



Shorelines

VOLUME 22 - NO. 2

February, 2007

One story of the origins of Valentine's Day begins in the third century with an oppressive Roman Emperor and a humble Christian martyr.

The Emperor was Claudius II and the Christian was Valentinus.

Claudius had ordered all Romans to worship twelve gods, and he had made it a crime, punishable by death, to associate with Christians. But Valentinus was dedicated to the ideals of Christ, and not even the threat of death could keep him from practicing his beliefs. He was arrested and imprisoned.

During the last weeks of Valentinus's life, a remarkable thing happened. Seeing that he was a man of learning, the jailer asked whether his daughter, Julia, who had been blind since birth, might be brought to Valentinus for lessons.

Julia was a pretty young girl with a quick mind. Valentinus read stories of Rome's history to her. He taught her arithmetic and told her about God. She saw the world through his eyes, trusted in his wisdom, and found comfort in his quiet strength. They often prayed together and Julia credited this prayer with the restoration of her vision.

On the eve of his death, Valentinus wrote a last note to Julia, and he signed it, "From Your Valentine." His sentence was carried out the next day, February 14, A.D. 270, near the gate that was later named Porta Valentini in his memory. He was buried at what is now the Church of Praxedes in Rome. It is said that Julia herself planted a pink-blossomed almond tree near his grave. Today, the almond tree remains a symbol of abiding love and friendship.

There are almost as many tales of the origin of Valentine's Day as there are Valentines! One credits the origin to a pagan fertility festival, Lupercal. Another to Pope Gelasius in the year 496 who created a feast day in memory of St. Valentine. In medieval England, Geoffrey Chaucer of "The Canterbury Tales" fame supposedly got together with his fellow poets and invented the new holiday. In a poem titled "The Parliament of Fowls," Chaucer claimed that all the birds in the world choose their mates on St. Valentine's Day.

Whatever version speaks to you, use this day, especially, to express to someone that you care. Set those hugs free!

Kristi





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2007 Programs

February Program – Lecture by Pat Rozendal

and the Beginning of our Year-Long Study on Mexican Samplers

We will start the day with a lecture about Mexican Samplers, their history and what makes the Mexican Sampler unique to its culture. There will be time for a question and answer period also. Then, after the lecture, we will stay for a hands-on mini-workshop to get you started on your own sampler. Please bring a sack lunch, or, if you like, we can order out for sandwiches. If you want to order, make sure to bring some small bills to pay for your lunch. After our lunch break, Pat will get us started on the basting needed in preparation for the sampler project. She will also talk about the areas that are cross stitched, so you will be ready for the Aztec and reversible stitches that we will learn in August. If you are doing the sampler to the size suggested in the books, please bring a 15" x 15" piece of 32 ct cream linen for the Sampler in Book 1 or a 14" x 14" piece of 32 ct cream linen for the Sampler in Book 2. If you don't wish to use 32 ct, the stitch size for #1 is 256 x 256 and #2 is 248 x 236. You will also want to bring a contrasting basting thread, needle and regular stitching supplies. You may want to bring magnification and light if needed, or bring paper and pen to take notes so you can get started on the project in the quiet of your home sitting in your favorite stitching chair! If you have any questions, please call me and I'll try to help.

March Program – Lecture with Honored Guest

Carol Korman, President of ANG National, both EGA and ANG certified judge

We are pleased that Carol Korman will be with us to speak about Judging and what Needlework Judges look for when judging a Show (such as our Stitchers' Showcase). Carol would like members bring some pieces of their needlework to the March meeting to use as examples. She would really like to see not only our best work, but pieces that we know we could have done better as a teaching example. Please sign up at the February meeting if you are willing to share your work so we know how many pieces we can count on. She will also be willing to take questions about the National Organization to help us know what ANG is doing and how it affects all of us. It is an honor for us to have her at our Chapter meeting.

April Program – Firecracker/Sparkler Project with Margaret Bendig

Margaret Bendig is designing a new, third in her series of firecracker/sparkler stand-up decorations. This is a brand new design that she is doing for us and will be a little bigger/taller than her other 2. We are estimating that the chart will be around \$10 and we should have the project, or at least a picture of it soon.

