

# Lace Threads

## Pittsburgh Lace Group

Web site ~ <http://pittsburghlacegroup.org/>

**Spring 2009**

**News of the**

### President's Message

In my last message, (which seems like ages ago,) I wrote a little bit about demonstrating lace. I'd like to elaborate on that subject. Maybe my thoughts will inspire those of you who have done little or no demonstrating to give it a shot the next time we do a lace demo.

I like to use the same pillow and the same pattern for most demonstrations. I choose a pillow that's comfortable to work on and not too heavy to carry. For me, the pattern is important because I want something that looks really good, but that I have worked on often enough so that I don't have to think much about it. That means I can talk to everybody without worrying about my pattern. I have a small footstool that I carry with me so that it won't matter what kind of a chair I end up sitting in. I prefer

working on my lap, rather than on a table, so it's important that the chair is not too high, or the pillow will slide off my lap-disastrous, especially with about 18 pairs of bobbins!

If there is a place to display your lace, you may want to carry a tablecloth of some kind that will make a good background for the lace. If you're outside, or in a crowded place, you may want to pin your lace onto the cloth so it won't blow or walk away.

Many years ago, when I first started to demonstrate lacemaking, we were often asked to come in costume. I had a sort of generic costume - a long blue tiered skirt and a white blouse with some

*(President's message continued on page 2)*

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### Nominations & Dues are Due Again

If there is a red dot on your mailing label your dues have not been paid for 2008. Please send your checks for \$15.00 made out to Pittsburgh Lace Group to Gretchen Baudoux, 3822 4704 Bert Drive, Monroeville, Pa 15146. To be included on the membership list dues must be received by March 15th. Membership Lists will be available at the Annual Meeting April 4th, or by sending a request to Gretchen

It is also time to elect a Vice- President and a Secretary. If you are willing to serve, or wish to nominate someone, please contact Joan Trimble – (412) 731-2095 E-mail [joaniespumoni@comcast.net](mailto:joaniespumoni@comcast.net)

### Calendar of Future Events

Saturday, April 4, 11:00 A.M. - Annual Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church

Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> – Maundy Thursday NO Class

Friday thru Sunday, May 1-3 Pittsburgh Folk Festival??

Thursday, May 7, 7:00 P.M. - Regular Monthly Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church

Thursday, June 4, 7:00 P.M. - Regular Monthly Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church

Thursday, July 2(?), 7:00 P.M. - Regular Monthly Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church

**Newsletter Deadline is June 25 or one week prior to the July Meeting if it is not July 2<sup>nd</sup>**

# Pittsburgh Lace Group

## President's Message continued

embroidery on it. (Neither of which fits me anymore.) I also had either a mob cap or a sun bonnet, depending whether I was inside or outside. Whatever you wear, it should be COMFORTABLE because you'll be sitting in it, and perhaps walking around for several hours. I found that if I wore pretty much the same thing every time I did a demo, that was one less thing I had to worry about.

If you haven't done any reading about the stories and legends that have evolved about bobbin lace, consider taking time to look up some interesting things. I'm sure we have some books in our library, and you can probably find some at your local library. And there's always the internet. Your reading will give you lots of things to talk about

while people are standing around staring at your work.

I hope I'll see some of you the next time we do a demo. And don't forget that we meet at Grace Reformed Presbyterian church on the first Thursday of the month. There's also an informal gathering every Thursday evening from around 7:00 to 9:00 in the same place. You can come and learn how to make lace, or ask one of us to solve a problem in your lace. So, if you haven't been at a meeting for a while, come and join us for the next one.

Louise Chuha

## Recent Events

### McGinley House

by Amy Gibbons

October 18<sup>th</sup> Gretchen Baudoux and I went to the McGinley House to demonstrate lacemaking. Imagine my shock and surprise to learn that the D.A.R. was demonstrating lacemaking instead of the Pittsburgh Lace Group. The afternoon was the same as other afternoons spent demonstrating there, really enjoyable. I just thought that you might get a laugh out of the idea of a person whose ancestors were loyalists demonstrating as a member of the D.A.R.

