



READING-BERKS CHAPTER

Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen

P.O. Box 85, Mohnton, PA 19540

Reading-Berks Guild Website: www.rbcrafts.org

Volume 61 Issue 7

August 2009

President's Message

Whew, what just wizzed by me, oh it was Summer! Hope you all took advantage of the beautiful weather. Enjoyed your vacations and time with family. Now get ready for a ride because the Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen is going places. We recently had a great Show and Tell program of our recently juried members. Many thanks to Sherrie Boyer, executive director of the Pennsylvania Guild, who came to our meeting and talked about the agenda for the State. Our State Guild is busy and providing many opportunities for us as members. W. Eugene Burkhart and Pat Oxenford had a special announcement for us. We will be making the decorations for the Christmas Tree at the Governor's mansion this year. All this in one meeting, why we even had a break and a business meeting too. Special thank-you again to Pat Oxenford and her committee for an amazing reception at the "Raw to Refined" reception at The Reading Museum. Everyone thought it was professionally catered. I personally know that no one, and I mean no one knows more about good food than The Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen. "Raw to Refined" continues at the museum through October 31, 2009.

Please, if you haven't done so, get your application in for our Holiday Show 2009; you do not want to miss our 60th anniversary show at our new venue, Kutztown University. One last thing, while you are in your studio working on your donation for Octoberfest for BCTV, start making those ornaments. Christmas is right around the corner. Hear the bells! *"Ability will never catch up with the demand for it."*
Malcom S. Forbes *Your President, Barry L. Bennecoff*

Program

The program on September 1st will be presented by Cynthia Baker with a presentation on her "colonial clothing." This is a program you will want to see - and hear about. In addition to fiber art and weaving, Cynthia is an accomplished seamstress, and has an outstanding wardrobe of colonial clothing. *Michael Wargo, Program Chairperson*

BCTV "Your Berks Craftsmen"

The August 19th "Your Berks Craftsmen" will feature some chapter members who have their work exhibited in the Raw to Refined exhibition at the Reading-Public Museum. July's program was a sneak preview of the exhibit, now this month several of our members will discuss their work in this exhibition. *W. Eugene Burkhart, Jr., "Your Berks Craftsmen" Host*

BCTV's Annual Octoberfest Auction

BCTV has designated October 22nd as Reading-Berks Chapter Crafts Night for Octoberfest. If you have not donated something for the auction please contact Gene Burkhart or Carolyn Handwerk to arrange for your donation. BCTV is a non-profit organization and a vital part of our chapter's promotional success. Please consider donating your handmade items to this auction, it will help them meet their budget for 2010. Thank you for your generous contributions to BCTV.

September Newsletter deadline is Tuesday, September 2nd. Submit to Pat Oxenford at paoxenford@dejazzd.com.

Reading-Berks Chapter to decorate the PA Governor's Mansion Christmas Tree

At the August meeting Gene Burkhart and Pat Oxenford announced a project they have been working on the past several months, and were please to invite our chapter members to participate in decorating the PA Governor's mansion's 18-foot tall Christmas tree in the Grand Foyer as well as the garland on the grand stairway. We need over 300 ornaments, and each artisan participating is required to make five (5) ornaments (minimum height of 3-inches to maximum height of 6-inches). Ornament guideline information sheets were given out to interested artisans at the meeting. Gene is personally contacting members to determine their interest in participating. Deadline for returning the participation confirmation cards is the September 1st meeting. If you have any questions please contact Gene at 610-898-1927. Completed ornaments must be submitted by our November 3rd meeting.

We request three (3) ornaments be retained by the chapter, one for BCTV's 2010 auction, one for our chapter's 2010 holiday show raffle and the third for a permanent chapter display. The two (2) remaining ornaments will be returned at the February or March 2010 chapter meeting.

