

# Lace Threads

News of the Pittsburgh

Lace Group

Web site ~ [www.pittsburghlacegroup.org](http://www.pittsburghlacegroup.org)

Summer 2008

## President's Message

Hello Friends.

Well, after belonging to the Pittsburgh Lace Group since it's beginning, and managing to avoid the office of president, it has finally caught up with me.

As you read through this newsletter, you'll notice that we are a pretty active group. Even if you don't make it to our regular meetings, or to the Thursday evening lace-making gatherings, I hope you'll consider joining us for some of our summer activities; which, of course, include shopping among other fun things.

You don't have to be a terrific lace maker to join us for our weekly Thursday evening gatherings.

There's always someone willing to help, or answer questions. Or come and look through our very good library of various kinds of lace books.

Talking with other lace makers will increase your enthusiasm and you'll find out that we've all come across whatever problems and puzzles that you're encountering, and probably a lot more than you've even thought of. And you'll have fun!

Now, keep reading and you'll find out about all the good stuff that's happening at PLG over the summer.

Louise Chuha

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My Dear Lace Friends,

Thank you for all your prayers, good wishes, cards, and hugs during my treatment for breast cancer. You all were such a comfort to me. Our group has always shared each others trials and joys.

Now that I'm feeling fine, I will be constantly reminding you to get your mammograms done on time.

Gretchen Baudoux

## Calendar of Future Events

Saturday, June 14 Trip to The Lacemaker in Cortland, Ohio for details page 2 Annual Meeting and page 3

Thursday, July 10, 7:00 P.M. Regular Monthly Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church

Monday thru Thursday, July 14-17 7:00 P.M. PLG Summer Camp details page 3

Friday thru Sunday, August 1-3 Quilt Show, in Monroeville. Information from Joanne Frey

August 3-8, I.O.L.I. Convention in Rockford, Illinois

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

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

**Friday, September 26, Deadline to turn in Articles to be included in the Fall Newsletter**

Thursday, October 2, 7:00 P.M. Regular Monthly Meeting Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church  
Friday, Saturday & Sunday, October 31 thru November 2 Fan Workshop with Debby Beaver

## Recent Events

### Annual Meeting

by Suzanne Potter

The PLG Annual Meeting and Election was held on April 5, 2008. Louise Chuha was elected president (and Dylan is First Dog) and Gretchen Baudoux was re-elected treasurer. Also, a trip to the Lacemaker's in Ohio was planned for June 14. Call or e-mail Louise (412-271-7114 or louc01@verizon.net) if you can drive or would like to go. Summer Camp will be held July 14-17 from 7-9 p.m. at the Grace Presbyterian Church. Plan to attend as we always learn something interesting.

After the meeting Jean Wise gave an interesting presentation showing us her collection of lace. She had lace she had made as well as pieces she had bought. Of special interest were the lace shoes- yes, shoes. We all coveted them greatly. Thanks, Jean, for a wonderful show.

### Report Submitted

by Amy Gibbons

Every year I.O.L.I. asks us to submit our demonstration hours as well as information about any programs or events that we have. I think you will find this interesting. Policy for I.O.L.I. Volunteer Hours: The objectives of the I.O.L.I. shall be to promote interest in the fine old laces, to preserve fine laces for posterity, to study the history and characteristics of lace, to teach and promote lacemaking and lace identification, to promote and encourage lace exhibits, and to encourage museums that own lace collections to exhibit their collections and make them generally available for viewing by the public at large.

1. Any unpaid time spent to meet these objectives shall be considered volunteering on behalf of I.O.L.I.

Our hours submitted Since the previous Annual Meeting the following people have represented PLG.

Dec. 2	Nationality Rooms	Dewi Wong, Suzanne Potter, Joan Trimble
Oct 20	McGinley House	Esther Loprieno, Gretchen Baudoux
Sept. 15 & 16	Phipps Conservatory	Amy Gibbons
May 5 & 6, -	Phipps Conservatory	Theresa Troyan, Barb Lis, Louise Chuha, Sonya Hanczar, Amy Gibbons, Dewi Wong

Last years Lace Study Box Event made us look really good on the report that I submitted, because all of that time counted too. Obviously I didn't include all of the time that people spent getting ready to demonstrate, but only the actual hours demonstrating. Maybe next year.

Newsletters In the last year we have sent three newsletters to our members as well as to The Lace Guild.

We are sending eleven member's newsletters via e-mail. Not only does this save money, but allows them to see pictures more clearly and in color. Since the last Annual Meeting the following people have contributed articles

Spring 2008 newsletter – Gretchen Baudoux, Dewi Wong and Robin Panza  
Fall/Winter 2007 newsletter – Sonya Hanczar, Dewi Wong and Robin Panza,  
Summer 2007 – Theresa Troyan, Suzanne Potter, Louise Chuha, and Sonya Hanczar

**Thank you all and please continue to contribute articles and to demonstrate with PLG**

# Future Events

## Trip to Cortland, Ohio

Do you believe that making leaves is a pain. Tracy Jackson at The Lacemaker has agreed to help us simplify our technique. Be sure to bring a pillow and some bobbins wound in pairs, along when you join us on the shopping trip to Cortland. For some it will be a first opportunity to see the new store location. There is sure to be lots of things to buy. Our president has agreed to coordinate the travel arrangements. Contact her by June 11<sup>th</sup> if you are interested in going.

## Summer Camp ~ July 14 through the 17th

It is that time again. Yippee!! Pittsburgh Lace Group's Fifth Annual Summer Camp.

