



# LACE THREADS

*News of the Pittsburgh Lace Group -*

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## SUMMER/FALL NEWSLETTER 2018

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi, Lacemakers of Pittsburgh,

It is time for a newsletter so that everyone can get ready for the exciting events that we have scheduled for the rest of the summer and for this fall. It is so gratifying to see the new lacemakers making progress and to see the results of the workshop with Louise. This is such a supportive group of ladies! It seems like I have been writing these letters for a really long time. They all seem to say about the same thing – I am so grateful for my lace making friends. I am looking forward to having a good time with everyone soon.

*Amy Gibbons*

### RECENT HAPPENINGS

#### HUNGARIAN TAPE LACE WITH LOUISE COLGAN – MAY 2018

By Sandy Faulk

During May 4 -7 members from the group met at the Churchill Borough Building to attend a workshop led by Louise Colgan. Attendees were asked to select from four patterns offered to explore the techniques of Hungarian tape lace. One of the goals of this workshop was to show us how to make elaborate pieces using a few bobbins. All the patterns used seven to nine pairs. Designs made use of multiple sewings and plaited fillings to fill open spaces. The actual tape width was expanded or condensed by using cloth stitch, half and whole stitch. We were also introduced to pivot and tight-point turns. The goal of the workshop was to introduce basic Hungarian



designs so that we might explore them further on our own. Louise is such an accomplished and knowledgeable lacemaker that it was a joy to take her class.

The main drama for the workshop (actually, THE running story line for the workshop) was the fact that Theresa couldn't find her car keys after she arrived at the borough building on Saturday. The long and the short of the story is that finally on Sunday, she found them in the trunk of her car. Her car did spend a little extra time at the borough parking lot. Whew!

Unfortunate news was Cynthia signed up for the class but couldn't come at the last minute because her cat fell out of a window at her home and it took several days to retrieve the cat. We missed having Cynthia with us.

An additional plus of the workshop was that Maria Provencher sent boxes of lace making supplies and books for us to peruse and purchase. And peruse we did. Everyone bought lots of 'stuff' and the lace group made a major purchase of books for the library.



Attendees brought a variety of dishes for lunching and snacking during the workshop day. Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening we dined at some local restaurants and enjoyed recapping the day's

events. The evenings were a wonderful time to laugh about the day and to just enjoy Louise's wonderful expertise and experiences. The *piece de resistance* was Sunday dinner at Jozsa Corner on Second Avenue in Hazelwood. The front of the restaurant was 'remarkable' and I apologize to everyone for not taking a photo of the street view. It was one of those places where we all said: "Is this it?" But it was and it was fantastic! Louise was in heaven! The proprietor was totally enjoying Louise's Hungarian heritage and the meal was fantastic. I think there were seven courses and for each one, the owner provided an introduction and explanation. As he left to prepare the next course his comment was:



