Keeping Track

Dog Days of Summer

President's Message

Well, I'm glad to have the warmth! I know most of you are uncomfortable with the warm weather however, after chilling in the Africa winter, I'm finally able to warm up. If you happen to see any pictures of me in Africa you will see I have the same purple fleece jacket on. Various layers under it but, my constant outer shell against the cold. One doesn't think it could get cold there but it does. Nice though because the bugs and especially mosquitos were absent.

I will write more about Africa next time but, just to let you know I loved it and the experience was definitely a plus to my life. The children were a delight and one of our mission goals to deliver purses in person was so gratifying. It has definitely inspired me to keep sewing purses and hope I can inspire others as well. I will be forwarding emails for sew times and hope you can come play and create a purse for a young lady so far away. The purses have such a positive influence on the girls lives. There are Facebook sites that have purse pictures and trip pictures. Just enter sew powerful in the friends search section and it brings up several places to explore.

It is that time again for new CCC leaders. Several of you have stepped forward for positions but, there are more areas to complete. In discussions at the last meeting it was decided that the presidents chair could be filled by splitting the year into quarters therefore, utilizing your talents and time for a quarter of the year. That plan seemed to fill people's needs so, worth a try?

A big thank you to Jill for being our May tea hostess. We had a great time and enjoyed her garden and home. Once again we did not
starve as everyone brought yummy items to nosh on. It seems so long ago but much has gone on since then. Time marches on!

It is middle of summer and now, I must get back on track to get things accomplished. Weeds have gone crazy. Paint touch ups need to be done, small home repairs await. Never a dull moment. Unfortunately the fall leaves will probably be lilting to the ground before I can get everything done. Everywhere I have been as of late is celebrating "Christmas in July"....it will be here before we know it.

Thank you to everyone who made our Wee Care year another successful one. Looking forward to more in the coming year. I personally need to ramp it up again and complete items in progress. Looking forward to sit and sew times in meetings to get more done. Also, hope our proposal to the fair committee will be accepted and we can make gowns for fair entry next year.

Looking forward to spending the weekend with friends along with Jane Briscoe. We always have such fun and the being together with friends is so good for our souls. So, sew on!

The best to everyone for a fruitful, fun and productive summer!

Irene

**Officers for 2016-2017**

Please consider taking on a position this year as we have several people who have been performing duties for several years now and will be stepping down. We still need volunteers to fill the vice president, treasurer & membership, library, and two 3 month slots of president.

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**Birthdays!**

Happy Birthday to Sue who celebrated July 15th.
Happy Birthday to Christie who celebrates September 5th and to Cindy who celebrates September 7th and to Maggie H who celebrates September 15th.
Happy Birthday ladies!
Jane Briscoe Workshop
August 6th and 7th

Cable Car Cablers has been fortunate to receive a SAGA grant to help fund a workshop with Jane Briscoe on August 6th and 7th this year. This workshop is open to chapter members only.

We are offering two 6 hour classes, Italian Smocked Pin Cushion and Mock Crazy Patch Pincushion. They will advance our aptitude in both smocking and embroidery while we learn fine points working on small, personal sewing items. A sewing machine is not required for either class but will be needed for finishing at home. Supply lists have been emailed to the group.

Class projects with pictures can be found on Jane’s website:
http://www.janebriscoeheirlooms.com/italian_smocked_pincushion_sm.jpg
http://www.janebriscoeheirlooms.com/mock_crazy_patch_pincushion.htm

Spring Time Tea

Many thanks to Jill Efting for hosting our Spring Time Tea in her beautiful home. Sharing the stories our teacups and mugs was inspirational and fun. A possible new tea time tradition?
Cañada College Fashion Department celebrates its 27th annual “Artistry in Fashion” Saturday, September 24, 2016

- 1:00 & 2:00 pm: Key note speaker: Sharman Spector, Owner of Britex Fabrics. Building 3, Room 255
- 10AM-4PM: Professional Designer Sale featuring 60+ designers selling clothing, jewelry, and fashions on the plaza.
- 11:00AM: Designer Showcase/Fashion Show in the outdoor amphitheater.
- Noon-3PM: Fashion Department Open House in Bldg 3 Room 255. View student projects and garments.
- $10 Donation. Proceeds benefit the Cañada College Fashion Department.
- Food will be available for purchase.
- Free parking on campus.

