



# Shorelines

VOLUME 24 - NO. 5

May - 2009

## SARSAPARILLA



Last month, I needed to buy some bottles of sarsaparilla. This is an item not commonly found at Von's or Ralph's. I called a "stitching"\* friend who steered me in the right direction. Just the other day, I had to take apart one of my earlier attempts at finishing an item. Another "stitching"\* friend helped me tear it apart and then gave me tips on how to put it back together properly. You may remember me as having a curly mop of unruly hair. My new slick hair do is the result of a "stitching"\* friend sending me to her hairdresser. I have to drive every couple of weeks to Culver City to pick up gluten free bread for my daughter. This is a 54 mile round trip from my house. You guessed it, a "stitching"\* friend who lives close by the bakery offered to pick the order up and bring it to a meeting.

This morning, I was bemoaning the fact that I had to write the President's letter and I did not have a clue as to what I was going to say. An "almost stitching"\*\* friend suggested I write about a good embroidery book. "In fact," she said, "I have a lovely book about Williams Morris and embroidery." Not wanting to appear woefully ignorant, I answered, "That sounds wonderful." I was thinking to myself that I had NO CLUE as to who William Morris was and what he had to do with embroidery.

I spent a wonderful afternoon curled up with "The Art of Williams Morris in Cross Stitch" by Barbara Hammet, "William Morris and Morris & Co.," by Lucia van der Post, and "William Morris and the Arts and Crafts Home," by Pamela Todd. Mr. Morris was a poet, painter, designer, and writer and so much more. Ms. Hammet describes him as being "driven by a belief in the dignity and worth of handmade objects." Ms. Todd says that Mr. Morris was the personality behind the Arts and Crafts movement. Many of us will remember Barbara Streisand singing about a "Morris Chair." So William Morris is *that* Morris.



Sometimes at Board meetings, when things get really convoluted, we have one board member who constantly reminds us, "Ladies, remember, it is only needle and thread." The most important thread in stitching is the thread between sarsaparilla and a Morris chair—friendship.

Laura

\* a real friend who happens to stitch

\*\* she quilts

# 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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**Public Relations:**

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**Show & Tell:**

Betty Hamilton

**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 22<sup>nd</sup> Street signal, turn left through Pacific Ave. signal and through 2 stop signals. Turn right onto Via Cabrillo for about ¾ 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](mailto:NASWebmaster@miketodd.com)

**ANG Web Site:** [www.needlepoint.org](http://www.needlepoint.org)

**Shorelines** is mailed to members and advertisers before the General Meeting. Please submit items for publication by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month (or at the General Meeting) for the following month's issue to: Susan Rossi

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## CHAPTER SOUND SYSTEM

The chapter would like to thank Mountain View Chapter, EGA, for letting us use their sound system at the general meeting in April. It allowed every member in attendance to experience first-hand the difference a good sound system makes in the enjoyment of our meetings. At the end of the meeting, we voted to purchase a sound system of our very own. The committee reports that the purchase should be completed with the system ready for use at our May meeting.

The chapter would also like to thank all those generous members who offered to donate money to help the chapter purchase the equipment. After discussion at the general meeting we voted to use chapter funds only. Thanks to previous boards, the chapter is on sound financial footing at this point in time. The current board is very aware of the hard work done in the past to get us here and this expense is really an investment in our future. I imagine everyone will be glad that we have a good sound system as the years continue to pass.

If you haven't attended a few meetings because of sound issues, please come back and give us another try.

Laura Herrmann, President

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## MOTHER'S DAY

Speaking of generous members, I am happy to report that the chapter has received a monetary donation from a member to honor her mother on Mother's Day. The funds will go to the special education fund. What a nice way to honor a special mother who loved to stitch and taught her daughter the skill. Let us honor this very special daughter and all the wonderful mothers and grandmothers, aunts and other women who taught us how to stitch at our May meeting.

L. Herrmann President

## Membership

Please welcome new member Cindy Dixon. Cindy is the owner of Sit 'n Stitch, a long time Needle Artist advertiser.

I still have several rosters that haven't been picked up. Please contact me if you will be picking your roster up at a future meeting. Mailing is \$1.00. If you would like that option, please send your money to Mary Ellen Bell.

**Mary Ellen Bell, Membership**

## **2009 Programs**

### May 2009:

The MAY program will be our next installment of the NAS Yearlong Project. Rachel Watkins will lead us in the GOLDWORK SHELLS, done using silk and metal techniques. The kit for this band includes

- Felt
- #10 Japanese gold
- Padding string
- Diagrams and instructions

You will need to bring the following:

- Sharp needle (very important)
- Regular sewing supplies
- Regular sewing thread, wax, paper scissors
- Laying tool or thumb trolley or a large needle to use as a laying tool
- Fine permanent pen
- Embroidery thread

A note about threads - Rachel used variegated silk floss and DMC in shell-like colors. Check your stash for gold or silver threads or metallic cording such as Kreinik gold ribbon 002.

