

Lace Threads News of the Pittsburgh Lace Group

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

Winter 2006

President's Message

Thanksgiving has come and gone, Christmas is around the corner. Soon the lace group tree will be decorated with our wonderful lace ornaments. A year ago we completed a Nativity scene for under our tree. I cannot wait to see it as well as the older ornaments on the tree.

I really have been making lace this year. I completed an ornamented for our tree. Thanks to Robin Panza's teaching such a wonderful class, I completed a dragonfly, flower and leaf to sew on a pin. It is absolutely gorgeous. Robin's directions were great and I really enjoyed seeing her again. She has a terrific way of teaching to everyone's ability. I hope she will design more lace and publish her work.

The Pittsburgh Lace Group has planned a wonderful informative, educational schedule for the future. Please mark your calendar and plan on spending time with us. We will demonstrate again at the McGinley House in Monroeville December 9. Our Christmas party is going to be great. We will play games and have our usual entertainment. At the spring workshop in April we will have beautiful lace and slides from I.O.L.I. I am looking forward to seeing old lace and learning the history of these laces. I really hope many of you will be able to attend at least one of our events. So save the schedule of events and join us. I look forward seeing you soon.

Theresa Troyan

No articles appearing in this newsletter may be reproduced without the express permission of the author.

Dues are due

It is again the time of year to think about annual dues and renewing subscriptions. 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.

Calendar of Future Events

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

Saturday, December 9 Demo at McGinley House from 1:00 to 4:00 P.M.

Thursday night class **cancelled Dec. 21.**

Thursday, December 28 **6:00 P.M.** Christmas Party at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church snow date 1/4/07

Sunday, January 1, 2007 Dues for 2007 are \$15.00

Thursday, January 4, 2007 7:00 P.M. Regular Monthly Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church

Thursday, February 1, 2007 7:00 P.M. Regular Monthly Meeting at Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church

Newsletter Deadline is February 22 so newsletter will be available at the March meeting on the first

Pittsburgh Lace Group

Recent Appearances

Phipps Conservatory by Amy Gibbons

September 30th I was fortunate to be able to demonstrate lace making at Phipps Conservatory with Barb Lis. Barb was especially adept at helping people. On Sunday Oct. 1st, Suzanne Potter and Theresa Troyan got to celebrate International Lace Making Day making lace there. It is a pleasure to enjoy the flowers and the people who visit. There were ladies who saw us on Phipps' schedule and came especially to see us. We received a lovely note from Phipps thanking us for coming, and we are scheduled again on May 5 and 6, 2007. If you have never demonstrated before, or you have never visited Phipps, I hope you will consider joining us.



Barb hard at work with her lovely pieces of lace

Special Announcement from the PLG Board

Because the first Saturday in April falls on the day before Easter, the Board has decided to postpone the Annual Meeting for one week. The Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday April 14th which will coincide with our Spring Program. Please save that date. More information will be included in the Spring Newsletter.

Rosalibre Workshop by Barb Lis

Friday night started with shopping with Tracy from The Lacemaker. The gifts for the evening drawing included two bobbins from Beutahful Bobbins, in Utah; a drawstring bag and coffee cup from The Lacemaker; and a 25th Anniversary cover cloth, made by Theresa Troyan.

The slide show "The Development of Lace" from I.O.L.I. was narrated by Robin Panza. The Halloween themed food and decorations added to the fun. Especially the moving hand which protected Suzanne's candy and surprised everyone. Robin was our teacher for the Rosalibre workshop on Saturday and Sunday. She designed her own patterns - a daffodil, a dragon fly and daffodil leaves. Her written directions are excellent. Robin is an

excellent teacher and we hope she will return for another class with us.

Editor's note: We especially want to thank everyone who contributed their time and effort to making the weekend a success. The "new" restaurant Gretchen found was wonderful and Theresa's husband's directions to reach it were very helpful. It was a pleasure to have Robin with us again and to hear about her adventures in California. We miss her cheery smile and willing hands.

Pictures from the workshop will be scattered throughout the newsletter. To see them in color visit our web site.

Pittsburgh Lace Group

Future Events

Christmas Party by Amy Gibbons

Once again our Christmas Party will be on the Thursday between Christmas and New Years at the Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church. You are encouraged to bring your families and come early for dinner. We will begin **at 6:00 instead of 7:00**. Please bring a dish to pass.

