

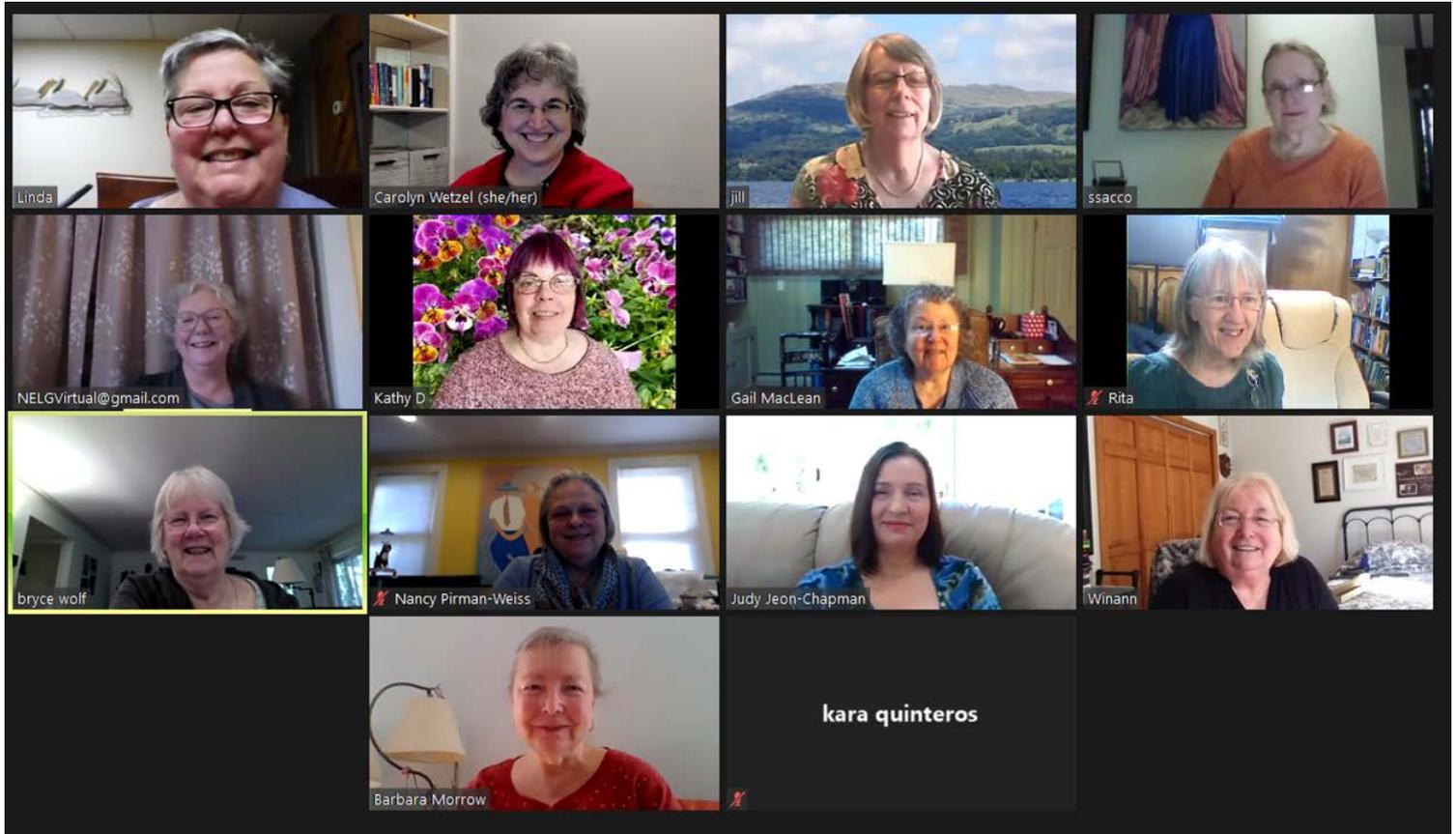
The Quarterly Newsletter of the New England Lace Group

Issue 111

www.nelg.us

November 2020

Enjoying Lace Together Since 1982



Our October 17 Zoom Meeting!

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...And more!

President's Message



The days are getting shorter, the nights colder, and the autumn colors are past their peak glory. What does that mean? Cozy evenings of lace making by a warm woodstove! Or knitting, or spinning, or whatever indoor handwork suits your pleasure. No woodstove? No problem! A comfy chair by a good lamp will suffice.

Last year my husband completed a house renovation project that added a loft studio for me. It's small but wonderful. I insisted on good lighting and spent hours going through websites and catalogs to find exactly what I wanted in terms of spacing, brightness, and color temperature (those values like 2700K that you see on light bulb boxes). The result is amazing. I feel like I'm sitting outside on a bright overcast day when I'm up there – perfect lighting for fine handwork. No more huddling under a goose-neck lamp. My husband teases me that it's as bright as an operating room, but that's the point, right? We do fine, precision work as lace makers, just like surgeons (but with less at stake). Especially as I age, good lighting is an essential tool for my handwork. And as a bonus, when I'm in my brilliantly lit loft, I can bask in a "summer day" in the middle of winter!

We hope to see you at our monthly meetings on Zoom. If you need help getting set up to use Zoom, let one of the board members know and we will do our best to help you out.

My best wishes to all of you as we head into the winter months ahead. I hope you all have a cozy bright place to relax in. Stay safe, wear your mask, and thanks again for being a member of NELG!

Carolyn



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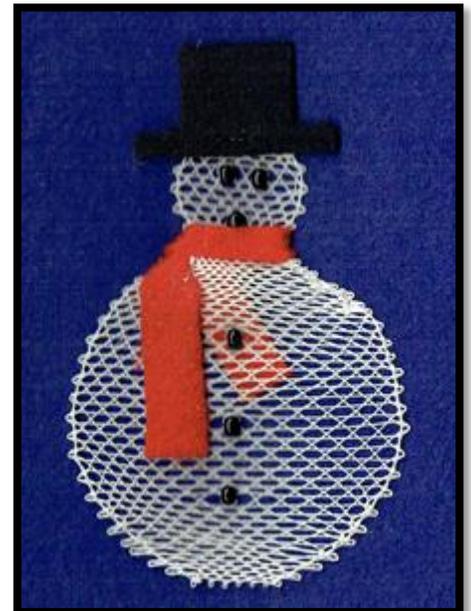
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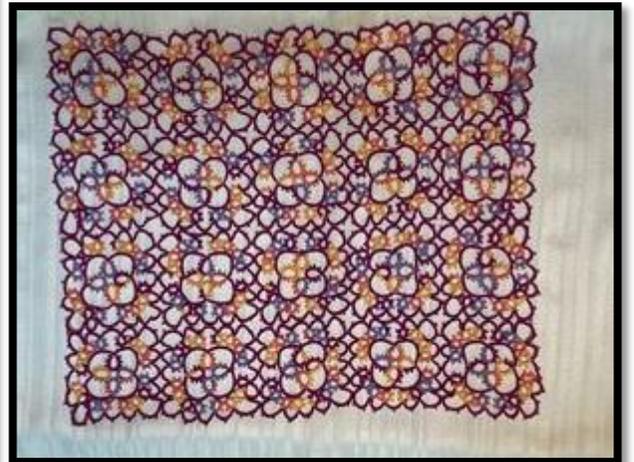
Creative Arts Results 2020

