

# EASTON COUTURIERE WORKSHOP NEWSLETTER

October 2009

## PREZ SAYS .....

Food and Friends... What better way to spend a Monday morning! Our September meeting was like a huge nudge to get you back to your sewing machine. There are so many great ideas coming out of our group. Annette's easy aprons inspired us all; with Thanksgiving and Christmas just around the proverbial corner, the color and fabric potential is wonderful. Get ready for more energizing as you read about Claire's October program. Our Show and Tell always reminds us that despite the economy, we all have the talent to create some wonderful items and keep our creative spirits glowing.

I hope we can settle on a theme for our Fashion Show at the next meeting, so put on those thinking caps. The decorating team will begin planning soon, so we need to give them a little assistance.

Bring your ideas and maybe one of your finished PIGS (Projects In Grocery Sacs) on the 12<sup>th</sup>. See you soon,

Nancy Boccadoro, President

**DEVOTIONS:** Shirley Kressler

**HOSTESSES:** Carolyn Gill and Trudy Frey  
Hostesses are asked to bring a simple snack to share during the break.

## **SEPTEMBER PROGRAM**

The program for Oct 12 will be presented by Dottie Richey from Stitcher's Dream. Dottie will be presenting a 3 part program covering Quilting; Knitting by hand and machine; and Sewing garments and embroidery. Patterns and project kits will be available for purchase. It should be an exciting event!

Claire Rohloff

## MEET A MEMBER

-- A new feature highlighting members, new ones especially!

Since she and I shared membership table duties in September, I will start with Doris Strom, new last year.

Doris drives with the Monroe County crew. She lives in Middle Smithfield since moving from Berkley Heights, N.J. two years ago. She has one son, his wife and two small grandchildren. She has worked as an office manager.

Like many of us, her mother taught her to sew and she made clothing for a time. Doris is a member of Sew n Sews and now concentrates on quilting and machine embroidery. She makes vests and jackets.

Since Doris loves being with people, our group welcomes her.

Pat Auerbach

Fall is upon us, but with a dazzling array of costume exhibitions that are definitely worth seeing! The Reading Public Museum just opened *The Magic of Hollywood: The Gene London Costume Collection* (through May 30), a wonderful array of over 100 costumes (there will be some rotation of costumes) created by Hollywood's greatest designers for icons such as Greta Garbo, Joan Crawford, Jean Harlow, Lana Turner, Hedy Lamarr, Marilyn Monroe, and others. This stunning collection was assembled by Philadelphia-area TV personality and fashion designer Gene London. In NYC, *Fashion & Politics* examines the rich history of politics in fashion through costumes, textiles and accessories at the Museum of the Fashion Institute of Technology (through Nov. 7, 2009). And a last chance to see to *Shopping in Paris: French Fashion 1850-1925* at the Philadelphia Art Museum (closes Oct. 25), a delectable look at the Parisian fashions that American ladies couldn't resist. -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 November Newsletter is October 30, 2009  
All newsletters are on Dee Lammi's website [embroiderybydee.com](http://embroiderybydee.com)

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

## SEW ON AND SEW FORTH

As I was wandering around in the local stores lately, I noticed that plaids are being featured again. I remembered that the latest issue of Vogue Patterns magazine has a really good 4 page article on sewing with plaid fabrics. Just a few of the tips included in that article:

Choose an easy pattern with few pattern pieces. Fewer pattern pieces mean less seams to be matched. Also a pattern with intricate seaming and details will interrupt the plaid design and detract from its beauty. A good rule is: The less experience you have, the fewer seams your plaid project should have.

The key to sewing a perfectly matched plaid garment lies in matching the color bars at the STITCHING LINES not the cutting lines. Fitting adjustments made after the pattern is cut out will destroy the careful match. If any adjustments are necessary, make them on the pattern tissue before it is pinned and cut out.

Several alternate methods to basting are mentioned: fusible thread, glue sticks and basting tape a lightweight tape with sticky on both sides. If the match is slightly "off", consider inserting piping in the seam or centering a band of ribbon or braid over the seam line. A slight mismatch at the center front opening will be less noticeable if the edges are bias-bound or trimmed with flexible braid.

That's it for this month. I will gladly loan my copy of this magazine. Just ask.

*Jan Neitzel*

## TERRY'S TREASURES

A table containing some of Terry's sewing treasures will again be available. Members are invited to give her sewing items a new home and are asked to put an appropriate donation into the basket provided. These donations will be set aside for a future scholarship to be given to someone who will be pursuing a career in fashion design or the teaching of sewing to our next generation of sewers.

## SEW WHAT'S NEW??

The last two months I have gotten this column to Jo early. This month I just didn't realize it was October already. I talked about fall and the colors last month, so that one was out. Christmas is still too far away (is it really less than 3 months?). I have been busy going through files, eliminating and organizing, etc. I have a to-be-filed pile on the floor in front of the file drawer, and when it gets to look like at least two folders' worth, I hit it.

