



# READING-BERKS CHAPTER

*Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen*

P.O. Box 85, Mohnton, PA 19540

★ ★ *Reading-Berks Guild Website:* [www.rbcrafts.org](http://www.rbcrafts.org) ★ ★

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## *President's Message* □

**Fast breaking news:** the 60th annual Reading Berks Guild of Craftsmen Holiday show 2009 will be held at Kutztown University on October 31st and November 1, 2009. Your Reading-Berks Guild board and Show Committee held a meeting Thursday, January 15, 2009, and discussed our options and decided that Kutztown University will afford us the best opportunity to continue to create and develop the finest quality show that our area and the surrounding areas expect from our guild. The participation of our talented and well-recognized Reading-Berks craftsmen along with art students and alumni from the art department of Kutztown University will further solidify this area as one of the premier craft and art centers.

We hope to bring an energy to our 60th anniversary show that will delight our customers and patrons of the past and entice new customers to this venue as well. So please join with your friends and fellow craftsmen in this historic event.

I, as your president, thank you for your continued support and look forward to our future. The following quotation states my exact feelings. *"To accomplish great things, we must dream as well as act."* **Anatole France** *Barry Bennecoff, President*

## *Gallery Show*

Just a reminder that our chapter's gallery show at the GoggleWorks, is just around the corner. If you signed up but did not pick up your application/registration form, please see Gene Burkhart at the February meeting.

## *Program*

Since our January meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather, we are honored to have Carl Constein a local educator (retired) and author willing to return and present our February program. Maybe you recall the article in the *Reading Eagle* in-December about Carl, who is a native of Berks County. He served in the Air Force as a pilot in World War II, is active in the re-enactment of World War II at the Reading Airport and has written several books covering a wide variety of subjects. For our program Carl will be discussing his new book *"From the Rhine To Penn's Woods"*. This story was inspired by a stroll through Saint John's Haines cemetery. The subject is a history of a family that migrated from Germany in 1753. The session should be interesting from many aspects, so plan on attending. Carl will sell and sign copies of this book at the conclusion of the meeting.

*Program Chair, Michael Wargo*

## *BCTV "Your Berks Craftsmen"*

The January 21, 2009 program will be a video that was taped at last summer's Kutztown Festival. Host, **W. Eugene Burkhart, Jr.** will introduce the video. The Kutztown Festival is sponsor of our "Your Berks Craftsmen" program.

Just another reminder, if you can't get BCTV on your television, you can go to [www.BCTV.org](http://www.BCTV.org) on your computer. *W. Eugene*

*Burkhart, Jr., "Your Berks Craftsmen" Host*

## **SPRING SHOW NEWS**

I have one thing to say, PLEASE SEND IN YOUR APPLICATION for the juried **SPRING FINE ARTS AND CRAFT FESTIVAL A.S.A.P.** Let's start off the year with a great show and support the Reading-Berks Guilds Spring Show. If you know of others who were thinking of doing the show encourage them to log on and get an application off of the website or email me at [wcl860@verizon.net](mailto:wcl860@verizon.net) or call anyone on the show committee. Thanks, *Terry*

*© Judy Boyer, Show Chairperson*

## **Holiday Show News**

It has been decided, the 2009 Reading Berks Guild Show will be held at the Kutztown University Field House on October 31<sup>st</sup> & November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009, with set-up Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. So mark you calendars.

The 2009 Holiday Show Applications will be in your February Newsletter. For those who have done the Spring Show at Kutztown University, the Holiday Show will be at the same location.

We will place all of the new information in the February Newsletter. Thanks, *Terry © Judy Boyer, Show Chairperson*

## **HOME AND GARDEN SHOW**

The 2009 SEPA Home and Garden Show, presented by the HomeBuilders Assoc. of Berks County will be held March 13-15, 2009 at the Greater Reading Expo Center.

This year the RBG has a great opportunity to set-up an exhibit featuring our members and their crafts. This is a unique opportunity to display our crafts to a new market, which includes decorative and gift buyers for homeowners. Builders are always looking for new resources of unique applications for custom work.

There is no cost to display. If you would like to display your pieces, business cards and catalogs or more, for information, please contact Kelly Brehm at [kbbrehm@epix.net](mailto:kbbrehm@epix.net) or 610-370-2951 by 2/23 to be included. Also I am looking for volunteers for the booth and to help with setup and tear down.

