

# EASTON COUTURIERE WORKSHOP NEWSLETTER

May 2010

## PREZ SEZ

DON'T DRIVE TO EASTON FOR OUR APRIL MEETING!

I doubt that anyone will forget that our annual luncheon will follow the 10 AM meeting, but cars sometimes auto-pilot us to 3<sup>rd</sup> Street on the 2nd Monday of the month. If you are unsure of how to get to Hampton Winds, please check the directions provided in this newsletter so you will arrive unfrazzled.

Once again, our Fashion Show beautifully highlighted who we are. Kudos to all the helping hands on committees and wonderful, courageous, creative model/seamstresses who provided an array of runway creations. Who would have expected a dragon! I hope all of you had an opportunity to see all the talents within our group and share in the fun.

Keep in mind May is not the end of our year, but merely the beginning of planning for next year. Look for Committee Sign Up sheets at the May meeting- a great way to get to know our members and become an active part of our group. See you on the 10<sup>th</sup>,

Nancy Boccadoro, President

DEVOTIONS: Nancy Catanach

HOSTESSES: Kay Wolff & Carol Williams at Hampton Winds

## FASHION SHOW

Any remaining unsold items from the Treasure Shop will be returned at the May meeting. Shirley Kressler will distribute members' cash from our Treasure shop sales.

Fashion Show Committee Chairs: Please turn in your final reports by Friday, May 7.

Nancy Boccadoro & Peggy Conger

## PROGRAM

There will be a power point presentation by Alona Pike on " Inspirations from here, there and everywhere". There will be examples of inspirational designs, techniques and embellishments, what's new in fashion and other tidbits. Inspirations come from her photos taken in LA, Hawaii, San Francisco, Chicago and elsewhere. Garments made by Alona will be available for closer examination. The presentation has a plethora of ideas, including the story behind the designs, which is sure to educate, entertain and (of course) inspire.

Alona started sewing for her Barbie doll and at 13 was making her own clothing on her Mother's 1940 Singer sewing machine (which she still uses).

She combines patterns and makes alterations to create her own custom fit garments. She also does glass fusing, silver smithing and silk painting.

Textiles take center stage this summer at the Allentown Art Museum. *In Stitches: Quilts from the Allentown Art Museum Collection*, opening June 20 (preview party June 19), showcases the 34 quilt treasures featured at a major quilt exhibition in Tokyo, Japan, earlier this year. The quilts, representing nearly two centuries of a rich design tradition, carry within their stitches the stories of ordinary women who used their needlework skills to turn functional bedcovers into beautiful and intricate works of decorative art to warm family members by night and give color and charm to homes by day. In late May the lobby showcase offers *Talking Textiles*, a look at the many stories--some personal, some political, some historical, and some just plain playful--that textiles hold and tell. In mid-June *Here Come the Brides* celebrates a half-century of bridal style, with wedding gowns worn in 1902, 1930, and 1945 by the grandmother, mother, and aunt of donor Sue Opie, a Bucks County artist. --*Jacquie Atkins, Allentown Art Museum.*

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 Sept Newsletter is Sept 3, 2010

All newsletters are on Dee Lammi's website [embroiderybydee.com](http://embroiderybydee.com)

Jo Lysholdt [jolysholdt@rcn.com](mailto:jolysholdt@rcn.com)

Ellen Sorensen Kay Wolff

Jan Neitzel Pat Auerbach

## IT'S "T" TIME - PART TWO

In the 1950s, T-shirts continued to have a macho image, but then Jean Seberg appeared in a 1959 movie, "Breathless," wearing a T-shirt with New York Herald Tribune emblazoned on the front. Just as James Dean had done for the men, Jean set the style for women. For the next ten years, more and more females adopted the new look with blue jeans and mini skirts. The T-shirt also became the uniform of radical youth, male and female. By the late 1960s, T-shirts were tie-dyed, painted and silk-screened with signs of peace and symbols of protest.

Lettering on T-shirts, once restricted to sports teams and children's TV heroes, now became wildly popular as a way to protest the war in Vietnam, or simply to state one's opinion on anything. Why carry a sign, when you could wear one on your chest? In the 1970s Time magazine reported that T-shirts were a "bright new trend for kids and the Over-30s too." An almost limitless supply of designs and sayings were available at major department stores and hundreds of small T shops. Manufacturers such as Fruit of the Loom dominated production, but the decoration became (and remains) a major cottage industry.

For many, T-shirts have become collector's items - have you made a T-shirt quilt yet? They show where people have been, what races they have run in, concerts they've heard, and blizzards they've survived. Businesses use the T-shirt as one of the greatest methods of advertising ever. Political statements abounded - from statements of women's rights to protesting capital punishment. They still do, and although protected by the First Amendment, some people feel the freedom of expression on a T-shirt has gone too far.

The T-shirt has had a long journey and where it will end is anyone's guess. One thing is for sure, it is here to stay.

