

*Lake Michigan
Sampler Guild*

Memories of 2006

2006 Calendar

Past programs are kept on the website for reference purposes so that you can see the variety and quality of programs that LMSG has offered.

Date/Time	Programs
1/22/2006 1:30-4:00	Third Time's the Charm Meeting at Glen Ellyn Library LMSG-Elaine Hoagland
2/18/2006 9:30-4:00	Flowers from Thy Garden Workshop at Buehler YMCA Merry Cox
2/19/2006 9:30-4:00	Birds and Berries Sewing Set Workshop at Buehler YMCA Merry Cox
3/12/2006 1:30-4:00	Mary Schar's Sampler Collection Meeting at Buehler YMCA LMSG-Mary Schar
4/9/2006 1:30-4:00	Mini Ackworth Sampler Meeting at Glen Ellyn Library LMSG-Katie Simmer
5/21/2006 1:30-4:00	Victoria Sampler Tin and Fob Meeting at Glen Ellyn Library LMSG-Marilyn Vanover
6/11/2006 1:30-4:00	2006 Guild Picnic Meeting at Home of Susan Balsai LMSG-Susan Balsai
7/9/2006 1:30-4:00	2006 Tag Sale Meeting at Buehler YMCA LMSG-Katie Simmer
8/12/2006 9:30-4:00	Elizabeth Jenkins Sampler Workshop Workshop at Buehler YMCA Margriet Hogue
9/9/2006 9:30-4:30	An Exemplar IV Workshop Workshop at Buehler YMCA

Date/Time	Programs
	Catherine Theron
8/13/2006 9:30-4:00	Sterling Silver Scissors Holder Workshop Workshop at Buehler YMCA Margriet Hogue
9/10/2006 9:30-4:00	An Exemplar I Workshop Workshop at Buehler YMCA Catherine Theron
10/8/2006 1:30-4:00	2006 Anniversary Party Meeting at Glen Ellyn Library LMSG-Elaine Hoagland
11/11/2006 9:30-4:00	Jane Pratt Workshop Workshop at Buehler YMCA Joanne Harvey
11/12/2006 1:30-4:00	Joanne Harvey Lecture Meeting at Buehler YMCA Joanne Harvey
12/10/2006 1:30-4:00	2006 Holiday Party and Ornament Exchange Meeting at Home of Mary Ann Anderson LMSG-Elaine Hoagland

[Edit](#)

Third Time's the Charm

Date: 1/22/2006

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Glen Ellyn Library

Teacher: LMSG-Elaine Hoagland

Join us for another year of fun with the stitchers' challenge. Bring your "hopeful" projects, those which you want to finish during the year, and make a contract with the guild to get them done. Those of you who participated last year certainly finished some beautiful pieces and also got a nice reward from the guild. So, it's time for you to dig up another UFO – we know you have one – and join the fun again this year.

At the meeting we will describe the project or projects that we'd like to make progress on in 2006, and complete our "contracts". There will be an intermediate progress report at the Guild picnic in June.

The final show-and-tell (for those stitching right down to the wire) will be at the December meeting, with prizes awarded at that time. If you can't make the January meeting but would still like to participate, fill out the contract form and send to Elaine Hoagland by the end of January. Good luck!

Highlights

Our president, Susan Balsai, began the meeting with a few announcements:

- Membership dues must be received by March 1st in to ensure your name is listed in the member's handbook.
- There is one extra kit available for the Merry Cox Birds and Berries workshop. Contact Elaine Hoagland if you are interested.
- Katie Simmer presented a treasurer's report.

Elaine gave us an update on 2006 programs. Both the February and March meetings will be held at the Buehler YMCA in Palatine. If you are coming to the February workshops, we need an iron, ironing board, Olfa cutter and mat, and a sewing machine. Please contact Elaine if you can bring any of these things to the class. In April, we will have a miniature Ackworth Sampler presented by one of our members, Katie Simmer. The cost will be \$10 and the deadline to register will be the March meeting. Details and a picture will be available soon.

