

The Quarterly Newsletter of the New England Lace Group

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Enjoying Lace Together Since 1982

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President's Message



A new year, a new decade, a new....lace? Many of us consistently make the same type of lace, workshop after workshop, year after year, becoming more adept and skilled at that particular lace. Expertise is a wonderful goal, but when was the last time you tried something different?

At a recent professional development event I was introduced to a practice called "neurobics," exercises for your brain (like neurological aerobics). It's not a new notion, just new to me in its application. Some examples are brushing your teeth with the opposite hand than usual, or taking a new route to work, or closing your eyes and identifying different spices by smell alone. You start with a familiar activity and add a new twist to it to engage more of your brain. This is supposed to strengthen brain cell connections to help them stay younger and stronger, and to stave off age-related mental decline. And who isn't interested in keeping their mental functions strong?

This got me thinking about how to apply neurobics to lace making. How about learning a new way to handle bobbins? For example, learn a style of lace that works palms-up on a bolster when you usually work palms-down flat on a pillow. Some other bobbin-lace ideas are to move your pin cushion or bowl to the other side of your pillow, so that your other hand places the pins. If you usually make laces with pre-determined pin holes, try a free lace where you choose pin placement as you go. In needle lace, try a tradition where the needle points away from the body (French) or across (Burano) instead of toward the body, if that's your usual style. Work across a row of stitches in the opposite direction than usual, making the stitches in the other direction. Crocheters, why not try using your non-dominant hand to hold the hook, or work with your eyes closed, purely by touch? Split-ring tatting has the neurobic challenge of working on the bottom side of the loop and not flipping the knot. And for the ultimate neurobics: learn a whole new lace technique!

The point of neurobics is to challenge your mind to do things in new ways, and they are supposed to feel awkward or difficult. Some of these lace neurobics lead to new useful skills, but others are just meant to "limber" you up as fun exercises. Try to laugh at yourself instead of getting frustrated by the challenge. Then you get an added health benefit, because as we all know, laughter is the best medicine!

Carolyn

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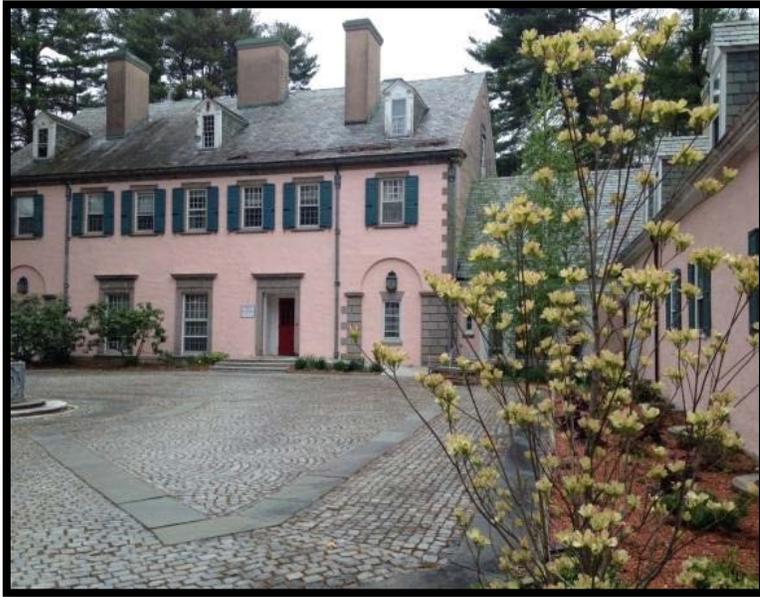
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New England Lace Group Retreat & Workshops 2020

Our annual retreat and workshops will be held from Thursday, May 14 to Sunday, May 17, 2020. Once again, we will be at Rolling Ridge Retreat and Conference Center in North Andover, Massachusetts.



Our teachers for this year will be:

- Allie Marguccio who will be teaching Idrija Lace. Tom Marguccio will also be vending Idrija lace supplies.
- Holly Van Sciver will be offering beginning, intermediate or advanced Torchon, Bedfordshire, Bucks Point, Lester, Honiton, Russian, Hungarian, contemporary lace and more. Holly will also be our vendor.
- Jill Hawkins will once again be teaching a beginner bobbin lace class for those who are new to lace making, or those who have been away from lace making for a while and need to go back to basics. This class will be subsidized by NELG.

Registration is open from February 1 through April 15. Paid registrations received by March 15 will receive up to \$20 early bird discount on accommodations and workshop fees. Workshop fees are unchanged from

2019, but accommodation fees are higher due to a price increase from the retreat house.

Our bobbin this year is from Chris Parsons and features the Jack-in-the-Pulpit wildflower, which can be found in abundance in the grounds around the retreat house. 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 are very limited and will be assigned on a first-come first paid basis
- Check in time is no earlier than 3 p.m. on Thursday for afternoon arrivals
- All meals are “Chef’s Choice,” and are generally served buffet-style; dietary restrictions can be accommodated
- Mealtimes are: Breakfast 8:00 a.m.; Lunch 12:00 p.m.; Dinner 6:00 p.m.
- Class hours are 9 a.m. to noon and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 9 a.m. to 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 a.m. on Sunday morning
- Lake Cochichewick holds the drinking water supply for North Andover. Swimming is NOT permitted; however, kayaks and canoes are available for use on the lake. Please visit the retreat house office to complete the paperwork.
- Rolling Ridge Retreat & Conference Center is located at:

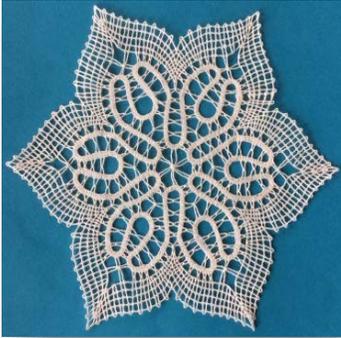
600 Great Pond Road, North Andover, MA 01845. Office phone: (978) 682-8815.



