



Shore Lines

VOLUME 24 - NO. 8

August - 2009

While casting about for a suitable topic for my August newsletter article, an amazing thing happened. And I would like to share it with you.

Jacke Prideaux mentioned that the January program will be a presentation on Needlework Tools by Pat Bagge, Angie Carney and other owners of precious things. Rachel Watkins loaned me several issues of the magazine, *Sampler & Antique Needlework Quarterly* for inspiration. My original intent was to write about the wonderful craftsmanship of older tools and perhaps discuss some beautiful reel stands, comparing them to the rickety wooden thread holders or plastic boxes we use today.

In one of the magazines, I stumbled across John Taylor's poem "The Praise of the Needle", written in 1631. Now many of you are very familiar with this work, but I was not. The portion quoted in the article that started me off is the following:

"Flowers, Plants, and Fishers, Beasts, Birds, Flyes, and Bees,
Hils, Dales, Plaines, Pastures, Skies, Seas, Rivers, Trees;
There's nothing neare at hand, or farthest fought,
But with the Needle may be shap'd and wrought . . ."

So, on-line I went. After a couple of minutes and a few clicks . . . BINGO!!!! . . . I had the entire poem saved to my computer. (If you'd like to read it, send me an email and I will forward a copy.) This poem in its entirety is a preface for John Taylor's classic book, *The Needles Excellency* published in London in 1631. The book contains blackwork, cross stitch and lace patterns of the time. Well, the search was on!

I found Mary Corbet's website, Needle 'N Thread. And she has a page that has a library of needlework books online. You won't believe this. There is a facsimile of **THE** book (the original, published in 1631) online in PDF format. I downloaded the book and have it saved on my laptop. In about 20 minutes, I had a version of the actual book! We live in incredible times (If you want to take a peek, go to www.shipbrook.com/jeff/bookshelf/details.html?bookid=25).

So, my original intent for this column was misdirected. Yes, the quality of handmade tools from past times is extraordinary. Our little plasticky boxes will not survive the test of time. But this is a different age. We are able to look at a book printed 378 years ago, in our homes, 20 minutes after finding out about its existence. Let us not bemoan what is lost, for those things can be cherished and preserved. And let us not belittle what is available to us today—because some of these tools are truly extraordinary.

Laura

Needle Artists By The Sea Chapter of the American Needlepoint Guild, Inc.

A non-profit organization whose object and purpose is exclusively for educational and cultural development through participation in and encouragement of interest in the art of needlepoint and other counted techniques.

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Shoreline Stitchers' Showcase

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Needle Artists by the Sea is open to everyone interested in the goals of the parent and chapter organization. The chapter meets on the second Thursday of each month (except December) from 10:00am to 12:00pm in the Community Room of The Cabrillo Marina, Via Cabrillo, San Pedro, CA. (Office address: 224 Whaler's Walk, Berth 29). Hospitality and refreshments are offered before the meeting and visitors are welcome.

Directions to our Meeting Place: San Pedro via Harbor Freeway (110) or over the Vincent Thomas Bridge. Enter Gaffey going south. Cross streets are numbered consecutively going south. Continue to the 22nd Street signal, turn left through Pacific Ave. signal and through 1 stop sign. Turn right onto Via Cabrillo for about 3/4 mile and see the building by the flagpoles and a small water fountain. Parking is free and plentiful.

Membership Information: Annual membership dues for American Needlepoint Guild, Inc. (ANG) are \$33.00 and should be mailed directly to ANG, Membership Office, 2810 Crossroads Drive, Suite 3800, Madison, WI 53718. Membership in ANG entitles you to receive six (6) issues of **Needle Pointers**, the nationally distributed magazine. In order to belong to any chapter, your National membership must be active.

