

# Craft Connections

75 YEARS OF  
**Handcrafted**  
EXCELLENCE



Susie Lowe-Stockwell and Otto Heino

## 1932 – 2007

### The League of NH Craftsmen Celebrates 75 Years of Handcrafted Excellence

To mark its 75th anniversary this year, the League is hosting special events, in addition to the Annual Craftsmen's Fair, Open Studio Tour, and Gallery 205 exhibitions. See inside for a complete list. On May 10, we are hosting an anniversary celebration at the Courtyard Marriott Grappone Conference Center in Concord (NH). Laura Knoy, host of New Hampshire Public Radio's The Exchange, will be the Master of Ceremonies for the gala celebration. Governor John Lynch will present a Proclamation, Paul Smith will bring recognition from the American Craft Council, and Gerry Williams will announce the recipients of the League's Lifetime Achievement Awards. The event will also feature a silent auction of work by League juried craftsmen and a raffle of surprises. A key part of the celebration will be the premiere of the League's documentary film, *A LEAGUE OF OUR OWN: New Hampshire and the American Craft Movement*. Copies of the documentary will be sold that evening for \$15 (see order form on page 5), and the updated version of the League's history will also be sold for \$5.

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Karl Drerup, enamellist



Joe Tripetti, enamellist and metalsmith



David Campbell, League Director



Ed and Mary Scheier, potters

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## NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**H**appy Anniversary! The League has reached a milestone in its continued quest to support and encourage the creation of fine handcrafted work.

Seventy-five years have passed since Governor Winant signed a proclamation to grant initial funds for the creation of the first state-funded arts council to support craft in the country. This is New Hampshire after all; being first comes naturally to us.

The League has seen many changes, including its name. Originally known as the League of NH Arts and Crafts, the membership voted to change the name to The League of NH Craftsmen in 1968. Crafts State Corporation was created in 1985 as the marketing arm of the League and was dissolved in 2002. The League established 47 local groups by the mid 1930s from which 23 "front porch home industry shops" evolved throughout the state. Today seven League retail galleries operate under a license agreement to display and market the work of League juried craftspeople and to educate the public about the techniques and value of each craft. The Annual Craftsmen's Fair has grown from card tables in a barn in Crawford Notch to five acres holding 43 tents of booth holders,

demonstrations, and workshops, educational tours and lectures, as well as museum quality exhibitions at Mount Sunapee Resort.

Education was important in the beginning but it is vital now. Technological advances have exposed us to a new world of sensory excitement. Computers, iPods™, cell phones, Bluetooth™ technology – these tools did not exist 75 years ago. The world of fine craft must participate or run the risk of becoming a forgotten trade. To ensure our next 75 years, the League must continue to promote education to a broad audience. We must continue to educate craftspeople who desire to achieve master level skills and introduce children to craft techniques and nurture their interest. But with equal importance, we need to continue to educate the public about the process and value of fine handmade craft, so that they decide to buy your work, again and again. Here's to 75 more years! ■

Susie Lowe-Stockwell  
*Executive Director, League of NH Craftsmen*

## Is There A New Headquarters for the League?

After a thorough investigation of architectural renderings, survey work, and construction bids, the Facilities Committee learned that the cost to renovate the current League headquarters would be \$1.8 million. During this process, the League received a timely offer that would not only save the organization a great deal of money and valuable time, but would give the membership expanded educational opportunities, both as teachers and as students.

At this point the Board unanimously voted to authorize the Executive Director to enter into negotiations with the Board of the Kimball-Jenkins property on 266 N. Main Street in Concord to create a long-term lease that would allow the League to move its headquarters and all operations to that site. This is a tremendous opportunity for a minimal cost, and one that secures the future of growth for the League. For more information, be sure to attend the Annual Meeting on May 24, which will be held at the Carriage House of the Kimball-Jenkins property. Watch your mail for more information on the Annual Meeting. ■



The League of NH Craftsmen is supported in part by a grant from the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