### Pitt Nationality Rooms Christmas Celebration

by Suzanne Potter



Once again, members of the Pittsburgh Lace Group helped the University of Pittsburgh Nationality Room Committees celebrate Christmas. On the first Sunday of December 2008, Amy, Suzanne, Dewi, Joanie, Joanne met in the Croghan-Scheneley Ballroom to set up our tree and make lace. The lace-decorated tree look lovely, the crowd was interested and asked loads of questions --all the ingredients of our typical pre-Christmas demonstration.



Also, many thanks to Mike Gibbons for being chauffeur for Amy, the tree and me.

## 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!

# Pittsburgh Lace Group

## Future Events

### Annual Meeting April 4<sup>th</sup>

The Annual Meeting will be held at The Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church on Hochburg Road and will begin at 11:00 a.m. This year we will be electing a secretary and a vice-president. Our thanks go out to our current secretary, Suzanne Potter and, vice-president, Amy Gibbons. If you are willing to serve in either position, please contact Joan Trimble. Contact information is on the front page of this newsletter.

At the Annual Meeting we will discuss Convention, demonstration possibilities, Summer Camp as well as the possibility of trips to various places.

Bring along something to share for lunch. We look forward to a pleasant morning and a brief afternoon. After lunch we will look at the new DVD we received from IOLI of the lace in the Eunice Sein Koon Lace Collection. I am sure we will all enjoy ourselves.

### Folk Festival May 1-3

The details have not been firmed up. We probably will be there at least some of the time. It is important to notice that once again the Folk Festival will NOT be held on Memorial Day Weekend. Hopefully, we will demonstrate with the Italian Group again. The Folk Festival will be held at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. Last years hours were Friday from 4:00p.m. to 10:00p.m.,

Saturday from Noon to 10:00p.m. and Sunday from noon to 6:00p.m. We do not have to be there for the entire time the Festival is open. We will decide at the March meeting, who will coordinate with the organizers, or if there is enough interest for us to demonstrate at all. This is included in the newsletter only to give you an idea of the dates and times.

## In Memorium

### Eric Stevenson

Eric Stevenson (Aries bobbins) passed away peacefully on November 26, 2008 in his 86<sup>th</sup> year. He had been battling Parkinson's Disease and Dementia for several years, but his biggest frustration was when Macular Degeneration robbed him of the sight in one eye making it impossible to turn bobbin. He had many happy memories of meeting and corresponding with lace makers from many parts of the world.

(reprinted with permission from "The Bulletin" Vol. 29 no. 2 Winter 2008-2009)

Leaf for a Necklace  
by Janice Blair  
May be enlarged or  
reduced.

**Added to the PLG Library since last book list  
ed June 2008**

pick them out.

Christmas Cones in Bobbin Lace, Hanne Sonne

Knypplade Blommor, Ulla Fagerlin & Birgitta Hulterstrom

Motieven in kleur, Sebastiana Van den Herik

Motivos de Encaje de Bolillos, Animales y Flores, Brigitte Bellon

Nature in Lace, Yvonne Scheele-Kerkhof

Schneeberger Kloppelmotive, Brigitte Bellon (BB)

Tape Lace from Lepoglava, Nel de la Bie, Tonny Haas & Hanneke Troost

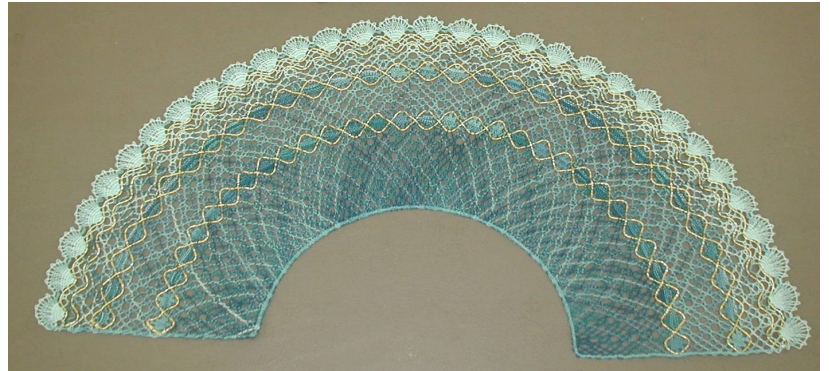
Tape Lace from Lepoglava, new patterns, Nel de la Bie, Tonny Haas, Hanneke Troost