Individual Chapter membership dues are \$15.00 annually. Chapter membership dues entitle you to receive the chapter newsletter, attend monthly General Meetings, and any scheduled workshops. Make Chapter dues checks for \$15.00 payable to **NAS-ANG** and mail to:

Mary Ellen Bell

NAS Web Site: <http://geocities.com/needleartistsbythesea/>

NAS Email address: NASWebmaster@miketodd.com

ANG Web Site: www.needlepoint.org

Shore Lines is mailed to members and advertisers before the General Meeting. Please submit items for publication by the 15th of the month (or at the General Meeting) for the following month's issue to:

Susan Rossi

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1 "	\$30.00	Full Page

2009 Programs



August will find us stitching with Margaret Bendig. She is introducing her very new witch's boot design, "Hagatha's Slipper". Fresh from the finisher's - isn't this the cutest thing? Margaret definitely has designed another winning stitch.

The slipper is made from two stitched pieces that are put together to become a 3-D shoe. Purple fabric covers the space between the two pieces and the shoe is laced up with twisted cord.

The cost for this project is \$15.

For those who missed the last meeting and the opportunity to sign up, there is still time to participate in this great project. Please send Jacke an e-mail or call her so you can be added to the count. The final dates for sign-ups is August 5th, so act now!!!

The supply list for Hagatha's Slipper is given below:

- 2 pieces of purple 18 count canvas - 10" square with stretcher bars to fit
- 2 cards Mandarin Floss #M808 ~ may substitute any purple floss if they like. Margaret used 1 1/2 cards so you can share the second card if using the Mandarin floss
- Kreinik ribbon 1/16th inch #150V (less than half a spool)
- Soft Sheen Fyre Werks FT3 ~ light pumpkin (less than half a card)
- Soft Sheen Fyre Werks FT26 ~ deep pumpkin (less than half a card)
- Treasure Braid TR683 ~ Halloween green (half a card)
- Soft Sheen Fyre Werks #FT11 ~ black
- Silk Lame #SL01~ black
- Kreinik braid, size 8 #100 ~ white ~ 2 yards

If you are planning on stitching at the meeting, be sure to remember all your normal stitching supplies, but most especially needles and scissors. How about those cute Halloween ones that you bought from NAS last year??

SEPTEMBER

We are back working on the NAS yearlong project. This time it is with Margaret Bendig (Yes, we are lucky enough to have her two times in a row.) She will be showing us the technique for the whitework whale band. The supply list will be listed in the September newsletter.

OCTOBER

Our final band of the NAS yearlong project will be with Idele Gilbert. She will be bringing it all together with the Asissi design and available to answer any questions of the other bands. That supply list will be in the September newsletter.

