



# CACTUS

# WREN

**P.O. BOX 183  
GREEN VALLEY AZ  
85614**

**www.gvang.org**

**OCTOBER 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	Ruth Deobler
SOCIAL	Muggs Tilly
	Loretta Mahoney
STITCH-OUTS	Earl Pennington
	Norma Pennington
THREADED TREASURES	Sharon Skoczek
	Janice Meitl
WEB SITE	Cindy Armstrong

### BOARD MEETING

Fourth Wednesday of the month at Janet Billington's home.  
▪ Next Board meeting is October 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:00PM.

### MEMBERS MEETING

Second Wednesday of the month at La Posada Recreation Room.  
▪ Next Members Meeting is October 13<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 October 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM.

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for October issue is **October 27<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.

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Wrens,

Last Wednesday, we had a wonderful program. I really thought this project had some wonderful stitch patterns in it. However, a kimono just does not fit in with the southwest décor of my home. Instead, I decided to stitch a humbug using the laid thread pattern used for the central section of the konini. As usual, both Earla Swope and Dolores Pickell were wonderful teachers.

I hope all those who attended this program plan to have their kimonos finished for Threaded Treasures. In addition, I know many of you have been working on some special projects to enter into the show. If you are going to ANG national seminar or have attending some other seminars throughout the country, we all expect to see these wonderful projects as special additions to this show.

Be sure to check the article titled "News from Our Area Rep" for her announcement of Threaded Treasures to all the chapters in our area. Our Threaded Treasures' publicity chairperson is getting the word out there about our show. I also know that Carol Korman, our former area rep and now the Vice President of Chapters, has been telling people about this wonderful show.

Remember to check the Threaded Treasurers' article in the newsletter for the latest news from our chairpersons.

As I am writing the second part of this message a week after I started it, our revised Southwest Stitch booklet is being printed. Judy Burgess will be taking about 30 to the national seminar in Reno to sell. A big thank you to Barbara Richardson and Tucson ANG for letting us rent part of their table at Expo night! Members should also consider buying one and giving it to a stitching friend. I did that with the original booklet and my friend loved it. It would make a great Christmas gift!

Yesterday was the guild's excursion to the Busy Needle. We had a fabulous time. Our two car loads met at Foothill's mall, where we had a delicious lunch and great conversation. Then off to the Busy Needle. They had just received a whole new shipment of canvases and they were also having a Heart In Hand trunk show. They had some wonderful, fun models on display. They also treated us to some outrageously sumptuous cookies, ice tea, and lemonade.

Everyone should bring their purchases to show to all our friends at the next meeting. It was a great day, full of fun, friends, and camaraderie! It really made my week! We had so much fun that we will plan another one in March.

Several members asked if Joyce Lukomski's project, Cashmir, selected for her February workshop had color choices. I received the following e-mail message from her:

"Cashmir is done in the royal colors of the period it depicts and I did not offer color choices. If they want to change the colors to some of their favorites (or to fit in a particular spot) I would be happy for them to do so. I will include a list of materials used for

stitching the project. If they have color cards, they can see the true colors I used and buy whatever they want to substitute." Copies of the materials list will be at the October and November meetings. I will also have them posted on our web-site.

Susan Ettl  
President

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## MONTHLY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS FOR THE NEXT THREE MONTHS

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**October Program** – "Embellishments" with Reba Ashmore

Reba will talk about embellishment and show her lovely work with antique and new boxes.

**October Project** – **Christmas Ornamnets**

We will work on finishing the Christmas Ornaments for our booth at the Country Fair. See details in "Upcoming Events" section.

**November Program** – "Black Work" with Rebecca Hayes

Rebecca will talk about her work with Black Work.

**November Project** – "Black Work" Details will follow.

**December** – Christmas Luncheon

This is scheduled for Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, which is a change from our normal 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Details are in the Upcoming Events section.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### **OCTOBER MEETING October 13<sup>th</sup> “Salad Bar”**

Back by popular demand, the infamous “Cactus Wren Salad Bar” is returning. Bring your favorite salad for 4-6 servings. Creativity counts...taco, bean, fruit, or ????. Don't forget your own table service and a drink.