Chartered Bus Trip to Harrisburg

Sunday, December 13th is the last day of the Governor's Annual Holiday Open House - Mansion Tour for the 2009 holiday season. Refreshments are served and entertainment is scheduled. The open house closes to the public at 6:00 PM. Details are not yet finalized, but preliminary information is as follows:

- We have been invited to arrive at the Governor's mansion about 5:00 PM and stay until approximately 6:45 PM (an additional 45 minutes after the general public departs).
- Arrangements are being made with Kline's Bus Tours of Douglassville for a 54 passenger bus at a cost of approximately \$18.00 per person for the bus trip. You will also be responsible for your own dinner expenses. We will be making arrangements with the Firehouse Brewery, located about 2 blocks from the Capitol Building for our dinner at the conclusion of the mansion tour. (We'll travel by bus from the Governor's Mansion to the Firehouse Brewery).
- Current schedule/pick-ups is to depart Kline's in Douglassville at 2:30 PM. Proceed to Vanity Fair parking lot (across from the Country Inn & Suites parking lot) where we'll depart at 3:00 PM. Proceed to Robeson/Womelsdorf area to the Valley Forge Flag Company parking lot at route 419 and 422 where we'll depart at 3:30 PM. Proceed to Harrisburg to arrive between 4:30 and 4:45 PM.
- We'll allow 1½ hours for dinner at the Firehouse Brewery, departing approximately 8:30 PM to arrive back in Reading about 10:00 PM.

This trip is open on a first-come-first-served basis to those artisans who are participating with the ornament tree. Please note that 38 people have already committed at our meeting to participate in the bus trip. If you are interested, please contact Pat Oxenford at 610-385-3431 ASAP. The first 54 people will be accepted, with a waiting list in case of cancellations.

Thank you!

My sincere thank you to everyone who donated food, their time, talents, serving dishes, and assistance with the Raw to Refined Reception on July 17th at the Reading Museum. My committee, Gene Burkhardt, Judy and Terry Boyer, Kay and Barry Bennecoff, Ray Oxenford and Tammy Wilkinson, **THANK YOU** for all your help. And to Linda Beiler, Debbie Jarrett, Judy Moses, Wilfriede Axsmith, Lyn and Dwayne Wendling, Diane Kennedy, Shiela Shuman, Trudy Kauffman, Sandra & Bill Jones, Teddi Matz, Elaine Vardjan, Kim Ost Stramara, and Alan Wilkinson our DJ, thanks for all your donations and helping behind the scenes to prepare the food trays. With my sincere thank, *Pat Oxenford, Reception Chairperson.*

Belated Sympathy

We extend our belated sympathy to Eileen Flickinger and her father, John Flickinger, upon the death of Carolyn Flickinger on July 8, 2009. Carolyn has been on our prayer list for the past year or so. Please continue to keep Eileen and John in your prayers at this difficult time for them.

Get Well Wishes

These past few weeks several of our members have been hospitalized and we wish to extend to them a speedy recovery and get well wishes. Please keep the following members in your thoughts and prayers ... Roy Bubbenmoyer, Ann Steen, and Annie Harlin. Also, keep Dave Fisher in your prayers.

PGCHC's Children's Cultural Camp

A big **THANK YOU** to the following craftsmen who helped make this year's Children's Cultural Camp an outstanding experience for 28 delightful children: Carol Haile, Pat Oxenford, Eugene Burkhardt, Shirley Sachs, Marilyn Pounder, Linda Beiler, Judy and Terry Boyer.

Thanks again, *Elaine Vardjan, Kutztown Rep*

PGCHC Harvest Fescht

Work is progressing at the log cabin, a new heating - air conditioning unit has been installed and should keep the cabin climate controlled year round. We'll have the log cabin open for Harvest Fescht the weekend of October 17 - 18, 2009 and again for Christmas-on-the-Farm on Saturday, December 5th. If you would like to participate with demonstrating your craft and displaying your work in the cabin at either of these events please contact Pat Oxenford ASAP so that we can plan the schedule for the cabin.

Standards

The next and last chapter jurying session before this year's holiday show will be held on Tuesday, September 8th at GoggleWorks beginning at 7:00 PM. Please contact Louise Mehaffey for additional information and to receive an application form for jurying. Also, if you are planning to be state juried and would like the RB Standards Committee to critique your work, please contact Louise as well. *Louise*

Mehaffey, Standards Chairperson

Holiday Social 2009

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, December 1st for our annual holiday social to be held at goggleWorks. We'll have Boscov's Ala Carte catering for another delicious buffet dinner (we'll provide the deserts), and an evening filled with great food, fun and fellowship, and maybe a few surprises as well. Look for more details in the September issue, including reservation form and dinner menu.