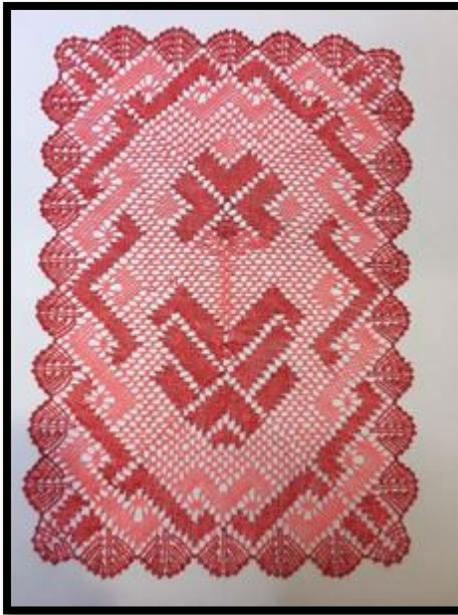
Normally in this issue we would have a list of all the entrants in the Big E's Creative Arts competition and their standings. Then we would have photos of all the special award-winning entries. Well, this year, no Big E. No Creative Arts Exhibit.

But wait! Why not have a Virtual Creative Arts Exhibit? Happy to participate, NELG members sent anonymous photos of what would have been their entries in this year's competition, anonymous to retain eligibility to submit their entries in what we hope will be next year's competition.

So, here are the entries to our Virtual Creative Arts Exhibit and you can make your own personal evaluation of Best of Division, Best Tatted Lace, Best Use of Color, Technical Proficiency, Best Needle Lace, Best Bobbin Lace, etc. You may also find all of these submissions, with comments, on our website. Aren't they all wonderful?!!







Welcome New NELG Members!

Sally Duscha, Carlisle, MA

Sally writes: I'm just learning how to make lace. I'm a quilter, a former weaver, and have done needlework, (including tatting) since I was a child. I'm finding it relaxing to make lace during the pandemic and I am hoping to find another class.

Susan Francis, Salisbury, MA

Lavender Tessmer, Cambridge, MA

Diana Wagner, Somerville, MA

Diana writes: I am a designer working in a multidisciplinary research lab focused on creating wearable technology to help meet real-world medical needs. My work is focused on textile-based inflatable devices that provide assistance and rehabilitation to people with movement limitations in their hands and arms. Outside the lab my studio practice explores endangered hand-skills such as shoe making, basket weaving, and lace making. I received a Masters of Industrial Design from the Rhode Island School of Design and a BFA in Sculpture from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Your lace is needed for Trees of Hope!



NELG will be donating a decorated tree to the Ronald McDonald Trees of Hope fundraiser again this year, and I am asking for your help in making some strips of lace.

Our theme this year is **“Lace FANTasy”** and our tree will be decorated with colored paper fans trimmed with handmade lace. Here’s what I need:

- The lace should be white, and could be any type of lace
- The strip needs to be 1/2" wide and 8" long for each fan. If you prefer, you can make one long length that can be used for more than one fan; I can cut it into the required length, but will need some extra to turn in on each end - so please make each “repeat” a little longer (maybe 8½")
- Please tie off the threads but do not trim the threads close – leave at least 2"
- Strips should be mailed to me at 38 Idylwood Drive, Northford, CT 06472
- The deadline for you to send me the strips is mid-November

As usual, the trees will be set up the weekend after Thanksgiving at the Maritime Center on Long Wharf in New Haven, but this year the entire event will be virtual. The organizers will put photos of each tree and a description on their website, so the viewing of the displays, the purchase of raffle tickets and all bidding will be entirely online. This means that you don’t need to come to New Haven to be able to participate in the fundraiser!

Thank you so much for helping out with this project. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Kind regards, Jill Hawkins

Hensel Productions is excited to announce that they have recently completed the transfer of all their programs to USB Flash Drive for those lace makers who no longer have access to a DVD player. Each program includes a content card with timings which indicate where specific techniques and skills can be found in the timeline of the program. New releases include [Color in Bedfordshire Lace](#) and [More . . . Color in Bedfordshire Lace](#) with Jean Leader and Allie Marguccio’s [Introduction to Idrija Narrow Tape Techniques](#). Complete detailed information on all their programs can be found on their website:

www.HenselProductions.com

Sr Madeleine's Quarantine Wedding Lace

Sr Madeleine has returned to the US and hopes to study lace in Germany whenever God and the pandemic allow.

After my trip to Slovenia last year with the Dublin lace Guild, I returned to Ireland with my enthusiasm fanned to develop my Idrija skills. I chose a doily pattern from the newly reprinted Idrija Lace book by Bridget Cook to practice my pointed Idrija corners. A wonderful lime green hand-crafted backpack bolster pillow became my working pillow. I had purchased it in one of the vendor stands in Idrija during the annual lace festival and I loved it! As I worked I could imagine Slovenian lace makers backpacking their pillows over the rolling hills and mountains!

Then Covid-19 arrived and I was ripped out of Ireland and whisked back to American shores to ride out the virus in my own very closed community. The day I returned into my tightly closeted quarantine quarters, I received an email from an old friend, a young man who had apprenticed with me years ago in a Spanish class. (He is now a music teacher in a Cape Cod school system.) "Would I do a lace piece for his bride?" His bride had also been in my English, French and History classes and I was quite fond of her. He would give the lace piece as his wedding gift 4 months hence.

This was March; I was jet lagged and frankly thought, "You must be kidding. I can't do that in 4 months." So I put the email aside while I fell into bed to sleep off my jet lag and my 2-week quarantine.



As I continued to work on the Idrija piece that I had quickly packed up as I rushed out of Ireland (supposedly escaping the virus which most certainly followed me home), I realized maybe the groom-to-be might like this piece! He could have it if he did—he loved it!

The lace rectangle would form the centerpiece for a linen dresser scarf. I added a strip of lace made in the Torchon sea foam pattern to each end of the finished scarf.

By the time you read this, the wedding will be long over on August 15, 2020, year of the corona virus. August 15 is also Feast of the Assumption for those of you Catholics out there, so being a good nun I tucked in a lace Madonna with a blue veil, also done in simple Idrija, as a gift from me.

Wedding bells are a lovely thing. Love is eternal as is lovely lace.



A Note from Richard Worthen

The novel coronavirus pandemic has forced the cancelation of the annual lace events and the 2020 IOLI convention. This quarantine has been hard on all of us and I have missed seeing and talking with you lace makers. I have taken the opportunity to rebuild and reopen my Etsy store, where you will continue to find high quality bobbins in the popular styles: Midland, Continental (or Bayeux), Honiton, Spanish, Tønder (or Danish), bobbins for making wire lace, and O-ring bobbins for metallic thread. I will be adding items to the store on a regular basis, so please visit often. As always, feel free to contact me with any custom requests. Until we can meet again to talk, laugh, and make lace, I remain in the shop, turning exotic and domestic hardwoods and dreaming up new ideas to bring to you.

richardsbobbins@yahoo.com https://www.etsy.com/shop/RichardsBobbins?ref=shop_sugg

A Tale of a Tablecloth

By Jill Hawkins

Back around the year 2000, I saw an article in the UK Lace Guild magazine regarding a fund-raising project that had been undertaken by the Bromley Lacemakers. The members of that lace group had designed and made a large Torchon lace tablecloth which was being auctioned off in aid of a local hospice. I don't remember how much money they raised from the auction, but they also put together a pattern book to earn money for their "Millennium Project." I purchased the book and had it for a few years before I started to make the lace.