May – Bouquet Stitching Project with Amy Wolfson

We are so lucky to have our own Amy with us this month as she doesn't teach often. She will be going over her wonderful Bouquet design. This is a great stash user as it uses small amounts of many colors of thread. Amy has said that if you get your order in by March, she will get the books to me by our April meeting where you can pick them up and have them so you can go over her instructions and bring your threads to the May meeting. At the meeting, she will help everyone to plan their own Bouquet and talk about the most effective way to use their threads and colors. This project won an award at the Tucson ANG Seminar and is very fun to do.

August – Mexican Sampler – Year-Long Project with Pat Rozendal

Pat is with us again to work on our Mexican Samplers. After the field trip to the Autry Museum on Wednesday, we will be ready on Thursday to get some more sampler stitching done. We will do reversible stitches in the morning program and you can either do these on your sampler, or if you are not doing the Year-Long but want to participate with a small project, we will have a book mark project for you to do the stitch on. Then in the afternoon, we will practice the reversible stitch and learn the Aztec stitch for our Sampler. Friday we will have a workshop day to be able to get a little more work done.

Laurie McLellan, Vice-President Programs

Workshops - Pat Rozendal will conduct a mini workshop on February 8, 2007 after the general meeting. Every member is invited to stay and learn more and also begin the planning and stitching of their own Mexican sampler.

SAVE THE DATE – The Autry Museum has rescheduled our study of the Mexican Samplers in their collection. The new date is Wednesday, August 8, 2007. Pat Rozendal will attend the Autry Museum with us. Pat has studied Mexican samplers in the United States and Europe and has a lot of information to share with us. More information will be available in the coming months.

Pat will then teach at our general meeting on Thursday, August 9, 2007. We will also continue with a workshop on Thursday afternoon and all day Friday, August 10th. Pat will be teaching reversible stitches and the Aztec stitch. The Aztec stitch is unique to Mexican samplers. Pat will also be sharing more history of the Mexican sampler during the workshop.

Marge Roberts, Workshop Chair

Public Relations: Our Guild is interested in bringing in additional advertisers for our newsletter, so we are going to appeal to restaurants. But I need your help. If you have a favorite place to eat following our general meeting and nearby, please give me the name, address and phone number so I can contact them. Your help is greatly appreciated. Cecilia Canut, Public Relations

Cecilia Canut, Public Relations Chair

Hospitality – Thanks to Rachel Watkins, Alice Weiss, Laura Hermann, Betty Smith, Anne Lenker, Jody Wolsey, and Debbi Power for the refreshments at our January meeting. Those signed up to bring goodies in February are: Sara Balough, Jacke Prideaux, Lynn Wilkinson, Laurie Zurcher, Peg Vezzetti, Polly Womack, and Frances Packer. Don't forget to bring your coffee cups!

Hospitality Helpers for February are Jacke Prideaux and Sonja Kalman. Two members have volunteered to help clean up after each meeting. Things to be done are: folding table cloths, general pick up, washing coffee pots and packing away the hospitality supplies. Thanks ladies!

Betty Van Acker, Hospitality Chair

Membership –there were 47 members at the meeting and 4 guests visited. There are still many members with January renewal dates who have not paid their 2007 chapter dues. It has been a busy time of the year, but please look at your newsletter mailing label and if you are due to renew please send your \$15.00 to Mary Ellen Bell.

We are looking for old Needlepointers magazines to give to prospective new members to give them a feel for ANG. If you have any old magazines you'd be willing to donate, please bring them to the February meeting.

The 2007 NAS Roster should be available at the February meeting. If you are unable attend and would like your roster mailed to you, please mail a check for \$1.00 payable to NAS.

Mary Ellen Bell, Membership Chair

Show and Tell – We enjoyed seeing the completed pieces of: Ann Perkins(3), Laura Hermann, Rachel Watkins, Tammy Kritz(2), Linda Dunsworth(2), Sharon Holt, Pat Bagge(2), Laurie Zurcher, Betty Van Acker (5), Betty Hamilton, Susan Fitzsimons(2). We should be inspired to follow their lead!

Nancy Caughlin & Jacke Prideaux

Ways and Means – We offered opportunity tickets on two special baskets. The “Bare Root Roses” basket which included a coffee table book on roses and a \$30 gift certificate from Armstrong Garden Centers went home with Jackie DeMasters. Laura Hermann held the winning ticket on the “Post-Holiday Shape-Up” basket that held a Pilates DVD and a pedometer. At the February meeting we will offer “Valentine’s Day Goodies” and “CAT-tastic!”.

