

What's Happening in Our Lace World : Lace in Bruges and France

Traveling and finding Places of Lace!

by Christ Burr

Got the word that my mother was not doing so well so my husband and I quickly decided to go to Germany beginning of August for three weeks. Luckily she was doing better so we decided on a little side-trip in the middle. James' grandfather had been killed in World War I in France before his daughter (James' mother) was born. We wanted to find his name on a Memorial there.



Looking through hundreds of great photos and thinking of all the wonderful things we have seen and done and eaten etc I have to decide what to report. Well, lace ... First stop: Bruges, Belgium. A charming town which we viewed from the medieval Belfry (366 steps). We crisscrossed it by foot admiring many historical buildings inside and out, enjoyed the canal walking next to it or with a boat. Many of the shops had lace for sale, mostly made in China or the like and a lot by machine. But we did find gorgeous lace in the "Museum of Folklore" right next to the 't Apostelientje lace shop, where I bought some commemorative bobbins. And around the corner is the Lace Museum and the Lace School. That



m u s e u m displays a lace picture of the school building ... and lots of other inspiring things. In the courtyard is a wooden statue of a lacemaker ... but that one is too modern for me.



After lots of lace, most delicious dishes like mussels in curry and Belgian waffles, Michelangelo's Madonna (his only piece outside of Italy), stumbling

into an organ concert in a beautiful old church and two nights in the hotel we move on.

We brought our GPS and she leads us along little country roads to grandfather's memorial which is very moving. We find a hotel in Caen. From here we do day-outings. First outing to Mount Saint Michael in the morning which probably is on the "1000 places to see before I die" list. In the afternoon golf on a links course on the Normandy coast. No real lace! Next day to Bayeux. The Bayeux Tapestry is just incredible, a thousand years old, it has endured several catastrophes and, considering that it is natural hand-dyed fiber, is in a remarkable shape. It's a band of cloth 224 feet long embroidered to tell the story of the Norman conquest of England. Of course we were not allowed to take photos, so I encourage you to look it up in Wikipedia. I was allowed to take those photos on the



left in the museum though. The pillow with lace in progress. Impressive?

After seeing the tapestry we explored the town with its old houses, interesting streets, huge church and quaint cafes. Normandy is famous for their apples: Tarte Tatin, Pommeau and Calvados. We had the first just

Lace in Bruges and France continued



outside the church. And around the corner opposite the church's front door was a lace shop ... but it was closed (and not just for lunch). Few steps further the Conservatoire de la Dentelle de Bayeux. It too was closed (for lunch, that's why we had to have the Tarte Tatin) but then it opened. I was only allowed to take a panoramic picture but believe me, there was some incredible lace, traditional and modern, bobbin lace and needle lace. I 'had to' buy a pattern: Dentelle de Bayeux "Desiree" no. 12. It is laying now next to my place in the living

room and I keep looking at it, drooling over it trying to figure out how one would work it. Help!

The next morning the weather was ugly and it rained but we still wanted to see the Chateau de Caen. It was mostly a ruin on very nice grounds but interesting nevertheless. Several buildings were still intact but look what we found in the little museum. A pillow with so many bobbins is something which is always admired. The dress (which was so difficult to photograph) was a Robe de mariee et



son etole" (wedding dress and stole) Blonde de Caen lace about 1830.



Our last visit in Caen was to the Abbey where we saw a bride and groom being photographed in the cloisters. In the church the altar guild ladies were preparing for the wedding. Since I spied lace on the altar I craned my neck and finally asked (with hands and feet



gesturing) whether I could take a picture of the lace. She answered (gesturing) that it was not worth the bother because it was no good lace but I was allowed closer ... and she was right, ha-ha. Another two nights in a Chateau which had been turned into a Golfer-Heaven and then back to mom.

We had a lovely time visiting these places. It was very easy to get around with the rented car and a GPS and find hotels. The country side was so interesting as were the towns. So much to see, to do, to taste, to experience and ... take photos of, of which I have many! But this is supposed to be a lace report and not much fits on two pages. All I can say is: It takes a very patient husband to look at so much lace in such a short time!