IDRIJA LACE

Allie Marguccio

The Idrija Lace workshop is designed for those students new to Idrija Narrow Tape lace or the repeat student who wants to reinforce the basic skills used to make Idrija Narrow Tape lace. The patterns that will be available are comprised of the following stitches: cloth stitch tape, half stitch, double stitch, gentle turns and various types of corners, Idrija double vein edging, sewing edge, plaits and single picots and various turning stitches and inserting beads (this is done differently in Idrija lace). Strong emphasis is placed on reading the patterns and understanding pattern markings. The instructor's goal is a simple one—to give you the skills to be able to successfully work many of the Idrija Narrow Tape patterns that are available. Allie will also be happy to help with unfinished projects or Idrija patterns you may have purchased or found in books. While



the Narrow Tape remains the most popular lace at her workshops, she will also bring a Broad Tape pattern for those who might be interested.

At the start of class, each student will be given a packet of materials that will include a variety of patterns of different levels. **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO PRICK YOUR PATTERNS!** You will also receive a newly revised booklet of diagrams and helpful tips for the components of each piece. Most of the class patterns are from the Slovenian pattern designer, Irma Pervanja. Irma is a former design teacher of the Idrija Lace School.



Each student will receive a detailed email message approximately 1 month prior to the workshop, which will outline what you need to bring to class and the specific patterns that Allie will be bringing. If you want to customize your workshop experience, you can discuss it at that time.

The great-granddaughter of a Slovene bobbin lace maker, Allie's passion is evidenced by her continued study and research of the lace of her heritage. Idrija lace has long been a favorite and treasured gift when sent by her Slovene relatives. She has traveled to Slovenia numerous times to tour the lacemaking centers of Idrija, Železniki, Žiri and Cerklje. Allie has studied under the tutelage of Metka Fortuna, director of the Idrija School of Lace and Stana Frelj, Master Teacher.

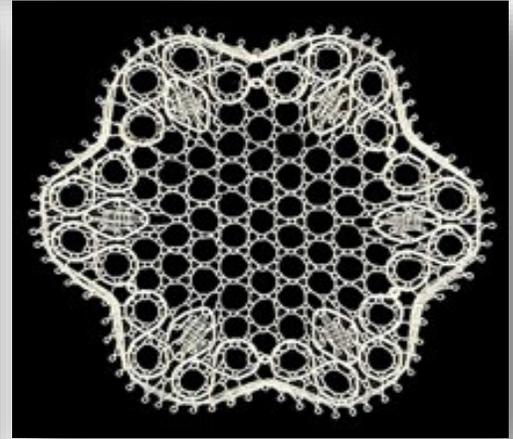
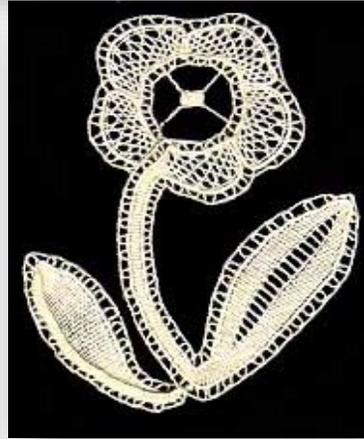
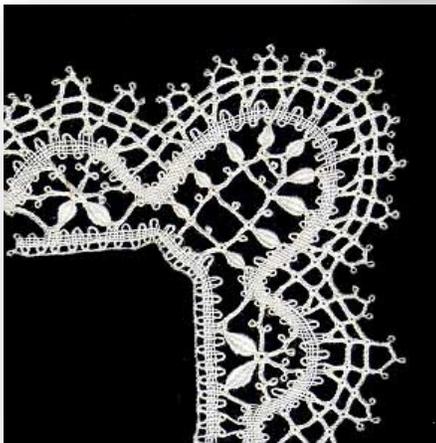
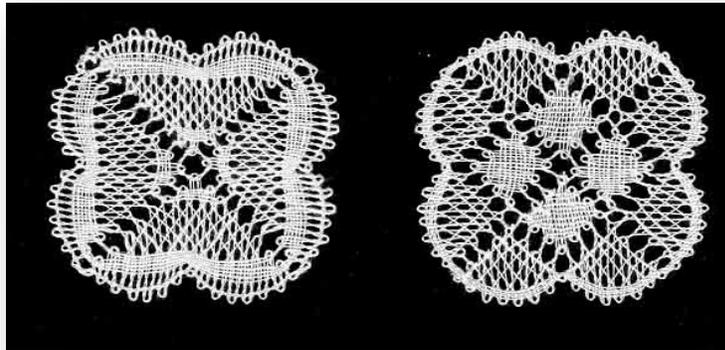
Along with teaching workshops to individual lace groups in the USA, she has also taught Idrija lace at various lace events such as Ithaca Lace Days (Ithaca, NY), the Winter Lace Conference (Costa Mesa, California), North Carolina Regional Lace Guild's Spring Lace Day (Chapel Hill, NC) and the Northwest Lace Conference in Oregon.



BEDS, LESTER, BUCKS, HONITON, 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, 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, who 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 lace making level and interests. Beginners most welcome!

Holly has been a student and teacher of lace making for 46 years. Originally trained in England, she specializes in teaching the nineteenth century English laces. She has taught and lectured in the United States, Canada and Europe for the International Organization of Lace, regional lace guilds, national lace conferences, museums, historical societies, universities and professional organizations. Holly is a leader in teaching the fundamentals underlying lace making 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 lace making 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

Jill Hawkins

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



You will learn the foundation of bobbin lace including pattern preparation, various pillows and bobbins, bobbin winding, selection of threads and pins and lacemaking terminology. Students will first make a sampler to learn the basic stitches and will then move on to use those techniques to create a flower, which has been designed by the teacher.

The workshop will be 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 retreat.

Jill learned lacemaking in Glastonbury, England in 1985 and has been teaching lacemaking from her home since 1995. In addition, she has given presentations to various organizations in the UK and US.

