



Reading-Berks Chapter

Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen

www.rbcrafts.org

First Quarter 2015 Newsletter

President's Message

I hope everyone enjoyed the Holiday season. I did enjoy our Holiday party at the Yellow House Hotel. A big thank you to Matt Vardjan, our program chair, for putting together a really great shindig. It was a great event, kicking off the Holiday Season.

The weather has cooperated pretty well up until recently. I am very sorry for any inconvenience caused by our recent cancellation of our first general meeting of 2015. The weather was a concern to many, and therefore, it was cancelled in the best interests of all. I was not able to get it announced to all of you properly; but, I want you to know that when our new website is up and running all cancellations will be posted there. Until our new website is a reality; if you feel the weather is questionable, call my phone at 610-562-7226. The website committee continues to work on this new website for our Reading-Berks Chapter and all their efforts, I am sure, will be well worth the wait. Our show committee is poised and ready to go, so be sure you get your application in on time. The BCIU Student Art Show is being held in February this year. This is always a great display of the talent that is in Berks County.

"Your Friend is the man who knows all about you and still likes you." Elbert Hubbard.

Your President, Barry L. Bennecoff

Media

The new studio for BCTV is beginning to feel like home for us. The new address is 1900 North 13Th Street, Reading, Pennsylvania. Phone number is 610-374-3065. It is located near Albright College. In January, "Your Berks Craftsmen" will feature highlights from The Kutztown Folk Festival which was filmed this past summer 2014. Look for the many of our members that appear on this special show. In February, Terry Boyer and Judy Boyer, show chairpersons, will invite some of the artists and craftsmen who will be participating in our Spring Show to be the special guests. This show will air prior to our upcoming Spring Fine Arts and Crafts Festival that will take place at Kutztown University. In March, we will begin to air the BCIU Art show and the awards ceremony which will be taped at the Goggle Works. Carol Haile, our education chairperson, will emcee this program and she makes it a show that you should not miss. This is an important event for our Guild as some members of our Standards committee are judges for this art show and award many monetary student awards to the very talented seniors in the highschoools from Berks County. Tune in every third Wednesday of the month for the airing of a new show. The show frequently airs until the next month and you can always catch it on your computer at www.BCTV.org.

Kay Bennecoff, Your Host for BCTV's "Your Berks Craftsmen"

Program

Just a reminder, each general meeting starts with a program. February's monthly program will be the 2014 Mini-Grant Winners. March & April programs will be announced via the e-mail blasts.

Matt Vardjan, Program Chair

2015 Reading Berks Guild Show News

Hello to All,

This is the time to take action for the 2015 Reading Berks Guild's Juried Fine Artist and Crafts Artisan Festivals. The Festivals will be again be held at the O'Pake Fieldhouse, Kutztown University, Kutztown, Pa.

We have 2 Shows for 2015:

13th Annual Juried Spring Fine Arts and Crafts/Artisan Festival March 28th & 29th, 2015

application deadline March 1, 2015

66th Annual Juried Holiday Fine Arts and Craft/Artisan Festival October 31st & November 1st, 2015

This unique, curated American-made craft fair features 120 artists and their one-of-a-kind handmade goods. These make great made-in-America gifts for everyone. This year's shows offer a Student Gallery and a Café setting with live music so you can relax and enjoy. The Student Gallery will be showing both college and new Artisans that are actively extending their education. A gallery is set up for the students including free space, back drop, and tables with covers; we consider this is one of the many scholarship programs that we contribute through out the year.

Application is open to all Artisans. You do not need to be a member upon applying, but are encouraged to join. A meeting will be held on Sunday of the Show and new members may join at that time. We offer many benefits to our membership; log on to our website: www.rbcrafts.org for more information . All are welcomed to become an active member of the largest chapter of the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen.

Entry into our shows is very competitive as applications arrive from artisans who focus on excellence in craftsmanship, resolved design and unique style or voice. Unlike some shows, we will not add booths to meet a quota. Note: Fine art includes painting, pastel, drawing, printmaking and sculpture and is allowed by application and invitation only.

