



# *LACE THREADS*

*News of the Pittsburgh Lace Group - Spring 2016*

<http://pittsburghlacegroup.org>

[pittsburghlacegroup@gmail.com](mailto:pittsburghlacegroup@gmail.com)

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

It's Spring.

Well, that is what the calendar says. That stupid groundhog may have been more correct than we knew when he said six weeks until Spring. April will be a really busy month for the Lace Group. We need to elect a new Treasurer and President at the Annual Meeting on April 2nd and to figure out what we would like to do at Summer Camp in July. Any volunteers for either office or to teach Summer Camp, please contact anybody other than Joanie to get your campaign literature printed and distributed, or tell any officer of your willingness to help out. Joanie has offered to teach us how to make a gorgeous beaded bracelet after the meeting. Bring something good to share for lunch and we will have a fine time. There will be a nominal charge for supplies.

Then we have our Spring Workshop with Edye VanDyke, teaching us about the effect of using yarns in multiple colors in our knitting. We will all work at our own pace and learn as much as we can about how different knitted stitches affect changing colors in knitting. Edye is an excellent teacher and we always have a good time together. Friday night will be different because Edye has asked that we go to Yarns By Design in Oakmont so that we can utilize the varieties of color available in the shop for her Friday program. Don't forget to send in your registration.

I want to welcome a new student to the Lace group who is working swiftly through beginning patterns. Be sure to come and meet Clare Lamperski. She brings fresh excitement to our group. We seem to be having a really good time on Thursday night. If you haven't been for a while, you should give it a go.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting.

*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 Amy, Dewi, and Gretchen, who sent articles and photos for the newsletter.

## **\*\*\*RECENT PLG HAPPENINGS\*\*\***

### **LET'S MAKE LACE IN PUBLIC**

**By Amy Gibbons**

Did you remember? October 1<sup>st</sup> was designated as "Make Lace in Public Day" by IOLI. In checking old newsletters I find that we have been doing this since 2003 everywhere from bead stores to the Oakmont Public Library. In the last few years we have been a bit lax in making arrangements to do this as a group. I checked with Judy Zeiss to see whether the event was still on I.O.L.I.'s schedule and her response was in the affirmative. I made arrangements at my local yarn shop since it is close to my home, and they were agreeable. After some discussion we decided to have our October Meeting at the shop since it was on the same date.

Of course everything in the world came up that had to be done on that day for everyone. I had to take some training at 10:00 and the shop is only open from 10:00 to 7:00. Fortunately, Dewi Wong and Suzanne Potter could both be there and worked diligently on their lace while talking to people who came by. I got there about noon and freed them for a break. Some people came by who wanted to see us specifically and some people found us by happy accident. There were some people who were very interested and some who were amazed. Some were eager to attempt the "try-it pillow" and some were not. It was so nice to be able to demystify lacemaking for the shop owner. Theresa had to pick up both Gretchen and Louise. After driving through wretched rush hour traffic, they arrived at the shop at about 6:30, and were barely able to set up their pillows.

The store had a knitting group scheduled to get together to knit at 7:00 and while we could hold a meeting at the small table in the back of the shop, we were all ready for something to eat. So we decided to move the meeting to the nearby Panera where we had a brief meeting while we ate. We had a great day. Since we would love to do this again in coming years, perhaps someone else will find a new venue for 2016.



Suzanne and Dewi working on lace on October 1st

## **DEMONSTRATING AT THE MCGINLEY HOUSE**

**By Gretchen Baudoux**

Saturday, October 10th was a beautiful, sunny autumn afternoon that brought more people than ever before to the Monroeville Historical Society's Fall Festival. Parking was scarce even for us early arrivals. I parked along the side of the road, and a young passerby helped me carry my baggage up to the house.

PLG was assigned to a room on the first floor, which increased the number of people stopping to look at the lace display. I didn't do much lace making on my pillow, but spent most of the time at the "try-it pillow" and talking about lace.

The people from the Historical Society always appreciate our participation.



Lace Display at the McGinley House

## **PLG CHRISTMAS PARTY AT ESTHER'S!**

On Saturday, January 2, 2016, the PLG celebrated the Christmas holidays and rang in the New Year at the home of our Hostess-With-The-Mostest, Esther Loprieno. Many members attended, including one of our Michigan members, Nancy Wellington, who brought her daughter. Although it was held in a different venue, the party was as fun as always and contained all the usual elements: festive attire created by Esther, our traditional PLG Auction Game, our usual lighthearted banter, and our customary eating too much. It was great to see everyone who was able to make the trip to Jeannette. The Group would like to thank Esther for her kindness, her good humor, and her hospitality. We can hardly wait for next year!

## NEW KNITTING BOOKS IN THE PLG LIBRARY

***The Very Easy Guide to Lace Knitting*** by Lynne Watterson.

Reviewed by Amy Gibbons

This is a fairly complete guide to knitting lace. Most techniques are thoroughly explained and shown in clear illustrations or photographs. It has excellent descriptions of most stitches and groups of stitches needed to make a motif. It will be an excellent addition to our library and is well worth your time to check out.

