



**P.O. BOX 183
GREEN VALLEY AZ
85622**

CACTUS WREN

April, 2004

ELECTED BOARD

PRESIDENT	Susan Ettl
VICE PRESIDENT	Janet Billington
SECRETARY	Nancy Sour
TREASURER	Maxine Freed
DIRECTOR AT LARGE	Cindy Armstrong

APPOINTED BOARD

ASSISTANT TO V.P.	Sharon Skoczek
ARTS COUNCIL	Ann Payne
CAMP CACTUS WREN	Jan Towery Muggs Tilly
COMMUNITY SERVICE	Dolores Pickell
EX-OFFICIO	Mary Ellen Searcy
HOSPITALITY	Arlene Deeds
KEEPERS OF FEATHERS	Jane Lovat
KEEPER OF RECORDS	Margaret von Kuegelgen
LIBRARIAN	Ruth Wallace
MEMBERSHIP	Judy Burgess
NEWSLETTER	
EDITOR	Donna Lou Hetler
PUBLISHER	Jan Towery
PHONE TREE	Judy Robertson
PUBLICITY	Judy Kowalski
SOCIAL	Muggs Tilly Loretta Mahoney
STITCH-OUTS	Earl Pennington Norma Pennington
THREADED TREASURES	Janice Meitl Sharon Skoczek
WEB SITE	Margaret von Kuegelgen

BOARD MEETING

Fourth Wednesday of the month at Janet Billington's home.
• Next Board meeting is April 28th at 9:30AM.

MEMBERS MEETING

Second Wednesday of the month at La Posada Recreation Room.
• Next Members Meeting is April 7th at 9:30AM for Social and 10:00AM for meeting

STITCH IN

Fourth Wednesday of the month at Canyon View club House.
• Next stitch in is April 28th at 1:00PM.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for May issue is **April 23rd**. E-mail Donna Lou Hetler at DLHetler@aol.com or mail typed copy. Please include CWNewsletter in the subject line.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings Wrens!

Spring has arrived! The weather is warmer and flowers are beginning to boom. Birds are chirping and beginning to build nests. The cottonwoods in Tubac (where I work) are getting their spring leaves and are magnificent. If you get a chance, drive down to see them!

Our annual spring luncheon last week was a delight. The food was superb and the service was excellent. Everything was so fantastic, that our new social chairperson decided that next year's luncheon will also be at the Agave restaurant. Thanks again to Earl, Norma, and Janet for a wonderful event.

Thanks also to Mary Ellen and her terrific board for a great year. We had exciting projects, great stitch-outs and a fun retreat. Moreover, camaraderie among members was stimulated by the various activities, especially the afternoon stitching and project sessions following our meetings.

Janet Billington, Sharon Skoczek, and Cindy Armstrong have scheduled a great year for us. Please check out the list of lectures and projects in this newsletter.

I am so excited about the friendship samplers we will begin working on in April. I remember the beautiful friendship samplers stitched by the ANG national board in the 1990s and also the ones stitched by the Tucson chapter. They were all beautifully stitched pieces and

very personnel. At the April meeting the basics of starting a sampler, how to play with stitches to create interesting bands, and how to adapt motifs for stitching on a counted ground will be addressed. This is a great sharing experience for all of us to participate in. Moreover, both beginners and snowbirds can also participate. Please join in the fun by calling Janet Billington at 625-5217 to sign-up for this project.

I thought I should start of my term by reminding everyone that the role of the president of an ANG chapter is to facilitate the activities the members want to conduct and the projects they want to work on. Consequently, if you have an activity or a project that you think other members would like to work on, please contact me (399-3297, e-mail address: ettla@putzam.com) or another member of the board. Remember it is your chapter and my job is basically to make what the members want happen.

Susan Ettl

MONTHLY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS FOR THE NEXT THREE MONTHS

April Program – Lecture with Ann Seese on her classes at the Royal School in England
April Project – “Friendship Band Sampler” with Margaret von Kuegelgen

Below is a list of books that will help you with your sampler. We hope to add more books as work progresses on this fun project.