The May meeting will be held back at the Glen Ellyn Library. Another of our members, Marilyn Vanover, will present the program, a Victorian Sampler Box. The cost will be \$8 and the registration deadline is the April meeting. A full description of the piece and pictures are available. In September, Catherine Theron will visit LMSG. She will be presenting two samplers, Exemplar I and Exemplar IV. Details and pictures are available. We are very lucky to have Catherine visit.

We started the new year right with our January program, Third Time's the Charm. Each member signed a "contract" containing a description of her personal stitching goals for 2006. Some members said they learned from previous years and were more realistic about their goals. They chose smaller projects or decided to only partially complete a project. Others were very ambitious and committed to finishing three or four major projects. Amy Keaton has another approach. Her goal is to stitch 50 hours in 2006, but she didn't specify exactly what she was going to work on. There were several other suggestions made including:

- Stitch a little every day or every week
- Ignore the nonsense on TV and stitch instead!
- A little chocolate always helps... (And thanks to Lynn for the delicious chocolate treats)

Many members brought their chosen project chart or kit for others to admire. If you could not attend the meeting, send your completed contract to Elaine to join in the fun. We'll check up on everyone's progress at the picnic in June.



Good luck to everyone on your 2006 projects!

Happy Stitching and Happy New Year!

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Flowers from Thy Garden

Date: 2/18/2006

Time: 9:30-4:00

Type: Workshop

Location: Buehler YMCA

Teacher: Merry Cox

Wouldn't it be fun to go to class, take your sampler from its carrying case, unroll it, place it in front of you and now everything needed is at your fingertips...a ruler pocket, a needle book with vintage linen needle pages, an ultrasuede scissors older tucked behind the needle pages, a pocket for a thread stick, a lovely pin cushion and many alphabets within the sampler for reference.



While on a trip to England, Merry found a sampler stitched on two pieces of linen and then sewn together. The antique pieces each have red bands woven into the linen with several alphabets. Merry reproduced the alphabets from the 1860's sampler, stitched the red bands to replicate the woven ones and then designed "her garden." Stitches include Rococo, Closed Herringbone, Cross over one and two, Tent over one, Half Cross and Nun.

The sampler is hemstitched and then lined separately. Ribbon is tacked to each corner of the lining piece and then pulled through each corner of the hemstitched sampler, through mother-of-pearl buttons and tied in a bow. This allows the lining to be removed for washing and also allows more stitching to be added later on, such as your favorite monogram, alphabet, family information etc. The sampler is folded in half, wrapped around the incushion and stored in its case.

The kit includes 35 ct. linen, all silk fibers, silk ribbon, finishing materials for the sampler and carrying case. There will be no prestitching required for this class. Kit cost is \$85 plus teaching fee TBD.

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Birds and Berries Sewing Set

Date: 2/19/2006

Time: 9:30-4:00

Type: Workshop

Location: Buehler YMCA

Teacher: Merry Cox

This charming and compact sewing set features birds feasting on red berries. There is a sewing case which measures 3" x 2 1/4" when closed. Inside this lovely case is a silk pocket for a needle threader as well as vintage linen needle pages that lift to show a small stitched pocket for a thread winder. Vintage ribbon is used for the closure.

To complete the set, there is a mattress type pincushion and petite scissors case, all housed in a beautiful cherry colonial oval divided tray.

Stitches include tent stitch over one, cross stitch over one, cross stitch over two, Smyrna cross stitch, herringbone stitch, stem stitch, alternating double backstitch and nun stitch. (Most of the stitching is over one).

We will be prestitching the sewing case only for this workshop. The kit includes 32 count Sandstone linen, silk threads, cherry divided tray and all finishing materials. Kit cost is \$120 plus teaching fee TBD.