## 75th Anniversary Events in 2007

- January 19**     **Exhibition:** The Early Years, Pieces from the Permanent Collection 1930's – 1960's, January 19 – March 16, Gallery 205 at League Headquarters.
- March 1**        **Celebration Dinner:** Thursday's Child benefit event to support the League's Craft Education Scholarship Fund, held March 1 at the New London Inn, New London, NH.
- March – June**    **Exhibition:** Celebrate! Juried League craftspeople celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the League, March 30 – June 8, Gallery 205 at League headquarters.
- May 10**         **75th Anniversary Gala!** Featuring the documentary premiere: A LEAGUE OF OUR OWN: *New Hampshire and the American Craft Movement* – Enjoy the Silent Auction of League juried work, take a chance on fabulous raffle prizes and applaud recipients of the League's Lifetime Achievement Awards! Thursday, May 10 at 6:00 pm at the Marriott's Grappone Conference Center, Concord, NH. For tickets, please call League headquarters at 603-224-3375.
- May 24**         **Annual Meeting:** Attend the League's 75th Annual Meeting on Thursday, May 24 at Kimball-Jenkins Estate, 266 North Main Street, Concord, NH.
- June 22**         **Exhibition:** Continuing the Tradition, work of newly juried craftspeople, June 22 – September 7, Gallery 205 at League headquarters.
- August 4**        **74th Annual Craftsmen's Fair:** August 4 – 12 at Mount Sunapee Resort, Newbury, NH.
- September 8**    **25th Biennial Members' Juried Exhibition:** The Art Gallery at the University of New Hampshire, September 8 – October 17, Opening Reception and Awards Friday, September 7, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm.
- September 22**   **Craft Weekend Celebration:** Visit the seven League of NH Craftsmen Retail Galleries throughout New Hampshire and enjoy demonstrations and special activities, September 22 – 23.
- September 28**   **Exhibition:** The Later Years, Pieces from the Permanent Collection 1960's – 2007, September 28 – December 7, Gallery 205 at League headquarters.
- November 9**     **3rd Annual Open Studio Tour:** Plan a weekend to enjoy meeting League juried craftspeople in their studios, Veterans Day Weekend, November 9 – 11.
- Throughout the year**     Each of the seven Retail Galleries, which are located in Center Sandwich, Concord, Hanover, Littleton, Meredith, North Conway and Wolfeboro, will be holding special events, including the Traveling Exhibition (see page 6). They also have the 2007 Annual Ornament available for purchase.



*Work from the Permanent Collection from the 1930's - 60's was on display in Gallery 205 from January 19 - March 16 and was enjoyed by collectors and many visitors.*

## 75 Gifts for the League's 75th Anniversary

The permanent collection contains 221 representative pieces of quality work produced by 83 prominent members of the League. During our 75th anniversary year, the League hopes to grow the collection by another 75 pieces. We are looking for gifts from both collectors and craftsmen. A packet of information is available providing an overview, criteria for additions, proposal sheet, deed of gift form, tax information, and a pre-1960s want list.

An Advisory Committee has been formed to review the gift proposals and advise the League about policy and selection. Committee members include: **Wesley Balla**, Director of Exhibitions at the New Hampshire Historical Society; **Inge Eddy**, member of the Board and Gallery 205; **Edith Grodin**, Board member and craft collector; **Andrew Spahr**, Chief Curator at the Currier Museum; **Nora and Norman Stevens**, League supporting members, award sponsors and craft collectors; **David Tardif**, legal consultant and craft collector; and **Gerry Williams**, juried member emeritus and Lifetime Achievement Award recipient.

To request a packet, ask questions, or make comments and suggestions, please contact **Catherine Green**, Standards and Education Manager, at (603) 224-23375 and [cgreen@nhcrafts.org](mailto:cgreen@nhcrafts.org). ■

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is my pleasure to dedicate this column to **Edith Grodin**, who recently celebrated her 90th birthday. Edith is my mentor and the person I strive to emulate in my service to the League. Her dedication to League staff and craftspeople is evident by the attention she gives everyone. She makes telephone calls to those in need; she walks the staff through fire drills to ensure their safe exit from our old and decrepit building; she readily contributes and often leads discussions at Board and committee meetings; and she researches our history and puts it in writing. She touches the League in too many ways to count, and we are so fortunate to have her expertise.

I know that there are other "Ediths" out there...those who quietly give their attention and love to this organization. Many volunteers spend countless hours building the League's mission by participating on committees and carrying out activities. Many, many extra hours are donated by dedicated staff members to make things run smoothly at the Fair, headquarters, and the retail galleries.

I hope you will all join me in taking a moment to thank these devoted individuals. (You might be doing that by looking in the mirror). And, don't forget to wish Edith a HAPPY BIRTHDAY with many happy, healthy returns. She is an inspiration and we love her! ■

Bev Wolf

*President, League of NH Craftsmen*



*Edith Grodin*

## Change in Photography Standards Approved

In January, the Standards Committee recommended to the Board of Trustees a significant change to the photography guidelines, which was approved by the Board. To be eligible for jury, photography applicants must produce prints using either traditional or wet chemical processes. Digital processes are no longer permitted for new applicants. Current members juried in photography that use digital processes are grandfathered.

Many paths of inquiry led up to this decision including an examination of the historical role of photography in the League, the treatment of photography by other organizations, and an attempt to understand the difference between art and craft.