# Pittsburgh Lace Group

## more Recent Events

### Fan Workshop

by Joanne Frey



Two weeks ago we had our workshop with Debby Beever on "Fans". The weather gods were with us to provide a beautiful Indian Summer weekend. Friday night was a program on passementerie, a French word for trims for embellishment-lace, ribbons, tassels, cords, etc. our workshop was a Cluny pattern circa 1880-1910 using tatting cotton and cord. Dorothy Kokal made a piece long enough to decorate a Christmas ball that her family will cherish. We were given many ideas to expand lace making into other areas we may have not thought of to use lace. Saturday and Sunday were devoted to our fans. Debby brought patterns for every skill level and John Aebi sent hand crafted fan sticks to fit her designs. John uses exotic woods, burls and woods found in antique fans such as bird's eye maple. We had nine members in attendance, wonderful food and snacks and great fun for everyone.

### SUGAR PLUM DAYS

by Louise Chuha

On a very cold day in the middle of December, I went to Plum Borough to a little log house to do a bobbin lace demonstration. The house was furnished as it would have been in the early 1800's and most things were from the period, not reproductions. I had the luxury of sitting by the fire in a very comfortable cane rocker. (If it would have fit in my bag, I would have smuggled it home.) I had brought a number of samples of lace, as we usually do for a demo, and of course everybody was fascinated.

The whole town gets involved in this festival: there were pony rides, things going on in the library, and

Santa Claus. The children were always accompanied by adults, so we didn't have any problems with sticky hands etc. There were lots of questions from both children and adults. Some of them stayed longer because it was so cozy by the fire where I was sitting.

This was the first time they had had a lacemaker at Sugarplum days and it seemed to be a big hit. The room where I was sitting was fairly small and would probably not accommodate more than 2 lacemakers, but I had a good time and some good cookies!

### Book Review

by Amy Gibbons

"The Lace Reader" written by Brunonia Barry has been on the best seller list for a few months. For a lace maker, the title is a real grabber, but the details are a real turn off. If you can get past that, the book is engrossing. It is a well written story with a little mystery, a little romance, a little family drama and a lot of misdirection. For a nice escape from your own troubles, I recommend it.

# Pittsburgh Lace Group

## Post -Christmas Christmas Party

bby Susanne

Potter

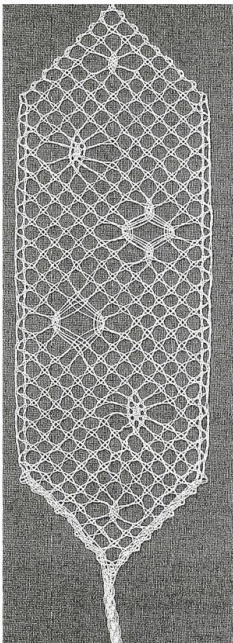


Great food was the centerpiece of the annual PLG Christmas Party held Jan.8, 2009. All the food groups were represented, especially cookies! Amy brought lots of cat "stuff" for the "Put and Take" game, which I took home! Next year, my husband stays home with all the precious cat mementos he won! Louise read a cute story about how the dogs saved Christmas. The only thing missing was the Gretchen led rendition of the Twelve Days of Christmas. At the next party we'll sing first and eat second- yeah, right.

Gretchen Baudoux & Dorothy Kokal enjoying the Put and Take game.

## Patterns from I.O.L.I. Charter Chapter C.D.

In our library there are four c.d.s that contain articles and patterns which were created by members of I.O.L.I. These patterns are available for inclusion in newsletters or for the use of members. The patterns include tatting, needle lace as well as bobbinlace. I am including this pattern for you to enjoy, since many of you make bookmarks for gifts and the various types of spiders might be unfamiliar to you. This pattern is from the 2004 c.d. which also has an edging and a star window hanging by Bridget Cook. They are worth checking out.



