



Grand River Valley Chapter March 2008 Newsletter

Meetings are held at the Cascade Library, 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 Sundance Grill, before the meeting at 9:00.

Chapter membership is \$16 per year and is due by the January meeting each year. Checks should be payable to: Grand River Valley ANG and sent or delivered to the Treasurer, Dawn Gribben.

President	Anne Lewis	616.949.2212	michigannie2@aol.com
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A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Sister Stitchers,

It may be cold and snowy outside but inside the Cascade Library at our last Saturday meeting, our guild was on fire!

So many plans and activities are cooking and we seem to have something of interest to suit everyone's appetites. Betsy is busy making arrangements for our September two day class, Jennifer is looking into dates and times for some fun field trips and our on going plans for our needlepoint art show this coming October. We are looking into a special luncheon downtown for the November meeting so we can see the show together.

Do come stitch in March and so we can all share those exciting plans together

'Til then, happy stitching!

Anne

Looking Forward to Spring

Anne wanted to share the following funny...

How to Tell the Sex of a Fly

A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking around with a fly swatter.

"What are you doing?" She asked.

"Hunting flies." He responded.

"Oh, killing any?" She asked.

"Yep, 3 males, 2 females." He replied.

Intrigued, she asked, "How can you tell?"

He responded, "3 were on a beer can, 2 were on the phone."

GLORIANA SILK HEART CONTEST

Submitted by Dawn Gribben

.....AND WE HAVE A WINNER

We all love a challenge and a few of our members took one this Fall.

Gloriana silks were being introduced by Homestead Needle arts and to entice us stitchers, the owner, Theresa, decided to have a contest – a heart contest. With the purchase of 2 skeins of Gloriana silk (your choice of colors) you received a line drawing of a heart and six moths to create your heart. The deadline was January 31 – (6 months to create and stitch). No problem – right?

A heart is a heart is a heart.

The prize was the clincher. A skein of each color of the whole line of Gloriana for 1st prize (over \$800 worth). Who would not want that? Make room in the stash pile – here we go!!!

Jennifer, Joyce and Dawn decided to take the challenge. We consulted and stitched and by January 31 the hearts were finished and delivered to Homestead. Our hearts were aflutter.

A visit to see the hearts on parade was mind boggling. This was just a 4 inch pattern and the designs were cottage scenes, flowers, and 50th anniversary congratulations, geometrics, on and on and on. Viewing the 27 hearts on display (there were non-achievers who didn't finish) each of us declared "I'm glad I'm not judging". The hearts were displayed anonymously and judged for design, texture, color and imagination.

Alas, we did not win first place but **WE HAVE A WINNER.....JOYCE WORKING WON HONORABLE MENTION!** Joyce's heart was entitled "Ping go the strings of my heart". Creative and as lovely as Joyce is,

Want to know what the designs were? Come to the March meeting – all four hearts will be on display. (Yes, we had an overachiever in the group).

Dawn

ARTIC SANTA CLASS with GAIL SIRNA, March 29 and April 5

Gail is one of the teachers we hope to have for our chapter sometime, but until then here is a great opportunity to learn from another Michigan National Teacher. She will be teaching her two day Artic Santa class at Homestead Needle Arts on Saturday, March 29 and Saturday, April 5. This piece was designed by Jean Taggart and Gail is teaching it in her memory.

Several people in the chapter have signed up to take this class so a car pool is possible. The class fee is \$120 and the kit is \$50 plus stretcher bars if you need them. This is a terrific price for a two day class with a national teacher. If you are interested in taking this class call Theresa at 810.694.3040 or go on line to www.homesteadneedlearts.com for additional details. Those members who have taken from Gail recently have enjoyed her classes and said it was a very good learning experience.

MARCH 15th MEETING

Sandy Rabideau will give a presentation on the tips she learned in her Judging Class at the Baltimore Seminar. Even if you do not plan to be a judge or submit work to be judged, this will be very interesting to learn what judges consider important. Please bring your January issue of *Needlepointers* to the meeting....this will be a good reference for Sandy's talk/

Again, please bring an idea to share and plan to stay and stitch together. Please bring a current project and plan to stay and stitch after the meeting. With our Art Show only a little over 8 months away, we all need stitching time!

APRIL 19th MEETING

Our semi-annual needlework sale!