There is no doubt that the production of a great photograph – digital or otherwise – makes many of the same demands as those made on the producer of a beautiful piece of furniture, an exquisitely woven basket, etc.. However, there is an automated aspect to digital photography – only one of many aspects, but significant nevertheless – which we felt was not consistent with standards policy's requirement that the craftsman maintain significant hands-on involvement with the creation of each piece.

In my view, this step further distinguishes the League as an organization that highly values handwork. The process by which pieces are made continues to be as important as the end result. Recently several similar organizations have eliminated the word "craft" from their name and promotional material, seemingly regarding it as a liability. It is now up to us to demonstrate that there is great value and dignity not only in what we do, but also in how we do it. ■

Garry Kalajian

*Chair of Standards Committee*

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## Blackstone Volunteer Recognition Award

**Jess Blackstone** was a wood carver and member of the League for many, many years. His miniature sculptures of wooden birds stand today as prizes in the Master's Collection exhibit in Gallery 205. Jess' wife, **Edie**, was also active participant, and was a member of the League staff. After retiring, she volunteered her time, providing craft education and membership services. Every year, she would be at the Fair serving the League in literally hundreds of ways. The Blackstone Volunteer Recognition Award was established to pay tribute to her selfless dedication to the League.

This award is one of the most important honors presented by the League. By July 1, the League membership may nominate volunteers who have supported craftspeople and craft education in extraordinary ways. The final selection is made by the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees and the award is presented at the Craftsmen's Dinner at the Annual Craftsmen's Fair which will be Thursday, August 9. You can pick up a nomination form at headquarters, or download it from our website, [www.nhcrafts.org](http://www.nhcrafts.org). Click Policies and Forms, then Blackstone Nomination Form. A list of prior recipients are also listed on the website, [www.nhcrafts.org](http://www.nhcrafts.org). ■

# A Partridge in a Pear Tree Selected as the League of NH Craftsmen's 2007 Annual Ornament

Peggy Roth's handmade miniature mobile, A Partridge in a Pear Tree, has been selected as the League of NH Craftsmen's Annual Ornament for 2007. The mobile features a peaceful wooden partridge with moveable wings, nestled in a wreath of green leaves.

"When I started making wooden mobiles, birds were my first inspiration because I see so many of them," said Peggy, "and I thought people would really like this little partridge so nice and cozy and warm in its pear tree."

Peggy and her husband Rich are proprietors of Flappers and Floppers, a small craft business in Dublin, NH. Peggy makes more than 115 designs of mobiles, with wings that flap. She had made flappers as a hobby; then she became a juried member

of the League in 1993, "and that's when I started getting serious."

Over the years she has progressed from birds to flapping barnyard animals, forest animals, cats, dogs and fantasy creatures, to name a few. She also does custom designs for her clients. The Flappers are made from furniture-grade birch plywood, detailed with woodburning and finished with enamel paint and oil stain.

The League's annual ornament selection, now in its 20th year, is open to all juried League craftspeople. The ornament is selected by the managers of the seven League of NH Craftsmen Retail Galleries. A Partridge in a Pear Tree ornaments are sold exclusively by the Retail Galleries, and at the



Peggy Roth's A Partridge in a Pear Tree ornament

League of NH Craftsmen's Fair. Each ornament is signed by Peggy, dated 2007, and numbered as one of a limited edition. The ornament comes beautifully gift-boxed and sells for \$21. Major credit cards are accepted for ordering the ornament by telephone from any Retail Gallery. ■

## Get Your Copy of A LEAGUE OF OUR OWN: New Hampshire and the American Craft Movement

In past issues of this newsletter, we have been keeping you updated on the progress of a documentary film about the League called, A LEAGUE OF OUR OWN: *New Hampshire and the American Craft Movement*. It is completed and will have its premiere at the League's 75th Anniversary Gala Celebration at the Marriott Grappone Conference Center in Concord on May 10. The documentary draws on 75 years of archives, highlighting the League's beginnings during the depths of the Depression era, through its growth and expansion through the years, as well as a "behind the scenes" look at the world of today's successful craftspeople.

Throughout the year, the film will be shown in various venues across the state, including the League's Annual Craftsmen's Fair, August 4-12 at the Mount Sunapee Resort. Public television is considering possible air dates as well.

The film will be available for purchase at the 75th Anniversary Gala Event for a special price of \$15. After the event, the price is \$20. If you would like to order a copy, please complete this form.



### PREORDER THE DVD!

#### A LEAGUE OF OUR OWN: New Hampshire and the American Craft Movement



I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ copies of A LEAGUE OF OUR OWN: *New Hampshire and the American Craft Movement*. Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_. (The cost of the video is \$20 plus \$5 shipping and handling).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to League of NH Craftsmen. Thank you!

