

# LACE THREADS

News of the Pittsburgh Lace Group –  
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## SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2021

### President’s Message

I am back...

Actually this is the first time since 2014 that we have had a newsletter in the Summer. But there are finally some times and dates to communicate. The information about future workshops and the commemorative bobbin is on the third page. Until the Borough gives us an ok to use the Yeagel Room, we will be in the house next to the church every Thursday beginning in July. I have asked the Chinese Church if we can use their wifi to zoom with the out of state ladies. If there is no way to connect with them at the church, there may be at the Borough Building. It has been such a joy to maintain our friendships during the last year. We don’t want to lose that connection. So June 18<sup>th</sup> we will zoom and June 25<sup>th</sup> we will meet at Emmerling Park. After that it may be every week at the church or one week a month from our homes or the Borough Building so that we can still zoom.

I hope you have been making lace. There are so many wonderful patterns out there. I.O.L.I. Convention is the last week in July and some events are open to non members so check their web site. [Internationalorganizationoflace.org](http://Internationalorganizationoflace.org)

As President I have decreed that Suzanne Potter will continue as Secretary and Theresa Troyan will continue as Vice President. If anyone wants to stage a coup and replace them, or me, we will be willing to step down., We are so far in violation of the constitution that at this point I don’t think it matters. The important part is that we have survived as a group. Take some time to read the newsletter and see what else is planned and what we some members have been doing.

I know it is repetitive to say this but come to the meetings and classes. Things get decided there and we would like to have your input. I hate to make decisions on my own. *Amy Gibbons*

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### Upcoming Events

June 17<sup>th</sup> Zoom meeting from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00p.m.

June 24<sup>th</sup> Emmerling Park from 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Laurel Cove Pavilion

July 1 from 7 :00 to 9:00 p.m. is undetermined, we would like to zoom and meet at the church.

July 8<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 P.M. classes at The Chinese Church

(by July 9<sup>th</sup> we should know more about our options)

*Call for Contributions! Call for Contributions!*

As always, any and all contributions to this newsletter are most welcome. Any news about members, other lacemakers, bobbins, threads, patterns, books, ideas pictures send ‘em and keep ‘em coming!

# Virtual Tour of the Lace Guild Museum in Stourbridge, England

March 13, 2021

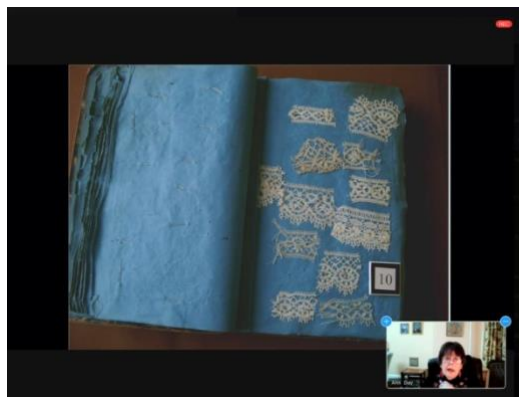
Submitted by **Sandy Faulk**

PLG was fortunate to enjoy a virtual tour of the Lace Guild Museum hosted by Ann Day, curator. We had about 12 members attending via Zoom. Ann gave an overview of the accredited museum's beginnings and then talked about the actual collection and what goes into acquiring and documenting the lace. The museum houses modern and traditional lace and possesses more



items than they could possibly display at one time. They

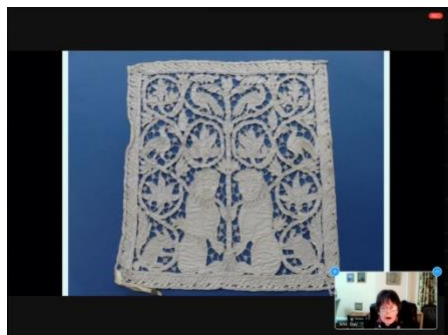
have sample books and prickings as well as actual lace. Lots of the prickings are from the 19th century and many are on parchment. They receive items through bequest, donations and sometimes auctions. Each acquired



item is carefully documented and evaluated for possible restoration. One of their oldest pieces dates around 1630 and was made by John Heritage. Their collection includes examples of Bobbin lace, Tatting, Knitting and Crochet.



They organize exhibitions for historical as well as modern pieces of lace. The museum also gives courses and workshops on site as well as throughout the UK. They also host a subscription service called Artifact a Month Club which is a free service available to anyone. You can access this service through their webpage: [laceguild.org](http://laceguild.org)



A special thank you to Amy for finding and organizing this wonderful free event for PLG.