At least two of the highlights of last year's party will be repeated. Louise has agreed to read us a story and Gretchen will organize us in singing "The

Twelve Days of Christmas." An added adventure will be a special white elephant/re gifting game that I am bringing from my Rev War associates, that is a great deal of fun. So please bring one or more white elephant type items to share in this game. If they are wrapped, please give some clues as to contents. More details will be worked out at the meeting on December 7th.

Workshop Picture

This was a workshop where many of us completed at least one piece of lace, if not two or three. These are the daffodil, dragonflies and leaves that were completed at the workshop. It was a great deal of fun



Be sure that you do not come to class on the Thursday night before Christmas

McGinley House ~ December 9th

Monroeville Historical Society has asked that three or four of us demonstrate at their open house from 1:00 to 4:00 at the McGinley House. This was an exciting time last year, because of the weather. Hopefully it will be calmer this year. Last year they provided us with all kinds of refreshments and it was a lovely opportunity to visit this historic house.

Directions: Go south on 48, bear left at the Y intersection, keep in the left hand lane to go to the hospital. Turn left onto McGinley Drive, go down the road, past the hospital entrance. Health South will be on the right. McGinley House will be on the left

Please contact Amy or Theresa if you will be able to demonstrate or call her with any questions.

Pittsburgh Lace Group

Beginnings and Endings.

It is with a heavy heart that I tell those of you who did not know, of the death of Guenvor Jorgensen. She died in October at home after a short illness. Pittsburgh Lace Group was fortunate to have her come to teach Schneeberger and two Tonder workshops. She will be greatly missed by the lace making community.

The daughter of Louise Richards, one of the early members of PLG died suddenly October 19th.



This rainbow was made by Marlene Ayres, who began making lace with us late this summer.

Web Site News by Amy Gibbons

Marlene Ayres sent the following. I really wanted to tell you about a website that I happened across. I read it nearly "cover" to "cover". Had I done so before I actually had some hands-on experience it probably would have confused me, but at this point, I found it VERY INTERESTING!! I figured you may already know about it but if not, you may want to check it out to recommend to other beginners.

<http://www.gwydir.demon.co.uk/jo/lace/index.htm>

I would like to thank Marlene for showing me this site. It is indeed very nice.

Robin Panza sent me the following from Arachne - I recently got an announcement from Kent State University, which is planning an exhibit of their lace collection for next summer, running June 2 through September 15. They are planning "Lace Exploration" days for the opening and closing dates, and registration is required. These days are

limited to 20 participants for the day, and will provide an opportunity for up-close study (and photography) of the pieces. Even if you don't go to one of these events, if you're in their area in Ohio next summer, this sounds like a good place to put on your list of things "to do"! Anyone who is interested should contact Jean Druessedow at the museum. Their website is

<http://www.kent.edu/museum>.

When I went to that web site I found no information about the "Lace Exploration Days" but I found the following exhibit that starts February 8th - "Lace, the Art of Needle and Bobbin" It looks like we need to plan at least one, if not two field trips this year. More details should be available at the December meeting, and dates should be set far enough in advance to allow everyone to clear their schedule.

Christmas Ornaments

Every year people donate ornaments for the PLG Christmas tree. These are put on our tree which this year will be displayed in the Croghan Schenley Room at the Cathedral of Learning, then at the McGinley House and then at the Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church. Last year Robin Panza and Betsy Sykes donated the three ornaments pictured here.

Betsy's ornaments were narrow insertions that had been wrapped around a pencil and starched. They make spectacular icicles. There is room on the tree for your ornament too.



Pittsburgh Lace Group

Finished Workshop Projects



Amy Gibbons



Barb Lis



Theresa Troyan

Spring Plans

Pittsburgh Lace Group as a Chartered Chapter of I.O.L.I. has a wonderful opportunity to meet and greet other members of the textile community and to educate people about lace. While we often get to hear about or see pictures of lace this will be a chance to actually view and touch (with gloves) examples of different kinds of lace. We had a great deal of fun in 2002 when this box was here with over 8 large tables of lace. Make a copy of this page and give it to your friends and acquaintances with an interest in textiles. Share it with teachers, craft and fiber stores, antique dealers and anyone else you can think of. It has been designed so that you should be able to get two on an 8 ½ X 11 page.

