



LACE THREADS

News of the Pittsburgh Lace Group –
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FALL/WINTER NEWSLETTER 2021

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

How can it be that we are still waiting for things to find their new normal? I have had some issues with my back and so am very late with this. I have not been able to sit at the computer and didn’t want to try to do it on my cell phone. Please read the article about Dewi’s event this weekend.

There will also be something about meetings, since we are back to Thursday nights mostly at the church. The newsletter will also have some pictures from the classes some of us took during the I.O.L.I. UnCon. I hope all of you are well and looking forward to getting back to making lace.

Please let me know if you are planning to come to class.

If there are only two of us, I will cancel.

AmyGibbons

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Arts and Music Show

Saturday, November 6, 2021 from 6:30-8:30 PM at The First Baptist Church, 159 N. Bellefield in Oakland. www.fbcpg.org

Dewi Wong invites you for an evening of **Arts and Music**. Young and mature artists, photographers, as well as Jazz musicians will be featured. Dewi will show her contemporary lace artworks and demonstrate bobbin lacemaking. Please come to this free event, and if you would like to also demonstrate lacemaking, please let Dewi know as soon as possible.

Cookies & tea/coffee will be served at the conclusion of the program.

Nov.11 December 2nd and 9th 23(?) 30(?) 7:00-9:00 p.m. Meeting at the church on Hochberg Rd
Nov. 18 December 16th –zoom meeting from 7:00-9:00p.m.

No meeting on Nov.25th - Thanksgiving. Also, on December 23rd we probably won’t meet but could if enough people wanted to come. Let me know.

December 30th is the Thursday between Christmas and New Years. We could possibly have a Christmas party at the church in the open area before you go down the steps, in the afternoon or evening. We can talk about it at the November and December meetings.

Louise Colgan is still hopeful that we can have a Spring workshop with her, which would probably be on May 12th -16th. That depends on how things go. She joins us for the Zoom

meetings so we can discuss it there when things start to open up. But she is traveling to teach right now.

The Nationality Rooms

Last year Sandy filmed and I am talked on a video that was shown on their website for a limited time. It included other groups' presentations. There were 4,658 clicks, likes and shares on the entire program, with 5,849 views on the entire program with an average of 73 views per video. This year the program will begin on December 5th and run through the 12th. Our video will be available from the 8th to the 12th.

After much thought and discussion, it was decided to reuse the video from last year because by the time we learned that they wanted a video, the weather was too chilly to do it on my porch and I am too lazy to carry everything to another place or even to my porch. Bad Back.

Christmas

We have loved having our Christmas party at Esther's, but we would not be able to socially distance there. In the past the Christmas Party was held on the Thursday between Christmas and New Years in the early evening. The church has suggested that we ask two weeks before we want to be there. I would like to know a little before that. Or we can skip it this year.

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!

Crochet lace

by Dewi Wong

My mother, Elisabeth, taught me how to crochet when I was about five years old. As the youngest of four children, I was the only child left at home while my siblings went to school. Mother sewed a lot on her Singer sewing machine and I used to sit on her lap while she ran it. One day, she showed me how to crochet. I was happily occupied for a long time and she merrily finished her sewing at the machine. Mother also taught me embroidery and dressmaking. Those were my happy memories with her.

The women's group from my church meets every third Saturday of the month. In October, they had a baby shower after the meeting at the church for my daughter, Angeline, who is expecting her first child. There were five people joining the meeting via Zoom, including Angeline, as she is social distancing during her pregnancy to avoid Covid-19 and its Delta variant. Her mother-in-law and I hosted the luncheon for the ladies. We had fun baby games, etc. For this happy occasion, I crocheted several small baby bassinets as the table decorations. I used a combination of white yarn paired with peach, pink, blue, and pink yarn. Each was trimmed with lacy ruffles and a matching small bow on the



top. After the shower, some of the ladies were welcome to take them home for their daughters or nieces.

UnCon 2021 by Joan Trimble

During the last week of July 2021, I was lucky enough to participate in a three-day IOLI UnCon Milanese Lace workshop with Louise Colgan. All classes were coordinated by The Lace Museum, in collaboration with the IOLI UnCon committee. Louise is a favorite teacher for the PLG, and I was looking forward to the class and to completing her “Eternity Heart” pattern. Louise is, as we know, incredibly organized when she teaches in person, and kept up this trend while teaching virtually. All of us knew well ahead of time what supplies were needed, as well as which techniques would be used during the workshop. With patterns pricked, bobbins wound, and smart phones suspended over our pillows, we began working. Prior to the workshop, Louise had recorded several videos detailing procedures for completing the project, using various Milanese braids and reinforcing techniques such as the tight-point turn, pivot turn, and bundle-and-tie finish. The eight participants came from venues ranging from British Columbia to Virginia; some had experience with Milanese and others did not. Thanks to The Lace Museum’s tech genie Joan Brash, there were very few technical glitches, and everything worked smoothly and efficiently. At the end of the three-day, nine-hour workshop, most of us had completed the Eternity Heart, and for those who had to miss a session or who worked more slowly, IOLI graciously allowed the class videos to be available through the end of August. The workshop was a wonderful experience, and one in which I was happy to have participated. Thanks to Louise, Joan, The Lace Museum, and the IOLI board for providing this outstanding experience!

Below are pictures of the Eternity Hearts I completed. The one on the left (which has more mistakes!) was completed during the workshop. The right one is another that I did a week after the workshop ended, thanks to the availability of Louise’s videos on the IOLI website.



UnCon 2021 continued by Amy Gibbons

Sandy Faulk, Kathy Timmons and I all took “Deciphering Leaves and Tallies with Josee Poupart from Canada. Kathy was in a different session than Sandy and me. There were about 8 in each class. She was a wonderful teacher, patiently making sure that we understood. She showed techniques repeatedly. Getting the set up for the video was our first challenge and we got to check our set ups a few days before the class and make adjustments until the work on the pillow was in focus.

The first project was a ring of six leaves. Not only did we learn her method of making leaves, but also how to join them together. The second class project was a bookmark which had everything in it. Pictured is my third attempt. It is hard to remember to do everything exactly right. But I learned so much. What a generous lady!

The more I looked at the top of the bookmark the easier it seemed to turn it into a Christmas Ornament. I made several before I got it just right. You will notice that the red and green threads do not show on the back. There is one to put on the Lace Group’s Christmas Tree this year.



Front



Back



A Traditional Project by Amy Gibbons



There was a wedding in Mike's brother's family and I wanted to do something nice. I had heard about the horseshoes that they make in England for the Bride to carry. I dusted off my trusty old Springetts and came up with this. I hope it holds the luck in for them. The bride was very pleased. White linen with sets of four pearl beads.

Miscellaneous Notes

Please let me know if you are planning on coming to lace so that Suzanne and I don't drive to the church for just the two of us. It takes us between 30 and 45 minutes to drive one way. It is disappointing when our friends aren't there. We will be much more comfortable in the large room by the usual door. There will be two large tables and good light all around. We will have to bring chairs from the house, but we can also use the bathroom upstairs too.

After discussing the possibility of skipping dues this year, we decided to maintain them at the same rate, since we still must pay the church the usual amount and the can is not going to be able to contribute its usual amount. We do not want to lose the space because there is no other central place to put our library and doo-dads

PLG dues \$15.00 Annually

Name _____

Address _____ Amount _____

E-Mail Address _____

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Indicate if there is a change from previous years in the information above _____. Make check
payable to Pittsburgh Lace Group and mail to
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