### Spider Sample Notes – Torchon

20 pairs of bobbins, 30 Tanne or similar thread

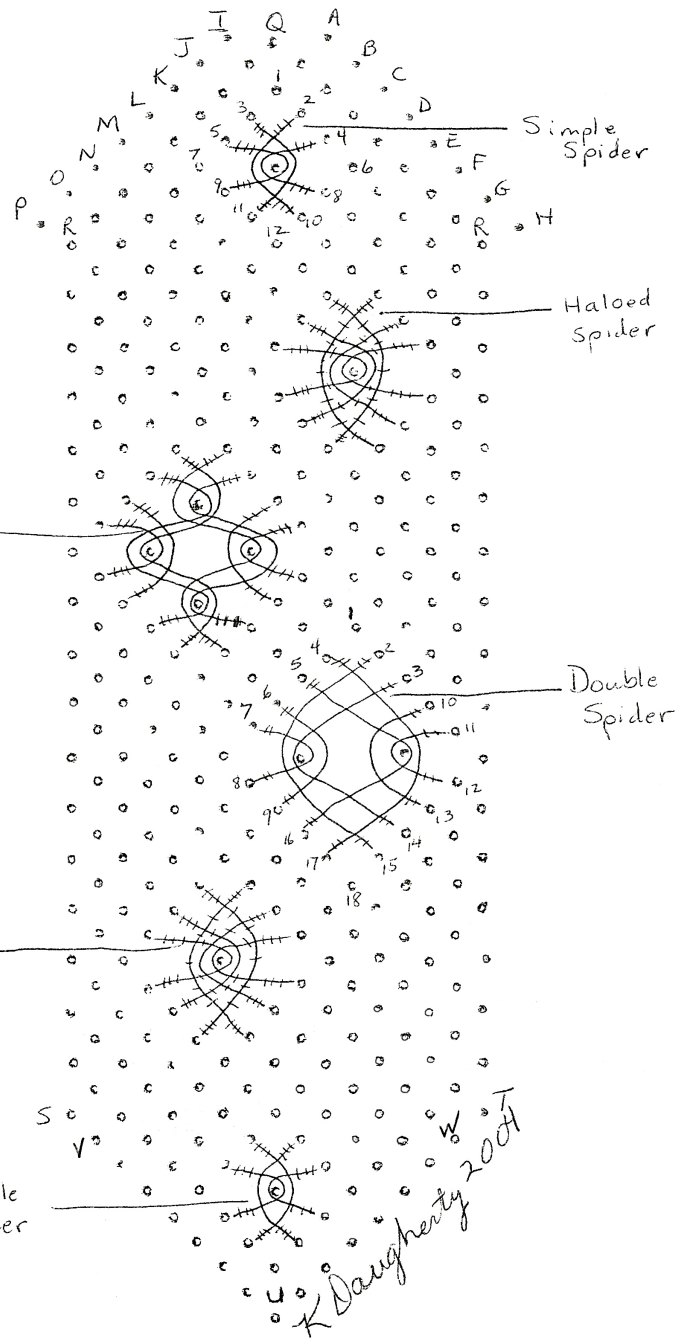
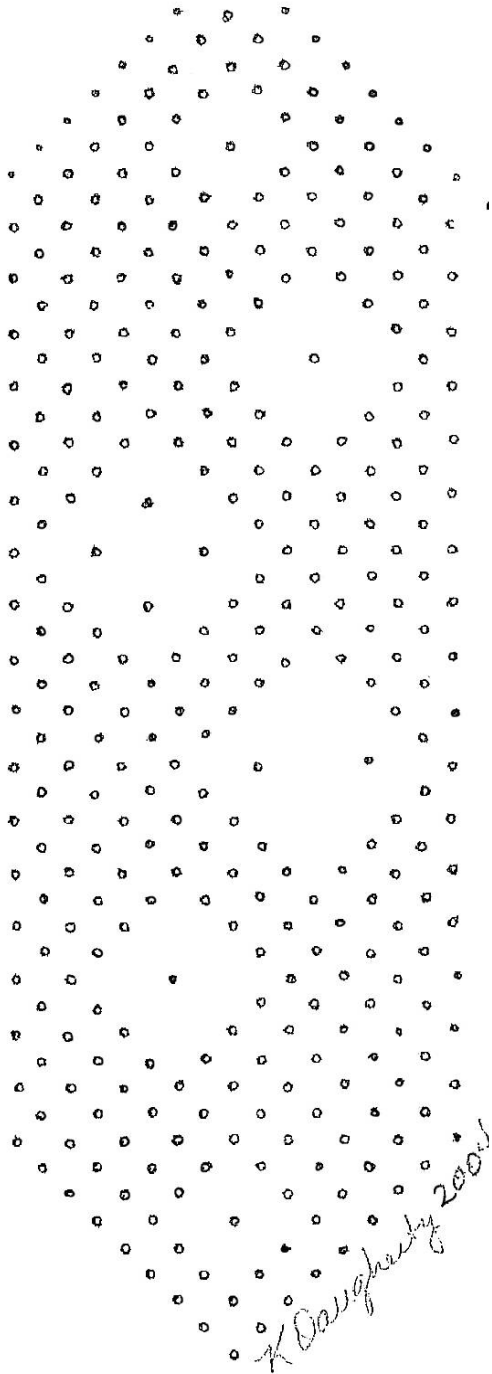
1. Pins A through P are temporary pins.
2. Hang 2 pairs on pins H, P and Q. One pair is hung on the remaining temporary pins.
3. Footside edge begins with the edge pin R.
4. On the compound, twists can be added on the spider legs that are traveling to the next individual spiders within the section.
5. The last footside pins are at pins S and T.
6. Beginning at pins V and W, one pair is discarded after the pin has been covered.
7. At pin U, 6 pairs of bobbins should remain to work the finishing braid.  
Separate the individual bobbins into 4 groups of 3 bobbins. Use each group of bobbins as an individual thread and work a braid to desired length.

