



LACE THREADS

NEWS OF THE PITTSBURGH LACE GROUP

<http://pittsburghlacegroup.org>
pittsburghlacegroup@gmail.com

Our new Facebook page is:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/408890647627886>

WINTER 2023-2024 NEWSLETTER

President's Letter

“The time has come to talk of many things...-of cabbages – and kings.” I don't know how it got to be November, and December will be here before you know it. A president of an organization should be able to represent that organization to the public well, and work for the benefit of the group. I am no longer able to do that. I can't find things in places where I am positive, I put them. I name places or things and am positive I said what I meant. Later I find that that wasn't the case. Sometimes I can't hear what is being said. I am humbled and very frustrated by all of this. That means I can't do a good job as a president.

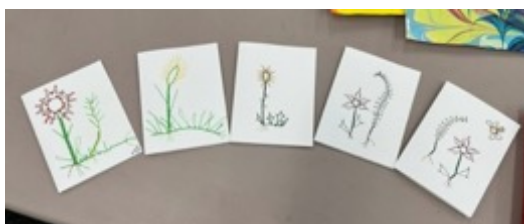
I took some time off to take virtual Milanese classes. While I missed seeing you all, I have learned things that are not as positive as I wished. I now understand why Barb is frustrated by Milanese tension, why Kathy can't organize her thoughts when there are so many distractions during class, why Margot started making easier patterns. At least I have time between virtual classes to watch the recording of the class, sometimes repeatedly. I hope that I can get better with practice.

I am so grateful that people have taken over responsibilities for the group. I now want to just be a lacemaker and come like everyone else. I have been on the verge of this decision for a long time. I am tired. I don't need the stress that I put on myself about the lace group. I have accepted that I will need the cane when I go outside because of stairs and uneven ground. My balance is probably not going to improve. I am grateful for all the help that everyone has given me through the years. I do not want to be a burden.

I will continue to set up the zoom meetings until next August. I have put a reminder in my phone to set it up. Once the meeting is open anyone who wants to can come. This has been coming for a long time. I have been president too long for it to be healthy for the group or for me. Please no fuss.

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. Thank you to those who contributed to this newsletter: Amy Gibbons, Sandy Faulk, Dewi Wong. Your articles are greatly appreciated!



Lace cards by Sandy Faulk

*******WEEKLY CLASSES AND MEETINGS*******

All classes/meetings will be held at the Yagel Room in the **Churchill Borough Building**. Monthly business meetings are on the first Thursday of the month. Meetings and classes take place from 1:00-3:00, except for Zoom meetings. The monthly business meeting is designated by an * and Zoom meetings are in parentheses.

November: 2*, 9, 16, 30 (Zoom at 7PM on 11/16) No class will be held on the 23rd—Happy Thanksgiving to all!

December: 7*, 14. (Zoom at 7PM on 12/21) No class will be held on the 21st or 28th – Happy Holidays to all!

January 2024: 4*, 11, 18, 25 (Zoom at 7PM on 1/18)

February: 1*, 8, 15, 22, 29 (Zoom at 7PM on 2/15)

*******UPCOMING EVENTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS*******

NATIONALITY ROOMS HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE – Dec. 3, 2023, University of Pittsburgh

As always, the PLG will participate in the yearly kickoff to the holiday season by making lace from noon to 4:00 PM in the breathtaking Croghan-Schenley Room in the Nationality Rooms at Pitt. The festivities will feature not only our lovely Lace Christmas Tree, but ethnic foods, music, and dancing. We will be sharing the room this year with members of Quo Vadis, who will be showcasing the Nationality Rooms' textile collection. This event is always one of our favorites. If you plan to demonstrate, please let Dewi or Joanie know.

