Chesapeake Region Lace Guild

Where lace-making lives on.

Dear Lace-Makers,

Lace-making is alive and well in the DMV! Our membership has grown to over 130 members, we have nine active study groups meeting monthly, and we have, or will be, demonstrating lace-making this year at the GW Textile Museum, George Washington's Mount Vernon, the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival, the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair, the Vienna Colonial Fair, the DC State Fair, the Virginia State Fair, Hillwood Estate Museum & Gardens, Montgomery History Ag Center, Waterford Fair, and Colvin Run Mill. If you would like to join us in demonstrating, email me at CRLGBoard@gmail.com. Beginners welcome.

We have also endeavored to make lace-making more accessible and more affordable. We have provided four scholarships for classes and memberships, and have provided supplies at significant discounts to new members and students. I am proud to say we are fully fulfilling our mission to teach and promote lace-making to all. We welcome everyone who wants to join us and don't want cost to be a barrier. Scholarship information is detailed later in this newsletter - *don't be afraid to ask for help* - this can be an expensive hobby.

I am also pleased to let you know that, thanks to Karen H Thompson, the Smithsonian is allowing the Behind-the-Scenes lace tours again (fulfilling our mission to encourage museums to make their collections available). They have a spectacular collection you don't want to miss. Karen led one group earlier this summer and has another tour scheduled for Thursday, October 1, from 12:30 - 2. Sign up now to see it.

And a final note -the ***2027 C*RLG Spring Lace Day** will be held on **April 10,** the 2nd Saturday in April (*not APRIL 24th),* due to the L'Organisation Internationale de la Dentelle au Fuseau et à l'Aiguille (OIDFA) Congress being held April 19-25 in the Canary Islands.

-Karen Witt
CRLG President

CRLG Website | Membership Form | Email the President

UPCOMING EVENTS

2026

September

- Sep 10-13 -- Maryland State Fair, Timonium, MD
- Sep 12, 10-4 -- “Celebration of Textiles” GW Textile Museum,
- *Sep16-17 -- Demonstration at Mount Vernon, Homeschool Days*
- Sep 16 - 20 -- Anne Arundel County Fair, Crownsville, MD
- Sep 25-27-- Kumiko Nakazaki's Binche Lace Class, 9-4 daily
- Sep 25 (thru Oct 4) --Virginia State Fair, Doswell, VA
- *Sep 27 -- Demonstration (CRLG) at the VA State Fair*
  Contact Karen Witt for details.

October

- Oct 1 -- Smithsonian Lace Tour with Karen H Thompson
- Oct 1-4 -- Virginia State Fair, Doswell, VA
- Oct 1-4 -- Finger Lakes Lace Guild Lace Days, Ithaca, NY
- *Oct 2-4 -- Demonstration at the Waterford Fair, Waterford, VA*
- *Oct 3 -- Demonstration at the Harvest Festival at Mont History Ag Ctr*
- Oct 10 & 17-- Beginner Bobbin Lace Class with Karen Thompson
- *Oct 18 -- Demonstration (CRLG) at Colvin Run Mill, Great Falls, VA*
  Contact Karen Witt for details.
- **Oct 24 -- Fall Lace Day, Saint Mark Presbyterian Church, MD**

November

- Nov 7 -- *Demonstration at Hillwood, DC*
- Nov18 -- Karen Thompson Ipswich Lace Presentation, Mary Riley Styles Library, Falls Church, VA
- Nov 21 -- CRLG Lace Couvige, GW Textile Museum

December

- Dec 5 -- Holiday Bauble Lace Class, Mary Riley Styles Library, Falls Church, VA

2027

April

- ***April 10 -- Spring Lace Day, Springfield, VA***
  Note: This is the SECOND SATURDAY of April.
- April 19-25 - OIDFA Congress, Lanzarote, Canary Islands

July

- July 18-23 - IOLI Convention, Spokane, WA



Yitong Gao demonstrating at the Vienna Colonial Fair.

Find out more information about each event by clicking the links below.

Demonstrate With CRLG

If you would like to demonstrate with the guild at any of the upcoming events, please email Karen Witt for details at CRLGBoard@gmail.com.

- **Sun, Sep 27** - *Virginia State Fair, Doswell, VA*
- **Sat, Oct 18** - *Colvin Run Mill, Great Falls, VA*

Virginia State Fair

Colvin Run Mill

Smithsonian Lace Tour

Thursday, October 1, 2026
12:30 -- 2 pm

Karen H. Thompson will lead a group through the incredible collection of the Smithsonian American History Museum's lace collection. Rarely displayed items from war lace to bridal veils will delight and amaze you.

