



READING-BERKS CHAPTER

Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen

P.O. Box 85, Mohnton, PA 19540

★ ★ *Reading-Berks Guild Website:* www.rbcrafts.org ★ ★

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March, 2008

President's Message □

March is here and Spring is right around the corner with the Reading-Berks Chapter's Spring Festival closing out the month. What a line up for the Spring Festival. Karen has done a great job with the advertising and publicity for this year's production. I would not be surprised if someone came to our show on the space shuttle. She has reached far and wide into the galaxy. Terry and Judy have done their magic to make sure everything is in place for the opening day, March 29, 2008. The show continues through March 30--so two big days of crafts, art shows, entertainment by the Acoustic Roadshow and great food by Dori Martin Catering. (Congratulations, Judy and Terry on your third place at the Philadelphia Flower Show).

If you are not displaying at this year's festival, come out and see what it is all about. You'll be glad you did. I enjoy our shows because I get to work with our members and chat with them. It is a great social event. And of course, if you can spare an hour helping the Guild pull off this event, we will all have that much more fun!!!

And as you know, Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen will present their student awards program in May at the goggleWorks. You certainly won't want to miss that either. The month of June will be our picnic, which will be at Gring's Mill in the Barn. This was great last year and we have expectations that it is going to be better this year because you will be there. So much to do, so much fun when you are an active member of the Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen. *"Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party' "*
Robin Williams Barry Bennecoff, Your President

April Program

Well its back to crafts for our next program.

To start we will be showcasing the newly juried members of our guild. The jury session will be held on March 11, 2008. That has not happened as of this writing. However, we hope to have some new people and their crafts to describe.

Also, I plan to still go ahead with the "before and after" theme to fill in the spaces if we have any. The below paragraph is repeated from the last newsletter, let's hear from some of you.

Just a note about the April program – I am looking for a few of our people that are willing to show "before and after". This program will feature people showing their work from the earliest entry into the craft to the refined product of today. So, if you are willing show your early work, and how it has progressed over the years, send me a note at MGWDECOY@aol.com, or phone 610 670-5545. I will be glad to discuss the details about the program. *Program Chair - Michael Wargo*

BCTV - "Your Berks Craftsmen"

Artisans who will be exhibiting their work at the Spring Fine Arts and Crafts Festival will be the guests on the March *"Your Berks Craftsmen"* program .

Ruthanne Hartung will be the featured artisan for the April program when she will discuss her newly released book on the art of Fraktur expected to be out in early April. *W. Eugene Burkhart, Jr., "Your Berks Craftsmen" Host*

Please see the additional information on page 3 to be able to get BCTV on your computer.

Spring Festival Report

Hello to all. We are at the threshold of the Spring Fine Arts and Craft Festival. It seems that we are at the busiest time of the 1-year cycle for the spring show. Applications are popping in at the last minute; advertising is in full gear, pulling all of the duties together for the show, and budget crunches, just to name a few things.

This year is an exciting year with 18 senior students from Kutztown who are doing their 1-person art show. We have worked for 5 years to have this happen and we are thrilled to have them join us this year.

The NAEA (National Art Education Association) will have make-it and take-it projects for children. (Also a semester requirement of Art Education majors to work with children on art projects). The parents can have their children work with the Club members while you shop.

We are having the Café, Music and Food for your enjoyment and a place to sit back and enjoy the festival.

If you're reading this article it is your duty to come to this show to give your support and encouragement to these great artisans and your fellow guild members. *Thank you. Terry & Judy Boyer,*

Show Co-Chairpersons

Advertising & Publicity

As you may have noticed, this is a new section to the newsletter and I hope you tune in every month to hear what is new. As most of you know, I've transitioned into this role from the Holiday Show Chair. Advertising, Graphic Design and Illustration are simple means for "getting the word out"; they are a tool, much like the tools you use. I use these tools to teach Physicians how to use my medical products. Even though this is what I do every day, this is something I am very passionate about. My Parents and Husband will tell you that I'm "very expensive" and have expensive tastes and that's true however; I am the BEST bargain shopper around!! This group DESERVES the best and much more attention, I promise to propose the best and work!

I've been in this role for one month and I've been moving very fast to reach as many customers as possible. We have made some major decisions about advertising this year. We will not be investing in local billboards in 2008; this decision was made because most of our customer base is local. We wish to explore other media opportunities outside the county, which means we need to be a little flexible with our thinking. We will try new things and we expect to see results. So feel free to voice your opinions or concerns surrounding this effort. My cell number is 484-336-4738. Kind Regards, *Karen Myers Advertising &*

Publicity Chairman

If you are in search of shows, check out the folder of shows that will be available at our general meetings.

