



LACE THREADS

NEWS OF THE PITTSBURGH LACE GROUP

<http://pittsburghlacegroup.org>

pittsburghlacegroup@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/408890647627886>

SPRING 2024 NEWSLETTER

President's Letter

Hello and Goodbye,

This is the last President's Letter I will be writing. I am making more lace and enjoying it immensely. It has been over 40 years since I made my first piece of lace and I find I still have lots to learn. I have been gradually transferring Lace Group related duties to other people. With their infusion of ideas and energy, I am confident that my replacements will do a great job. I look forward to joining you on Thursdays as my schedule allows.

Amy Gibbons

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

All classes/meetings will be held at the Yagel Room in the **Churchill Borough Building, 2300 William Penn Hwy, Pittsburgh, PA 15235**. 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.

March: 7*, 14, 21 (Zoom at 7PM on 3/21) No class will be held on April 28th (Holy Thursday)—Happy Easter to all who celebrate!

April: 6 (Annual Meeting), 11, 18, 25 (Zoom at 7PM April 18) No class will be held on April 4th

May: 2*, 16, 23, 30 (Zoom at 7PM May 16th) No class will be held on May 9th

June: 6*, 13, 20, 27 (Zoom at 7PM June 20)

October 5-6, 2024: Workshop with Elizabeth Peterson; details TBA at a later date

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!

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

ANNUAL MEETING – CHURCHILL BOROUGH BUILDING

APRIL 6, 2024 – NOON to 4:00 PM

Please join us at our Annual Business Meeting on Saturday, April 6, 2024, at the Yagel Room at Churchill Borough Building. We will be electing a new President and a Treasurer, as well as awarding scholarships for the spring workshop. We will also allow members to choose and keep for themselves books from the library collection of non-bobbin lace books.

We will also be constructing pillows for an upcoming workshop with Rivers of Steel at the Monongahela Senior Center in Monongahela, PA. We ask any members who have some useable fabric and sewing pins to bring them to cover these pillows. The pillows will be like those used at IOLI Conventions, measuring 24 x 24 x 1 inch. Please bring fabric that will completely cover those measurements, front and back--approximately 26 x 52 inches, along with some scissors and pins. Please bring a snack and a drink and come have some fun with your fellow members! Hope to see you there!

THE BIG EVENT:

SPRING WORKSHOP WITH LOUISE COLGAN

MAY 10 to 13, 2023—CHURCHILL BOROUGH BUILDING

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.

Louise will be contacting those who have signed up for the workshop to suggest patterns from which to choose, along with thread color suggestions. What a great way to spend Mother's Day and to welcome Spring!

Cost for the workshop is \$150.00 for members or \$170.00 for non-members and is payable at the time of registration. Please use the form at the end of this newsletter to register.

Once again, instead of having a potluck lunch, boxed or take-out lunches can be ordered. Participants may bring their own sandwiches, but the Group will not be providing food or drinks.

Because of Louise's travel plans, tentative hours for the workshop will be as follows:

Friday – 4 class hours

Shopping from 10:00-noon

Lunch from noon – 1:00

Class from 1:00 – 5:00

Saturday – 6 hours --Class from 10:00-5:00 with 1 hour for lunch

Sunday – 6 hours--Class from 10:00-5:00 with 1 hour for lunch

Monday – 2 hours --Class from 9:30 – 11:30

SHOPPING: As in recent years, Maria Provencher of Provo Enterprises will be sending a few books and goodies for sale. This is a chance for you to buy any odds and ends you might need and to see what new books are available. In order for Maria to send fewer books and supplies, we ask members to order from her Etsy shop, **ProvoLaceShop**, and request specific books or items you want to buy. Maria will then send a more limited assortment of tools and threads. Her Etsy shop can be found at: <https://www.etsy.com/shop/ProvoLaceShop>

COMMEMORATIVE BOBBINS: As always, commemorative Midlands bobbins for the workshop may be ordered from Sandy Faulk at a cost of \$15.00 each. If you want to pick them up at the time of the workshop, they need to be paid for in advance.

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

**HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE – UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH NATIONALITY ROOMS
DECEMBER 3, 2023**

On December 3, 2023, the Pittsburgh Lace Group was once again afforded the opportunity to participate in the Nationality Rooms Holiday Open House at the University of Pittsburgh. This year, we shared the Croghan-Schenley Room with members of Quo Vadis, the Nationality Room guides. It was a great experience, as in the previous years.

Because the goal of our Group is to educate about and preserve this traditional craft of lace making, which encompasses various cultures in Europe as well as other parts of the world, the lacemaking demonstration and the costume display complemented each other. Many people showed interest, asked excellent questions, and reminisced about their grandmother or older relatives who used to make lace.

It was a delight to talk with the members of Quo Vadis, who were very knowledgeable about the ethnic costumes and the cultures they represented. We were happy to see several administrators from the University of Pittsburgh, who stopped by to spend some time talking with the Group and watching the bobbin lacemaking demonstration.

This demonstration is always one of our favorites, and a meaningful kickoff to the holiday season!