Email Karen to join the tour at karenhthompson@gmail.com.

Smithsonian Lace Collection



Photo: Valenciennes bobbin lace medallion from the collection.



CRLG members with Laura Johnson, Curator of Costumes and Textiles at the National Museum of American History, during the July tour.

Hillwood Estate After Hours





On August 5, 2026, the Hillwood Estate & Gardens in DC hosted a special *After Hours* event to help celebrate their new exhibit, **Interwoven: A Tradition in Textiles**. CRLG was invited to demonstrate alongside other DC area textile organizations. We had six bobbin-lace try-me pillows and a needlelace station.

Hundreds of people attended the event. The CRLG booth was very popular all night! At least 25 people made bobbin lace and needlelace fish.

We highly recommend a visit to Hillwood to see the wonderful textile exhibit, which is on view through January 3, 2027. It includes many breathtaking lace pieces.

CRLG will be demonstrating at Hillwood again on November 7.

October Beginner Class Added!



Since our first beginner bobbin lace class sold out quickly and was a great success, we've added another session in October! Karen Thompson, Linda Kay Benning, and Kristen Smith will be your teachers for these classes.

Saturdays, October 10 & 17
9 am to 4 pm both days

Greenspring Retirement Community
7440 Spring Village Drive
Springfield, VA 22150

Class Fee:
$50 members
$70 non-members

Bring your own lace pillow and bobbins, or purchase a complete kit for $100

Scholarships available

Email crlg.ksmith@gmail.com with questions

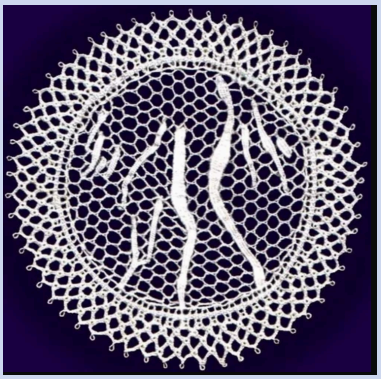
Register Now







Highlights from the August Class



44th Annual Ithaca Lace Day

Ithaca, NY

October 1-4, 2026

Sponsored by the Finger Lakes Lace Guild, this event features Sasha Baskin lecturing on *The Photographic Image in Bobbin Lace*. If you missed her talk with CRLG, here is another chance to hear about her technique.

Holly Van Sciver, our usual vendor for CRLG Lace Days, will also be teaching classes.

Finger Lakes Lace Guild Lace Day Info

Fall Lace Day

Saturday, October 24, 2026

St Mark Presbyterian Church, Bethesda, MD

Tatting History and Stories with Bonnie Swank

Join us on Lace Day to learn about the history of Shuttle and Needle Tatting, see some of Bonnie's extensive collection of antique shuttles and tatted lace, and hear a few stories about some of her favorite treasures.



Bonnie taught herself to tat over 20 years ago from Barbara Fosters Needle Tatting Books 1 & 2 that her mother-in-law bought at a church rummage sale. She had never heard of tatting before, but it soon became her obsession! Her grandmother used to tat and she mourned the years she could have been knotting lace with her! In addition to needle tatting, she is proficient at Shuttle Tatting, Knotting, Teneriffe lace, Netting and Torchon - but needle tatting remains her true love!



Agenda:

9am - Set up
9:30 - Shopping
10am - CRLG Business Meeting
11am - Bonnie Swank
12pm - Lunch Break and Shopping
1pm - Mini Workshop #1
2pm - Scholarship Drawing
2:15 - Mini Workshop #2
3:30 - Clean up



More details on afternoon workshops coming soon.

We hope to see you all there!

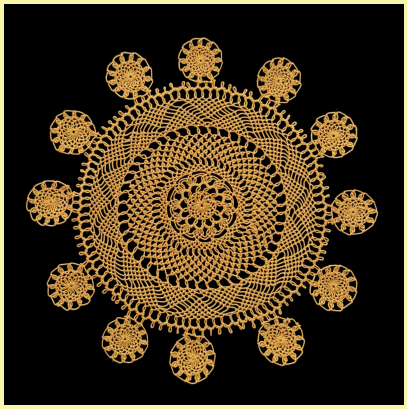
Armenian Needlelace Class

with Mikayla Kurkjian

November 21 and 22, 2026
1 - 4 pm each day



You may have heard Mikayla's presentation at Spring Lace Day about her own journey with Armenian Needlelace. She is now offering a class to teach you how to make this type of knotted needlelace.



