



READING-BERKS CHAPTER

Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen

P.O. Box 85, Mohnton, PA 19540

Reading-Berks Guild Website: www.rbcrafts.org

Volume 66 Issue 5

Email Newsletter

October - November 2014

President's Message

October 25 and 26, 2014. Two days that equal the 65th Annual Holiday Show of The Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen and it is fast approaching. All the details of the show are being finely tuned by the show committee and the show committee says it is ready to "rock and roll".

This anniversary show has some extra special touches you will not want to miss. The first 65 patrons through the doors on both Saturday and Sunday will be given a free gift graciously donated by one of our craftsmen. Elaine Vardjan has gotten in touch with some of our veteran craftsmen and several of them will be sharing a booth. So stop in to see who will be in the booth. You will be very surprised who sent in their RSVP! We will have our wonderful raffle with fantastic creations from our craftsmen.

Twenty more items of W. Eugene Burkhart will be auctioned off in a "Silent Auction". And our Student Gallery, as of this writing, has 15 students participating in this event. Catered food by Dori Martin and entertainment by the Acoustic Road Show will be on hand both days.

At our general meeting in November we will be having election of officers. This is also Election Day for our nation. The leaders of our country and the leaders of our guild will be chosen on the same day. What a coincidence! Strong leadership is important for our country and strong leadership is important for our guild. The main driving force behind a strong country and a strong craft guild is the voice and action of the people. So for the future of our country and our guild, ask yourself what you can do to make things just a little bit better.

Come to our Guild Meetings. Share your ideas! Our Guild Meetings have great programs that are interesting and informative. Interesting guest artists, great topics. Our general business meeting keeps our membership "in the loop" AND we have a good time.

We currently have formed a new committee of people who are working on a redesign of our website-- we are stepping it up a few notches. Our goal is to have this up and running by our Spring Festival.

Matt Vardjan, our program chairperson, has planned our Christmas party to take place at the Yellow House Hotel. Information on this grand event will be in this newsletter. **DO NOT MISS OUT ON THIS EVENT!**

So, in conclusion, I can't wait to see you at our Holiday Festival, whether you are in a booth, just shopping and enjoying the show, or volunteering at the show to help it run smoothly, or all of the above, this is the time I get to talk and share ideas and get to laugh with you. Sharing and laughing, that is important stuff!

"Success is how high you bounce when you hit bottom." Gen. George Patton **Your President, Barry L.**

Bennecoff

Program

Linda Beiler will present the program at the November 4th chapter meeting. Her topic will be on Wheat Weaving. Linda is the author of the book on Wheat Weaving in Stackpole's *Heritage Crafts Today* series.

Also following the program during the chapter meeting, the voting for the election of chapter officers for 2015 - 2016 will be held. Matthew Vardjan, Program Chairperson

The 2015 Spring Fine Arts & Crafts Festival Application and Information Sheet are attached with this newsletter. The Show is Palm Sunday weekend, March 28, 29, 2015.

Holiday Social

Our Christmas party this year will break from the traditional GoggleWorks gathering. Reservations have been made at the Yellow House Hotel (www.yellowhousehotel.com) located at the intersection of Route 662 and 562, in Amity Township, for our holiday celebration. ***Rather than a gift exchange this year, we will be supporting the Berks Food Bank. Please bring a bag of non-perishable foods for your donation****.

This event will begin at 6:00 PM drinks are cash bar. Meal served at 6:30 PM.

Because it's a group dinner, the menu will have four choices ... beef, seafood, chicken and vegetarian. The selections and prices are as follows;

- **Sirloin Steak** - \$25.00
- **Seafood Sizzler** (includes crab cake, shrimp, scallops) - \$31.00
- **Chicken Picatta** - \$25.00
- **Vegetarian** - \$20.00

Entrées include:

- ✓ Italian wedding soup
- ✓ Tossed salad
- ✓ Stuffed potato
- ✓ Vegetable du jour
- ✓ Coffee
- ✓ Apple pie with ice cream

To make your reservation contact **Matt Vardjan at 610-689-5324 or 610-655-5541**, or sign up at the Holiday Fine Arts and Craft Festival or at the November meeting.