A view of the Croghan-Schenley Room lace display



Members interacting with Nationality Room visitors

THE LACE TREE TRAVELS TO CHURCHILL!

This year, the PLG Lace Christmas tree was prominently displayed in the Churchill Borough Council Meeting Room. The tree was a hit with the Council, who even placed lights on it. Below is a picture of our members who decorated the Tree. Many thanks to Churchill Borough for allowing us to display our work and for illuminating the tree!



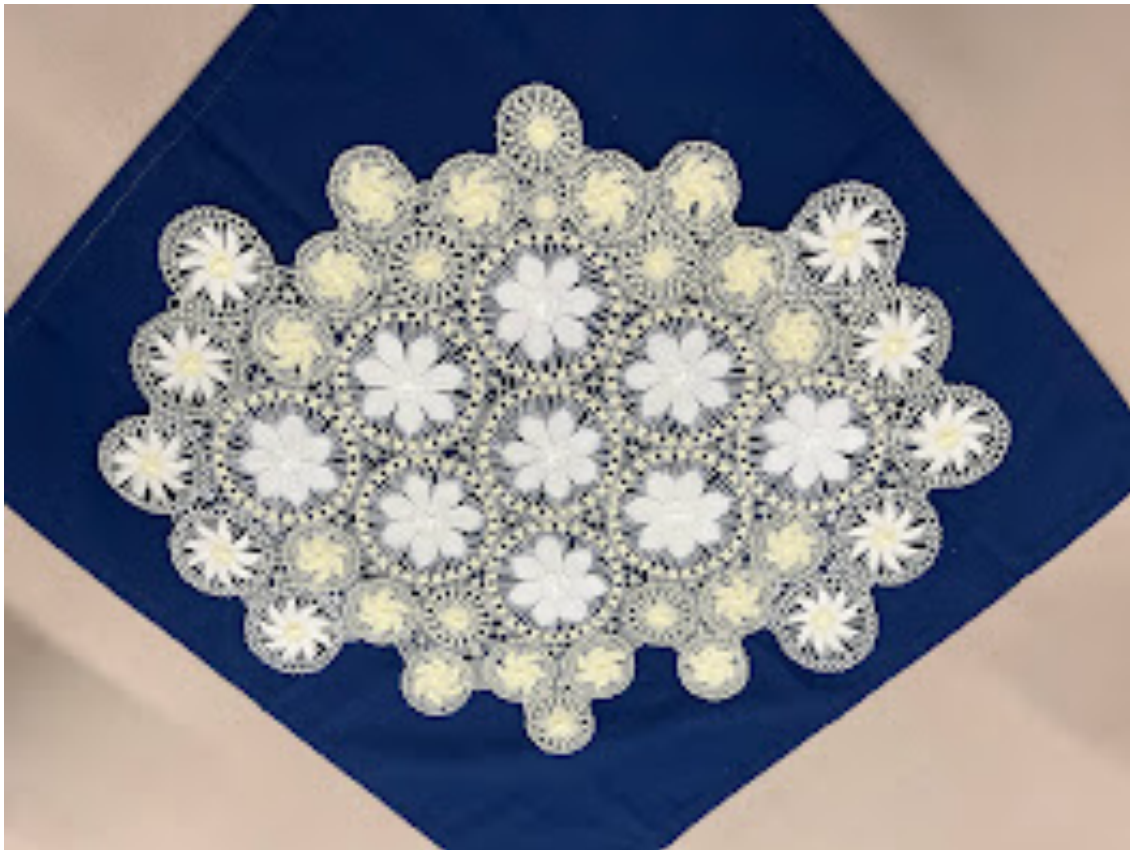
DEMONSTRATION: SPRING FESTIVAL OF THE EGG – MARCH 10, 2024 UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH ALUMNI HALL

A first-time experience for several of us, the PLG was invited to participate in the annual Festival of the Egg at the University of Pittsburgh. Notwithstanding the snow squalls outside, it was the perfect springtime celebration, full of folks showing off their ethnic costumes, crafts, and food. Sandy, Dewi, and Joanie participated by demonstrating bobbin lacemaking, talking to visitors, and enjoying the wonderful festivities and crafts. There were people doing palm-weaving, creating gorgeous Pysanky eggs, selling mouth-watering treats, and watching the little ones learning new crafts and playing some

fun games. There was even a visit from the Easter Bunny! It was a great time for everyone involved. Below are some pictures of Sandy, our table display, and the Easter Tree.



FINALLY, HERE'S SOME LOVELY WORK DONE BY OUR MEMBERS!



Sandy's exquisite Tenerife Mat



Amy's lovely Milanese Heart, designed by Claire Bonito

**WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM –
MILANESE AND BUCKS POINT LACE with LOUISE COLGAN
MAY 10-14, 2024**

Please send your checks made payable to “Pittsburgh Lace Group” to our Treasurer, Sandy Faulk, at 414 Hampton Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15221.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL: _____

Email: _____

Please circle the choice of lace you will be making: MILANESE BUCKS POINT

Members \$150.00 \$ _____

Non-members \$170.00 \$ _____

Workshop commemorative bobbins _____ @ \$15.00 \$ _____

\$ _____ **Total Enclosed**