DEMONSTRATE WELL, DEMONSTRATE OFTEN: Words to live by in October



Pam Crouch (pictured) and **Sara Lewis Meyer** presented lace to a large membership of Lone Oak Women's Club, Nov 7



Pam and Sara set up into the Thursday night before Ft. Massac Demo

AT THE FORT MASSAC ENCAMPMENT October 15-17



Pam Crouch (Left) teaching the "Colonials" about REAL lace



Pam, Doris Weaver and Sara Lewis Meyer at their pillows



Pam engineered awning for us to stay cool in the shade



Reenactors on parade, nary a piece of handmade lace!



Women work



Men play soldier

DEMONSTRATION at CAPE GENEVIEVE, MO on October 16



Debbie Todhunter at her loom



Doris Weaver laced in two states in two days!



Lise Thomsen demonstrating inside during the exhibit

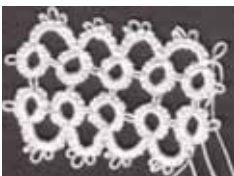


Sandra Benne tating outside the exhibit building

PLEASE NOTE the HLG Exhibit is the 4TH weekend of APRIL 2011!!!!!! **'Christmas - Lacemaker Style' and TATTED ANIMALS**

It's never too early to start working on your lace to add to the member display in April! The general lace theme is Christmas and the tating exhibit theme is "Animals." Please consider DONATING your Christmas ornament to the Permanent Collection. Most of the Collection is white lace, but all lace is welcome. Details will be in the February Pillowtalk. Any questions, contact **Pam Crouch**.

TATTED GARLAND DONATION



Thanks to **Pam Crouch** who donated 19 inches of tatted garland. Make a section to add to the garland for use at the Lace Show in 2011. Pattern was in the August 2010 Pillowtalk.

Pattern sample

Send donated sections by 4/1/ 2011 to: **Tammy Turner**, 3409 Central Ave. Paducah KY 42001

At the Meetings



Sept: **Birdie Anderson**- a new knit project wearing her latest completed scarf



Sept: **Doris Weaver & Jeanne Wills** lacing is fun!



Sept: **Lise Thomsen**



Oct: **Pam Crouch**, making lace in spite of foot cast



Oct: **Kim Roussin** lacing her jeweled heart



Nov: **Claudia Hoff** in her lace collar

CARBONDALE TATTERS present nine foot tatted garland to the Heartland Lace Guild in November!



Carbondale Tatters' Tatted Garland was beautifully presented in the tall French canning jar. **Birdie Anderson** designed the pattern.

Three HLG members, **Leigh Tiebout, Birdie Anderson and Doris Weaver**, happily presented the garland as a surprise gift to the Permanent Collection. The making of the lovely tating was kept a secret until the the unveiling at the November meeting.



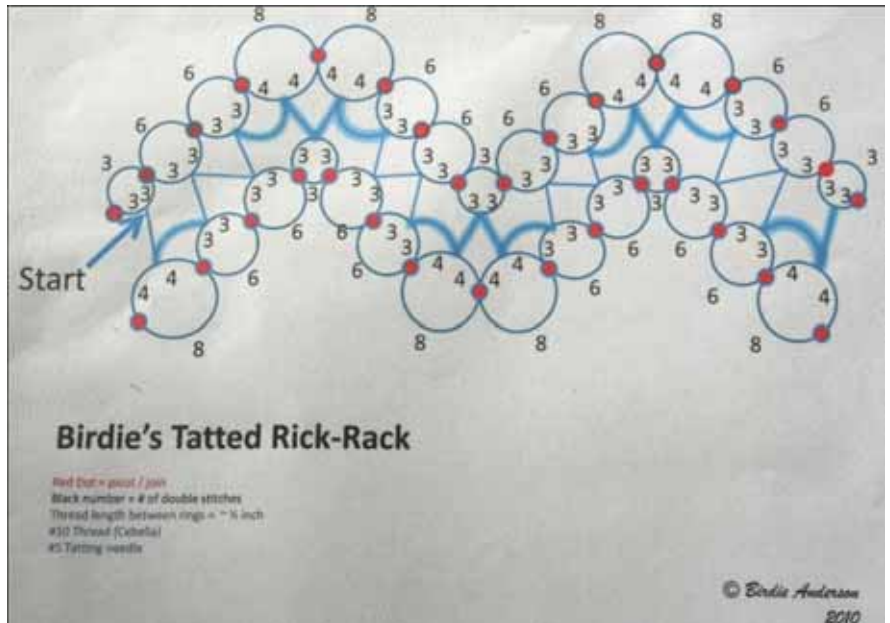
Original pattern for the garland donated to the Permanent Collection

