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# Craft Connections

January – February Newsletter 2010



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## From the Executive Director, Susie Lowe-Stockwell

I want to start this newsletter by saying how proud I am of our craftspeople. Recently, some of our members have been set back because of a fire, illness and job loss, and all of you have rallied to provide support and do what you can. Thank you!

As we start this new decade, there is a great sense of optimism. The economy has taken an upward turn as seen through the increased sales at the League's retail galleries over the holidays. Great job by all of the managers! Also congratulations to **Joe DeRobertis** and his 2009 ornament, *The Gift*, for achieving record-breaking sales – about 5,000 ornaments.

Now we are moving through the toughest months of the year for retail and are also focusing on preparing for the Fair and other League programs. The Retail Gallery Sustainability Committee, chaired by Adele Sanborn, juried member and VP of the board of trustees, is focused on methods to enhance the marketing and sales in the galleries and communication between the craftspeople and the galleries. **See the most recent Committee report.** (This report, as well as additional information from the retail galleries, is available in the members section of our [website](#).) Over the past several months, the Standards Committee updated the League's Metal Casting guidelines, and developed a policy allowing juried members to sell books or videos/DVDs that they have created to explain their craft or techniques in their booths at the Annual Craftsmen's Fair. Both of these documents have been approved by the Board of Trustees and are posted on the Members section of our [website](#). An exciting Fair is being planned for August 7-15. The Fair Committee received 208 booth applications and have assigned booths to 200 applicants, and placed 8 on the wait list. Other upcoming events include:

- **New York Times Travel Show:** The League will be exhibiting at the New York Times Travel show in New York on February 26-28 in conjunction with the State of NH Division of Travel and Tourism.



Earrings by Sandra McCaw

- **Made in NH Expo:** The League will be exhibiting at the Made in NH Expo in Manchester April 9-11, and is looking for volunteers to help at the booth.
- **New Hampshire Open Doors:** We are confirming details for this fall's New Hampshire Open Doors tour for November 6 -7, 2010.
- **1st Annual Craft Auction:** Plans are also underway to hold the 1st Annual Auction event at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord on Saturday, November 20, 2010. Save the date and we will provide further details.

We continue to work on securing our new headquarters facility in downtown Concord. Volunteers, staff and board members are currently in the process of selling tax credits in support of the CDFA funds awarded to the League. If you would like to know more about the building, please read this January 24 article that appeared in the [Concord Monitor](#).

This is the most ambitious and exciting building project the League has ever engaged in. We look forward to working with all of you toward its successful completion. If you would like to help, please contact me at [slowstoc@nhcrafts.org](mailto:slowstoc@nhcrafts.org) or call 603-224-3375.

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## Social Media Marketing and Communications Seminar

### Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at Concord Litho

By now not only has everyone heard of social media, they know just how rapidly it's becoming a mainstream method of communications. But who has the time? And even if you do have the time, do you really understand how to navigate your way around the blogosphere, Twitter, Facebook and other such social media platforms? You will if you attend this workshop. During the course of the day, Bob Cargill will demonstrate how to leverage some of today's most popular social media channels for marketing and general communications purposes. You'll learn what the benefits are for those who understand how to harness the power of this exciting, new way of sharing and connecting with others. You'll see why transparency, authenticity and an open, honest dialogue – as opposed to a top-down, one-way, interruptive monologue – is so important to the success of any social media activity. And you'll have the opportunity to set up both a Facebook Fan Page for business and your own Twitter account, learning each and every step you need to take in order to position yourself as a knowledge leader, community builder.

Bob Cargill, who was named the New England Direct Marketing Association's "Direct Marketer of the Year" for 2009, is a copywriter, creative director and social media marketer who helps brands (commercial and non profit) to strategize, develop and implement successful new marketing programs. You are invited to follow Bob on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/cargillcreative](http://www.twitter.com/cargillcreative) and become a fan of his page on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/cargillcreative](http://www.facebook.com/cargillcreative).

Space for this seminar is limited. A printable version of the brochure is on the Education page of the League's [website](#). Questions? Please call the League at 603-224-3375 or contact Catherine Green at [cgreen@nhcrafts.org](mailto:cgreen@nhcrafts.org).

