

Lace Threads News of the Pittsburgh Lace Group

Web site ~ <http://pittsburghlace.8m.com>

Fall ~ Winter 2007

News Flash

Surprise, this is not a message from Theresa. Her life has become very busy. There are some changes that might be important for you to know. This newsletter takes the place of what would normally be contained in two issues. In past years I have scheduled producing the newsletter in between Thanksgiving and demonstrating at the Nationality Rooms. That time is always busy for me. Obviously if this newsletter contains what would be included in the winter newsletter, it includes a dues form which is just before the workshop information. Gretchen would be more than happy to accept your dues at any time. By combining the two issues we will be able to save some cost to the group. Those were the advantages. The disadvantages are that if something comes up, you will need to be at

the meetings to find out about it. There is the possibility of a trip to visit The Lacemaker in Cortland as well as a few other things.

There are some proposed changes to the web site that should make us more visible. Joan and Tim Trimble are working on them. Hopefully you will be able to access that information on the web site in the near future. It might be a good idea to cut the schedule at the bottom of this page and post it on your fridge, so you don't miss anything, or come when class is cancelled. Remember if the weather is bad, we are likely to cancel. Please let the appropriate people know when you can demonstrate. Now enough of this lets go make lace.

Amy Gibbons, editor

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Calendar of Future Events

Saturday & Sunday, September 15 & 16, 11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. - Demonstration at Phipps Conservatory
Friday, September 28, 6:00 – 9:30 P.M. I.O.L.I. slide show **Lace in Fashion** at Churchill Borough Building
Saturday & Sunday, September 29 & 30, 9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. **s'Gravenmoerse Workshop**
at Churchill Borough Building with Susan Wensel
Sunday, October 1. **National Lace Making Day**
Saturday, October 20, 1:00 - 5:00 P.M. Monroeville Heritage Fall Festival - demonstrate at the McGinly House
Thursday, November 1, 7:00 P.M. Regular Monthly Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church
Thursday, November 22 no class scheduled *Happy Thanksgiving*
Sunday, December 2, 1:00 P.M. Demonstrate at The Nationality Rooms
Thursday, December 6, 7:00 P.M. Regular Monthly Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church
Thursday, December 20 No Class on Thursday night.
Thursday, December 27 6:00 P.M. Lace Christmas Party details to be finalized at the December Meeting.
Dues for 2008 are due January 1st
Thursday, January 3, 7:00 P.M. Regular Monthly Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church
Friday, February 29. **Newsletter Deadline**
Thursday, February 7, 7:00 P.M. Regular Monthly Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church
Thursday, March 6, 7:00 P.M. Regular Monthly Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church

Pittsburgh Lace Group

Summer Camp by Amy Gibbons



It is always so nice to hide from the heat in the basement of the church and make lace. For the fourth summer, Pittsburgh Lace Group has met to make Lace every evening for a week. Mary Ann Frey came for the first time and as a beginner, worked diligently on a difficult pattern. She did an excellent job and



will bring her egg in soon. Suzanne has almost finished her egg with beautiful pink and white flowers. Gretchen's egg in white is very traditional. Amy's yellow and white bunny joins Barb's pretty pastel bunny. So now we have a chick and two different kinds of bunnies. We were all excited to receive the envelope from Betsy Sykes with three eggs.

Our tree will have 26 different hanging decorations when we put it up next year before Easter. There was a minor catastrophe when we mislaid the book containing the eggs. It had been shoved to the back of our new, taller book cabinet. It was invisible for us short folks, even from across the room. Theresa stood on a chair to find it. Both it and the Christmas ornaments are now in small Acid free picture albums, with some identification inside the front, so that if they are found they will be returned.

Pillows Available

Pittsburgh lace group has a supply of "One and Only" lace pillows from Snowgoose. It is a 20" shaped polyethelene pillow with a cardboard base, there is a roller as well as two 5" square blocks and two half blocks. It comes with instructions for covering. The pillows are currently residing at Amy Gibbon's house. If you are interested in purchasing one, please let her know by the day before class.. She will bring it to any Thursday night class. Payment of \$34.00 should be made to the Pittsburgh Lace Group.