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### June 2009:

In June, we will be given a tassel lesson by Kristi Todd. There is a kit that includes all items needed to make this red, white and blue tassel. Sign-ups for the \$10 kit have started. Orders need to be in by May 1st so decide now if you want to join the fun.

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### July 2009:

In July we will be back working on the NAS Yearlong Project. The fourth installment will be the BEADED FISH, and Idele Gilbert will be the instructor. A complete supply list will be in the next newsletter.

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**Jacke Prideaux & Alice Weiss, Programs**

## **Hospitality**

Thanks to all for our treats at the April meeting: Joan Stewart, Tammy Kritz, Marge Roberts, and Janet Halliday. The Easter theme was well represented in the colorful cookies. Mary Ellen Bell was a great helper before and after the meeting. Thanks so much, ladies, for making our chapter special.

Anne Lenker will be filling in for me at the May meeting (Thanks in advance, Anne). The Long Beach group will honor us with treats and help--Cecilia Canut, Joyce Lifshin, Chris Higgins, Nancy Caughlin, and Anne Baker.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR COFFEE CUPS!!!

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**Betty Van Acker, Hospitality**

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REQUEST FOR COPIES . . .

As some of you have seen, I had an article in the March issue of NeedleArts titled "The Deacon's Stole." If you no longer want your NeedleArts, would you please consider passing it on to me? I could use a few more copies. Thanks!

Susan Fitzsimons

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**Show and Tell**

Rachel Watkins	--	"Rosella Bird" - designed by Audrey Francini: a workshop that Rachel stitched in Florida - silk on silk.
Linda Dunsworth	--	"Hilda's Heart" - designed by Cele Foley: a program at Azure Verde EGA
Jacque De Masters	--	"Christmas Sampler" - designed by Margaret Bendig. Jacque took the class at Needlepoints Ltd.
Val Reece	--	"A Green Ornament" designed by Strickler (Cross Stitch Magazine)
	--	"Poinsettia Ornament" - designer unknown
	--	"A Dragon" on a mans Shirt
	--	Several "Kissing Pillows"

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**Tammy Kritz (standing in for Betty Hamilton), Show and Tell**

**Needle Artists by the Sea Harbor Cruise and Lunch:**

The wind stopped blowing and the sun started to shine on Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. A group of hearty needlepointers and their friends set off on the good ship Adventurer for a grand tour of the LA Harbor. If you didn't make it—you missed out on a fun day. We made friends with some harbor seals and sea lions and learned about gypsum and borax and so many other little known facts.

Be sure to join us next time!

## **Ways and Means**

Easter has come and gone and the winners of our holiday items were Judi McCall, who took home our Easter lady--maybe in the same car as Cecilia Canut with the penny rug. The yellow duck has joined Laura Hermann while Jacke Prideaux is snipping threads while she sips coffee or tea from the blue mug. Our newsletter editor, Susan Rossi, when not writing, is reading all about couching in the Ann Strite-Kirtz book.

In May, while Linda and Sharon are traveling, Tammy Kritz will be holding down the fort. Tell her how well she is recuperating from surgery by buying extra tickets!!

On the table will be a green basket with a wonderful garden sampler waiting to be stitched. In honor of the stitch design for the day we will have a project and threads carrying bag along with a book on shells. A Longenberger basket will have a dog frame weight in it. Not a Portuguese Water Dog but cute enough to grace your frames.

To honor Cinco De Mayo we will have books on the Mexican samplers. There will be a hobo bag with a coffee cup in it. Buy lots of opportunity tickets.

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



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## **APRIL'S PROGRAM: Rainbow Gallery Fibers**

Sally London presented a fascinating program at the April meeting. She brought many wonderful samples of her work to share with us. I was totally energized by seeing her things. I only wish that the dishes would wash themselves and a food replicator was a reality instead of a science fiction prop. I would have so much more time to stitch!

Rainbow Gallery has a great website: [www.rainbowgallery.com](http://www.rainbowgallery.com). Be sure to visit. The three projects shown above are but a small sample of the many free patterns that they have on their website. They also have free charts for cross stitch, plastic canvas, blackwork and Hardanger, as well as our favorite, needlepoint. L. Herrmann

## **Shoreline Stitchers' Showcase**

My original experience in public exhibition came from managing horse shows; dressage shows to be specific. (Dressage is one of the 3 Olympic equestrian events). Horse shows have different divisions, such as Junior/Young Rider for competitors that haven't reached their 18th birthday, Adult Amateur which means just what it says, and Open, which means anyone can enter. Kids that are 17 and under can compete for ribbons against only their age group, or non-professional adults can win ribbons without competing against professional, nationally or internationally ranked teams. Typically, professional equestrians are limited to competing in the Open division, but Juniors, Young Riders and Adult Amateurs are welcome to participate in these classes and some of them do quite well. All of this is a roundabout way of introducing a unique feature of our Showcase, which is the Master Division.