Ann Perkins & Laurie Zurcher

Stitchers' Faire 2007, sponsored by Channel Islands Chapter, EGA will be held on April 21 and 22nd at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center, Oxnard. For more information contact Janice Knapp. Consider entering some of the wonderful finished items we've enjoyed on our Show 'n Tell table.

CHARMS - What's a Charm Award and how do I get one?

These awards are given to encourage participation in projects presented by Needle Artists by the Sea Chapter and the American Needlepoint Guild and to encourage excellence in stitching by learning.

You must be a member of the NAS chapter at the time the project is presented. In the case of a workshop, you must have participated. The charm awards are to be given upon completion of a project with stitching completed, but not necessarily finished (i.e., framed, made into a pillow, etc.). The awards for the pieces presented to the membership for needlework accomplished shall be:

1. Sand dollar or star fish for each:
 - a. NAS sponsored workshop including the November special meeting.
 - b. NAS group correspondence or individual correspondence course.
 - c. Any 1, 2, or 4-day class taken at a National ANG Seminar.
 - d. ANG on-line group correspondence course or cyber workshop.
 - e. Board approved ANG project book design
 - f. Project for a monthly program that is deemed worthy of inclusion by the Board because it involves greater time and skill.
2. Special award of a scallop or ark shell is given for the 10th project completed from those listed above. (This is in place of a sand dollar or starfish.)
3. Special award of a triton shell for each yearlong NAS study project.

The Board shall determine the qualification for each award. These awards shall be presented at the regular meeting and the project must be presented to the membership at this meeting. Out of town members may submit a photograph of completed piece to fulfill this requirement. If multiple pieces of the same design are stitched, only one charm will be awarded.

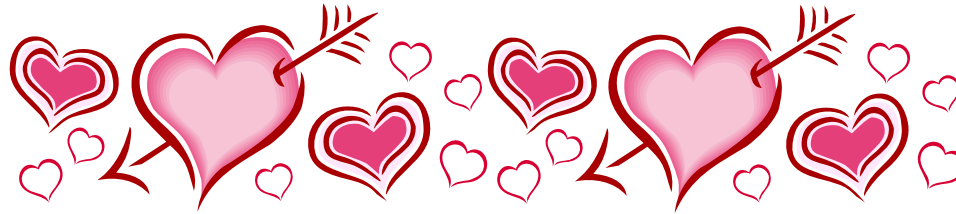
Please let Ginger Colton know no later than the Tuesday before the General Meeting if you qualify for an award that month. Awards reported after Tuesday will be given out the following month.

Congratulations to our January award recipients:

Laurie Zurcher	"Cherries Jubilee", Nov. 2006 project (Star Fish)
Pat Bagge	"Cherries Jubilee" Nov. 2004 project (Star Fish)
Linda Dunsworth	"Ho Ho Ho Santa" 2006 Seminar piece (Star Fish)
Carol Stefanik	"Silk Pageantry" Correspondence Course (Star Fish)
	"Marissa's Weathervane" Correspondence Course (Sand Dollar)
Sue Fitzsimons	"Flower of the Lily" 2006 Seminar (Star Fish)

A copy of qualifying projects will be available at the General Meetings.

Ginger Colton, Charms



HOW TO STAY YOUNG

1. Try everything twice. On Madams tombstone (of Whelan's and Madam) she said she wanted this epitaph: Tried everything twice...loved it both times!
2. Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down. (keep this in mind if you are one of those grouches;)
3. Keep learning: Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain get idle. "An idle mind is the devil's workshop." And the devil's name is Alzheimer's!
4. Enjoy the simple things.
5. Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath. And if you have a friend who makes you laugh, spend lots and lots of time with HIM/HER.
6. The tears happen: Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person who is with us our entire life, is ourselves. LIVE while you are alive.
7. Surround yourself with what you love: Whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever. Your home is your refuge.
8. Cherish your health: If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.
9. Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall, even to the next county, to a foreign country, but NOT to where the guilt is.
10. Tell the people you love that you love them, at every opportunity. I love you, my special friend.
11. Forgive now those who made you cry. You might not get a second time.

Lost time can never be found.