

Chesapeake Region Lace Guild

Where lacemaking lives on



Lace heart designed by Karen H Thompson and made by Linda Kay Benning for the "Just Beyond the Basics" virtual class through The Lace Museum.

A message from the president

Dear CRLG Members and Lace Aficionados,

Happy Valentine's Day!

A huge *Thank You!* to Sheryl De Jong for the special presentation on "First Ladies Gowns in the Smithsonian Collection" enjoyed by over 55 CRLG members and guests on January 9, 2021. We learned so much about these historic dresses. Discussions are underway to put together another virtual presentation for our members. Kathy Woodall will tell us about her experience turning nettles into lace. Details coming soon.

In case you haven't visited the CRLG website recently, please do so now as it has been redone. One of the new features is the ability to pay membership dues and class registrations on line using Pay Pal. If you have pictures, announcements, etcetera, to be considered for posting, either on the website or Facebook, please email them to CRLGBoard@gmail.com. Edits are welcome too. My thanks to Belinda Coulter for the many hours spent getting CRLG.org up to date. It wasn't easy but we are very pleased with the results and greatly appreciate her efforts.

Save Saturday, April 24, 2021 for our Spring Lace Day. Allie Marguccio will give a lecture, via zoom, entitled "Idrija Lace: A Family Tradition - Continued in the US". We are also creating an exhibition of lace LOVE signs in downtown Fairfax. See the article below to learn how you can participate.

-Linda Kay Benning
CRLG President

VIRGINIA IS FOR LOVERS®

By Anita Barry

“Virginia is for Lovers!”

That’s been an iconic slogan for 52 years. It’s one of the top ten tourism marketing campaigns of all times. The slogan has meant many things to different people. Take for instance mountain lovers, beach lovers, and national park lovers. So many people have fallen in love with Virginia in one way or another.

When traveling through Virginia, visitors can see life-sized LOVE artwork signs on display in public and private areas. The LOVE artwork signs are created to promote travel and tourism as an extension of the iconic "Virginia is for Lovers" brand. The giant LOVE lettered signs, called LOVEworks, can be seen in towns and cities all across the Commonwealth. Each LOVE sign installation reflects the community in which it stands. Here's an example of the LOVE sign my husband and I had fun building and assembling on our farm:



Following in the footsteps of Virginia’s LOVEworks program, I thought of encouraging lace makers in Virginia and other areas to create their own signs of their LOVE for making lace. Promote your lacemaking!

Take a look at Virginia lacer's LOVE signs created independently with their lace, tools and supplies.

*Piedmont Lace Guild of Virginia
Fall 2020*



Gitte Tessier

Design and photo by Birgitte Tessier

*Piedmont Lace Guild of Virginia
Fall 2020*



Margaret Campbell

Design and photo by Margaret Campbell

Piedmont Lace Guild of Virginia
Fall 2020



Stephanie Langley

Design and photo by Stephanie Langley

Piedmont Lace Guild of Virginia
Fall 2020



Nancy Razzino

Design and photo by Nancy Razzino

Enthusiastic lacers who create and then display the *LacingLOVE* photographs are helping to promote awareness of hand-made lace. Lace is known as a national treasure in some countries, but not yet here in America. So these Virginia lace makers are creatively spreading the joy of lacing around the Commonwealth and beyond.

Join the *LacingLOVE* journey in your area:

1.) Think of your own way to create the word "LOVE" using lacemaking tools, supplies or lace motifs or snip-its. Be fun. Get creative.

2.) Arrange the lace-making tools, supplies and/or lace to spell out the word "LOVE". This is the *LacingLOVE* sign.

3.) Photograph your creative *LacingLOVE* sign.

4.) Share your *LacingLOVE* photograph with your lace group, your lace guild and your friends to promote your love of lace in your neighborhoods and communities.

Lace groups or guild are encouraged to post the *LacingLOVE* signs on their web or social media sites. Spread your LOVE of lacemaking! And have fun!