The tablecloth was made up of many individual squares of lace, with a border. While there were 12 different designs for the squares in the pattern book, I chose 5 designs which appealed to me and started working. I had visited Web's yarn store (Northampton, MA) and purchased some ecru 50/2 weaving silk that I thought would be perfect to make the tablecloth. Having made a sample, I realized that the pattern would need to be reduced to 90% of original size since the thread I was using was finer than the pattern called for.



My original (albeit crazy!) goal was to make a tablecloth large enough to cover my dining room table – which was approx. 6 feet long. I only worked on the squares at lace demonstrations, so over the years had managed to make only a few of each design. I soon came to realize that I would never be able to make enough squares for my dining room table, so I pared down my idea to make a much smaller tablecloth that had 25 squares. With a more reasonable project, I was determined to actually make the remaining squares and get the tablecloth finished.



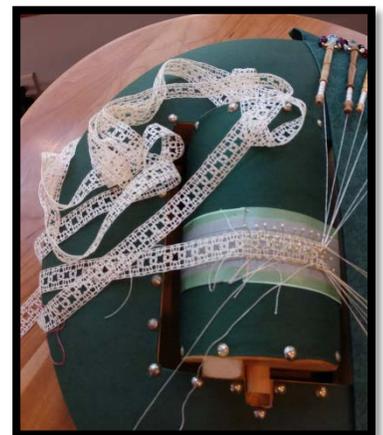
I worked on the remaining squares over a period of a few months and had made all 25 by July 2020. What a sense of accomplishment! Then I turned my attention to the border. As I had reduced the original pricking to 90% of the original size, I thought it would be a simple matter of also reducing the border pattern to 90%. Not so! It took quite a while to actually get the pricking to be the correct length I needed to fit the squares I had made.

With the end in sight, I managed to finish the border in record time. Now it was time to sew everything together! I pieced the squares together into a large square that was 5 squares by 5 squares. I pinned the border to a large piece of cotton fabric to keep it stable and laid the large square in the middle. To my horror, the border was too large! I had a couple of choices: either to redo the border so that it was smaller, or make an insertion to go between the large square and the border. The second option seemed to be the lesser of two evils.

Since many of the squares featured roseground, and I was able to find an insertion pattern that also included roseground and would be a good fit. So.....back to the lace pillow to make enough insertion. I had decided to take the easy way out and miter the corners so I didn't have to worry about whether the corners were in the correct place!

Finally, everything was done and I was able to sew the insertion to the large square and then attach the border. The entire project probably spanned at least 15 years and I am very glad that I persevered and finished it – even though it is much smaller than originally planned.

Since it is highly unlikely I will ever make any more of the patterns, I have donated the pattern book to the NELG library. Please contact Bryce if you're interested in borrowing it.



An Invitation to Collaborate—an Update

By Judy Jeon-Chapman

Dear NELG Members,

In the last newsletter I invited you to participate in a project involving poetry, prints, and samples of NELG-made lace, ideally along with comments, prickings and instructions.

Just to review, I have translated Henri de Régnier's 16 French sonnets into English. Published in 1927, they were inspired by 16 different types of lace, each illustrated in the book with original pochoir prints by Yan B Dyl.

This is the link to the best scan of the book that I have found thus far:

<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k15254797/f21.ima ge>

Here is what I would like to include in our book:

- My introduction to the book discussing Henri de Régnier and his work in general and *Le miracle du fil* in particular
- A bilingual presentation of Henri de Régnier's 16 sonnets, with the French original on one page, and my English translation on a facing page
- My analysis of each poem, appearing as a brief introduction to each
- Immediately following each poem:
 - Yan B Dyl's print
 - A photo of the type of lace featured, made and contributed by members of the New England Lace Group
 - Comments from the lace contributors about the history of the type of lace presented, the depiction of it in the associated poem and in Dyl's print (is it an accurate depiction or not?) and in the samples they're contributing
- Prickings of the contributors' lace samples with instructions would be included as an appendix where permission has been granted

Here are the types of lace treated, listed in the order in which they are presented in *Le miracle du fil*, along with the 10 NELG members who have volunteered for each type of lace:

1. Cluny Lace: Judy Jeon-Chapman
2. Point de Gênes: Sharon Sacco
3. Renaissance Spanish Lace: Kate Moore
4. Bruges Lace: Sr. Madeleine Cleverly
5. Duchesse Lace of Brussels: Sharon Sacco
6. Flemish Point de Gaze: Linda Dumas
7. Point de Venise: Carolyn Wetzel
8. Point d'Alençon: ?
9. Gold and Silver Lace: Carolyn Hastings
10. Point d'Angleterre: ?
11. Chantilly Lace: Jim Martin
12. Malines Lace: Eileen Collins
13. Spanish Blonde Lace: ?
14. Ténériffe Lace: Sharon Sacco
15. Paraguayan Lace: Sharon Sacco (one sample for both Ténériffe and Paraguayan lace)
16. Lace of Tomorrow: Gail MacLean



Cluny Lace

You will note that there are three types of lace unclaimed. Please reach out to me if you have dabbled in any of these types of lace, or if you would like to learn to make a small sample for this book. I will forward the specific translation of the associated sonnet to better inform your choice of pattern and your supporting comments.

We are not looking at a close deadline for completing your sample. There is much to be done and my heavy teaching schedule may not open up until next summer.

I am thrilled that there are already 10 NELG members who are contributing their knowledge and expertise to this group project. I am hoping that more

members will step forward to try the remaining three types of lace.

Thank you!

My email is jjeonchapman@worchester.edu.

Lace in Wikipedia

By Mary Mangan

The open-source online encyclopedia Wikipedia has been developing for the past 20 years. It continues to evolve and become even more relevant in these times of challenges to the conflicting public narratives on various subjects.

The concept behind this site is very *small-d-democratic*: anyone can add content to this resource as long as guidelines are followed about sources, neutrality, and formatting. Of course, this also means that like many other technologies, the product will often reflect the interests of digitally wired and devoted followers of a given topic, which might not be reflective of the wider society.

Still, Wikipedia has matured into a powerful information resource that many people use as a first look into a subject, and a jumping-off place for further research. It comes up with high rankings in online search result lists, which is where many people begin to explore a topic.

Some time ago, I noticed a discussion on Twitter about the coverage of lace in Wikipedia. Gretchen McCulloch noted in a longer thread (first section shown below) about some deficits in lace coverage.