Bring any canvases, threads, books or tools that you are not using and find new treasures. Be Sure to mark all items with your name and your price!

Joyce Working will share a few of her favorite laid stitches.

This is the LAST day to pay for the Ann Strite-Kurz class. If you have not already sent your check for \$120, please bring it to this meeting.

APRIL 25th, 26th and 27th STITCHER'S GETAWAY WEEKEND

Sponsored by Homestead Needle Arts, this year the spring getaway is moving from Port Huron to Sauder Village, Archbold, Ohio after receiving a rave review on the location from the fall stitching getaway. This is always a terrific, relaxing weekend and a chance to meet and share ideas with stitchers from the east side of the state.

Call Theresa at 810.694.3040 or go online to: www.homesteadneedlearts.com for details.

MAY 17th MEETING

This is our annual anniversary celebration, our 14th this year! Linda Moroz has graciously invited us to hold our luncheon at her home. At the January meeting we discussed a possible menu of croissant sandwiches and a few members bringing their favorite salad. The most important decision was that we would like Dawn to bring those special desserts for us from Sweetie Pie.

This meeting will also be our annual election. Linda Moroz agreed to serve as Nomination Committee Chair this year. Your election ballot is attached. Please be sure to return it promptly! Thank you to all of you who have offered to serve your chapter.

Anne has been compiling a list of items everyone would like to display at the Art Show. Instead of bringing the items to this meeting, please **bring pictures of those items that you would like to submit for the show**. Anne will give them to the Fountain Street Church Art Committee so they can determine how best to display each item. **BE SURE to include the dimensions and your name** on the back of the picture.

WE HOPE ALL OF OUR MEMBERS WILL PARTICIPATE IN THIS EXCITING EVENT!

Betsy is hoping to give everyone their kit for the Ann Strite-Kurz class in September to allow plenty of time to complete the pre-work.

JUNE 21st, JULY 19th and AUGUST 16th MEETINGS

These will be informal meetings and stitch-in at Peacock Alley. We will still plan to go to Sundance for breakfast before the meetings.

AUGUST 31 – SEPTEMBER 5, EGA NATIONAL SEMINAR

At Louisville KY

SEPTEMBER 5 – 12, ANG NATIONAL SEMINAR

At Long Beach, CA

SEPTEMBER 19th and 20th MEETING and CLASS

This is our special class with Ann Strite-Kurz!!! We will be working on the Charlie Harper piece called "Br-r-r-r-rdbath". We will be at Grace Church both Friday and Saturday. Lunch will be included both days.

A separate mailing has been sent with details of the class.

OCTOBER 3 THRU 6

Amy Bunger is teaching a 4 day class at her shop in Memphis covering several stitching techniques. Several members are planning to attend. If you would like more information go to www.amybunger.com

OCTOBER 18th MEETING

Jennifer is investigating the possibility of a two day trip to Petoskey, to include a class at Bristly Thistle. Stay tuned for future details.

NEEDLEPOINT ART SHOW, October 19 thru November 24

Mark your calendars for October 19 thru November 24, 2008 for our first the Needlepoint Art Show at Fountain Street Church in Grand Rapids. A field trip is being planned so all members can see the show and out of towners won't get lost.

NOVEMBER 15th MEETING

This is our annual Holiday Luncheon and to celebrate and give everyone an opportunity to see the Art Show at Fountain Street Church we will have a special event. We will have lunch at a special downtown location, followed by a field trip to see the show!!! Details will follow later this summer but please plan to attend this very special event!

LONG RANGE PLANNING:

MAY 15 & 16 MEETING 2009

This will be our 15th Anniversary! We will celebrate with a two day class with Libby Sturdy.

AUGUST 28 – SEPTEMBER 4, 2009

ANG National Seminar at Milwaukee, WI

OCTOBER 1 – 8, 2010

ANG National Seminar at Columbus, OH

AUGUST 26 – SEPTEMBER 3, 2011

ANG National Seminar at San Antonio, TX

STITCHING TIP OF THE MONTH

Check out www.rainbowgallery.com under Jay's Stitching Techniques for some great stitching tips!

ADDRESS CHANGES:

Barb Richardson's e-mail is: babsrich@sbcglobal.net

Alyce Hoban's e-mail is: alycehoban@yahoo.com

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

March

We have no birthdays in March

April

Mary Maguire on the 19th

Happy Stitching!
Joyce Working