



READING-BERKS CHAPTER

Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen

P.O. Box 85, Mohnton, PA 19540

Reading-Berks Guild Website: www.rbcrafts.org

Volume 61 Issue 8

September, 2009

President's Message

September 1, 2009 -- 61 days until the 60th Anniversary of the Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen Holiday Show. Big new venue for our Holiday Show! Catering in the all-day café by Dori Martin ... GREAT for customers and vendors alike! There is only one thing missing ... YOU! If you have not signed up to do this great show, it will be a little less great because YOU will not be there. Join your fellow-craftsmen in saying "Happy Birthday Reading-Berks." Sixty years and still going strong!

What makes a great show Great? It is most definitely the quality of the craftsmen. The assurance of quality is present in both our time honored traditional craftsmen and our newer contemporary artists. All of this energy and creativity, along with new emerging artists from the University, will combine to make this a very special time of the year, a much anticipated event.

So, I am making my list and checking it twice ... Get my donation to BCTV for Octoberfest. That's next month. Get more furniture completed for the Holiday Show. That's next month too.

Work on Christmas Tree Ornaments for the Governor's Mansion ... Gee! I hope they pass the budget and can get a tree by the time we have these ornaments ready!

"If you had your life to live over again ... you'd need more money!" Construction Digest *Your President, Barry Bennecoff*

Chapter Badges We will be ordering badges in the style shown on the order sheet in this newsletter. If you are interested in placing an order or you have ordered one previously they will be available at the Holiday Show in June Moyer's booth. Please print your name exactly the way you would like it to appear on your badge and return the form ASAP. Deadline to order is September 30th. Any questions contact June Moyer, Membership Chairperson.

Program

The October program will feature Mr. Kevin Lehman, VP Standards, from the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen. He will present a short program regarding what is expected when one goes to a State Jury session. This should be interesting since you will have information from the source. We do expect many questions and comments, so get prepared. *Michael*

Wargo, Program Chair

Spring 2010 State Jury Session

The date and times have not been announced, but the Spring 2010 State Jury Session will be held at the GoggleWorks with our Reading-Berks Chapter as hosts. So, if you are planning to go for state jurying, don't miss the October meeting.

BCTV "Your Berks Craftsmen"

During September we'll host two programs of "Your Berks Craftsmen". The regularly scheduled September program on September 16th from 7 - 8 PM will feature mother-daughter, Sylvia Hendershott and Karen Myers. Sylvia creates exquisite Father Christmas figures and Karen is a silversmith jeweler.

The second program will be an "early" October program (since Octoberfest is scheduled for the third week of October when we traditionally host our show) to be televised on Tuesday, September 29th from 6 - 7 PM. Karen Myers, Show Publicity Chair, will have artisans who will be at our upcoming 60th Anniversary Holiday Show.

And, just another reminder, BCTV's Octoberfest featuring Reading-Berks Craft Night is Thursday, October 22nd - if you have not donated to this event, please be generous and contact Gene ASAP. *W. Eugene Burkhardt, Jr., Your Berks Craftsmen Host*

60th Anniversary Holiday Show

Hello to All,

The Holiday Show is coming all too soon. The next two months are very busy for the Guild's show committee. Some of the areas that we need help are:

- **Admission Table, Raffle Table and Host at the door.**

We have many of you that have been members of the Reading-Berks Guild for a long time. This is the time we need you and your services. This is our biggest function of the year. Call or email Pat Oxenford to line up your time slot for the show.

- **Your packets will be sent out the beginning of Oct.**

Take note that **your raffle tickets** are included in that packet. Please, by all means, sell them. This is a big fundraiser for our guild.

- **The Tabloid goes directly into the Thursday, October 29th Newspaper, which is right before our Holiday Show.**

There will be 64,000 papers going to the homes and newsstands. Plus we will have 3,000 copies for our guest that will come to the show. What better way to have your information in the hands of so many people. A simple business card size ad for \$50.00 will be many sales down the road.

I, myself, can't get my name and business to all those people at one time, costing so little. For a form to place an ad, or if you have any question, call Barry or me and we will be glad to help you.

I want to thank all of the Show Committee people.

By having this committee we have organized a new level of skills to take our Guild's show to a greater level of excellence.

Thanks you all so much. *Terry & Judy Boyer, Show Chairpersons.*

Poinsettia & Mum Orders

Reminder that the order form for holiday show flowers to be delivered to your booth, was included in the August newsletter. Order deadline is October 15th, or you can give the order to me at the October meeting. If you have any questions, call or email Pat Oxenford.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We still need two cashiers, three greeters, and six raffle ticket sales persons for Saturday, October 31st, and on Sunday, November 1st we still need one greeter and one raffle ticket sales person. If you can give an hour of your time to fill one of these open time slots, or better yet, if you are not doing the show, please offer your time to help us. Contact Pat Oxenford if you can help. *Thank you!*

We are still looking for at least two more men to assist Bob Schultz with the electrical set-up and clean-up.

Members in the News On Thursday, September 10, 2009, **W. Eugene Burkhart, Jr.** will receive one of The 2009 Heritage Senior Awards at the Heritage of Green Hills. This award recognizes the efforts of Berks County businesses and individuals who provide exemplary service, support or opportunity to seniors. *Congratulations, Gene!*

Members teaching classes at Northampton Community College: As a follow-up to our first annual traditional craft day held this past Spring at PGCHC, several of our members, **Elaine Vardjan, Linda Beiler,** and **Janice Sonnen** will each be teaching a 1-day workshop at the college this fall semester. Also, **Tammy Zettlemoyer-Wilkinson** will be teaching a 3-day workshop, and **Mary Ellen Hittner** will teach a 1-day Halloween gourd painting workshop. *Congratulations to all.*

Get Well Wishes

Apologies and belated speedy recovery to **Judy Boyer.** We missed including her name in the get well / speedy recovery wishes last month.