She has been a member of NELG since 1986, serving twice as President. She is a member of the Lace Guild in the UK, as well as the International Organization of Lace in the US.

Her favorite bobbin laces are Bucks Point, Bedfordshire and Milanese.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Guests should arrive no earlier than 3 p.m. if registering for an afternoon arrival

ROOM AND BOARD	Price thru March 15		Price after March 15	
	Single room	Shared room	Single room	Shared room
<u>Arrive Thursday, May 14 p.m.</u> 3 nights lodging Dinner Thursday 3 meals Friday 3 meals Saturday 2 meals Sunday	\$560	\$470	\$570	\$480
<u>Arrive Friday, May 15 a.m.</u> 2 nights lodging Lunch & dinner Friday 3 meals Saturday 2 meals Sunday	\$450	\$390	\$460	\$400
<u>Arrive Friday, May 15 p.m.</u> 2 nights lodging Dinner Friday 3 meals Saturday 2 meals Sunday	\$375	\$315	\$385	\$325
<u>Arrive Saturday, May 16 a.m.</u> 1 night lodging Lunch & dinner Saturday 2 meals Sunday	\$265	\$235	\$275	\$245
DAY VISITORS	Price thru March 15		Price after March 15	
<u>Day commuter (up to 4 hours)</u> Tea/coffee & lunch	\$60		\$70	
<u>Day commuter (up to 8 hours)</u> Tea/coffee & lunch	\$90		\$110	
<u>Day commuter (up to 8 hours)</u> Tea/coffee, lunch & dinner	\$120		\$130	
<u>Meeting attendance</u> Tea/coffee & monthly meeting only	\$25		\$35	
Shopping only	No charge			
WORKSHOP	Price thru March 15		Price after March 15	
Workshop (15 hours total)	\$280		\$290	
Beginner workshop (15 hours total)	\$140		\$145	
BOBBINS	Bone	Ebony	Lemonwood	
Midlands spangled	\$20.00	\$16.50	\$16.50	
Honiton		\$15.00	\$15.00	
Binche		\$18.00	\$15.00	
Bayeux		\$18.00	\$15.00	
Square (short)		\$18.00	\$15.00	

2020

New England Lace Group Lace Challenge

This year's Artist Trading Card (ATC) lace challenge will be a 2½" by 3½" card embellished with your handmade lace inspired by the theme "**The Roaring Twenties.**" It need not be restricted to the 1920's or the 2020's; it can be the twenties in any century, past or future. Or...YOUR twenties! Or...????

The lace must be made by you and can be any form of lace. It should be two dimensional and fit in the space of the card. (The card must fit in the plastic sleeve provided.) 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 February NELG meeting and by mail. Email nelg.atc@gmail.com to request a pack (one free per member). Each pack will include the materials you need to get started. The rest is up to you!

At the NELG Annual Retreat in May 2020, we will display the ATCs and all persons in attendance will vote by secret ballot for several winners:

- Favorite ATC
- Best Imagery for "The Roaring Twenties"
- Most Unusual
- Most Technically Impressive

Winners will receive all the honors and benefits accruing thereto: splashy coverage on the NELG website and in the August newsletter, the admiration of their peers, and a \$20 gift certificate to a lace vendor.

Note: Your ATC will be returned to you after the Retreat – the "trading" part of the ATC is optional.

Details:

- You must be a current NELG member to participate.
- 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. Contact nelg.atc@gmail.com.
- The back of the card must include your name, the year, contact information, and the title of your piece.
- All reasonable care will be taken to safeguard entries. However, NELG, its officers and Retreat organizers will NOT be responsible for any lost, damaged, or stolen works entered in the Challenge. NELG covers costs (ATC, return mail) for one entry per member. However, you can enter more than one at your own expense.

Retreat Silent Auction

Once again we are hoping for another successful silent auction at Retreat. Jim Martin and Bryce Wolf will collect donations and run the auction. The auction accepts any and all items related to lace, lacemaking and associated fiber arts. The proceeds will be used to support NELG Library acquisitions and the Scholarship & Grant fund. Your generosity in giving and bidding is much appreciated!

Share Your Selfie

Do you know that there is a place in the Member Directory on our website for your photo? Take a look sometime and see how nice it is to recognize your friends and find new

ones. Think about adding your own picture. Our webmaster can help you, if need be, at NELGWebmaster@gmail.com. You can add your photo with confidence because the Directory is only available to NELG members.

Did You Know?

Before the invention of the pin-making machine in 1832 by Dr John Ireland Howe of Derby, CT, a person could produce only about 480 pins per day when making them by hand. With the machine the daily production ballooned to 300,000 pins per day! Learn more at <https://connecticuthistory.org/john-howe-makes-a-better-pin/>. Submitted by Winann Steinmetz.

Recent NELG Library Acquisitions:

These materials are all now in the Library catalog and available for borrowing. As always, the Librarian is happy to accept suggestions for future purchases and welcomes donations.

Krajsek, Simona Strgulc, Afrodita Hebar Kljun and Mojca Ferle. Light Captured in the Lace.

50 mini lamp shade patterns in Idrija technique prepared for 2018 OIDFA Congress. Beginner and advanced patterns useful for many applications.

Zwaal-Lint, Tiny. Kantklospatronen.

37 Torchon patterns for various uses. No English but good working diagrams.

MacPherson, Jennifer. Bobbin Lace Jewellery.

Eye-catching variety of patterns using fancy threads and wire, Milanese techniques

Eaton, Ethel A. and Edna L. Denton. The Story of Battenberg Lace.

Self-published folksy history of Battenberg. Donated by Mary Mangan

Murariu, Sylvia. Romanian Point Lace, A Course for Beginners.

Introduction, instruction and patterns for beginners.

Murariu, Sylvia. Romanian Point Lace, A Course for Intermediates and Advanced.

More instruction and patterns.

Murariu, Sylvia. Romanian Point Lace, Christmas Ornaments, Book #1

6 patterns for Christmas ornaments in Romanian point lace.