***On Monday this year we will be going to Moonrise Beads.*** You may meet us at the church or at the store which is at 3948 Monroeville Blvd. On Tuesday Louise Chuha is Teaching "Lace Without Looking." For information see article below. On Wednesday and Thursday Gretchen Baudoux will be showing us all how to hemstitch so that the hankies for our lace edgings will be as beautiful as hers. *Thursday night we have added a jumble table.* If you have something you don't really need and want to sell or trade, bring it along. No spouses, children or pets please.

***"Lace without Looking"*** – Tuesday - by Louise Chuha Most of you who read this newsletter will know that I am blind and have been making lace without sight for years and years. Several years ago we had a workshop on how to make lace without looking, and since we have a lot of new members who were not around then, and since we were wanting something different to fill one of our evenings of "Lace Camp" I volunteered to do the class again. You don't have to be an advanced lace maker to do this. All you have to know is how to cross and twist, and what makes a whole stitch, (C T, C T.) I will bring patterns.

### WHAT YOU NEED

1. Your favorite pillow, if it's empty, or any pillow you're comfortable working on.
2. Your favorite pins.
3. 5 pairs of bobbins wound with about 40/2 linen or its equivalent.
4. Something comfortable to use as a blindfold-scarf, sleep mask, if it's opaque, etc.

Please try to wind your bobbins ahead of time since we won't have a lot of time to spend on preliminaries.

I hope to see you all there. Don't be scared, it's really fun! You may all need to go out and have a drink after we're finished.

***Hemstitching*** – Wednesday & Thursday - by Gretchen Baudoux Hemstitching can provide the only decoration on guest towels, table linens and pillow cases. This border usually consists of one or more bands of drawn threads. The remaining threads are then drawn into neat little groups. We will learn the basics of hemming, pulling threads, and making a decorative edging.

After you've finished a beautiful piece of lace for somebody's wedding handkerchief, it surely deserves to be mounted nicely on a square of linen.

You can bring something you would like to work on, or I will provide some pieces of linen. We will need sharp pointed scissors. Thread for hemming should be a little finer than the article. It is best to work with a fine needle that has a blunt point such as a tapestry or ballpoint needle so that you can separate the threads easily.

I will provide written directions, diagrams and pictures and I will bring some examples of finished work.

***Thursday night we will have a "jumble" sale, so bring your jumbles.***

## Recent Events

### Lace At The Folk Festival

by Louise Chuha

For about 5 hours on May 16th, Sonya Hanzcar and I were re-born as Italians and went to make lace in their booth at the annual Pittsburgh Folk Festival. They already had a lovely exhibit before we got there, so I felt like we were the frosting on the cake. There were at least 3 different types of bolster pillows with lace in progress on them. There was a manikin dressed in a gorgeous costume with lace all over it. We set up our exhibit of bobbin lace samples, books, and the try-it pillow on the empty table provided and went to work.

For the first hour or so it was fairly quiet, except for the combo on stage that was playing all sorts of nationality songs, so we got a lot of lace made. Then, after the GRAND MARCH, people started coming by. I expected that we might have some problems with the food so close to us, but we did not. Of course we had "Do Not Touch" signs all over the place.

I was at one end of the table making bobbin lace and Sonya was at the other doing tatting. So when we got the usual question about "Oh, is this tatting?" I could say that I wasn't tatting but that Sonya was and we could point out the difference. I met a lady from Holland who knew exactly what I was doing and who told me the dutch name for it, but I don't remember what it was. I also met someone who had at one time taken lessons from the Five Rivers Lace Group who was interested in knowing all about when and where we of the PLG had our meetings. We passed out several of our

flyers, so it could be that we'll see a few new members.

As we were putting everything away, a couple of people came by wanting to know if we were making lace. When we said we had been, but were getting ready to leave, they were so disappointed that we encouraged them to come back the next day because there would be someone else demonstrating bobbin lace making.



On Saturday Suzanne Potter (shown here) and Amy Gibbons entertained the people at The Folk Festival.

Thank you to Dewi Wong for making the arrangements and to the demonstrators: Joanne Frey, Joan Trimble, Suzanne Potter, Sonya Hanzcar, Louise Chuha and Amy Gibbons.

## Web Page News

Joan Trimble has promised that she and Tim will have the new web site up and running soon. You will be able to see the pictures from the newsletters as well as lace made by members of our group including the Christmas ornaments. You will also be able to consult past newsletters including those after June 2007 which are not available on the current web site. Amy Gibbons promises to finish the middle of "Tina" so that it will all be available to read on the web site too. Look for news in your meeting e-mails about the new address, or call Joan and ask her for it.

## **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!

Send articles to [Gibbons214@comcast.net](mailto:Gibbons214@comcast.net)

### **Niece's Muffin Recipe**      **Suzanne Potter**

Suzanne brought wonderful muffins for Amy's birthday. In response to the requests of every one there, here is the recipe.

1-spice cake mix    1-sm.can of pumpkin    1/4 c. apple sauce    raisins, chocolate chips or whatever-optional  
Mix and fill lined muffin tin bake at 350 for 20 minutes. Test with toothpick. If you are adventurous, you could try baking the batter as a quick bread. I would think 2 8x5 pans might work. Makes 18 regular sized muffins. Enjoy!

### **Membership Lists available**

Members may receive a copy of the membership list by sending a S.A.S.E. to Gretchen Baudoux,  
4704 Bert Drive Monroeville, PA 15146 or e-mail [gretchenbaudoux@comcast.net](mailto:gretchenbaudoux@comcast.net)