

Craft Connections

March – April Newsletter 2009

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Glass Bowl by Jordana Korsen

League of N.H. Craftsmen 
signature of excellence

From the Executive Director

As a nonprofit arts organization in New Hampshire, the League is fortunate to be relatively stable during these uncertain economic times. Since our inception during the Great Depression, we have weathered a few lean periods and continue to be diligent in managing our operations. We have made decisions that will help us survive despite the decrease in attendance at the 2008 [Annual Craftsmen's Fair](#). We did not replace a staff member who was on an expected leave of absence, and have cut all nonessential spending (what little there was). The FY'10 Budget has been reduced by about 10%. We continue to seek grant assistance and pursue creative opportunities to support our educational and promotional programs for our membership and the public.

What can you do to help our craftspeople? Encourage your family and friends to buy craft in the League's retail galleries, become a supporting member, make a donation to the League's [Annual Fund](#), attend the Annual Craftsmen's Fair, and/or take pottery, jewelry, or basketry classes at the galleries. Do what you can to support craft in New Hampshire.

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Polymer Handbag by
Kathleen Dustin

Member News

Congratulations to **Dan Dustin** for being named Best Arts Instructor by *Hippopress* in its online best of 2009 readers' poll.

Newly Juried Craftsmen

Welcome to the following craftsmen who were juried into the League between October 2008 and March 2009:

Glass:

Karen Gola, slumped and sand-blasted
Judith Taylor, stained and fused

Clay:

Blair LaBella, ceramic beads
Virginia Stillman-Kirschner, stoneware and porcelain
Irina Okula, porcelain
Don Williams, slab built functional stoneware, mixed media/assemblages

Wood:

Wes Parsons, sleds and toboggans
William Begor, turned
Michael Demarais, guitars

Fiber:

Donna Wilson, felted hats

Leather:

Faith Fellows, beaded handbags
Molly Grant and Sara Mathews, shoes

Baskets:

Eric Taylor, country contemporary

In Memoriam

Paul G. Mathews, juried member in leather, passed away February 3 at his home in Deerfield, NH at the age of 90. His daughter **Sara Mathews** and wife **Molly Grant** continue to carry on his legacy of creating fine shoes in their juried partnership.

Tudor Richards, great-grandson of **Mary Coolidge**, a co-founder of the League of NH Arts & Crafts, passed away March 6 at his home in Exeter, NH at the age of 94.

Lillian R. Williams, known as Julie and wife of juried member **Gerry Williams**, passed away February 24 at their home in Dunbarton, NH at the age of 90.

John Zentner, juried member in clay passed away December 12 at his home with his family.

Nominations for the Blackstone Volunteer Recognition Award Due July 1

The nomination form is available on the Members Only section of our [website](#). You will need to enter your username and password to log in to access that section. If you don't have a username and password, contact Sharon Lindstrom, database and computer manager, at 603-224-3375 or slindstrom@nhcrafts.org.

North Country Studio Workshops (NCSW)

North Country Studio Workshops (NCSW) (www.northcountrystudioworkshops.org) needs volunteers for its Planning Committee. The committee is comprised of a group of artists and craftspeople and they meet once a month on Thursday mornings at the League's headquarters office in Concord. NCSW hosts a series of multi-media workshops at Bennington College in Vermont every other year in January. If you are interested, please contact Teresa Taylor at ttaylor@metrocast.net or 603-435-6014.

Enter the 2010 Annual Ornament Competition

Applications and prototypes for the 2010 Annual Ornament are due at headquarters by 4:30 pm, Friday, April 3. You can find the application in the Members Only section on our [website](#). In your application, please indicate any potential variations to your design such as size and color. For more information or questions, please contact Terri Wiltse, operations manager at 603-224-3375 or twiltse@nhcrafts.org.

Welcome to the Juried Members Forum

All juried members are members of the Juried Members Forum (JMF) and the JMF serves as your voice in the organization. As a juried member you can participate in Gallery 205 exhibitions, a biennial [Members' Juried Exhibition](#), seven retail galleries and craft demonstrations at our [Annual Craftsmen's Fair](#). The League's fund-raising campaigns, Annual Meeting, Fair Wrap-up meeting, and 17 committees also welcome your participation. A good way to start is to learn more about the League. Check out the League's web site, www.nhcrafts.org and be sure to log into

the Juried Members section, where you can access applications and information about marketing and educational opportunities the League has to offer. You can also keep up with events and general information by reading "Craft Connections", the League's newsletter, and e-mail alerts.

The Juried Members Forum Committee considers and evaluates aspects of the League pertaining to craftsmen, makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees, and is represented on the Board of Trustees. Traditionally, juried members comprise the JMF Committee. The committee Chairperson conducts the Annual Meeting in late May and our nine members are elected by vote just prior to that meeting. The JMF Committee has an open door policy and you are always welcome to sit in on a meeting and address ideas or concerns directly to the committee or to one of its members.