Cactus Wren Chapter	<i>Southwest Booklet</i>
Enthoven, Jacqueline	<i>The Stitches of Creative Embroidery</i>
Hawkins, Sam	<i>Cross Stitch Borders</i>
Hilton, Jean	<i>Borderlines</i>
Hilton, Jean	<i>Hilton Sampler</i>
Jones, Frankye	<i>American Indian</i>
	<i>Counted Cross-Stitch</i>
Lawther, Gail	<i>Celtic Cross Stitch</i>

Messent, Jan	<i>Designing with Motifs and Borders</i>
Urban, Sandra	<i>Charted Borders, Bands and Corners</i>
Wainwright Cassell	<i>Celtic Cross Stitch Samplers</i>
Zimmerman, Jane	<i>Canvas Work Bands and Borders</i>

May Program and Project – “Stump Work” with Barbara Richardson

Barbara will teach us a basic stump work piece. She will provide kits for \$7.50 each. Each kit will contain 8X8 – 18 count canvas, pearl cotton, floss, splendor, overdyed floss, webbed organza, 28-guage wire, accentuate, beads, instructions and tracing paper.

Students need to bring a 3” hoop and 8X8 stretcher bars and their usual stitching supplies, including 22 & 24 tapestry needles, beading needle and scissors.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN CANVAS AND STRETCHER BAR SIZE. Due to lack of 7” stretcher bars available locally, the project will be done on 8” bars. Also, for those without 3” hops, six will be available in class.

Please send check for \$7.50 to Maxine Freed, Treasurer

June Program and Project – “ Scissor Case” with Earla Swope

Please sign up for Earla’s class by May’s meeting. She will provide free kits of various colors, and needs a count for them. Bring the usual stitching supplies...and do not forget your scissors to fit in the case!

PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS PREVIEW

July Project – “Humbugs” with Mary Ellen Searcy

August Program and Project – “Holiday Cubes” with Sherry Skoczek

September Project – “Peonies” using laid thread as the key technique with Dolores Pickell and Earla Swope

October Program – “Embellishments” with Reba Ashmore who will show lovely embellishments on her new and antique boxes

October Project – Stitch-in to finish ornaments for the Country Fair

November Program and Project – “Blackwork” with Rebecca Hays

December Program – Christmas Luncheon on December 1st

January Program – “Design” with Susan Ettl

January Project – Transfer a picture of gates or doors to canvas

February Program – Lecture with Joyce Lukomski

February Project – Continue Gates and Doors

March Program – Spring Luncheon

April Project – Continue Gates and Doors

May Project – “Mystery Project” with Mary Ellen Searcy

November Program – “Anisazi” with Carol Lake

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL MEETING “EGGSTRAVAGANZA”

The Social Committee planned a holiday “Eggstravaganza” for our April lunch. See how many interesting and appetizing ways to use your leftover Easter Eggs...you will have some, of course. Boil up some eggs and get a jump on your Easter Basket and join us at lunch on the 7th.

SADDLEBROOK STITCH-OUT

April 21st Stitch-Out at Saddlebrook 10-3PM. Your choice of a Chicken Caesar Salad or a Chicken Chef Salad includes bread, dessert, and beverage for \$12.00. Send your check into Maxine Freed by April 12th.

CAMP CACTUS WREN

Twenty-two people signed up to go to Camp in August. Since there is still room for more stitchers, we are extending the deadline to July 1, 2004. Please send in your deposit to Camp Counselors Jan Towery or Muggs Tilly. If you have questions, either Jan or Muggs. The Registration Form is located in both the February and March newsletters. Also, reservations will be made by the Camp Counselors for the group, so do not make reservations directly with the hotel

RAFFLE AND ORNAMENT SALE AT GREEN VALLEY COUNTRY FAIR

At the Green Valley Country Fair in October, we will raffle three Christmas trees and a Christmas wreath decorated with ornaments stitched by our members. In addition, we plan to sell additional Christmas ornaments at our display. So start stitching now! New fun ornament patterns will be available at meetings. If you have a questions contact Cindy Armstrong.

TIBITS OF NEWS

SHOW AND TELL DRAWING

From April '03 to February '04, members shared 63 entries during Show and Tell. These names were entered into a drawing at the April luncheon. The winner was Jane Lovat, she won a \$25.00 gift certificate from Hearts and Hands. Thank you all for sharing, and hope you will continue to participate in this well-received and educational feature of our guild.

BOARD ATTENDEES

If you are unable to attend a Board Meeting, be sure to contact Susan prior to the meeting with your report. This may be e-mailed to her at ettla@putzam.com.

PHONE TREE

To let members know of deaths for either current members or their spouses, a phone tree is available. To activate, call either Judy Robertson, Chairperson or Susan Ettl, President. Please provide any available details, such as time and place of memorial service, where to send condolences, etc. This includes any out-of-town situations. Note: calls will only be made to local phone numbers.