Book Review by Sonya Hanczar

"The Trials of Maria Barbella" by Idanna Pucci (printed 1996) is well-written and easy to read. It's the story of the problems a young Italian woman had when she came to New York City as a teenager with her family at the beginning of the 1900's. It's a true story that's written by the granddaughter of the woman who helped her - Cora from Louisiana. Cora was well-educated and married Count Detalmo di Brazza Savorgnan. She went to Italy to live with her husband on an estate in the Friuli region of Italy. There she started a school for lace-making so that the women of Brazza, the local

town, could make lace to earn money during the winter months when they weren't farming. Pages 31 through 36 describe the lace school. There is a chapter on executions because there was a possibility that Maria Barbella would be the first woman executed in the state of New York with the new method of using an electric chair. This chapter can be skipped without affecting the continuity of the story.

There are 2 copies available in the Allegheny County Library system. It's such a good story that I'm surprised that it hasn't been made into a movie.

Pittsburgh Lace Group

Demonstration Opportunities

Phipps ~ September 15 & 16

Phipps Conservatory. is one of the most pleasant places to make lace. The public is always interested and interesting. If you have time to join us either day, please be sure to bring your pillow and some pretties to share. We will be there from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. both days. If you haven't

been to Phipps to see the Chihuly glass exhibit, it will be there until November. It is an amazing integration of Glass and plants. If you are planning on demonstrating please let Amy Gibbons know.

Monroeville Heritage Days ~ October 20

The McGinley House in Monroeville has invited us to join them for their celebration of Monroeville Heritage Days from 1:00 to 5:00p.m. It should be nice to demonstrate with these lovely people without the snow that we have experienced in December. If you are able to join us please contact Gretchen Baudoux..

Nationality Rooms ~ December 2

Once again we have been invited to demonstrate at the Nationality Rooms in the Cathedral of Learning on Sunday, December 2nd from noon until 4:00 p.m. This has been the traditional kick off for the Christmas Season for members of the Pittsburgh Lace Group for many years. There is good food, wonderful craft items from around the

world available to give as Christmas gifts. We will again be in the Croghan Schenley Room. Come and help us put up our Christmas tree and see our nativity, It is a fun Sunday afternoon. (Please remember no food is allowed in the room.) If you are able to join us, please contact Dewi Wong.

Christmas Party ~ December 27

We will be having our Annual Christmas Party at The Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church on Hochburg Road at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday evening December 27th. The snow date will be the following Thursday. Last year we had a wonderful time singing, eating and playing the re-gifting/white elephant game. We hope to repeat

the good fun and feelings again this year. Things to bring: your family, some food to share, and a white elephant for the game. If you have questions about what this could be ask anyone who was there last year. Once again if we are lucky Louise Chuha will read us a story.

Dues are due

Dues for 2008 will be due January 1st. The cost of membership is \$15.00. Please complete and mail the form on the last page of the newsletter, with your check, made payable to Pittsburgh Lace Group to. Gretchen Baudoux, 4704 Bert Drive, Monroeville, PA 15146. There is a form for you to complete on the next to the last page of the newsletter.

Pittsburgh Lace Group

I.O.L.I. Convention

Dewi Wong

IOLI 2007 in Tulsa, Oklahoma was held July 29 - August 4. Three members of PLG, Robin Panza, Susie Johnson, and I attended. I was very glad to see former members, Jerry Weideker and Melissa Booritch. PLG was presented with a pattern CD. I took Mirecourt lace, which is a beautiful French lace using thick gimp and a variety of stitches. This lace was really the basis of many different lace types. On Wednesday we had different choices of activities. I attended the Fan Show and Tell by the FANA (Fan Association); the Dutch Lacemaker Paintings slide lecture; the Equadorian Fringe Lace; and Lace Identification.

I taught Chinese Knotting. My class had 11 students. And they were excellent students. On Saturday morning I also took the Three Pair Italian Lace Butterfly class.

There was a large display room with interesting lace pieces that people brought. The lace contest pieces were beautiful too. The hotel room and service, meals and programs were very nice. The vendors

room was always busy. I heard that many transactions happened on the first day, which was Sunday, the day I went out to the local museums. I don't know what I missed, therefore it was all right. The tatting Olympic was very interesting, clever and funny. Representatives from different states carried their banners, marching along with the Olympic music from a boom box, and Deb Beever "ran" marathon with a huge tatting shuttle as the torch. The winners were presented with medals and the race was completed with closing ceremony just like the real one.

You had to be there to enjoy the event and the whole convention. There was so much to see and do. I had a great time. It was not only a nice break from my busy time caring for my loving parents who have been in a difficult situation with health problem for months, but also a great experience to teach at a national convention. I encourage all of PLG members to attend the IOLI convention in the future.

Robin Panza (excerpt from an e-mail)

Yes, I'm back from convention. I'm exhausted but slowly recovering. Too much to do late at night, too early to get up. I spoke to several people in Dewi's class and they loved her. That was good to hear, since I think she's a cool person and a good teacher.