For over 75 years, craftsmen's support of League activities has kept the League alive. Your personal contribution will help sustain the League for yourself and future generations.

The JMF Committee: Ron Tornow, chair; Lynn Adams; Kait Armstrong; Alex Kalish; Stephany Lavallee; Deborah Libby; and Karen Mitchell.

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Retail Gallery News

2009 Traveling Exhibition: Explorations in Glass by Susan Pratt-Smith

The managers of the League of NH Craftsmen Retail Galleries have selected Susan Pratt-Smith as the featured craftsperson for the 2009 Traveling Exhibition. Susan, who is juried in glass, creates one-of-a-kind jewelry, vibrant wall panels, and stained glass installations using dichroic and fused glass. Her exhibition, entitled *Explorations in Glass*, will be on display at each of the League's seven retail galleries. [Learn more about Susan and the exhibition.](#)

Here is the 2009 Traveling Exhibition schedule:

May: Hanover

June: Wolfeboro

July: Littleton

August: Meredith

September: Center Sandwich

October: Concord

November: North Conway



Necklace by Susan Pratt-Smith



2009 Annual Ornament,
The Gift by
Joseph DeRobertis

2009 Annual Ornament: *The Gift* by Joseph DeRobertis

Selected as this year's annual ornament by the League of NH Craftsmen Retail Gallery managers, *The Gift* is hand crafted with aluminum, brass, and gold-filled metal. "A gift to me represents fantasy and imagination on the part of the giver and the recipient," said Joe. A master metal craftsman and a juried League member since 1986, Joe has been making at least one new holiday ornament every year for the past 11 years. His Rocking Horse metal ornament was selected as the League's 1996 ornament. [Learn more about Joe and the ornament.](#)

The Gift is sold exclusively by the Retail Galleries, at the League of NH Craftsmen's Fair, August 1-9, and online at www.nhcrafts.org. Each ornament is signed by Joe, dated 2009, and numbered as one of a limited edition. The ornament comes beautifully gift-boxed and sells for \$21.50.

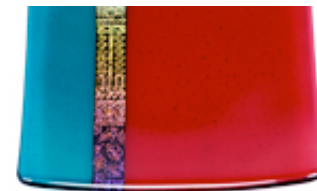
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Committee News



The **Standards Committee** completed the Juror Handbook, a step-by-step guide of the League's jury process.

The **Education Committee** is planning a *Spirit of the Maker Demonstration Series*. Juried craftsmen, such as **Michele O'Neil Kincaid**, **Judy Copeland**, and **Paulette Werger**, will be giving demonstrations of their craft in the League's retail galleries. If you would like to participate in this program, contact **Catherine Green**, standards and education manager at 603-224-3375 or cgreen@nhcrafts.org.



Glass Plate by Judy Copeland

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Donations to the Permanent Collection

The [Permanent Collection](#) has received three new acquisitions. Betsy King of Jackson, NH, donated a Scheier tea set including a tea pot, creamer and sugar, and six cups and saucers. Dr. Robert H. Hamlin, of Largo, FL, donated an Otto Heino punch bowl and seventeen cups, and a walnut "pig" jewelry case made by David Utz. These newly acquired pieces will be on display during the Lifetime Achievement Award Exhibition honoring the Scheiers and the Heinos, May 15 through August 12, 2009 in Gallery 205.

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Additions to the Betty Steele Craft Library

The Craftsman by Richard Sennett was donated by Carol Lummus (Carol has dedicated the book to Ruthie Burt and Gordon Keeler).

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Clay Leek Mood Lamp
by Ron Tornow, a
piece in the *Garden
Imagery* Exhibition

Gallery 205

Garden Imagery Exhibition is very well received!

A record number of visitors have come to see the current exhibition *Garden Imagery*, representing the spirit and life of the garden through four seasons. Over 100 guests attended the opening reception on February 6. The exhibition, which features the work of 46 juried members of the League, continues through April 24. Gallery 205 is located at League headquarters on 205 North Main Street in Concord, and is open Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, and Saturdays, during exhibitions, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Lifetime Achievement Awards Exhibition, May 15 – August 12, 2009

Vivika & Otto Heino and **Mary & Edwin Scheier** were early members of the League that became internationally renowned master potters who transformed the world of pottery. The **Heinos** and the **Scheiers** were honored with the League's Lifetime Achievement Award during the 75th anniversary gala celebration on May 19, 2007. In recognition of that honor, [Gallery 205](#) will host an exhibition featuring the work of these two creative partnerships. **Otto Heino** will attend the opening reception on Friday, May 15 from 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm.

Upcoming exhibitions in Gallery 205

Celebrating the Loom, September 18 – December 11, 2009
A juried exhibition featuring the work of the NH Weavers Guild

The Things We Do for Love, January 29 – April 23, 2010
An exhibition open to all League juried craftspeople

Spirit of the Maker, May 21 – August 18, 2010

An exhibition featuring the work of new juried members from 2007–2010 and their League jurors

Forged Metals, September 24 – December 17, 2010

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