

## **New England Lace Group Meeting, November 15, 2014**

**Executive Board Attendance:** Sharon Sacco; President; Marjorie Dashef, Member-at-Large; Susan Landry, Librarian; Jim Martin, Vice President; Barbara Morrow, Treasurer & Membership; Bryce Wolf, Clerk

**Members:** Rosalie Bares, Rita Bartholomew, Wini Blacklow, Janet Blanchard, Linda Lane, Mary Linden, Doris Schick, Winann Steinmetz, Carolyn Wetzel.

The meeting was called to order at 11:05.

### **President – Sharon Sacco**

- Minutes of the meeting of April 2014 and June 2014 were distributed. The April minutes with minor corrections were unanimously voted approved. The June minutes were also approved unanimously.
- The 2014 year-end financial report was amended to correctly show the allocation of scholarship funds toward the 2014 Retreat.
- A motion was made by Bryce Wolf, with Rosalie Bares seconding, to allow unexpended scholarship funds to rollover from year to year. This would provide greater flexibility in making awards and would also allow donations made for scholarship purposes to accumulate. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Barbara Morrow and Sharon Sacco will work together to prepare the FY'16 Budget.
- Preliminary work on preparing revised Bylaws has not yet been accomplished. However, copies of other groups' bylaws have been obtained for reference purposes. The end result of all this work will be to obtain non-profit status.
- Nominating Committee. Sharon announced that she was agreeable to serving as President for another term. However, a committee must be formed to identify someone willing to serve as Member-at-Large. In addition, there is a need for someone to serve as a liaison to the BigE (contacting prize donors, making sure of set-up, etc.) and for someone to assist Jill Hawkins in managing the website. Carolyn Wetzel and Bryce Wolf agreed to serve on the Committee.

### **2014 Retreat – Winann Steinmetz**

Final 2014 Retreat Report. A statement showing income and expenses was distributed. Not including auction receipts, a modest profit was made. It was noted that although class size is normally limited to 10, this year 12 were allowed due to teacher request. However, the room sizes are not really adequate to accommodate the larger classes. Therefore, future classes will be limited to 10.

There was some discussion of ways to accommodate beginning students, including a separate beginner class, some sort of informal individualized instruction, etc. No room is currently available to dedicate to such a group, but perhaps some other area or space can be found.

## **Marketing of NELG – Sharon Sacco**

The previous practice of printing a tri-fold brochure for NELG has become quite expensive and does not appear to be generating appreciable membership interest. Sharon reported that while demonstrating at the BigE this year, she generally referred interested individuals to the NELG website for information. While demonstrating the Plimoth Plantation and at Fiber Fest, she handed out small slips of paper with the website address on it.

After brief discussion, Carolyn Wetzel moved that we cease printing the brochure and obtain inexpensive business cards (or similar) with the website information. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **Beginners**

There was some discussion of ways to meet the needs of beginners. Currently there are no regular teachers available to take on students. What teaching is being done is often informal and on an individual basis. Perhaps the regular NELG meeting might be extended on occasion to allow some teaching time. Other members mentioned efforts to find a community space that could accommodate lacemaking.

## **Member-at-Large – Marjorie Dashef**

Thanks were extended to all who participated at Fiber Fest. Marjorie noted that while a number of demonstration opportunities will be posted on the website, anyone interested in an event should reach out to the contact person for the event, as there are too many for the Member-at-Large to keep up with. Carolyn Wetzel stated that she will be the contact person for MA Sheep & Wool, which occurs over the Memorial Day weekend.

## **Vice President – Jim Martin**

Jim outlined part of the upcoming program schedule, but emphasized that he would very much like ideas and recommendations for consideration.

- December – holiday party
- January – UFOs (unfinished objects) and member tag sale
- February - TBD
- March – Sharon Sacco – Romanian lace

Carolyn Wetzel may offer a tatting workshop.

Sturbridge Village has invited NELG to demonstrate at the Village in September.

## **Book Donation – Rita Bartholomew**

Rita donated a copy of her recently published book “Lost Art of Netting, Volume 1” to the NELG library. She received much applause and congratulations from the membership for her accomplishment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Bryce Wolf

