



READING-BERKS CHAPTER Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen

P.O. Box 85, Mohnton, PA 19540

Reading-Berks Guild Website: www.rbcrafts.org

Volume 62 Issue 10

November - December, 2010

President's Message

When you are reading "From the President's Desk" our Holiday Show 2010 will be in the history books. The show committee will be analyzing the statistics of the show, what went well, what didn't. We will be talking about the attendance, how wonderful the crafts were, how good the entertainment was, etc. etc. And I, I will be thinking about how thankful I am for what Reading-Berks Guild is. Reading-Berks is an outstanding organization dedicated to excellent craftsmanship and pride in a job well done.

So, my dear friends, I wish you and your family and friends a very special Thanksgiving. Embrace your traditions during this Holiday season and enjoy the time you spend with each other.

"The Pilgrims made seven times more graves than huts. No Americans have been more impoverished than these who, nevertheless, set aside a day of thanksgiving."

H. U. Westermayer Your President, Barry Bennecoff

BCTV - Your Berks Craftsmen

The November 17th program will feature Holiday Decorating ideas for your home. The decorations from the PA Governor's Mansion 2010 will be the highlight of the December 15th program.

The new year will begin with video from the 2010 Kutztown Festival for the January 19, 2011 program.

On behalf of BCTV, we wish to thank everyone who generously donated items for Oktoberfest and also to those who assisted in anyway, thank you for your time. W. Eugene Burkhart, Jr., Your Berks Craftsmen Host

Holiday Social

Tuesday, December 7th is our annual Holiday Social. The buffet meal will be provided by Boscov's Ala Carte Catering at a cost of \$18.00 per person. **Reservation deadline is Saturday, November 27, 2010.**

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 Almandine; 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 (Leon Schultz will deliver the food).

Elaine Vardjan has a few games planned along with our 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*.

January Program

The January 4, 2011 program will feature the artisans who received Mini Grants in 2010. They will each give a presentation on how they used their Mini Grant. Elaine will be contacting each of them to remind them of their fulfillment responsibilities of receiving the Mini Grant.

Elaine Vardjan, Program Chairperson

Happy 100th Birthday

Lillian is our second member to attain the age of 100! Our first member was Hettie Miller whom we honored some years ago. This month, November 2010, we honor one of our original members, Lillian Walter who turns 100 years young!

Lillian's address is:

Lillian Walter
The Highlands
200 Cambridge Avenue
Wyomissing, PA 19610

Thank you

Thank you to all the volunteers who gave of their time to assist with set up, helping throughout the show with admissions, greeters, raffle ticket sales, and clean up after the show, plus any other capacity to help our show run smoothly. We sincerely thank you for your time! Please note that several youth from Kay and Barry Bennecoff's church group also volunteered throughout the show, we thank them for their help.

DUES RENEWAL REMINDER

Just a friendly reminder ... dues are now due and payable to our PA Guild of Craftsmen state office. Dues notifications were sent either via email or US Mail to all members. **Dues must be paid to the state guild office no later than December 31, 2010, for both the state and chapter renewals.** If not paid by that time you will be considered delinquent in your dues and if you are chapter and/or state juried, you will lose that juried status. Don't hesitate, write that check, fill out the form and return it to the state office pronto!

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Please add **Michael Wargo** and **Henry Diener** to your prayer list.

Continue to keep **Kathryn Shultz***, **Debra Hammond**, **Anita Geiger**, **Lillian Walter**, **Roy Bubbenmoyer** and **Skip Hamaker** in your prayers.

Also, continue to remember **Katie Bauer**, fiancée of Dave Fooks, in your prayers. Katie is now scheduled for the bone marrow transplant. May God Bless her as she has her surgery and the lengthy isolation and recovery.

We continue to wish **Carol and Darryl Yeager's son, Aaron**, a speedy get well.

**Kathryn Shultz has had her surgery and is doing well. She continues to recuperate under the watchful eye and care of her daughter. Leon is hopeful she will return home for the Christmas holidays.*

A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

*I would like to personally thank all of the Guild members who participated in searching for my lost diamond at the Holiday Show. After all of their own packing, lifting and carrying out their goods and cleaning up, I understand that **Kelly Brehm** and **June Moyer** walked the field house floor in both directions looking for my lost diamond. Fortunately, Pat and Ray searched their home and came up with the missing diamond. Thanks again to all who looked and to Pat and Ray for finding my lost diamond.*

We would also like to commend the Guild for organizing, setting up and holding a very professional show. The show floor looked great, the live music was a real treat, nice of the volunteers to help at the entrance, and loading in and out appeared to go smoothly. All in all, a good job by all involved. Kay & Bob Shaeff

Members in the News

Retired chapter member, **Louis Everline** is still enjoying woodworking - he volunteers for Habitat for Humanity in their woodworking shop. Recently Louis' picture was in the **Reading Eagle** on October 25, 2010 along with several others who regularly repair furniture and work in the woodworking shop for Habitat

For the second consecutive year **Del Morgan** was presented with an Honorable Mention Ribbon for his Fine Art Photography at Nova's 17th Annual Galaxy Art and Show Sale in Doylestown, PA. Galaxy offers a spectacular presentation of the works of 85 celebrated regional artists in a variety of media. Proceeds will benefit the Network of Victim Assistance.