### **GREEN VALLEY COUNTRY FAIR October 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>**

Our members have been busy making wonderful decorations to hang on two Christmas trees for raffle at the Green Valley Country Fair. Please continue stitching your ornaments and plan on bringing them to the October meeting. We have the afternoon set aside for finishing the stitching and we can decorate the trees at that time.

Our table will be in the Green Valley Mall. At this time, the Green Valley Mall coordinators have not designated where we will actually be set up, but stay tuned

We still need volunteers for the raffle tables, so if you weren't at the last meeting and would like to volunteer, please contact Cindy Armstrong.

### **STITCH OUT AT RIO RICO RESORT November 17<sup>th</sup>**

Earl and Norma Pennington have planned another great stitch-out for our guild at Rio Rico Resort and Country Club on November 17, 2004, from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm. The cost is \$20.00. Until the Penningtons return from Washington, please mail your checks to Susan Ettl to reserve your place.

### **CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON DECEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>**

Mark your calendar for our Christmas luncheon, which will be held on December 1<sup>st</sup> at the Green Valley Country Club. Muggs Tilly and Loretta Mahoney are planning to make some wonderful favors for all the attendees and we will have some opportunity baskets filled with wonderful stitching goodies! More details will be given in future newsletters when our social chairpersons return from family visits.

### **“DOORS” PROGRAM JANUARY 12<sup>th</sup>**

Susan Ettl will be doing January's program on creativity and doors. She asks you to please start looking for a photo or photos that you would like to re-create in needlework. Then, pin them on a board so you can look at them as you go about your daily life. Your sub-conscious will start thinking about ways to re-create them with stitches.

Two other techniques that also help you think about how to re-create them are: 1) try sketching the picture. It does not have to be wonderful drawing! The reason for doing this is that drawing helps you think of types of stitches and techniques to use; and 2) describe the different elements, especially textures and feelings, of the scene in words.

## **JOYCE LUMOSKI WORKSHOP FEBRUARY 7<sup>TH</sup> & 8<sup>TH</sup> –“CASHMIR”**

Registration is open for Joyce Lukomski workshop scheduled for February 2005. The selection is “Cashmir”, a 71/2” square using filling techniques. A full description is in the September newsletter. Also see the president’s letter for color choice details.

Class cost will be \$85.00, with \$40.00 at registration. Class is limited to 24 participants. After November 10<sup>th</sup>, the workshop will be opened to members of Tucson ANG and Tucson EGA, so reserve your spot early.

Checks should be mailed to Janet Billington. If you have any questions on the project, contact Janet Billington.

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### **TIBITS OF NEWS**

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#### **SOUTHWEST BOOKLET**

The Revision for the Southwest Booklet will be available soon. Some are being sent to the National Conference with Judy Burgess. We will be selling these via our web site, as well as a shop in Tennessee is interested in purchasing some of our booklets. The books will sell for \$25.00, and if they need to be mailed there will be a \$5.00 shipping and handling fee. Please contact Cindy Armstrong for further information.

#### **NEWS FROM OUR AREA REP**

*Editor's Note: The following articles were taken from an announcements by our Area Rep.*

Two of our Chapters have gotten their websites up and running. Be sure to stop by and see them. Cactus Wren (AZ) is at [www.gvang.org](http://www.gvang.org); and Colorado Columbine Chapter (CO) is at [www.columbineang.org](http://www.columbineang.org). You can see their newsletters and lots of fun stuff. If any of you have website info that we all need to know, please let me know and I'll be sure to share with everyone in our next newsletter.

The Point to Point Chapter (CA) is selling butterflies, (canvases with the breast cancer pin-not real "bugs") to benefit the Susan G. Korman Breast Cancer Foundation. These will be for sale in Reno at EXPO!