If you've wanted to take a lace class, but the time and cost of bobbin lace has seemed like too much, needlelace is more affordable and accessible, requiring fewer supplies to get started.

Class will be two four-hour days.

Cost: $50.

Location: Catonsville, MD

Armenian Needlelace Initiative

Email **WbrgLaceMaker@cox.net** for details and to register.

Scholarships available.

Lace Winners at Montgomery County Fair



With nearly 100 entries, the lace display at the 2026 fair was brimming with exquisite bobbin lace, tatting, and needlelace. Congratulations to all the exhibitors, and to the winners of the CRLG special awards:

Best Bobbin Lace -- Karen H. Thompson
Best Needlelace -- Alana Hamann
Best Tatting -- Wendy Carballo









IOLI Convention Report



CRLG members gathered for a group photo after the IOLI Convention opening banquet






CRLG Showed Up to IOLI!

CRLG members had an incredible time at the IOLI Convention in Durham, North Carolina, last month. Getting to see guild members and friends from far and near was the best part!

Binche Lace Class




Teacher: Kumiko Nakazaki
September 25, 26, 27
9 am to 4 pm daily

Only one spot remaining -- register now!

Email WbrgLaceMaker@cox.net for details and to register.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Chesapeake Region Lace Guild is delighted to announce scholarship opportunities designed to support our members in beginning, learning, connecting, and advancing their lace practices.

Membership Scholarship: This award covers the cost of annual CRLG membership, helping new and returning lacemakers undergoing financial insecurity to join our community and access resources, events, and networking opportunities. Recipients will remain anonymous. Apply here: https://forms.gle/tK2zzwWBuNHZgd1n6

Guild Workshop Scholarship: Designed to encourage hands-on learning, this scholarship provides funding for one member to attend a CRLG-sponsored workshop. One scholarship will be available per workshop. Apply here: https://forms.gle/BbxQ15EZDLHKaE9k8

These scholarships reflect CRLG's commitment to nurturing creativity, skill, and fellowship among lacemakers and textile artists.

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

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

Annual Dues: $20

Visit our website

Join or Renew Online

Contact Kristen Smith with any questions or if you are uncertain of your membership status at crlg.ksmith@gmail.com

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Report Your Volunteer Hours

Please remember to record your volunteer hours -- it's easy to log them on our online form!

Click Here for Volunteer Hours Form

Study Group Contacts

Study groups typically meet once a month, either virtually or in person. Please consult the Membership Directory for contact details, or email CRLGBoard@gmail.com.

Colonial Lacemakers, Williamsburg, VA
Meet monthly in members' homes from 10-3.
Contact: Mary Drew

Dept. of Lacing in Public (DOLIP), Washington, DC
Meets 2nd Thursday of each month from 6:45 pm - 8:30 pm
at the MLK Library Conference Center, 901 G St NW
Contact: Sarah J. Hull

Doily Madisons - Virtual

Meets the first Saturday of the month at 10 am via Zoom
Contact: Holly Lacusky

Lace Wings - Virtual
Meets the fourth Monday of the month at 1pm via Zoom
Contact: Linda Kay Benning

Lacemakers of Greenspring, Springfield, VA
Meets Tuesdays from 9:00 -11:00 am
Greenspring Retirement Village
Contact: Karen H Thompson

Log Cabin Lacers, Baltimore and Ellicott City, MD
Contact: Susan Kuvelker

Montgomery Moonlight Lacers, Montgomery County, MD
Meets the first Wednesday of the month
Contact: Janet McKee

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

SuperNoVa Constellacers, Falls Church, VA
Meets the 3rd Sunday of the month at 2 pm
at the Mary Riley Styles Public Library, Falls Church
Contact: Kristen Smith

International Organization of Lace, Inc.

The Chesapeake Region Lace Guild (CRLG) is an educational non-profit association. As a Charter Chapter of the International Organization of Lace, Inc., the objectives of the Guild are to promote interest in the fine old laces, to preserve fine laces for posterity, to study the history and characteristics of lace, to teach and promote lacemaking and lace identification, to promote and encourage lace exhibits, and to encourage museums that own lace collections to exhibit their collections and make them generally available for viewing by the public at large.

SEND YOUR PHOTOS TO SHARE!

Please send photos and articles to post on Facebook to Holly Lacusky at **hclacusky@gmail.com**

When sending in your items for reposting to Facebook, please note how you would like you and your work to be tagged and linked to your social media account so that we can ensure proper attribution/credit.

CRLG is now on Instagram too!! @chesapeakelace

Chesapeake Region Lace Guild | 10322 Inwood Ave. | Silver Spring, MD 20902 US

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