"Well, what do you think? Did you like it?" We replied: YES



Tulip worked by Sandy Faulk

### **OAKMONT COMMUNITY SALE – July 28, 2018**

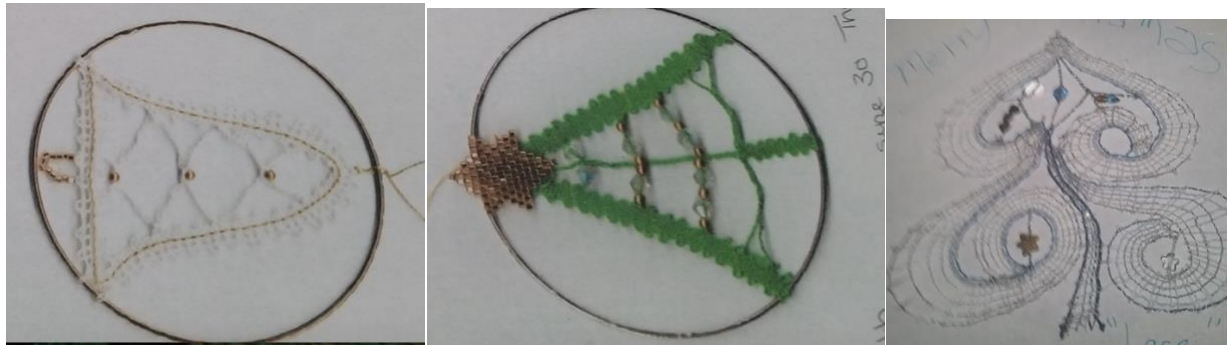
Every July, the nearby borough of Oakmont has a big sale day when they close their upper street to traffic and have a huge sidewalk sale. As always, the PLG was on hand to help our friends at Yarns By Design. We volunteer two lacemakers each year to demonstrate lace making and to help keep an eye on the store. The sale hours were from 10:00 to 4:00. Amy, Clare, and Suzanne wowed the crowds with their lacemaking and even were able to sneak off to do some shopping. The deals at YBD and the other stores were amazing, and the PLG members had a great time.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS: SUMMER CAMP CHURCHILL BOROUGH BUILDING AUGUST 21-24, 2018**

Surprise! This year, instead of starting on Monday, we are starting on Tuesday due to scheduling constraints at the Churchill Borough Building. Summer Camp will begin about 7 and go until 9. I have found three projects; two involve Christmas trees, with one of the trees and a bell inside a bangle. You will have fairly easy options to choose from. The bangles uses four or more pairs of size 30 thread, but I think you could substitute tatting cotton (you might need more pairs, but would have a better color selection). The tree requires eight 4mm beads and 10 spacer beads plus some kind of star for the top. I think you could pick any beads you want. The bell pattern uses white thread with 3 beads and some strung together to make a clapper.

The card is a fairly free-form tree that can be made in varying weights of metallic threads, although nothing too fine. It also uses various beads in different shapes and sizes that would give the impression of ornaments. See the pictures below. The group's metallic threads and winder will be available. Card stock and bangles will be provided. This is always a bunch of fun for us. Nothing is very complicated, but you should be able to complete one project, if not two or three.

Sample Sumer Camp projects



**UPCOMING EVENTS: DEMONSTRATION  
PITTSBURGH'S MAKE LACE IN PUBLIC DAY – OCTOBER 1, 2018  
C.C. MELLOR PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Mark your calendar and get ready to demonstrate at the CC Mellor Library on Monday October 1. Remember: every time we demonstrate lacemaking, we may have the opportunity to entice someone to the art! We will be demonstrating in the Fiction Room of the library. The details are not finalized, but it will probably be between noon and 4PM. More information will be made available as we come closer to the date.

GPS location is: 1 Pennwood Ave.,  
Pittsburgh (Edgewood), 15218



**UPCOMING EVENTS: WORKSHOP!**  
**SCHNEEBERGER LACE with MARIA PROVENCHER**  
**SEPTEMBER 14-16, 2018**

We are excited to host Maria for her first-ever PLG workshop. Schneeberger is a neat lace that developed after the war in Europe when the lacemakers wanted to be able to make small motifs, using easy techniques (so quick and easy) that they could sell (so attractive). It uses few pairs of bobbins. We are returning to what was our usual timetable for this workshop at the Churchill Borough Building. On Friday night, we begin to arrive after 6:00 or 6:30. Maria, who is a vendor extraordinaire, will have things for sale and will do a brief talk beginning at 8:00. There is an admission charge of \$5.00 and you are asked to bring snacks or desserts that are finger foods. Coffee and tea will be provided.