Or, if you'd like to have yours finished so you can wear it in Reno, you can get the details and order one (or more) at [www.geocities.com/point2pointca](http://www.geocities.com/point2pointca) for \$10 each. Be sure to check out the article about this in our November issue of Needle Pointers. We had hoped to have the article in the September issue, but we just missed the deadline.

Threaded Treasures, a needlework show put on by the Green Valley Arizona Chapter will be held February 17-19th, 2005. This is a non-juried show with over 125 entries from the local membership. The hours are 10 AM-4 PM at 210 West Continental Rd, Suite 244, Continental Mall.(NW corner). Green Valley is 20 miles south of Tucson, AZ. This is their 6th biennial show. The membership of the Cactus Wrens is comprised of beginners to professionals and they all take great pride in their work. Please come and enjoy their work!

#### **GUILD FINANCE QUESTIONS**

If anyone has any questions about the guild's finances, Maxine Freed, who is an accountant and our treasurer, will be available from 9:00 – 9:30 AM prior to the October general meeting at La Posada. She will be bringing all the guild's financial paper work with her and would be happy to show it to anyone who is interested

## **LETTER FROM PHYLLIS RICHARDSON TO THE ELECTED BOARD**

The following e-mail message was received from Phyllis on Monday, September 13. It was decided that since she felt that her concerns should be brought to the attention of the entire membership, it was only appropriate to print her letter and a response in the newsletter.

*Cactus Wren Board members*

I am sorry if I hurt any ones feelings Wednesday, but I felt what I said had to be brought to your attention. At least I said it to your faces and not behind your backs as most everybody in that room is doing, including some of the board members.

My point is not that we must have several thousand dollars, but are spending it faster than what comes in. Spending more than what comes in is very poor business and controlling spending is a responsibility of all boards. Businesses and households can't run that way. To have that much money going out in a few months is unrealistic and we believe poor business practice. It maybe a good idea to put a dollar limit on the expenditures of Threaded Treasures. This is not supposed to be a fund raiser, therefore it should cost very little. It was thought from the beginning that Threaded Treasures was a community project and we could support it economically from our treasury.

Cindy was in error when she said I should have brought this to a board meeting. Bringing this to the board's attention at a general meeting is the correct way for a member to approach the board. I know that some members have brought this up before and have been put off. I said it because I felt everybody should hear it and others were planning to express their views as well. It didn't turn out that way due to the response to my request.

Now it is up to the board to discuss it at the board meeting and make a decision. As far as I am concerned the matter is in your hands. It does trouble me that this is the first board that the membership has requested a spending limit be put in place. Most members expected a lower limit be used (\$200.00), but the \$500 was the board's decision and was accepted. I await my opportunity to see the treasurer's reports.

Thank you, Phyllis Richardson

## **Response to Phyllis Richardson's Letter**

Several board members met last week to generate the following responses to the concerns expressed by Phyllis Richardson, so that the entire membership could receive this information. The response was written by our president, Susan Ettl.

### **Paragraph 2 - Amount of Money Being Spent by the Current Board:**

Below is a compilation of administration income and expenses for the same period during 2004 and 2003 for comparison. The income and expenses for other activities (such as, Camp Cactus Wren, Stitch-Outs, etc.) have not been included because the money associated with these events just pass through our accounts.

	Apr – Aug 2003	Apr – Aug 2004
<b>INCOME</b>		
Dues	\$882.00	\$1021.00
Totes	\$80.00	
Pins	\$35.00	\$10.00
Southwest Booklets	\$69.00	\$96.60
Linens		\$43.00
<b>Total Income</b>	\$1066.00	\$1070.60
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Newsletter Printing	\$343.15	\$228.09
Newsletter Postage	\$263.55	\$175.00
Newsletter Envelopes	\$30.37	\$11.59
Website	\$0.00	\$150.00
Subtotal	\$637.07	\$564.68
Storage Unit	\$216.00	\$216.00
Community Projects	\$48.11	\$80.34
GGVAC Dues	\$20.00	\$25.00
Feathers	\$0.00	\$23.98
Misc. Office Expenses	\$87.10	\$40.62
Speaker	\$75.00	\$0.00
Books	\$36.07	\$0.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$1119.35	\$950.62

### Paragraph 2 - Threaded Treasures:

Threaded Treasures has always been self-sufficient. All of its expenditures have always been covered by the amount of money made on the raffles. The only time we have used Threaded Treasures as a fund-raiser is when we had a mini-boutique at Threaded Treasures 2003. A general admission charge was discussed at a general meeting earlier this year and it was voted down by the membership.