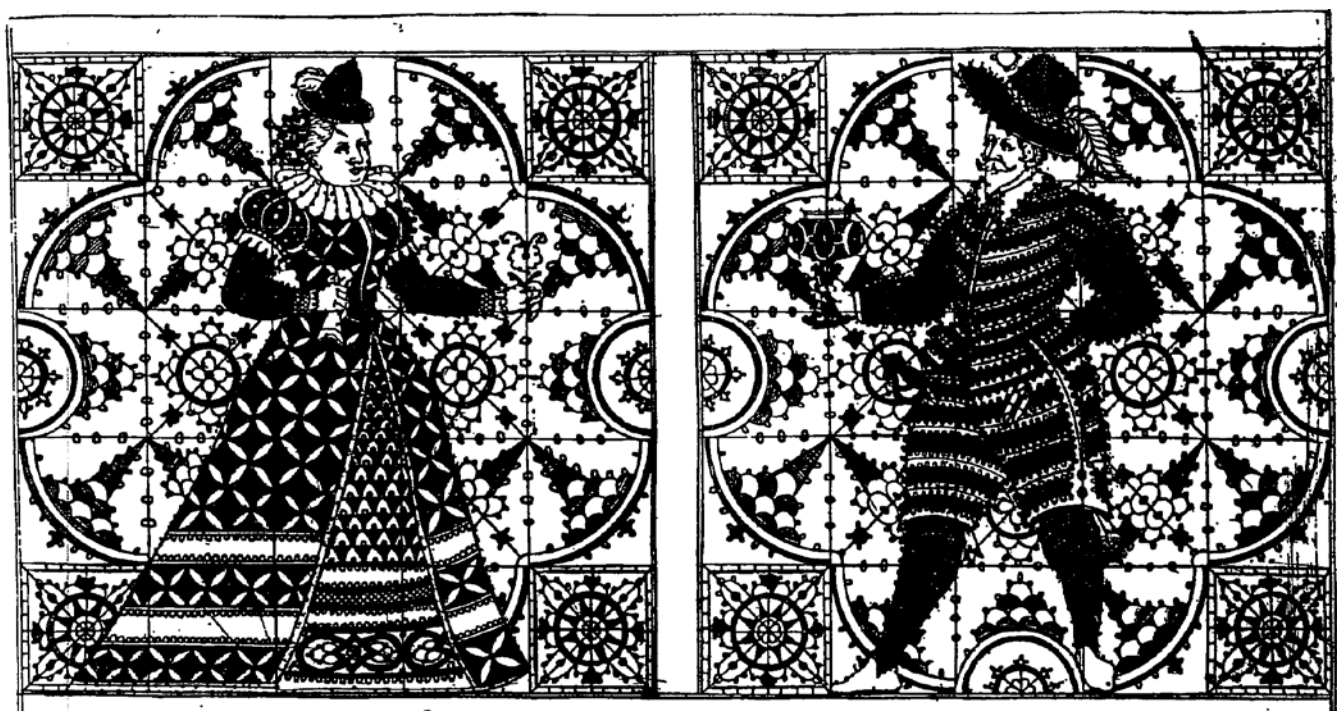
Jacke Prideaux & Alice Weiss, Programs

Nominating Committee to be formed in August

Our by-laws state that 1 member from the Board of Directors and 2 members from the general membership shall be elected during the month of August to serve as the Nominating Committee. There are two things for you to consider. This chapter is a vibrant, exciting group. It cannot continue to be this way on automatic pilot.

- What can you do to help?
- Can you serve on this year's Nominating Committee?
- Can you serve on the 2010 Board? It is an extra meeting every month, but the rewards are worth the investment of one morning a month (refer to page 7 for an example).

Laura Herrmann, President



Lace pattern from John Taylor's [The Needles Excellency](#)

Membership

Again this month, I must report a member has relocated out of our area. Barbara Baker-Rosenberg has moved to Arizona. (Hmmm....There seems to be a trend here.)

Mary Ellen Bell, Membership

HELPERS NEEDED!

There is only one person signed up to help Betty Van Acker set-up and clean-up at the August meeting. Can you possibly come at 8:15 this one time and give her a helping hand????

Please call Betty and let her know you can come.

I hope she is deluged by phone calls!

Laura Herrmann

Ways and Means

The August program features Margaret Bendig's witch's boot. So obviously, our table will feature a witch and other Halloween items. We also have more red boxes for sale at the price of \$2 each and chapter pins are available for \$5.

Here is a list of the lucky ladies that got to take home the wonders that were offered in July:

Rachel Watkins	Green knitted bag with matching needle case
Marlene Ezratty	Book on needlework embellishment
Fran Lambert	Fish Frame Weight and Fish jewelry box
Marlene Ezratty	Longenberger Basket and threads
Janet Halliday	Royal School of Needlework items

OPPORTUNITY BASKETS FOR THE END OF THE YEAR LUNCHEON

November is rapidly approaching and baskets need filling. We have volunteers to put them together and now we need people to supply items. The following list shows the themes and the contact person(s). Now we need donations to help fill them. The more donations the fatter the baskets you might win.

Garden Basket - Anne Lenker and Kristi Todd

Gadget Basket - Lorraine Bowman, Jacque DeMasters and Fran Lambert

Christmas Basket - Joyce Lifshin and the rest of the Long Beach group

Purple Basket - Tammy Kritz

"Don't Needle Me" Basket - Jacke Prideaux and the Stitch & Chat Central group are accepting any needle-related items, such as needles, holders, threaders, pulls, magnets, etc.