Tatted Rick-Rack by Birdie Anderson

#10 Cebelia cotton thread
#5 tatting needle

Red: picot/join

Black number is # of double stitches
Thread length between rings: 1/2 inch
©Birdie Anderson 2010



Full instructions for a needle technique invented by **Birdie** to connect sections of tatting will be in the February Pillowtalk.

As a courtesy to the designers, please do not copy or reprint the original patterns in this newsletter.

Evansville Members Tat and Bobbin Lace throughout the Fall



Evansville River City Tatting Club members demonstrate at the Colonel William Jones House near Gentry, Indiana. Colonel Jones owned the country store where the young Abraham Lincoln worked. In costume from left to right: **Brenda Leasure, Dorcas Newkirk, Joanne Hayes and Mary Jane Brittingham.**



Dorcas Newkirk trades her shuttle for a butter churn



Dorcas Newkirk and **Teresa Houtsch** demonstrate at the Peter Brenton Cabin during the Fine Arts Festival at Petersburg, Indiana. Their photo appeared on the front page of the Petersburg newspaper, The Press-Dispatch.

2011 Heartland Lace Guild Annual Membership Application

Objective:

The objective of the Heartland Lace Guild is to promote interest in fine old laces and preserve them for posterity. We meet regularly to motivate and encourage each other to make lace and to learn from each other. Any person who is seriously interested in making or collecting lace (of any kind) may become a member.

Membership Year and Fee:

The membership year is the calendar year, and the annual fee is **\$12.00**. You may pay several years in advance. Memberships cannot be transferred. Members with addresses outside the USA wanting the newsletter by regular mail, please add \$4 for overseas postage.

Membership Privileges:

The annual fee includes the use of the HLG Library, Birthday card and the quarterly HLG newsletter *Pillow Talk*, 2 or 3 free lace patterns appear each year in the newsletter, access to the Yahoo web site and a standing invitation to attend our weekend retreats. You may choose between the black and white printed newsletter sent by postal mail or an e-mail notification to retrieve your copy from our website. The version on the website is in pdf, will be earlier than a mailed copy, is in color, and of better quality. When you get your e-mail notification that the newsletter is available, you'll receive a unique password allowing you to access that part of our website.

Optional:

For an additional fee of \$8 you may purchase a bobbin commemorating the membership year. Bobbins for previous years are in limited supply. A special HLG 20th Anniversary Bobbin is available for \$8 and also may be ordered on the form below.

Make check out to the **HEARTLAND LACE GUILD**

Mail completed form and check to

Lise Thomsen
227 East Lake Drive
Cape Girardeau MO 63701 USA



Heartland Lace Guild 2011 Annual Membership Application Due Jan. 5, 2011: Membership Handbook and first bobbin order deadline

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

TELEPHONE (_____) _____

BIRTHDAY (MM/DD) _____

MEMBER OF IOLI? NO YES, Number of Years? _____

I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER BY

POSTAL

EMAIL

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Form revised 11/12/2010

MEMBERSHIP YEAR 2011 \$ 12.00

ADD'L MEMBERSHIP YEARS UNTIL _____ \$ _____

YEAR BOBBIN 2011 _____ X \$8 = \$ _____

STYLE: (check one)

DANISH

MIDLANDS

PREVIOUS YEAR BOBBINS _____ X \$8 = \$ _____
(while supplies last, *please list year* _____)

20th ANNIVERSARY BOBBIN _____ X \$8 = \$ _____

Postage for mailed copies: Outside of US \$4 = \$ _____

PAID TOTAL \$ _____

Payment method Check # _____ Pay Pal _____

I already paid dues for 2011, and am completing form only