~ The Lace Study Box ~

With over 80 pieces of various types of lace, gloves and magnifiers
provided by **The Pittsburgh Lace Group &
International Old Lacers Incorporated.**

Admission \$5.00

At the Churchill Boro building

11:00_{p.m.} to 8:00_{p.m.} Saturday, April 14th

11:00_{p.m.} to 5:00_{p.m.} Sunday, April 15th



“Analyzing Lace,” a slide presentation will also be shown periodically throughout the weekend

Saturday only ~ **Lacy Susan**, will provide shopping for all kinds of treats

For more information visit our web site: <http://pittsburghlace.8m.com>

e-mail Pgh_Lace_Group@Comcast.net or

Telephone: Theresa Troyan at 412-824-8867 or Amy Gibbons at 412-828-7362

Pittsburgh Lace Group

Slovakia Mission 2006 and Lace, by Dewi Wong

Earlier this year, as I thought back on happenings of 2005, my family was blessed with eventful occasions and places to go. After I wrote my holiday notes to many of our friends and relatives, I was grateful that I have had good health and have been blessed by so much travel for my enjoyment, I expressed my desire to travel for God. I thought that someday God would send me to Asia, but a month later I was surprised by an e-mail from a longtime friend, with the subject: "Mission trip". After discussing it with Karl, he agreed to delay his vacation/conference travel plan so that I could go and he would just stay at home during his requested time off. A couple of months before my mission trip my mother had a heart attack and I was very concerned to leave her in a weak condition. Thank God that Karl was able to be available just in case she needed assistance while I was away. The team's destination was to Hermanovce, a remote mountain place on the eastern part of Slovakia, near the border of Poland and Ukraine. The team worked on building related projects and taught English to the local school children. We were a team of seventeen Christians of different denominations, ages and backgrounds – from Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Florida and California, and Ukraine. The church was the very last building on the edge of a village with only about 200 houses and two parallel streets with a brook in the middle. We interacted with the local people including the Roma people or the Gypsies. During the time we were there, with the help of some locals a few people in our group went to seek their roots, equipped only with very little information such as photographs, internet genealogy and just words of mouth. There were happy stories

of some people who came to Slovakia for the second time and found their relatives. They told very touching stories and showed us pictures and items from their relatives. Some had to start by finding information in the town hall where their relatives were most likely have resided. Unfortunately most of the records in the town hall were in Hungarian so there were some difficulties to translate the information to Slovak and English. Sadly some did not find their relatives. I brought my travel pillow, a pattern, a few bobbins and thread. In the evenings after the work was done we gathered in the hall and I showed people in my team how to make lace. My Ukrainian friend learned quickly. One very kind young man took me to meet Barbora Simkova, the well known Slovakian lacemaker and designer, at her home in Presov. I saw so many laces which she and her daughter mostly designed. I did not get the chance to meet her daughter. Through translations we "talk" lace, much lace and more lace. We exchanged lace related gifts and pictures. She gave me a traditional salt mine lace pattern which I will share with our group. Meeting Barbora was so exciting, just like finding a relative. My experience going to the local school and to the Gypsy's children camp was very special. I learned so much from going with this mission team that the church in Hermanovce is reaching out to the world through the camping facility, the local community and opening their doors to the Romans. Even though it may seem as if I was the one who desired to go for the Lord, it is really God who called me with an appointment, and I am very humbled for the opportunity to serve others.

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

Thank you from Betsy (editor's note - This should have been included in the Fall newsletter)

Thank you all, my PLG friends, for the lovely apron you gave me upon my move to North Carolina. It means so much to me and I have shown it to my new friends and neighbors.

It hardly seems possible that it's been 3 months since we moved here. We absolutely love our new home in Raleigh. It's been a lot of fun to spend time with my family whom we seldom saw when we lived in Pennsylvania. We've been watching the niece's and nephew's children grow before our eyes. It's been a long time since we've been around little children and we are thoroughly enjoying our time with them.

The lace pillows are still packed away and I just haven't had time to make lace! Imagine! Life is

settling down a bit now, although we've been soooo busy. Perhaps I'll connect with a local lace group soon.

We miss our friends in Pennsylvania and I have little spells of being homesick but know that you'll all be there when we do visit PA.

Again, thank you all for all the fun and friendship I've had through the years with PLG.

Betsy Sykes
160 Line Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603

919-772-7703
monami222@hotmail.com

Twenty Five Year Commemoratives

It is our twenty fifth year as a Lace group, an amazing achievement. To celebrate the occasion commemorative bobbins are available from BeeUtahful Bobbins, 283 North 550 East, Orem, Utah. The cost is \$18.25 per bobbin plus \$5.00 shipping. A picture of the bobbin is below or may be seen at their web site – www.beutahful.com They bobbin is ebony with metal bands formed around the neck and tail. It is inscribed “Pittsburgh lace Group” on one side, “1981-2007” on the other. “25” is inscribed in the two small squares at the tail and comes spangled. An order form is on the last page of the newsletter.