This observation inspired me to look into the lace pages and prompted me to do something about it. There are some good basic pages with lace topics, but many could use more details and images. More historical scholarship would be helpful. I think some styles of lace are completely absent, such as

Tombolo and probably others that I don't even know as a new lace maker. Tools of lace making, such as bobbins, could also use additional effort and photos to cover more of the scope and character of these crucial and often lovely and curious lace-related items.

Another key feature of Wikipedia is having quality images to accompany pieces. Images get added into the subsection called "Wikimedia Commons." Those images also rely on appropriate sourcing and permissions,

including copyright status. If you had a lovely lace exemplar that you created yourself and want to add to a lace style page, you can enter it into the system. You set the selected permissions to re-use the images for the public, and those images can then be used for suitable Wiki pages and by people on other lace-related stories. People do search Wikipedia for good images to highlight other types of publications such as newsletters and blogs, but mainstream media sources sometimes do so as well. And most will cite the work based on the settings, which would disperse good quality information further out into the world and be traceable back to the source.

Personally, I am especially interested in the historical time period of the Revolutionary War in New England, and consequently the Ipswich laces. Combined with an effort to improve fashion-related articles during a drive called an edit-a-thon, *Wiki Loves Fashion*, I was able to contribute to an active project. I also got some help from existing editors who know the process.

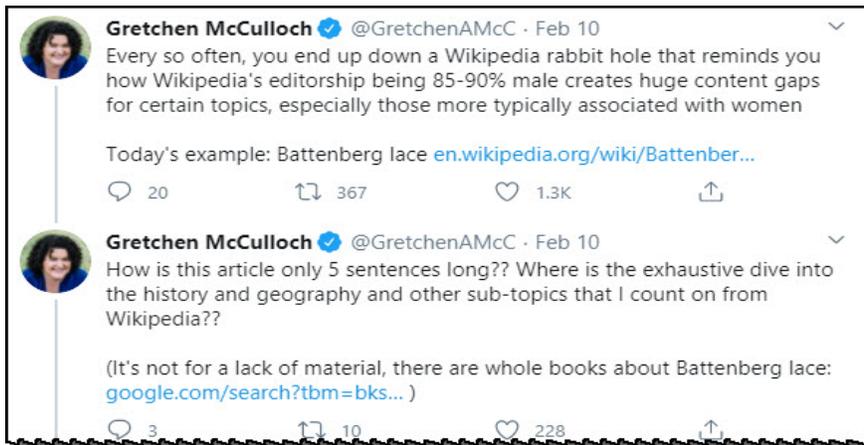
I had done minor Wiki edits to pages in the past, but never created one from scratch. I got help with that from the team. When my page was in early form, they helped me

to create links and other navigation features properly. With the help of Karen Thompson who gave me the important technical terminology, we created a first version of a record of Ipswich lace to share with the world. We intend to expand on this page with more images and sources, but now that one exists, it's easier to

edit and modify going forward.

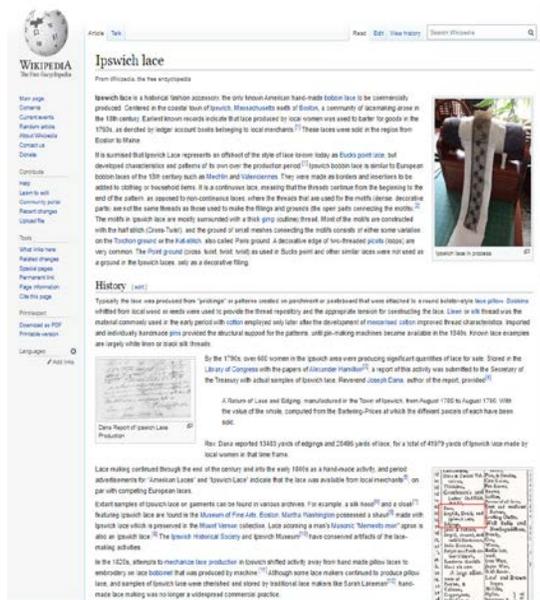
I was also able to add Ipswich lace to the template of lace types table so that every page that has lace also provides this handy way to navigate to other styles of lace. I added the early lace books and links to the international lace organizations from the bobbin lace page as well.

Lace makers carry so much deep detail in their heads, it would be wonderful to have it more available to others. We have beautiful and alluring works that represent



classic lace styles. Publishing this data might also encourage more people to become lace makers, to carry lace into the future.

If you look around at the lace pages and see that there are improvements you'd like to make, you can add them yourself! Create a Wikipedia editing account and add your thoughts and sources. I'd also be happy to help you make your edits, as long as you provide the citation to accompany it. If you have images of your own work, or of a special bobbin perhaps, upload them to the Commons, and I'd be pleased to put them on the appropriate pages. Perhaps in the future, a lace edit-a-thon would be a worthwhile campaign,

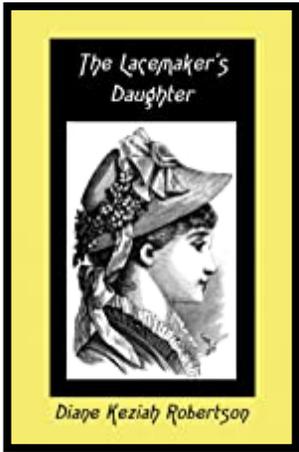


or a conference session, when those days come around again.

In the before times, I attended a talk with a space entrepreneur who is creating archives of earth knowledge to send out into the universe. The Arch Mission Foundation has already added a copy of Wikipedia into Elon Musk's space car's glove box. One of their archives crashed into the moon on a different mission. But there will be future launches too. Let's make sure the knowledge about lace persists and is available to everyone--everywhere. It is in our hands, in more ways than one.

Lace in Literature

The Lacemaker's Daughter by Diane Keziah Robertson



When the author was doing research on her genealogy she learned of a relative who was a lace maker and died at age eleven. The author wrote this story to give that young girl a life beyond the short one that fate granted her.

Susannah and her disabled brother, Peter, are effectively orphaned in 1770, when she is 11 and he is 10. Their mother, also a lace maker, died and their irresponsible father abandoned them. The children manage to fend for themselves, continuing to live in the family hovel outside the village of Upper Hambley and supporting themselves with her lace and his whittled wooden products.

They eventually move to Honiton where they find employment and romance. You will root for their success, be amazed at their resourcefulness and be thankful for the kindness of their neighbors.

Gail MacLean

Are You a Member of IOLI?

The **International Organization of Lace** is the parent organization of NELG, with over one thousand participants from around the world.

Membership during the pandemic carries even more benefits than usual. Webinars give you access to lace expertise around the world, for a modest annual fee and no traveling required!

Join today and enjoy the next scheduled speaker on November 22, David Hopkins, who will speak about the often boisterous Lacemakers' Feastdays and Holidays. Other benefits of membership include a quarterly Bulletin, access to proficiency certification and the annual Convention, be it virtual or live.

