



Lace Day 2011 by Diane Haber, Lace Day Co-Chairman.

What amazing fun lace day was! It was sort of like what women say about childbirth. You forget the pain and the hard work and just enjoy the results.

There were definitely some last minute glitches along the way – we were not sure we would have the hall for the day of the event because of a mix-up in scheduling; not being able to get into the hall the night before for setup; broken air conditioning at the hall; and a vendor's emergency that caused her to cancel coming to sell and teach a class.



AN AMAZING FUN LACE DAY....



I have a lot of people to thank and I don't want to forget anyone. First, I'll start with thanking my co-chair Kris Johnson for all the work she did before and at the event itself to make it a success. A special thank you goes to Kathleen Cantwell for stepping in at the last minute and offering to teach the Viking Knitting class so we didn't have to cancel it. Another thank you goes to Susie Johnson and her able assistant Jane O'Connor for teaching the Beginning Bobbin Lace class (more on that later). This is now like the point in the Academy Awards where the music starts playing and they try very hard to get the person who is thanking everyone onstage off the stage but I'm not relinquishing the microphone before I say a thank you to all our guild members who supported the event by bringing in items to display, doing whatever needed to be done to get the event rolling and evolving, and for just being generally wonderful.

We had visitors from all different parts of Illinois and from Iowa, Indiana and Michigan.

We signed up two new members on the spot with a couple of others saying they were definitely interested in coming to a meeting. We sold almost all of our commemorative bobbins. Our vendors were happy with all the items we purchased. On a personal note, I will say it is not easy to choose colors of thread to buy when there is such a huge variety of choices – which go home with me, which stay for another time, but somehow I managed it.

Not very long ago there were only three people signed up for the Beginning Bobbin Lace class. Then we continued getting more and more enrollees. Susie emailed me about a cut-off number for the class and we set that number at eight. But there was a last minute plea from someone and the final tally was eleven people signed up for the beginning bobbin lace class. It was very gratifying to watch the eleven repeating the *cross, twist, cross* mantra and gaining confidence as they worked their stitches. We have converts! Snakes galore indeed!

We had lucet cord makers from Saturday morning's class and we had bead tatters from the workshop held on Friday. A high point for me was

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watching Brenda Glenn sit on the dais throughout most of the day Saturday calmly and beautifully completing the most of anyone on the lace day workshop's Victorian Necklace project on bead tatting. It was moving along beautifully the last time I saw it.

At this point, we haven't had a chance to complete all the financials. Hopefully it was a success on that level because it was certainly a success on other levels. Especially the one where we foster an interest in lacemaking. And as my new button pin (bought at the event) says *Lacemaking is cheaper than therapy.*

-D.Haber



The enthusiasm shown for the project was obvious as the tatters selected their colors and began their projects.