Welcome New NELG Members!

Ingelise Brown, Winchester, MA

Ingelise tells us: I inherited a lot of bobbin lace patterns and equipment from my mom, and one of these days I want to learn to use it. I know how to tat. I grew up in Denmark and 2 years ago moved to Winchester MA from Easton PA.

Christy Hendrie, Trumbull, CT

Christy says: I'm a retired family nurse practitioner. Currently, I'm in my first year as State Regent of the Connecticut Daughters of the American Revolution, a women's service organization. Our objectives are historic preservation, education, and patriotism. I'm married for 38 years with 4 grown daughters and 12 grandchildren.

Roselyn Hobbs, Alston, MA

Roselyn writes: I have been tatting for many years and I have recently been interested in learning more forms of lace making. I have been working with Puncetto, Oya, needle lace, and I'm now interested to try bobbin lace!

Book Review: Cassell Illustrated Dictionary of Lacemaking

By Alexandra Stillwell

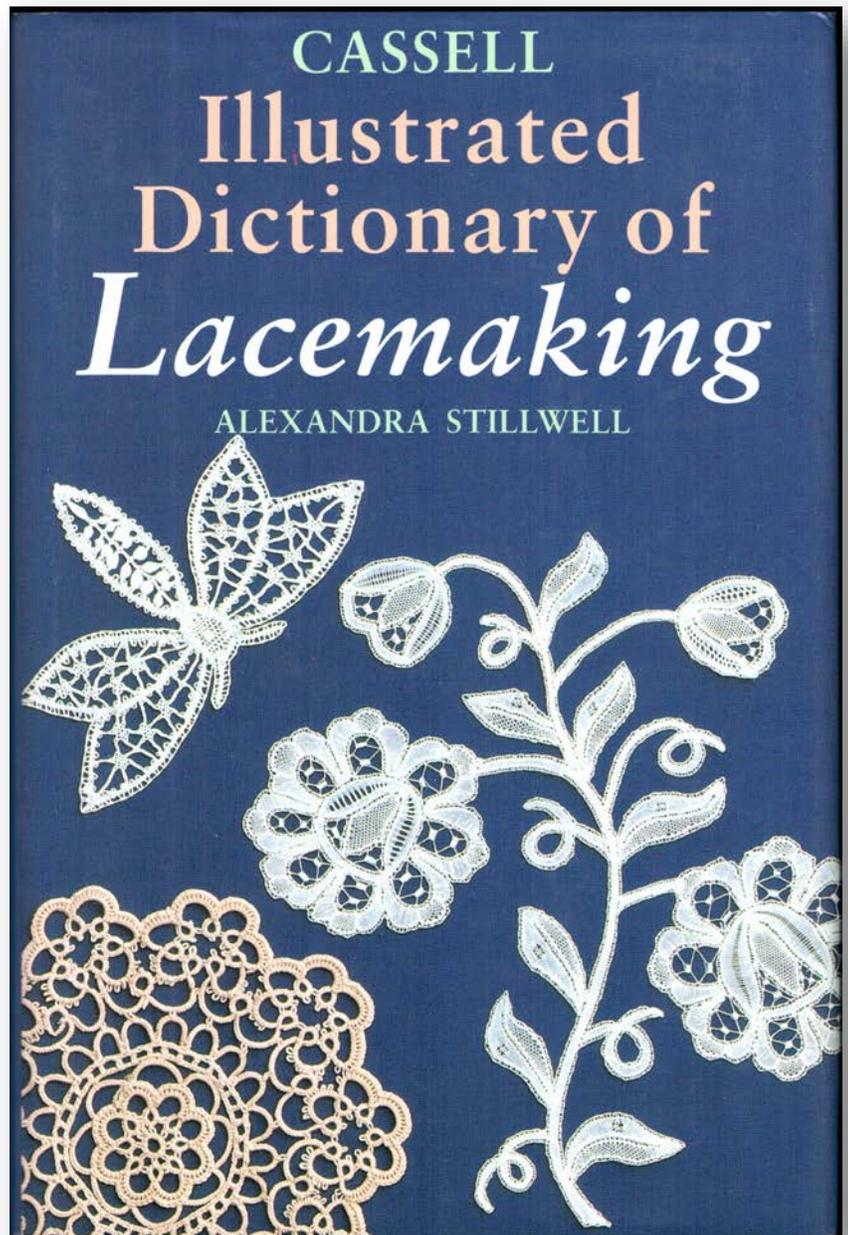
The NELG library is a great resource for NELG members. Most items in the library are either intended for teaching a particular technique or are a collection of patterns that can be used. However, not all the items in the library fit into these categories. We have some books that should be classified as reference books. This category can run from the history of costumes that feature lace to books that show fine photographs of lace to aid in identification.

The Cassell Illustrated Dictionary of Lacemaking by Alexandra (Alex) Stillwell fits into the reference category. Alex is well suited to writing such a book given her broad range of interests in lace. She has written many lace books, from Tenerife to Mechlin, her latest contribution to the world of lace.

This book originated with the introduction of the City and Guilds Lacemaking Course. It became apparent that lace makers from different places often have different words to describe the same thing. What can become even more confusing is that the same term can be used by different lace makers to describe different things. A common example of this confusion is the term "whole stitch" in bobbin lace making. There is always a discussion about this term when two or more lace makers gather, and at least one has been trained in the English tradition and one has been trained in the continental tradition.

This dictionary is an attempt to solve the problem. The terms covered come from many different laces, so there is an attempt to be comprehensive. Bobbin lace, needle lace, netting, crochet, Armenian, Tenerife, and tatting are all mentioned. The terms are well illustrated where it is appropriate, as well as being cross-referenced to let the reader know that there are multiple terms for a technique.

This book is certainly handy to have on a shelf for a quick lookup of terms. If that were its only use, it would be a failure as an NELG library book, since the act of checking out a book is usually too much bother for a simple inquiry. However, this book is fun to just to thumb through and read some of the definitions. Who knows? You might accidentally learn something interesting!