Continue to keep Annie Harlin in your thoughts and prayers.

Jurying

By the time this issue gets into your mailbox, the chapter's September jurying session will be history. However, another reminder, we'll have a jury session the second Tuesday of March 2010, and the State Jury Session will be at GoggleWorks in March 2010 also. So here is food for thought to prepare for jurying.

Jurying is probably the most controversial activity of the guild. Our work is very personal, an extension of ourselves, and it can be difficult to be objective about it. But remember, it is the work, not you, that is being juried. Think of it as a learning experience, a chance to have your work critiqued by experts.

There are 3 common reasons for work not being accepted. First is the quality of the work. The jury will assume that this is the best you can do, so make sure it is. Second, submit work that reflects a common style. Often the jury sees 5 pieces that look as if they were made by 5 different people. And third, sometimes the work doesn't meet the Guild's definition of a designer craft. Note the words "designer" and "craft".

If you are going to a state jury session, take advantage of your chapter jury committee. We have had members bring in 10 pieces and ask the committee to choose what to take and to critique them. Don't be afraid to ask for help, and be objective enough to really listen. For more info, contact Louise Mehaffey at louise@eglassplace.com

Artisans for PGCHC Events

Our Log Cabin at the PA German Cultural Heritage Center will be open for business on Saturday and Sunday, October 17 - 18, 2009 for the Annual Heritage Harvest Fescht.

We're also looking for more volunteers to fill the cabin for Christmas-on-the-Farm on Saturday, December 5th. If you would like to display and demonstrate your craft at either of these events, please contact Pat Oxenford ASAP.

October Newsletter Deadline

Please have information to be included in the October newsletter submitted to me by Wednesday morning, October 7th. Thanks, *Pat Oxenford, Newsletter Editor*

Classified

Sunday September 13, 2009 - goggleWorks 4th Annual Open House 11 AM - 4 PM and **Centre Park's Arts and Antiques Fair** from 10 AM - 5 PM. 700 Centre Avenue.

Spring Show 2010 Applications

Spring Show 2010 applications, both artisan vendors and student applications, will be available and distributed on Saturday, October 31st at the Holiday Show. More details will be available at the October meeting and in the October and succeeding months' newsletters.

December 13, 2009 Bus Trip to PA Governor's Mansion

We currently have a full bus and are beginning a waiting list, however, if enough additional people are interested we can hire a second bus. **COST IS \$18.00 PER PERSON, payable to Reading-Berks Chapter PGC.** We will accept payment at both the October and November meetings and at the Holiday show, or you may mail it to our P.O. Box 85, Mohnton, PA 19540, mark check for bus trip. ***Anyone not paid by November 3rd, we will assume you are not participating and will take names from the waiting list to fill the bus.***

Schedule of pick-up: Bus departs Douglassville at 2:15 PM; departs Vanity Fair Parking Lot - across from Country Inn & Suites at 3:00 PM, departs Robeson area - Valley Forge Flag's Parking Lot at 3:30 PM.

Arrive at Governor's Mansion approximately 4:30 PM. Tour Mansion and also a private tour from 6:00- 6:45 PM. 6:45 PM depart Governor's Mansion for short trip to Firehouse Restaurant.

7:00 PM arrive at Firehouse Restaurant - each person or group will be seated and order individually - YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN DINNER COSTS.

8:30 PM Bus will depart Harrisburg for return trip to Reading, arriving approximately 10:30 PM.

Please let me know which pick-up site you will get the bus. And, if you have any questions, contact Pat Oxenford

Holiday Social Time Again

Believe it or not, our Holiday Social is just 12-weeks away. Wow how time flies! It is a night of great food, fun and fellowship, and maybe a few surprises too! Yes, we'll have our annual gift exchange, sing a few holiday carols, play a few games to get to know each other and we'll feast on a scrumptious buffet provided by Boscov's Ala Carte Catering. **We're also requesting donations of desserts.** (And, if any food is left over, Leon and Kathryn Schultz will hopefully deliver it to the "Opportunity House" in downtown Reading).

Last year the board decided to have our annual charity be the *goggleWorks Children's Scholarship Fund*. Any donation checks should be made payable to our Reading-Berks Chapter PGC, marked for 2009 holiday charity. Our chapter matches total donations for the annual charity up to \$500 annually.

The buffet meal consists of : Fruit tray, Field Green Salad with Dressing; Burgundy Beef Tips; Boneless Chicken Breast with Julienne Vegetables (usually carrots); Oven Brown Potatoes; Green Beans Almondine; Dinner Rolls and Butter; Relish Tray (cold veggie tray); Decaf, Coffee and Tea Service, Punch & Ice; and desserts by our RB members.

Hope you'll reserve the date and join us for the fun evening to begin the 2009 holiday festivities. More info will be forthcoming in the October newsletter.

2009 HOLIDAY SOCIAL --- December 1, 2009 at Goggleworks -- RESERVATION FORM

NAME: _____ PHONE NO. _____

NUMBER ATTENDING AT \$15.75 EACH _____ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

I/WE WILL PROVIDE A DESSERT ____ YES ____ NO

Make check payable to Reading-Berks Chapter PGC

Mail check to Ray Oxenford

805 Hill Drive

Douglassville, PA 19518

Any questions call Ray or Pat at 610-385-3431

Reservation deadline -- Monday, November 23, 2009