"Snow Storm" Basket - Linda Dunsworth and Sharon Holt

Linda Dunsworth, Sharon Holt & Tammy Kritz, Ways and Means

Hospitality

Thanks to Jacque DeMasters, Ann Perkins, Lorraine Bowman and Fran Lambert for providing us with delicious treats at our July meeting. Jacque DeMasters, Fran Lambert and Lorraine Bowman also pitched in as set-up and clean-up helpers for the meeting.

As a reminder, the following people will be responsible for bringing treats to our August meeting: Ginger Colton, Laurie Zurcher, Linda Dunsworth and Jody Woolsey. Jody has signed up to help with set-up and clean-up, but we definitely need another couple of people to help out.

Please call me if you can be an August Hospitality Helper.

REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR COFFEE CUPS!!!

Betty Van Acker, Hospitality

Charm Awards

Charm awards will be presented at the August meeting. If you are bringing a piece to Show and Tell that qualifies for an award, be sure to contact Anne no later than the Tuesday before the meeting, so she can bring you your charm. If you are unsure whether or not your project qualifies for a charm, check the list on our website, or ask Anne.

Anne Lenker, Charm Awards

Show and Tell

We were treated to some really great viewing at the Show and Tell table this month. It is always so inspiring to see what other people are doing. Sometimes we learn a few things as well

(editor's note - I didn't know what a Biscornu was until last month).

Thanks go these stitchers for sharing their completed projects:

- A 15-sided Biscornu (Just Nan) stitched by Linda Dunsworth
- 3 Tassels (designed by Kristi Todd) stitched by Pat Bagge
- Heart of July – a stumpwork pattern designed by Kristi Todd and stitched by Rachel Watkins
- 3 Ornaments stitched by Val Reese
- Rivoli Extravaganzer – beaded necklace, bracelet and earrings designed and stitched by Laurie Zurcher
- Heart of Gold - an EGA '08 Seminar project designed by Meredith D. Willet and stitched by Susan Fitzsimons
- Jelly Bellies - a Caela Conn Tyler pilot class in Ontario stitched by Susan Fitzsimons
- Nancy's Addiction, Bumps in the Road, Bling of the 3rd Bower - Beaded necklace and bracelets designed by Nancy Boerman and all stitched by Betty VanAcker
- 2 Knitted and Felted Purses stitched by Betty VanAcker
- 5 mini projects from EGA/PSR Seminar in Tempe Az stitched by Frances Packer
- Kissing Pillows stitched by Laura Herrmann, Angie Carney, and Marlene Ezratty

Tammy Kritz (for Betty Hamilton), Show and Tell

A Treasure in our Needlepoint World

Who are these smiling women?

Members of the NAS Board had an opportunity to participate in a very special event on Saturday, July 25th. The Board was invited to the lovely Rancho Palos Verdes home of Julianna Papp. Julianna's son and daughter-in-law, Gabe and Sue Papp, hosted a lunch for the Board, allowing us to view Julianna's needlepoint collection. Items in her collection include many (many – maybe over 50?) pieces of needlepoint and petit point done by Julianna, along with other pieces using various needlepoint techniques, including weavings by Julianna's mother and whitework by Julianna's cousin.



The sun was shining, the needlework was fabulous, the stories were great. Meeting Julianna and her family was an incredible treat for all who attended. Gabe wrote up a summary of Julianna's life which I include here for all to enjoy.

Julianna Papp was born in Hungary in 1918 and lived there until she and her family immigrated to the United States in 1951.

It was in the Hungarian girls' elementary school that Julianna learned various kinds of needlework. Girls who grew up in Hungary during the 1920s and 1930s were expected to make needlework items for the "hope chest" which was part of the dowry. A groom expected that his bride could sew, cook, and run a household. After retiring at age 62, she had more time to devote to doing needlepoint projects. Most of the framed pieces in her home were done during the last 30 years.



Julianna proudly displaying her "Four Seasons" needlepoint.