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Mary Schar's Sampler Collection

Date: 3/12/2006

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Buehler YMCA

Teacher: LMSG-Mary Schar

Highlights

The meeting began with a few announcements from our president, Susan Balsai and our program chair, Elaine Hoagland:

- If you have suggestions for new website content, please let one of the officers know.
- Today was the last day to sign up for our April program, a mini Ackworth sampler being presented by Katie Simmer.
- A picture will soon be available on our website for Margriet Hogue's Saturday workshop in August.
- In August, the Sunday workshop will be a scissor sheath that will go with the pinball that Margriet presented last year. This theme may continue for other accessories in future programs.
- The Saturday Catherine Theron September workshop will be An Exemplar IV. Exemplar I will be on Sunday because it is a shorter class.
- We hope Merry Cox will be back in 2008, perhaps in February.
- Susan will be mailing silk to those who took the German Sampler class from Margriet.

We have a total of 61 members and 5 new members. Remember, you can't sign up for workshops if you haven't paid the membership fee! The membership directory should be finalized this week. You can still join LMSG, but your name will not appear in the directory.

We had a few items for Show and Tell. Sally brought a new Whitney Antiques catalog which contains map samplers. Elaine brought a sampler kit circa 1970 that Joanne Harvey has redone and is now teaching. Several of our members remembered stitching the kit years ago. Susan Balsai finished the Merry Cox Birds and Berries project from the February workshop. We all admired her wonderful workmanship.

For our program, Mary Schar presented her antique sampler collection. Most of her samplers were American from the 1800's. We got to see a big variety of samplers including simple marking samplers, a mourning sampler, a family record sampler, a Dutch darning sampler and a Pennsylvania show towel. Mary also shared her collection of antique needlework tools. She said, "I didn't know I had so many until I took them all off the wall!" We all enjoyed looking at Mary's collection. Thanks to her for sharing it with us.





Mini Ackworth Sampler

Date: 4/9/2006

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

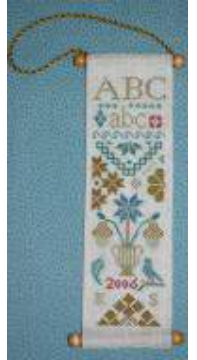
Location: Glen Ellyn Library

Teacher: LMSG-Katie Simmer

Katie Simmer is presenting a workshop – the mini Ackworth sampler shown at the right.

In December 2006, a book by Carol Humphrey on the Ackworth School samplers and a CD-ROM of the entire sampler collection at the school will be released. In anticipation of both events, we will be stitching a miniature bellpull incorporating a few of the motifs typical of the Ackworth School.

The design is 2 inches wide by 8 inches long and is worked entirely in cross stitch. It is stitched on 32-count flax Belfast linen using 9 colors of DMC. Finishing instructions and bellpull hardware are included in the kit. Kit cost – \$10. Deadline is March 12th.



Click on the picture for a larger image.

Highlights

Before our program, some business items were discussed. Our membership chair, Jean Lieberman announced that the 2006

membership directory has been mailed. If you didn't receive one, contact Jean. We have two new members since the directory was printed, so Jean made printed labels to add them to the directory. Please see Jean at the next meeting if you didn't receive your additional labels.

We had a positive report from our treasurer, Katie Simmer. The board is considering ideas for a charitable donation. The ideal case would be a donation to a smaller museum in the midwest to conserve some type of needlework. If you have any suggestions, please contact Susan Balsai.

Elaine Hoagland, our program chair, reminded everyone that we will have a picnic in June at Susan's house. The meetings in July and August will be at the Buehler YMCA in Palatine. We hope to be back at the Glen Ellyn Library in September. We won't know the meeting locations for the fall meetings until July.

Our program was presented by Katie Simmer. She and her Phine Friends produced a fantastic kit for our enjoyment. We sure have talented members! The packaging on the kit was very creative, much more impressive than most of the kits you buy. The thread was attached to a professionally printed card through little heart shaped holes. All materials were packaged in a cellophane bag topped with a linen printed paper tied with a pretty ribbon.

Katie told us the design of the kit was based on patterns from the Ackworth school which is still in operation today in York, England. This Quaker school was founded in 1777 and both boys and girls attended. The students

were taught language, writing arithmetic and religion. The girls would have classes in needlework while the boys studied science.