In going through this mess, I came across something I had cut out of the AAA magazine about one of PA's most scenic spots, so I decided to write about it because the color should be beautiful about now. Have you been to the Grand Canyon of PA (awesome) and the charming town of Wellsboro - gaslights, Victorian homes, a Town Green, and a famous old diner - on Route 6? There are lots of other things to see and enjoy in the area. Go to [visitPA.com/northern/Pine Creek Gorge](http://visitPA.com/northern/PineCreekGorge), and VISIT PA!!

Writing this reminded me of the Ken Burns' National Parks that has been on PBS for a week. Since we've visited many of those parks it was an experience to learn some of the history behind them. If you missed it, I'm sure it will be repeated - and be sure to see it.

*Ellen Sorensen*

## THE TRAVELING COUTURIERE

Agnes Webb, has refined our trip to see The Diana Collection at the newly constructed Constitution Center. We will be carpooling to Philadelphia on October 20, meeting at the museum at 10 AM for a 10:30 admission and then spending the remainder of the day at your discretion. Parking is available in the lower level of the museum and there are two cafeterias within the museum. With parking, but not including lunch, the total estimated cost per person is under \$30. Please look for the sign up sheet or see Agnes at the October meeting if you are interested in joining the group. Admission tickets must be purchased in advance, so please come prepared with a check for \$23 to cover our ticket purchase. We currently have 2 members who have volunteered to drive.

## DRESSMAKER PATTERNS - A HISTORY

In order to set the stage for this topic, I am repeating the time line listing the development of commercial patterns that I handed out several years ago. Some of you may remember, but we have had new members since then.

1849 - the invention of the sewing machine helped launch the garment industry in New York City.

1863 - Ebenezer Butterick invented the tissue paper dress pattern. Paper patterns for women's clothes spread fashion to the frontier.

1870 - McCall's Pattern company was founded in New York by a Scotsman, James McCall.

1876 - E. Butterick and Company had branches in London, Paris, Berlin and Vienna. The telephone was invented.

1892 - Vogue magazine first appeared in America.

1905 - Vogue Patterns were introduced through an editorial feature in Vogue Magazine.

1914 - Vogue Patterns, originally sold by mail through the magazine, became so popular that a separate department was formed - the Vogue Pattern Company.

1949 - Vogue Patterns offered design of Paris originals from leading European couturiers. For decades, Vogue was the only pattern company permitted to purchase designer originals for pattern duplication. This made French couture dressing possible for American women at a fraction of the cost.

1961 - Vogue Patterns became affiliated with the Butterick Company.

*Kay Wolff*

## MEMBERSHIP-Sharon Roehrig and Doris Strom

At our September meeting 48 members were present. Our total membership is now 68. Mary Coyle has agreed to be our "New Member Liaison" to help both new members and guests to feel at home. Who better??

Please add the following to your handbook:

1) New Member:  
Maria Mc Connell 610-957-5052  
246 W. Kleinhans St. [pazgalloso@yahoo.com](mailto:pazgalloso@yahoo.com)  
Easton, Pa 18042 B'day: 10/20

Renewing Member  
Ella Benzoni  
175 W. North St. Apt 533C 1993 11/18  
Nazareth, PA 18964 610-746-1442

2) Changes and additions:  
Helen Curran-phone: 610-438-0041  
Bette Schedin-email: [bschedin@verizon.net](mailto:bschedin@verizon.net)  
Lelane Hoose-email: [lhoose@rcn.com](mailto:lhoose@rcn.com)  
Ruth Minich-email: [ru3b40@comcast.net](mailto:ru3b40@comcast.net)

At the meeting, I mentioned Gaynell and Albert Rayburn and promised to include their address in the newsletter for those who would like to stay in touch:

Gaynell and Albert Rayburn  
11 Thor Solberg Rd.  
Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889  
908-534-4835

## SEW and SEWS

SEW and SEWS will meet on Thursday, October 22, 2009 from 9 AM - 4 PM at the Hughes Library in Stroudsburg, PA.

At this time, we are not working on any specific project. It will be a BRING YOUR OWN PROJECT! Everyone is welcome to join us.

*Annette Smerkanich*

## MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2009 MEETING OF THE EASTON COUTURIERE WORKSHOP

The meeting of the Easton Couturiere Workshop was held Sept. 14, 2009 at 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Alliance and called to order by President Nancy Boccadoro. Pat Karcher gave the devotions.

Sharon Roehrig, Membership chair, noted that one new member, Maria McConnell, joined today. There are 67 members at present and 44 were in attendance today. Diane Sutor, Sunshine chair, read a list of cards sent to members this summer and asked that you contact her for future needs.