The tatting class was proof to me that I will never be a tatter. I wanted to give it a real, concerted effort with 4 days (okay, half-days) of instruction. I figured I'd either end up a for-real tatter or throw my shuttles away in disgust. Actually, I've ended up at neither extreme, but tatting is still a whole lot of work and not a lot of fun. I will continue my Quest for the Magic Shuttle (the one that will

make me a tatter), "

I also entered the Tatting Olympics which was a total riot. We had a procession down the steps to the lobby (sorted by state and carrying "flags" (a piece of paper with our state printed on it) and through the vendors' hall, to the Olympic fanfare. Then Debbie Beaver ran the route brandishing a giant shuttle, representing the Olympic flame. In addition to the usual events, there was "synchronized tatting" (one person provides the left-hand actions while another provides the right-hand movements) and tatting triathlon - construct a "shuttle" from plastic toys, wind thread, tat. I haven't laughed that much in awhile.(more on pg. 6)

Call for Contributions! Call for Contributions!

As always, any and all articles about lace, lace making or our members is gratefully accepted.

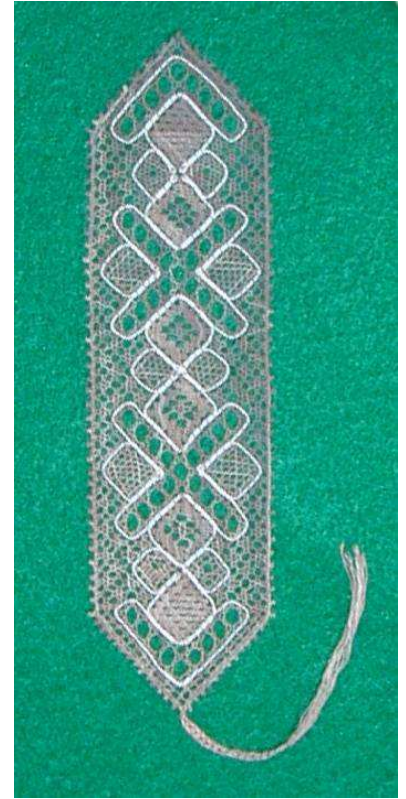
Pittsburgh Lace Group

Workshop Weekend Information

Susan Wensel will be here to teach 'sGravenmoer Lace September 29 and 30 at the Churchill Boro Building. After much deliberation the officers have decided to charge \$90.00 per person for the workshop, with the possibility of a refund if more than eight people attend. We will not be hosting another workshop until the fall of October 31, November 1 and 2 of 2008. Susan's own course description is below. Even if you can't make the workshop you will want to join us for an evening of socializing and to see the IOLI slide show "Lace in Fashion" and please bring some goodies along to share. We will be raffling off some duplicate copies of books from the PLG library.

'Gravenmoer is a lace from the Netherlands otherwise known as the diagonal half stitch, LOKK (the lace guild of the Netherlands) along with the lace group from the town of 's Gravenmoer did a study of 's Gravenmoerse Lace and produced a book which has been very instrumental in the revival of this lace. (To the right is a picture of a bookmark made using only the instructions in a book,. The technique did not stick in my mind from one repeat to the next.- editor)

In this class you will make a bookmark that will incorporate many of the techniques of 's Gravenmoerse Lace. For those of you who have seen my 's Gravenmoerse lace necklace, you will be able to make the necklace once you complete the class. A photo of the necklace is available upon request. While 's Gravenmoerse Lace is similar to Torchon, it has its own unique differences. Therefore, for ease in learning this lace, a GOOD Torchon background is required. Knowing how to work a Torchon half stitch diamond and trail are a must. Knowledge of gimp use is helpful.



A Trip to Phipps by Sonya Hanczar (omitted from the last newsletter in error)

On May 5, we were demonstrating in the new addition -the Thailand tropical jungle. There are several paths with small bridges, mountain waterfalls, a plant information station, an overlook, a healer's cabin, a see-thru pond with very large goldfish, and an elaborate entrance to a meeting room across from the fish pond. All of this is hidden in lush tropical foliage.

The staff brought two tables and green tablecloths. After arranging them, I had a chance to relax and look around. That's when I realized that the two large glass balls floating in the fishpond and the other wildly colorful and exoticly-shaped glass planted among the flowers and foliage were the beginning of the special Chihuly exhibit scheuled to open the coming week. There was also a mister against the rocks in the pond and in the stream

trickling under the bridge behind the pond. The fog that they created gave an especially exotic and mysterious air to the scene.

