

EASTON COUTURIERE WORKSHOP NEWSLETTER

April 2010

PREZ SEZ

How is your Spring Sewing Clean-Out & Finish-Up coming along? Our Fashion Show is just around the corner. The Treasure Shop and Raffle Table are awaiting your treasures.

Fashion items are being readied for our runway. The Refreshers are putting the final stitches into their linings. Pastry recipes are being pulled out of recipe boxes. There is always a lot of anticipation about just what will appear at our show. I hope you will schedule some time to help set up on Saturday, April 17 and be part of the fun on the 18th.

Nancy Boccadoro, President

DEVOTIONS: Jean Brown

HOSTESSES: Marie Mays-Gee and Helen Curran

FASHION SHOW

Publicity for our event is very important! Please make sure you have delivered your posters to their destinations by April 10th.

At the April meeting, Karen Zimmerman will accept donations for the raffle table and Peggy Conger will be accepting items for the Treasure Shop.

For security and planning we need a list of the items each person wants included in the Treasure Shop; we will provide a price tag for each item and "coding".

For either activity, the actual items may be brought to the April meeting or, at the latest, Saturday afternoon, April 17, during the set up time for the Fashion Show.

Un-inventoried items will not be accepted for the Treasure Shop or the Raffle the day of the show. Unsold items from the Treasure Shop will be returned to you at the May meeting along with your cash; we are asking that 10% of your gross be donated to our Fashion Show project.

Note: Judith Weyl, Natasha Grotenhuis, Shirley Kressler, & Mary Ann Schweitzer are asked to remain for a few minutes following the April meeting to co-ordinate plans for the Treasure Shop.

Nancy Boccadoro & Peggy Conger

*Please call us with any items you think would be of interest to our group!
Special thanks to those of you who do.
Deadline for May Newsletter is May 1, 2010
All newsletters are on Dee Lammi's website embroiderybydee.com*

APRIL PROGRAM

Fashion designer Pamela Ptak worked on fashion collections for NY Fashion week & the Paris Haute Couture for 5 years before launching her own Pamela Ptak ready-to-wear collection in 2009. She has since shown her line twice in NYC, shown her collection at the Coterie fashion design show at Javitz & she recently joined a NYC showroom. She was one of 16 designers chosen for Project Runway season 7 & she was honored to hear Tim Gunn say her garments were "among the most beautifully constructed he had ever seen" and that she was "on the cusp of something big."

Members should bring scissors, needle and thread for a brief workshop on working with bias strips as surface embellishments and working with bias fabrics on entire garments.

Greet spring than with visits to some wonderful fashion exhibitions! Start with the Michener Museum in Doylestown for Icons of Costume: Hollywood's Golden Era and Beyond (opens April 17), featuring costumes and objects created by celebrated fashion designers from the 1940s through the 1990s and worn by legendary film stars. Then plan a trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute for American Woman: Fashioning a National Identity (opening May 5), which will reveal how American women initiated style revolutions from 1890-1940 that mirrored social, political, and sexual emancipation. Be sure to catch Night & Day (closes May 11) at the Fashion Institute of Technology Museum, which highlights how rules that dictate appropriate dress for women have changed over the years. And watch for Here Come the Brides, a mini-exhibition at our own Allentown Art Museum of three wedding gowns from 1902-1945 worn by members of the family of Bucks County sculptor Susan Opie . -

Jacquie Atkins, Allentown Art Museum

*Jo Lysholdt jolysholdt@rcn.com
Ellen Sorensen Kay Wolff
Jan Neitzel Pat Auerbach*

IT'S "T" TIME

A T-shirt is such a fashion staple for men, women and children that many of us forget it was once nothing more than men's underwear. T-shirts are so popular that in 1990 more than one billion were sold in the United States alone! They have been referred to as the "Big Mac of the international clothing industry."

For a very long time, American men most often wore a sleeveless singlet, with over-the-shoulder straps, a deep neck and totally exposed armpits. At some point, exposure of underarm and chest hair became inappropriate. In fact, in 1913 the U.S. Navy adopted the crew-necked, short-sleeved, white cotton undershirt, in part for modesty purposes.

In the 30's, Hanes and Sears, Roebuck started marketing cotton undershirts with sleeves and a high neck for as little as 24 cents apiece, although they were not called T-shirts then. They did not meet with great success, in part due to the 1934 movie "It Happened One Night" with Clark Gable and Claudette Colbert. In one scene, Gable took off his dress shirt revealing that he wore nothing underneath! Undershirt sales plummeted. Then World War II happened. In 1941, the U. S. military ordered millions of cotton undershirts - white for the Navy, sage green for the Marines and olive drab for the Army.