Complete and send this form to:  
Documentary Order, League of NH Craftsmen  
205 North Main Street, Concord, NH 03301

# Otto Heino is the Featured Craftsperson for the 2007 Traveling Exhibition



To mark the League of NH Craftsmen's 75th anniversary this year, the managers of the League of NH Craftsmen Retail Galleries have selected one of the League's earliest members and one of the world's masters of ceramic arts, **Otto Heino**, as the featured craftsperson for the League's 2007 Traveling Exhibition.

Otto and his late wife, Vivika, are internationally known for their classic ceramic techniques and use of glazes, specifically a buttery yellow glaze that was revered in early Chinese ceramics but then was lost for centuries. His exhibition, entitled *A Passion for Pottery*, will be on display at each of the League's seven retail galleries starting in May and running through November.

Otto's illustrious career began in 1948. A veteran of World War II, he took a pottery class at the New Hampshire League of Arts and Crafts (the precursor to the League of NH Craftsmen). He found his passion working with clay, and his teacher, Vivika Timeriasieff, eventually became his wife. Together, the two formed a creative partnership, making pottery and teaching at the University of Southern California, the Chouinard Art Institute, and in their own studio in Ojai (CA), where he stills works today.

Otto has a natural, physical throwing style. His wheel throwing technique requires great strength and at 92, he is still able to throw 100 pounds of clay at once. He is one of very few potters who can keep a refined shape in a large vessel. Otto is known for his keen eye for form and his use of rich color glazes. It was in 1995 that he rediscovered the yellow glaze formula that was lost for more than 1,500 years. Otto's use of this glaze has made his pottery highly sought-after, particularly in Asia. Many of his pieces are collected by ceramic enthusiasts around the world. His works have been displayed in more than 200 major international and national exhibitions and in museums in San Francisco (CA), Los Angeles (CA), Washington D.C., and Boston (MA). ■

## EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

Each Retail Gallery will have a collection of Otto's work, including some pieces with his special yellow glaze.

### MAY Concord

36 North Main Street, 603-228-8171  
Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:30 am – 5:30 pm  
Saturday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

### JUNE Hanover

13 Lebanon Street, 603-643-5050  
Hours: Monday – Saturday, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

### JULY Center Sandwich

32 Main Street, 603-284-6831  
Hours: Monday – Saturday, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Sunday, 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

### AUGUST North Conway

2526 White Mountain Hwy, 603-356-2441  
Hours: Monday – Sunday, 9:30 am – 5:30 pm

### SEPTEMBER Meredith

279 Daniel Webster Hwy, 603-279-7920  
Hours: Monday – Saturday, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Sunday, 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

### OCTOBER Littleton

81 Main Street, 603-444-1099  
Hours: Monday – Saturday, 10 am – 6:00 pm  
Sunday, 10 am – 5:00 pm

### NOVEMBER Wolfeboro

64 Center Street, 603-569-3309  
Hours: Monday – Saturday, 9:30 am – 5:00 pm  
Sunday, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm



## IN MEMORIAM: HONORING BETTY STEELE



Betty Steele passed away on March 4 at the age of 94. She was a vital member of the League staff from 1948 until she retired in 1975. She was honored at the 1975 Annual Craftsmen's Fair for all of her contributions. Betty held the positions of secretary to the director (who at that time was David Campbell), coordinator of education, interim director, and

president of the Board of Trustees from 1980-1982. Betty wrote the history of the League called *The League of NH Craftsmen's First Fifty Years, 1932-1982*, and became the League's primary historian. A library fund was started in her name, and today, the Betty Steele Craft Library continues to be a great resource for craftspeople. Betty remained active with the League through her involvement with the League's Sandwich Home Industries shop. She is featured in the League's 75th anniversary documentary, which is scheduled to premiere this May.

## Participate in the 25th Biennial Members' Juried Exhibition

Be a part of the League's continuing 75th anniversary celebration by applying to the 25th Biennial Members' Juried Exhibition, hosted by The Art Gallery at the University of NH in Durham, NH from September 8 – October 17, 2007. The Opening Reception is September 7 from 6 – 8 p.m. with an awards presentation at 7 p.m. Over \$2,500 in awards will be presented, including the Ballentine Best-In-Show award, the Edith L. Grodin Innovation award, and other medium-specific awards. We are honored to have Beth Ann Gerstein, Director of the Society of Arts and Crafts, as our awards juror this year. If you need a Call for Entry/application, please contact **Mary-Alice Dalton**, Coordinator, at 603-524-8801 or [tsmad@worldpath.net](mailto:tsmad@worldpath.net). Application deadline is April 30. ■

## NEWLY ACCEPTED JURIED MEMBERS – FALL 2006

The League of NH Craftsmen is pleased to announce that 18 craftspeople have met its standards for technical expertise and creativity and have been appointed juried League members in their particular craft medium.