Kay Daugherty  
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# Pittsburgh Lace Group

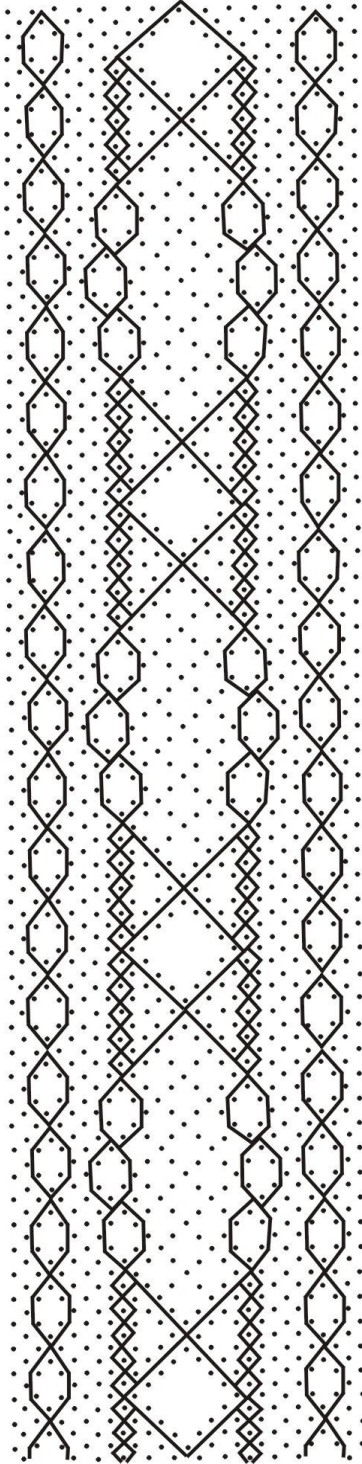
Pricking (adjust size to suit thread)

Working Diagram



# Pittsburgh Lace Group

## Another Pattern from 2004 Charter Chapter c.d.



After you enjoy working the previous pattern, you should be ready to gain a mastery of gimp. JoAnn Eurell, from Urbana, Illinois, designed this Torchon Insertion. With a little imagination, it could be easily turned into a bookmark by removing the corners diagonally. This pattern offers all kind of possibilities for you to use your imagination in both color of thread and gimp as well as in stitch selection. I think this is an incredibly clever pattern that offers all kinds of opportunities to play.