January Newsletter Deadline

This issue of the newsletter is a combined November-December issue. The next newsletter will be published January 2011. Deadline for information to be included is Wednesday, January 5, 2011.

*Christmas is just around the corner,
we wish you all a joyous and
blessed holiday celebration.*

Merry Christmas

Happy 100th Birthday to Lillian Walter

Bus Trip to Harrisburg

The bus trip (actually two busses) to the Governor's Mansion on Sunday, December 12, 2010, is filled -- 108 members, family and friends will be going to see our chapter's 2010 decorations. And, we have a waiting list!

The bus departure schedule is as follows:

- **2:30 PM - Douglassville** at Klein's on Route 422 and Riverbridge Road
- **3:00 PM - Reading - Wyomissing** at Vanity Fair Parking lot off Park Road behind Country Inn & Suites / TGI Friday's
- **3:30 PM - Womelsdorf** at Valley Forge Flag parking lot

Please arrive at your departure location at least 20 minutes prior to departure -- thank you.

Our estimated time of arrival at the Governor's Mansion is 4:30 PM. We'll have until 6:00 PM to tour the first floor of the Governor's Mansion, take in the entertainment in the State Dining Room, and enjoy holiday cookies and beverages. Reminder, no cameras may be used during this time. At 6:00 PM, the general public must depart, and the staff will then remove the red roping at the doorways to the rooms, and our group will gather in the Gathering Room.

At this point, we will then be able to take photographs and go into the individual rooms to look closer at the decorations. ***So, don't forget your cameras!*** We have about an hour for our "private tour". By 7:00 PM we'll depart for the Firehouse Restaurant.

Each person will be given a Firehouse Restaurant menu as you enter the bus at your pick-up location. Please look over the menu, select your meal choices. Each sheet will have a numbered tag attached and a corresponding number on the menu. Retain the numbered tag, return your menu selection as you depart the bus at the Governor's Mansion. We will then get them to the Firehouse Restaurant while we are touring the Mansion.

When we get to the Firehouse Restaurant, place the numbered tag at your place setting, and your wait staff person will know what you ordered. Hopefully this will speed up our service by preordering. We hope to be back in Berks County between 10 - 10:30 PM.

Holiday Show

Hello to all.

Well the Holiday Show is over. We had a great turnout from both Saturday & Sunday. Using the food vendor, Dora Martin Catering, as an example on sales for the show ... they sold more food on Saturday than they did in any of the past 11 shows with the Guild. We have never experienced 10 deep waiting in line for food.

We had a great vision in hoping that this would happen. The people stayed for the Cafe and kept buying more items. There are still bugs in our shows but, we are moving forward and it's working.

There have been so many artisans telling everyone on the committee, we can't believe the quality of the products that were for sale. We heard this throughout the show from many of you.

We will have many new bugs to take care of, and there'll be many more to come.

The one thing that we are going to do is, continually striving for SELF PROMOTION of you, the Guild and our shows.

Thanks so much to the committee, A JOB WELL DONE! Terry & Judy Boyer. Show chair

Christmas-on-the-Farm

Saturday, December 4, 2010 is the annual Christmas-on-the-Farm highlighting PA German Christmas customs will be held at the PA German Cultural Heritage Center in Kutztown. Our log cabin will be open, exhibiting will be Barry Bennecoff, Gene Burkhart, Michael Weaver, Eric Claypoole, Shirley Sachs, Ray and Pat Oxenford.

This year the PA German Cultural Heritage Center will also host two additional events with candlelight tours on Saturdays December 11th and 18th. A Christmas marketplace will also be set up in the Thompson Log Cabin. If you are interested in having your work exhibited and for sale at the marketplace, contact Zach Langley at 484-646-4166 for more details and to make arrangements for delivery of your items. PGCHC will take a 20% commission on items sold at the marketplace. Candlelight tours will be held during the hours of 4:30 and 8:00 PM on the 11th and 18th.

We will also display our 2005 ornament collection in our log cabin and the 2009 ornament collection in the school house for the holiday season.

Wishing you and your family a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Happy New Year 2011