CALL FOR ENTRIES

The Chesapeake Region Lace Guild's **Spring Lace Day** will include an exhibition of *LacingLOVE* signs made out of lace makers tools, equipment, materials, and, of course, lace. As part of the **Fairfax Spotlight on the Arts**, these signs will be displayed in shop windows in Fairfax City during the festival from April 23rd - May 9th. We will be accepting the actual signs and photos of the signs for display. Please click the link below to email a LOVE sign to CRLG. Please let us know if we may include it in the Lace Day actual display or just the virtual display. A CRLG board member will be in touch about pick up and return of exhibits.

[I want to share my LOVE sign!](#)

Mount Vernon Lace Conservation Project



According to family tradition, this lace cuff was worn by Martha Custis when she married George Washington. The group is trying to raise \$1,000 for conservation treatment to clean, stabilize small tears, and remove modern net. Photo by Bev Wolov.

The textile collections space at George Washington's Mount Vernon has been totally transformed this year. Lace (finally) has a cabinet all to itself. While there will be a formal fundraising campaign in the future, those of us with ties to Mount Vernon and particularly

to its lace, have started a soft launch of fund raising. Money is much needed for conservation and appropriate storage mounts.

Please consider making a donation. Checks can be made out to: Mount Vernon Ladies Association. In the note line, please write the following fund number: 171-410-0000-7660-3. If there's room, please add: "Lace Conservation Project."

The envelope should be addressed to:
Carolina Camargo
Senior Director of Development
George Washington's Mount Vernon
P.O. Box 110
Mount Vernon, Virginia 22121

Cherishing the Chesapeake: Lace of the Bay



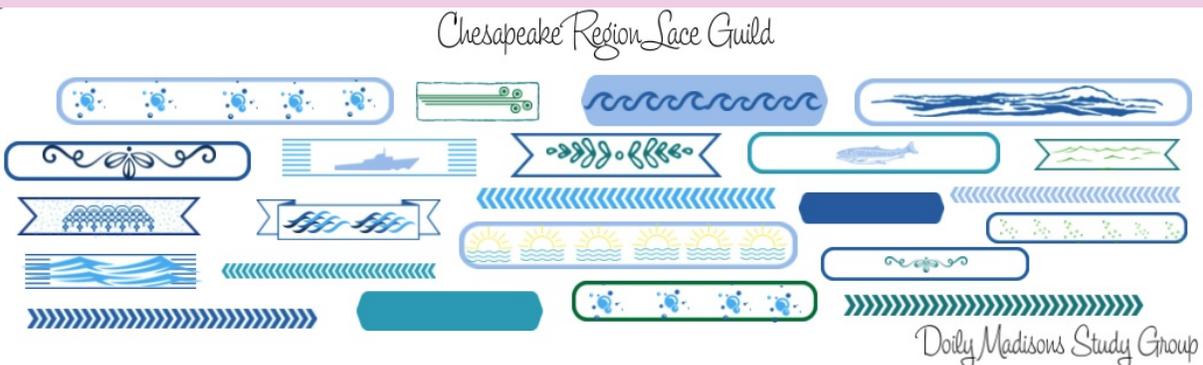
Make some lace for this project! Thanks to Karen H Thompson for the example above that she created for inspiration. It's her own design worked with variegated acrylic thread.

The Guidelines:

- Any type of lace is acceptable including bobbin lace, needle lace, crochet, knitting, tatting, or any other type of hand made lace, as long as it is made with fine thread (since it will be attached to organza).
- Each piece of hand-made lace should be 1.5 to 2 inches wide.
- Each piece should be between 12 and 24 inches long.
- Each lace strip will be mounted horizontally on organza banners.
- Scallops, fans, or decorative edging is acceptable on what will become the top edge.
- The bottom of each piece should be a straight sewing edge.
- Each lace strip should be primarily blues and greens representing the water, although additional colors of the Bay may be included.
- Embellishments such as seed beads or tiny pearls are acceptable.
- Each piece collected should be catalogued by the Study Group contact with the date received, the lace maker's name and the name of the pattern and its designer, so all artists may be credited appropriately.

