

WESTERN ID EGA

Western Idaho Embroiderers Guild Chapter, Catherine Chertudi President, 5458 S. Zonetailed Way, Boise, ID 83716.
208-343-5107

President's Letter

By Catherine Chertudi

Dear Fellow Needle Workers:
Happy New Year!

I hope that you are ready to start a new year - one of exploration, learning and camaraderie. I know that I am. I have thought a lot lately about what it means to be a guild and a member of a guild. I have learned the following: "a guild is an association of craftspeople in a particular trade. The earliest guilds are believed to have been formed in India circa 3800 BC. The appearance of the European guilds was tied to the emergent money economy and to urbanization. The guild was at the center of European handicraft organization into the sixteenth century.

European guilds imposed long standardized periods of apprenticeship. The guild was made up of experienced and confirmed experts in their field of handicraft. They were called master craftsmen. Before a new member could rise to the level of mastery, he had to go through a schooling period during which he was first called an apprentice. After this period he could rise to the level of journeyman.

Like journey, the distance that could be travelled in a day, the title 'journeyman' derives from the French words for 'day' (jour and journée) from which came the middle English word journei. Journeymen were generally paid by the day and were thus day laborers. After being employed by a master for several years, and after producing a qualifying piece of work, the apprentice was granted the rank of journeyman and was given documents (letters or certificates from his master

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and/or the guild itself) which certified him as a journeyman and entitled him to travel to other towns and countries to learn the art from other masters. These journeys could span large parts of Europe and were an unofficial way of communicating new methods and techniques.

After this journey and several years of experience, a journeyman could be received as master craftsman. This would require the approval of all masters of a guild, a donation of money and other goods, and in many practical handicrafts the production of a so-called masterpiece, which would illustrate the abilities of the aspiring master craftsman." (Wikipedia 2008)

What I have learned is that we are all on a journey, learning and growing in our skills, knowledge and abilities. Each meeting this year will be an opportunity to take that journey together, as a guild. We will play, explore new worlds without leaving Boise, practice and practice some more, and maybe most importantly - support each other in our quest to become master craft workers - and maybe we will all make our masterpiece one day soon.

Happy Stitching! Catherine

January 2008 Program
Come and Play
Activity Supply List

Please bring the following to the January meeting:

1. Your creativity and imagination!
2. One piece of needlework fabric, 8 inches by 10 inches; white or off-white. You can use soft congress cloth, aida, linen or any even weave fabric or canvas that you love to stitch on.
3. Needlework scissors.
4. Threads, fibers, and beads to share. This would be a great time to bring left-overs from completed projects to share with the group.
5. A piece of heavy paper or cardboard at least 8 inches by 10 inches.

*Community Outreach
January 2008*

Please bring new washcloths to the January meeting - we will distribute them to the Interfaith Sanctuary. We have set a goal of 50 washcloths and we know you can do it!

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Group Correspondence Online

Registration deadline: February 29, 2008
Your application must be postmarked by February 29th

Winterspring

Teacher: Judith D. Gulick

Course Fee: \$ 20.00

Textbook Fee: \$ 25.00

Supplies: \$18.00 (estimated)

Skill level: Beginner or Intermediate

Winterspring is Hardanger design that can be made into a chatelaine or sewing basket accessories.

Silk and Metal Thread Embroidery

Teacher: Kay Stanis

Course Fee: \$ 20.00

Textbook Fee: \$ 22.00

Supplies: \$ 35.00 (estimated)

Skill level: Intermediate

The floral design stitched on silk fabric provides the stitcher the opportunity to stitch with silk and metallic fibers. Registration forms for each class will be available at the January and February chapter meetings.

Local Class

The local chapter of ANG, Trolley Needlers, has invited national teacher, Terry Dryden, for two day class on April 25th and 26th. Design is titled Winter Frost. The cost for the class is \$165 for an ANG member and \$180 for non ANG members. The payment includes the kit fee. Final date to enroll in the class is February 7th. You can view Ms. Dryden's designs at www.terrydryden.com

If you are interested in the class, please contact Dena Clark at 336-8241 or by e-mail as xstitches6@netzero.net.

Ethnic Fiber Art

Book Review - Michele Gardiner

As I paged through a 2007 issue of the Nordic Needle catalog, I noticed photographs of German Schwalm. It is rare to see published photographs or books mentioned about Schwalm needlework. I then read further and discovered Phyllis Maurer's line of ethnic embroidery books. Ms. Maurer has taken her passion of needle arts to share knowledge on less main-stream needlework techniques. Her company, Ethnic Fiber Art LLC, publishes leaflets on Swedish Näversöm, German Schwalm, Swedish Sollerosöm, Swedish Tvistsöm, Japanese Kogin, Ukrainian Nyzyinka and Yugoslavian Weaving. She also has information on Norwegian Hardanger and Japanese Temari.

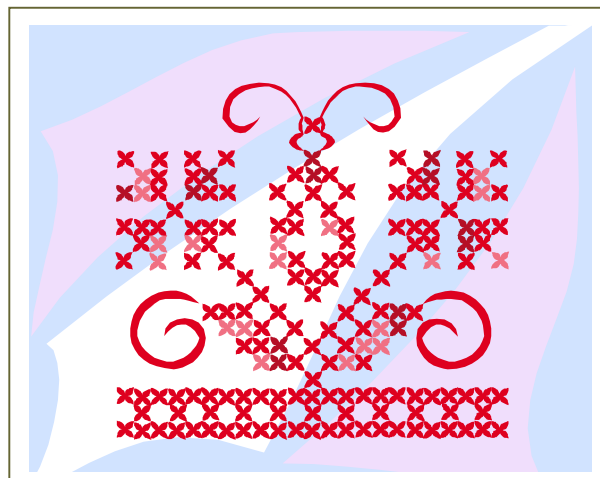
I purchased the leaflets on Swedish Näversöm and German Schwalm. The leaflets are 20 to 30 pages in a spiral bound format with excellent stitch diagrams and color photography. Ms. Maurer provides an extensive reference of the books, magazine articles and other publications that she has found related to the specific needlework style. Also provided in the book is a small project that highlights the major stitches and techniques used in the ethnic needlework. She has taken time to provide address and contact information for stores that carry the unique fibers needed for stitching. Generously, Ms. Maurer has given permission that the booklet can be reproduced for educational purposes.

Ms. Maurer provides information for the needleworker to explore lesser known needle arts. She does not claim to be an expert on each needle art but is sharing her research. If you have further interest in any of these unique needle arts, please visit Ms. Maurer's website for more information.

www.ethnicfiberart.com

2008 Chapter Officers

President	Catherine Chertudi
Vice President	Alice Tryon
Secretary	Rita Ascuaga
Treasurer	Betty Dippi
Regional Rep.	Carol Herrmann
Programs Chair	Michele Gardiner
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Region Seminar 2009 -	Myrna Cruz
Past President	Carla Bravo



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WESTERN IDAHO EGA CHAPTER

Next Meeting:

January 22, 2008
7:00 pm
Whitney United Methodist Church
3315 West Overland Road, Boise

Mark your calendars for these future meetings:

February 26, 2008
March 25, 2008

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.westernidahoega.org

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