Following the war, the T-shirt was worn every day by men in every walk of life. Veterans, used to the comfort, said they simply felt naked without one. For a while, the T-shirt was a symbol of crew-cut cleanliness and neatness, but thanks to the Hollywood of the 50's, the T-shirt became a symbol of the working man, and of youthful rebellion with Marlon Brando in "The Wild One" and James Dean in "Rebel Without a Cause." The T-shirt was no longer merely underwear.

Our history continues next month.

Kay Wolff

MAY LUNCHEON

Our May meeting and luncheon will be held at Hampton Winds at Northampton Community College. Directions will be available at our April meeting for anyone who needs them. The cost of the luncheon is \$20 including the tax and gratuity, payable to Easton Couturiere Workshop. We will collect money and menu choice at the April meeting. Because seating is limited, this is a members only event. Club members and

guests may attend the meeting and not the luncheon if they wish. Accommodations can be made for special dietary issues, so please let us know when you make your reservations. Thanks, Carol Williams and Kay Wolff

Hampton Winds Restaurant

Tropical Salad

Mixed Baby Greens, Fresh Tropical Fruits,
Candied Pecans,
Coco Lopez Dressing

Assorted House Made Breads and Rolls with Whipped Butter

Entrée Choices

Porterhouse Bone in Steak

Broiled to your request, Port Wine
Chasseur Sauce

Pan Smoked Pancetta Basted Salmon

Crabmeat, Artichoke, Spinach, Provolone
Stuffed

Chicken Normandy

Slices of Melted Brie, Red, Green and
Golden Apples, Mango-Papaya Chutney
Apple Jack Brandy Crème

Napoleon of Eggplant, Figs and Dates

Panko Crusted, Roasted Peppers, Grilled
Asparagus, Tomatoes
Asiago Puree, Fresh Vegetable Hash

All Entrees accompanied by Chef's choice
of seasonal starch and vegetable

Dessert

Pastry Chef's Choice

Beverages

Sweet Iced Tea and Ice Water on Tables
during meal
Hot Coffee, Regular and Decaffeinated,
Hot Tea with dessert

SEW WHAT'S NEW??

When Jo receives this via e-mail she will be very surprised - it's early, and she doesn't have to remind me that it is due. I'm writing this on a Sunday afternoon, and I usually don't do anything that resembles work on Sunday except cook dinner. Most Sundays it's church, Sunday paper, dozing off, taking a walk, and fixing an easy dinner. But I was in my workroom, at the computer, windows open, and the smell and sounds of spring finding their way in. It's hard to believe that I was writing the column for last month on a "snowed-in" day.

I really am getting this off early because we are leaving later this week for our own "spring break". We are heading down to South Carolina to a time-share in Edisto Beach, one of our favorite places. We will be joined by some family members, too, which makes it even better, enjoying time away from our own homes to really chill out! It's easy there - what it lacks in development it makes up for in tranquility. When you cross the intra-coastal waterway you suddenly feel like you're leaving things behind, passing through the beautiful open marshes into a little paradise. (Some of that came from a travel magazine - I'm not waxing poetic!) But it is true, and up until four years ago cell phones didn't work there!

By the time you read this I don't know what the weather will be, but this last week has been heavenly. (It is warmer here today than it is in Charleston SC.) Lets' just hope by the time you read this, and we meet at the April meeting, snow and cold are forgotten words. The coming of spring is a miracle to me every year. Enjoy!

Ellen Sorensen

THE TRAVELING COUTURIERE

A trip has been planned to Marist College in Poughkeepsie, New York for May 7th & 8th to see the students' annual Silver Needles Fashion Show. Members are carpooling for this event and drivers are available. One \$25 admission ticket is available. Contact Mary Ann Schweitzer if you would like to go along.

The trip to the Reading Public Museum on Thursday, April 29 has been cancelled due to the surprise! early closing of the exhibit. Our Treasurer will refund checks/money for the pre-paid admissions for this trip.

Agnes Webb

SEW ON AND SEW FORTH

We appreciate all of the cards that we received after our recent accident. Thank you. My injuries were minor but my husband had a broken rib which led to other medical problems. After a month in re-hab, we are home with visiting nurses, P.T.s and O.T.s in and out of the house everyday. Each and everyone of them is appreciated but I find that I have little time left for sewing.

The following is a hint that appeared in a booklet "And Sew On..." written by Alida Macor

To hide a tummy, keep the waistband loose on all slim skirts. Plan a finished band that is 3/4" to 1" larger than your waist size. (Test this for yourself by cinching in the waistband at the back of a slim skirt and observing what happens up front!)