A girl would make four types of samplers while she attended the school: an alphabet sampler in simple roman style letters, a darning sampler, an extract sampler containing a verse from the Bible and

a medallion sampler. The medallion sampler is often associated with the Quakers, but did not have a specific purpose. The patterns were not used to decorate linens or clothes. They seemed to be an exercise in geometry. Following the Quaker tradition, some were in stitched in a single color, others were polychrome, but never in bright colors.



The kit was original in both design and packaging. We were all very impressed. Thanks to Katie and her Phine Friends for the work they did to provide an entertaining and enjoyable afternoon for all thoses who attended.

Show and Tell



The Garden Glade



Busy Bee Pin Pillow

[Edit](#)

Victoria Sampler Tin and Fob

Date: 5/21/2006

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Glen Ellyn Library

Teacher: LMSG-Marilyn Vanover

Marilyn Vanover is presenting a mini project, a Victorian Sampler “Needles and Scissors”

Tin and Fob. The free pattern is from the Victoria Sampler website.

An Altoids Tin is covered by a simple hardanger heart and rose sampler in mauves and teal greens. It holds your needles and scissors. The fob has your name on one side and a rose motif on the other.

The kit is \$8.00 and includes all materials and the tin except the scissors which can be purchased at a Hobby Lobby for \$5.00.

Click on the pictures for a larger image.



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2006 Guild Picnic

Date: 6/11/2006

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Home of Susan Balsai

Teacher: LMSG-Susan Balsai

In June, join us for a guild picnic and progress check on our year long contracts at the home of our president, Susan Balsai. The guild will provide the main course, chips, drinks and paper goods. If you would like to contribute a salad, desert or other goodies, please let Elaine Hoagland know what you are bringing. It promises to be a casual afternoon of fun. Please direct questions to Susan or Elaine.

In addition, bring
“evidence” of your progress on your year long contract, prizes may be given.

Susan's address

is 8132 Danneil Circle, Long Grove, IL. The location is off of Midlothian Road, north of Gilmer and south of Rt. 60/83.



[Secret Garden](#)



[Harmony](#)



[My Home Town](#)



[Elizabeth Hughes](#)



[Oak Box Sampler](#)



[Zeeland Sampler](#)

[Edit](#)

2006 Tag Sale

Date: 7/9/2006

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Buehler YMCA

Teacher: LMSG-Katie Simmer

Join us for our annual guild “tag sale”. Have something in your stash that you will never stitch? One person’s old stash is another person’s treasure! Bring the items you want to sell, marked with prices, and spend a great afternoon selling, shopping and stitching.

[Edit](#)

Elizabeth Jenkins Sampler Workshop

Date: 8/12/2006

Time: 9:30-4:00

Type: Workshop

Location: Buehler YMCA

Teacher: Margriet Hogue

On Saturday, August 12, Margriet Hogue of The Essamplaire will be presenting the Elizabeth Jenkins sampler, a Scottish sampler from St. Ninians. The sampler is a bit different from typical Scottish samplers – the sampler does contain a large house similar to houses found on other Scottish samplers, but the house is surrounded by a pastoral scene with trees, a shepherdess and her sheep. The top half is basically cross stitch, some double running and cross over one. The bottom sections consist of trees worked with French knots, grass worked in split stitch, sheep that are worked in French knots and the Shepardhess which is split and tent stitch.

Kit cost is \$154, teaching fee TBD.

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Sterling Silver Scissors Holder Workshop

Date: 8/13/2006

Time: 9:30-4:00

Type: Workshop

Location: Buehler YMCA

Teacher: Margriet Hogue

On Sunday, August 13 Margriet will be presenting a sterling silver scissors holder with flame-stitched accents. This is a companion piece to the pinball that she taught for us two years ago. The top portion and the tip of the scissors holder are sterling silver with an ornate design, and they are connected by a section of flame stitch. The silver pieces will have holes around the edges so that the stitching can be lined with silk over buckram for support and then attached to the silver. You won't want to miss this beautiful addition to your chatelaine pieces.

Kit cost is \$140.

