



# 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)*

Volume 61 Issue 10

November, 2009

## *President's Message*

Definition of miracle ... *An extraordinary occurrence that surpasses all known human powers or natural forces and is ascribed to a divine or supernatural cause.* Well, the 60th annual Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen Holiday Show at Kutztown University this past weekend was real close to being a miracle. With the major obstacle of having to find a new home for this show and the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the guild show clamoring for some special attention, the show committee used all their human powers and came up with a winner. The press was amazing: *The Reading Eagle, The Morning Call, The Merchandiser, Channel 69 News, BCTV, Alan Shirk.* I want to personally thank everyone involved with this show. **YOU DID AN AMAZING JOB!**

AND a BIG THANK YOU to all the craftsmen who participated in the show. Without the craftsmen participating in this show, this weekend would not have happened. Thank you for believing that the committee and your Board of Directors could make this move and this show successful! With the momentum that we have from this past weekend we will strive to make Spring Festival 2010 an event that we can all be proud to participate in as well.

The customers at this show were impressed with you, the craftsmen, and again I say thank you for making the 60th annual Holiday Show a show to remember.

That's it for now! Let's all remember how blessed we are here in the United States of America and be thankful at this special time of year. Turkey, filling, apple pie, I can almost smell it now. **Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.**

*"You're never a loser until you quit trying."* Mike Ditka *Your President, Barry L. Bennecoff*  
P.S. **Don't forget to get those ornaments finished for the Governor's tree!**

*Happy Thanksgiving*

## *Holiday Social*

Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> is our annual Holiday Social. The buffet meal will be provided by Boscov's Ala Carte Catering at a cost of \$15.75 per person. Reservation deadline is Monday, November 23, 2009.

**We will gather at 5:30 PM in room 425 at Goggleworks with the meal being served at 6:00 PM.** 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 and Regular Coffee; Tea and Punch, and Desserts by our RB members. Excess food will again be donated to Opportunity House in Reading (Katherine and Leon Schultz will deliver the food).

We will play a few games, Elaine Vardjan will accompany us on the piano to sing a few Christmas Carols, maybe a few surprises and our famous gift exchange. Remember, this is the time for our annual charity donation. Our charity is the Goggleworks Scholarship to help defray the costs of classes at Goggleworks for both children and adults who may not be able to afford such classes. Our chapter matches our total membership donations up to \$500.

If you cannot attend the social, you may forward your donation to our Post Office Box, make your check payable to Reading-Berks Chapter PGC and mark your check for *Holiday Charity Donation*.

**REMINDER:** Deadline extended! If you have not handed in your five ornaments for the Governor's Christmas Tree, please complete them and deliver your ornaments to Gene Burkhart by November 23rd. Any questions, please contact Gene at his Goggleworks Studio at 610-898-1027. We hope to have a minimum of 300 ornaments, and hopefully 400!

## **BCTV "Your Berks Craftsmen"**

Thank you to everyone who donated items to this year's BCTV's Octoberfest. Also thanks to everyone who may have been a successful bidder, we appreciate your support.

The theme of the November 18<sup>th</sup> program will be Holiday Decorating. Tune in to learn of many holiday decorating tips and ideas. The December 16<sup>th</sup> program, Gene's 125<sup>th</sup> program, will be about decorating the PA Governor's Christmas Tree, with video of the actual decorating the tree and guests involved with the project.

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

## **HARRISBURG BUS TRIP**

The holidays are approaching quickly, and the highlight for this holiday season is our Reading-Berks Chapter having the opportunity to decorate the Christmas Tree in the PA Governor's Mansion. The bus is filled, and we're ready to go. Here's the final details. The bus will depart Kline's Bus depot in Douglassville at 2:30 PM. We'll proceed to the Vanity Fair parking lot behind TG Friday's on Park Road at 3:00 PM. We'll then proceed west to the Valley Forge Flag parking lot at Route 422 and 419 and depart there at 3:30 PM. ***Please be on time, we have a tight schedule.***

We'll arrive at the Governor's Mansion to see the holiday decorations. At 6:00 PM the mansion will close to the general public and we'll have an additional 45 minutes to view the tree.

We will depart the Governor's Mansion and the bus will take us to The Fire House Restaurant, just a few blocks from the capitol. You will order from the menu and each is responsible for their own meal check. We'll allow approximately 1½ hours for dinner before our return trip to the Reading area.

## **Christmas -on-the-Farm**

December 5, 2009 is the day to visit the PA German Cultural Heritage Center for Christmas-on-the-Farm. It is a day to learn about the PA German Christmas customs, visit our Log Cabin which will have artisans displaying and selling their holiday wares, catch a glimpse of the Belsnickle, tour all the buildings that will be decked out in the traditional PA German holiday decorations, hear the PA German Christmas Carolers and so much more. Time is from 10:00 AM through 4:00 PM. Hope you stop by for a visit.

## **Show News**

Well the 2009 Holiday Juried Craft Festival is history.

It has been a very interesting year. Thank you all for the ride of our lives as a Guild of Craftsmen. We had to move our established Holiday Show to a new location only weeks after the 2008 show. Everything had to be done to make this show a success.