<http://www.internationalorganizationoflace.org/>

Zooming in the Time of Pandemic

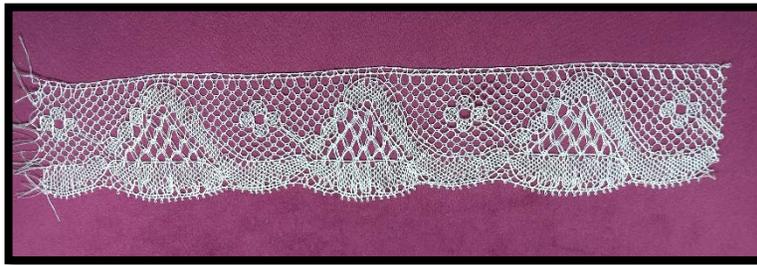
By Kathy Draves

If you've been considering taking a lace class via Zoom, go for it!

I've taken 3 classes this way already (one was a beading class) and it works very well, especially if you have a little flexibility with your tech equipment. The advantages of online learning balance the loss of the personal touch and camaraderie. Pricing seems to be a bit lower, likely because there's no overhead involved. You have access to teachers and class hosts who are distant without the expenses of transportation and lodging. And if you left any of your supplies home, well, they're likely in the next room!

I've done two workshops hosted by The Lace Museum in California. The first was Karen Thompson's Ipswich Lace class. It was held on 2 sequential weekends, 3 hours plus break each Saturday and Sunday. The class started at 9 am PDT, which translated to noon for me (and Karen as well). There were 5 students in the class, including lace makers in England and Malta!

Of the 3 classes I've taken, the Ipswich one required the most elaborate setup. We each used 2 devices, dialed in to the same Zoom meeting. (Yes, it works quite well, the only caveat being that you must mute one device and turn off its volume.) We had our phones aimed at our pillows so that the teacher could examine our work. She switched between windows on her end, much as she walks from



Kathy's Ipswich Lace

student to student in person, and offered advice and corrections. I used a gooseneck clamp stand for tablets that I purchased on Amazon for \$16—it can hold my tablet the short way and my phone the long way. My second device was my computer webcam focused on me. (Some students used their tablets for this.) The only things that I feel I missed compared to a more typical class was getting to know the lace makers sitting around me and shopping with vendors.

The second class was Lucet with Sherri Jones. This class consisted of three 2-hour sessions. Again, class size was 5 students. Using screen share, the teacher started with an introductory talk about history, tools and usage of Lucet-made cord. Then she demonstrated the technique slowly multiple times so that we could observe and then jump in and try it at our own pace. Over the course of three lessons we learned two different stitches with variations.

All the classes were recorded, and the enrolled students were sent links to be able to re-watch them for 2 weeks, a definite plus.

Visit the Lace Museum online (<https://thelacemuseum.org>) and check out their class offerings. You might find a bobbin or needle lace technique or another textile craft that you'd like to try with this comfortable and convenient learning environment. And if you've taken classes with a different host, please share your experiences as well.

Elena Kanagy-Loux from the Brooklyn Lace Guild has been featured in Vogue!

https://www.vogue.com/article/elena-naomi-kanagy-loux-lace-tiktok-historian?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=onsite-share&utm_brand=vogue&utm_social-type=earned&fbclid=IwAR000DUiznM20ys1-FF47lzzoiVXdJlZW5COBQ9P2akVoD8ye6Zjx4XyaZo

Submitted by Jill Hawkins

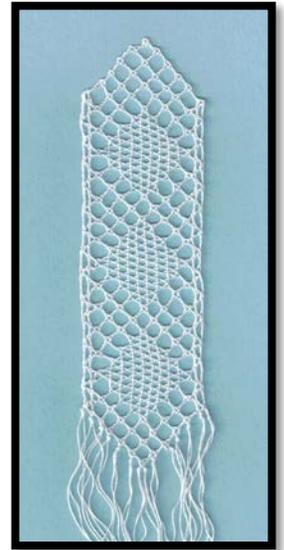
Diagonal Half-Stitch Program

At our November 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 last 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>

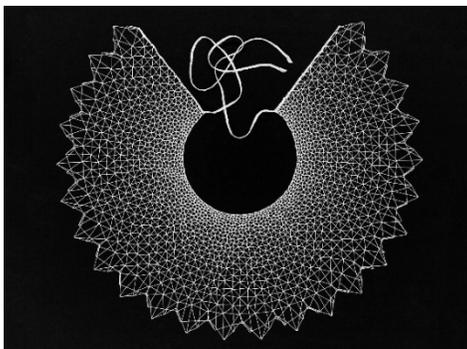
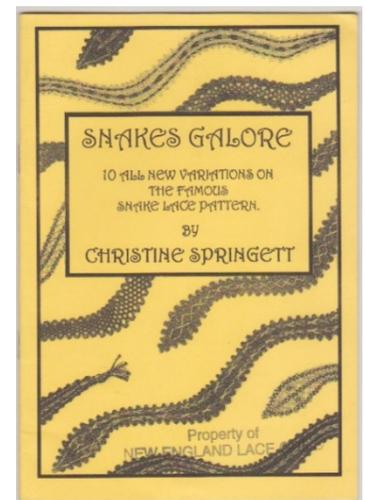
Library Additions

The NELG Library has recently acquired two new volumes.

The first is We Love Lace, a compilation of heart patterns by a group of Dutch members of OIDFA as a souvenir of the 18th General Assembly of OIDFA in Zaandam in 2018. There is a wide variety of motifs in many types of lace, including bobbin lace, needle lace, and tambour, for both beginners and advanced lace makers. Included are photos of the finished lace, a list of materials, a pricking and often a working diagram. There is something for everyone in this book. In English, French and Dutch.

The second book is Christine Springett's Snakes Galore, a classic. There are 10 variations to spice up the basic beginner snake illustrating design potential and technique.

Contact the Librarian to borrow these books.



A contemporary handmade lace collar connects South Africa's brilliant Constitution to the towering figure of Ruth Bader Ginsburg

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-09-24-how-a-silk-collar-connected-ruth-bader-ginsburg-to-south-africa/>

Submitted by Brenda Osborn

This story was posted by Elena Kanagy-Loux to Instagram. Teen Vogue has a story on lace! And it's Elena's lace for a Columbia University special anniversary event for RBG. It's a lovely story.

<https://www.teenvogue.com/story/elena-kanagy-loux-ruth-bader-ginsburg-lace-collar>

Submitted by Mary Mangan

Things to Do & Places to Go

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

Until further notice all NELG Meetings and Lace Days will be held virtually using Zoom.

We hope to see you there!

NELG Meetings

November 21: *Diagonal Half Stitch* (Rescheduled from March) 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 13 for details on the preparation needed.

December 19: *Annual holiday party and gift exchange* Come escape the pandemic restrictions and relax with your lacemaking friends. Bring a treat to enjoy and some holiday cheer. To manage the gift exchange in our current environment, Kate has sent out an email asking everyone who wants to participate to submit their names to her by October 31. Kate will send each person the name of their gift recipient within 2 weeks. The gift (a piece of made or collected lace) should fit into a regular envelope and be mailed so that the recipient gets it before the December 19 meeting. Donor and recipient should take a picture to submit to the website and newsletter. Attendees of the December (and maybe January) meeting can display their gifts then.

