

EASTON COUTURIERE WORKSHOP NEWSLETTER

September 2010

PREZ SAYS

As I write this, the air is cool and crisp, but the forecast is for 90 degree temps in the coming week... Indian Summer, but about a month early! Autumn certainly is just around the corner. Happily, it's also time for our sewing community to reconvene and share the wonderful food that always appears on our buffet table. Aside from a brief business meeting, this is time to just get back together again and share our summer experiences. In lieu of a formal program, we would like everyone to bring something they have worked on over the summer. It doesn't have to be clothing or even needle arts – show us what you love to do! And better yet, it doesn't have to be finished! Just bring it! No excuses! Share your talents with us, show us who you are, and bring your appetite!

See you on the 13th.

Nancy Boccadoro, President

DEVOTIONS

Pat Karcher

HOSTESSES

Judith Weyl, Polly McGarr, Mary Morgan, Lena Kiefer, Linda Friedman, Barb Corcoran

PROGRAM

There is no program – we will take the time to socialize and catch up from the summer activities and enjoy our covered dish luncheon. Each person should bring a dish to share.

FIELD TRIP

A self drive **Field Trip** has been planned to “Stitches in Time” Exhibit at the Liberty Hall Mansion, 1003 Morris Ave. Union, NJ 07083 phone 908-527-0400. Date: October 6th, Wednesday . at 11am. The exhibit will tell the story of how fashion trends in America developed over the course of history from the Revolutionary War through the 1950's. Docents will be available to tour us through the mansion and see the exhibit. “With the passing of each generation, Kean family members packed the personal

belongings of the deceased and stored them in chests, trunks, closets and boxes. Following the death of Mary Alice Barney Kean , in 1955, the museum staff received the keys to a 50 room time capsule and began to document and to explore its contents. Over the past decade the Liberty Hall staff has combed through the treasures and has prepared this incredible collection of fashions .” There will be men and women’s clothing and accessories in the proper period settings, featuring clothes worn by the first John Kean during the American Revolutionary War, 18th century wedding clothes and fashions from famous designers such as Charles Worth, Christian Dior and Henri Bendel When guests enter they will receive a ‘store directory’ to help navigate the exhibit – much like at Bloomingdales or Saks Fifth Avenue”.

A sign up sheet will be at the September meeting. Check your calendar in advance of the meeting if you are interested in going. If you are not able to make the field trip you could go on your own – Mon- Sat 10-4pm

Cost \$10 general admission \$6.00 senior admission.

Geometry is the mathematics of shape and space, and the importance of geometric shapes and forms such as triangles, squares, rectangles, circles, hexagons, and other polygons in textile design is evident in the textiles shown in *Geometry Lessons*, the most recent installation in the lobby showcase at the Allentown Art Museum. These shapes and their variants serve universally as the basis for dramatic patterning in cultures throughout the world, as can be seen in this sampling of geometrically inspired textile designs from Asia, South America, North Africa, and Europe. This mini-exhibition will be on view until November 7, 2010. And this week is your last chance to see *In Stitches*, a wonderful selection of quilts from museum’s textile collection, closing Sunday, September 5. –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 October Newsletter is October 1, 2010

All newsletters are on Dee Lammi’s website embroiderybydee.com

Jo Lysholdt jolysholdt@ptd.net

Ellen Sorensen

Judith Weyl

THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE NEXT YEAR WILL BE VOTED ON AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING. Please look it over, make notes, jot down questions. If you bring it along to the meeting, it will facilitate the process of discussing and passing it. We thank our treasurer Shirley Kressler and her committee for the time and effort put into this preparation. .

Proposed Budget – Easton Couturiere Workshop 2010 – 2011

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Balance in check book	\$ 2510.32	Booklet	\$ 250.00
Dues	1600.00	Memorials	100.00
Raffle (at meetings)	100.00	Hospitality	100.00
Fashion Show	<u>1500.00</u>	Newsletter (supplies & postage)	225.00
Total Income	\$ 5710.32	Library & Scrapbook	300.00
		Publicity	30.00
		Programs	1500.00
		Third Street Alliance	1200.00
		Raffle Gifts (meetings)	0.00
		Outreach	0.00
		Miscellaneous	200.00
		Dues Third Street Alliance	800.00
		Education Supplies	100.00
		Terry's Fund	161.00
		Reserve Funds	<u>744.32</u>
		Total Expenses	\$ 5710.32

Dear friends in Couturiere,
 Thank you so much to those of you who were aware of the sadness I dealt with this summer with the illness and passing of my son-in-law. Your cards, emails and hugs meant so much! Your kindness and friendship gave me the courage to be strong for my daughter and son-in-law during this stressful time. You are a very special group of ladies and I am proud to call you friends.

Elizabeth Cortright

SEW n SEWS

Sew n Sews will meet on Thursday, September 23, 2010 from 9 AM to 4 P at the Hughes Library, Stroudsburg, PA. We will be working on our own project. At this time, we will discuss what projects we want to work on at future workshops. Bring your ideas and suggestions.

We currently are working on a schedule for 2011 (hard to believe!). When dates have been booked, we will print them in the newsletter and also give out at the meeting.

All are welcome to join us for the day.

Annette Smerkanich

SEW WHAT'S NEW???

Is September really coming up fast? Is Labor Day so close? That means our September kick-off meeting is only a week later. In spite of oppressive heat and humidity, the summer flew by as it always does. My summer sewing projects aren't even half done - but as I write this I still have two weeks left. Better get moving.