Needlepoint is somewhat difficult because it has to be aligned, mounted, stretched, blocked to ensure that the weave is accurately square before it can be framed. Julianna also weaves a "kelim" (a type of pileless rug). The kelim was popular in Hungary because it lasted for a century or more. Completed kelim projects were hung on inside walls as decorations or placed on the floors for warmth, color and beauty.

Julianna is also an accomplished embroiderer and seamstress. She is very happy to show her work and will gladly answer any questions about her stitching projects. (Contact Sue Papp for more information.)

Shoreline Stitchers' Showcase

This month I am going to write some more about the mechanics and volunteerism for the Judging activity.

The Judges need peace, quiet and privacy in which to work, but Showcase staff needs to be available to remove a class of work once the judges have completed their evaluation and bring in the next class. It would not be ethical for a lot of people to be hanging around observing the Judge's process, particularly when they most likely have pieces entered in the Exhibit. Also, the Judges need to be reassured that their comments will remain within the walls of judging space and not be broadcast to entrants or others without the Judge's or Exhibitor's consent. Not to toot our own horn, but all three Judges from the last Showcase were essentially amazed at the quality of the stitching that had been submitted and made comments for which I have their permission to use in our future advertising and press releases. Other comments, including constructive criticism, may have been made on comment sheets to the Exhibitor, but this is not any one else's business. Even more than controlling the traffic under foot, this is why the volunteer staff for the Judging portion of the Showcase is so small. Consequently, this makes for very long days for not very many people, who scurry to present a class, retire to another room unless the Judges have a question or other issue, collect the completed class, present the next one and scam out of the way again. This is repeated all day and into the evening for three days; a brief flurry of activity then a lot of hurry up and wait quietly.

In between scurries, the non-first place entries are "ribboned" as applicable, wrapped, marked with a hanging category (Asian-themed, Samplers, Fantasy, Geometrics, etc.) to make sorting easier once we are ready to set up the Showcase. Entries are then carted back up the stairs and stored to await removal to the Exhibit facility, and the first place winners stay downstairs until the last day so the Judges can pick the Best of Class and Best of Show. The Judge's Comment sheets are collected and filed for distribution to the Exhibitor at the end of the Showcase at this time as well. All the first place winners get photographed for possible future use in advertising the Showcase, usually the weekend after judging. Volunteering for Judging may sound like fun, but includes a fair amount of tedium in between bouts of physical labor.

We include funds in our budget for someone to cater lunch for the Judges and judging volunteers. This doesn't have to be elaborate, but the judging works like a well-oiled machine if someone comes in, prepares and serves a lunch, cleans up and leaves. They also get a much better meal than they would if someone ran out for pizza or sandwiches!

After Judging, the tally of Exhibitors and awarded ribbons needs to be assembled into a Program. So far this has been an exceptionally laborious task. We are working on methods and computer programs to simplify this, but to date we have had limited success. If someone has a slick way to do this, or is a master of Publisher 2007, I would sure like to hear from you.

Next month I'll write about setting up and hanging the Showcase. As always, if you have any questions please call me (number in the roster) or email me and I'll answer as soon as possible.

Mary Fleming, Stitchers Showcase



Calendar

- Aug 6** **Board Meeting** (10 am to 12 noon)
Convoid, 2830 California Ave, Torrance
- Aug 13** **General Meeting** (10 am to 12:30 pm)
Community Room, Via Cabrillo Marina, San Pedro
- Aug 11** **Stitch and Chat Central** (10 am to 3pm)
Boardwalk Café at Ports of Call Village,
San Pedro. Call Alice Weiss at for more
information.
- Aug 20** **Stitch & Chat South** – (10am to 3pm)
Rancho del Rey Mobile Home Park
1622 Monterey Dr. Huntington Beach
Call Fran Lambert, for information.
- Aug 25** **Stitch & Chat North** (10 am to 3 pm)
La Tijera United Methodist Church,
7400 Osage Avenue, Los Angeles.
Call Laverne Baker if you need directions.



Shore Lines
The American Needlepoint Guild, Inc.
Susan Rossi, Editor

Dated Material – Please Expedite