### CLAY

**Lisa Blake**, trays, bowls, and dishes; Lisa Blake Pottery, West Chesterfield, NH, [blakejl@ptc.net](mailto:blakejl@ptc.net)

**Steven and Suzanne Russell**, functional and decorative stoneware and porcelain, Russell Pottery at Chalk Pond, Newbury, NH, [crazyrussell@msn.com](mailto:crazyrussell@msn.com)

### FIBER, WEAVING

**Sarah Warren**, tapestry, Jefferson, NH, [swtapestry@ne.rr.com](mailto:swtapestry@ne.rr.com)

**Betsy Wing**, tapestry, Woodstock, VT, [nowbet@vermontel.net](mailto:nowbet@vermontel.net)

### GLASS

**Hethre Larivee**, glass dresses, Funky Fusion Glass, N. Sutton, NH, [funkyfusionglass@yahoo.com](mailto:funkyfusionglass@yahoo.com)

**Nicholas Kekic**, blown and tooled glass vessels, Tsuga Studios, Chester, VT, [tsugastudios@vermontel.net](mailto:tsugastudios@vermontel.net)

**Christopher Sherwin**, torch work and blown glass paperweights, eggs, and vases; Sherwin Art Glass, North Walpole, NH, [sherwinartglass@adelphia.net](mailto:sherwinartglass@adelphia.net)

### LEATHER

**Margaret Koelliker**, handbags and pillows, Haverhill, MA, [costumes@bellatlantic.net](mailto:costumes@bellatlantic.net)

### METAL

**John Spurling**, enamel, repousse, and cloisonné; Currier Hill Studio, Thorton, NH

**Jeanne Bennett**, silver, brass, and copper jewelry; Shila Design, Putney, VT, [b\\_peter\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:b_peter_2000@yahoo.com)

### MIXED MEDIA

**Ray Bliss Rich**, hand-pulled paper, Meditations on Paper, Hillsboro, NH, [ray@sumi-art.com](mailto:ray@sumi-art.com)

**Micheline**, gourds, Merrimack, NH, [hotchocolate22@hotmail.com](mailto:hotchocolate22@hotmail.com)

### NON-METAL JEWELRY

**Nancy Tobey**, glass beads and jewelry, Nancy Tobey Glass Beads, Ayer, MA, [beads@nancytobey.com](mailto:beads@nancytobey.com)

### PRINTS

**Michael Beaudoin**, wood block prints, Blackbird Studio, North Berwick, ME, [jcoughlin@maine.rr.com](mailto:jcoughlin@maine.rr.com)

### WOOD

**Wallace Stimson II**, stone and wood carving, Catamount Carving, Bath, NH

**David Belser**, cryptex tantalus, turned lidded boxes, and bottle stoppers; Penacook, NH, [turning@davidbelser.com](mailto:turning@davidbelser.com)

**Graham Oakes**, bowls and hollow vessels, Derry, NH, [turnabowl@yahoo.com](mailto:turnabowl@yahoo.com)

## In Memoriam

**Peg Johnson**, juried member in fiber, from Rye, NH passed away February 1.

**Betty Steele**, past League Board President and former staff member from Tamworth, NH passed away in March. (see above)

## Get Exposed at the May New Hampshire Public TV Auction

Here's your opportunity to connect with New Hampshire Public Television's (NHPTV) loyal, high earning audience by donating a craft item or your time to the spring NHPTV Auction. The spring Auction runs from May 4 through 13. The League will be answering phones on Tuesday, May 8 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Call **Terri Wiltse** or **Kerry Spongberg** at the League if you are interested in joining us or if you would like to donate an item.

NHPTV provides service to more than 500,000 families each week throughout New Hampshire, up to Portland, Maine, along the Vermont border region and Eastern Massachusetts, including the North Shore and Boston metropolitan area. Your donation helps to fund quality programs that entertain, educate and enrich all year long – and gives you exposure to NHPTV viewers. ■

## Boston Gift Show

The Boston Gift Show, which was held on March 24 to 27 at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, is a great marketing venue for members of the League. This dynamic event brings buyers and sellers together to offer a unique shopping and selling experience. This year, the League booth featured eight juried members, including **Christine Cornelius, Deborah Falls, Betty Lathrop, Ray Bliss Rich, Peggy Roth, Christopher Sherwin, William John Woods, and John Zentner.**

The Boston Gift Show is a wonderful opportunity for participants to obtain wholesale accounts. If you would like to participate in next year's show, please contact **Terri Wiltse** at 603-224-3375 or [twiltse@nhcrafts.org](mailto:twiltse@nhcrafts.org). ■

## New York Times Travel Show Provides League with Great Exposure

**F**or the second year in a row, the League of NH Craftsmen participated in the New York Times Travel Show, which was held at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York City, February 23 – 25.