If you have any questions please contact Mary Tod at marytod@me.com.

We heard some folks were having a hard time imagining what these banners might look like. Karen made a rough illustration, below, as an example. Hope this helps.



Jan McKee is working on her Chesapeake Lace piece. The pattern is *Edging* -- 31

Study Group Contacts:

Colonial Lacemakers - Williamsburg, VA
Contact: Mary Drew

Doily Madisons - Washington, DC
Contact: Tamara Webb

Log Cabin Lacers - Baltimore and Ellicott City, MD
Contact: Peggy Spencer

Loveman's Lacers - Howard County, MD
Contact: Sandy Shaffer

Montgomery Moonlight Lacers -
Montgomery County, MD

from Robin Lewis-Wild's
"101 Torchon Patterns"

Contact: Yoko Barr

Queen Anne's Lace - Fairfax, VA
Contact: Sherri Bertrand

MONTGOMERY MOONLIGHT LACERS STUDY GROUP



The *Montgomery Moonlight Lacers* meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm. The February meeting was well attended and lots of fun!

In photo, (top to bottom, left to right)

TOP: Janet McKee (*CRLG Vice President*), Karen Witt (*CRLG Secretary*), Yoko Barr (*Study Group Leader*), Angelia Slifer

MIDDLE: Barbara Ellis, Anita Okrend, Leonie McNeill (joining from Australia!), Kerry Gruber

BOTTOM: KK Nagashima (*CRLG Treasurer*), Patti Abate, Jude Lamp, Simmy Kalra



Renew online!

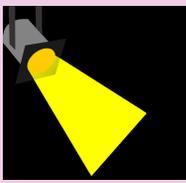
Now you can join the lace guild, or renew your membership, on our updated webpage: CRLG.org

If you have any questions please reach out to our membership director, Wendy Carballo, at wendy@tattooingwendy.com.

[Click Here for Membership Form](#)

**PLEASE RENEW YOUR
CRLG MEMBERSHIP FOR 2021**

CRLG Members Share the Love of Lace



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Nancy Razzino

Alexandria, Virginia

When did you first learn to make lace and who taught you?

As a young girl, I first learned lacemaking from my grandma who taught me how to crochet and knit. In 1985 I took a Hardanger class at a local needlework shop. Over the years I have stitched and designed many pieces of Hardanger. Eventually my knitting turned to lace knitting and I have made several lace shawls.

In 2000, while attending a Creative Arts and Textiles Show, I discovered bobbin lace. My first thought was look at all the beautiful bobbins that I can collect (see photo of some of my favorite bobbins).



The following October at this same show, I took a class from Susan Wenzel. I found out that Susan taught classes in her home which turned out to be only 20 miles from me. In January 2002 I started taking classes from Susan in Virginia. (The photo of framed square piece is a project from one of her classes) There is still a group of seven of us who get together once a month to work on our lace and visit. Of course, during Covid these are Zoom visits.

Do you belong to any other lace organizations?

Besides being a member of the International Organization of Lace, Inc., (IOLI) where I currently serve as treasurer, I am a member of Chesapeake Region

Lace Guild (CRLG), North Carolina Regional Lacers (NCRL), Pittsburgh Lace Group (PLG) and Piedmont Lace Guild of Virginia. I try to attend the annual lace days at CRLG and NCRL. I have taken a number of classes with the PLG.



Have you attended any lace conferences or conventions?

