



READING-BERKS CHAPTER

Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen

P.O. Box 85, Mohnton, PA 19540

Reading-Berks Guild Website: www.rbcrafts.org

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April, May, June 2013

President's Message

Spring is in the air and if you were anywhere near Kutztown, Pennsylvania, you felt it at the 11th annual Spring Fine Arts and Craft Festival that was put on by none other than YOU, THE READING BERKS GUILD OF CRAFTSMEN! Applause! Applause! Kudos to the show committee and all the volunteers who helped make this show a most successful event for the Guild, the vendors and the patrons. I, as your president hear both the good and the bad but I must be honest, it was very definitely almost all great!

The student gallery was astounding and the entertainment throughout the weekend for the show was awesome. There was so much interest in our Guild this weekend; who knows, we could end up with twenty new members. This is an early reminder to get those Holiday show applications in by our June picnic. **You will not only save \$10 on your booth fee**, but your early applications help us do more advertising which definitely helps get the word out about our shows. I could go on and on but there is more I need to talk about.

April is an exciting month at the GoggleWorks with the BCIU Art show. Our Standards committee will be judging the artwork and awarding ribbons and money prizes to many students. Stop in and see this art show. You will not be disappointed.

In June, we will celebrate with our friends at the beautiful Gring's Mill for the Guild's annual summer picnic. This is a great time to enjoy great food and great friends. No reports, no passing of the tin cup, just fun and a relaxing time.

"Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity."

George S. Patton. Your President, Barry L Bennecoff

Program

Our program for Tuesday, May 7, 2013 will be presented by a representative from the Penn State Extension Gardner's Program. Come and learn more about our plant friends.

Join your Guild friends on Tuesday, June 4, 2013, at Gring's Mill Barn for fun and great food. Sign up for an entree, salad or dessert at the May meeting or call me at your earliest convenience, or if you need to just "show-up" at the last minute, that's okay, too. If you need directions to Gring's Mill see below. Food will be served promptly at 6:00 PM. The Guild will provide the drinks and paper products.

No meeting is scheduled for July.

At our August 6, 2013 meeting the program will be presented by Carol Haile when she will introduce her new alphabet book. *Elaine Vardjian, Program*

Chairperson

DIRECTIONS TO GRING'S MILL BARN PICNIC

AREA: Exit Route 222 on Broadcasting Road, go past the entrance to Penn State (*where we previously held our Holiday Show*) for about a half-mile to the stop sign. Turn **right** on Tulpehocken Road and go about ½ mile. Watch for the parking area on the left. (Across from Berks Campus PSU). The stone barn is at the bottom of the hill. (*If you can't walk down or up the hill, we'll provide a shuttle van service*).

SAVE THE DATE: BCTV's 20th Annual Octoberfest, Monday, October 21, 2013 at Crowne Plaza Hotel, 1741 Paper Mill Road, Wyomissing, PA.

Please be generous with your donations. More info will be forthcoming in the next newsletter.

BCTV - "Your Berks Craftsmen"

In April, "Your Berks Craftsmen" will feature Mr. Ed Youst, a woodturner. Ed is also a teacher here at the GoggleWorks and the evening's presentation will feature some footage from the Kutztown Folk Festival 2012.

May's "Your Berks Craftsmen" will be hosted by Carol Haile and will highlight the BCIU Art Show at the GoggleWorks and the Awards Presentation Ceremony.

AND looking ahead to June, "Your Berks Craftsmen" will interview Mr. David Fooks of the Kutztown Folk Festival 2013. Dave will bring some artists and craftsmen who will be at the festival this year. Stay tuned for all this and more coming up on "Your Berks Craftsmen". *Kay Bennecoff & Carolyn Handwerk 'Your Berks Craftsmen' Co-Host*

Standards

The next jury session is scheduled for Tuesday, September 10, 2013 beginning 7:00 PM at GoggleWorks. You must have been a member of the Reading-Berks chapter for a minimum of 3 months to be eligible for jurying. For more information you can get the jury application from the chapter website www.rbcrafts.org or contact Louise Mehaffey at 610-373-6493 or glassbeads@comcast.net. *Louise Mehaffey, Standards*

Chairperson

Education

CONGRATULATIONS to the *W. Eugene Burkhardt, Jr. Memorial Mini-Grant* winners! Each winner receives \$50 to be applied towards furthering their education in their craft.

Winners are: Louise Mehaffey, Wenda Boyer, Pat Oxenford and Jodi Bryza-Stevenson.

We look forward to hearing each recipient discuss how they have applied their grant money at one of our upcoming general meetings. *Carol Haile - Education*

Chair

Membership

The Reading Berks Chapter of the PA Guild of Craftsmen would like to welcome the following new members.

Donna Meloy, Basketry

808 Hill Drive
Douglassville, PA 19518

H. Allen Schaeffer, Decorative & Functional Ironwork

48 W. Mountain Avenue
Robesonia, PA 19551

June Moyer, Membership Chairperson

Get Well Wishes

I've been in communication with retired former member, Dawson Gillaspay. Dawson told me Mary has retired from her painting and rug hooking several months ago due to health issues and that they have recently moved. Please keep **Mary Gillaspay** in your prayers. Their address is 490 Stamford Drive, #111, Newark, DE 19711.

Also add **Eileen Flickinger, Barry Gebhart, Judy Boyer** and **Joan Dunham** to your prayer list. We wish them all good health.