*Kay Wolff*

## BIAS FACING

Bias facings provide a narrow finish to neck or armhole edges. To create a bias facing, cut a bias strip about 1-1/2 inches wide and, with right sides together, sew one edge to the garment opening. Make slashes in the curved edges so the material doesn't pull. Turn the strip to the inside so the facing strip doesn't show on the outside, then turn under the raw edge of the strip and whipstitch on the strip edge, catching the garment occasionally.

## **DIRECTIONS to Hampton Winds, Northampton County Community College**

### **From the North**

Take Rt 33 South to the Hecktown Road exit  
At the end of the exit ramp, turn LEFT onto Hecktown Road.

Drive 2 miles to a STOP SIGN where you will turn LEFT onto Butztown Road

Proceed 1.4 miles and then turn LEFT onto Greenpond Road.

Drive 0.1 miles to the driveway (on the left) that leads into GATES CENTER, home of Hampton Winds Restaurant

### **From the East**

Take Rt 22 West to Rt 33 North

Take the Hecktown Road exit

At the end of the exit ramp, turn RIGHT onto Hecktown Road

Drive 2 miles to a STOP SIGN where you will turn LEFT onto Butztown Road

Proceed 1.4 miles and then turn LEFT onto Greenpond Road.

Drive 0.1 miles to the driveway (on the left) that leads into GATES CENTER, home of Hampton Winds Restaurant

### **From the West**

Take Rt 22 East to the Rt 191 exit.

At the end of the exit ramp, turn left onto Rt. 191 S (toward Bethlehem)

Drive 0.8 miles to the STOP LIGHT at Oakland Road where you will turn LEFT

Proceed 0.8 miles and turn LEFT at the 4 way STOP SIGN onto Hecktown Road

Drive 0.5 to the STOP LIGHT at Greenpond Road where you will turn RIGHT

Drive 0.1 miles to the driveway (on the left) that leads into GATES CENTER, home of Hampton Winds Restaurant.

## FROM BETHLEHEM VO-TECH

I am looking for individuals to judge the garments for the fashion show. This could be done during the day or later in the day. You would be looking at the garments and determining the best quality according to sewing construction. This usually takes about an hour maybe a little longer because I have a large group of students this year. It doesn't have to be completed in one day maybe over a couple of days. The fashion show is Tuesday, May 18 at 7:00pm. The time frame to evaluate would be starting Wednesday, May 12 until Friday, May 14. I would like at least 2 to 3 people. Thank you

Sharon Werst Fashion Industries instructor

## SEW WHAT'S NEW??

It is May again, bringing us to the end of another good year for Couturiere Workshop and its members. It's also time to look forward to another May Luncheon, a true high point of our year. We are so grateful to Northampton for continuing to let us use their facilities for our final meeting and for such an attractive presentation and delicious tasting lunch.

This time of year also climaxes with the annual Fashion Show, an event that seems to bring together so many members to make it a success. I'm sure there will be a report elsewhere in this newsletter. Thanks to all committees and workers for this event.

We look forward to another exciting year starting in September - and that begins with the planning meeting in June. Join us there and bring your ideas and suggestions to that session, June 14.

*Ellen Sorensen*

## MEET A MEMBER

Lynn Rossi learned to sew in 7<sup>th</sup> grade home economics, unlike many of us who learned from our mothers. She got her first sewing machine when she was married, took some classes but is largely self-taught.

Lynn has been a stay-at-home mom raising three girls and a boy. She made clothing for them including Halloween costumes.

She worked part time at Michaels as an event coordinator and taught craft classes there. Lynn loves creating things. She knits, quilts, makes jewelry as well as sewing clothes. She is a member of the Colonial Quilt Guild.

Her most recent accomplishment is the ancient craft of Kuniheimo braiding, originally used for ornamentation for the Samurai and now for belts and trims.

*Pat Auerbach*

## EMBROIDERY CLUB

The embroidery club will meet at At Piece Quiltery on May 13 from 9:30 to 3. The project will be towel hangers and applique on towel. If anyone would like to attend and did not get the supply list please let Dee Lammi know ([lammid@rcn.com](mailto:lammid@rcn.com)) or 6102484386. Members who have embroidery machines are invited to attend and anyone who would like to see what these wonderful machines can do would also be welcome to come and watch.

*Dee Lammi*

## SEW ON AND SEW FORTH

In the last issue of Sew News several readers sent some very interesting sewing hints. One wrote that she uses large metal washers as pattern weights. Another went to a local paper supplier and purchased a 1000' roll of 24" -wide butcher paper when she was unable to find pattern paper. Leslie Y. from Dracut, MA uses a small makeup brush to clean lint from the feed dogs, shuttle hook and bobbin case of her sewing machine. Another reader wrote that she uses a 30" sheet of acrylic from a building supply store to protect her cardboard cutting mat. My favorite hint was sent in by Susan C. from Bonsall, CA.. When she put a hot iron on the bonding side of fusible interfacing (and haven't we all), she used the pad and cleanser from her ceramic stove top to wipe it away without scratching the iron.

