



Grand River Valley Chapter June 2009 Newsletter

MEETINGS are held at the Gaines Township Library, on the corner of 68th Street and Madison on the 3rd Saturday of the month. Meetings begin at 10:30 with “Stay and Stitch” following the meeting. Members are also invited to join the early birds for breakfast at 9:00 at *The Red Geranium* on Kalamazoo just south of M-6 and the Meijer entrance.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION Guests are welcome to attend two chapter meetings, after which they are expected to become national and local chapter dues-paying members. National dues are \$29.00 per year payable to the national office and billed by them. National membership is required to join a chapter.

Chapter dues are \$16 per year payable to GRV-ANG, due by the January meeting and given to the treasurer. If joining mid-year, the initial payment may be pro-rated.

GRV CHAPTER NEWSLETTER is published 10 times a year with a two month newsletter in the summer and in the winter. It will be e-mailed to members and interested parties and mailed to members upon request to the editor.

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A NOTE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT\

Hi everyone,

Our 15th anniversary celebration was a very fun class with Libby Sturdy. Everyone enjoyed her warm, easy style of teaching. The Bar-B-Que Santa has pockets—appliqué, no less!

We really appreciate Betsy and Mike Redman for hosting our guest teachers, early last fall Ann Strite-Kurz, and now Libby. Their generosity has made both classes much more affordable for our chapter members.

Bring your books, lights, threads, canvases and anything else you don't want any more to our June meeting. You can sell, buy or trade at our Stash enhancement- stash reduction event.
Have a wonderful summer,
Jeannine

MEETING INFORMATION

JUNE 20TH MEETING

Stash Reduction/Stash Enhancement Sale

Bring your stitching related items for others to envy and give a new home to some forgotten strays.

Be sure everything is marked with your name and a price.

Would anyone be interested in a field trip after the meeting to Field's Fabric on 44th St to get ultra suede for your ort box?

JULY 19TH MEETING

We will begin stitching on the ort box project. We will have 2 months to complete the stitching and plan to have a class on assembling the box in September.

Please have your canvas basted so that we can begin instruction right after the meeting.

AUGUST 16TH MEETING

Work continues on our ort boxes or your current favorite project.

SEPTEMBER 17TH MEETING

We will work on the assembly of our ort boxes.

OCTOBER 15th MEETING

To be announced

NOVEMBER 19th MEETING

Our annual Holiday Luncheon. Details to be announced.

CHAPTER SPECIAL EVENTS

LIBBY CLASS

The class was declared “grilled to perfection”. Libby was a relaxing and helpful teacher. All of this thanks to the efforts and gracious hosting by Betsy as well as the board who provided delicious deserts each day. See the recipes which are separate attachments to this newsletter so you can print them off for your use.

Following the class on Saturday, Val, as founding member of the chapter, hosted a reception to celebrate our 15th Anniversary. Congratulations to US! And here’s to many more.

Also, see the attached recipes that were shared by our board members and enjoyed at the class.

IN THE NEWS

We finally made it!

Your last issue of *Needlepointer’s* magazine includes a picture of several of our members who attended the November luncheon and mention of our Art Show participation.

Be sure to read the article!

ELE’S PLACE

Work has begun on three additional signs for Ele’s Place. If you are interested in participating, please call Jeannine to see which sign may need some extra stitchers.

HER MAJESTY’S WEEKEND

Plans are still pending but the weekend selected is expected to be right after Easter 2010. Stay tuned for further details.

OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS

NEW CO-OWNER AT PEACOCK ALLEY

After much anticipation, the new co-owner of Peacock Alley Needlepoint has been announced. Some of you may already know her from the Monday night stitching group or her other business interest. We will be very anxious to see what new things develop over the next few months.

Congratulations, Laurie and the best of wishes for success.

Here are a few words of introduction from Laurie.

Hi! I'm Laurie Russell, the new co-owner of Peacock Alley Needlepoint. While I may be new to the position, I'm not new to needlepoint! I, like many of you, was taught how to needlepoint by my mother. She instilled in me a great love for the needle arts which, now that my kids are grown, I have a little more time to enjoy.

My husband and I stitched a rug together while we were in college at Ball State University. Having survived that, we decided to pursue life together and raise two sons. While we were too busy with that and our businesses (I run a small CPA firm in Grand Rapids) for me to devote much time to needlepoint, I never gave up the desire to return to it. So once, my youngest left for college, I went in search of some refresher classes and found Peacock Alley's Monday night group a little over six years ago. They got me stitching again and I was so enthused about the new techniques and threads and canvases, I started delving into it even more.