Master entrants might be either Professionals or Non-Professionals, which at our Exhibit means the same thing they mean at the ANG National Exhibit, but are entering an entirely different Division. A Master, as defined on our first two entry forms, is anyone who previous to the time of entry submission had been awarded any of the following in any techniques represented by the Classes of this Exhibit:

- Best of Category or Show at a regional exhibit (more than 150 entries, including county and state fairs)
- 1st Place at a national judged Exhibit (e.g., ANG, NAN,) or Entry into a national juried Exhibit (e.g., EGA)
- ANG Master Needle Artist or EGA Master Craftsman in any technique

Master Division came about as a way to create more classes and to recognize and challenge superior and experienced stitchers. Participation in this Division was optional for qualified exhibitors as we expected people to be initially shy about declaring themselves to be a Master.

Note that the definition says any technique. As originally conceived, we thought that anyone who had achieved Master status in one technique pretty much knew their way around a needle and thread and should be considered a Master without regard to technique. After all, a Professional is a Professional across the board, so why not a Master? Also, a Professional does not lose their "professional" status for the purposes of competition, regardless of how that status was achieved or if they retire or otherwise desist from their professional activity. Once an individual has received compensation in any amount or any form, including free merchandise, they become a Professional for life. Consequently, we created this Division to both honor and challenge the stitchers who not only have achieved technical excellence in their craft but who have also received recognition for public exhibition or completion of advanced study, whether they have received compensation or not.

This has probably been the most hotly debated aspect of our Showcase, at least that I have heard about. A number of exhibitors absolutely insisted that Master status in one technique does not necessarily indicate Master ability in another. I heard about this from some very surprising people; ones I would never have thought would object to having the term "masterful" applied to any of their work, but yikes! A couple of them got really loud! Consequently, I think the definition will change a little before the third Showcase to allow some of our more timid Masters to enter as either a Professional or Non-Professional, as applicable, for techniques other than the one or ones in which they have achieved Master status. This also means we will have to review the inclusion of ANG Master Needle Artist in this category since this program is not specific to a technique other than requiring a counted ground. The EGA Master Craftsman in Color or Design is also not technique-specific and generates the same type of conflict. I am going to take counsel on this with some Masters and the Chairmen of the ANG and EGA programs before we produce the entry brochure for the 2010 Showcase, so stay tuned. You also might want to note since our Showcase draws more than 150 entries, anyone who wins a Best of Class or Best of Show ribbon becomes a new Master, if they weren't one already.

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**Mary Fleming, Stitchers Showcase**

## LOIS KERSHNER HAWAIIAN BEACH WORKSHOP Presented by Point to Point ANG Chapter

Mark your calendars now for a two day workshop with Lois Kershner on **Friday, June 26th and Saturday, June 27th**. The event will be held in the Huntington Beach, CA. area. The total cost of the event is still being worked up. The costs will consist of \$60 kit cost plus teaching fee, room rental and lunch should it be decided to have it catered.

We are currently firming up the details. If you want to reserve your place send a deposit of \$100. The final cost will be announced once details are worked out, the balance will be due June 1st. This beach scene is Lois' memories of Hawaii, but many find it reminding them of local So Cal beaches. The piece includes various stitching techniques including over-laying stitches, stitch padding, and selective use of overdyed threads.

The design size is 8" x 5" on Congress cloth. The kit includes the threads, instruction booklet and color photocopy of the finished design.

Questions???

Contact Laurie McLellan or Mary Ellen Bell

See the April edition of SHORELINES for the registration form.

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### "Heart of July" Brazilian Embroidery Workshop

Saturday, May 30, 2009, 9am-3pm

Designer/instructor Kristi Todd

Long Beach Chapter, EGA

Cost: \$35

Learn all the "basics" of Brazilian embroidery: French or Colonial knots, bullion, chain and satin stitches, and "cast-on roses". Also the tricks of using Brazilian threads on moiré fabric! The workshop includes all materials to complete the project. Students should bring their usual stitching supplies, including a 5" embroidery hoop, a marking pencil and both fine and sturdy scissors.

Location: St. Gregory's Church, 6201 E. Willow (near Bellflower exit) Long Beach. Coffee and water will be provided; bring your own lunch or plan to order take-out. Contact: Ann Perkins





## Calendar

- May 7**      **Board Meeting** (10 am to 12 noon)  
Convoid, 2830 California Ave, Torrance
- May 12**     **Stitch and Chat Central** (10 am to 3 pm)  
Boardwalk Café at Ports of Call Village,  
San Pedro. Call Alice Weiss for information.
- May 14**     **General Meeting** (10 am to 12:30 pm)  
Community Room, Via Cabrillo Marina, San Pedro
- May 21**     **Stitch & Chat South** Dark this month.
- May 26**     **Stitch & Chat North** (10 am to 3 pm)  
La Tijera United Methodist Church,  
7400 Osage Avenue, Los Angeles.  
Call Laverne Baker for information.



**Shorelines**  
**The American Needlepoint Guild, Inc.**  
**Susan Rossi, Editor**

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