

Ohiyo gozaimas, tomodachi

I am very excited about this newsletter as there is so much to share. I know you will have fun reading and exploring everything!

Information Updates

By now you should have received your copy of the 2006 Callaway Needle Arts catalog. Did you see the [Golden Butterfly](#) one-day class information? And, did you notice that the Phase I Season description had a sentence indicating that students are encouraged to stay for the second session? Both these suggestions came from our luncheon conversations at Session I and II this past January.

Last week I asked Pat Callihan for the list of students and learned that we have 7 students registered to date. As I wrote previously, Jody Adams indicated that it takes about 15 students for a class to "go". If you know students that are attending, and they have expressed an interest in Japanese embroidery, please encourage them to sign up.

Also, I received a notification from Callaway that their Butterfly Center is open again. For those of us that make a yearly pilgrimage to the center to walk among the butterflies, this is welcome news.

Stitching Retreats

We are just a few weeks away from the October Retreat here in Naples. The travel dates are Wednesday, October 26th and Monday, October 31st. There are several links and PDF files that will give you additional information including the airport, hotels within a few miles, glorious shopping, Japanese restaurants, etc. There's also pictures of the stitching room, the main dining room, a few pictures of the 83 acre campus (yep that's what they call the Moorings Park grounds) and the class cost. Treat yourself to four glorious, uninterrupted days of stitching. You deserve it! http://needleartworks.com/edu/je/retreat/retreat_info.htm

Also the dates for the first Retreat in 2006 are set. Please mark your calendar to travel on May 31, stitch on June 1-4 and then return home Monday, June 5th.

Cyberspace Gallery

I am delighted to share that the gallery is continuing to expand. Each image is a joy to behold and an inspiration. Maxine Brandt's son, George, photographed several of her stitched pieces that I hadn't seen previously. Also, I asked if George would photograph his tiger. He sent me several images that are now added to the [slide show](#) at the website.

Loel Rosenberry, Maxine's daughter, has given me permission to share a video of Maxine's work. I prepared the music video of her stitching for the classes at Callaway as a tribute to Max. Many, many students asked for a copy. It's available now for \$5.00 and \$2.00 for shipping. Please e-mail me at taylor@needleartworks.com if you would like to have a CD.

This is the link to several of the student's completed designs:
http://www.needleartworks.com/edu/je/gallery/gallery_list.htm Bettye Hill has finished [Petite Pansies](#). It is the first pansy design I've seen stitched on black silk. Rachel Watkins has her Cartouche that won 1st Prize in an EGA show. There is a link to the image of her [The Eastern Phoebe and the Lacewing](#). It is part of the 18th juried EGA show traveling the country. Rachel shared that her piece won Viewer's Choice at the exhibit in NC. And, Mary Pinto sent me an image of her [Spring Blossoms](#) piece and how she started Japanese embroidery.

Japanese Embroidery Tips or *Why didn't I think of that?*

Travel Frame: For years and years, I've tried to find a way to take my Japanese embroidery with me when I traveled without having to ship the frame ahead or go to other extraordinary measures. I mentioned in the last newsletter that I am excited about a new product. It's a [wood frame](#) that can be tightened on all four sides to keep the silk fabric as taut as a traditional Japanese frame. It's light enough that it can be clamped to any table that has a lip. And, it's just about the same size as your piece of fabric.

I have two pieces of foam core board that are cut to the size of the frame. I sandwich my frame with the mounted silk between them. Using pieces of ½" elastic that have been tied together to make large rubber bands, I secure the foam core board to the front and back of the frame. Depending on the circumstances, I sometimes wrap everything in bubble wrap. Often however, I can just place the frame between layers of my clothing. I use the [Quick Grip®](#) (1 large or 2 small) to mount the frame to a table, attach my lightweight [clip-on magnifiers](#) to my glasses, and I'm set to stitch.

Keys to Successful Stitching

Here are a couple more suggestions to help you get started stitching regularly and/or keep you on track:

- [E-mail](#) or call Jennifer with questions and send images for critiquing. Bettye Hill has done that for years and so have several other students. I've put an [example](#) of one of the responses to Bettye's e-mails up at the web site as a PDF file so you can see how it works.
- Put a white sheet under your work space to eliminate extraneous color and to easily find your needles and other equipment you drop. It eliminates frustration and saves time so you can use those precious minutes to practice.

Seeds of Japanese Embroidery – Robin Wilks

Robin has added another interesting facet to her quarterly column...how to pronounce some of the Japanese words. So in addition to reading about *Sake Boxes* and Japanese colors, we can all begin to learn correct pronunciation as well. I am sure you will want to print it and add the information to your Japanese notes. Find her column as a HTML page and PDF file via this link:

http://www.needleartworks.com/edu/je/nwsltrs/nws_list.htm

Oriental Embroidery Sightings

The reason this issue of the newsletter is later than usual is a very special project. Many of you may remember me talking about Audrey Francini's One-Woman Show at the Margaret Parshall Gallery in Louisville Kentucky beginning in October. I mentioned to you that more than 40 of Audrey's designs will be on display (from October 8 through December 31, 2005). Leslie Durst and Carolyn Elworthy funded a limited edition catalogue for the show. I've been working on the publication of the 58-page catalog since November last year. This month was the culmination of the preparations to send it to the printers.

Donna Gotts, one of the three proofreaders for *needlepoint now* graciously agreed to proofread the catalogue. (She has also completed two Japanese embroidery pieces.) After receiving and reviewing the publication, Donna wrote, "...the layering to show the close-up detail makes everything come to life. I want to go to the exhibit more than ever now."

The Embroiderers' Guild of America, Inc. national headquarters will have the catalogue for sale on Monday, October 10, 2005 (502 589-6956). It can not be purchased or reserved before the 10th per the president, Armida Taylor. The cost of the catalogue has not been established yet, but I am confident that it will be very reasonably priced. I urge you all to call on the 10th and order a copy. You will not be disappointed as her designs and stitching are magical. You can spend hours leafing through the pages and will continuously see new things each time. It's like having all the Japanese embroidery volumes together in one book. The difference is all the photographs are much larger.

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.

Assure Quarterly Delivery & Insure Against SPAM Blocking

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. ☺

Jennifer Ashley Taylor

239 643-6742

239 398-6896 (cell)

E-mail: taylorj@needleartworks.com