We have an extensive Advertising program and need high resolution pictures of your work for the advertising. The imagines will be used in all forms of media including TV, newspapers, website, rack cards and hand-outs. So don't hold back and give us your best. If you have any questions just contact Carol Haile or myself by e-mail tjboyer@1860woodco.com or phone: 484-248-6275. Thank you much,

Terry & Judy Boyer, Show chairs

Totes

We still have totes for \$1 each. They are black with the Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen logo in white. These make great gifts for your special customers. They can use them not only to get their purchases home but also for groceries, for the beach, etc. the uses are unlimited. You may pick them up at a Chapter General Meeting, at a Reading-Berks Show or by contacting Carol Haile at inkpencjh@msn.com

Standards

The Standards Committee will meet on Tues, March 10, 7:00 pm at the Goggleworks for a jury session. Members who have belonged to our chapter for a minimum of 3 months are eligible to present their work for jurying. The room will be open at 6:30, and jurying will begin at 7:00. Check the board at the entrance of the Goggleworks for the room number. Members will be asked to leave before jurying begins, and can return in 1 to 1 1/2 hours for the results. Any Standards Committee member who can't attend, please let Louise know. For more information or for an application, go to <http://rbcrafts.org/chaptermembers> or contact Louise at eglassplace@gmail.com or 610-334-1891.

Louise Mehaffrey, Standards

PA German Cultural Heritage Center (PGCHC)

Patrick Donmoyer, Site Manager of the Kutztown PGHC announced that work on the repairs and restoration of the Guild Cabin began on Monday, January 5, 2015.

In addition, Patrick will begin installing four (4) more painted murals in the Farm House. About 8 years ago, a family from northern Berks County donated a collection of original folk art murals painted on the walls in their home that were painted by an itinerant artist traveling in the area probably in the early 1900's. These murals have been in storage since we received them (they were to have been installed within 5 years of receiving them), however, Patrick has been working with the family this past year and an agreement reached. This past fall the first four murals were installed and available for viewing at Christmas on the Farm. We look forward to have these additional murals available for viewing at Easter on the Farm.

Easter on the Farm has always been scheduled for the day before Palm Sunday. This year, 2015, Easter on the Farm coincides with the first day (Saturday) of our RB 2015 Spring Show. If you are not planning to display your work at the Spring Show, possibly you would like to exhibit your work in the Guild Log Cabin at PGCHC for Easter on the Farm. No upfront fees, however, we request a 15% commission on items sold that day. We are always in need of volunteers as greeters in the school house and farm house. Also help is always needed with the Easter Egg Hunts, and assisting children with the various craft projects they can make and take. If you can give a few hours of your time as a volunteer, contact Amanda Richardson, Events Coordinator at PGCHC (610-831-1589). The event is free and the hours are 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Also, we will be advertising the Spring Show at Easter on the Farm, and likewise, the Spring Show will advertise Easter on the Farm.

Pat Oxenford, Kutztown Rep.



Members in the News: Lewis Everline

Lewis Everline, a long time member of our chapter, appeared in the an article titled "Talent of Woodchucks benefits Habitat for Humanity of Berks County" on December 12, 2014. Lewis specialized in treeware and is a wonderful entertainer with his storytelling. He appeared as our entertainment at our Holiday Social. He volunteers in the Woodchucks, who work on various woodworking projects that are sold to benefit the Habitat for Humanity.

To read the entire article, search on your web browser for: Reading Eagle Woodchucks
Thank you to Pat Oxenford for bringing this to our attention.

In Our Prayers & Card Shower

Please keep ***Anita Geiger, Bernadette Wargo, Sandra Jean Coldren and Eileen Flickinger*** in your prayers. Also, include ***Elaine Vardjan*** on her upcoming procedure. Please send a card to the following people to help raise their spirits:

Bernadette Wargo: 178 Hospital RD, Wernersville, PA 19565

Sandra Jean Coldren: 111 Skyview Lane, Lititz, PA 17543

Eileen Flickinger: 250 State Street, Hamburg, PA 19526

If you know anyone who needs a special greeting card, please contact Carolyn Handwerk (610-693-8187 or e-mail kchandtin@verizon.net) with their name, reason, and address.