Sharon Sacco

Sr Madeleine in Ireland

Read more about Sr Madeleine's life and lace adventures in Ireland (and around the world!) in her blog at www.irishprayersandlace.wordpress.com.

Lace in Slovenia

Several years back Allie Marguccio gave classes in Idrija lace at the NELG Retreat at Sacred Hearts Retreat House. It was 2013, to be exact, as I look at the date on my class notes. I really wanted to learn Idrija lace although I probably did know enough basic lace to do it. Ever the passionate lace maker, I bought the beautiful bolster pillow and bobbins fashioned by Allie's husband and then, of course, did not use it. But the spark was there; the seed had been planted!

I remember listening to Allie's personal story of studying lace in Idrija and how she connected with her family tradition. Little did I know that one day I was to have my own chance to study lace in Idrija.

While I was in Bruges, my Idrija interest was put on the shelf, since mentioning it was tantamount to heresy. Instead I had every type of beautiful Belgian lace education at my fingertips for three years.

However, my move to Ireland changed all that. I connected with the Dublin Lacemakers who were learning (lo and behold!) Idrija lace from a Slovenian teacher. This was good news! Not surprisingly we soon planned a lace trip to Slovenia to include lessons and sightseeing, taking the opportunity to enjoy their annual lace festival in June.

Sr Julian and I traveled with the Irish lace group for a week in Slovenia. The small village of Idrija has kept the lace making craft alive through two world wars and a repressive socialist government. Kudos to them! Now we lace makers can come for a three-day festival, which frankly seemed more for the local villagers than for any stray lace tourists.

In this tiny mountain village, the annual festival is a whole town's celebration of

their lace tradition beginning in the early 19th century. In Idrija the men were miners and the women were lace makers!

There is a museum in the castle and village tours are available. In the tiny medieval church priests' chasubles with deep lace borders were hung impressively from the ceiling. The Idrija lace school displayed beautiful examples of lace that both students and experts had created but think small—just one room and a hallway and no photos allowed! There was a street market and among other crafts, there were vendors with Idrija patterns galore and then bolster pillows in every design and their accompanying baskets in varying sizes. You could certainly buy all you could put in your suitcase.

The afternoon held folk music and a competition among school age lace makers, 7-15 years old I am guessing. There were at least 100 of them doing the same pattern to see who was the fastest. Tons of family and other spectators eagerly watched. In the evening, what seemed like the whole town was out promenading in the square and then sitting on benches, eating ice cream or fries and listening to the music of a local band. A small parade was culminated by lovely local girls modeling lace fashions both traditional and contemporary.

On the way to Ljubljana, we stopped at what seemed like the store to buy Idrija lace supplies. A six-foot bolster pillow invited all lace makers to do a few stitches and then sign a book with your name and country of origin. The list was most impressive!

Our lace lessons were held in Ljubljana. A local lace group provided pillows, small gifts and a homemade reception with sweets that were deliciously new to my palate. We had been asked to make pin



The Lace Competition



The Six-Foot Bolster!



Sr Madeleine's Idrija Blackbird

cushions for our pillow partner and they made little gifts for us. I received a small map of Slovenia in Idrija lace which I promptly sewed to the front of my new lace carrying bag. Only the teacher spoke both English and Slovenian, so there was no conversation with our pillow partners, just a lot of smiling and well-wishing.

Slovenia is a bit like Switzerland in landscape and architecture but without the super high mountains. It is well worth the trip and as I head back home to the USA this September, I predict that the beautiful bolster pillow on the shelf is going to get a lot more use. As I cross and twist, the simplicity and charm of Idrija and its celebration of lace makers will continue to glow in my memory.

Diagonal Half-Stitch Program

At our March meeting, we will be exploring the diagonal half-stitch. This stitch is commonly used in 's Gravenmoer Lace, and it is often referred to by this name. However, it is not limited to this lace. Examples from other laces will be explored.

A practice piece can be made from the same pattern that was used in November for the "Threads Make the Lace" program as shown in the image. Rather than making spiders or normal half-stitch diamonds, we will practice making diagonal half stitch diamonds. Instructions for the diamonds will be provided.

You will need to prepare for this program. You will need to wind 14 pairs of bobbins and bring the usual bobbin making supplies such as pillow, pins, etc. You need to prepare a pattern that is available at the link shown below. While the pattern size is not that critical, try not to select one that is too small for your thread since it will be difficult to tension. This sample was made with Finca 50 and the "C" pattern.

If you want to get a head start, you can work the pattern up to the pins that surround the first diamond. Here I used a Dieppe ground (CT pin CTT) which is a variation on the Torchon ground.



<https://www.nelg.us/resources/Documents/Lace%20projects/Thread%20makes%20the%20lace%20for%20NELG%20project%202019.pdf>

More Sad News about Jeannet van Oord

Dear Friends of Jeannet,

Attached you find our sad news that Jeannet has left us yesterday 9-11-2019 [Nov 9] at 9.11 p.m.

We want to thank you all for the loving messages that I could read to Jeannet. She loved it very much and was very touched!!! She got tears in her eyes and said: I am happy! We know you can't be here to say good-bye to her, but we did it for you!

On Thursday we will honor Jeannet and celebrate her life!!

(From the funeral announcement: After a long eventful life, with her beautiful and also less beautiful times, today we said good bye to our small, powerful, dear, always attentive, dearest Mom, Mother, Mother-in-law, Grandma, and Great grandma....We will bring Jeannet to her final resting place in private with her parents and brothers at the old cemetery in her native village of Geldermalsen.)

Lots of love, Rob, Edgar, Arnoud, Alice and Mirjam

Work of our Members: Brenda Osborn



NELG at the Fiber Festival of New England

Photos by Patty Foley and Marjorie Dashef



Patty Amazes Visitors!