This show attracts over 30,000 attendees, making it the largest trade event for travel in the U.S. The first day of the show was open to travel industry professionals; the next two days were open to the public.

The League had an eye-catching and informative booth located near the entrance of the exhibit hall – which turned out to be a prime stopping spot. The booth promoted New Hampshire as a summer vacation destination and enticed travelers to come to the League of NH Craftsmen's Fair and meet

League craftspeople, visit cultural attractions in the area, stay at some of the state's charming inns, explore real estate, and experience New Hampshire's products and services. Several League members supplied craft items, which were prominently displayed to draw attention to the booth.

The booth was staffed by members of Sullivan Creative, our marketing and public relations agency. They interacted with, and supplied informational packets to, representatives from large travel industry organizations, to smaller regional travel agents and tour operators, as well as hundreds of people from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut, who were very interested in traveling to New Hampshire. The number of visitors increased from the last year's exhibit, helping to further generate interest in the Fair, and raising awareness of the Sunapee Region of New Hampshire as a travel destination.

The League will likely participate again next year, so League members are urged to consider doing a demonstration or working at next year's show. It has proved to be an excellent promotional opportunity. ■



*The League's exhibit at the New York Times Travel Show featured a variety of fine handcraft by League members, as well as information about the Annual Craftsmen's Fair.*

## Direct Marketing Award Provides Exposure for League Events

Sullivan Creative, the League's marketing firm, received a creative excellence award from the New England Direct Marketing Association (NEDMA) for the 2006 Open Studio Tour Integrated Media Campaign. Sullivan Creative's award-winning campaign consisted of public relations, targeted

advertising, direct mail, web listings, posters, and the Open Studio Tour guide. Attendance and craft sales for this event were higher than 2005. This campaign entry generated awareness of the League and its key events with New England-based direct marketing professionals, and was automatically entered into the national Direct Marketing Association's ECHO Awards competition, providing greater exposure for the League and Sullivan Creative.

# Love for the Elephants from Littleton's Craftspeople

By Lakshmi, resident at the Millennium Elephant Foundation

The Littleton League Gallery celebrated Valentine's Day with a special fundraising exhibition called "Heartworks," raising \$450 for the Millennium Elephant Foundation, a home for retired and injured elephants in Sri Lanka.

Store managers **Beth Simon** and **Michele Allison** mailed handmade paper hearts made from elephant dung to 70 craftspeople, asking them to incorporate the hearts into an art project. Sales of the work would be donated to the care of the Foundation's elderly residents.

Eighteen League artists responded with work that included a hand-cut elephant jigsaw puzzle, a lampshade, a quilted wall



hanging, heart earrings, and a decorated goose egg that included an Asian textile motif representing an elephant's foot.

A local newspaper ran a story on the project, headlined "Delightful Dung for Your Dear," which attracted visitors who were

excited about this creative fundraiser. Participating artists were equally enthusiastic about this collaborative, "outside-the-box" project. Photographer Judy Lombardi wrote, "Let's keep the 'fun' in fundraising and show that 'art' has 'heart!'"

The raw materials for the paper come from the elephants' diet of coconut leaves and kithul bark, which is initially pulped naturally in their stomachs. The droppings are collected & sun-dried, then boiled with margosa leaves, a natural disinfectant. The dung is then mechanically pulped to perfection. The sale of this paper helps support the elephants in their retirement and funds a mobile veterinary clinic for injured elephants throughout the island.

For more information about the Foundation visit [www.eureka.lk/elefound](http://www.eureka.lk/elefound). ■

## A New Beginning for North Conway

**Karissa** and **Philip Jacobs**, new owners of the League of NH Craftsmen Retail Gallery in North Conway (and juried members of the League), hosted an event on April 14 to celebrate a new beginning for the retail gallery. It was an evening of beautiful fine craft, wine and cheese, and music by the Mountain Aire String Quartet.

Since purchasing the retail gallery franchise and property last Fall, Karissa and Philip have made some renovations to the gallery and integrated their new Earth & Fire Glassblowing studio. For information, call 603-356-2441 or email [nhleague@earthandfirestudio.net](mailto:nhleague@earthandfirestudio.net). ■



## Annual Fund Update

The League of the NH Craftsmen would like to thank everyone who contributed to the recent Annual Fund drive. We have made our goal of \$25,000... and all because of your generosity. Thank you again!

