

New England Lace Group Retreat & Workshops 2024

Our annual retreat and workshops will be held from Thursday, May 9 to Sunday, May 12, 2024. Once again, we will be at [Mercy by the Sea](#) Conference Center in Madison, CT. The retreat house is located on Long Island Sound and all rooms have a private bathroom and air conditioning.

Our teachers for this year will be:

- **Bobbi Donnelly** who will be teaching **Tønder Lace**.
- **Holly Van Sciver** will be offering **all levels of Torchon, Bedfordshire, Bucks Point, Honiton, Russian, contemporary lace and more**. Holly will also be our vendor.
- **Sharon Sacco** will be teaching a beginner bobbin lace class for those who are new to lacemaking, or those who have been away from lacemaking for a while and need to go back to basics. This class will be subsidized by NELG.



Registration is open from January 22 through April 1. Paid registrations received by March 1 will receive up to \$20 early bird discount on accommodations and workshop fees.

Our commemorative bobbin this year is from Chris Parsons and features a pink dogwood blossom. Please note that to guarantee delivery for retreat, the deadline for ordering a commemorative bobbin is **March 1**. Late orders will be accepted, but these will be delivered after retreat.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

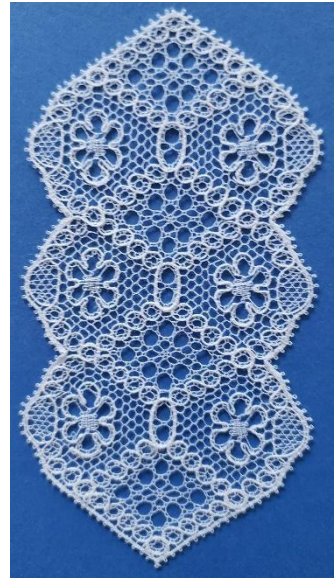
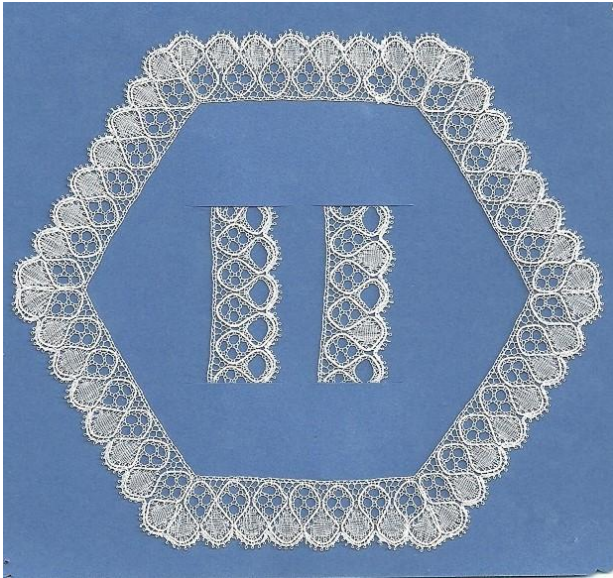
- Single rooms will be assigned on a **first-come first paid** basis
- Check in time is no earlier than 4pm on Thursday for afternoon arrivals
- All meals are generally served buffet-style; dietary restrictions can be accommodated
- Meal times will be confirmed a few days prior to the event
- Class hours are 9am - noon and 2pm - 5pm on Friday and Saturday, and 9am - noon on Sunday
- We are welcome to bring wine/beer to enjoy in the evenings, but **no bottles or cans in their trash**, please. We will need to take them home.
- Checkout time from guestrooms is 10 am on Sunday morning
- All guests are invited to remain on the property and enjoy the grounds until 4:30pm, common areas and gift/bookshop before check in and after check out
- Mercy by the Sea Conference Center is located at:
167 Neck Road, Madison, CT 06443. Office phone: (203) 245-0401.



Tønder Lace

Bobbi Donnelly

Tønder is a very fine point ground lace from Denmark. If this is your first class with Bobbi you will be making the six-sided mat. In it you will work with gimp, do ground stitch, linen stitch, and Copenhagen holes. If you are a returning student there are many patterns to choose from and you will work with Bobbi to pick something that you like.



Lacers new to Tønder lace should come to class with a good understanding of basic lace stitches and the use of gimp. Familiarity with the European system of colored diagrams will also be helpful. Egyptian cotton 140/2 is the thread used for the patterns in this class. The gimp is 50/2 Fresia Linen or DMC 25 Coton a Broder depending on the look that you want. Patterns will be chosen based on each student's level of skill, ranging from beginning pieces to more complicated ones. Students will progress at their own pace, so they can relax and enjoy the lace.

Once the pattern that you will work on is chosen, you will receive a pricking to prepare for class in the mail. In class you will get a workbook including a second copy of the pricking and working diagrams for the pattern that you've chosen. Plus any additional diagrams that will be helpful.

