## ANNOUNCING THE FIRST NEW ENGLAND LACE GROUP LACE CHALLENGE!

**Artist Trading Cards** (ATCs) are all the rage among artists of all medium types. They are 2 ½ by 3 ½ inch cards that are used as the support for 2-D art, and are either traded with friends or other artists or are kept and displayed as small examples of the person's work.

This year's challenge will be to **create an ATC with your handmade lace as at least part of the art**: it must be made by you and can be any form of lace. It should be 2-D and fit in the space of the card (the card must fit in its envelope). To add to the challenge, **you must include some of the Challenge Pack thread in your work!** Aside from that there are no restrictions. You may combine your lace with other media. On the back of your card, include your name, the year, contact information, and the title of your piece.

Free Challenge Packs will be available at the January NELG meeting and by mail after January 15<sup>th</sup>. Email to Programs Chair (<u>nelgprograms@gmail.com</u>) to request a Pack (one per member). Each Pack will include a blank ATC and envelope and the Challenge thread. The rest is up to you!

At the NELG Annual Retreat in May 2011, we will display the ATCs and all persons in attendance will vote by secret ballot for several different winners: **Favorite ATC**, **Best Use of Challenge Thread**, **Most Unusual**, and **Most Technically Impressive**. Winners will receive splashy coverage in the NELG Website and July Newsletter, the admiration of their peers, and a \$20 gift certificate to the lace vendor of their choice.

For an introduction to ATCs, check this website: <a href="http://www.cedarseed.com/air/atc.html">http://www.cedarseed.com/air/atc.html</a> (I don't know this person, but like her site).

## Details:

- 1. You must be a current NELG member to participate
- 2. Your ATC must be at the May retreat for display and voting. If you won't be there, arrangements can be made to send it.
- 3. You will retain ownership of your ATC, getting it back after the retreat or you can trade it!
- 4. All reasonable care will be taken to safeguard entries. However, NELG, its officers and Retreat organizers, and the Program Chair will NOT be held responsible for any lost, damaged, or stolen works entered in the Challenge.
- 5. NELG covers costs (ATC, Challenge thread, return mail) for one entry per member. However, you can enter more than one at your own expense.

## New England Lace Group Lace Challenge 2011

Artist Trading Cards (ATCs) are 2 ½ by 3 ½ inch cards that are used to showcase samples of art. This year's challenge will be to create an ATC with your handmade lace as at least part of the art: it must be made by you and can be any form of lace. It should be 2-D and fit in the space of the card (the card must fit in its envelope). To add to the challenge, you must include some of the Challenge Pack thread in your work!

The Challenge threads:

Gutermann Metallic color #9880 (gold rainbow) Gutermann Silk Twist color #416 (golden yellow)

Your Challenge pack will include approximately 1 meter of the silk and 2 meters of the metallic. You do not need to use all of the thread length but at least a small amount needs to be present and visible on your ATC. You can also add more of the challenge thread if you obtain it yourself.

Aside from that there are no restrictions. You may combine your lace with other media on the card (e.g., acrylic paint, fabric, etc). On the back of your card, include your name, the year, contact information, and the title of your piece.

If you will not be at the May Retreat, contact the Program Chair (<a href="mailto:nelgprograms@gmail.com">nelgprograms@gmail.com</a>) for mailing instructions.

Note: Your ATC WILL be returned to you after the Retreat – the "trading" part of ATC is <u>optional</u>

HAVE FUN AND LET'S TRY FOR A GOOD SHOWING OF NELG TALENT!