January 16: *To be announced*

February 20: *To be announced*

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. Participants will receive a Zoom invitation by email during the preceding week. To be added to the mailing list contact Bryce Wolf at (781) 259-8529 or brycewolf@comcast.net.

Connecticut Lace Days

The group meets on the 1st Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Participants will receive a Zoom invitation by email during the preceding week. To be added to the mailing list contact Winann Steinmetz at (203) 876-8314 or winannsteinmetz@hotmail.com.

Demonstrations and Other Lace Events

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

June 2021

12-13: **Doily Free Zone Lace Camp**
Online; workshops and webinars
<https://www.doilyfreezone.net/>

July 2021

24-8/1: **68th Annual IOLI Convention**
Reno, NV
<https://internationalorganizationoflace.org/>

26-8/5: **19th OIDFA Congress, Workshops & Tour**
Tartu, Estonia
www.oidfa.com/cong.html.en

September 2021

17-10/3: **Eastern States Exposition (the Big E)**
West Springfield, MA
Contact: nelgbige@gmail.com
www.thebige.com
Demonstration Opportunity!

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!

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 20, 2020

Executive Board Attendance:

Carolyn Wetzel, President; Kate Moore, Vice President; Barbara Morrow, Treasurer/Membership; Gail MacLean, Newsletter Editor; Jill Hawkins, Member At Large & Webmaster; Bryce Wolf, Librarian

Members and Guests: Rosalie Bares, Carmen Bartholomew, Rita Bartholomew, Wini Blacklow, Eileen Collins, Maria-Anne D'Hooghe, Kathy Draves, Jayne Guitart, Judy Jeon-Chapman, Sheila Jillson, Linda Lane, Mary Mangan, Kara Quinteros, Sharon Sacco, Winann Steinmetz, Devon Thein, Lorraine Weiss

The meeting was held virtually via Zoom and was called to order by President Carolyn Wetzel at 11:02 a.m.

Carolyn requested for someone to take the minutes. Jill Hawkins volunteered. Carolyn also informed everyone that for ease of taking the minutes, the meeting would be recorded.

Introductions were then made by all present. During the introductions it was mentioned that having future meetings via Zoom or some other virtual platform would be very beneficial for those who are unable to be physically present at meetings.

Approval of minutes: Carolyn asked everyone to review the minutes from the February 25, 2020 meeting. Minor corrections were made and Bryce Wolf moved to accept the minutes as corrected; the motion was seconded by Barbara Morrow and passed unanimously.

Elections: Carolyn asked the Nominating Committee representative (Sharon Sacco) to present the candidates for election this year. Candidates were Kate Moore for Vice President and Barbara Morrow for Treasurer/Membership. Both officers are currently serving in those positions and have agreed to serve another 2-year term.

Carolyn asked for a motion to accept the slate of officers as presented. Lorraine Weiss proposed the motion, which was seconded by Kathy Draves and passed unanimously. Absentee ballots were counted and everyone who had not already voted was asked to vote for the slate of officers; there was one abstention and all others voted in favor. The newly elected officers were duly congratulated.

Officer reports

Programs (assuming we can meet in person) – Kate Moore:

September: Lace-in and tag sale. Proceeds either to individual or donated to NELG.

October: Field trip to Berkshire Historical Society Museum in Pittsfield, MA. It was agreed that NELG should subsidize by \$10 for members.

November: Diagonal half-stitch with Sharon Sacco.

December: Holiday party with gift exchange. Item could be purchased or handmade.

Retreat – Jill Hawkins: Retreat house is still closed. The initial payment of \$2,500 made for 2020 will be transferred to 2021. Teachers will be Susie Johnson,

Holly Van Sciver and Jill Hawkins. Holly will be our vendor.

Since Allie Marguccio was unable to come this year, we might consider asking Allie if she is interested in doing a workshop for us at some point. Jill will reach out to her.

Scholarship – Barbara Morrow: No scholarships awarded this year due to the fact that retreat was cancelled.

Treasurer – Barbara Morrow: We have \$4,292.44 in our checking account. It was noted that the \$2,500 that has already been paid to Rolling Ridge for deposit for retreat is an expense we will not have in 2021.

Barbara noted that we have paid \$500 to AffiniPay for online payments and suggested that we have a separate line item on the budget for this item. This year we had to pay the fees twice due to refunding payments for retreat cancellations.

The budget for 2020-2021 will be reviewed at the September meeting.

Newsletter – Gail MacLean: Gail reported that one third of the newsletters are sent hard copy through the mail, resulting in an expense of \$450 for the year for copies and postage.

Gail acknowledged that content is always forthcoming from the members; this is much appreciated.

Website / Facebook – Jill Hawkins: Jill extended a thank you to Sharon Sacco for being back-up for website maintenance, with little training.

Webpage and FaceBook updates are done on a regular basis.

Jill would like to revamp the look of the website, but this will need to be planned and coordinated as it is a big project.

Library – Bryce Wolf: There has been minimal activity over the last few months, although there are a few books that have been out on loan for a while. Members are asked to check their bookshelves and return any books they no longer need.

DVDs are often returned damaged; please report this when you return the DVD.

Suggestions for new acquisitions are always welcome.

Member at Large – Jill Hawkins:

Demonstrating during Covid-19: Jill presented a draft of a policy statement regarding demonstrating during Covid-19 for review and discussion:

In the unlikely circumstance that opportunities for lace making demonstrations will continue to be available during COVID-19, NELG will list these events on the website calendar and in the newsletter.

NELG will not actively promote these events to the membership or the public.

NELG will notify the event organizer that we will not be promoting participation.

If an individual decides they would like to attend an event and demonstrate in public, they should contact the event organizer to make arrangements.

Anyone who chooses to demonstrate in public does so at their own risk and NELG assumes no responsibility for their health and safety.

There will be a sentence added that the guidelines will remain in effect until further notice.

The statement will be added to the website on the Governance page, emailed to members and included in the next newsletter.

Big E participation: As of now, the Big E is still taking place.

Jill will reach out to the organizers of Creative Arts to see if they have plans to ensure the safety of all attendees.

Proposed Inclusion and Equity Statement: Carolyn shared the draft of an Inclusion and Equity statement for NELG to add to the homepage of the website:

“NELG is committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all people interested in joining our guild and for our guests, visitors, students, teachers, and vendors.”

After a brief discussion, Bryce Wolf moved that we should accept the statement as written. This was seconded by Kate Moore and the motion passed unanimously.

Working group for expanding social media presence and on general recruitment of new members: We had a lengthy discussion regarding these issues and agreed that it is something where we should probably pool resources with other guilds, since we are all facing the same situation.

We discussed the merits of setting up an Instagram account for NELG. Posts to Instagram could be shared automatically with the Facebook page, and there is also an option to schedule in advance when posts would be added to the account. We agreed to start with NELG and then maybe explore linking with IOLI or other groups.

There was protracted discussion on how to support beginner lace makers. While most people are willing to offer assistance to beginners, there are few dedicated teachers and locations for classes are difficult to find at a reasonable price. There is also a major issue on where beginners could go for help after they have learned the basics.

Carolyn encouraged us to continue to think about how to make lace making more accessible to more people. If anyone has ideas please share these with Carolyn.

