**Keeping Track**

*President’s Message*

There’s just over two months before submitting your entries to the San Mateo County Fair. What will make your item unique? This issue of *Keeping Track* has an article on the different shapes of smocked items for the potpourri challenge. To add some spice to your project use a variety of different threads. A thin silk can be stitched with a thicker wool or silk/wool blend. Beads and charms also add sparkle.

Below are some kites to fly in a windy March. There is even a tree for the kite to get tangled in. Try stitching the leaf part with Rainbow Gallery Wisper and the trunk with several shades of gray/brown wool. The leaves are random stitches of surface honeycomb and chevron.

*Sue*

![Image of kites]

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**Calendar**

<table>
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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 24th &amp; 25th, 2017</td>
<td>S.F. Quilt Guild Quilt Show, St. Mary’s Event Center, S.F.</td>
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<td>March 28th, 2017</td>
<td>Meeting</td>
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<td>April 1st &amp; 2nd, 2017</td>
<td>Guild of Quilters of Contra Costa County Quilt Show, Centre Concord, Concord</td>
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<td>April 25th, 2017</td>
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<td>May 9th, 2017</td>
<td>SMCF entry forms due (see page 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 23rd, 2017</td>
<td>Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 30th &amp; 31st, 2017</td>
<td>SMCF entry to be delivered to the fairgrounds</td>
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![Image of lavender smocking]
Potpourri Challenge


Wiffle balls are available from sporting goods stores or Amazon. They come in various sizes. The 2.86 inch will need some padding to create a 3" finished item. The next size up is 3.82 inches. The holes in these balls are large enough to push the potpourri through. Wrap the ball with a nylon stocking; tie the stocking tight then push the knot through a hole into the ball.

A snowman can be made from 2 wiffle balls glued together. Fill with potpourri. If the two balls are the same size, wrap the bottom one with padding to make it larger. When smocking the fabric try using a sparkly thread and Rainbow Gallery’s Fuzzy Stuff or Wisper.

Styrofoam balls or egg shape will need to have part of the Styrofoam carved out to fill with potpourri. If you want to put the potpourri on the outside of the smocked item make tiny pouches or a garland with sheer ribbon. Take a sheer ribbon (with or without satin edges) and sew the edges together lengthwise. Fill with potpourri. Drape around the middle of the ball in garland style, or take a short length and form into a circle. Tack this to the pleats.

A cone shape is easily filled with potpourri. Wrap your smocked piece around stiff fabric formed into a cone shape. (Small end down and large end at top). Fill then cover the top with fabric or ribbon.

Many stores now have plastic eggs in various sizes. These come apart for filling then snap together. To allow the fragrance to escape, take a hot needle and poke holes in the egg. This needs to be done in a well ventilated place like outside.

For a flat piece to put in a drawer, make the back as an envelope flap for easily inserting a fragrance packet. Consider the pleated fabric on the front a ground fabric for a crazy quilt design. Add stitches stitched on the diagonal with different textures of thread. Then add charms, beads, bows, etc.

Flat disk shaped Durafoam is available in round or oval shapes. For a quick finish at the edges, use pleated ribbon. A hole can be cut in the Durafoam and filled in with the potpourri. A sheer ribbon tube filled with the potpourri can be stitched to the smocked fabric.

Round, oval and square cardboard boxes can be found in any craft store. Cut a hole in the top for the fragrance to escape. Potpourri can be put in a stocking pouch or put in loose with a fine net glued over the top. Pleat a piece of ribbon whose width equals ½ the diameter of the box lid. After smocking pull one edge tight and let the opposite edge fan out into a circle. Pleat another ribbon whose width is equal to the depth of the box. Smock and wrap around the side of the box.

An embroidery hoop can be used as a foundation frame. Secure two pieces of fine net between the inner and outer hoops with the potpourri added to the space between the two pieces of net. Smock two pieces of fabric. Assemble back to back with the embroidery hoop between them.

A wreath shape of Durafoam can be covered with smocked fabric. Potpourri can be added to the inside or attached to the outside.

*Sue*
Refreshments for our Meetings

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<tr>
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<td>November</td>
<td>Vicki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Holiday Party</td>
</tr>
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Catherine
Catherine Ljungquist
cljungquist@yahoo.com

Birthdays!

Happy Birthday to Gloria who celebrates on April 4th, Denise who celebrates on April 9th, Kathy who celebrates on April 30th, and Lucie who celebrates on May 10th.

Happy Birthday, Ladies!

If you would like to receive birthday greetings, please let Reba know the month and day of your birthday.

Wee Care

There will be a Wee Care workshop on Sunday, March 12th, from 1-4 pm, at San Mateo Hospital.
I would like us to work on boy gowns and blankets.
We need the following items for the workshop:
Sewing machines (2)
Serger
Cutting mats and rotary cutters (2)
Ironing board and iron
I will bring fabric and patterns.
Please feel free to bring additional fabric, trims and what you may be working on.
Please RSVP to let me know if you can come.

Jill
Jill Efting
(408) 781-3721
jefting@ureach.com
CREATIVE HOME ARTS DEPARTMENT SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Tuesday, May 9  Entry Forms Due by midnight
Tuesday, May 30  2-8 pm Entries Received - except collections
- entrants must first check in at exhibits office
Wednesday, May 31  2-8 pm Entries Received - except collections
- entrants must first check in at exhibits office
Monday, June 19  2-7 pm Entries Released - South East door of Expo Hall

Division 633, SMOCKING, has four classes on the San Mateo County Website. A maximum of two entries per class is allowed. Entry fee for each item is $3. Go to the San Mateo County Fair 2017 for SMCF information and how to enter your fair entries.

