



# HANDI-NOTES



January 2012 Volume 3, Issue 2

(401)831-5337 [www.handicraftclub.org](http://www.handicraftclub.org)

## IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT
- 1 NEW WEBSITE
- 2 WELCOME NEWSLETTER EDITOR
- 2 CLASSES: WHAT'S NEW THIS WINTER?
- 3 HOLIDAY PARTY & AUCTION
- 3 PAINTING DEMONSTRATIONS
- 3 THIS SPRING: HANDICRAFT IN BLOOM
- 4 TEACHER PROFILE: ANNE BURNHAM
- 4 RECIPE OF THE MONTH

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year to you all! I hope that your holidays were merry and that you are ready to start an exciting new year!

### *Fall Recap*

The holiday party was a great success and took place on December 5<sup>th</sup>. Nancy Moger and Raya Goff both worked tirelessly with wonderful, helpful and talented committees. The Club looked beautiful, the food and drink grand and the auction fun and multi-faceted this year! And please thank Raya and her committee. They made \$4000, almost doubling the last year's profits. WOW.

The Club was open December 3<sup>rd</sup> for the Providence Preservation Society Holiday Tour. We had more than 300 people go through the house. All were astonished and in awe of how beautiful the house is and most did not know we were a Club!

The most exciting news to report since our last newsletter is that we again received a grant from The Champlin Foundation. The amount received covers the work we did this summer on the house. The board is sincerely grateful to the Champlin Foundation for their continued support in restoring this important, historic building.

### *Winter View*

The winter class registrations were sent out mostly by e-mail this year with only a few by post. I am sure that there are still places for late members to sign-up as our winter classes are smaller. If you are in RI this winter, do consider taking a class and maybe even one that might be new to you. And remember, you can bring a guest!

### *Thank You and... the Future*

All of this work on Club events is not possible without each and every one of you. Thank you for saying "yes" to help. As we go into 2012, we can look forward to the completion of the house restoration project, a new website and even possible on-line registration and, of course, and most importantly, our ongoing and well-loved classes, both old and new. See you soon!

**Izzy Goff**  
President

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Handicraft Club has a website!

[www.handicraftclub.org](http://www.handicraftclub.org)

Thanks to Alyssa, our public pages have been created. We plan to take better pictures over the winter and it is our hope to have private pages (members only) up and running by the spring. If we are lucky and technically savvy, we will even be able to register for classes on-line next fall! Imagine that.

Please review the new site. We would love to hear any comments, suggestions and yes, even criticisms as we continue the site development. It is for all of us, so please get clicking and let us know what you think, what needs to change, how we can we make it better!

**Izzy Goff, Jen Auber, Jozy Mainelli, Pam Gardner**  
Technology Committee



*Members can also get Club news the old fashioned way. Please make it a habit to check out the new bulletin board, created by Liza McCahan, in the skylight room adjacent to the kitchen. There you will find all recent news about classes, special events and membership.*

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## WELCOME SUSAN TASH, NEWSLETTER EDITOR

I'd like to introduce our newsletter editor, Susan Tash, a new and enthusiastic member of the Handicraft Club. Susan moved here from Chicago a year and a half ago, and promptly joined the Handicraft Club where she could pursue her long-time dream of learning early American decorative painting. She can be found every Tuesday from 9:00 to 3:30 happily toiling in Peggy Rodgers's class.

Susan comes to us with many skills honed over the years in corporate public relations and business, working as director of business information at major corporations in New York and Chicago.

She has two children and two grandchildren, all of whom live in this area. Susan says that living close to her children and painting at the Handicraft Club bring her all the joy she sought in making the big move from the Midwest. She's never looked back.

**Izzy Goff**  
President

## CLASSES: WHAT'S NEW IN WINTER?

### *Bring a Guest to Class, Entice New Members*

A new policy permits members to bring a non-member guest to a winter term class in which the member is enrolled. A \$25 surcharge to the normal class tuition will be charged and the member is responsible for the guest's fees. A non-member guest may take only one course, and only if there is space available 14 days before the start of class.

If you have friends who've expressed interest in the Club, this is the perfect opportunity to share the wonders of the Club with that friend. It is hoped that this new program will enable the Club to attract new members.

### *Some Classes Still Open; Seeking Eager Participants*

In the past, if you've found that a class you wanted to take was filled, the best time to grab a slot in favorite classes is the winter session beginning January 9. Usually crowded and filled quickly in spring and fall terms, there are often openings for the winter term.

Most of the classes still have openings. So, if you're interested in Acrylics, Crochet, Decorative Arts, Decorative Painting, Decoupage, Knitting or Quilting, sign up now. Mahjong, Nantucket Baskets, Painting & Drawing, Rug Hooking and Watercolor classes all have availabilities.

Workshops and mini-classes with openings are: the Cooking Classes (Comfort Foods on Feb. 3 and Super Bowl Party on Jan. 20), Frame Loom Tapestry (Jan. 19, 26, Feb. 2, 9), Weathering Winter, a journaling and illustration workshop (Jan. 11, 18, 25 and Feb. 1), Portraiture (Feb. 17, 24) and Coiled Pine Needle Workshop (March 2).

Add learning a new craft or reconnecting with one you've tried before as one of your New Year's Resolutions. It may be a lot more fun than losing weight or exercising, the usual resolutions, and signing up is easy. Refer to your class schedule sent to you earlier.

*Note:* parking spaces are still available at the Historical Society lots. Two are open on Monday, one on Thursday.

### *Italian Teacher Sought For Classes at Club*

Bobbie Binder, class chair, is seeking an Italian instructor to run a class at the Club. If anyone knows of a suitable teacher she would like to recommend, please give the name and contact information to Bobbie Binder ([binder555@aol.com](mailto:binder555@aol.com) or 401.273.4728).

