

[HTTP://WWW.LVCRAFTSGUILD.ORG](http://www.lvcraftsguild.org) (Guild Web Site)
[HTTP://LVCRAFTSMEN.WORDPRESS.COM](http://lvcraftsmen.wordpress.com) (Guild Blog)



THE LEHIGH VALLEY CHAPTER PENNSYLVANIA GUILD OF CRAFTSMEN

PRESIDENT – Paul Grecian
VICE PRESIDENT – Susan Newquist

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I have always felt that one of the primary benefits of being a member of the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen and its chapter organizations is opportunity. The opportunity to be with fellow craftsmen who are passionate about their work and about art and craft generally; the opportunity to learn about your own medium and those of others; the opportunity to advance in your business goals with your craft whether it be a part time or full time endeavor. Important also is the opportunity to further your own goals through active participation in chapter and guild activities. These activities include shows (guild and chapter level), talking about and showing your work at meetings, and involvement in the general running of the chapter and guild. I don't see involvement as an obligation, but rather something that is a learning experience, a way to assist in the future of the guild and chapter, a way to strengthen relationships, and something that is just plain smart. It fosters individual opportunity and enjoyment of what we do.

In the coming year there will be more opportunities for our members to get involved in important ways. One such opportunity will be exploring how we want to move forward with doing our Holiday Marketplace. Having had the benefit of the extraordinary work of a talented show committee for many years led by Denise Wilz, we will be looking for a new group to make this important chapter tradition continue. A huge thank you is given by all of us to everyone who has worked to make our Holiday Marketplace a success and especially to the Show Committee without whom there would not have been a show at all.

For now we are all thinking about the holidays, and appropriately so. It's time for a bit of a break and I am looking forward to the New Year. Before that happens however, we still have one more chapter event – the Holiday Gallery Social. If you haven't already done so, please see the invitation below and RSVP as soon as possible.

If I don't see you at our holiday gathering, I want to wish you a Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanzaa, and a very Happy New Year.

Paul Grecian/Photography
215-529-9882

You are Cordially Invited to the ...

LVPGC Holiday Gallery Social

on December 20, 2011

7:30 pm to 9 pm at the Banana Factory, Bethlehem

Bring your favorite bakery or store-bought dessert and a piece of your craft or artwork so we can share confections and conversations. Spouses and loved ones are welcome. Mingle with the Valley's top crafters and artists (that's us!) and find out what they've been creating this year.

Come for a half-hour, come for the whole evening. We hope to see you there!

This is an official Chapter Program Evening and we will provide drinks, utensils, and our regular meeting space. While cups will be provided, feel free to bring in your favorite mug to use!

We need to get a sense of how many members will be joining us as soon as possible. **Please RSVP to Paul Grecian at pdgrecian@verizon.net by Dec. 16 so we know how to prepare.** Also, if you have a sense of what you will bring to the Holiday Gallery Social (cake, pie, pudding, fruit tray, etc.), let us know along with your RSVP.

(If you already signed up by email, phone, or at the meeting - you do not need to RSVP)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL - REMINDER

Membership Renewal reminder - Don't forget to send in your PGC membership form no later than 12/31.

Chuck Arkens/Arkens Saw
215-855-5599

HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE

I would like to thank all the volunteers and artisans participating in our 2011 craft show. We had roughly the same number of patrons that we have had in the past 6 years. Our advertising team, led by Susan Newquist, did a wonderful job of getting the word out. I believe if the snow storm of the previous week hadn't occurred we would have had many more patrons; but with over 600,000 customers in the area out of electric from a few hours to 7+ days and the storm cleanup that needed to be done, and still needs to in my case, it adversely affected our patronage. But wild weather is something we have had to deal with at many shows this year.

Carolyn Lagler, Carolee Fegley, Buffy Albright and members of the Lagler family provided all the food sold at the refreshment stand again this year – and it was delicious!

I would like to thank a few volunteers specifically for the extra time out of their lives to help with this show – Buffy Albright for sending out the show information to participants, scheduling Admissions volunteers and ironing table cloths, set-up and tear-down and making food, Carolyn Lagler and Carolee and Dave Fegley for storing the show equipment, show layout, set-up, tear-down, making food. Susan Newquist, Ed Youtz, Sharon and Bill Hamilton, Joss and Elysse Yocum for attending the marketing meetings held at Ed's house, EJ Krall who arranged to have the help from the Boy Scouts, Barb Talijan for handling the checks, admissions income and final show report, and everyone and their spouses for helping with the Admissions table, set-up and tear-down (which was the best manned tear-down ever!). This show cannot happen without the additional help of at least 25 members and their spouses in some capacity. I thank you all very much.

Next year's holiday show may not happen as almost 1/2 of this year's participants are members of the Reading/Berks chapter or always do the show, and their show is planned for the first weekend of November. It is very difficult filling our show with juried artisans and finding guests with quality work to fill remaining spaces is even more so. In addition to that the four members of Show committee, Denise, Buffy, Carolyn and Carolee, have stepped down and I was notified that the Family Ties Relay for Life team would no longer be supplying the refreshments for future shows. We need folks to step up and staff the Show committee and your ideas and thoughts on providing outlets to sell our work and fund the Student Awards program. Please forward your thoughts on this to Paul Grecian or Denise Wilz so we can gear up for next year.

Peace be with you all,
Denise Wilz/Pennsylvania Redware Pottery
215-260-1133

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**SEND NEWSLETTER INFO TO:**

Deborah Powell Kramer, DPK1000@ptd.net, 8567 Kings Hwy Kempton, PA 19529

**NO FORMAL BOARD OR MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS IN DECEMBER
HOLIDAY GALLERY SOCIAL ON REGULAR DECEMBER MEETING NIGHT, DECEMBER 20, 2011**

SEND NEWSLETTER INFO TO:

Deborah Powell Kramer, DPK1000@ptd.net, 8567 Kings Hwy Kempton, PA 19529

JANUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

Friday, January 6, 2012

January Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 17, 2012
6:15 P.M. at The Banana Factory
25 W. 3rd St., BETHLEHEM, PA

January Meeting

Tuesday, January 17, 2012
7:30 P.M. at The Banana Factory
25 W. 3rd St., BETHLEHEM, PA