Cañada College
4200 Farm Hill Blvd.
Redwood City, CA 94061

For more information: www.ArtistryInFashion.com or call (650) 306-3370.
I have long wanted to visit Italy and this year I had the opportunity to make my dream come true. For two weeks this June, I was immersed in an Introduction to Italian Fashion through Cañada College and the American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS) in Florence, Italy. We were put up in small groups in apartments located within the central part of the city, all within easy walking distance of the AIFS school near Santa Croce where we had our lectures and the Duomo which we often used as a meeting place for our field trips and excursions.

A typical day would consist of a morning lecture, a midday break, and perhaps an excursion to a museum with a fashion related exhibit. Some of the lectures were given by Professor Ronda Chaney of Cañada College and others were from guest lecturers on faculty at local universities. Topics included the history of Florentine Fashion, Fashion Future, Fashion Under Fascism, History of Luxury in Florence, and segments each on the various Italian designers active in the post World War II era to the present.

Our excursions took us to places such as The Gucci Museum, The Palazzo Pitti Costume Gallery, The Ferragamo Museum, the Prato Textile Museum, Pitti Imagine Fashion Week, the Villa Bardini for a Roberto Capucci exhibit, and a visit to feather atelier Nanà Firenze.
We had one free weekend during our stay. I took the *Frecciarossa*, the Red Arrow high speed train from Florence Santa Maria Novella to Venice Santa Lucia for a complete change of scenery. Venice was everything I had hoped it would be. I loved the Vaporettos, the public water bus lines. Line number 1 goes up and down The Grand Canal taking visitors from the train station to Saint Mark’s Square and points in between. Line number 12 goes from the main islands of Venice out to the more distant islands of Murano and Burano, 45 minutes away.

“Burano?” you say? We all know Murano as the island of glassmaking. Burano, with its many brightly colored houses, is the island of lace making. Burano lace is a needle lace and the tradition here dates back to the year 1500. The more complex lace designs may have had as many as 20 women working on them as each person specialized in just one type of stitch.

There are many shops here which sell lace and embroideries, some nicer than others, and some more authentic than others.

My favorite lace shop was the main location of Martina Vidal Venezia at Via San Mauro, 307, 30142 Burano, Venice, I was waited on by the most helpful of sales assistants who took her time showing me the many different kinds of laces, linens, and embroideries they had available for sale. She also brought me to the store’s lace museum for a close up look at pieces that were hundreds of years old. I was in heaven!


*Lynn*
Tatting From Concept to Conceptual Art

by Ingrid Chan

On 2 July 2016, I visited the Lacis Museum in Berkeley to see the tatting exhibition “From Concept to Conceptual Art” and met Taeko Takashima. Taeko is a master needle tatter from Osaka, Japan, and speaks enough English to teach tatting. She demonstrated how quickly tatting can be made with the Takashima tatting tool. This tool looks like a crochet hook. The needle is cylindrical with crochet hooks at both ends.

In a few minutes, I was learning how to tat with the Takashima tatting tool. The key words were “Me” and “You” to make a pair of knots. Picos were easy to make. Connecting loops was a bit tricky since you needed to pull one end of the yarn one way, and then pull the other end of the yarn the other way, and join with a single crochet. In an hour, I was able to make a tatting sample.

The exhibition displayed old and modern tatting pieces. Taeko has a rug made out of worst yarn, several large wall hangings. Other tatting items include tatting with beads that were made into jewelry pieces and clothing. Picos were turned into landscapes. Tatting was formed into 3-dimensional objects, airplane, flowers, sea life, and umbrellas.

Ingrid
San Mateo County Fair

Thank you to the chapter members who submitted entries in the County Fair and who volunteered on June 12th. Thank you to Christie for collecting and mailing the tickets and parking passes. Margaret, Sue, Gladys, Christie, Denise, Irene, Gloria and Ingrid demonstrated smocking and chatted with fairgoers. Sue taught a girl how to smock. We displayed our smocked girls dresses and doll dresses, Christmas ornaments and heirloom garments for fairgoers to admire.

For the Smocking Division this year, the apparel and non-apparel classes each received three entries. Having not met the required minimum of six entries each, the two classes were combined and ribbons were awarded in the overall smocking division. Congratulations to Jill for first place in Smocking! Jill smocked a girl’s dress with embroidered detached buttonhole flowers. Ingrid placed second and third for a smocked bishop dress and bonnet with bullion flowers.