## **NEWSLETTER**

Deadline for the February 2009 newsletter will be on Wednesday morning, February 4, 2009. Please submit to [paoxenford@dejazzd.com](mailto:paoxenford@dejazzd.com). Thanks

## **Website Meeting**

If you are interested in having your website updated or setting up a website hosted by our chapter, mark your calendar for Tuesday, February 17th, beginning 6:00 PM at the Exeter Library. For more information contact Kelly Brehm at 610-370-2951, or [kbbrehm@epix.net](mailto:kbbrehm@epix.net)

## **NEW MEMBERS**

The Reading-Berks Chapter of the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen would like to welcome the following new members:

**James & Rochelle Getz**, *Hand-turned Wooden Items*  
47 Warwick Court  
Reading, PA 19606  
Phone: 610-370-0531

**Debbie Long**, *Photography*  
300 Angora Road  
Reading, PA 19606  
Phone: 610-378-1755

**Constance Brooks**, *Whimsical Fantasy Dolls*  
437 Miriam Avenue  
Leesport, PA 19533  
Phone: 610-916-2546

*June Moyer, Membership Chairperson*

## **GROUP SHOW BOOTH**

All crafters interested in participating in the Spring Show Group Booth please contact Kelly Brehm for details at [kbbrehm@epix.net](mailto:kbbrehm@epix.net) or 610-370-2951 by February 23rd.

If you are interested in participating in a Reading-Berks Chapter Group Booth at PA State shows please contact Kelly Brehm immediately at [kbbrehm@epix.net](mailto:kbbrehm@epix.net) or 610-370-2951.

The State Show dates are

- **FlavorFest, May 23 & 24, 2009** at Mount Hope Winery, Cornwall, PA
- **July 25 & 26, 2009** at the Chase Center on the Riverfront, Wilmington, DE
- **October 17 & 18, 2009** at Montgomery Co. Community College, Blue Bell, PA
- **November 14 & 15, 2009** at Manheim Township High School, Lancaster, PA

## ***In Our Thoughts and Prayers***

Belated get well, speedy recovery wishes to **Jean Hamacher**.

Continue to keep the following members and friends in your prayers, **Carolyn Flickinger**, and her husband **John** and daughter **Eileen**. Also, **June Moyer**, **Ruthanne Hartung's husband, John**, as well as **Jim Mehaffey**, **Lucy Neilson and her husband**, and **Don Levensgood**.

## ***Members in the News***

Local state guild member and basketmaker, **Diane Kennedy** of Boyertown recently opened a studio in Goggleworks. Congratulations, Diane.

## ***Belated Sympathy***

We express our belated sympathy to the family of **John Gilbert**, who passed away on December 9, 2008 at the age of 85. John was well known for his furniture restoration, especially chairs.

## ***Thank You***

Many thanks to everyone who contributed sewing materials for use to teach inner city children how to sew at Hope Church's after school program. I am excited at the children's enthusiasm to learn and I'm blessed to have this opportunity. We currently have four working machines and average 10 to 15 children from ages 8 to 16 years of age. Each child has an assignment they must pass before they can move to the next assignment. It is a joy to watch the students help each other with the assignments and the delight they show at making something. I encourage every crafter to share their talents and mentor someone. We are always looking for materials and notions. The program welcomes anyone who wants to help to sew or teach other crafts. **Kelly Brown Brehm**

## ***Classified***

- Student looking for Beginning Weaving instructor. Contact Trudy Johnson, 610-683-3333
- Pagoda Skyline, Inc. is looking for craftsperson who makes puzzles, contact Audrey Shoupper at 610-779-7537

## ***PA German Cultural Heritage Center***

Many events are being planned for the PA German Cultural Heritage Center in 2009. We expect to have our Log Cabin open and artisans demonstrating and displaying their work at all the events.

Wednesday, March 11, 2009 is the annual bus trip. This year's trip will be to Germantown, a Philadelphia suburb, where early German's settled as they arrived in "the new country." The trip includes stops at many historical places. For more information contact Darlene Moyer at PGCHC. Trip is open to members and non-members also.

In just 10 weeks Easter-on-the-Farm will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2009 (day before Palm Sunday). It will feature PA German traditional Easter customs. We'll have our Log Cabin open.

April 18, 2009, traditional artisans from our chapter will be conducting a 1-day seminar on various traditional PA German crafts in partnership with PGCHC and Northampton Community College.

April 25, 26, 2009, is the annual Plow Boys Spring Plow-In. Many activities are planned for this day; our Log Cabin will be open as well.

If you are interested in demonstrating and displaying your work in our Log Cabin please contact Pat Oxenford at 610-385-3431 for more information. Artisans are requested to contribute a 15% commission on sales to PGCHC.

**Think Spring** - Our Spring Fine Arts and Crafts Festival is just around the corner -- just 9 more weeks. If you have not submitted your application, take a few minutes, complete it and send it in. We hope to see you in Kutztown on March 28, 29, 2009 for the Reading-Berks Chapter's Spring Fine Arts and Crafts Festival.

Mark your calendar and reserve the dates of **October 31, and November 1, 2009** for our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Holiday Show at our new location, the **Kutztown University Field House**.