Patty's story about the yellow tatted flower: A woman stopped by as I was making the flowers. I showed her the difference between needle and shuttle tatting. As we chatted about her adventures in fiber arts, she had said her Mom had been going to teach her how to tat. Unfortunately, Mom passed away last year before she could teach her. I dug into my stash of flowers and gave her and her two companions one each. She was so happy! I said her Mom was watching over her, and there was a big hug and a tear was shed in the Mom's honor.



Barbara, Sr Catherine, Sharon, Marjorie

Things to Do & Places to Go

See the NELG website (www.nelg.us) for more information, more events and to register for these events.

NELG Meetings

All meetings are at Joshua Hyde Public Library, Sturbridge, Massachusetts, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Please register on our website so that we know how many to expect.

February 15: Puncetto Valsesiano

NELG member, Hanka Robertson, will give a presentation on Puncetto Valsesiano, a knotted needle lace from the Valsesia region of Italy, in the Piedmont. It is worked with only a needle and thread. Unlike many other forms of needle lace, the patterns tend to be strictly geometric.

March 21: Diagonal Half Stitch

NELG member Sharon Sacco will present a program on "diagonal half stitch" - this is how half stitch is worked in 's Gravenmoer lace. Sharon will use the pattern from our November program (Threads make the lace). See page 12 for more details.

April 19: To be announced

May 16: Annual Retreat and Workshops

The business meeting is usually held right after lunch on Saturday (about 1 p.m.). See page 3 and forward for more information.

Please Report Your Volunteer Time!

Anything you do to help NELG counts as volunteer time—demonstrating lace making, writing articles for the newsletter, teaching a friend to make lace, preparing and making a presentation for one of our NELG meetings, helping to set up a display for a library, museum or demonstration.

It's easy to report your hours on the Report Volunteer Hours page in the Members Only section of the website. Or contact our Member at Large for a paper form.

As a Charter Group with the International Organization of Lace, Inc. (IOLI), NELG is required to provide volunteer hours in order to help maintain the not-for-profit status of IOLI.

Thank you for your time!

Lace Days

Sunday Lace Group of Eastern Massachusetts

They meet on the 2nd Sunday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at members' homes, generally located east of I-495 between Lincoln and Carlisle. For further information contact Bryce Wolf at (781) 259-8529 or brycewolf@comcast.net.

Wednesday Lace Studio in Northford CT

Lace Studio at Jill Hawkins' home in Northford, CT every Wednesday evening from 7 to 9 p.m. Please let Jill know if you plan to attend. Text or call (203) 464-9873 or email jill@hawkins2.com.

Note: These meetings are suspended until the Spring. Please contact Jill if you need help in the interim.

Thursday Study Group in Branford CT

Clare Settle hosts a Point Ground Study Group most Thursdays from 3 to 7 p.m. at her home in Branford. This is not a class, but a quiet time to focus on making lace, to help others and to receive help. For more information contact Clare at (203) 314-8755 or cjsettle@gmail.com.

Western Massachusetts

The Western MA group of lace makers is enjoying making lace. Watch the calendar for more information or contact NELGInfo@gmail.com.

Connecticut Lace Days

The group meets on the 1st Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the designated home. Please contact the hostess a few days beforehand so that she may know how many to expect.

February 1: Jill Hawkins, (203) 464-9873
jill@hawkins2.com
Northford, CT

March 7: Winann Steinmetz, (203) 876-8314
winannsteinmetz@hotmail.com
Milford, CT

April 4: Barbara Hamilton, (203) 288-0762
booheny@sbcglobal.net
Hamden, CT

May 2: Nancy Fama, (203) 235-6611
lacings@juno.com
Meriden, CT

Demonstrations and Other Lace Events

April 2020

18-19: Oxford Historical Society Fiber Festival
Oxford, CT
<http://oxford-historical-society.org/>
Contact: Member at Large
Demonstration Opportunity!

25: 111th CT Sheep, Wool & Fiber Festival
Vernon, CT
http://www.ctsheep.org/sheep_wool_fiber_festival
Contact: Member at Large
Demonstration Opportunity!

May 2020

9-10: 44th NH Sheep & Wool Festival
Deerfield, NH
<http://www.nhswga.com>
Contact: Member at Large
Demonstration Opportunity!

14-17: NELG Annual Retreat
Rolling Ridge Retreat Center, N Andover, MA
Teachers will be Holly Van Sciver, Allie Marguccio and Jill Hawkins
www.nelg.us

23-24: 46th MA Sheep & Woolcraft Fair
Cummington, MA
<http://www.masheepwool.org/>
Contact: Member at Large
Demonstration Opportunity!

July 2020

19-25: 67th Annual IOLI Convention
Mesa, AZ
www.internationalorganizationoflace.org

31-8/2 19th OIDFA Congress
Tartu, Estonia
www.oidfa.com/cong.html.en

September 2020

18-10/4: Eastern States Exposition (the Big E)
West Springfield, MA
Contact: nelgbige@gmail.com
www.thebige.com
Demonstration Opportunity!

May 2021

13-16: NELG Annual Retreat
Rolling Ridge Retreat Center, N Andover, MA
Teachers will be Holly Van Sciver, Susie Johnson and Jill Hawkins
www.nelg.us

July 2021

TBA: 68th Annual IOLI Convention
San Francisco, CA
www.internationalorganizationoflace.org

Meeting Minutes

Minutes are available on our Website under Governance: Minutes to Member Meetings. We publish meeting minutes in our newsletter and website after they have been approved at a subsequent meeting.

June 16, 2019

Executive Board Attendance: Rita Bartholomew, President; Carmen Bartholomew, Clerk; Bryce Wolf, Librarian

Members and Guests: Judy Jeon-Chapman, Sharon Sacco, Marjorie Dashef, Jim Martin, Carolyn Wetzel

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m.

Minutes: The minutes from the April meeting were presented for approval. The motion to accept the minutes as-is was made by Bryce Wolf and seconded by Sharon Sacco. The motion was unanimously accepted.

The minutes from the May 2019 meeting were presented for approval. Corrections were made; the motion to accept the amended minutes was made by Bryce Wolf and seconded by Judy Jeon-Chapman. The motion was unanimously accepted.