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An Exemplar IV Workshop

Date: 9/9/2006

Time: 9:30-4:30

Type: Workshop

Location: Buehler YMCA

Teacher: Catherine Theron

An Exemplar IV

Fourth in a series of samplers, this piece is a 13" X 10" spot motif sampler surrounded by a strawberry border. It is worked on a 30-count cream linen with DMC flosses in shades of strawberry, green, gold, & blue, & brown.



As the fourth piece in this teaching series, this sampler features traditional British-style motifs that are stitched using raised or textured techniques. Stitches used include Double Italian Cross, Queen, Detached Buttonhole, Smyrna, Double Running, Trellis, Spiral Trellis, Petit Point, Satin, Diagonal Cross, Long Arm Cross, Montenegrin, Diagonal Montenegrin, & more.

Kit cost includes
linen, threads, needles, practice fabric, instructions, charts,
& photograph. Extra magnification and/ or lighting may be needed.

Scroll frame, hoop, or stretcher bars are optional.

Fabric cut 19" X 16" Intermediate-
Advanced level

Kit cost \$72, teaching fee TBD.

[Edit](#)

An Exemplar I Workshop

Date: 9/10/2006

Time: 9:30-4:00

Type: Workshop

Location: Buehler YMCA

Teacher: Catherine Theron

An Exemplar A 6-1/4"

X 10-3/4" "composite" sampler featuring an 18th century strawberry border surrounding a 17th century style spot motif sampler. This piece is worked on 32count cream linen with DMC flosses in shades of red, green, teal, and gold.

Four-Sided Stitch, Florentine, Long Arm Cross, Queen, Smyrna, Satin Cushion, Petit Point, Double Cross, Double Running, Chain, Satin, Slanted Satin, Buttonhole Bars, Small Eye, . Diamond Eyelet, Algerian Eye, Rice, Eyelet, Stem, and Cross-Stitch over one and two threads are used. An alphabet, lozenge pattern, and diaper pattern are combined with a cartouche, various floral borders, and so much more!



Kit cost includes

linen, practice fabric, threads, needles, instructions, photograph, and charts. Extra magnification and/or lighting may be needed as well as a small (4" or 5") hoop and/or stretcher bars or a scroll frame. Fabric cut 11" X 16", Advanced level.

Kit cost \$50, teaching fee TBD.

[Edit](#)

2006 Anniversary Party

Date: 10/8/2006

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Glen Ellyn Library

Teacher: LMSG-Elaine Hoagland

It's the Lake Michigan Sampler Guild's 8th Anniversary! We're having a birthday party to celebrate. Join us for fun, refreshments and more. LMSG's own "Phine Phriends" have once again collaborated to create a wonderful treat for all of us. This special project is a stitcher's journal, complete with a stitched personalization for the front of the leatherette album and pages inside to record finished projects, stash (lots of pages!), sampler verses you love and many, many more special things. This is one anniversary project that you will not want to miss! You do not need to be present to receive your kit, but you do need to sign up in advance, so your album can be prepared. Signup deadline is September 10.

Highlights

We hope that you were able to attend our 8th anniversary party! If not, you missed quite a celebration.

The meeting began with a few announcements. Our assistant program chair, Jane Stevens, gave us a preview of the programs that are being planned for next year. The preview will soon be available on this website.

Amy Keaton announced the 2007 candidates for office including Katie Simmer for President and Joyce Reid for Treasurer. We are still looking for an assistant program chair.

Please contact Amy if you are interested.



Next on the agenda was double layer chocolate anniversary cake with chocolate frosting and chocolate filling between the layers! We enjoyed each other's company as we ate the delicious cake.



Then we came to the main part of the 8th anniversary program: "THE TREATS". All the anniversary treats, designed and packaged by the Phine Phriends, were set out on the table at the front of the room.



A close look at the package showed that each one was personalized with a special name tag!



Complete with a From label...



And a postmark!



The

Phine Phriends distributed the packages while we all wondered what they contained.

Many

of us were reluctant to open them because the packaging was so perfect! But what was inside was even better! The contents included an album with a place for a needlework insert, linen for the insert, the mounting materials, thread and instructions for stitching. But there was even more. Each package contained personalized pages to put inside the album.