Announcements:

- Barbara Fay Verlag (a long-time German publisher of lace books) closed at the end of 2019, but has now been taken over by Brugse Boekhandel (<https://www.brugseboekhandel.be/>). Jill to send info to Gail for the newsletter.
- Carolyn shared information regarding the upcoming virtual IOLI convention – “UnCon 2020.” The convention will include a competition, virtual sales room, Annual General Meeting, Friday banquet, virtual teachers’ showcase and speakers (Pierre Fouché, Máire Treanor and Elena Kanagy-Loux). They are not sure yet what platform they will be using.

Adjournment: Bryce Wolf moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Lorraine Weiss and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Jill Hawkins
NELG Member at Large

September 19, 2020

Executive Board Attendance:

Carolyn Wetzel, President; Kate Moore, Vice President; Barbara Morrow, Treasurer/Membership; Gail MacLean, Newsletter Editor; Bryce Wolf, Librarian

Members and Guests: Carmen Bartholomew, Rita Bartholomew, Laura Bensley, Marjorie Dashef, Linda Dumas, Kathy Draves, Sally Duscha, Evelyn Gant, Judith Goodwin-Lennem, Judy Jeon-Chapman, Mary Mangan, Sharon Sacco, Winann Steinmetz

The meeting was held virtually via Zoom and was called to order by President Carolyn Wetzel shortly after 11 a.m.

Carolyn requested someone to take the minutes—Gail MacLean volunteered. Carolyn also asked for approval that the meeting be recorded for ease of preparing minutes—everyone agreed.

Carolyn did a quick review of the agenda and then all attendees introduced themselves, as did others who joined the meeting later. Carolyn reminded the members that next June the positions of President and Member at Large will be up for election, urging anyone interested to consider running.

Approval of minutes: Carolyn asked everyone to review the minutes from the June 20, 2020 meeting. After minor corrections were made, Bryce Wolf moved to accept the minutes as amended; the motion was seconded by Barbara Morrow and passed unanimously.

Officer and Committee reports

Programs – Kate Moore:

October: Presentation by Kate Moore about Elizabeth Isham,

an English lace maker from the 17th century

November: Diagonal half-stitch with Sharon Sacco

December: Holiday party with gift exchange. To manage the gift exchange in our current environment, Kate will send out an email asking everyone who wants to participate to submit their names to her by October 31. Kate will send each person the name of their gift recipient within 2 weeks. The gift (a piece of made or collected lace) should fit into a regular envelope and be mailed so that the recipient gets it before the December 19 meeting. Donor and recipient should take a picture to submit to the website and newsletter. Attendees of the December (and maybe January) meeting can display their gifts then.

January: Lace-in

[Carolyn noted that NELG now has its own Zoom account. It is paid for out of our Program budget, since we're not having any paid programs. It can be used by any of our regional groups, as well as for the monthly business meeting, as long as the meeting times don't conflict. Contact her for instructions.]

Retreat – Winnan Steinmetz: The retreat house is still closed. The initial payment of \$2,500 made for 2020 has been transferred to 2021 when our teachers will be Susie Johnson, Holly Van Sciver and Jill Hawkins. Holly will be our vendor.

The guest teacher for 2022 is Louise Colgan. Since Allie Marguccio was unable to come this year, we should consider her for 2023.

Scholarship – Barbara Morrow: No report. Barbara had to leave the meeting for a while due to technical difficulties.

Treasurer – Barbara Morrow: No report. Barbara had to leave the meeting for a while due to technical difficulties.

Newsletter – Gail MacLean: Gail expressed her appreciation for all member submissions.

Website / Facebook – Sharon Sacco: The Virtual Creative Arts Exhibit has been added to the website; there are 22 entries. All are anonymous so that the items are still eligible to be entered in the Creative Arts competition at the Big E next year.

Library – Bryce Wolf: Bryce has ordered a new book from Anna Provencher's website, a 2018 publication from OI DFA with a wide variety of lace heart patterns. She recommends this website as an alternative to Holly's because there is a different selection of books.

Bryce encourages people to use the library during this time of quarantine. It is easily accessible on our website. Feel free to contact her with any questions.

Also, please plan to return those items that have been out on loan for a long time. If you want to be reminded of what you have borrowed, just send Bryce an email.

Announcements

- Upcoming IOLI Virtual events include Dagmar Beckel-Machyckova on October 18 speaking on Lace Beyond the Pattern, Fiona Harrington on October 31 speaking about the Headford Lace Project in Ireland, and a presentation on St Catherine's Day history and lore in November at a time to be announced. These live events are available to all IOLI members. You will need to register; an email will be sent to

- all members to register. Recordings of some past events may be available to anyone accessing the IOLI website Member's Only area.
- Doily Free Zone's Lace Camp 2021 in June has been moved online. Access to the events is available for a reasonable fee. Selection of classes and teachers is outstanding.
 - Please complete and return the IOLI survey about the 2021 convention.
 - Allie Marguccio is interested in coming to give us a workshop in 2021. If anyone is interested in arranging this event, please contact Jill Hawkins or Carolyn or Kate Moore.
 - Ronald McDonald Trees of Hope fundraiser—members are encouraged to send Jill strips of lace that are 8 inches long and a half-inch wide in white thread. Other color accents are acceptable in the gimp. See details on the website, in the August newsletter *or on page 6*.
 - The NELG Instagram account has been set up and linked with our Facebook page. Nothing has been posted there yet.
 - Judy Jeon-Chapman is looking for someone to take on the last 5 types of lace for her Miracle of Thread project: Renaissance Spanish Lace, Point d'Alençon, Spanish Blonde Lace, Point d'Angleterre, and Chantilly. Kate Moore is interested in Renaissance Spanish Lace; Jim Martin has made Chantilly and might be a resource.
 - Denise Kinsley gave Judy an assortment of tatting supplies for anyone in NELG who could use them—thread, books, and shuttles and other items. They will be available at our next silent auction.
 - There is a new feature on the website—a map that shows the location of all members.
- Adjournment:** Kate Moore moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.
- Respectfully submitted,
Gail MacLean
NELG Newsletter Editor

Work of our Members: Vi Eastman

During the pandemic I have not wanted to do normal lace projects, but these are the latest special projects I managed to finish. The crucifix was trickier than expected, and probably isn't exactly correct, but by doing it my hands were getting lace therapy. The owl, crucifix, earrings and bracelet patterns were designed by Irma Pervanjanja and the patterns are available here: <https://lacepatterns.eu/en/>.



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:** 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.

Laura Angel

Instructions for Your First-Ever Tatted Angel

By Anita Barry © February 2020

Laura Angel :

Techniques: Double Stitches, Half Stitches, Self-Closing Mock Rings (SCMR), Picot, Folded Self-Closing Mock Rings (FSCMR), Shoe Lace Trick (SLT).

Note: SLT is a simple over-hand knot. (Like when you start to tie your shoe.)

Supplies: Size 10 thread: 1 ¼ yard
Wind ¾ yard thread onto shuttle. Do not cut from ball.

. – Close Ring
- Picot
SCMR – Self-Closing Mock Ring
FSCMR - Folded Self-Closing Mock Ring
SLT - Shoe Lace Trick
d – first-half of stitch
s – second-half of stitch

Let's Tat!

