

Ohiyo gozaimas, tomodachi

With this issue, we start the second year of publishing the quarterly newsletter. It is exhilarating to hear from subscribers and continually get e-mails from stitchers around the world requesting to subscribe. Read about Tanya Quicke from London in the Cyberspace Gallery section.

Stitching Retreats

No one understands having life get in the way of being able to stitch every day. No matter how committed I am to being sure I spend a few minutes at my frame daily, I can't always manage to sit down. If I let one day pass after another, pretty soon it is harder to "get back" to stitching. Perhaps you have had the same experience. Each time I teach, I get a renewed sense of commitment because I am with others who share the love and joy of this beautiful needle art. That's why the retreat dates are strategically set up each year...June because it is 4 months after Callaway and October because it is 3 months before Callaway. The dates this year are: **June 1-4, 2006** and **October 14-17, 2006**. The detailed information and registration forms are via this link: http://www.needleartworks.com/edu/je/retreat/retreat_info.htm We'd love to have you join us!

Congratulations!

Jane Farber finished her *Spring Blossoms* design. We all had the additional treat of watching Jane paste and steam her piece and then lace it for framing.

Althea DeBrule finished her *Moon Princess*. She started transferring the design to the silk in October. After receiving the new *Novel Effects instructions*, Althea was so inspired she began stitching 2-4 hours each night after work and longer during the weekends. When she arrived at Callaway, she just had the hair to complete.

Callaway Recap

The majority of this newsletter was written during the trip home from teaching 9 days at Callaway Gardens. It was an exhilarating experience as always. It's fun to introduce new students to the special world of Japanese embroidery.

Last year, we added a one-day class, *Golden Butterfly*, to the curriculum to introduce stitchers to Japanese embroidery. Rena, Sylvia and I thoroughly enjoyed the class. We added one student after arriving at Callaway and could have added 3 more if I had the additional kits. We look forward to having many of them start a project at one of the Retreats in June (1-4) or October (14-17) or next January at Callaway. Here is the link to images from Callaway 2006.

<http://www.needleartworks.com/edu/je/gallery/06class/index.htm>

Speaking of Callaway, the facility is undergoing major renovations to the rooms. 125 new rooms are being built near the new conference center, along with a 13,000 square foot spa. According to published information, the new rooms should be open in November so we'll be able to see the new facilities next January.

Session II was truly inspiring. Both lectures/exercises each day were devoted to color and design. We spent time with value exercises and four different design/color scenarios:

1. Starting the *Flutterby* project by developing a color palette,
2. Developing a color palette based on a theme for the *Noble Noshi* design,
3. Changing an existing color palette for *Kimono Ribbons* and
4. Developing stitches for the *Flutterby* design.

Cyberspace Gallery

What a joy it is to be adding more images of completed pieces to the Gallery. Tanya Quicke from London and I have been corresponding. She sent along information about her Japanese embroidery studies, along with four pieces she has completed. I know you will enjoy reading about her experiences and viewing her needle art. <http://www.needleartworks.com/edu/je/gallery/quicke01.htm>

Seeds of Japanese Embroidery – Robin Wilks

Robin is back with her quarterly column. I always learn new things and love having the pronunciations to help me begin to learn the basics of the language. [Click here](#) for the link to Robin's column.

Swap Shop or *Tweaking the Stash*

Because of this section, I received an e-mail from Sandy Stranahan sending me links to *My Costumes* by Emi Wada. It's a book I've loved for years. If you are looking for a special book or item, please let me know. I'll share it in the next quarterly newsletter.

Also, I promised to share the information about the Moon Princess book I have in my library. If you have a special book about Japanese embroidery and/or color and design, please let me know. *The Moon Princess* by Kancho Oda & Ralph F. McCarthy ISBN 4-7700-1756-1.

Keys to Successful Stitching

Although Oprah's magazine has been on the news stands for years, I didn't start reading it until last year. There are many interesting and educational articles that I can apply to many areas of my life. The January 2006 article, *the first 30 days*, (about getting healthy) was very helpful understanding **why it is imperative we make it safe for the brain to proceed to implement change**. Immediately I thought how I could apply this information to practicing Japanese embroidery. [Click here](#) for the rest of the article.

Foregrounds and/or Backgrounds

While at Callaway, I received a message from Angela Dorrell indicating she made it safely to England but was having a great deal of difficulty hooking up to the internet and e-mail. Fortunately she has the problems resolved. We hope to see her at one of the stitching retreats or at Callaway in 2007. If you would like to contact her, please send me a quick note.

Want to Print the Newsletter? Read Previous Issues?

Here is the link to download this newsletter as well as previous issues:
http://needleartworks.com/edu/je/nwsltrs/nws_list.htm All issues are available as HTM pages if you don't have Adobe Acrobat.

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Please be sure to add my name to your address book so your ISP doesn't think the newsletter is SPAM. And, please don't forget to let me know about e-mail address changes so you don't miss an issue.

Best wishes for three months of memorable Japanese embroidery stitching. Remember, I am as close as the telephone or e-mail if you have questions or need help. ☺

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