Reminder...

## LERF: The League Emergency Relief Fund

The League established this emergency relief fund to assist professional craftspeople who have suffered a disaster which significantly interrupts or prevents them from making their craft and living, and for whom this disaster creates an emergency situation and need for immediate relief funds. For more information about LERF or to obtain an application, please call **Susie Lowe-Stockwell** at 603-224-3375 or email [slowstoc@nhcrafts.org](mailto:slowstoc@nhcrafts.org). Donations to LERF are always welcome. ■

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Managers: Michele Allison and Beth Simon

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Owners: Philip and Karissa Jacobs  
Manager: Karissa Jacobs

**WOLFEBORO**

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Manager: Sarah Copplestone

# Five Little Things: Notes to Artists on Sources and Making – A Workshop by Syd Carpenter

By Teresa Taylor, a League Craft Scholarship recipient

**H**aystack Mountain School of Crafts in Deer Isle (ME) is situated along a breathtaking rocky coast amid moss- and lichen-covered forests. It offers a meditative, calming and nourishing environment for craftspeople. The ceramics studio, with glass windows along one side, offers a view of the ocean and nearby islands. The wooden buildings for dorms, studios and dining hall are weathered and nestled amongst the trees and woods, fitting naturally and beautifully in this inspiring landscape.

Syd Carpenter, Associate Professor of Ceramics and Chair of the Art Department at Swarthmore College, presented a 12-day workshop, *Five Little Things: Notes to Artists on Sources and Making* in June 2006, which I attended with 16 participants who ranged in age from 20 to 65. As students and clay artists, we were able to create honest and personal work in response to her provocations. We discussed intentions and ideas along with critiques during each exercise. Because pieces were still leather hard, we could alter the work before drying and firing. Each provocation allowed us to explore a new idea and challenge our creative and technical abilities.

For the first provocation, "Abbreviations", we were asked to abbreviate, edit, reduce, compress or simplify a piece of our work. This could mean working smaller or eliminating surface decoration or using only the essentials to complete a piece in one day.

Our second provocation was "Do You See What I See?" Each participant was given a small bag with an object inside. We had to write a description of the object without naming it, offering six to eight details or clues. Each participant received someone else's description and then built a piece from that. As Syd explained, "As artists, the manner in which we see and internalize perceptions of what we are seeing is the first step towards visual expression. We distinguish ourselves from non-artists by

seeing our environments and all of its inhabitants as components in a never-ending construction of formal rhythms, textures, patterns, color, line, lights/darks, and narrative. The next step is the process of sorting this constant stream of visual information into what's visually compelling and what is not. This process of selecting establishes the foundations for what ultimately becomes our art."

Our third provocation involved "Maps." Using a selection of historical, mythical, and artist-made maps as sources, we were asked to develop a clay map. Using hand-building or wheel-throwing techniques, we created our own personal maps.

"Interpreting Sounds through Clay" was our fourth provocation. Syd played recordings of sounds and asked us to focus on characteristics such as texture, rhythm, round and full, high or low, narrow or compressed. Said Syd, "Using your own perceptions and imagination, sounds can serve as a rich visual resource for the creation of two and three dimensional images and forms. Your ears become the lens through which a previously untapped resource of images can be viewed." The participants drew a visual "short hand" of assorted shapes and marks while listening to the recordings. These drawings of several different types of sounds, sharp, soft, or textured became inspirations for patterns or



objects in clay, that were either hand-built, wheel-thrown, or a combination of the two.

The fifth and last provocation from Syd Carpenter was given to us on the last day. It follows:

*An elder Cherokee Native American was teaching his grandchildren about life. He said to them, "A fight is going on inside me. It is a terrible fight and it is between two wolves. One wolf represents fear, anger, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority and ego. The other stands for joy, peace, love, hope, sharing, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, friendship, apathy, generosity, truth, compassion, and faith. This same fight is going on inside you, and every other person, too."*

*The children thought about it for a minute and then one child asked his grandfather, "Which wolf will win?" The old Cherokee simply replied, "The one you feed."*

Each provocation required creative thought along with technical considerations, opening up channels for new ideas and expression.

This workshop gave me an opportunity to challenge myself and experiment with clay form and surface in a rejuvenating and beautiful environment.

Haystack offers many workshops, including Blacksmithing, Book Arts, Fibers/Quilting, Metals, and Wood. All studios were open 24

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**This workshop gave me an opportunity to challenge myself and experiment with clay form and surface in a rejuvenating and beautiful environment.**

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hours a day and visitors were welcome. Each evening began with a poem read by the executive director and poet, Stuart Kestenbaum. At dinner, the home cooked food was plentiful, fresh, and varied, adding to the nourishment offered by the Haystack experience. Dinner was served family style

and we were always able to view the ocean, forests and islands from our tables. In the evenings after dinner, we would gather for faculty slide shows and presentations. The dining and living room were comfortable places to gather late in the evening for discussions and socializing around the warmth of the fire in the fireplace.