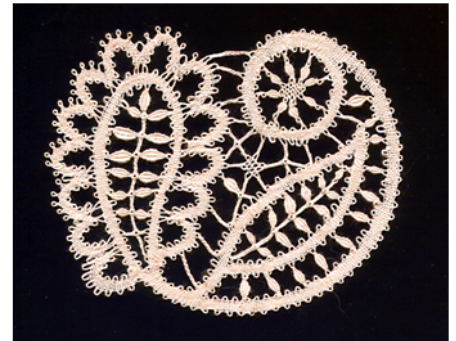
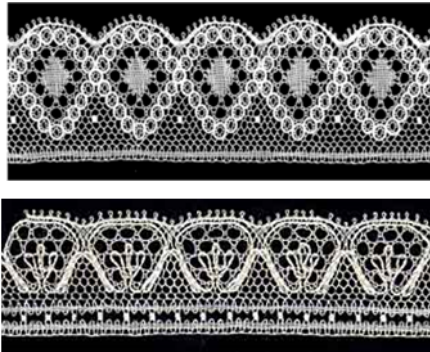
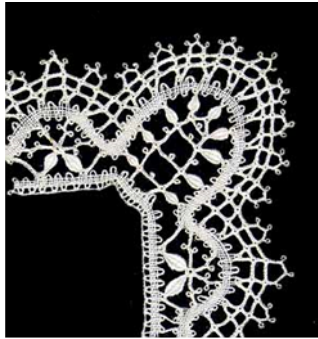


Bobbi has been making lace since 1991 and has studied with teachers across the world. Currently, she is working on more reconstructions of old Danish laces from personal photos taken at the Tønder Museum in Denmark. She has also designed additional patterns based on those reconstructions for use in class.

TORCHON, BEDS, BUCKS, HONITON, RUSSIAN, CONTEMPORARY and MORE!

Holly Van Sciver

There is something for everyone in this course! Choose from beginning, intermediate or advanced Torchon, Bedfordshire, Bucks Point, Lester, Honiton (large and small), Russian, Hungarian, Contemporary lace and more. You can start at the beginning with the basics, continue at the intermediate level or move onto something more advanced. Not interested in the traditional? Then select a contemporary Martine Bruggeman pattern or a design of your own and add a little color and texture. Have your own idea? Then contact Holly. The instructor will consult with each student to select an appropriate pattern that will advance your skill. Whether you start a new project or continue an ongoing project, this course is tailored to your lacemaking level and interests. Beginners are most welcome!



Holly has been a student and teacher of lacemaking for 50 years. Originally trained in England, she specializes in teaching the 19th century English laces. She has taught and lectured in the United States, Canada and Europe for the International Old Lacers, regional lace guilds, national lace conferences, museums, historical societies, universities and professional organizations. Holly is a leader in teaching the fundamentals underlying lacemaking theory and design. She is the founder of the Finger Lakes Lace Guild and owner of Van Sciver Bobbin Lace, which has served to promote lacemaking worldwide since 1981.

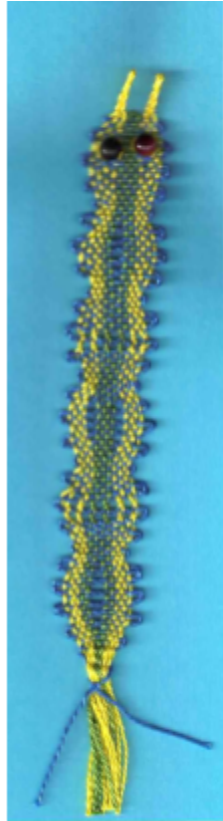
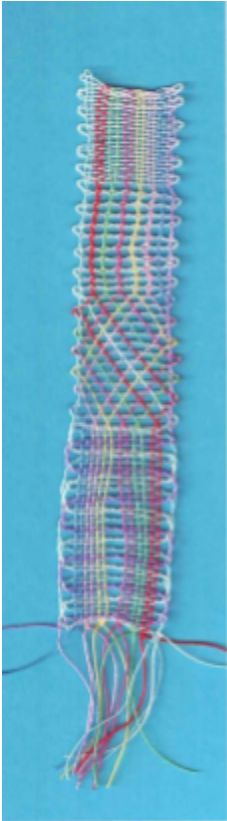
Please contact Holly to select an appropriate pattern that will advance your skill in one of these laces. Holly can be reached at vsblace@twcny.rr.com or (607) 277-0498.



BEGINNING BOBBIN LACE

Sharon Sacco

This class is designed for those who are new to bobbin lace or have been away for a while and need to go back to the basics.



You will learn the foundations of bobbin lace including pattern preparation, the various pillows and bobbins, bobbin winding, selection of threads and pins, and lace terminology. This course will also emphasize reading patterns. The first project will be a sampler to learn basic stitches. A pattern and instructions for a caterpillar will be the second project. There will also be discussions about how to continue beyond the workshop.

The workshop is subsidized by NELG, and all supplies will be loaned by NELG. Students will have the opportunity to purchase their own supplies from Van Sciver Bobbin Lace during the retreat.