To our sponsors in the KU family, thank you for your support and commitment to the Arts and its artisans. It's been said when one door closes another opens. We took it, claimed it and ran with it with great results. Thanks to all that had a part with the **Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen 2009 Spring and Holiday Juried Crafts Festival.**

*So with that said, we need to look forward to the Spring Festival.*

## **Spring Show information;**

**We can't stress enough to get your applications in early. We use what application dollars that do come in for the media advertising program.**

**Our goal is to get the most for our buck but, when we don't have your application we are stuck and waiting till the last minute for the operating monies from you.**

*It's your destiny that determines the success of the amount of people that come through our doors. Terry & Judy Boyer, Show Chairmen*

## **Members in the News**

**Bill Baumgartel** has been in the news in several publications: **Timber Home Living -- 2009 Annual Buyer's Guide** -- showed several of his bowls. In **Log Home Living -- April 2009** he was featured as the month's artist profile -- with a heading -- "Function First". The **Teroforma -- 2009 Catalog** for a new company that pairs a modern designer with a traditional craftsman to develop a collection of modern objects for the table. It's made up of young designers and craftsmen from around the world. Bill is paired with Thea Mehl from Norway. (Bill and Rusty just mailed an order to be sent to Milan, Italy where they are being used in connection with a design magazine and a retailer there after being shown in "**Wallpaper**" -- a design magazine. Fun stuff! (They do have a web site -- [www.teroforma.cm](http://www.teroforma.cm) where you can see the spring/summer catalog with the pictures of the pieces -- and Bill and the rest of the folks).

## ***Members in the News (continued)***

Nancy Sala and Louise Mehaffey are exhibiting several pieces in the *Glass Trail Exhibition* at the Goggleworks. The show continues until the end of Nov, so stop by and see it!

### ***Thank you***

Thank you to everyone who gave of their time to volunteer at our Holiday Show. Volunteers are a vital part of a successful show and we appreciate your time to assist at our admissions table, greeters, set up, tear-down and clean up.

Beginning at the January 2010 meeting we will begin requesting volunteers for our Spring Show. Hope you will consider giving of your time.

***Thanks!***

### ***Membership Renewal Reminder 2010***

Another reminder. Membership renewal notifications for both the state and chapter come from the state guild office in Lancaster. These renewal notices were mailed in October, if you have not received your renewal notice, please contact our state guild office ASAP. **Deadline for renewal is December 31, 2009.** If you do not renew your membership, both chapter and state by that date, you will need to go through the jury process if you had already been juried.

### ***House and Garden Show 2010***

The Expo Center is the site of the annual House and Garden Show in March. We will sponsor a double booth where our juried members may display 3 or 4 pieces of their work. The purpose of this display is to advertise our upcoming Spring 2010 Show. Volunteers will be needed to give a few hours of their time during the show to assist at our booth. If you are interested in displaying your work as well as volunteering your time, please contact Kelly Brown Brehm, booth chairperson at 610-370-2951.

### ***Standards***

The next jury session is scheduled for Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at Goggleworks. You must be a Reading-Berks chapter member for at least 3 months to be eligible for jurying. Contact Louise Mehaffey for more information and an application.

## ***Get Well Wishes***

We wish **Jean Hamaker** a speedy recovery. Also keep **Silvia Hendershott** in your thoughts and prayers as well.

### ***Newsletter***

If you have anything to be included in the December newsletter please have it to me by December 2, 2009. Thank you, *Pat Crawford, Newsletter Editor*

### ***Classified***

#### **RBGC Member looking for portable loom -**

Looking for a used, 4-harness, portable loom similar to Schact Spindle Baby Wolf to demonstrate at shows. If you have any information please contact Michael Weaver at 610-323-2613 (home), 610-507-0012 (cell) or email: [michael@michaelweaverfibers.com](mailto:michael@michaelweaverfibers.com). Please contact with any info or leads.

**WANTED:** Latch Hook Supplies, Acrylic Yarns, Norman Hersh, 610-927-9388

**FOR SALE:** Lots of Ceramic and Acrylic Paints, Shawn Reed, 610-790-5046

**Do you need high quality images of your artwork** for show jurying, ZAPApplication, art school applications, postcards, your web-site, show catalogs or Giclee prints? My goal is to create visual solutions that bring your art to life. My objective is to work closely with each artist, to provide high quality images at fair and reasonable cost in order to help artists succeed in promoting their work. I'd love to help you with your next project. Please contact me for more details. Thank You, Del Morgan Fine Art Photography, <http://www.delmorganphoto.com/>  
Home : 610 - 435-4570, Cell : 610 - 762 -6467, **Del Morgan Fine Art Photography, Images to enrich our lives !** © Del Morgan Fine Art Photography Images to enrich our lives ! © <http://www.delmorganphoto.com/>  
**Home : 610 - 435-4570 Cell : 610 - 762 -6467**

***Thanksgiving*** ... a time to give thanks for our many blessings ... good health, family, friends, our bountiful harvests, our freedoms. As we gather together with our families this Thanksgiving Day, also keep our service men and women in your thoughts and prayers. God Bless the USA!

Spring Show 2010 applications for both artisans and students were distributed at the Holiday Show. If you are in need of an application contact Terry Boyer or check the chapter website.