



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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President's Message

Congratulations to our members! March Madness was successful in all our venues. Thank you to W. Eugene Burkhart, Jr., and all who contributed to our first gallery show here at the goggleWorks. Gene laid the groundwork for our Gallery Show and the members of Reading-Berks made a grand showing there. If you didn't participate in this show, please keep it in mind for next time. You will be glad you did. The exposure is great! Thanks to Kelly Brehm who organized The Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen Booth at the recent Home and Garden Show at the Expo Center. Many of our Guild members worked at our booth for the three day weekend to help get the word out about our Guild. Our beautiful rack cards for both our Spring Festival and our Holiday Show on October 31 and November 1, 2009 were handed out to many, many people. Excitement is growing about our new location for our Holiday Show and the 60th anniversary of our great Guild - again thank you to everyone who helped out that weekend. And finally, thank you to Judy and Terry Boyer and their terrific show committee for promoting and producing an excellent show during these hard economic times. Thank you to all the craftsmen who participated in our show. By our attendance and participation at this show, we help to inspire the youth at the University to pursue their creative talents beyond their graduation. After all, education is part of our mission.

Now, out of the past and into the future. If April 25th and 26th is open on your calendar, may I suggest you help the Plow Boys celebrate their 20th anniversary at the Heritage Center. Sounds like a great time!

On April 18, 2009, several of our Board members, along with other Board members from other guilds will be attending a retreat hosted by the State Guild. This will be a time to exchange ideas and discussion on possible changes the State Guild is considering. Reading-Berks Guild Board members will be there to represent our interest .

And, as stated earlier, excitement is growing about our Holiday Show. New ideas are being conceived and I can't wait to hear what the committee has to say at our next meeting. Please do what you can to help promote our 60th anniversary show. Larger venue, sit-down café, special holiday entertainment for the two-day event, a special tabloid in The Reading Eagle; you, the juried craftsmen with your excellent selection of wares; an event you will be proud to be part of. Before I get too caught up in the Holiday Show, please remember to register for our great summer picnic at Gring's Mill. It happens in June - it's a time to relax with our friends, both old and new, WOW - I just love this Guild! "*Winners never quit and quitters never win.*" *Vince Lombardi Barry Bennecoff, Your*

Chapter President

BCTV "Your Berks Craftsmen"

The April 15th program will be a taped segment from the Student Awards Program / Presentations as part of BCIU's annual student art show from the goggleWorks.

We will present three awards. *W. Eugene Burkhart, Jr., Host, "Your Berks Craftsmen"*

Program

The program for May will include the mini-grant winners from 2008. Each person will relate how the grant was used. The grants are intended to assist members with the advancement of their craft, or attempts to branch out in another area. Past programs of this type have been very interesting. Plan to attend and experience this program, "Beyond the Mini-Grant".

Program Chairperson, Michael Wargo

Annual Chapter Picnic - Gring's Mill Stone Barn

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Gather at 5:30 PM - Meal served at 6:00 PM

More details on Page 3 of this newsletter.

Holiday Show Tabloid Information / Ad Reservation Form included as an insert. Contact Annie Harlin to reserve your ad space.

SHOWS

Spring Show News, April, 2009

Well I can truthfully say our 2009 Spring Show will go down in the books for being the most remembered Guild Show. In tearing down the show we all had to evacuate the field house and take shelter in the classroom hallways because of the severe weather and tornado warnings. The whole campus was on lock down, so we had to stay indoors until 6:00 pm.

This is where I want to sincerely thank everyone who helped tear down our show set ups in the field house and also helped all of us load up our vehicles.

We, the Show Committee, want those people to volunteer for the tear down for our many upcoming shows. This was a **GREAT CREW and THANK YOU SO MUCH.**

Our Spring Show went very smoothly. We had a great set-up and tear down. Volunteering is always a big issue. We will be working on this for the next show.

Spring Show's for what their worth can be successful in many different ways. They are learning and encouraging non-members to join our guild, helping young artisans marketing themselves the correct way and giving the public Great Juried Work.