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*Plate by Ursula Fries-Herfort a piece in the Things We Do for Love Exhibition*

## Craft for Display in Congress

The New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, New Hampshire Arts Association, and League of NH Craftsmen are partnering to develop an exhibit of original artwork and two-dimensional craft by New Hampshire artists to be displayed in congressional offices in Washington, DC. The first opportunity is in the offices of Senator Jeanne Shaheen. The work will either be on short-term loan for one to two years or long-term loan for up to six years. If you are interested, please contact **Catherine Green**, standards and education manager at the League at [cgreen@nhcrafts.org](mailto:cgreen@nhcrafts.org) or 603-224-3375.

## Permanent Collection Update

The League has been awarded a Cultural Conservation Grant from the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts to support increased public access to the League's Archives and the Permanent Collection. This project includes an appraisal of the Permanent Collection by L. T. Hall Appraisals, Inc. of Plainfield, NH and provides for images of the pieces in the Permanent Collection to be added to the League's website. Louise Hall and her staff were at League headquarters in early December to appraise the collection. Thank you to **Inge Eddy** and **Linda Oldham**, members of the Gallery 205 committee and **Catherine Green** for their help.

Recent acquisitions to the Permanent Collection include 25 pieces of pottery by **Jack O'Leary** – a gift from Jack Hemenway – and two turned wood bowls by **John May**. These acquisitions were transferred from the Currier Museum of Art. There are currently 290 lots in the Permanent Collection.



*(L to R) Appraisers Sarah and Louise Hall worked with Linda Oldham, Catherine Green and Inge Eddy to organize and evaluate our Permanent Collection*

## Additions to Library

**Nora and Norman Stevens**, loyal supporting members of the League, have generously donated 36 books and videos to the League of NH Craftsmen Library. The books and videos cover a wide variety of techniques and media and are available for circulation.

## Gallery 205 Exhibition Schedule

### ***The Things We Do For Love***

January 29 – March 26, 2010

A multi-media exhibition featuring the work of the League's Juried Craftsmen

### ***Continuing the Tradition "Spirit of the Maker"***

April 9 – June 25, 2010

A multi-media exhibition featuring the work of newly Juried Members (2007-2010)

### ***Forged Metals***

July 9 – September 24, 2010

An invitational exhibition featuring the work of contemporary and traditional Blacksmiths

### ***Baskets, Boxes & Bowls***

October 8 – December 17, 2010

A multi-media exhibition featuring the work of the League's Juried Craftsmen



*(L to R) Catherine Green, sponsor E. Leslie Stone, and Susie Lowe-Stockwell at opening reception*

## Member News

**Jeff Lind** received the 2009 Best In Show award in *Furniture-Traditional-Single Piece*



for his Spalted Maple High-Back Rocking Chair at the Fine Furnishings & Craft Show in Providence, RI.



Jeff Lind with his award winning chair

*Solo Exhibition of Woodfired Ceramics, John Baymore's* woodfired work, was featured in January at the Thayer Academy Gallery Southworth Library Building in Braintree, MA.

The Sharon Art Center in Peterborough featured **Micheline** as the craft person of the month (January), and the *Nashua Sunday Telegraph* did a full page article on her gourds that appeared on January 17.



*Phyllostachy's Hexagonos* by David Belser

**David Belser** won first place in the 30th Annual Northwest Fine Woodworking Box and Container Show for his bamboo and cherry piece called "Phyllostachy's Hexagonos."

**Ann Dillon** currently has her green leaf necklaces on exhibit at Sharon Arts Center in their Members show through February 28. There will be another leaf necklace on display at Synergy2 conference for polymer clay artists in Baltimore, MD from February 24-27. She made a new Autumn leaf necklace for the show. Her piece will also be in their Invitational International Exhibit Catalog, and is shown on the catalog cover.

**Meredith Smith** recently exhibited and sold two soft sculptures in the AVA Gallery Holiday Show.

**Sandra McCaw** has been nominated for the second year in a row for a *NICHE* Award. She was nominated in the Fashion Jewelry category this year; last year, it was the Polymer Clay category. The Racine Art Museum acquired one of her pieces for their permanent collection, and The Philadelphia Museum of Art acquired three of her pieces for their permanent collection.

**Rhonda Besaw** and her beadwork were featured in an article in the Autumn 2009 issue of *Bead Society of Great Britain*. The author, Richard Green, is a specialist in Native American art.