CCC Entries:

Jill
First, smocking on child dress
Second, child’s Jelly Roll jacket & purse (Gail Doane’s pattern)

Sue
Second, stumpwork berries
Third, Hardanger on box lid
Hon. Mention Teneriffe lace

Paula
First & Best of Show Milanese bobbin lace
Ingrid
First, California Confection dress - bullion rose, French knot hearts (Vaune’s class, Santa Barbara)
First, smocked blue silk dupioni doll dress (Judith Adam’s class, Las Vegas)
First, purple mountains with embroidered tress in a miniature frame

Second, smocked yellow linen dress (AS&E #98, Tallulah)
Second, Katrina white linen dress with pink/white bias and lace (Debbie Glenn’s class, Chicago)
Second, crocheted doily around a red Christmas ornament
Second, red Kimono canvas work on a wooden stand

Third, smocked yellow linen bonnet
Third, Teneriffe lace medallion sewn onto round ornament

Third, crocheted snowflakes, red Christmas ornament

Honorable mentions, canvas work bear holding a bell stocking; cross stitched ice cream cone ornament
Best of Show in Smocking this year since there must be two classes in the Smocking Division with a minimum of six entries in each class.
For the 2017 San Mateo County Fair, Sue found out that future challenges or new classes must be requested before September 2016.

At our June Cable Car Cablers meeting, two smocking challenges were proposed for the 2017 County Fair. Sue proposed a Smocking Potpourri Challenge. This entry must be 50% smocked, a minimum of 3” 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.

Ingrid proposed a Wee Care Gown Challenge. This entry is a smocked simple bishop-style gown that opens completely down the back for a newborn or preemie. The gown can have a bias neckband with a ribbon closure. The Wee Care Gown design can be original or a published pattern. Examples of Wee Care gowns are on the SAGA website http://www.smocking.org/weecare_program.php

Each challenge will have a special Cable Car Cablers award of $25 each for best Smocking Potpourri Challenge and best Wee Care Gown which can be awarded if six entries are received for each challenge. Our next step is to have the San Mateo County Fair approve these challenges.

I hope to see more smocking entries at the 2017 San Mateo County Fair.

Ingrid

Wee Care

We are coming to the end of another Wee Care program year and I wanted to say a heartfelt thank you to all those who have committed your time and talents to our community project. Thanks to your dedication, we are able to continue providing the Lucile Packard Children’s hospital with beautiful bereavement garments, each one a statement of love and compassion to those who receive them.

We’ve held two successful workshops this past year and I’m always thrilled with the team attitude you bring every time. With your team effort, we’ve provided 50 layettes and 43 knitted hats to the Children’s Hospital this year. Much has been accomplished and I hope you feel extremely proud of that.

I will be stepping down as your Wee Care coordinator and leaving things in the capable hands of another chapter member who will be elected soon. I’ve enjoyed working with you all and I’m looking forward to having more time to devote to the smocking and finishing of garments in the coming year.

Yours in smocking,

Denise
SAGA Convention 2016
Convention this year will be held in Hampton, Virginia September 20-25, 2016. Schedule and registration information are in the February issue of SAGAnews and online. Registration is now open.

Artistry in Fashion
Saturday, September 24, 2016
Cañada College, 4200 Farm Hill Blvd, Redwood City, California
Cost $10 to benefit scholarships
http://artistryinfashion.com

Gail Doane at Sandcastle
Jelly Roll Jacket & Dress
February 24-26, 2017
Orange Coast Memorial Medical Center
Fountain Valley, California 92708
Sign up via Debbie Baldwin at dbaldwin11@aol.com

Tatting From Concept to Conceptual Art
Through April 1, 2017
Lacis Museum
Call Lacis for hours

Half Moon Bay Pumpkin Festival
October 15-16, 2016
Main Street, Half Moon Bay, California

Pacific International Quilt Festival
PIQF  October 13-16, 2016
Santa Clara Convention Center
Santa Clara, California

Satin Moon
Beloved San Francisco independent fabric store Satin Moon will be closing this year. They have already begun a mark down of their stock. It’s a good idea to call before you plan a trip as their hours can be limited.
32 Clement St,
San Francisco, CA 94118
(415) 668-1623

SFO Museum
Various Terminals
San Francisco International Airport
The museum exhibits at SFO change out on a regular basis. There are currently a couple of very nice installations in the Main Hall of the International Terminal.
The Allure of Art Nouveau over by the G concourse runs through August 14, 2016. Over by the A concourse,
http://www.flysfo.com/museum/exhibitions

Refreshments
August  Christie
September  Lois
October  Rosemary
November  Vickie
December  Christmas Tea
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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

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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.