This sets the stage for the Holiday Show and many were excited that we will be there in the fall.

Our Student participation,

- We had a High School Student, Wade Phillips, an artist who has a special gift of talent, and it showed through his paintings.
- We had great talent from the KU students who were given a major eye opening.
- The Students were very happy with what they sold.
- This year we gave them a booth space with screen walls. They were given the opportunity to set a booth up.
- Thanks to Kelly Brown Brehm for her work and guidance with the students.
- Thanks to Stanley Boyer, Ken Moyer and Ray Oxenford for having the screens and transporting the screens back and forth.
- Thanks to Annie Harlin for your expertise and guidance with the KU students.
- Thanks to Blake Miller, a fine potter from KU, who helped us tear down after the show and he was locked up in the building with all of us. A very interesting story for a student of Psychiatry! Blake is planning to join the guild as well.

Our Café,

A job well done for the food service, Thank you to Dori Martin and staff.

The Music was great as always, The Martin Family was a hit. There were many KU students performing with the Acoustics Road Show. Thanks Butch for a great job.

With everything that has happen at the Spring Show, **Was it successful?** We feel in every sense of the word, **Yes it was!** Thanks to all for a job well done. ?

The Holiday Shows 60th Anniversary of the Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen

This year, 2009, I feel will be a super year for our guild. We have a new place for the show where we can accommodate more than 200 artisans, the Café, music and food, the Student Gallery, planning for an area to have a Festival of Trees, (more to come on that), and the PA German Heritage Center with old world crafts and working loom.

Our layout will be similar to the Spring Show, except in a larger scale. We are planning to add 2 extra feet to the back of the booths. This way you can store all of your moving equipment and extra inventory. This will help in the moving in and out problems.

The SS booths look great for the most part; for the Holiday Show, Pipe and Drape will help for those that don't have a booth.

We will be having the raffle area as well. **This year we are only accepting 40 items so get yours in early. These items will be used for advertising as well.**

Please help us out by doing two major things. And that is; GET YOUR APPLICATION IN EARLY AND VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME.

By doing this, it will make this a smooth operating show of the future, even out the work load and keep our cost down so, Volunteer your time for **Before, During and After** the show.

I would like to add a special need of volunteers for mentoring with the KU Students that set up for the Gallery. There were some of us that took the time to help the students and the students were very appreciated with all that was given to them. The Guild will benefit from their extra care and time spent by creating new and young member for our guild. If you would like to take part in this please call Kelly Brown Brehm for mentoring one of the KU students.

So there's a lot of work ahead of us. I would like to see more help from those members that don't do the shows but belong as members of the Reading-Berks Guild. So I encourage you to call Pat Oxenford and volunteer your time for the Holiday Show and remember the **Holiday Show is Oct. 31st & Nov. 1st, 2009.** Sincerely yours, *Terry*

© Judy Boyer, Show Chairpersons, Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen.

Reminder: Holiday Show Oct. 31st & Nov. 1st, 2009

RAFFLE DONATIONS

Because the date of the Holiday Show has changed, the deadlines for donation forms and raffle items will be earlier. All donation forms must be turned in by June 2 to reserve your table space. Raffle items should be handed in by the Chapter Picnic on June 2 in order to be photographed and put on the Web site. At the latest, have your item in by the September Chapter meeting. Any questions contact Cindy Folev.

Standards

The following members were successfully juried at the March Jury session.

Nancy Sala, lampwork glass

James Getz, wood turning

Dek Morgan, photography

Sandra Kaye, kiln formed fused glass

Constance Brooks, art dolls

Cynthia Baker, hand weaving and knitted felt

Please welcome them into our chapter. *Louise*

Mehaffey, Standards Chairperson

Annual Picnic

Our chapter's annual picnic will be Tuesday, June 2, 2009 at Gring's Mill stone barn. It is held rain or shine, indoors on the 2nd floor of the barn (ground level entrance), overlooking the water. (So, no bugs or ants allowed to attend). Bring your favorite picnic covered dish and come out for an evening of great food, fun and fellowship with your fellow artisans and their families.