On Saturday we will begin making some Schneeberger projects. Hours will be 10:00 to 5:00 on Saturday and 9:00 to 4:00 on Sunday. We will go out to dinner with Maria on Saturday night. There will be a limit of 12 people in this workshop; please fill out the form below and send it to Theresa with a check for \$125.00 made out to the **Pittsburgh Lace Group** (not Amy's Bahama's Fund). Commemorative bobbins are \$15.00 and should be pre-ordered. If you need anything special from Maria, please email her directly at [maria.provencher@gmail.com](mailto:maria.provencher@gmail.com)

**WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM – SCHNEEBERGER LACE**  
**SEPTEMBER 14-16, 2018**

Return this form with a check in the amount of \$125 payable to Pittsburgh Lace Group to: Theresa Troyan, 1507 Wolf Avenue, North Braddock, PA 15104

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Workshop \$125.00 members, \$135.00 non-members \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Workshop commemorative Midlands bobbins \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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



## BOOK REVIEWS: SCHNEEBERGER LACE

By Sandy Faulk

The Pittsburgh Lace Group's library has three books featuring Schneeberger Lace.

Lia Baumeister-Jonker's *Schneeberger Lace* is a good place to start. Self-published in 1983, it's a nice step by step introduction into this technique. The author presents six lessons with clear instructions and drawings explaining the moves. Lesson 1 is a simple edging with seven pairs and includes basic set-up instructions. She provides very clear instruction on how to make a picot. The following five lessons quickly change to patterns with more design and substance. Each technique is shown in detail with multiple drawings. Prickings, to be used for each lesson, are found at the back of the booklet. Finally, each pattern is shown completed in a black and white photo. It's a low-tech book but has a wealth of information in techniques.

The second book for review is Brigitte Bellon's *Schneeberger Klöppelmotive*



Pattern #5

(collaborated with Barbara Fay Verlag). Published in 2008, this book is still available to purchase. ISBN 978-3-925184-50-5. This book is in German and English. Prickings are for as few as four pairs, and many of them work in sections. Complete section A, tie off and add new bobbins for section B, etc. The result is some very lovely pieces which look complicated but are really pretty reasonable to make. The nice thing about this book is that there are some small patterns which quickly set up and can be completed with little time. The bell pattern shown here uses eight pairs and has two sections. I completed it in two and a half

evenings; it would make a nice Christmas ornament. This book has lots of prickings and instructions with drawings are included wherever a unique technique is introduced.

The third book available in our library is Lia Baumeister-Jonker's *Schneeberger Lace Patterns*. I was unable to check out this book in time for a review.

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. Thanks to Sandy and Amy for their invaluable contributions to this newsletter!

**UPCOMING EVENTS:  
A VISIT TO JAN LETOWSKI  
NOVEMBER 17, 2018 (?)**

Many of you will remember Jan who showcased his wonderful lace during our Friday evening program for Debby Beever's workshop, or you may have met him at the Nationality Rooms. He travels to Europe to purchase lace that people no longer want. He has graciously invited us to visit him at his home in Squirrel Hill. We will bring food to share with him. I am sure he will have some pieces for sale, lots of lace for us to see, and some good stories to tell. This is tentatively scheduled for November 17<sup>th</sup>, but the date and time must be confirmed.

**P.L.G. MEMBER NEWS**

In our Spring 2018 newsletter, we mentioned our Minnesota member, Nancy Wellington, who spearheaded the St. Paul Cozy Project. Be sure to check out the wonderful article in the most recent *IOLI Bulletin* about her work in Minnesota. Kudos to you, Nancy!

**IN MEMORIAM -- JUDY ZEISS  
March 16, 1936 – May 8, 2018**

Many of us remember Judy from her Bedfordshire Lace Workshop with the PLG. She was a devoted lacemaker, a gifted lace designer, and an excellent, caring teacher. She dedicated her life not only to lacemaking but also to caring for others through her work with therapy animals. She will be greatly missed by our members and lacemakers worldwide.

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/ourmidland/obituary.aspx?n=judith-zeiss&pid=188968052&fhid=5808>

**OTHER UPCOMING DEMONSTRATIONS AND MEETINGS  
(details will be provided in future mailings)**

Italian Day at the Heinz History Center – usually held the first Sunday in October  
The McGinley House in Monroeville, PA – usually the second Saturday in October  
University of Pittsburgh Nationality Rooms – usually the first Sunday in December  
Weekly meetings on all Thursday evenings (except the third one) at Grace Reformed Church in Monroeville -- 7 to 9PM

**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)**