**Donald Briere** will be interviewed by WMUR's Chronicle for a segment about his wood turning that will air sometime in March. In September 2009, he was invited to speak at the Furniture Masters Auction at the Currier Museum. Over 100 people heard him talk about his association with the Furniture Masters and how it has benefited his work. He also auctioned a piece, and the proceeds were put towards the Power Matic Lathe that the Furniture Masters donated to him.

**Wes Parsons'** company, The Great Northern Bogg'n Co., was featured in the January 2010 issue of *New Hampshire Magazine* (the "shoptalk" section on page 20).

Congratulations to **Wed Redmond** on the following achievements: Her piece, *Perception*, was featured in the Surface Design Association's Journal Exposure. *Nest*, which she exhibited at 2009 National Small ART Works, Groton, NY, received Honorable Mention and sold! *Ripples* Triptych, a commission by Dana Farber Institute, Boston MA was finally completed for their new building. *Winter Tree and Rooted in Matter* will be in New Bridge on the Charles Hebrew Senior Life Center, Dedham, MA as part of their permanent collection. *Roots and Tree*, juried into the Pen and Brush Gallery's Home is Where the Art Is, NYC. "*Pause*" has been chosen as a finalist in the category of Fiber: Surface Design 2010 *NICHE* Awards competition, Rosen Shows Fine Craft Shows.

**Thomas McGurrin** has been named a 2010 *NICHE* Awards finalist for his jewelry pieces entitled "Bamboo Pendant" and "Tulip Pillow." Only 161 entries out of nearly 1,000 submissions were named as finalists. The awards program is sponsored by *NICHE* magazine.

**Angie Follensbee-Hall** is teaching Creative Process in Art, and Art From Natural Materials at Granite State College this year.

**Laury Nichols**, was awarded a \$290 scholarship in January from the Vivika and Otto Heino Craft Scholarship Program to study *Illustrating Children's Books* at Sanctuary Arts in Eliot, ME.

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**Jack Dokus** has become a League *Spirit of the Demonstrator*. He will be demonstrating in each of the Retail Galleries. Please visit the League website for times and places.

If you are interested in becoming a part of the *Spirit of the Maker Demonstrator* Series program contact Catherine Green at [cgreen@nhcrafts.org](mailto:cgreen@nhcrafts.org) or call 603-224 -3375.

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**Sandra White** has a few large quilled pieces in the exhibit "*Paper Capers: Adventures in Paper Art*" at the Wenham Museum in Wenham, MA from February 5 to May 9, 2010.

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## Welcome to Our Newest Juried Members

During October, November and December 2009, the following craftspeople were accepted as juried members of the League:

### Wood

**Duane Floyd Martin**, Newfields, NH, Intarsia, a three-dimensional mosaic art form made from wood; **Jeffrey Balashak**, Manchester, NH, folk art wood carver; **John Whiteside**, Fremont, NH, acoustic, steel-string guitars; **Alan Carruth**, Newport, NH, builder of all types of acoustic stringed instruments; **Ken Stevens**, Methuen, MA, handcrafted pens and accessories.

### Metal

**Dawn Russell**, Center Harbor, NH, jewelry composed with hardwoods, reclaimed and mammoth ivory, recycled silver and gold, natural pearls and gems, emphasizing a connection with nature.

### Fiber

**Cheryl Hayes**, Charlestown, NH, fiber artist specializing in quilts.

### Glass

**Olivia Hollowell**, Intervale, NH, a series of glass portraits made with drawings etched unto kiln-formed glass; **Michael Kraatz** and **Susan Russell**, Canaan, NH, returning partnership working with hot and cold glass, and metal and wood, specializing in architectural and home furnishing elements as well as interior and exterior sculpture; **Randi Solin**, Brattleboro, VT, blown glass pieces building layer upon layer of color using glass in all particle sizes.

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## In Memoriam

**Alice E. Chapdelaine**, 92, passed away January 21. Alice was a loyal volunteer at League headquarters for several years and will be missed greatly. **Hazel Weed**, a weaver and wife of furniture maker Walker Weed (a League member for several decades), died on January 7.

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## Contact/League Information

If you would like to contact the League, [click here](#)

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