



# CACTUS

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

# WREN

## ELECTED BOARD

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

**May, 2004**

## 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
STITCH-OUTS	Loretta Mahoney Earl Pennington Norma Pennington
THREADED TREASURES	Sharon Skoczek Janice Meitl
WEB SITE	Margaret von Kuegelgen

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings Wrens!

This afternoon, Dolores, Earl, Mary Ellen, and I delivered the 26 letters and 10 numbers to Casas de Ninos. We unpacked them to an audience of 3, 4 and 5 year olds. It was grand fun, asking them to identify the number or letter, asking them what colors they were stitched in, and for some of the letters, asking them what animal or object that started with the letter. Earl was surprised that most of the children recognized that his stitched character getting ready to pitch a ball was Charlie Brown! We all had our picture taken with the children. So look for an article in the Green Valley Newspaper soon!

## BOARD MEETING

Fourth Wednesday of the month at Janet Billington's home.  
• Next Board meeting is May 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:30AM.

## MEMBERS MEETING

Second Wednesday of the month at La Posada Recreation Room.  
• Next Members Meeting is May 12<sup>th</sup> 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 May 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM.

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for May issue is **May 26<sup>th</sup>**. E-mail Donna Lou Hetler at [DLHetler@aol.com](mailto:DLHetler@aol.com) or mail typed copy. Please include CWNewsletter in the subject line.

What a treat we had at our meeting last week. Ann Seese's presentation about the Royal School of Embroidery and her experiences taking classes there was interesting and educational. Ann brought her finished pieces, showed slides, addressed the school's philosophy, and discussed many of the techniques taught at the school. Ann's work was inspirational to us all.

Susan Ettl  
President

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## MONTHLY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS FOR THE NEXT THREE MONTHS

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

Barbara Richardson will talk to us about Stump work in the morning. After lunch we will do a small project. Those who have signed up for the class – remember: bring 8x8 stretcher bars, 3 or 4" hoops and 22-24 tapestry needles.

### 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! Also, if you want to do Earla’s scissors case in June be sure to put your name on the sign-up sheet at the back table

### July Project – “ Humbugs” with Mary Ellen Searcy

What’s a Humbug? A stitched rectangle with one side finished in the opposite direction, instead of folded into a pillow. You will stitch on #18 canvas, but the finishing is applicable to cross-stitch as well.

The purpose of this class will be the finishing, not the decorative stitching on the rectangle. You can make more later, using any type of stitch or border in the middle of the rectangle.

You will make two finishing technique samples for future reference: a whipped buttonhole stitch and a whipped back stitch.

You will also make a tassel and learn two ways of attaching it, as well as how to buttonhole a loop.

This is a beginner class level. No experience needed, except to thread a needle and to follow a graph.

### SIGN-UP DEADLINE: JULY 1

A class count is needed for making up the kits

### KIT IS FREE AND INCLUDES:

1. Canvas: 7” x 5” #18. brown canvas (enough for two humbugs)
2. Thread: 6 yards #8 white pearl cotton
3. Quilt batting (about 10” x 3” twice)
4. 3” x 5” card x 2
5. Straight pin with a head
6. Directions
7. A piece of canvas so you can make one or two more

### SUPPLIES TO BRING:

1. Masking tape to tape edges (no stretcher bars are needed)
2. #22 tapestry needle and needle threader if needed
3. Scissors
4. Permanent marker
5. A stitch book showing back stitch and buttonhole stitch

### CROSS-STITCHERS

If you prefer to do a cross stitch piece, bring: A 7” square of #18 Aida and a contrasting thread or

A 9” square of #14 Aida and a contrasting thread

Also, bring July/August 2002 *NEEDLEPOINT NOW* if you have it.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### MAY MEETING “POT LUCK SALAD”

Like Garden Salad...Taco Salad...Bean Salad...??? Fix your favorite salad to share at our May lunch. Bring enough for 6-8 people, along with your own plate, utensils, cup and drink. The Social Committee will provide dessert. That in it self should want you to join us for lunch!