My experience at Haystack offered me a "whole" experience in every way. I was inspired and encouraged, nourished and stimulated not only by Syd Carpenter, but fellow students and other faculty presenters within this beautiful wooded island environment. I fell asleep and awoke to the sounds of the ocean. It offered time to contemplate and reflect; a welcome respite from my busy studio, family, and teaching life. I left with new perspectives and exciting ideas to continue to pursue in my own studio. This experience will help my work to grow and evolve in new directions. ■

## MEMBER NEWS

**Luann Udell** appeared in the March 2007 issue of *MORE*, a national magazine dedicated to celebrating women 40 and up. "The Mentor's Manual," by Mary Lou Quinlan in the Work and Money section of the magazine, shows how professional women network and support each other and avoid getting too entangled with the "takers" in life. Luann was interviewed for the article, and her strategies and insights are featured in the article.

Congratulations to **Lia Gormley** (juried member in metal jewelry) from Portsmouth who gave birth to a baby girl, Mielle, in November.

**Wen Redmond** has an article called Holographic Memories that appears in April/May issue of *Quilting Arts magazine*. Her work has been on display at the at the

Second Annual Juried Show at 119 Gallery in Lowell, MA; the 59th Annual Members Show at the Sharon Arts Center in Peterborough, NH (January-February); the Wichita Center for the Arts (March-May); and the WCA and Jewish Women Artist's Network's Kraft Center for Jewish Life Columbia University, New York (February-March). Her exhibit, *And the Hand was Female*, travels to the Rubin Gallery at the BU Hillel at Boston University, April 12 through June 30. One of her pieces is in a *Studio Art Quilts Association* exhibit called *Catharsis*, which is traveling to various venues for a year. She was juried into a small art format college exhibit, called *Bark*, at the Ayers Art Gallery, in Lowell, MA. Two of her pieces – *Forest and Roots* – are in the *Sacred Threads* quilt exhibition, scheduled for June 2007 in Reynoldsburg, OH.

**Hana Saydek**, daughter of League juried member in mixed media (botanicals) **Donna Hiromura**, won the Whistler Shoot Out and is the #1 skier in the East to represent the USA in Whistler, British Columbia (Canada).

**Michele O'Neil Kincaid**, League member juried in fiber, has a piece entitled *Flume* on loan to congresswoman Carol Shea Porter's office in Washington, D.C.

**Bonnie Violet**, juried in fiber, was selected to have her work shown in the Thos. Moser catalog.

Thank you to **Bridget LeRoy** and the **New London Inn** for hosting the League as their Thursday's Child non-profit benefit dinner March 1. A portion of the dinner proceeds were donated to support the League Scholarship Fund. ■



*League of N.H. Craftsmen*

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## EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

### GALLERY 205

205 North Main Street, Concord, NH 03301

## 2007 Exhibition Schedule

### League Celebrates its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year!

#### **CELEBRATE!**

March 30 – June 8, 2007

A multi-media exhibition showcasing excellence in fine craft to mark 75 Years of the League of NH Craftsmen.

#### **Continuing the Tradition**

June 22–September 7, 2007

A multi-media exhibition featuring the work of newly juried members of the League of NH Craftsmen.

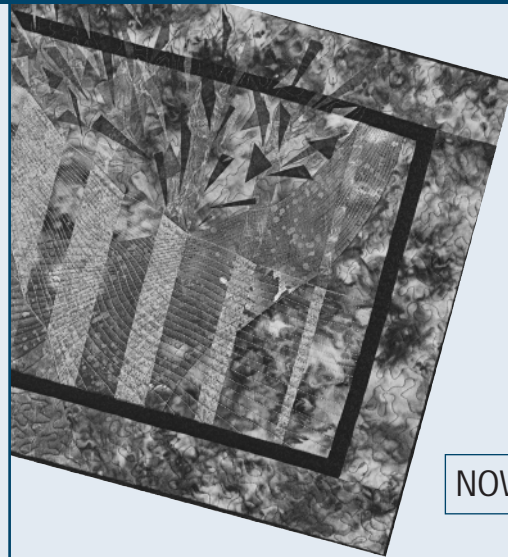
#### **The Later Years**

September 28 – December 7, 2007

Pieces from the Permanent Collection, 1960s-2007

**OPEN** Monday – Friday, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Saturday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm during exhibitions



NOW ON DISPLAY

# CELEBRATE!