Sharon has been making lace since 1986. While initially self-taught, she has studied under a number of different teachers.

She has been a member of NELG over 20 years, including eight as President. She helps with the library, the website and also writes the book reviews with sample projects for the newsletter that cover a wide variety of laces. While she has made a lot of continental laces – Binche, Valenciennes, and Mechlin – she enjoys making other laces as well. In addition, she has designed laces for NELG meeting programs.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Guests should arrive no **earlier** than 4 pm if registering for an afternoon arrival

REGISTRATION FEE (non-refundable)	\$25
--	------

ROOM AND BOARD (all prices per person)	Price thru March 1		Price after March 1	
	Single room	Double room	Single room	Double room
<u>Arrive Thursday, May 9 pm</u> 3 nights lodging Dinner Thursday 3 meals Friday 3 meals Saturday Breakfast & lunch Sunday	\$620	\$530	\$630	\$540
<u>Arrive Friday, May 10 am</u> 2 nights lodging Lunch & dinner Friday 3 meals Saturday Breakfast & lunch Sunday	\$500	\$440	\$510	\$450
<u>Arrive Friday, May 10 pm</u> 2 nights lodging Dinner Friday 3 meals Saturday Breakfast & lunch Sunday	\$420	\$360	\$430	\$370
<u>Arrive Saturday, May 11 am</u> 1 night lodging Lunch & dinner Saturday Breakfast & lunch Sunday	\$305	\$275	\$315	\$285

DAY VISITORS	Price thru March 1	Price after March 1
<u>Day commuter</u> - Tea/coffee & lunch	\$100/day	\$110/day
<u>Day commuter</u> - Tea/coffee, lunch & dinner	\$130/day	\$140/day
<u>Meeting attendance (Saturday)</u> - Tea/coffee & monthly meeting only	\$30	\$40
Shopping only	No charge	
WORKSHOP	Price thru March 1	Price after March 1
Workshop (15 hours total)	\$360	\$370
Beginner workshop (15 hours total)	\$180	\$190

BOBBINS	Bone	Ebony	Lemonwood
Midlands spangled	\$26.00	\$18.75	\$18.75
Honiton		\$18.00	\$17.75
Binche		\$22.50	\$18.75
Bayeux		\$22.50	\$18.75
Square (short)		\$22.50	\$18.75

New England Lace Group – Retreat Fine Print 2024

Check In / Check Out

Check-in time at the Retreat House is **after 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 9, 2024 and bedrooms need to be vacated by 10am on Sunday, May 12, 2023**. If you are arriving after 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday or Saturday, please make advanced arrangements with the Chairman of the Retreat Committee for late arrival.

Allergies

Be sensitive to those with allergies and refrain from wearing perfumes or highly scented cosmetics. Please do not bring fresh flowers to the event.

Reservations

Fully paid reservations received on or before March 1 will receive an Early Bird Discount on accommodation and workshop fees. Online payment or check payment must be received on or before March 1 to receive the discount. Any reservation that remains unpaid for more than 2 weeks may be canceled by the Retreat Committee. Single rooms will be assigned based on a first-come, first-paid basis. If you are paying the double room rate, **please name a room-mate.**

Registration fee

All registrants will be charged a non-refundable registration fee of \$25.

Payments

Online payments with a credit card can be made on the NELG website. Checks are deposited as received by the Retreat Chair. Post-dated checks will not confirm your reservation until the date of the check. Any reservation that remains unpaid for more than 2 weeks is subject to cancellation. If your check is returned or online payment is declined, there will be a \$25 charge.

Cancellations due to class minimums not met

Classes are set for a minimum of 6 students. If less than 6 students have registered, NELG reserves the right to cancel the class.

Cancellation of Accommodation Reservation and/or Class Reservation

Notification of cancellation of your ACCOMMODATION reservation must be sent to the Chairman of the Retreat Committee. NELG will make every effort to refund the accommodation fees, but only if NELG can receive a refund for the reservation paid, or have another individual take over your reservation. Notification of cancellation of your CLASS reservation must be sent to the Chairman of the Retreat Committee. NELG will make every effort to refund the class fee provided that your cancellation does not make the class attendance go below the class minimum of 6 students.

Shopping with the Vendor

There is no charge for entering the Retreat House to shop with the vendor, but shoppers should only visit the Sales Room and may not disrupt classes or those retreating.

Attendance for the NELG Meeting that is scheduled after lunch on Saturday

Those individuals who have paid the Day Commuter or Meeting Attendance fee may attend the NELG Meeting that is scheduled after lunch on Saturday. Those who have paid the Meeting Attendance fee only may not attend the lunch nor be allowed to stay past the end of the meeting except to shop with the vendor.

Day commuters

Those individuals who have registered and paid the Day Commuter fee with lunch only are not permitted to stay through dinner.

Wait List

If class registration reaches its maximum of 10 students, we will maintain a wait list. If a place becomes available you will be notified, but in order to secure your space you will be expected to pay the class fees the same day on our website unless other arrangements have been made in advance.

Updated January 2024