Big E: Sharon will post information on the blog about submitting items to the Big E. August first is the deadline. She will talk to Mary about how to sign up to demonstrate at the Big E. The NELG website may link to the website of the Big E.

Election

Absentee votes

Member at Large: Jill Hawkins - 8

President: Carolyn Wetzel - 8
In person votes

Member at Large: Jill Hawkins - 8

President: Carolyn Wetzel - 8

Results - Unanimous

Member at Large: Jill Hawkins

President: Carolyn Wetzel

Kate Moore has agreed to serve as the Vice-President for the next year.

Silent Auction brought in \$327.25

New titles in the NELG library are all listed on the website. Let Bryce know if you have recommendations for additional books.

Bryce Wolf moved that we adjourn the meeting; Sharon Sacco seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

Member Resources

Your Website Members Only Pages

Website Members Only pages are available to all registered members via the email address and password you defined when you registered online.

It is here that you will find current and prior **newsletters**, the member **directory**, resources such as the NELG **business card**, an **expense form** and a form to report **volunteer hours**, and information on **scholarships and grants**.

Your Newsletter

The NELG Newsletter is published 4 times a year, on or about the 1st of February, May, August and November.

If you have chosen Electronic delivery, you will receive an email informing you when the latest newsletter is available on the NELG website for your viewing pleasure. You will be able to enjoy the contents in color, photos will be resizable for a detailed view, and all links will be immediately accessible to you. Past issues of the newsletter back to 1998 are also there for your easy reference.

If you have chosen to receive your newsletter via US Mail, you'll receive a black and white hardcopy version.

Printing Your Newsletter in Duplex

Want to save paper by printing your newsletter on both sides of the sheet? Follow these simple steps:

1. Click on the printer icon in your Adobe Reader window
2. Click on the Properties button (at top of window)
3. Click on Finishing tab
4. Click on Print on Both Sides (manually)
5. Follow directions that will pop up on how to re-insert your paper to print on the second side

Here is an alternative method:

1. Print even (or odd) pages only.
2. Remove pages, turn them over without re-ordering them, and place in printer.
3. Print odd (or even) pages but in reverse order.

Your NELG Library

The New England Lace Group maintains a collection of both print and non-print materials for the use of its members. We have loaded scans of all book covers on the website so you can see each of the books we have. Click [On-Line-Web](#) to view the collection to date.

A representative selection from the Library is available at each monthly meeting, as well as at local Lace Days, thanks to our Assistant Librarians. To be assured of a particular item, please contact the [Head Librarian](#) and arrange for it to be brought to the meeting or mailed to you. Also, please feel free to contact her with your suggestions for new material to be added to our library for member use. She also welcomes reviews of new or current books for publication in the newsletter.

NELG has documented the Policies and Procedures with regard to how the Library collection is managed. Click on [NELG Library Policy & Procedures](#) and read the changes we have instituted for all members.

Your NELG Membership Directory

The NELG Membership Directory is available on the NELG website to all currently registered members. Check the Directory for the latest contact information of your fellow lace makers. Update your own contact data in the Directory when something changes and your lace friends will know instantly! If you have a picture of yourself and have difficulty uploading it, please contact our [Webmaster, Jill Hawkins](#), for assistance.

If you don't have access to the internet, you'll receive a hardcopy of the Directory with the February newsletter.

Standing Committees & Appointments

- **Scholarships & Grants:** Janet Blanchard & Barbara Morrow
- **Retreat:** Winann Steinmetz & Jill Hawkins
- **Nominating:** Jill Hawkins & Sharon Sacco
- **Webmaster Assistant:** Sharon Sacco
- **BIG E Liaison:** Mary Linden

Pattern Pages (from IOLI Pattern Books and CDs)

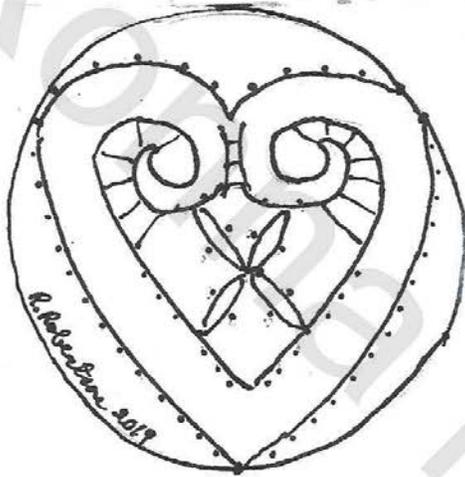
The designers of these patterns retain the copyright for their patterns. These patterns may be reproduced for personal use only and not for commercial gain.

Heart Bangle

Idrija #30 thread, 7 mm bangle

9 pairs of bobbins

Using Wide Tape Idrija techniques

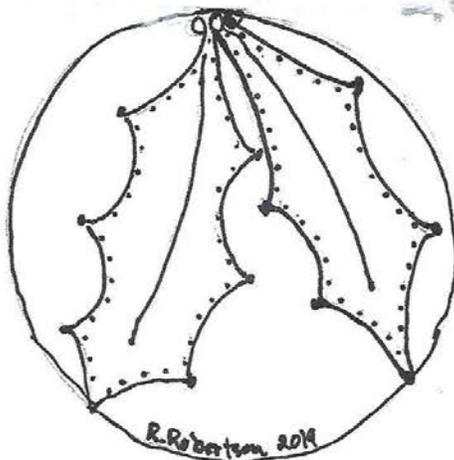


Bangle Holly

Idrija #30 thread (green)

3 red beads, 3 mm, and 7 mm bangle

7 pairs of bobbins



Dorothy's Snowball Mittens



This design is my own with the exception of the two snowballs on the mittens. The snowballs are part of the larger Snowballs motif found on page 38 "Idrija lace Narrow Cloth stitch: Idrija Lace school. I have also included drawings from the book for the special turns and sewings used in this pattern to encourage you to try Idrija lace. If you need further instructions please refer to Idrija lacemaking books.