Now, I'm excited to have an opportunity to help provide others even more needlepoint opportunities. I like to stitch funky Maggie designs, Lee's pillows, belts, Kathy Schenkel mini-stockings (connection! - I grew up in Fort Wayne!) and Painted Pony angels. I'm loving being introduced to all the new designers with all the trunk shows and have a stash of UFOs (too be honest, not only unfinished, but many un-started!) to rival many. I love the complexity of Joan Thomasson's designs and use of compound stitches as much as I like the relaxing rhythm of a good basketweave project. I love to take classes and learn interesting embellishment or design techniques and hope that you do too!

At Peacock Alley, Sandy and I are looking forward to providing you with even more painted canvases, access to more classes and teachers, both local and national, and even more threads! And I'm anxious to hear from you as to what you might like to see in the store and how we can better fuel your love for the needlepoint creation, so please contact me at peacockalleynp@sbcglobal.net! We'll be moving some furniture and reorganizing to enhance your shopping experience soon! So stop on by! I look forward to meeting you all!

Keep stitchin'!

Laurie

PILOT CLASS FOR THE MILWAUKEE SEMINAR

Carlene Harwick will be teaching at the ANG Milwaukee Seminar. If you would be willing to participate in a pilot class of her project, contact Val McAleenan at 616.676.1931 or m75mca98@comcast.net for date, location and cost.

BRISTLY THISTLE TO OPEN SECOND LOCATION

Bristly Thistle is planning to open a second location on June 27. It is just off Centre Street on Amelia Island, Florida. It is located in a charming shopping district, very similar to Petoskey. The new location is currently smaller than the Petoskey shop but has expansion possibilities.

For those of you, who head south for the winter, watch for more news on the www.bristlythistle.com web site. We will look forward to a personal review of the new shop from our members who are in the Jacksonville area.

INTERESTING TID-BITS

TNNA JUNE MARKET PREVIEW

We are only days away from the June market but already getting some hints of new items on the scene. Of course, many threads and additional colors to existing thread lines as well as canvases will be introduced.

Just to mention one of the threads, Vineyard Merino, which you may have already seen, is a wonderful replacement for our old favorite, Medici. It is soft and smooth but very strong with a very tight twist and is not "itchy" like some wool can be. Colors are to match many of the Vineyard Silk which is especially nice if you want compatible colors in the same piece.

Dream House Ventures is only one of the companies who have expanded their canvas offerings. From the whimsy of Mindy and Bongo to the elegant art deco designs of Elements, they have canvases to cover many tastes.

Even the needlepoint world has gone green! Tamsco has introduced a new line of precision scissors made from recycled steel and called "Greenline".

We hope to have a first hand report from market in a future issue of the newsletter.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Betsy has received notice from Ann Strite-Kurz of a new edition of her book *Canvas Applique*, which has been updated for those of you who do stumpwork. The publication will be introduced at the Columbus TNNA Market and will be released through Rainbow Gallery. You can look for more information on Ann's web site: www.needleartworks.com [

SILK AND METAL CYBER-CLASS

For those of you who are interested in working with gold threads, Ruth Schmuff has a cyber class available through her web site, www.beadedandbedazzled.com. The subject is dragonflies and the design is by Anna-Marie Winter.

Another **HOMESTEAD NEEDLE ARTS** Annual event will be here before we know it. The Annual Garage Sale! As you are doing your spring cleaning or editing your stash, be sure to set aside some items to include in the sale

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WEB SIGHTINGS

www.fancystitches.com

Fancy Stitches in Cleburne, Texas has started a "Stitch of the Week". It is nicely presented on one printable page and includes suggestions for how to use the stitch. Check it out and create your own library of stitches.

www.bedeckedandbeadazzled.com

Check out all of the current cyber classes!

A NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR

There are no May minutes attached to the newsletter this month because of the Libby Sturdy class.

There are three recipes which were enjoyed at the class that are being shared with you. I am sending each one individually so that you can print them for with your own recipes file.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you have a change of address or change your e-mail, please let me know so that you will continue to receive your newsletter. Sometimes they are not returned to me when a change occurs and I have no way of knowing your new address.

You can e-mail the change to ndlptnut@sbcglobal.net

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

June

Lu Warnshuis on the 8th
Jennifer Pohlman on the 29th

July

Candy Titus on the 1st
Marty Whitehead on the 5th
Anne Lewis on the 18th
Diane Hoban on the 21st

Happy stitching!

Joyce Working