1. **Smocked Apparel Item, including doll garment**
2. **Smocked Non-Apparel Item**
3. **Cable Car Cablers Challenge: Smocking Potpourri**

This entry must be 50% smocked, a minimum of 3 inches in diameter or length, and have potpourri inside or outside of the entry. The potpourri design can be either a purchased (published) or an original pattern.

4. **Cable Car Cablers Challenge: Wee Care Gown**

This entry is a simple, smocked bishop-style gown that opens completely down the back for a newborn or preemie. The neckline can have a bias neckband. At the neckline, ribbons are attached to hold the gown together. The Wee Care Gown design can be an original design or a published pattern. Examples of Wee Care gowns are on the Smocking Arts Guild of America website: SAGA Wee Care Program

RULES for CLASSES 3 & 4 ONLY:

1. With fewer than 6 entrants, items will not be judged or displayed.
2. Group must submit a display board at entry receiving, no larger than 9” x 12” explaining the challenge.
3. Each entry must meet the challenge criteria as explained on the display board.

A Best of Show ribbon in Smocking Division will be awarded if there are two classes with six items, so pace yourself and smock an item a month. That’s four smocked entries for the fair to show off your beautifully smocked items.

Happy Smocking!

*Ingrid*
The Perfection of Style

The Seattle Art Museum, http://seattleartmuseum.org/, presented the legendary French designer, Yves Saint Laurent, THE PERFECTION OF STYLE, from October 11, 2016 to January 2017. Over 100 haute couture garments and accessories, photographs, and drawings were featured from the Foundation Pierre Berge, owner of the Yves Saint Laurent collection. Yves Saint Laurent’s career spanned 44 years. As a teenager, Yves crafted paper-dolls. Drawings of the paper-dolls were shown at a private exhibit to his two sisters. His confidence in his drawings earned him a prize from the Woolmark Prize competition in Paris. He continued his studies at the Ecole de la chamber syndicale de la couture in Paris.

Yves was introduced to Christian Dior who hired him on the spot as an assistant in the studio. While working at the House of Dior, Saint Laurent enjoyed comics and created a character named La Vilaine Lulu (the Naughty Lulu). Lulu had her mind set in her own ways and would do anything to get her way. Later, he published a comic book for grown-ups featuring the drawings of La Vilaine Lulu.

I was amazed at the number of collection boards shown at the exhibit. The sketches from 1962 to 2002 included drawings with fashion fabric attached. After Saint Laurent approved the preliminary garment in white cotton, he selected the fabrics, color and adornments. Special dyed fabrics, custom embellished buttons, and sequined embroideries were drawing out and made for his garments. Matching hats, costume jewelry, and shoes complimented his designs. He was quite an inspiration in his creativity and originality that features his designs at major exhibitions around the world.

Ingrid
Sunnyvale Lace Museum features white work embroidery

By Victoria Kezra
vkezra@bayareanewsgroup.com
PUBLISHED: February 17, 2017 at 11:45 am
UPDATED: February 17, 2017 at 11:50 am

Lovers of sartorial sensibilities can visit the latest exhibit at the Sunnyvale Lace Museum showcasing delicate white-on-white embroidery.

The museum has partnered with the San Francisco School of Needlework and Design for the first time for its “White on White: Hand Stitching through Time” exhibit. The exhibit opened Feb. 7 and will run through June 24. It showcases pieces from the museum collection as well as work from instructor Lucy Barter and her students at the San Francisco school.

The exhibit explores the evolution of monochromatic needlework, and there are examples on display ranging from turn-of-the-century dresses to the new works by students and Barter, on loan to the museum.

Some of the older pieces have also been donated or loaned for the exhibit, but many are part of the museum’s collection that had not been on display.

“We have items from the era of 1900 to 1910. We have some nice pieces we haven’t been able to put out for a long time,” said Teresa Mize, a museum volunteer who is co-curating the exhibit with Cathy McCausland.

One highlight from the older pieces is what Mize calls a “castle curtain,” a tapestry more than 10 feet long covered in flowers, birds and other shapes all in white. The pieces that make up the modern section of the exhibit are smaller, showcasing delicate patterns usually the size of a handkerchief. The largest of the new works is a tablecloth, and one piece features three-dimensional components that pop from the fabric.

“White work, is very subtle and I think it’s coming back around in fashion,” said Mize. “I think people who do embroidery would definitely enjoy it….people who collect or are interested in Edwardian costumes and the turn-of-the-century era. There are a lot of people fascinated by that; it was a very romantic era.”

The museum is offering a one-day weekend workshop on May 20 where participants can complete a simple piece of white work. More information on price and registering will appear on the museum website as the date approaches.

The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is located at 552 S. Murphy Ave. There is no admission charge, but donations are accepted.

For more information, visit thelacemuseum.org.
CABLE CAR CABLERS OFFICERS

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Meeting Location

The Cable Car Cablers meet the 4th Tuesday of the month, except for November and December. Meetings start at 7 p.m.

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San Mateo, CA 94403

SAGA Contact Info

Region V Representative  Chris Sykes  
regionfive@smocking.org

SAGA

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The purpose of the Smocking Arts Guild Of America is to preserve and foster the art of smocking and related needlework for future generations through education, communication and quality workmanship.

The article deadline for the May/June 2017 issue of Keeping Track is:

April 27, 2017 to Reba  
rebasiero@yahoo.com