***Building Blocks*** by Ann Davalla.

Reviewed by Amy Gibbons

This is a thorough description of different stitch patterns that were combined to create an afghan. Each block is unique. Since many of the ladies that I knit with were working from this book, I decided that I could make cowls from my balls of left over sock weight yarn. I am not sure if I ran out of yarn or time before the Christmas Party, but lots of lace makers got new cowls. The instructions in the book are thorough and easily understood. If you want to try a different pattern for a scarf or cowl, this might have the answer you want.



Amy's cowls were a warm and thoughtful gift!

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

#### KNITTING WORKSHOP with EDYE VAN DYKE

##### COLOR IN KNITTING

April 15-17, 2016

The Spring Workshop this year will be April 15<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> and will be taught by local knitting teacher Edye Van Dyke. The focus will be on color. Simply defined, color is one element of design. But a powerful element at that! Do you use color to your advantage? How can you best use it when selecting a garment, yarn, make-up, or a car? Is even choosing paint for your home tedious for you?

Color creates impressions, color evokes moods, color elicits illusions and color provokes emotions. We all have our favorite colors and color combinations. When we knit, it is probably the most influential criterion that affects purchase.

On Friday evening, we will meet at Yarns By Design in Oakmont beginning at 6:30 p.m. so that we can utilize the color selections available at the shop. If you want to come earlier to shop a bit before we start, please do so. The owner of YBD has very generously offered the Group a 20% discount on yarn and book purchases on Friday night, and is also presenting all participants with a small gift. Edye will be leading a discussion on some of the principles of color and color combinations that make color selections attractive and easy to live with for a longer period of time. In addition, we will hear from an art teacher who will offer her viewpoints that may stretch those principles.

In the end, color is personal. Color speaks! Color, like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder. Color combinations can be magical and surprising. We will learn or review the guidelines that help bring overall and enduring satisfaction.

On Saturday and Sunday we will meet at the Churchill Borough Building, beginning *both* days at 10:00 a.m. Remember to bring a dish to share as well as the knitting supplies that you will need and a way to take notes. Paper products, coffee and tea will be provided. We will be taking Edye out to dinner Saturday after class.

There is a choice of two projects for the weekend:

Beginners, or those who want a simpler project, can create a gradient cowl that uses 4 skeins of a lace weight yarn, such as Shibui Silk Cloud or ShibuiCima and a US 8 or 9 needle. This cowl is worked entirely in Seed Stitch and instructions for winding the skeins of yarn will be given ahead of time, or if you choose yarn at the shop, there will be two swifts and ball winders available at the Borough Building.

Those who want a more complex project will be knitting a cowl or scarf. You will learn the effect of different stitches on different colors and vice versa. We will be using 4 or more patterns selected from *Building in Color*, a booklet published by Skacel. Copies of the booklet will be available for purchase at the shop. The group owns a copy, as do some members of the Group, so purchasing it is not necessary for you to complete your project. Depending on the stitch, 2 or 3 colors of same weight yarn are used. Please bring knitting needles that are appropriate for the weight yarn that you are using.

To prepare for your colorful weekend, please plan to bring an item or garment such as a favorite scarf, sweater, or top whose color(s) you find particularly pleasing, comfortable, becoming, etc. Once the weekend is over, we hope that you look back on it as a workshop where you learned a lot, had a great time, and remember as one of the best ever.

## COLOR IN KNITTING WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

Return this form with check payable to Pittsburgh Lace Group to:  
Theresa Troyan, 1507 Wolf Avenue, North Braddock, PA 15104

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Workshop Fee: \$75.00 for members, \$90.00 for non members \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Friday night only: \$25.00 if separate from Workshop \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE: Edye would like to know how many plan to take the class before April 10<sup>th</sup>.  
If you cannot return the form by then, please contact an officer of PLG.**

**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 doors adjacent to the parking lot.

### WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Friday, April 15 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Yarns By Design, 622 Allegheny River Boulevard,  
Oakmont, PA 15139. 412-794-8332

Saturday, April 16 and Sunday, April 17 10:00-5:00 at Churchill Borough Building

**PITTSBURGH LACE GROUP ANNUAL MEETING**  
**APRIL 2, 2016 10:00 AM**  
**Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church**

Join us at the GRPC on April 2, 2016, at 10 AM to conduct business and elect Theresa Troyan as Treasurer and Amy Gibbons as President. After a brief business meeting, we will learn to make a beaded bracelet. Material charge will be between \$5.00 and \$10.00. Please bring something to share for lunch. Please let Joanie know via email if you plan to attend the mini-workshop. Hope to see you there!

**FUTURE EVENTS AT A GLANCE**

Saturday, 4/2/16 at 10 AM-- Annual Meeting at Grace Ref. Pres. Church; beaded bracelet workshop  
April 15-17, 2016 – Spring Workshop: Knitting in Color with Edie Van Dyke at Yarns By Design, Oakmont  
April 16-17, 2016 – Continuation of Spring Workshop at Churchill Borough Building  
July 11-14, 2016 – Summer Camp at Churchill Borough Building; details will follow  
October 15-17, 2016 – Fall Workshop: Bedfordshire Lace with Debby Beever, Churchill Borough Bldg.

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

<http://pittsburghlacegroup.org>

Contact us by email at [pittsburghlacegroup@gmail.com](mailto:pittsburghlacegroup@gmail.com)



Springett snakes worked by Clare Lamperski