



THE BUCKSKIN

JANUARY 2012

BUCKS COUNTY GUILD OF CRAFTSMEN, INC.
P.O. BOX 177, DOYLESTOWN, PA 18901

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JANUARY 11 MEETING

Welcome to 2012! Our new year begins with our meeting on January 11 and our chapter party on Jan. 21. We will install our newly elected officers at the general meeting and vote on the proposed bylaws changes as well.

Our program will be presented by chapter member **Bette Conway** who will discuss her work as a jeweler, her background as a licensed geologist/metalsmith and will present an overview of the management program that she uses to help streamline her business needs, enabling her to keep track of supplies, interact with galleries and more.

Bette says “many of the women in my family tree have been known for their ‘peculiar’ habit of picking up stones, fossils, and shiny things during long walks, canoe trips, and hiking excursions. Eyes firmly planted to the ground, they focused on the hidden, lost and long forgotten beauties of the environment surrounding them.”

While growing up, she collected rocks, fossils and artifacts that she began to incorporate into jewelry at an early age. Her fascination with ancient cultures led her to early studies in archeology, which in turn, melded with her love of the environment, and led to a degree in geology, with jewelry creations remaining a passionate pursuit.

And there will be a special surprise as well. (You’ll have to come to find out what that is!)



PRESIDENT’S CORNER

Wow – 2012! I look forward to my first son graduating from college, and possibly taking my first metalsmithing workshop that is more than one weekend – do I think I can handle two weeks? Education is never-ending, and hands-on is undoubtedly a favorite for craftsmen. As you can see, I start the new year with positive thoughts and a few goals.

In order to fund the workshop, I had better figure out a new venue or two for sales, goal #2, no doubt. More time with family and friends – enjoy “now” – and I need to do more of that. Oh, I think I already shared that on Facebook! Let’s get technical – we need to keep up with technology, and update constantly. Goal #3 – do it more regularly, more efficiently. I was very pleased to see a new member had added his member gallery on our

Bucks Guild website, and I hope he has “liked” us on Facebook. Make sure you follow suit, and update your photographs and accompanying information on your gallery page, and follow us online.

I’m looking forward to a new year with our Guild, and would love to outgrow the Boy Scout meeting room. Any suggestions are welcome; my contact information is on the homepage of www.bucksguild.org as well as in every newsletter. We are looking forward to NO SNOW in January in order to install our officers at the January 11th meeting, 7:30 p.m. to be followed by a great program with jewelry artist and chapter member **Bette Conway**. Then, still NO SNOW for our evening of socializing in Lansdale, at the home of George and Judy Balock, on Saturday, the 21st. Two choices entrees are provided by the guild, then bring yourself and family and/or significant other with a side dish to share, and your favorite beverage. It is always a beautiful evening filled with laughter, stories, and a tour of George’s workshop, if you ask nicely!

So I’m looking forward to seeing many of you, then, on January 11th for our first meeting of the new year!

Cynthia Prediger
ckprediger@gmail.com

“HOLIDAY” DINNER

As noted in Cynthia’s column, our post-holiday, stress-less, holiday-recovery dinner (with a glass or two of wine perhaps??) will be held on **Saturday, Jan. 21**, at **George and Judy Balock’s** house (*directions below*). As in the past, the chapter will provide a turkey and a ham, and attendees bring side dishes to share with the group—desserts, appetizers, salads, veggies, etc. We will also provide soft drinks; it’s BYOB for the rest.

It’s always a fun evening and we can stuff a remarkable number of people into Judy and George’s house! Plan to come, even if you’ve never come before—we’d love to have new people. Spouses/significant others are welcome. RSVP to Judy (215-412-0105) and give her some idea of what you’re going to bring.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 6 P.M.

712 E. HANCOCK ST., LANSDALE, PA, 19446

Directions from Judy: The easiest way to get the directions is to do a search on Google maps or Mapquest—just type in the address. After you get to DeKalb Pike and Welsh Rd., local directions are as follows:

1. Cross Rt. 63 (Welsh Rd./Main St), staying on DeKalb Pike.
2. Turn right at the first traffic light (Hancock Rd.)
3. Follow Hancock Rd and cross North Wales Rd; Hancock Road becomes Hancock St.
4. We are a half mile after North Wales Rd, on the left hand side, #712, in the middle of a block with three houses on it. The house is white, and set back from the street, with a large red star on it. There is no parking on Hancock Rd., and limited space in the driveway. Parking is best on either of the side streets (Wade Ave. and Cypress St.) which are very close. There are large yellow signs << that show the road is curving, and they point directly towards our house.

Call (215-412-0105) if you get lost. Hope to see many of you there!!!



BYERS BUCKS FEVER ART EXHIBITION

Bob Welch, Chairman, and the Central Bucks Chamber’s Byers Bucks Fever Art Exhibition Committee, are calling for art submissions for the renowned Byers Art Exhibition set for April 12 (Preview Reception) through April 22, 2012 at Travis Gallery in New Hope. Find out how to submit your work for possible inclusion in the exhibition, now in its 26th year, by visiting <http://www.centralbuckschamber.com/byersart/index.htm>.

THEME: CONTEMPORARY VISIONS—ARTISTS OF BUCKS COUNTY

Deadline for submissions is January 20, 2012

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUES

Cynthia reports that overall the boutiques went well and that she and the show committee look forward to growing them for next year. We'll be scheduling them early so people can count on those week-ends.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Our meeting nights for 2012 have been confirmed, and while they are always the 2nd Wednesday of the month, we thought it would be good to publish the dates as well. So reserve these nights on your calendar!

Jan. 11, Feb. 8, Mar. 14, Apr. 11, May 9, Sept. 12, Oct. 10 and Nov. 14.