The local Exeter Township Food Bank at Reformation Lutheran Church suggests the top 10 items or most requested items are as follows:

Paper products such as toilet tissue and Kleenex, canned soups, peanut butter, jelly, cereals, non-refrigerated juice, canned beans, canned meats, canned tuna fish, canned stews. **Matthew Vardjan, Program**

Chairperson

Annual Charity

Several years ago Gene Burkhart made a motion that our annual charity should annually be the **GoggleWorks Scholarship Fund for Students**. We collect for our annual charity at our Holiday Social. If you are unable to attend that event, you may still send your check to our post office box address, made payable to the Reading-Berks Chapter PGC, note in the memo line: ***GoggleWorks Scholarship Fund for Students. Thank you in advance for your participation and generosity in both these projects.***

BCTV - "Your Berks Craftsmen"

The BCTV studio has made its move out of downtown Reading and is now located near the Albright College Campus. The studio is a little smaller but the enthusiasm and fun and excitement of the studio is prevalent. We had our first live "Your Berks Craftsmen" on September 29, 2014 at 7:00 PM in our new home.

Our show was on our upcoming 65th anniversary Holiday Show at Kutztown University on October 25 and 26, 2014. **Terry Boyer, Linda Beiler** and **Gloria Heere** were the guests. The show will run the entire month of October leading up to our Show.

October 20th through October 24th is a big week at BCTV. It is the annual Octoberfest Auction. This will be a live auction all that week and the proceeds will benefit BCTV. Thursday, October 23rd is the crafts night. Many members of the Reading-Berks Guild and craftsmen from the Kutztown Folk Festival have supported BCTV with their craft donations. These crafts will be auctioned off that night and myself (**Kay Bennecoff**) and **Carolyn Handwerk** will host that evening's festivities.

The items have been photographed and are on line for your viewing pleasure. You can call in or bid on line "live" during this great event. Thanks to all of you for your great support for BCTV. BCTV is a great friend to The Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen. So don't forget, October 23rd, Crafts Night for and on BCTV!

Our November, "Your Berks Craftsmen" will feature a few Guild girls just getting ready for the holidays and sharing some great decorating tips and ideas. So tune in for some fun and I am sure some funny stories on this special night with "Your Berks Craftsmen." **Kay Bennecoff "Your Berks Craftsmen" Host**

Standards

Three people successfully passed the jury session held on Tuesday, September 9, 2014. Please welcome the following as juried Reading-Berks Chapter members:

Debra Cunningham *Beadweaving*
cunningdl@aol.com 610-926-7740

Ferec Mirsepassi *Polymer clay*
fereem1917@yahoo.com 610-349-3699

Jen Brower *Jewelry*
jen@moonflowerjewelry.net
610-564-8687

The next jury session will be Tuesday, March 10, 2015. Louise Mehaffey, Standards Chairperson

With our Sympathy

We extend our belated sympathy to the family of James R. Getz, Sr., who passed away on August 13, 2014. Services were held on August 19, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Rochelle, who usually attended shows and meetings with Jim. He is also survived by his daughter, son, four grandsons and a great granddaughter.

In our Prayers

Eileen Flickinger had an unfortunate horse accident on September 22nd and has been the hospital and is currently at the Reading Rehab Hospital. She has a cracked pelvis and coccyx. Please remember Eileen in your prayers; also remember her with a get well card. Cards should be mailed to her home at 250 State Street, Hamburg, PA 19526.

Bill Scheirer's wife, Anne will undergo knee replacement surgery on Monday, October 13, 2014. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Terry Boyer is undergoing additional tests and treatment on his back, please keep him in your prayers. We wish him good health.

Also please continue to keep **Anita Geiger** in your prayers.

Members in the News

Paul Henry is also a wine maker in addition to being a fiber artist, and was recently named the 2014 *Wine Maker, International Amateur, Wine Competition, Best of Show Award in the category of Country Fruit*. His picture(s) and article about his "hobby" were in *Berks Country* on August 13, 2014. Congratulations, Paul.

Shirley Sachs was recently named to *Early American Life's* top 200 traditional artisans. There was also a feature article in this year's Christmas issue which showed pictures about her Christmas ideas that can be made with the German embroidery she is known for, using tin templates. Congratulations!