Theresa Troyan has also made cover cloths in dark blue. Please send a check for \$5.00 to Theresa at 814 Grant Street, Turtle Creek, PA 15145 or telephone her at 412-824-8867. Orders should be placed by Monday, December 18th and may be picked up at the Lace Group Christmas Party December 28th. Please note that the cloth pictured was given to Robin and was therefore purple instead of blue.



Dorothy Remembers

Dorothy Kokal and Louise Chuha are the only remaining active members of our group, involved for the entire twenty-five years. Dorothy shared some of her memories about learning to make lace at Inger Grenvik's house. Inger charged \$30.00 for 6 lessons and Dorothy went in the late morning, after Inger finished driving school bus. Dorothy's husband Paul always came along with tools and did minor repairs on things while she had her lesson. After a small snack, Inger would go back to driving bus, and they would go home. Dorothy remembered taking Louise and her dog home once. Paul enjoyed the dog a bunch. If you have time, talk to either lady about what they remember from their early lace making days. You will find that the lessons then were very different from those today.

Pittsburgh Lace Group

Library Changes

Our Library is in search of a new cabinet to store our ever increasing number of books and supplies. If you have a locking cabinet with shelves that you would like to donate, please contact a member of the Board. We hope to have this in place shortly after the first of the year. At which time we will be reviewing our books and hopefully giving each book a card. The cards are to be removed and clipped to your check in the envelope when you take a book out. The following book reviews are of the new titles that were purchased at the workshop in October with money given by the Thursday night class..

Book Reviews

"Old World Lace, a Concise Illustrated Guide" by Clara M. Blum

This is an unabridged republication of a work originally published in 1920. It begins by differentiating between needle lace and bobbin lace. It goes on to break down the development of laces in Italy, Flanders, France, Spain, England and Ireland. It is well illustrated with wonderful pictures of old lace. It might be a good book to read before our Spring Program.

"Pirouette" by Kay Blakey

This book is a continuation of her first book "A rablesque" and has a variety of patterns from the easy to the complex. All the patterns may be made in a variety of lace types. For instance a pattern might be made in Duchess, Honiton, Milanese, Carrickmacross, Needlelace, or Whitof. The pattern designs are beautiful and includes pictures of the same pattern worked in some of the different types of lace. That alone makes it an interesting book. The simplicity and purity of the designs make it awesome.

"La Guipure du Puy, vol.2 Perfectionnement" by Nathalie Hubert & Mick Fouriscat

This lace book, written in French, is full of lovely patterns for edgings and bookmarks. They are shown in dark colors and show themselves off beautifully. The illustrations are more than adequate to compensate for the lack of a translation. The first five pages are the basic techniques used in du Puy. If you need a small gift, it might be a good place to look.

"La dentelle de Cholet, vol.2 Perfectionnement" by Martine Piveteau & Mick Fouriscot

This book, although written in French, gives excellent directions for basic torchon techniques, from hanging on to working roseground. The patterns use basic torchon techniques and include the usual edgings, bookmarks as well as some fan and mat patterns. A pleasant little book to inspire you to make more lace.

Beaded Knits, Jewelry and Accessories, vol.1" by Brenda Franklin

This book builds on the things we learned in Summer Camp. For those of you who have forgotten everything you learned, here is where to look. The book includes basic techniques as well as directions for a number of projects that are different from those we have completed. There are necklaces, earrings, and bracelets. The difficulty level of each project is shown in the front of the book. There are projects that are complex enough to challenge the best knitters, and some to gratify the beginner. The book includes tables with thread types and recommendations as to use. As well as what size beads and needles to use for each thread. The directions appear to be quite good.

Pittsburgh Lace Group

Pittsburgh Lace Group Dues are due by January 1, 2007.

\$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

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

e-mail address ~ Pgh_Lace_Group @Comcast.net

Commemorative Bobbin Order Form

Mail to : BeeUtahful Bobbins
283 North 550 East
Orem, UT 84097

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

_____ e-mail _____

Quantity of bobbins _____ X \$18.25 = _____

Shipping 5.00

Total _____

Dues are due January 1st 2007

