



# **Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen**

www.rbcrafts.org

## **Third Quarter 2015 Newsletter**

### ***President's Message***

WOW!!! 4th of July is a thing of the past and that means only one thing; Summer is half over and it seems like it just got started. The weathermen surprised the Kutztown Folk Festival with an opening day of rain from 8 AM till 8 PM and probably the coolest temperatures ever recorded for the week long festival. I hope to see a lot of you at our August 4th meeting at the GoggleWorks at 7:00 PM.

Approximately 3 1/2 months till our Holiday Show and there are lots of new names and faces in the the line-up this year. Our website is new and now currently under the direction of Bill Jones who is a potter. Yes, Bill is the husband of Sandra Jones who is our newsletter editor. Cleon Garl, The Pen Man, at our shows, has joined the show committee and is assisting with show volunteers, Dave Glasser and Chris Frey, the Glass Guys, are working on the advertising aspect. We sent out an S.O.S. to Karen Meyers and she has come back to do our graphic design. (Yea!!) Steve Hunter, another one of our great potters, has joined our Standards Committee! I hope I didn't miss anyone and there is always room for more of our members to get involved. Please contact a board member or the show committee if you have an idea or just want to help on an existing committee. The Guild needs You because You are what makes the Guild.

The Auction for the W. Eugene Burkhart Art Work. "The Framed Bouquet" is coming up on September 12, 2015, at 11:00 AM at Renninger's Market in Kutztown, PA. Gene was a distinguished member of The Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen. This could be your last chance to purchase any of Gene's work. The advertising for this event is out there. Please mark it on your calendar.

Another major event coming up in our lives is the Oktoberfest auction for BCTV. Thursday Night, October 22, is again slated to be craftsmen night. All hand made crafts will be auctioned off that night and this is a very popular night for the auction. So get your donations into BCTV and let's make it the best night for BCTV.

"If you carry your childhood with you, you never become older".  
Abraham Sutz Kever.

***Your President, Barry L. Bennecoff***

## ***Festivals***

Hello to all,

We are working very hard in trying to make the holiday show a Hugh success.

First up,

As you are doing your next show and or working in your shop, Keep in mind, if you are going to be demonstrating, please take a picture of yourself working your craft. We need your picture ASAP, to advertise all of the demonstrators and those who choose to demonstrate certain times of the day. If you check the guilds website, there's a section all about the demonstrators at the holiday show. This gives us a golden opportunity to promote you and your work.

2nd,

Have your customers check out the site and all of the great things about our show and the guild: [www.Rbcrafts.org](http://www.Rbcrafts.org)

3rd,

Get rack cards from Barry Bennecoff. Rack cards are always available at our guild meetings.

4th,

As we get closer to the show date, you can log on to the website and find your booth # and location. As it is with all of our Guild Shows, repeat artisans get their previous booth location. I do fill in as we go along so this a continuous updated site. In the past guild juried members got into the show, non-juried, we're put on a wait list. So get that application in today.

5th,

There's a standards meeting in Sept. Take the plunge and dive right in, and become a juried Reading-Berks Guild member.

6th,

We do have our Guilds BCTV show "Your Berks Craftsman" and this show gives us free advertising and you as a guest will get free advertising for your craft. Give me a call if your are interested. We are always looking for 2 artisan for the show.

Call me for details: 484-248-6275

Thanks,

***Terry & Judy Boyer***

***Show chairs of the Reading Berks Guild of Craftsman.***

## **Standards**

The Standards Committee will meet on Tues, September 8, 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, please submit an application before bringing your 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- 1 1/2 hours for the results. Any Standards Committee member who can't attend, please let me know. For more information or for an application, go to <http://rbcrafts.org> or contact Louise at [eglass-place@gmail.com](mailto:eglass-place@gmail.com) or 610-334-1891.

**Louise Mehaffrey, Standards Chair**

## **Media**

On Wednesday, July 15, "Your Berks Craftsmen" will feature Curt Pearson from Robesonia Redware. Curt started with pottery at the tender age of "2". Next month, "Your Berks Craftsmen" will take you into the world of chalkware and paper mache with Mike Brown. This is not the paper mache you remember from elementary art class. In September Joan Dunham will be bringing her theorem paintings into the studio; so get your paintbrushes ready to learn about this beautiful art. Also in September we will have several artists who will be participating in the Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen Holiday Festival at Kutztown University on October 31 and November 1, 2015, Terry and Judy Boyer co-chair this event for our Guild and they can't wait to share with you all the excitement surrounding this event. These are shows you do not want to miss!

Please, please, please remember to get your donations in for the Octoberfest Auction at BCTV. BCTV continues to be a fabulous supporter of our Guild and our Guild members always are generous with their donations to BCTV for their auction. Please bring your donations to our general meetings in August and September and I will get them to the studio or you can drop them off at the BCTV studio which is at 1900 North 13th Street, Reading, PA 19604. All the hand crafted items will be auctioned off on Thursday, October 22, 2015. This is one of the most popular nights of the Octoberfest auction for BCTV because of your wonderful and beautiful donations. The earlier these items get to BCTV, the more exposure the items will receive because the items are being placed on the auction website. Again thank you for your continued generosity to BCTV.