### CAMP CACTUS WREN

Several members have expressed interest in attending Camp Cactus Wren in August, if their summer schedule allows. Reservations can be made through Jan Towery or Muggs Tilly until July 18, 2004 providing the Sheraton has rooms available.

### 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.

## NATIONAL SEMINAR NEEDS HELP

If you are planning on attending the national seminar in Reno this year, Phyllis Bush, Hospitality Chairperson, needs volunteers for 1-2 hours to:

1. Work at the Hospitality table before entering the exhibit and the store: Friday, September 24 – Saturday, October 2
2. Work at the Needlework exhibit: Saturday, September 25 - Saturday, October 2
3. Set up opening banquet on Sunday, September 26; Life Patron banquet on Thursday, September 30; and awards banquet on Friday, October 1.

If you can help out, contact Phyllis Bush, 114 Falcon Crest Circle, Napa, CA 94558-1664; 707-255-1199; pmbush@napanet.net.

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## TIBITS OF NEWS

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### CACTUS WREN WEB SITE

Yes, Cactus Wren has moved into 21<sup>st</sup> century. We now have our own web-site ([www.gvang.org](http://www.gvang.org)). Isn't it exciting? The site is still under construction; but you can read and print our April newsletter there.

The major advantage of the web-site is to save money on the printing and mailing of the monthly newsletter. Since approximately 50% of our membership has access to the internet, these members will be able to read the newsletter from the web-site. If they want a paper copy, all they have to do is click on the print button.

## HOW IT WILL WORK

These members will be notified via an e-mail message when the latest newsletter has been posted at the site. If you do not have access to the internet, then you will be mailed your copy, as usual. I know many of our members that winter in Green Valley will be thrilled to be able to get their newsletter in a timely manner year round. In addition, if you are traveling in the USA, you can just go into a library, log onto the internet, go to Cactus Wren's web-site, and read about the latest news in our guild.

A guild that I belonged to in the Chicago suburbs has been doing this for 2- 3 years and it works great! Plus, it saves the guild money!!! And if only your husband and not you uses the internet, I know of several husbands that would be more than happy to print the latest newsletter from the internet for their wives.

In addition to the newsletter, we can have a page to sell products designed by our guild, like our Southwest booklets, and advertise our guild to new or prospective members of our community.

## COSTS AND SAVINGS

If 50% of our membership uses the internet to get their newsletter, then the guild should save about \$600/year in printing and postage of newsletter costs. Our guild is indeed fortunate to have a member, whose husband is an experienced web-master who will be providing us with an excellent product.

The cost to the guild for the first year is \$300. This includes the domain name registration (\$10.95 per year); the web server lease on a low-cost, highly-reliable, and first-class service (\$44.00 per year); basic web-site development at a 40%

discount; and a 40% discount for 12 months of service/support. We have gotten a great deal with quality and at a low price! With the potential of selling some of the guild's products and adding to our membership, we are improving the potential of our chapter.

## WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

To make this work, the guild needs to have your current e-mail address. If your address has changed since the printing of our current roster, please e-mail me at [ettla@putzam.com](mailto:ettla@putzam.com) with your newest address. Otherwise, we will be contacting you via the address listed in the roster for your June newsletter. Thanks for your assistance!!! Be sure to check out our web-site!

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## TIPS AND IDEAS

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To answer any stitching questions, bring them to the Emergency Room for Stitchers at 9:30AM on meeting day. Our thanks to Ann Hardy Paine for assisting during May.

## CHOOSING THE CORRECT NEEDLE

Prior to the introduction of all the amazing threads, selecting the appropriate needle for a needlepoint project meant applying a set formula. Today, it is far more complex. Often the needle size should not match the canvas, but the thread.

A small canvas hole will be enlarged by the push of a larger needle. Then a lumpy or textured thread can glide through the canvas with little abrasion.

Although the stitching tempo might be slowed, the thread will remain plump and intact throughout the process.