I still have the talk recorded on my zoom account if any of our members would like to see it please contact me. You must be able to zoom. Ann was a delight to work with. She knows so much about lace and has spent a great deal of time working with the museum. Amy Gibbons

## COMMEMORATIVE BOBBINS

They have arrived. They are beautiful. All of them (including mine) are with our treasurer, Sandy Faulk. They cost about five dollars less than I guesstimated (on purpose) and there will be a refund due everyone who ordered. Before you can have them, you will have to let Sandy know what you want her to do with the refund. For many it would cover the cost of mailing. But if you



added extra – as many did – you will still be due a refund. When she is ready she will begin to distribute them. I am pleased to hand this job over to her, since I know she will keep better records than I do. I have been known to say that I would write something down later. Ha Ha!

## FUTURE WORKSHOPS

The Borough Building is not available for meetings or workshops yet. They know that we are interested and were willing to schedule the Louise Colgan workshop for next Spring – 2022.

So save the dates May 13 through the 16<sup>th</sup>. We will have her for her birthday once again. We had originally scheduled her for 2 days plus 2 half days which would have been 3 days. We are now adding another day Everyone who had signed up for the cancelled workshop decided to plan on taking the workshop whenever it would be safe to travel. There will be a charge for the extra day, but we will have the extra day!!

I also emailed with Dagmar Beckel Machy who came and taught us all how to make dolphins. Or tried to teach us. At that time she showed us some Spania Dolina that she has been teaching. We all thought it was lovely. She was busy this fall. So sometime in the Fall of 2022 – date to be determined later – she will come back to teach again.

## ANGELINA'S WEDDING

By Dewi Wong

This is the second part of the article I wrote about sewing for my daughter's wedding last year. The ultimate fun thing to play with Barbie doll is changing her fashionable clothes and providing all the accessories that only a doll mother can think of. One of Angeline's hobbies is to collect Barbie and friends. She dresses her dolls according to the seasons and occasions, then photographs them and emails them to family and cousins, similar to the idea of mailing greeting cards.

I hadn't made any dresses for Barbie or fashion dolls, but liked to buy little Christmas sweater ornaments and to fashion doll shawls or dresses from wine bottle cozies. Sometimes I have to re-sew the item to fit. To do this, I had one Barbie-like doll, Disney's Jasmine. She has long black hair and served as my model.







When the bridal salons opened again after the COVID lockdown last year, Angeline and I went to look for a wedding gown. She had a particular style that she is fond of, like Princess Leia's from the cover of a "Star Wars" novel. I was a bit skeptical, but on a visit to the third shop, she tried on one which was in that style. The dress has off-the-shoulder sleeves, a sweetheart neckline, lace lining, and is topped with Venetian style lace appliques.

She ordered the dress, which took several weeks to arrive. After that, we went to several fitting sessions for the dress. Fortunately, the bodice of the dress fit perfectly. The off-the-shoulder sleeves needed

to be adjusted and the skirt part to be shortened all around, plus the back needed to be bustled evenly for dancing. There are seven layers of fabric on the skirt part! At the last fitting, the seamstress showed me how to bustle the back of the dress for the evening reception, because it is my task to do that before the bride enters the ballroom. She added 7 clear buttons for the under layer of the skirt, and 5 on the top part of the skirt with lace, from side to side, to lift up this part of the dress.

Then she showed me how to pleat them. After that, she cut all the tulle, the lace fabric, and the very top layer with the Venetian appliques to form an even hem. She handed to us all the cut fabric as she usually does to all her brides, to keep.



I had the joy of making Angeline's veil and trimmed it with a Venetian lace that complemented the appliques on her dress. After the wedding, I found that I still had some of the lace which I had hand-sewn to the veil and also had lace pieces that I thought I could make into

a miniature wedding dress for my doll with the black hair. So I secretly made a doll wedding dress—complete with veil and accessories—in the style of Angeline's dress, for her birthday last December. I used lace fabric cut from the actual wedding gown when it was hemmed. Instead of seven layers, I did three layers. I sewed tiny pearl buttons on the back of the dress vertically, just as the buttons were on her gown. I also recreated the jewelry and the barrette for the doll to match. It was a surprise birthday gift indeed. She was delighted to receive it!