ANNUAL PLG CHRISTMAS PARTY – Dec. 29, 2023, at Gretchen's

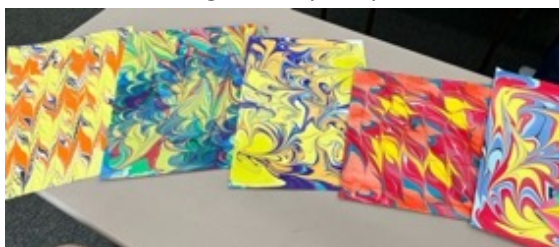
Time: TBA

Gretchen Baudoux has graciously offered to host our annual Christmas Party at her home. We will be getting together for holiday fun and friendship, including the traditional Christmas Game. Be sure to bring some goodies to share, as well as some gently used but still useful items for the Game. Please let Gretchen know whether you plan to attend by **December 21st**. Food and time for the gathering will be discussed at the December monthly meeting. As always, the party is the highlight of the Christmas season. We hope to see you there!

SPRING WORKSHOP WITH LOUISE COLGAN

MAY 10 to 13, 2023—CHURCHILL BOROUGH BUILDING

Save the date! This Mother's Day weekend, the PLG will once again welcome our favorite lace teacher, Louise Colgan, who will be teaching a workshop in Milanese and Bucks Point Lace. Louise will offer a few choices of pattern. We know she will choose something that will appeal to all our different interests. More details about the workshop will be provided closer to the date. What a great way to spend Mother's Day and to welcome Spring!



Endpapers marbled by Sandy Faulk

*****SO, WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING WITH THE P.L.G.?*****

DEMONSTRATION AT CONTEMPORARY CRAFT
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

The PLG was once again invited to participate in the September 30th Community Day at Contemporary Craft in Lawrenceville. Dewi Wong and Sandy Faulk demonstrated bobbin lacemaking and fielded questions from the public, both young and not-so-young. Although the number of visitors was smaller than in 2022, Dewi and Sandy entranced the crowds with their skill and knowledge of lace and fibers. We are looking forward to being invited to this valuable event next fall. Please enjoy Dewi's pictures from the event.



Dewi's lovely display of lace items



Dewi hard at work

RED DRESS/CALICO DRESS #3 OPENING RECEPTION -- OCTOBER 7, 2023
FRICK FINE ARTS MUSEUM/FIBERARTS GUILD OF PITTSBURGH

This exhibit gives us (or at least me) perhaps our only chance to say and actually mean, "I'll be exhibiting my work at the Frick for several months." That's exactly what happened when PLG members donated pieces of lace or other needlework to the Calico Dress #3, part of the international Red Dress Exhibit, which is being hosted at the Frick Museum by the FiberArts Guild of Pittsburgh. The Exhibit opened at the beginning of October and will be at the Frick until the last week of January 2024. We've reported on the Red Dress in past newsletters, but below is a list of the items donated by PLG members and their positions on the Calico Dress #3. We hope that each member, and all those reading this newsletter, have a chance to see this work exhibited at the Frick this fall. Thank you again, Dewi, for sharing this opportunity with the Group, and for your articles about our participation!

Listed below are the PLG contributions, noting the position on the panel, **name of contributor**, item description, technique/type of lace in parentheses, *designer/teacher in italics*.

Right back panel:

Amy Gibbons: red butterfly (Milanese lace), *Radmilla Zuman*,
Half circles with wire (bobbin lace). *Jana Novak*

Right Front panel, left column

Kathy Timmons: small pink heart in the middle of heart (Tatted lace)

Joan Trimble: left from top to bottom,
Beaded star, Stellina pattern by *Theodora Seimini*
White & pink heart (Tenerife lace), by *Heirloom Arts*
Heart (ribbon embroidery), design by *Joan Trimble*.
Pink circle (Tenerife lace) designed by *Robin Panza*.
Center column, top to bottom

Nancy Wellington: 2-D purple/green flower (Torchon bobbin lace), traditional

Dewi Wong: Red good luck knot (Chinese Knotting), traditional pattern.

Brown heart (Milanese bobbin lace), design by *Louise Colgan*

Right column, top to bottom

Amy Gibbons: Purple Iris (Rosa Libre bobbin lace), by *Robin Panza*

Sandy Faulk: blue circle (Tenerife lace),

Large pink flower(modern bobbin lace), burgundy flower (Chrysanthemum bobbin lace).