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome the following people to our chapter. We look forward to getting to know you all!

Ron Bevilacqua	<i>Wood sculpture</i>	Quakertown, PA
Marina Bloomfield	<i>Jewelry</i>	Doylestown, PA
Heather Bitner	<i>Quilts</i>	Lansdale, PA
Nina Dillard	<i>Photography</i>	Philadelphia, PA
Carol Fox-Breuninger	<i>Jewelry</i>	Ambler, PA
Irina Potakh	<i>Jewelry</i>	Feasterville, PA
Jeno Seitz	<i>Woodcarving</i>	Bensalem, PA
Philip Smith	<i>Jewelry</i>	Schwenksville, PA

SHOW LIST

One of our projects during 2011 was to develop a list of recommended non-guild shows within approximately 1 hour's driving time of Bucks County. We'd like to update this on a regular basis, but that takes input from all of you. So if you have shows you'd recommend or comments about one of the ones currently on the list, please contact Show Chairman, **Joyce Inderbitzin** at joycemi@comcast.net or Newsletter Editor **Nancy Gibbs** at nancygibbs.1@gmail.com.

The list is posted on the members' only section of the website; we hope it will be a useful tool as you work on your new show applications.

THE SECRET TO DEVELOPING INDESTRUCTIBLE CREATIVE MOTIVATION

Without the motivation to create, nothing will get created. That sounds very simple, but what makes it so much trickier is that we don't recognize what motivation is, or the barriers that come up against us and sabotage it.

What would your own definition of motivation be, especially when it comes to creating?

I come across many people who aren't being as creative as they'd like to be, and they usually think they know what the problem is. You know, that one destructive element that once they get the secret to overcoming, will free them to be abundantly creative like never before in their lives. But more often than not, what they think is the main issue, actually isn't the issue at all. A classic example is: "*I don't have enough time to create.*"

Most of us who feel this, feel it genuinely. We don't believe we're making excuses or think we're wasting time in other areas. We honestly think that if some radical international law was passed wherein every day had two extra hours in it, we would be able to then use those hours to be creative. Just imagine how extra amazingly creative we could all be in those two extra hours. **But the reality is, it's highly unlikely we would be any more creative at all. Even if every day had 24 extra hours!**

Your ever-present, ever-demanding to-do list would simply push even harder on you, declaring that now you had this extra time, you could fill it with all those highly important things you just have to get done. Why now you could check your email 32 times a day instead a mere 16! You could sleep all that extra time! You could relax in front of TV so much more! You'd have time to reorganize all your creative supplies many more times each week! And so

that extra time would disappear almost as soon as it was given. And we would still think we didn't have enough time to create!

This is a perfect example of motivation, or lack of it. The fact is, we are free to make more time to create whenever we choose. We don't need international laws to be passed, or the Earth's rotations to slow down. We simply need to say "Today, and every day from now on, I'm going to devote 15 minutes a day to creative pursuits I enjoy." Fifteen minutes is approximately 1% of your 24 hours each day. That's not so selfish now, is it? It's like having a huge cake, cutting it into 100 pieces, giving away 99 of them and keeping one meager little slice for your creativity. Hardly spoiling yourself or being self indulgent.

But if 15 minutes creating each day is so little, and so easy, why don't more of us devote the time to it? Again, it's that motivation. Or lack thereof.

We don't set time aside to create because the motivation to do so is not strong enough. Our motivation to check email, sleep, watch TV and a hundred other things is higher than our motivation to create. And the simple reason behind THAT is nothing to do with how creative you are, how talented you are, how many ideas, or how many commitments you have on your time.

It's simply that you've forgotten how important creativity is in your life. It's been so long since you created freely and happily that those feelings you get when you're on fire and in the end zone have lost their impact. When you're lost in creating, you feel invincible, powerful, unstoppable, connecting to some higher source or channel, lose track of time, and generally have some of the greatest experiences you have had, or will ever have in your lifetime.

You were born to create. Just like you were born to breathe, and eat and sleep. It's THAT important to your health and happiness. You just forgot. The good news is it's pretty easy to remember again. And once you DO get back in touch with those wonderful creative feelings, it suddenly shoots right up your to-do list as a priority.

So how do you get that motivation back? How do you develop indestructible creative motivation? Just by taking a few quiet moments to remember. Sit down somewhere you'll be undisturbed, take a pencil and some paper, and write this statement in the center:

When I'm at my most creative, I feel...

Then complete the sentence in all the ways you can think of. Very soon, the memories will come flooding back, and you'll start feeling that old glistening magic return. Let it, and turn it up a little louder. No, make that a LOT louder.

This is the key to your creative motivation. Remembering, and staying connected with, all those amazing feelings creating gives you that nothing else in the world ever has or ever can.

Then, from today, set aside that 15 minutes a day. MAKE the time, there are no excuses. Within a week or two, maybe even sooner, you won't need to keep remembering how great you used to feel when you were creating, because you'll be doing it every day again! Stay connected to the feelings, create every day, and build up the time you spend gradually.

Follow this method and you'll have all the creative motivation you could ever need.

Dan Goodwin, www.coachcreative.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Meetings are held at the Boy Scout Headquarters Building, 1 Scout Way, Doylestown, PA 18901, unless otherwise announced.

Jan. 11, 2012	6:30 Board meeting 7:30 General meeting
Jan. 21	HOLIDAY PARTY!! (see directions in this issue)
Feb. 8	6:30 Board meeting 7:30 General meeting
Mar. 14	6:30 Board meeting 7:30 General meeting
Apr. 11	6:30 Board meeting 7:30 General meeting
May 9	6:00 Jury session 7:30 General meeting

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads for craft-related items, business services, etc. are free for chapter members. For further information, contact Nancy Gibbs at nancygibbs.1@gmail.com.