Theresa Troyan and Barbara Lis came and we stayed for the entire day. I had frantically searched everywhere at home for my supplies but could only locate a bag of books, so I was glad that Theresa and Barbara had brought their lace pillows.

By the end of the day we had a little over 200 people look at our display. Several people put their names down as being interested in more information and I helped one woman look through the IOLI catalog for a group near her home in Maryland. All-in-all, it was a very interesting, enjoyable, and productive time. I even got to enjoy a Thai message done by trained professionals. They own a restaurant in the Shadyside/Squirrel Hill area.

Pittsburgh Lace Group

I.O.L.I. Favors

from Robin Panza

One of the things that happens when you go to Convention is favors. Favors at almost every opportunity. Here is a partial list of some of the favors that Robin and probably Dewi came home with this year: A notebook with a fabric cover and a tatted/beaded motif on it; At least two pin cushions; A crocheted bobbin minder; A couple of those magnetized book marks; A needle keeper; A beaded scissors fob; A netting pillow-sweep (gold net gathered with black ribbon); A triangular buttoned pouch for scissors; A highlighter pen that also dispenses post-it flags; Two little zippered pouches (one imported from Ecuador, the other made by a group and decorated with bought lace); A back issue of Piecework magazine. At the

banquet alone we received, a book of all of Lia Baumeister's articles that have appeared in "The Bulletin," a lace rosebud at each plate AND a pair of Gingher scissors. There were other things, but that was what Robin could remember when she wrote.

These favors, are useful items, that remind the lacemaker of the good times she had and the friends she made at Convention. The 2008 Convention in Illinois is being put on by a guild that has only 6 members!!! They need all the help/support they can get. For information about what help they could use, contact Janet Fredrickson or Janice Blair. It seems like we should be able to do something to help as a group.

Pittsburgh Lace Group Dues are due by January 1, 2008.

\$15.00 checks made out to **Pittsburgh Lace Group**

Name _____

Address _____

e-mail address _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

I am available and willing to teach _____ at an afternoon workshop.

I would like to take part in a workshop on _____

I would like to receive my newsletter by e-mail _____ by U.S. Postal Service _____

Please complete and send to
Gretchen Baudoux
4704 Bert Drive
Monroeville, PA 15146

The **Pittsburgh Lace Group** presents

Friday, September 28th, 2007 at 7:30 p.m.

~ **Fashion in Lace** ~

a slide presentation from I.O.L.I.

shopping with ***Lacy Susan*** begins at 6:00 p.m.

Admission at the door is \$5.00 members and \$7.00 non-members

Refreshments will be provided (donations are welcome)

Saturday, September 28 & Sunday, September 29

s'Gravenmoerse taught by **Susan Wensel**

(basic Torchon skills are needed for this class)

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

with a 45 minute break for a pot luck lunch and a 15 minute break in the afternoon

Cost for the workshop will be 90.00 for members and \$100.00 for non-members

Directions to the Churchill Borough Building

From Monroeville: Parkway East (I-376) to the Churchill Exit (Exit 10-A). Exit from left lane. Turn left at first intersection and immediate right into Borough Bldg. parking lot.

From Pittsburgh: Parkway East (I-376) to Churchill Exit (Exit 10-A); right at bottom of ramp to "Y" intersection with Beulah Rd. (Rt. 130-W); take the right branch and immediately get into left lane. Turn left at the light (left turn signal) onto Old Wm. Penn Highway. Borough Bldg. is on the left, entrance to parking lot is just beyond the building.

You may use either parking lot, but if you use the lower lot, please park away from the building so the police can park close to the building. Enter through the center front door.

Workshop Registration Form

The workshop is limited to 12 participants, to be given priority, active members must register by Oct.1.

Supply list will be sent with confirmation

Return this form with check payable to Pittsburgh Lace Group to:

Gretchen Baudoux, 4704 Bert Drive, Monroeville, PA 15146 (phone 412-372-8956)

Name & Address _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Workshop (payment must be included to guarantee a spot) \$ _____

Workshop Commemorative bobbins @ \$8.00 must be ordered by September 15th No. _____
\$ _____

Number of dinner reservations for Saturday (not included in cost) _____
Total Enclosed \$ _____

Pittsburgh Lace Group Web site ~ <http://pittsburghlace.8m.com>
e-mail address ~ Pgh _Lace_Group @Comcast.net

Pittsburgh Lace Group

c/o Suzanne Potter
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