### Paragraph 3:

As you may remember, in my first letter as president, I stated that my job is “to facilitate the activities the members want to conduct and the projects they want to work on.” I guess I should have been more explicit and added that whenever anyone has any concerns or questions, they should also contact me or another board member.

In thinking about what occurred at the September general meeting, I remembered that it is a usual business practice that whenever someone has an important idea or concern to be discussed at a meeting, they contact the chairperson. This enables the chairperson to put the item on the agenda and to contact whoever else needs to bring relevant information to the meeting. That way the issue can be dealt with cordially and with the proper facts and information at hand.

After all, instead of sitting in a long business meeting, we all would rather be stitching, sharing our ideas, and talking to friends – the main purpose of our guild. And we are so lucky to have so many wonderful people who give so much of their time and share their stash with all of us.

### Paragraph 4:

With regard to the limit of \$500, the board recommended this amount to enable it to function in the guild’s best interest. As this time, we are in the process of getting approval from ANG’s National By-Law Chairperson for amendments to Cactus Wren’s by-laws. Once it is approved, it will be published in a newsletter at least 30 days before there is a discussion and **vote by the membership** of our chapter. This is the required procedure from national for a by-law change.

## MEMBERSHIP DUES DUE

Please send checks to Maxine Freed, Treasurer, and mark it "Membership Dues". Membership fees are \$45 for Primary and \$16 for Plural.

**Members whose dues expired August 1, 2004. Checks are needed now.**

Miriam Parsons

**Members whose dues expire October 1, 2004. Checks were needed September 1<sup>st</sup>**

Primary:

Erlene Adams

Alice Cook

Alice Homiak

Geraldine Troupe

**Members whose dues expire November 1, 2004. Checks are needed October 1<sup>st</sup>**

Plural:

June Elliot

Barbara Eubank

Jo Middlestead

Ann Mosher

**Members whose dues expire December 1, 2004. Checks are needed November 1<sup>st</sup>.**

Patricia Duthweiler

Rita Grzybinski

Joan Huff

Lucille Kardell

Carley Linn

Jane Lovat

Maggie Niggemeyer

Jennet Parker

Katherine Siggins

Muggs Tilly

Ruth Wallace

Ruth Whitaker

If you have any questions, please contact Membership Chairperson, Judy Burgess.

## A REMINDER!

Be courteous and refrain from using any fragrance when attending any of our guild's events, including meetings. Many people have allergies and they want to enjoy themselves without having to suffer.

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## TIPS AND IDEAS

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### EMERGENCY ROOM HELP

To answer any stitching questions, bring them to the Emergency Room for Stitchers at 9:30AM on meeting day. Our thanks to Ann Payne for her help at the October meeting.

### NEEDLE TARNISH

Often the acidity of our systems can cause a needle to tarnish. The needle will feel sticky in the stitching process and it will appear dark gray instead of shiny silver.

If this needle is used while working light colors a definite grayish shadow might appear in the finished work. Unfortunately, this tarnish never seems to disappear even in the traditional cleaning process.

A velveteen strawberry, one of the cutest needlework tools, should always be included in every sewing basket. It is filled with emery, a sandy polishing agent and is available at most needlework shops.

Merely run a needle through the strawberry each time before rethreading. This is particularly critical for white or pale colors. Do not forget to draw the entire needle through the emery. Tiny fragments of tarnish hide within the eye. No strawberry emery?...use a dryer softener sheet to polish the needle!