Inner Ring of Dress:

SCMR1: 20. SLT.

Outer Ring of Dress:

SCMR2: 34. SLT. Position around Inner Ring.

Left Wing:

FSCMR3: 12 *2d* 8 *2s*. SLT. Using fingers fold wing.

Head:

SCMR4: 5 – (picot is the halo) 5. SLT.

Right Wing:

FSCMR5: *2d* 8 *2s* 12. SLT. Using fingers fold wing.

Tie threads around waist and secure with a knot.

Leave 6-inch tail for hanging angel. Cut threads. Knot threads near ends.



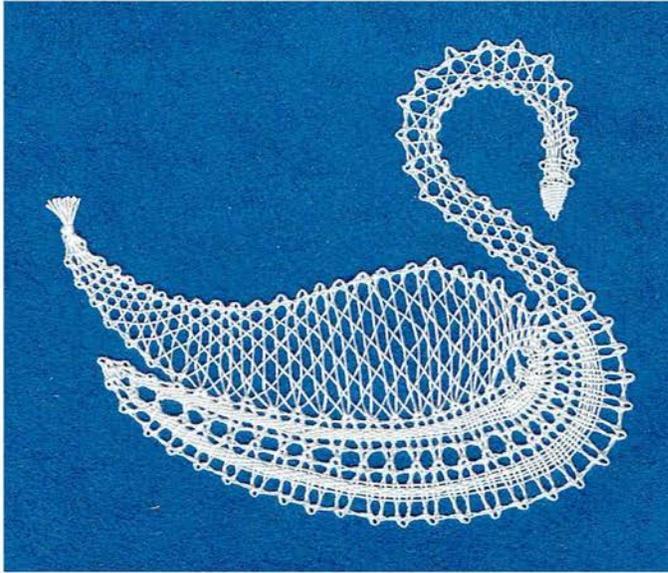
Tatted by Muskaan with graduated picots on skirt. Threads ends are tied in a bow at the waist.

In Memory: We lost Laura to cancer in 2017 at 54 years old. This project was created when her daughter, Lucy, asked how to tat.

A Swan

Designed by Karen H Thompson

© 1999, 2020



Supplies needed:
 Lace pillow, at least 12" diameter
 6 pairs of bobbins
 DMC 80 or any thread with approximately 30 wraps/cm
 Crochet hook or other device for making sewings
 Pins
 covercloths
 scissors

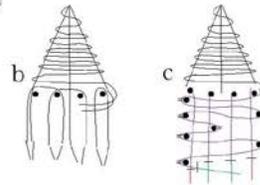
- pin
- × CT, half stitch
- × CTC, linen stitch
- × CTCT, whole stitch
- twist, one per line

a. Beak: Hang on 2 pairs. Make a triangular leaf.

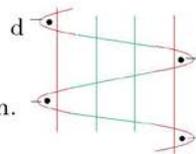
Note: On the a, b, and c diagrams, the black lines show single threads, not pairs.



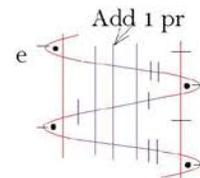
b & c. Head and eye: Add 3 pairs at the end of the beak. Note how they are hung to create new pairs. CTC in this section. Make a short row for the eye. Add a bead if desired. Twist all pairs before starting the neck at the arrow "d".



d. Neck: start at the arrow: CTCT, CT, CT, CTCTT pin.



e. Lower body: Add 1 pair in the center. From the inside of the tape: CTCT, CTC, CTC, CTC, twist, twist, CTCT, twist, pin.

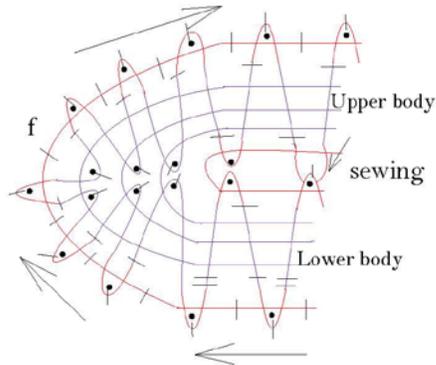


A Swan

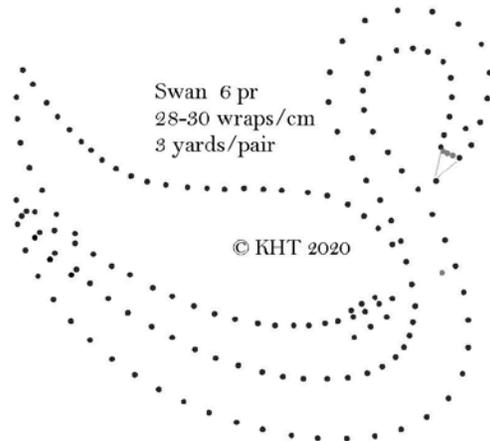
Designed by Karen H Thompson

© 1999, 2020

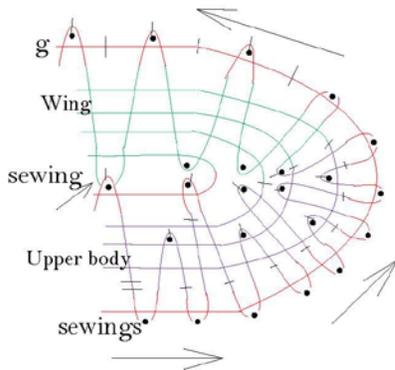
page 2 of 2



f. Tail: Leave off 1 pair at each of the last 4 pins. Include them again after turning. Start sewing in at each pin



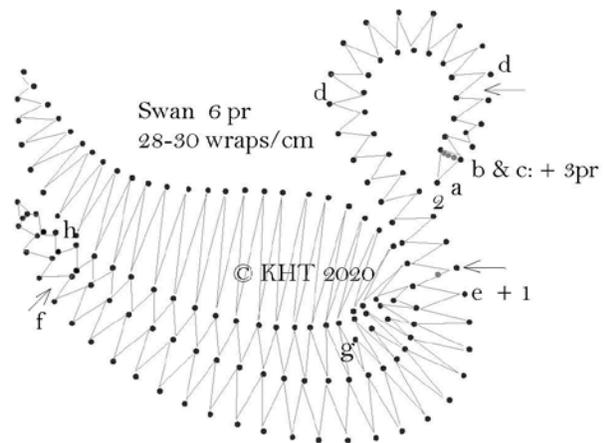
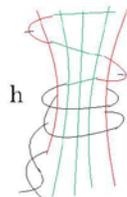
© Karen H. Thompson, 1999, 2020 from "Have Pillow - Will Travel"



g. Upper body. Make short rows through 2-3 pairs where indicated. Sew into lower body. Leave off 1 pair at each of the last 3 pins before turning.

Wing: CT, CT, CT, CT, CTCTT pin. Sew into upper body.

h. Tip of the wing: CTCT, CT, CT, CT, CTCTT. End with half hitches around all the threads. Knot with 2 threads and cut off for a short tassel.



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Enjoy!