Try to keep sewing. I am finding it harder and harder. The latest fashions don't inspire me and finding suitable fabrics and patterns is becoming difficult. Without our group I am certain I would just forget it.

Have a wonderful summer.

*Jan Neitzel*

## MEMBERSHIP

We had 46 members present at our April meeting. In addition, Christina Reedell and Cathie Werner attended as guests.

**A word about dues:** Traditionally we have collected membership dues by mail through the summer or at our September meeting. Last year we voted to begin collection earlier for the coming year so that we would have accurate membership information for our new handbook. Jo Lysholdt assembles the handbook over the summer in order to make it available to you at the September meeting. With that in mind, we hope you will either take advantage of the May or June meeting to pay your \$20 dues for 2010-2011 or send a check to me before August 1<sup>st</sup>. Of course you may pay your dues at any time, but August 1<sup>st</sup> will be the deadline for being included in our membership handbook.

*Sharon Roehrig and Doris Strom*

## THANK YOU

I'd like to sincerely thank everyone who helped support my quilt guild, Evening Star Quilt Guild, by purchasing tickets for our raffle quilt. These ticket sales help fund our community service projects. I hope one of you wins!

*Sharon Roehrig*

## SEW n SEWS

Sew n Sews will meet on Thursday, May 27, 2010 from 9 AM to 4 PM at the Hughes Library, Stroudsburg, PA.

At this time, we are not working on a group project, so members can work on their own UFOs. Everyone is welcome to join the group to share in a day of learning, sharing, and of course, laughter!

*Annette Smerkanich*

## APRIL MINUTES

The meeting of the Easton Couturiere Society was held April 11, 2010 at Third St. Alliance and called to order by President Nancy Boccadoro. Clair Rohloff, program chair, announced that Pam Ptak, who was to present the program, was ill and she would be setting up a viewing of the DVD the club recently purchased on fitting and short cut techniques.

Pat Auerbach explained what needs to be on the commentary cards that are used for each garment modeled and she held a practice walk thru to demonstrate and help new members. The fashion show room opens at 1:30 on Sunday April 18 and the show starts at 2 p.m. Polly McGarr, hospitality, requested small cookie items for the dessert table which should be brought in on Sat. after 1 p.m. Dee Lammi, Carolyn Gill & Helen Curran volunteered to help. The committee will meet on Sunday at noon to prepare the set-up. Fran Brader handed out cards to identify our display table items which should be brought in on Saturday, starting at 1 p.m. Peggy Conger is collecting items to be sold at the Treasure Shop which will be in the dining room. These items must all be marked & priced before hand and a percentage of the sale price will go to the club. The shop will open at 1 p.m. on Sunday and will close during the show but will reopen after the show for 45 minutes. Sharon Roehrig, Lynn Rossi & Trudy Frey will provide security. Raffle tickets are also available for sale today.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read. Claire Rohloff & Judith Weyl made this motion. The Treasurer's report was approved as read and Mary Coyle & Elizabeth Cortright made the motion.

Ellen Sorensen, chair of the Nominating Committee, present the following slate of officers for the following year: President, Nancy Boccadoro, Vice President, Claire Rohloff, Secretary, MaryAnn Schweitzer, Treasurer, Shirley Kressler, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Carol Blair & Peggy Conger. There were no nominations from the floor. Pat Auerbach made the motion to close the nominations and accept the slate as presented. Elizabeth Cortright seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Note: The Second Vice President is chair for the Fashion Show and this position may be held by more than one person.

Kay Wolff is taking reservations for the May Luncheon at Hampton Winds and the deadline is May 1.

Sylvia Hunsinger announced a donation of 5 books for the Library and that DVD's of all meeting programs are also available.

Sharon Roehrig noted that 46 members and 2 guests were present today. She also reminded us that dues should be paid by August 1<sup>st</sup> so that the membership booklet can be prepared and ready for distribution by the September meeting.

Agnes Webb announced that the Reading Museum trip was cancelled but a road trip to the Michner Museum, Doylestown, was scheduled for the same day, April 2.

Annett Smerkanich noted that the Sew & Sews will meet April 22 at the Hughes Library as will the Embroidery Club. Dee Lammi announced that they will be making a towel head wrap with embossed designs.

The following participated in the Show & Share segment: Dee Lammi, knit lace scarf; Claire Rohloff, bag & design a quilt with dyed fabric; Linda Friedman, sweat shirt pieced jacket; Katy Werner, flowered, quilted, beaded jacket; Trudy Frey, Lincoln platform block wall hanging with family Civil War buttons and letters on reverse side; Diane Sutor, blue crocheted afghan for the show raffle; Karen Zimmerman, explained the Girl Scouts Fashion Runway and the miniature mannequin made for trophies.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.  
Respectfully submitted,

MaryAnn Schweitzer, Secretary