2008 Mini Grant Application included as an insert in this issue. Please note deadline.

2008 Holiday Craft Show News

We received many applications already and **we thank you.** We have 6-months until the Holiday Show, Can you believe it!

With the consolidation of the Spring and Holiday Shows, we have already put a lot of time in the planning of these two events. This is an on going operation. So as a Guild Member of the Reading-Berks Chapter, **YOUR** help is needed, both doing the show as an artisan and helping with all of the preparations necessary for a successful show.

We need people for admissions, set-ups, tear downs, sign placement, postcard mailings and distributions, artisans show packets, computer work on show data, advertising help, decorations, door prizes, donated item helper, pictures taken for the guild shows, hospitality and the list goes on and on.

So if you have any talents or just would like to help that would be great! Contact anyone on the Board or email me at wc1860@verizon.net.

Thank you and get your applications in for the show. *Terry & Judy Boyer, Show Co-Chairpersons*

April Newsletter information is due April 1st.

BCTV Goes International

"*Your Berks Craftsmen*" goes international on BCTV □ **WOW!** When the show is presented live on BCTV (usually the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 7:00 to 8:00 PM), go to BCTV's website www.bctv.org and click on **watch the live show** on your computer. It is easy to do. This means that our one-hour show can now be seen internationally

In the future BCTV hopes that you will be able to download any program at any time, not just at the live telecast time slot. We will inform you as soon as this feature is available. Please keep this information in mind when it is BCTV's Octoberfest time. Hopefully you will be generous with your donations.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Continue to keep **Dominic Attili, Ray Oxenford, Judy Boyer, Kathy Harris, Lucy Neilson and her husband, and Anita Geiger** on your prayer list. Also, keep **Ruthanne Hartung's husband, Jim Mehaffey, Leon Schultz, Ernie Fredericks, Skip Hamaker and Carolyn Flickinger** in your prayers. We wish them all a speedy get well.

Thank you

Ray Oxenford wishes to express his sincere thanks to everyone who sent him get well wishes, emails, telephone calls, visits and kept him in your prayers during his recent surgery and hospitalization. Your words of encouragement were gratefully appreciated and sincerely welcomed. **Thank you.**

With Our Sympathy

We express our sincere sympathy to **Susan and James Messner** upon the recent death of Susan's mother, **Dorothy Edith Kupiszewski**. Dorothy was a long-time member of our chapter; she was juried in crochet and pysanky. Dorothy died on February 19, 2008 in the Reading Hospital.

Members in the News--CONGRATULATIONS!

Award-winning local pressed flower artist **W. Eugene Burkhart, Jr.**, served as a judge for this year's Philadelphia Flower Show's international pressed flower competition.

Terry and Judy Boyer's entry in the miniature scene category received a 3rd place ribbon.

Carol J. Haile is one of the committee members who planned the first **2006 Reading Reads: The Greater Reading Literary Festival**, they are currently working on the plans for this year's festival to be held in October.

Carol J. Haile is a featured artist at the GoggleWorks store and open house on Sunday, March 9, 2008, where she will be signing copies of her books.

Denise Wilz was selected by **Pottery Making Illustrated** to contribute an article about Pennsylvania Redware for the March/April issue. A picture of Denise decorating a slipware plate is featured on the cover.

Welcome, New Members

Please welcome these new members to our chapter.

Yasmin Brown, Dichroic Glass Jewelry
19 Clover Street
Lebanon, PA 17042

Hilary Deighan, Decorative Painting-Furniture & Handbags
2023 Gring Drive
Wyomissing, PA 19610

Paul Grecian, Photography
1060 Mayflower Drive
Quakertown, PA 18951

Liza Marie Lantz, Leather & Fiber Handbags
P.O. Box 262
Kutztown, PA 19530

Susie Martin, Sculptural & Functional Stoneware & Raku
1401 Pershing Blvd.
Reading, PA 19607

Susan Small, Sculptural & Functional Ceramics
576 Pine Top Trail
Bethlehem, PA 18017

Eric Weit, Rag Rugs, Runners & Bags
11 North 9th Street
Akron, PA 17501

Linn Woodward, Egg Scratching
P.O. Box 14, 165 Gravel Pike
Green Lane, PA 18054

June Meyer, Membership Chairperson

Dates to Remember

Tuesday, June 3, 2008, our annual picnic will be held at Grings Mill. Details will be in April and May issues.

April 26-27, 2008 Old Time Plow Boys Plowing Show at Kutztown PA German Heritage Center - Please contact Pat Oxenford if you would like to exhibit in the Log Cabin.

❖ ❖ *Important Dates to Remember* ❖ ❖

Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 26, 2008, 7:00 PM at GW

Chapter Meeting: Tuesday, April 1, 2008, 7:00 PM at GW

Spring Show: March 29 & 30, 2008 at KU