I attended my first IOLI convention in Washington, DC in 2011. That was my first time taking a class from another instructor. The class I took was Judy Weiss' *Bruges Bloomwork*. Conventions are a great place to meet others who share your passion for lace, to take classes, explore the different types of lace and see other parts of the country. I have taken classes in Milanese, Tonder, Binche, wire lace and Orenburg knitting at conventions. (see photo of Milanese pieces)

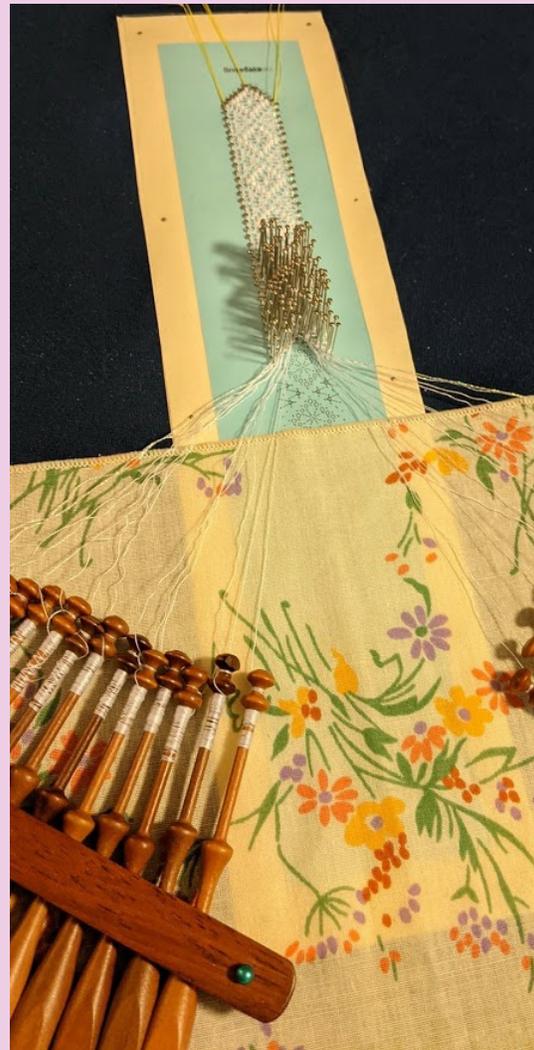
What are you working on now?

I have been helping Susan with a new book she is in the process of publishing. I offered to assist with editing and testing some of the pieces. The piece I am currently working on is one of the ornaments from this book, *A Lacy Christmas*. (photo of lace on the pillow)

What is your current lace dream?

My daughter and I visited Kantcentrum in Bruges, Belgium, several years ago. In 2022, I am looking forward to going to Burano, Italy, where I hope to see some lace being made. While I am still able to travel my goal is to visit some other countries where lace is made and exhibited in museums.

The crocheting, lace knitting, Hardanger and bobbin lace have greatly enriched my life from the joy I get making things and sharing them with all the wonderful friends it has brought into my life.





International Organization of Lace, Inc.

IOLI is hosting a members-only webinar on February 21st entitled "Empress Maria Theresa's Lace Dress: A Historical Puzzle". Click the link below to learn more.

[IOLI Lecture Info](#)

Doily Madison Study Group Zoom

The Doily Madisons, normally based in Alexandria, Virginia, met via zoom on January 2nd to kick off the new year right! Members shared what they did over the holidays and heard from Anita Barry about the Lace Lovers special project in Virginia. Meeting via zoom allows everyone to participate - even those members who have trouble traveling or who live out of the area can join in and stay connected while staying safe at home.

Study Groups may contact Karen Witt, CRLG Secretary, at CRLGboard@gmail.com, to schedule zoom meetings. The CRLG's account can host up to 100 participants.



Pictured above (TOP, L to R) Linda Kay Benning (CRLG President), Karen Witt (CRLG Secretary), Cindy Comeyne; (MIDDLE, L to R) Tamara Webb, Karen H Thompson (CRLG Volunteer Hours Coordinator), Janice Clark; (BOTTOM) Anita Barry

Please contact Karen Witt directly at CRLGboard@gmail.com to arrange zoom meetings.



IOLI Gift Patterns

Click the links below for patterns from the IOLI Charter Chapter Gift CD 2020, part of a gift to the chapters from the IOLI Un-Conference. We are free to use them but may not sell them and should credit the contributors.