Right godet

Amy Gibbons: green leaf, red heart (Bedfordshire bobbin lace), girl with yellow cape & red rose bud (bobbin lace). Designed by *Christine Springett*

Burgundy necklace circle designed by *Debbie Beever*

Joan Trimble: red beaded trillium, by *Diane Fitzgerald*

Dewi Wong: red/black Chinese Knot

Amy Gibbons: light green heart (Milanese bobbin lace),

Burgundy and gold heart (tape lace), Blue heart with purple flower (Brugge bobbin lace),

Pink/white heart (Torchon bobbin lace), by *Christine Springett*,

Blue triangle (Schneeberger bobbin lace) design by *Lia Baumeister-Jonker*

Front center panel

Dewi Wong: facade of Frick Museum (bobbin lace & ribbon roses), designed by *Dewi Wong*

Lee Uptegraff: yellow sunflower and purple pansy (Milanese bobbin lace), design by *Louise Colgan*.



The completed Calico Dress #3



Dewi with the dress

BEAD EMBROIDERY WORKSHOP – OCT. 6, 2023 THE QUEEN'S BEADS – WHITE OAK, PA

The PLG members were afforded the opportunity of working with something other than threads and bobbins: seed beads, filigree, and cabochons. Karen Thomas, the “Queen” herself, a local award-winning bead artist, showed us the basics of bead embroidery at her well-stocked bead shop. She provided some lovely color-coordinated kits and spent a few hours expertly guiding us as we crafted our masterpieces. Several members commented on how much fun the workshop was, even though it was their first experience with beading and

embroidery. It was certainly my first time combining those two techniques. Although none of us finished our pendants or brooches during our time at the shop, we laughed a lot, and Karen was impressed with our progress and friendship. She gave us wonderful instructions for completing the projects on our own, and several members have worked on them at our Thursday meetings.

Karen also asked that we consider doing a presentation about bobbin lace and the Group for her Thursday night beading group sometime after the holiday season. We will certainly do that, and we thank Karen for the outstanding workshop. Below are some pictures.



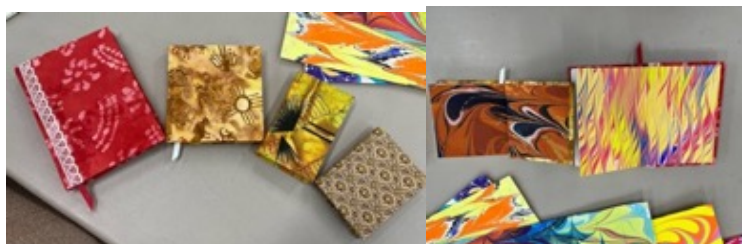
Jodie's completed brooch from the workshop



Karen and PLG members having a great time

LIBRARY NEWS

Because of our move from the Pittsburgh East Chinese Church to the Churchill Borough Building, we have moved our library books to members' houses. In order to allow members to see who has a particular book and which books are available for a particular subject, the books have been added to an online program called "LibraryThing." Once Sandy and I have finished cataloging the books, we will arrange for members to have access to the collection. In the meantime, if you need a certain book, please contact me at pittsburghlacegroup@gmail.com, and we will track down the book for you and get it to you. Many thanks to those who helped with the daunting task of moving the library: Theresa, Sandy, Suzanne, Jodie, and Wayne.



Some lovely bound books and hand-marbled endpapers by Sandy Faulk

DUES ARE DUE!!

Please be sure to send your check for \$20.00, made payable to *Pittsburgh Lace Group*, to our treasurer, Sandy Faulk, at 414 Hampton Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15221. As you recall, the yearly dues amount has increased from \$15.00 to \$20.00. This change was accepted via unanimous vote at the 2023 Annual Meeting. Thank you for renewing!

You may use this form:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

BIRTHDAY: _____



More colorful marbling pieces by Sandy Faulk



A couple of colorful photos from the Carnegie Museum of Art – the Pittsburgh Satellite Reef, part of the Global Crochet Coral Reef Project

PLG Member Dewi Wong participated in the project by crocheting a piece of coral for the exhibit.