Carolyn Handwerk, Sunshine Girl

Education

Mini-Grants: Our chapter encourages its members to further their knowledge and expand their abilities. The mini-grant program was established for exactly this purpose. Four grants in the amount of \$50.00 are given yearly, which must be used for educational purposes. Members must complete an application stating how they will use the grant and to what extent it will help them in their quest for improvement. Winners are then chosen from the applicants at a drawing on April 7, 2015. Applicants must be present to win. To apply fill out the application (enclosed with this Newsletter) and submit it to: Reading-Berks Chapter PGC, ATTN.: Carol Haile, PO Box 85, Mohnton, PA 19540. Applications must be received by **Monday, March 23, 2015** to be entered into the drawing. You may also submit your application to Carol Haile in person.

Winners of the Mini-Grants must present a 15 minute presentation of how they used the Grant money in 2016.

BCIU Student Awards: Berks County Intermediate Unit High School Annual Art Exhibit will be held on February 28-March 15, 2015 at the Goggle Works Cohen Gallery. The exhibit of the Students work is always wonderful, and members are encouraged to attend. Artwork on display include printmaking, oil, water-color and acrylic painting, calligraphy, dimensional works, fiber arts, photography, pottery, original computer art, jewelry, basket weaving, pastel and drawings. Our chapter be sponsoring the event by giving cash awards at the Awards Ceremony on Sunday, March 8, 2015, 1:00 -3:00pm.

Carol Haile, Education Chair

Classified

Louise Mehaffey will be teaching Flameworked Glass Beads at the Goggleworks in a weekend class February 7-8, 2015, 10-5 both days. All materials are supplied and students leave with a pile of their own beads! This class is appropriate for those with no experience and those who want torch time with some instruction. Sign up at goggleworks.org or call 610-374-4600.

The classified section is free for all members, please submit your craft related classes, open houses, items for sale, or other classified items to Sandra Jones, sandra@stonestrowpottery.com

Newsletter

Newsletters will be sent out Quarterly in January, April, July, and October. To be included in the Quarterly Newsletter, please send your article to me by the 10th of the month of issue . If needed e-mail blasts will be sent out monthly with updates. Any updates should be sent to me by the end of the month, allowing for updates to be sent out before the next general meeting.

This is my first newsletter, so please bear with me as I climb the learning curve. If you find any formatting issues, corrections and/or have suggestions, please let me know.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

***Sandra Jones, sandra@stonestrowpottery.com,
Corresponding Secretary/Newsletter Editor***

Important Dates to Remember

Chapter Meetings: Tuesday, February 3, 2015 - 7 PM

Tuesday, March 3, 2015 - 7 PM

Tuesday, April 7, 2015 - 7 PM

Board Meetings: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 - 7 PM

Wednesday, February 25, 2015 - 7 PM

Wednesday, March 25, 2015 - 7 PM

Spring Show: March 28 & 29, 2015

Deadline for application March 1, 2015

Mini-Grant drawing April 7 at the Chapter Meeting

Deadline for application March 23, 2015

Board of Directors

President, Barry Bennecoff	610-562-7226
Vice President, Ken Moyer	610-779-4126
Secretary, Kay Bennecoff	610-562-7226
Treasurer, John Haile	610-374-7048
Membership, June Moyer	610-779-4126
Standards, Louise Mehaffrey	484-248-6301
State Rep., Cynthia Baker	717-464-4132
Newsletter, Sandra Jones	610-779-5177

Committee Chairs

Shows, Judy & Terry Boyer	484-248-6275
Media, Kay Bennecoff	610-562-7226
Education, Carol Haile	610-374-7048
Program, Matt Vardjan	610-689-5324
Kutztown Rep., Pat Oxenford	610-385-3431
Sunshine Girl, Carolyn Handwek	
	610-693-8187
Wed Administrator, Kelly Brehm	
	610-370-2951