[Stitch Play Bookmark by Susan McKinnel](#)

[Bonds of Love tatted bracelet by muskann.](#)

Volunteer Hours

Please email volunteer hours to
Karen H Thompson at
karenhthompson@gmail.com

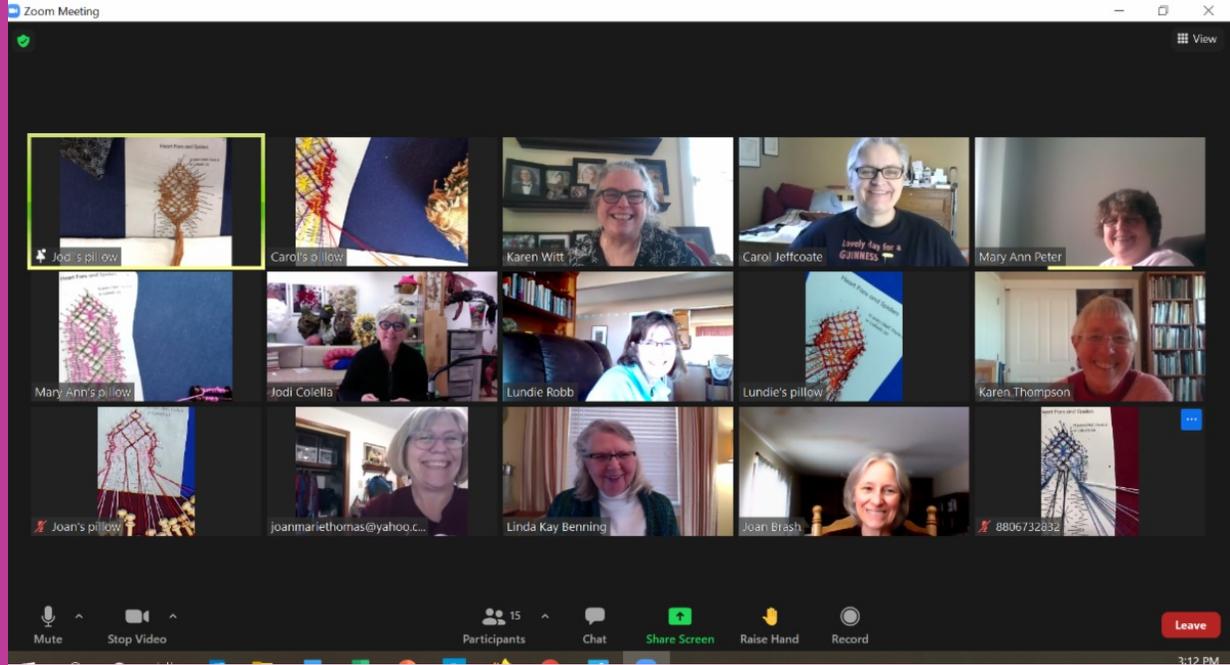
Save the Date!

Saturday
April 24, 2021

Chesapeake Region
Lace Guild
Spring Lace Day

Just Beyond the Basics Virtual Lace Class

Six lace students enjoyed an online class in February with Karen H Thompson, CRLG member and lace teacher. "Just Beyond the Basics" is a class for novice lace makers, through The Lace Museum, to learn spiders, fans, turning, and sewing in. Since the class is virtual students could join from anywhere, and they did!



Teacher: Karen H Thompson, Bethany Beach, DE. Assistant: Linda Kay Benning, Arlington, VA. Students: Karen Witt, Alexandria, VA; Carol Jeffcoate, Long Beach, CA; Mary Ann Peter, Omaha, NE; Jodi Colella, Somerville, MA; Lundie Robb, Maui, HI; Joan Marie Thomas, Springdale, AR. Moderator from The Lace Museum: Joan Brash, Buffalo, New York.

WE WELCOME YOUR INPUT!

*Please send photos and articles to post on Facebook
or to include in the newsletter to Karen Witt at CRLGboard@gmail.com*

