



# LACE THREADS

*News of the Pittsburgh Lace Group - Summer 2015*

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Summer! Although the calendar says *May*, the weather says *August*. Time to sit somewhere in the air conditioning and make lace, while drinking something tall and cool. Then again it is always nice to be able to sit and make lace, especially while chatting with friends.



Our spring workshop was a huge success. The class was overfull, but Louise Colgan graciously allowed us one extra person. Finally a class that Louise Chuha was interested in and found challenging. I admire her tenacity, since I found that particular Torchon pattern tricky. I couldn't imagine remembering all the different sections of the pattern if I couldn't check to be sure I was doing it right. The people who were working in Bucks point were equally absorbed in their work. Louise is such an excellent teacher and so very kind. We hope to have her again. I want to thank everyone who helped with the workshop, especially Joan Trimble, who made the arrangements for Louise to come. One of the best things about this group is that everyone pitches in to help. The food was wonderful and Friday evening without a program gave us all a chance to talk, shop and admire as long as we wanted.

The Annual Meeting came and went. Happily, I.O.L.I. has received our revised constitution as well as our demonstration hours. Upcoming demonstration opportunities include the Folk Festival, as well as some demonstrations scheduled at Yarns By Design in Oakmont. If anyone wants to arrange for us to demonstrate at their local library, it might help to swell our dwindling ranks.

Summer Camp is set for the end of June and should be a good chance for us to do something different. I swear I can find that camp fire this year and maybe we can have some s'mores at the Borough Building. Hope to see you there and on Thursday nights too.

*Amy Gibbons*

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**\*\*\*RECENT PLG HAPPENINGS\*\*\***  
**ANNUAL MEETING**

The PLG Annual Meeting was held on March 28, 2015. Many items were discussed, and a vote was taken to incorporate the proposed changes to the PLG By-Laws. Those By-Laws are posted on the PLG website at <http://pittsburghlacegroup.org> Other items discussed included the following, reported on by Amy Gibbons.

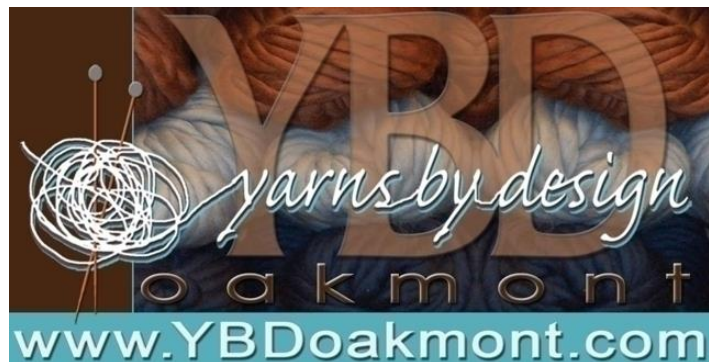
**“Let’s Demonstrate More”**  
**by Amy Gibbons**

That seemed to be the mandate from those present at the Annual Meeting. We have an opportunity to try out a completely new place. **Yarns By Design** is located in Oakmont at 622 Allegheny River Blvd. That is the upper street right beside the State Store. There is on-street parallel parking, or you may park in the lot across from the Library, in front of Ace Hardware and Panera. It is two very short blocks from the parking lot to the store.

The owners of Yarns By Design have agreed to allow us to come and make lace at the store on the second and fourth Saturdays in May, June and July. We are only going to be there from 10:00 until noon, so there is plenty of time to run your regular Saturday errands. There is a table at the rear of the store which will comfortably seat three with pillows. Or we can bring our pillow stands and sit near the front window. There is lots of luscious yarn and books for you to check out in the store. I think that this will develop into a nice Saturday morning activity.

The Saturday before Mother’s Day, Suzanne Potter and I tried it out for the first time. Debby could not have been nicer and I managed to use up my hoard of gift cards. It is a really lovely place to make lace.

If you would like to develop a site for the Lace Group to visit and make lace, please do so. Check with your local library, yarn or beading shop. Or anywhere else you think would be appropriate.



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

What a wonderful workshop! On Saturday and Sunday, April 18 and 19, the PLG was treated to a weekend full of lovely projects, excellent teaching, and happy camaraderie. Louise Colgan returned to teach us some beautiful patterns in Bucks Point and Torchon. Those taking the Bucks workshop were introduced to a beginning edging and insertion, as well as an intermediate motif.

The Torchon workshop project was a lovely oval edging for a mat that proves as challenging as it is beautiful. I doubt that I will ever look at Torchon in the same way, but having said that, I consider it a project worth completing. Indeed, I have plans for it once it is completed (which will hopefully be soon).