Dorothy.

DMC size 80

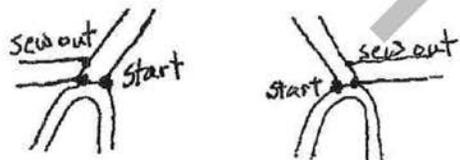
Snowball outer ring	4 pairs 14" per bobbin	1 pair 40" per bobbin (worker)
Snowball inner ring	4 pairs 30" per bobbin	1 pair 48" per bobbin (worker)
Half moon shape	4 pairs 24" per bobbin	1 pair 36" per bobbin (worker)
Outer edge of mitten	4 pairs 20" per bobbin	1 pair 48" per bobbin (worker)
Thumb design	5 pairs 20" per bobbin	
Cuff	2 pairs 24" per bobbin (center passives)	2 pairs 27" per bobbin (outer passives)
	1 pair 36" per bobbin (main worker)	
String	4 pairs 24" per bobbin	1 pair 60" per bobbin (worker)

Working Instructions.

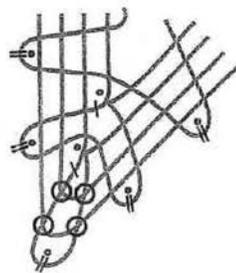
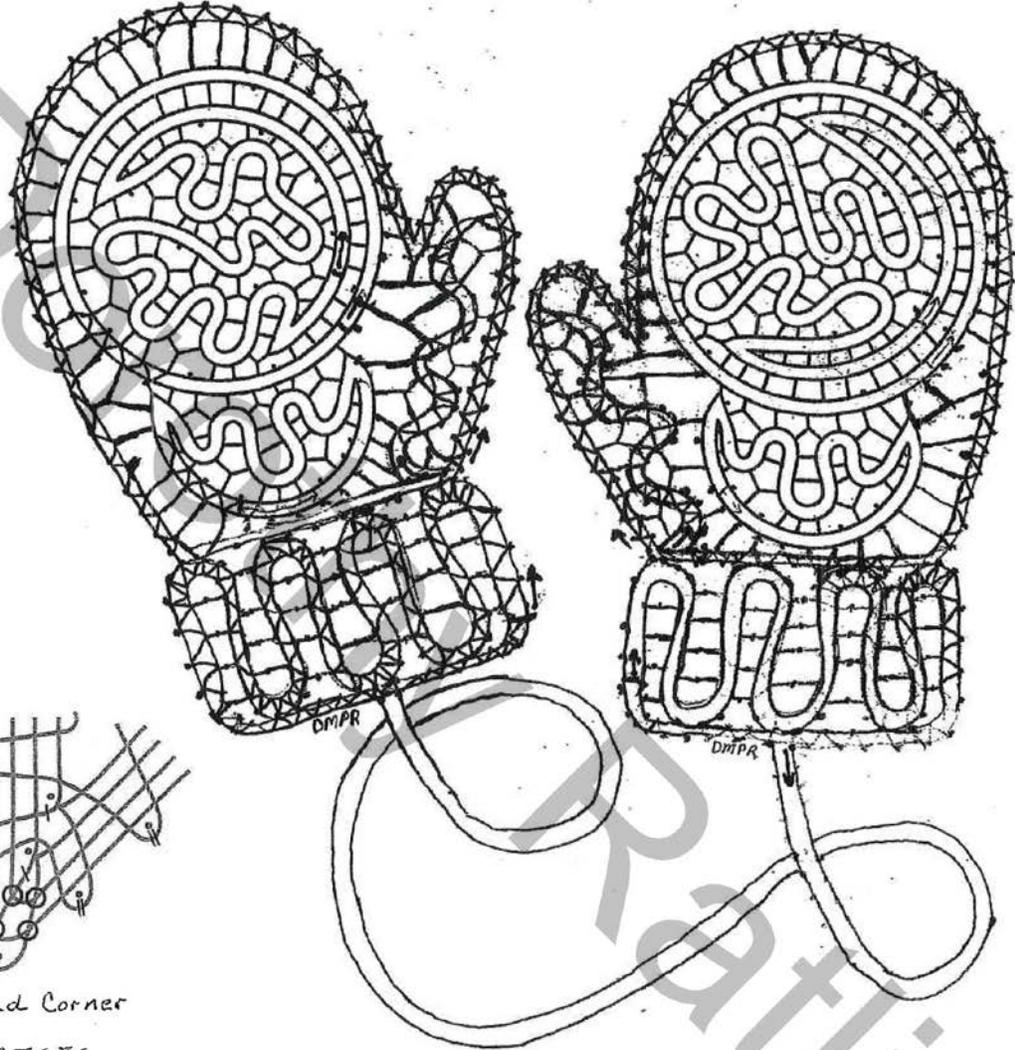
1. Work snowball outer ring.
2. Work snowball inner design.
3. Work halfmoon shape.
4. Work outer edge of mitten
5. Work thumb design.
6. Work Cuff
7. Work string.



Both mitten outer edges begin with the worker and one pair side by side on a pin. When you sew out you do not sew out into this pin. It will need to be picked up as you work the cuff.



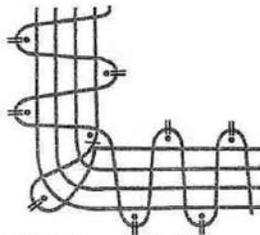
Dorothy's Snowball Mittens



Angled Corner

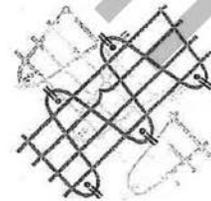
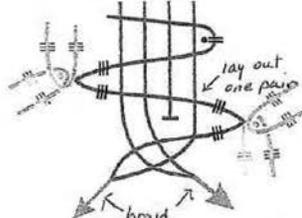
O = CTCCTC

Band with temporary pin



lower edge of mitten
bottom of cuffs

finish top of thumb



Sewing where string
tape overlaps.