Editor's note about these patterns. You should either adjust the size of your thread to the size of your pricking, or adjust your pricking to the size of your thread.

A long time ago Bridgett Cook told us that to choose the right thread you should wrap the thread around a pencil. Ten wraps should fit between the ground pinholes. Because I have to move these from the c.d. to the newsletter, their size adjusted. If you want to see a copy of the original take it from the library and print directly from the cd.

## Other Stuff

We are putting up the Easter Tree. Be sure to take a look the next time you come to the church. More eggs are always welcome.

I know that it has been a long time since the last newsletter. Since it takes me three days to put the newsletter together and another day to print it, I have decided to not publish a newsletter between Thanksgiving and Christmas. If you remember how busy that time of year can be, I am sure you will understand.

An interesting website to visit is [www.cantonart.org](http://www.cantonart.org) The Kimono exhibit is amazing. Anyone want to go?? My friend Carole had invited us for lunch.

# Pittsburgh Lace Group

## Bylaws of the Pittsburgh Lace Group

### **Article 1. NAME.**

Section 1. The name of the group shall be the Pittsburgh Lace Group, hereafter referred to as “the Group”.

### **Article 2. PURPOSE.**

Section 1. The Group shall be a not-for-profit educational organization whose purpose is to foster and promote interest in lace and lace-making by providing a means for members to meet and exchange ideas and information, by offering demonstrations of lace-making and exhibits of lace to the general public, and by providing programs and workshops on all aspects of lace, lace-making and related topics of interest to the members.

### **Article 3. MEMBERSHIP.**

Section 1. Membership shall be open to all individuals interested in lace, lace-making, collecting any type of lace, or the history of lace.

Section 2. Dues will be collected annually for the calendar year. Dues paid at any time from January 1 through October 31 shall be applied to membership for that calendar year and will not be prorated. Dues paid after October 31 shall be applied to membership in the following calendar year. Renewals not paid by March 15 will cause a member to be dropped from the roster for that year. The amount of dues shall be established for each year by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. A roster of all paid members shall be distributed to members who have paid the current year’s dues.

### **Article 4. DIRECTORS.**

Section 1. The business and affairs of the Group shall be managed by a Board of Directors, hereafter referred to as “the Board”, comprised of the officers and standing committee chairpersons.

Section 2. A majority number of the directors present, having constituted a quorum, shall be regarded as an act of the Board.

Section 3. Vacancies of the Board may be filled by a majority voting of the remaining directors. Each director so elected shall hold office for the remaining term of the vacancy being then filled.

### **Article 5. OFFICERS.**

Section 1. The elected officers of the Group shall be President, Secretary, Treasurer and Vice President.

Section 2. President. Subject to supervisory powers of the Board, the President shall be the chief executive officer of the Group and shall preside at all meetings, both of the Board and of the members of the Group, and shall perform such duties and exercise such powers as shall be determined from time to time by the Board.

Section 3. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep a book of Minutes of all meetings of directors and members, shall compose and distribute notices of meetings of the members, and handle other correspondence as directed by the Board.

Section 4. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall keep and maintain adequate and correct accounts of all assets and business transactions of the Group, and present a written annual report to the members at the Annual Business Meeting. The President, Secretary, Treasurer and Vice President shall be authorized to transact the Group’s financial business. Two of the four officers’ signatures shall be required for such transactions.

Section 5. Vice President. The Vice President shall chair meetings of the Board and of the members in the absence of the President. The Vice President shall also be responsible for scheduling and arranging meetings for the year. This shall include making arrangements for speakers, locations and refreshments, and providing the Secretary with the information necessary for announcements of these meetings to be mailed to the membership. The Vice President shall select members as desired, to form a committee to perform the functions above.

### **Article 6. ELECTIONS.**

Section 1. The election of officers and directors shall be held each year at the Annual Business Meeting. The Membership Committee shall present a slate of candidates chosen from the membership. Additional nominations may be received from the floor. No name shall be placed in nomination without the consent of the member.