Members in the News

Janice Sonnen has been named to the 2013 *Early American Life's Top 200 American Craftsmen*.

Steven Day was the featured artist in the Life section of the *Reading Eagle* on Friday, February 22, 2013 in an article entitled *Art done naturally*.

Former member, **Rebecca Erb**, who was an active member of our chapter as a wood grainer on frames and furniture, turned rug hooker 20+ years ago, had her business featured in the *Reading Eagle* on Saturday April 6, 2013. Rebecca now owns and operates, along with her husband, a mail order rug hooking supplies source in the Reading area that ships nationally.

Classified

Invitation for Artisans At the Firehouse If you would like to participate in the 2nd annual juried, 2-day outdoor craft show, at the historic Robesonia Furnace Fire Engine House and Museum. please contact Abby Wertz, 610-693-6182 (abby104@verizon.net) for details. Show will be held August 17 & 18, 2013 from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

For Sale: Used Wells Cargo Multi-purpose trailer MTP461 4' wide by 6' long, color white. It is low enough to see over while giving you 54 cubic ft capacity. The lid lifts up and the rear door swings out, giving you access to every square inch of capacity. It has a mounted spare tire on the tongue. Weight is a little over 400 pounds with 690 pound payload. All reasonable offers will be considered. If interested or would like more information, please contact Sandra Jones at sandra@stonesthrowpottery.com

Newsletter

For your future planning ... The next issue of the newsletter will be published mid-July to include information for July, August and September. The 4th and final 2013 newsletter will be published the end of September or early October, to include October, November and December info as well as info regarding our January 2014 meeting..

Pat Oxenford, Newsletter Editor

Spring & Holiday Shows

Hello to all from Terry & Judy Boyer – Show Chairs.

Well, the Juried Spring Fine Arts and Craft show is history. We had a very successful Spring Show. Our attendance was up, sales were plentiful for all and the show ran very smoothly.

Thanks to a huge great team. It takes a lot of time to plan the show, many dollars to advertise the show and lots of volunteers. Thanks to all that came aboard to help make this a very successful Spring Show.

I truly feel that this year's show was one of the only shows that have succeeded my expectations in a spring show. All of our volunteers helped to get Keystone Hall laid out for the booths and electric as well as the tables and chairs for the café, to the students area and the "front of the house" lobby decorations, the pick a prize set-up and door prize tables.

To the KU staff and Terry Sitler, great job! Thanks to KU for allowing us to be part of this great community. To the Guards and the parking control, (great job) ! I saved some extra hair from being pulled out. It's been a rough 14 years except this year. Till it was done, and all looking so very fine, ***Great Job to all!***

It has always baffled me when we talk to other people outside of our shows. They are confused to what a Juried Craft or Fine Arts and Crafts Show Verses just A Craft Show! No offence to all of the people who work very hard on what they do for a living. When you are juried into the Guild you are one of many elite Craftsmen. In plain words a ***Master Craftsmen.***

You are the person that can talk to a customer about your work, the origin of the work, how you create it and in my case, build it for them with just pictures they present to me from past ancestors homesteads.

There are many shows out there for people to shop at. But there are not many like the shows that the Guilds of PA present. Our Guild is the largest Guild in PA, we are the most active and stay true to our roots and that would be our high standards. Only the best and very talented people are juried into the Guild. Also 100% ***Made in the USA. And Made by your hands.***

So that's how our shows are created. And we have already been working on the Holiday Show.

*There have been a few mistakes on some of the information that has gone out to you. **The discount is \$10.00 off for all applications sent in before June.** NOT 10%, a mistake -- type-o on my part. Well we don't get paid for doing this job. So please make that correction when sending in your application.*

Thanks so much for all that you do. *Chairpersons, Terry & Judy Boyer*

Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center

Have you been to PGCHC's Farmstead lately? Have you noticed the installation of the wall in the living room which creates a smaller room that will become the "retired farmer's bedroom"? Why not attend one of the events planned there. The recent Easter-on-the-Farm event had over 840 people attend the 1-day event on March 23, 2013.

Many exciting things are happening at the Farm. The Plow Boys will have their spring plowing event the last weekend of April.

Kids Camp is planned for July 22 to 26, 2013 whereby those attending learn the traditional PA German crafts and customs. If you would like to give some time to teach your traditional craft to the "kids" in attendance, please contact Amanda Richardson at PGCHC 610-683-1589, and thank you in advance for volunteering for this great project to keep the PA German traditions alive and strong within our community.

Other upcoming events that we'll have the log cabin open is on Saturday, October 5, 2013 for Heemet Fescht (please note the date change for this year) which is being planned in conjunction with KU's Family Weekend.

Then on Saturday, December 7, 2013 we will celebrate the PA German Holiday Customs with the annual Christmas-on-the-Farm event. This is usually a well attended event, and both Heemet Fescht and Christmas-on-the-Farm are from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Only cost is a 15% commission fee to PGCHC on your sales.

If you are interested in exhibiting in the log cabin contact Pat Oxenford at 610-385-3431 or paoxenford@dejazzd.com to reserve your spot. If you prefer elsewhere through the farm, please contact Amanda Richardson.

One final note, I am pleased to announce that Elaine Vardjan has returned to our PGCHC Advisory Board which also included Bill Schreier, Tammy Zettlemyer and Pat Oxenford from our Reading Berks Chapter.

Pat Oxenford, Secretary, VPPGCHC Advisory Committee