I really only went away once, our annual Sew New Crew trip to Beach Haven - four of us who worked at Sew New Fabrics gather every year at Marty Daub's house (former Couturiere member) and visit, laugh, shop, etc., etc. We always make a trip to Quilting Possibilities in Forked River NJ and usually enjoy a couple hours there. We get inspired and spend money! I bought fabric for another quilt - this one for my 2nd grand-daughter, all in batiks in lovely muted shades. I'd like to think I will "show and tell" that quilt by our last meeting of the year - or maybe next September?. After I finish up what didn't get done this summer.

As you can probably tell, the muse in me has been on vacation, too, so I ramble. And I end with my thought for the month: Have you ever stared at a can of orange juice because it says "concentrate"?

Ellen Sorensen

THREADS REVIEW –

September 2010, Issue 150

The premiere issue of Threads Magazine appeared in 1985 and through the past twenty-five years it has reflected the current interests of the home sewer. The early magazines had articles about yarns, knitting and weaving. The magazine’s content has evolved and today the magazine is known for its expert advice on construction techniques for garments. In an effort to stimulate interest in Threads magazine, I will be writing a column for our newsletter sharing some of the highlights from each month’s magazine.

Kenneth King, a well-known designer and teacher, has been writing a series of articles on “Smart-Fitting”. In the September issue he discusses techniques to help you fit an armhole in a sleeveless garment. He begins by pinning out the excess as darts in the front and back armholes and then transfers the amount of the alterations needed to the paper pattern. He shows how to remove the back armhole excess by rotating the “dart” into the body of the garment. Although this corrects the armhole, it distorts the pattern. Kenneth then shows how to correct the distortion by removing the back excess from the side seam and truing the hemline. The excess dart rotated from the front armhole is easily absorbed by a new or larger bust dart.

(Previous fitting discussions appeared in earlier issues: Issue 147 – Fitting the sleeve and back, Issue 148 – Fine tuning a bodice front and Issue 149 – Fitting over layers.)

Machine feet can be flat or raised on the underside. The article “Flat Feet” reviews the use of machine feet. Carol Ahles suggests that you can eliminate problems like tunneling and puckering by changing to a foot that has a flat bottom.

Here are some sites I found that have videos showing how to use various machine feet:
http://www.sewingmachine-sales.co.uk/sewing_machine_info/video/sewing-machine-feet.php
http://www.janome.com/index.cfm/WhatsNew/Accessory_Tutorials
http://www.singerco.com/support/presser_help.html
http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=sewing+machine+feet&aq=f

Whether or not you subscribe to the printed magazine, you can sign up for free email newsletters from Threads Magazine here:

<http://f.chtah.com/s/48/712205674/tauntonpress.html>

Judith Weyl

MEMBERSHIP

For those of you who have not yet renewed your membership, we'll be happy to accept your dues at the September meeting. At \$20, it's the best deal around. We are always eager to have guests and new members, so bring a friend!

*Sharon Roehrig
Doris Strom*

----- Membership Form for Couturiere -----

Name _____
Address _____
City, State ZIP _____
Phone _____
Email address _____
Year joined _____
Birthdate _____

FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE

Making your own clothes is making a comeback! Young sewers are popping up every day- they are so enthusiastic about learning and creating with fabric that it's catching on with their friends, too. So, if you have young daughters/ nieces/ granddaughters who drop hints to you about learning, take them up on it. Pass on your skills and make some great memories with them. Don't limit yourself to girls; boys like to sew too. And let them pick out what crazy colors or prints they like- don't be negative about their choices. Purchase good quality fabrics or let them select from your stash. Talk about why you bought that piece of goods many years ago. I'll always remember my mother letting my sister and I cut up one of her old, too small wool suits to make a skirt and jacket.

Encourage, encourage, encourage them! Let's work together to make a new generation of sewers.

Nancy Bischoff, Sew Smart Fabrics

JUNE MINUTES

The planning meeting of the Easton Couturiere Workshop was held June 14, 2010 at Third Street Alliance and called to order by President Nancy Boccadoro.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read and Dee Lammi and Shirley Kressler made the motion to accept. The Treasurer's report was read by Shirley Kressler and the balance of our account was listed at \$2,146.62. The report was approved and filed for audit. Jean Brown and Sharon Roehrig made this motion.

Nancy gave an overview of the coming year's calendar, noting that we will have a covered dish luncheon after the meeting. She then led a discussion about whether to have a catered luncheon or a covered dish after the December meeting. A vote was taken and the majority of those in attendance favored a covered dish for December.

Claire Rohloff discussed the monthly programs for the coming year and these items will be finalized over the summer and printed in our booklet which will be available in September. Workshops were also discussed at this time.

The date for this year's Fashion Show will be Sunday, May 1, 2011. Carol Blair, co-chair, discussed ways to improve the show and correct some problems encountered at the last show. The committee will decide on a theme and decide if the Treasure Shop will be included. It was noted that the profit from the show was \$1,719.55 and we gave a \$1,200.00 donation to Third St. Alliance as this amount was listed in our yearly budget.

The following had Show & Share items: Judith Weyl, a cat wall hanging; Polly McGarr, a crocheted Victorian throw, an ABC baby quilt and large and small bags; Sheila Goldberg, a large bag.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

MaryAnn Schweitzer, Secretary