Section 2. Officers shall be elected for a term of 2 years. Two (2) offices will be eligible for election per year, the President and Treasurer in even numbered years, and the Secretary and Vice President in odd numbered years. The Chairpersons of the committees shall be appointed by the Board.

Section 3. A separate vote shall be conducted for each office being filled. Voting will be by ballot, tallied immediately. The office shall be filled by the member obtaining plurality of attending members in good standing.

# Pittsburgh Lace Group

## **Article 7. MEETINGS.**

Section 1. There will be at least eight (8) meetings a year and one (1) workshop. The April meeting shall be known as the Annual Business Meeting. One (1) other meeting will be known as a Lace Day. At least three (3) other meetings will feature a program: a speaker, a demonstration, a study group, etc. Other meetings may be informal gatherings where members make lace and exchange information.

Section 2. The Annual Business Meeting shall be conducted in April to elect officers and review the business of the Group. In addition, there shall be reports from the Treasurer and the Workshop Committee Chairperson.

Section 3. Notices of meetings shall be given to each member, either personally or by mail or other means of communication addressed to such member at the address appearing on the roster of the Group. All such notices shall be conveyed to each member not less than three (3) business days before a meeting.

Section 4. A quorum necessary for the transaction of business shall consist of a majority of the members attending a meeting of the Group after notice is given as provided in accordance herein.

## **Article 8. COMMITTEES.**

Section 1. Committees shall be established by the Board to help conduct the business of the Group. These shall consist of the standing committees: the Membership Committee, the Workshop Committee, and any committee or committees deemed by the Board to be necessary to perform the functions of the Group.

Section 2. The Chairpersons of the standing committees shall be appointed from the general membership by the Board.

## **Article 9. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE.**

Section 1. The Membership Committee shall be responsible for maintaining the membership rosters and selecting a slate of candidates for the annual election of officers.

Section 2. The Chairperson of the Membership Committee may select one or more persons from the general membership to assist in the performance of the duties of the Committee as outlined in Article 9, Section 1.

Section 3. In addition to the responsibilities set forth in Article 9, Section 1, the Membership Committee shall be responsible for soliciting and receiving applications for new membership and renewals of memberships. Dues collected in the course of performing this function shall be forwarded in a timely manner to the Treasurer.

Section 4. The Membership Committee Chairperson shall be responsible for maintaining the membership roster, which shall be distributed annually each spring to the members. The Chairperson shall also notify the Secretary monthly of any additional members in order that these new members will receive all forthcoming notices of meetings.

Section 5. The Membership Committee shall propose candidates for the offices to be elected at the Annual Business Meeting. The committee shall contact the candidates to secure their willingness to serve. All nominations or suggestions for candidacy by members shall be presented to the membership by the Membership Committee.

## **Article 10. WORKSHOP COMMITTEE.**

Section 1. The Workshop Committee is responsible for making arrangements for workshops. This shall include making arrangements for the speaker, location and refreshments, and providing the Secretary and Treasurer with information necessary for announcement of workshops to be mailed to the membership, and monies collected.

Section 2. The Workshop Committee Chairperson shall select members, as desired, to form a committee to perform the functions as set forth in Article 10, Section 1.

## **Article 11. DISSOLUTION.**

Section 1. In the event of dissolution of the Group while a charter chapter of International Old Lacers, Inc. (hereafter, IOLI), the IOLI charter shall be returned to the IOLI President accompanied by a letter of fact, and with records showing that all funds and property have been distributed to a non-profit organization under the IRS Code 501(c)3. Books, supplies and other assets of the group will be donated to another lace making group or sold and the proceeds donated to a lace making group, or non-profit organization, to be chosen by the membership.

## **Article 12. EFFECTIVE DATES AND AMENDMENTS.**

Section 1. These Bylaws will become effective, subject to approval of the membership, retroactive to January 1, 1991.

Section 2. These Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed at any time by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the Board or by the majority vote of the members at any regular meeting.

**Pittsburgh Lace Group Web site ~**

<http://pittsburghlacegroup.org/>

**e-mail address ~ Pgh \_Lace\_Group @Comcast.net~**