60th Anniversary Holiday Show VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Many volunteers are still needed for the admissions table, greeters, and raffle ticket sales during the show.

We also need additional volunteers to join our set-up and clean-up team. Specifically, we need additional people to assist with the electrical lines layout and clean-up to help Bob Shultz and his committee. Also, we need two people to set up the café area, including setting up 8-ft. tables and chairs, placing the stanchions, etc. as well as cleaning up this area. If you would like to volunteer for any of these jobs, please contact Pat Oxenford ASAP. We'll also have the sign-up sheet circulating at the September and October meetings. We hope you'll give of your time to help with our show!

Holiday Show

This is the last month of summer. For Craftsmen it's the season to get in major gear for the up and coming season of shows. It's also the season to work extra long hours in your shop because you need to build your inventory up since you didn't restock after the last show that you did. It also seems to be the time of year that most craftsmen start to think about getting those applications in for their fall shows. Which have been past due for months? Or the season to call and see if there's still room in the show. The big one, I lost my applications can you send another one!

Well I have good news for the Holiday Show; once again you still have time to get your application in. The application is on the website. You can call ME at 610-693-5467 or email me at wc1860@verizon.net. So there doesn't seem to be a problem in not doing the show on Oct. 31st & Nov. 1st 2009.

We, the Reading-Berks Chapter PGC have staged top-notch shows for the past 60 years. It's the show that everyone wants to get into. I receive calls from artisans up until the day before if there's any cancellations to the show.

One thing I have to say about the show is that we have the room to fit anybody (juried artisans) in our new layout. The layout will be done for the tabloid which will go to print 3 weeks before the show. If your applications gets in before that deadline you will be listed in the newspaper tabloid and where you will be located on the floor plan.

****** Now if it's later than that, you can still get into the show BUT, ******

- You will be placed to the back of the show were there's room for the next applicant.
- There will be **NO guarantee** that we can place you apart from the same craft.
- You will not be listed in the program or the tabloid ad or no ad.
-

We are in a position to have one of the best shows ever in our history of the Reading Berks Chapter PGC. So join us and send in the application ASAP. **Thank you and be a big part of the celebration.** Terry & Judy Boyer, Show Chairpersons

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: "Technical skill is mastery of complexity, while creativity is mastery of simplicity." Erik Christopher Zeeman (Submitted by Louise Mehaffey)

NOTICE: If you see Henry Diener on the 24th, wish him a Happy 80th Birthday . Happy Birthday Henry, and we wish you many more happy and healthy birthdays!

Below is the order form to have holiday flowers delivered to your booth on Friday afternoon, October 30, 2009. Since it is early for poinsettias to have full color, we are also adding mums in white, burgundy or yellow as an alternative choice. Poinsettia colors will be pale, but will show color, and will intensify in color over the weeks following the show This is another service we offer you to help you decorate your booth for the holiday show.

2009 Holiday Show Poinsettia & Mums Order Form

6½-inch pot Poinsettia (multi-bloom pot) Cost \$7.50 per pot	Quantity	Cost per Pot	Total
• 6½-inch pot RED			
• 6½-inch pot WHITE			
7½-inch pot Poinsettia (multi-bloom pot) Cost \$16.00 per pot			
• 7½-inch pot RED			
• 7½-inch pot WHITE			
4-inch pot single Poinsettia bloom Cost \$3.00 per pot			
• 4-inch pot RED			
• 4-inch pot WHITE			
8-inch pot mums Cost \$4.00 per pot			
• 8-inch pot WHITE			
• 8-inch pot BURGUNDY			
• 8-inch pot YELLOW			
TOTAL ORDER			

NAME _____

Telephone number in case there is any question about your order _____

Order deadline is October 15, 2009. Submit your order form and check, **payable to Reading-Berks Chapter PGC**, mail to Pat Oxenford, 805 Hill Drive, Douglassville, PA 19518 or give to her at the September or October chapter meetings. Poinsettias will be deliver to the Holiday Show on set-up day and will be placed at your booth space early afternoon that day. Any questions contact Pat Oxenford at 610-385-3431.