### *Club Seeks Donation of Small Loom*

Chris Pratt, who teaches weaving on Wednesdays, asks for a donation of a small floor loom, 22 to 24 inches. If you have one or know of someone who has one, there's a need for such a loom at the Club.

**Bobbie Binder & Pam Gardner**  
Class Co-Chairs



*The early November Tapas Cooking class conducted by Mary Hughes taught participants how to cook the dishes and where to buy some of the hard-to-find ingredients. Best of all, they got to eat what was prepared.*

**Remember two upcoming classes:  
Superbowl Cooking (Jan. 20) and Comfort Foods (Feb. 3).**

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## HOLIDAY PARTY A HIT; AUCTION EARNINGS ARE NOTEWORTHY

The annual Handicraft Club holiday party on Dec. 5 was a great success by any measure. The auction, which featured 39 donated items, 10 more than in 2010, brought in \$3968, far more than the previous year. These monies will go towards renovating the basket classroom.

The Club was decorated with holiday sprigs and sprays, ribbons and wreaths, poinsettias and greens. Members and guests enjoyed wonderful food and cocktails provided by Tom's of Coventry and Dennis, the bartender. The entire Club sparkled with good cheer, good vibes, good victuals, and a sense of friendly familiarity.

For those successful bidders who bought holiday gifts for friends, family or themselves, congratulations on your purchases and thank you for your support. And for those many Club members who contributed to the event by planning, decorating, or donating your time, the results were well worth it. Kit Barnum, Jay Connelly, Janet Jagger, Lea Angell, Jean Cole, Sharleen Bowen, Carol Smith, Will Moger and Ria Nagtegaal, our bow-poofers, garland-fluffers, wreath-wrestlers and mantel magicians – we couldn't have done it without you.

**Nancy Moger**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

**Raya Goff**  
Auction Chair



*Admiring the beautiful works donated by Club members, holiday party attendees bid record prices for these beautiful pieces of art.*



*Food, drink and beautiful art were in the Club's exquisite dining hall for a great holiday party.*



## STUDIO DEMONSTRATIONS

Painting demonstrations were given by teachers Richard Marther (pictured above with Nancy Moger), Richard Harrington, and Kathy Weber on December 15th. Attendees learned lots of helpful tricks. The Club hopes to have other demonstrations in the spring.

## HANDICRAFT IN BLOOM SCHEDULED FOR SPRING

Mark your calendars for the afternoon of April 10 when Perennial Planters, a Providence garden club, will put on a flower show at the Club. Using six selected pieces of art by Handicraft Club artists, garden club members will do a flower arrangement interpreting the piece of art, similar to the annual spring "Art in Bloom" show at the Museum of Fine Art.

Details are to be finalized, but expect a late afternoon display and a cocktail party. Trina Sherer is spearheading this effort.

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## WHO IS ANNE BURNHAM?

While most Handicraft Club members have used the winter break between classes to devote themselves to other interests, not so for Carrie Elliott, Sandy Earle, Liza McCahan, Nancy Dunn, Caroline Obrecht and Marilyn Edwards. They are so devoted to their class and their teacher, Anne Burnham, that they were found one sunny winter morning during the break knitting and talking – the talk being an important element – in the Club lunchroom.

Burnham has been teaching knitting at the Club for the past nine years. Taught to knit as a child by her two older sisters, she knit her first item in second grade and her first sweater in fifth grade.

Many of the students in Burnham's class said they'd learned to knit early on but only got serious about it when they joined the class. Some have been seriously knitting their entire lives. Some bring their own patterns to work on, and sometimes a student will bring in such an interesting pattern that everyone shares it.

The class meets Wednesday afternoons and Thursday mornings. Sometimes they'll meet at an individual student's house. Such occasions have been during the winter break or on a snow day when the Club is closed.

Raised in Mountain Lakes, NJ, Burnham now lives in Rehoboth with her husband, David, who for 16 years was headmaster at Moses Brown School. Anne Burnham was also at Moses Brown as a math teacher. After a year-long stint in Japan after retiring from Moses Brown, both now keep busy with favorite interests – hers are teaching knitting and serving as treasurer of her church and secretary of another three organizations.

Burnham says one of her favorite times as a Handicraft Club teacher was when her class rented a limousine to visit

Webs Yarn in Northampton. They knitted in the car, toured the facility, bought lots of yarn and went out to lunch. It was reported that a grand time was had by all.

Burnham's students are learning new patterns like the entrelac, or brioche ribbing, or how to do ruffled scarves and sweaters in intricate patterns that require following graphs and charts. Burnham says she usually just eyeballs the patterns; it's her years of teaching geometry kicking in.

When not out on a field trip or convening at someone's house on a snow day, classes normally meet in the Club's living room and, if you're interested, feel free to stop by to meet Anne and the class. You'll see why the congenial atmosphere of the group draws knitters on even the snowiest days. If it sounds like fun, it is.



*Anne Burnham, who has taught knitting for nine years at the Club, was with a group of her knitters during the holiday season. While classes were over for the holidays, some creative types just couldn't stay away from the Club and their work.*

## PAT'S FAMOUS BEAN CASSEROLE

Dice 4 slices of bacon and fry until crispy.

In a little of the grease, cook one diced onion until soft.

Put in a casserole dish with:

28 oz. can of baked beans (B&M recommended)

16 oz. can dark red kidney beans (drained)

16 oz. can lima beans (drained)

½ c. brown sugar

½ c. catsup

2 t. Worcestershire sauce

Mix thoroughly and top with parmesan cheese. Bake uncovered for 1 hour at 350 degrees.