop Committee, and any committee or committees deemed by the Board to be necessary to perform the functions of the Group.

Section 2. The Chairpersons of the standing committees shall be appointed from the general membership by the Board.

Article 9. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE.

Section 1. The Membership Committee shall be responsible for maintaining the membership rosters and selecting a slate of candidates for the annual election of officers.

Section 2. The Chairperson of the Membership Committee may select one or more persons from the general membership to assist in the performance of the duties of the Committee as outlined in Article 9, Section 1.

Section 3. In addition to the responsibilities set forth in Article 9, Section 1, the Membership Committee shall be responsible for soliciting and receiving applications for new membership and renewals of memberships. Dues collected in the course of performing this function shall be forwarded in a timely manner to the Treasurer.

Section 4. The Membership Committee Chairperson shall be responsible for maintaining the membership roster, which shall be distributed annually each spring to the members. The Chairperson shall also notify the Secretary monthly of any additional members in order that these new members will receive all forthcoming notices of meetings.

Section 5. The Membership Committee shall propose candidates for the offices to be elected at the Annual Business Meeting. The committee shall contact the candidates to secure their willingness to serve. All nominations or suggestions for candidacy by members shall be presented to the membership by the Membership Committee.

Article 10. WORKSHOP COMMITTEE.

Section 1. The Workshop Committee is responsible for making arrangements for workshops. This shall include making arrangements for the speaker, location and refreshments, and providing the Secretary and Treasurer with information necessary for announcement of workshops to be mailed to the membership, and monies collected

Section 2. The Workshop Committee Chairperson shall select members, as desired, to form a committee to perform the functions as set forth in Article 10, Section 1.

Article 11. DISSOLUTION.

Section 1. In the event of dissolution of the Group while a charter chapter of International Organization of Lace Inc. (hereafter, IOLI), the IOLI charter and president's pin shall be returned to the IOLI President accompanied by a letter of fact, and with records showing that all funds and property have been distributed to a non-profit organization under the IRS Code 501(c)3. Books, supplies and other assets of the group will be donated to another lace making group or sold and the proceeds donated to a lace making group, or non-profit organization, to be chosen by the membership.

Article 12. EFFECTIVE DATES AND AMENDMENTS.

Section 1. These Bylaws will become effective, subject to approval of the membership, retroactive to January 1, 1991.

Section 2. These Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed at any time by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the Board or by the majority vote of the members at any regular meeting.