Our chapter will provide the meat, beverages, paper products and plastic utensils, you provide the remainder of the meal! A sign-up sheet was available at the April meeting and will again be available at the May meeting. We ask that you let us know the number of members in your family who will be attending so that we can prepare accordingly as well as a general idea of the type of covered dish you plan to prepare.

If you have any questions or wish to make reservations, contact Pat Oxenford at 610-385-3431 or paoxenford@dejazzd.com; Elaine Vardjan or Judy Boyer. Looking forward to seeing you at our picnic.

Volunteers Needed for Holiday Show

First of all, thanks to the many people who volunteered to help at our recent Spring Festival.

Many more volunteers will be needed to host a successful Holiday Show. The committee has many new ideas and we'll need additional volunteers to help.

We'll need a minimum of 55 volunteer hours for our admissions table and greeters. We also would like volunteers to assist with café set up on Friday afternoon, placing show directional sign, and many other details. We could also use many additional people to assist with clean up on Sunday evening after the show. It seems the set up and clean up have been handled by the show committee and we could definitely use a few more to assist with these details. For more information and to volunteer your time, please contact Pat Oxenford ASAP. We look forward to hearing from you.

Newsletter

The deadline for the May newsletter information is Wednesday, May 6, 2009.

Belated Sympathy

We wish to express our belated sympathy to the family of former member, Beverly Jeanne Reifel who passed away several weeks ago (early March). Jeanne was a scratchboard artist, who enjoyed creating wildlife and birds in her artwork. She resided in Lebanon. Several of our members attended her memorial service and Bill Leinbach gave the eulogy.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

We wish **Kathryn Schultz** a speedy recovery from recent surgery. Also, we wish **John Haile** a speedy recovery and also hope he is off the crutches soon!

Continue to keep the following members and friends in your prayers as well, **Kathy Harris; Bill Leinbach; Lillian Walter; Don Hendershott; Warren E. Burkhardt, Sr.; Carolyn Flickinger; June Moyer; Ruthanne Hartung's husband, John; Jim Mehaffey; Lucy Neilson and her husband, and Don Levengood.**

Members in the News

The Friday, January 2, 2009, edition of the *TIMES NEWS* from the Lehigh-Palmerston area featured an article and the work of **Pat Huszar** in their *Friday Feature* page.

Membership

The members of the Reading-Berks Chapter of the PA Guild of Craftsmen are happy to welcome the following new members:

James Barnet, *Authentic Reproduction Tinware*
5392 Lee Highway
Atkins, VA 24311
Phone: 276-781-0084

Kathy Blackburn, *Black & White Photography*
60 North Carolina Avenue
Sinking Spring, PA 19608
Phone: 610-678-1747

Melanie Mitchell, *Hand weaving & Dying*
242 Endlich Avenue
Reading, PA 19606-2140
Phone: 610-779-5009

Kristen Von Hohen, *Porcelain Slip Dinnerware*
2723 Leidy Road
Gilbertsville, PA 19525
Phone: 610-322-7465

June Moyer, Membership Chairperson

PA German Cultural Heritage Center

The log cabin will be open for the Plow Boys' Spring event on April 25, 26, 2009. Also, the weekend of August 8, 9, 2009 the Plow Boys will celebrate their 20th anniversary with special events, and we are looking for members to display and demo their work in the log cabin. If you would like to participate contact Pat Oxenford ASAP.

Kids Camp volunteers are always needed for the last week of July, if you can give some time, contact Elaine Vardjan.

Harvest Fescht is scheduled October 17, 18, 2009, we need artisans to be in the log cabin and also throughout the center grounds for demonstration of traditional crafts, especially related to harvest. If your booth space is located outside throughout the grounds, you may use a canopy. For more information contact Zach Langley at the Heritage Center via email at Langley@Kutztown.edu.