Not only were the projects impressive, but Louise also impressed us with her teaching ability. I have rarely met anyone in education who is as well-spoken, lucid, and analytical as she. And of course, we not only worked on our respective projects, but we also ate, laughed, ate, shared stories about our families, ate, shopped, and even ate.

It is always a good time when the PLG gets together with its far-flung members from Ohio, Colorado, Virginia, and Maryland. And with some exquisite projects from an outstanding teacher, the weekend proved to be a wonderful one.

After the workshop, we received the following delightful note from Louise Colgan:

“Thank you so much for inviting me to teach a Workshop for your group this year! I enjoyed spending time with each of you. Everyone worked well together and made excellent progress with their projects. I was very pleased with all that we were able to accomplish!

“My thanks to Amy & Joan for organizing this event for us and to Barb for hosting me in her home. Our class location was ideal with plenty of space for us to spread out. Saturday evening’s group dinner was a delightful treat, as well. I’m truly grateful for the time we all shared. The commemorative bobbins you gave me are a wonderful memento of our class. I will enjoy using them!

“It was such a pleasure for me to be able to come to Pittsburgh again. I’ll look forward to the next time we meet. Happy Lacing!”

Below are some pictures from our workshop weekend. You can see more on the Pittsburgh Lace Group Facebook page.



Some of Louise's beautiful samples



A little extra guidance from Louise on the Torchon project



Louise helping Becky with her Bucks edging.



Gretchen happily working on a Bucks motif.



It's always good to see Nancy!



Our group portrait at the end of a great workshop!

**\*\*\*NEWSWORTHY MEMBERS\*\*\***

If you look in the latest issue of *Discover* magazine, you will see a familiar face. PLG member and former president, Louise Chuha, is mentioned in an article describing haptic technology, which pertains to tactile electronic displays. The article, by Sushma Subramanian, is “The Future of Tactile Touch Screens” in the June 2015 issue. Louise’s picture is on Page 37. Please be sure to check it out! (I understand that Louise is not charging for her autograph—or at least not yet.)

**\*\*\*UPCOMING EVENTS\*\*\***

**LACE SUMMER CAMP**  
**June 22-25, 2015**  
**by Amy Gibbons**



This year, Summer Camp will be at the Churchill Borough Building from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday June 22 to the 25<sup>th</sup>. There has been much talk about my teaching moebius knitting. Having only made one moebius cowl, I hardly feel qualified to teach, but there are several copies of the instructions that I used available within the group. The only tricky part about a moebius is the cast on. Once that is completed, there is only the knitting, which everyone will do at their own speed. A moebius is not just a cowl with a

twist. Most of those grow from one side or top, to the other side or bottom. A moebius grows from the center out. That means that on a horizontal plane across the scarf there are both right side and wrong side stitches, instead of the stitches all being one side.

They can be made of a variety of yarns within the same moebius. Mohair or metallic yarn add excitement to the usual yarns. The only requirement other than yarn is a 40-inch circular needle. That will work with the majority of your yarn. This might be a way to use up some odds and ends of yarn that you have left over from other projects. It is good to have one stitch marker to keep track of the beginning of the work. This should be a good time and we may want to knit for more than one night just to see how the different stitches come out.

For those who don't want to sit and knit, we can all bring our U.F.O.s. We all have them: that bit of embroidery or knitting or lace that we set aside, promising to come back to it. They get moved from spot to spot, finally getting buried beneath other things that we are going to get to right away. "Right away" just never seems to come. Bring them along and we can encourage each other.



The scarf, seen on Supermodel Kathy Timmons

## FUTURE EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Thursday, June 4, 2015 -- 7-9 -- Monthly meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church  
Saturday, June 13, 2015 -- 10-noon -- Demonstration at Yarns By Design in Oakmont  
Monday-Thursday June 22-25 Lace Summer Camp at the Churchill Borough Building 7-9  
Saturday, June 27, 2015 -- 10-noon -- Demonstration at Yarns By Design in Oakmont  
Thursday, July 2, 2015 -- 7-9 -- Monthly meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church  
Saturday, July 11 and 25, 2015 -- 10-noon -- Demonstration at Yarns By Design in Oakmont  
Thursday, August 6, 2015 -- 7-9 -- Monthly meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church  
Thursday, September 3, 2015 -- 7-9 -- Monthly meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church  
Thursday, October 1, 2015 -- 7-9 -- Monthly meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church  
October 16-18 Lace Workshop Weekend--Beaded Lace with Kathy Kirchner  
Thursday, November 5, 2015 -- 7-9 -- Monthly meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church  
Thursday, December 3, 2015 -- 7-9 -- Monthly meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church

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

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