Sandra Kaye announced the relocation of her studio, *The Warehouse Studio, Artists: Bruce Becker and Sandra Kaye*, their new address is 700 Lancaster Avenue, Reading, PA. Grand opening will be Saturday, October 18, 2014 from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

Newsletter

After serving as Reading-Berks Chapter Newsletter Editor for the past 15 years, the time has come for me to pass the position on to a new editor. I have enjoyed preparing the newsletters, working with three presidents ... my husband ... Ray Oxenford, Steve Smith, and Barry Bennecoff. I now have many other things and opportunities that will be taking a lot of my time. I thank you for allowing me to serve as newsletter editor.

Pat Oxenford

Classified

Seeking Craft Artisans to Participate in Muhlenberg Summer Festival. Contact Deb Shannon 484-884-2541.

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee has presented the following slate of officers, up for election (re-election) at our November 4, 2014 Chapter meeting.

- President -- **Barry Bennecoff**
- Vice President -- **Ken Moyer**
- Treasurer -- **John Haile**
- Secretary -- **Kay Bennecoff**
- Newsletter Editor/Corresponding Secretary -- **Sandra Jones**

Nominating Committee: Bill Schreier, Bob Ballantyne; Cleon Garl

PGCHC

Heemet Fescht had over 980 visitors (excluding artisans, vendors, volunteers); one of our best attended events. The next event is scheduled for Saturday, December 6, 2014; if you have not reserved your space in the cabin let Pat Oxenford know ASAP, or elsewhere "on the Farm", contact Amanda Richardson. Pat Oxenford, Kutztown rep

Dates to Remember

Holiday Fine Arts and Crafts Festival

Set up: Friday, October 24, 2014 -
2:00 to 8:00 PM

Show: Saturday, October 25, 2014
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Sunday, October 26, 2014
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 29, 2014
7:00 PM GoggleWorks

Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, November 4, 2014 - 7:00 PM
Election of officers for 2015 - 2016

Holiday Social at Yellow House Hotel

Tuesday, December 2, 2014
Reservations required

Christmas on the Farm

PA German Cultural Heritage Center
Saturday, December 6, 2014
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Holiday and Spring Show

Hello to everyone; most likely you will receive this newsletter around the time of the Holiday Show. Here are a few things that I need to emphasize the importance of these guidelines. The information for the show is as follows:

1. Set –up time is **2:00 pm to 8:00 pm** Friday Oct. 24th, 2014, Sat 7:00 am to 8:30 am.
2. You must check in at the Information Table for additional directions.
3. Please hand in your floor numbers upon finishing your booth set up. *You will get the NEW wall signs.*
4. ***In your packet there's an application for the Spring Show 2015.***
5. If you want your space for next year's shows please see that Carol Haile receive your Application. The Corner Booths are hard to come by so take care of this ASAP.

We have a full house this year and there are a lot more people involved with this year's show. So let's all pitch in and make this a show to remember.

If you get this newsletter after the show, the Spring Show 2015 application is an attachment to this newsletter. You can also go online to **rbcrafts.org** for the application, as well as a copy will be in your show packet.

So come time for the next Newsletter, we will have more news to report for the 2015 shows.

Thanks to all for all of your help and dedication to the Reading Berks Guild of Craftsmen.

Chairpersons, Terry & Judy Boyer

Show Chairs of the Reading Berks Guild of Craftsmen

484-248-6275 home #

tjboyer@1860woodco.com email

Reading Berks Guild of Craftsmen 610-678-6650

Important Dates to Remember

Board Meetings: Wednesday, October 29, 2014, 7:00 PM at GW

Chapter Meetings: Tuesday, November 4, 2014, 7:00 PM at GW

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 Mehaffey	484-248-6301
State Rep., Cynthia Baker	717-464-4132
Newsletter, Pat Oxenford	610-385-3431

Committees

Shows, Judy & Terry Boyer	610-693-5467
Media, Kay Bennecoff, Host	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 Handwerk	610-693-8187
Web Administrator, Kelly Brehm	610-370-2951