To camouflage the larger bust, wear front vertical seaming, v-necklines, button-down fronts and long shawls. All bustline darts would lead to the bustline, stopping 3/4" to 1" from bust point for A and B cup sizes, but up to 2" away for larger cup sizes. Bustline darts that slant upwards (French darts) are more flattering, especially for large busts.

To enhance the smaller bust, avoid narrow collars, clingy fabrics, and patterns with both bustline and waistline darts.

Happy sewing and we will see you at the fashion show.

Jan Neitzel

MEET A MEMBER

I met Alberta Siemiakaski over the phone and she told me this about herself.

Her mother taught her how to sew and she made many of her own clothes. She also took sewing classes at night.

She was born in Pennsylvania, graduated from Seton Hill College in Greensburg and did graduate work at Fordom and Rutgers. She was a research scientist at Memorial – Sloan Kettering Hospital for 20 years and was a biology professor at Manhattanville College. During this period she had no time to sew.

Alberta moved to Bethlehem 13 years ago and wants to start sewing again. To help her get started, she is looking for inspiration and classes

Pat Auerbach

SEW n SEWS

Sew n Sews will meet on Thursday, April 22, 2010 from 9A – 4P at the Hughes Library Stroudsburg, PA.

Dee Lammi will be instructing the Embroidery Group at this meeting. Project details will be given at a later time. This workshop is open to all members who have an Embroidery Machine. The Embroidery Group could not get a particular date in April. It was decided since we have a room available at the Hughes Library in April we would use it for our Embroidery Project.

Just a note to remind members all are welcome to join us. If you do not have an embroidery machine, please bring your own sewing or serging project to work on. It is always a learning experience, and the group enjoys seeing all the interesting items our talented members make.

Annette Smekanich

MARCH MINUTES

The meeting of the Easton Couturiere Workshop was held March 8, 2010 at Third St. Alliance. President Nancy Boccadoro called the meeting to order and Darlene LeFevre gave devotions. Claire Rohloff introduced the speaker, Polly Kendrick, who is a costume designer for theatre productions spoke about “Drawing & Fashion Illustration”.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as printed in our newsletter. Claire Rohloff & Mary Coyle made this motion. The Treasurer’s report was read by Shirley Kressler and approved as read. Elizabeth Cortright & Peggy Conger made this motion.

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Ellen Sorensen, Doris Strom, & Linda Friedman, presented the following slate of officers for the coming year: President, Nancy Boccadoro; 1st Vice President, Claire Rohloff; 2nd Vice President, shared by Carol Blair & Peggy Congor who will co-chair the Fashion Show; Secretary, MaryAnn Schweitzer and Treasurer, Shirley Kressler.

Kay Wolfe is accepting reservations for the May 10 luncheon at Hampton Winds. The cost is \$20 and you need to select your entrée when you make a reservation. This luncheon is open to members only and limited to 65 people.

Librarian Sylvia Hunsinger listed the following books that were donated to the library: “Simple Art of Ribbon Design”, “Decorating Projects for the Home”, Eleanor Burns’ “Lovers Know Quilts”, and a book on “Stack & Whack”.

Agnes Webb noted that the trip to the Reading Museum has been rescheduled to April 29. See Agnes to make reservations and arrange a ride.

Eleanor Pinto requested that the Refreshers Course participants wear their jackets in the fashion show.

The Paint Sticks Workshop will be on March 24 at the Phillipsburg Library and you may get a supply list from Claire Rohloff. The Sew & Sews will meet March 24 at the Stroudsburg Library at 9 a.m. and Doris Strom will demonstrate her embroidered bag technique.

Fashion Show posters were handed out today. Diane Sutor is distributing show tickets and will mail those not picked up so far. Each member is responsible for four tickets. Please encourage attendance at the show. Fran Brader asked for items for the Display table. The Hospitality committee is requesting small, non-sticky desserts on the day of the show. Karen Zimmerman is accepting raffle items. Please bring these items to the April meeting. The Treasure Shop will be located in the Dining Room of Third St. and will be open before and after the show. Judith Weyl & Natasha Grotenhuis will man the shop before the show and Shirley Kressler & MaryAnn Schweitzer will work after the show.

Show & Share participants were: Claire Rohloff who showed a vest made with fabrics from Stitcher’s Dream; Ellen Sorensen who modeled her just finished gray English wool slacks; Judith Weyl who modeled an embroidered pants suit and handbag and Pat Karcher who wore a “trash to treasure” chiffon & lace blouse and a new Spring jacket.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted: MaryAnn Schweitzer, Secretary