NAME TAGS

All Cactus Wrens should wear a stitched nametag. If you haven't stitched on yet, remember that they can be just a piece of canvas with your name on it and attached with a pin. Better get stitching...the charge for not earning on e has gone up to 50¢.

WELCOME TO THE NEW BOARD

SUSAN Ettl – PRESIDENT

Susan is a fiber artist and instructor whose work has been exhibited at the National Academy of Needlearts' (NAN) exhibit in Virginia and at the Fine Art of Fiber in Chicago. Susan completed a three year Teacher Certification Program in color from NAN in March 2000. Her final project for her certification, *Alarich's Vase*, was accessioned into NAN's permanent collection.

Susan studied spinning, weaving, quilting in addition to canvas and surface embroidery, pulled work, needleweaving, fabric manipulation, machine embroidery, fabric painting, fabric dyeing, color, and design with national and international teachers.

Susan believes if she can be artistic, anyone can. Her goal as a fiber arts instructor is to encourage her students to develop their creativity. Susan taught canvas work, creative embroidery, fabric painting, color, mixed media, and landscape quilting for local shops in California, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Arizona; at several ANG chapters; and at NAN's seminar in 1999. She recently retired three American Needlepoint Guild correspondence courses: a beginning canvas embroidery course, a color course, and a design course.

Susan has a BA and a MS in Mathematics. In her past, she lectured in Mathematics at California State University, Northridge and an aerospace engineer. Yes, Susan really is a rocket scientist! She supported twenty-nine missile launches at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. In 1994, she retired to pursue her dream of a career in the fiber arts.

JANET BILLINGTON – VICE PRESIDENT

Janet and her husband started coming to Green Valley from Pennsylvania in 1979. They settled her permanently in 1984. She enjoys the West *tremendously*.

Besides needlepoint, she enjoys gardening, curves and swimming...with needlepoint at the top of the list.

NANCY SOUR – SECRETARY

Nancy stitched for many years, but never knew stitches other than basketweave until Phyllis Richardson entered her life. Nor did she know about stretcher bars!

Being a Cactus wren member for over nine years, she served as Treasurer twice and Chairperson of Threaded Treasures, as well as Publicity Chairperson for Threaded Treasures numerous times.

Currently, Nancy is secretary of four other organizations, therefore spending more time on the computer than needlepointing! She and her husband Chip have been full time residents of Green Valley for eleven years and now live at La Perla.

MAXINE FREED – TREASURER

In 1999, Maxine retired from Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, IL after 10 years as a travel auditor. She worked in NIU's Athletic Business Office prior to that.

She needlepointed for several years with lots of unfinished projects. When a neighbor got her interest in counted cross-stitch, she started learning it and has six projects going.

She and her husband vacationed in Green Valley before moving here in the fall of 1999. They built a house in Desert Creek. In May, Maxine became President of Friends in Deed, previously serving as Co-Treasurer, 2nd Vice President and 1st Vice President. She enjoys the community, the weather and the people she has met.

CINDY ARMSTRONG – DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Cindy joined Cactus Wren two years ago. She discovered Cactus Wren when taking a class from Ann Hardy-Payne.

Prior to this class and joining ANG, she knew only basketweave, working only on kits bought at craft stores. In the past, she tried crewelwork and realized there are other stitches to be learned. Cindy also did counted cross-stitch, candlewicking, and made Time Out Dolls and Bunnies, as well as knitting and Swedish Weaving. One Christmas, she made four Raggedy Ann's and Three Andy's with hand painted faces for her grandchildren. With each doll 36" tall, her sewing machine had a good workout that year!

Her qualifications for the job? Cindy's a walking example of "you can teach an old dog new tricks." She learned you don't have to be an expert in needlework to be a member of ANG, just hungry for more information and a willingness to try new things.

TIPS AND IDEAS

Perle cotton is not naturally shiny. To give this thread a little luster, silicone is sprayed on during milling. The silicone will wear off the more the thread is pulled through the holes of a canvas. Therefore, never use a length of perle very long.

Also, as you use a thread, it is only natural to scoot the needle along the thread. Most threads can take this action, but not perle. A fuzzy quality takes place. In fact, some can even change color.

The answer? Keep a very short tail of perle through the eye of the needle, no matter how long the stitching thread.

For other problems solved, visit Emergency Room for Stitchers at 9:30AM on meeting days. This month, Mary Ann Searcy will be on call.