The minutes of the previous meeting were printed in the Newsletter. A motion by Polly McGarr & Sharon Roehrig was made to accept these minutes as presented.

The Secretary read a thank you letter from 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Alliance for our \$1,500.00 contribution, which was a result of the fashion show efforts. There also were two acknowledgements for the \$25.00 memorials for deceased members Theresa Grassi and Eva Williamson.

Shirley Kressler, Treasurer, then presented the budget for the year which was also printed in the Newsletter. After a short discussion, a motion was made by Pat Karcher & seconded by Lena Keifer, to accept the budget as presented. This motion passed unanimously.

Nancy thanked Jo Lysholdt, on behalf of all club members, for the great job in printing the monthly Newsletter and the excel-lent job with the membership booklet. Helen Curran, who keeps the yearbooks up to date, asked for contributions from the membership. Claire Rohloff noted that monthly programs are listed in the booklet and workshops will be scheduled as requested.

Mary Coyle is the membership liaison this year. She welcomes & helps new members feel comfortable in the club.

Betsy Walker of 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Alliance personally thanked the club for our support & spoke briefly on their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations & ongoing fundraisers.

Agnes Webb announced a bus trip to see the Princess Diana Collection at the Constitution Center & a “Shopping in Paris” exhibition at the Phila. Museum on Oct. 20. Cost is \$72.00 and deadline for reservations is Oct. 12.

The Refresher’s group will meet Sept. 24 as well as the Sew & Sews, both at the Hughes Library.

The Fashion Show will be Sunday, April 18. Volunteers are still needed for the display table, for stage management & raffle and clean-up helpers. In education, Annette Smerkanich, explained her short cuts with the apron panels she is making for a charity.

There is a table of sewing items from the stash of Terri Grassi. When you take something, please make a donation to be used for a scholarship to be determined in the future.

Sylvia Hunsinger highlighted three books from our library.

Show & Share participants were: Kay Wolff, quilted wall hanging; Karen Zimmerman, Themed activities for Girl Scout Camp, and various crafts; Joan Drzewiecki, 9 patch wall hanging & shams, woven pillow covers; Sharon Roehrig, Jessica’s bag; Ellen Sorensen, Christmas half apron; Louise French, knitted short sleeve sweater; Eleanor Pinto, embroidered wool jacket; Pat Karcher, black sateen suit re-engineered to fit today; Shirley Kressler, explained her granddaughter’s dog bed that they made together this summer.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned. A covered dish luncheon was enjoyed following the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

MaryAnn Schweitzer, Secretary

## SENIOR MOMENT

Couple in their nineties are both having problems remembering things.. During a checkup, the doctor tells them that they're physically okay, but they might want to start writing things down to help them remember ..

Later that night, while watching TV, the old man gets up from his chair.

'Want anything while I'm in the kitchen?' he asks.

'Will you get me a bowl of ice cream?'

'Sure..'

'Don't you think you should write it down so you can remember it?' she asks.

'No, I can remember it.'

'Well, I'd like some strawberries on top, too.

Maybe you should write it down, so as not to forget it?'

He says, 'I can remember that. You want a bowl of ice cream with strawberries.'

'I'd also like whipped cream. I'm certain you'll forget that, write it down?' she asks.

Irritated, he says, 'I don't need to write it down, I can remember it!'

Ice cream with strawberries and whipped cream - I got it, for goodness sake!'

Then he toddles into the kitchen. After about 20 minutes, The old man returns from the kitchen and hands his wife a plate of bacon and eggs...

She stares at the plate for a moment.

'Where's my toast?'

## REQUEST

Ruth Skinner would like to have ribbon of any kind.

## RECIPE EXCHANGE

Below is a recipe we had at the jacket workshop with Eleanor Pinto - I'm passing it on as many people asked for the recipe. It's very healthy!

*Claire Rohloff*

### **Pumpkin Jewels**

2 cups whole wheat pastry flour

¾ cup honey

1 teas. baking soda

1 teas baking powder

1 teas salt

1 teas. Ginger

¼ teas. Nutmeg.

2 teas. cinnamon

2 eggs

½ cup olive oil

1 can (29oz) pumpkin

Optional: add raisins , nuts

A walnut on the top of each muffin before baking makes a nice garnish.

Mix all ingredients together and scoop into mini muffin pan. Bake 20 min at 350 degrees F. If using pan other than mini muffin pan adjust baking time

## EMROIDERY CLUB

Embroidery Club will meet at At Piece Quiltery on Oct. 15 from 12:30-4 Members should be there by 12:30 set up and ready to start by 1 PM. The room will be available after 9:30 for anyone who wishes to come and work on their own . Project details are available from Dee Lammi at [lammid@rcn.com](mailto:lammid@rcn.com)