**Your Host for BCTV, Kay Bennecoff**

## **Programs**

August 4, 2015 7PM Goggle Works,  
Dave Carlson: 1800 Textiles

September 1, 2015 7PM at Goggle Works,  
Bob Ballantyne: The History of Key West Through its Architecture

**Matt Vardjan, Program Chair**

## ***Members in the News***

Nancy and Bob Ballantyne's and their therapy dogs were featured in a 69 News broadcast on June 15, 2015. See the article and video at <http://www.wfmz.com/news/news-regional-southeasternpa/therapy-dogs-help-rehab-patients-recover/33598640>

Holly Gage of Bowmansville, PA wins the Internationally Acclaimed Saul Bell Design Award in jewelry for "Je'taime, - Dual Flame." The Fine Silver necklace won in the Metal Clay category, which was one of 6 competitive categories. Gage's piece tells the story of blossoming love as two dancers gracefully emerge from a flower blossom in the final pose of their dance. From hundreds of designs from over 20 countries around the world the Saul Bell Design Award is considered the premier jewelry award for exceptional design. For more details see <http://rbcrafts.org/2015/holly-gage-wins-saul-bell-design-award-in-jewelry/>

Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen and Reading/Berks Chapter members Ivan and Dorothy Hoyt recently published a 34 page biographical article in "Der Reggeboge" (translated "The Rainbow") about Ivan Hoyt's 40 plus years designing and hand painting Pennsylvania Dutch Hex Signs, Belsnickels, and related folk art.

"Der Reggeboge" is the quarterly publication of the Pennsylvania German Society. The Hoyt's article is in the Spring 2015 issue which also marks the 125th anniversary of the Pennsylvania German Society.

The article, "The Life of a Pennsylvania Dutch Folk Artist", spans more than 4 decades of Ivan's professional career beginning modestly in 1972 and progressing to this present day. The Hoyt's continue to live and maintain a working studio in rural Wapwallopen, PA.

Wilfriede Axsmith won 2nd place at the Senior Art Festival in Reading. The category I entered is mixed media. The silkpainting is titled: Suddenly Summer. The exhibition is at the Miller center until June 7th.

Painted on silk mounted on canvas:



## ***Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center***

Kids Camp is scheduled for the end of July, and thanks to everyone who is scheduled to help with teaching a class.

The annual Heemet Fescht (harvest festival) is set for Saturday, September 26, 2015 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Christmas on the Farm is set for Saturday, December 5, 2015, from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM at PGCHC. Space is available throughout the Farmstead grounds where you are welcome to set up your own canopy; limited space is available in the Farm House, and limited space will be available in the Log Cabin. Also, we usually have a large heated tent at Christmas on the Farm.

If you are interested in either or hopefully both of these events, please contact Amanda Richardson at the PA German Cultural Heritage Center by calling 610-683-1589 or email [arichard@kutztown.edu](mailto:arichard@kutztown.edu) for more information. There is no upfront fee to reserve your space, however, we do request a 15% commission on your sales. The mailing address is:

Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center at Kutztown University  
22 Luckenbill Road  
Kutztown, PA 19530

We hope you will consider either or both of these events and register with Amanda Richardson so that your information can be included in the programs.

***Pat Oxenford, PGCHC Advisory Board Secretary (Kutztown Rep)***

### ***Thoughts and Prayers***

Please keep our recovering members in your thoughts and prayers: Elaine Vardjan, and Chris Murray.

Please give your sympathy to Bob Schultz and Debbie Jarrett for the passing of Debbie's mother. Cards can be sent to: 1863 Highpoint Road, Coopersburg, PA 18036

Please give your sympathy to Amy Mariano for the passing of her husband Brian, a wire artist in our Guild who made lovely jewelry: 1 Blue Jay Drive, Bloomberg, PA 17815

***Carolyn Handwerk, Sunshine Chair***

### ***Website***

The website is for the entire membership of Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen. Please make sure we have photos of your work, articles about what awards you might have won, updates to information already on the site, new information that should be included and your ideas on how to improve the website going forward. Send your information and/or comments to [info@rbcrafts.org](mailto:info@rbcrafts.org) If you have not visited the website do so now

[www.RBcrafts.org](http://www.RBcrafts.org)

***Bill Jones, Website Chair***

# Auction

Pressed Flower Creations  
by W. Eugene Burkhart, Jr.



**11a.m., Sept. 12th, 2015**  
**Renninger's Market**  
**740 Noble St., Kutztown PA**

This historic auction is sponsored by the Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen. [www.rbcrafts.org](http://www.rbcrafts.org)  
Auctioneer Bill Howze, CAI, of The Renaissance Auction Group will officiate.



An auction of items from the personal collection of the late  
**W. Eugene Burkhart, Jr.**, an internationally celebrated pressed  
dried flower artist.

Included among the many items will be framed and unframed originals, prints,  
awards, and Philadelphia Flower Show entries which earned Burkhart coveted  
Best-in-Show recognition.

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## ***Important Dates to Remember***

***Chapter Meeting (1st Tuesday): August 4, 2015 - 7 PM***

***September 1, 2015 - 7 PM***

***October 6, 2016 - 7 PM***

***Board Meetings (Last Wednesday): July 29, 2015 - 7 PM***

***August 26, 2015 - 7 PM***

***September 30, 2015 - 7 PM***

***Auction of W. Eugene Burkhart's artwork Sat. Sept. 12, 2015  
at Renninger's Market, Kutztown***

***Holiday Show: Oct. 31 & Nov. 1, 2015  
Deadline for application October 1, 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 Mehaffey	484-248-6301
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, Carolyn Handwerk	610-693-8187
Website, Bill Jones	610-779-5177