Katie explained that throughout history women have been the ones who have kept journals and diaries describing details of their lives and that this album is designed to be your personalized stitching journal. It has pages for your favorite sampler, finished samplers, your stash, your needlework library and much, much more. Many of the pages contain verses from well known samplers and a charted motif or border.

We hope that each of you will complete your journal by filling out the pages and perhaps adding some photographs of your finished samplers. Please bring your journal back to a future meeting and share the results with us.

What a wonderful way to celebrate LMSG's 8th anniversary. Thank you Phine Phriends, Katie, Mary Ann and Woodice, for making it extra special!

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Joanne Harvey Lecture

Date: 4/10/2011

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Wheaton Community Center

Teacher: Joanne Harvey

Joanne will lecture at our General Meeting on Sunday. She will lecture on 17th century American samplers going into the development of Rhode Island samplers. The title of the lecture is "Desiring them to see my Daughter Elizabeth be brought up to her needle". The lecture will be presented in two parts lasting approximately 2 ½ hour for both parts. Joanne thought this would be of interest to our Guild since she will be teaching Mary Atwood at the 25th Anniversary of Just Cross Stitch in Williamsburg this year.

Highlights

We had a very short business meeting before our program. Leslie Lewis, our president reminded everyone that there is no meeting in May. Our next meeting will be June 12th. We'll have a program presented by one of our members, Kathy Matthews who will speak about a recent trip she took, "The Embroidered Jacket Tour".

The subject of the first talk from Joanne Harvey was 17th century American Samplers. She shared wonderful slides of the samplers of Loara Standish, Mary Atwood, Mary Hollingsworth, Elizabeth Cotton and many more. We not only learned about the samplers, but the girls who made them, where they lived, their families and what we know of everyday life in the 17th century.

After a short break, Joanne continued with her second topic: 18th century samplers from Newport and Providence. She showed us detailed slides of several different groups of samplers and pointed out the characteristics of each group of samplers. She also showed pictures of several English samplers from the same time period and compared them to their American counterparts. Joanne talked about the materials that were used to stitch the samplers and made us aware of how little we know about them. She said that she hoped her talk would make us look at these samplers with new appreciation and enhance our respect for what has been left in our care. Thank you Joanne, for sharing this with us.

Several people brought samplers from the Exemplary for show and tell so Joanne could also see their completed projects. Click on the links below for more information. Hope to see you at our June meeting!

Show and Tell



[Elizabeth Cotton](#)



[Katharina Holden](#)



[Mary Hollingsworth](#)



[Hannah Jackson](#)



[Loara Standish](#)



[The Richmond Sampler](#)

[Edit](#)

Jane Pratt Workshop

Date: 11/11/2006

Time: 9:30-4:00

Type: Workshop

Location: Buehler YMCA

Teacher: Joanne Harvey

On Saturday, November 11, Joanne Harvey will present the Jane Pratt sampler. In the study of American samplers, one can identify unique regional characteristics. Ribbon surrounds are found on various embroideries in the Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania area. The 1795 Jane Pratt sampler still retains its original scalloped and embroidered ribbon surround. Jane Pratt was born March 5, 1785, in Chester County, Pennsylvania, and married Nathan Garrett on September 18, 1811. The design of her work closely resembles samplers executed under the instruction of Mary Askew. The piece will be worked on 36 count lambswool linen using Cross, Satin, Stem, and Queen Stitches in D.M.C. Silk material will be provided for the outer embellishment.



Kit cost \$90. Teaching fee TBD.

Click on the image at the right for a larger picture.

[Edit](#)

2006 Holiday Party and Ornament Exchange

Date: 12/10/2006

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Home of Mary Ann Anderson

Teacher: LMSG-Elaine Hoagland

Join us at our annual Holiday Party and ornament exchange! Start your stitching early on either an ornament or a needlework small to exchange at the meeting. If you'd like, bring along a favorite holiday treat to share.

Did you finish your 2006 project? You'll have a chance to share your progress at this meeting. We'll have a Show and Tell of the projects chosen by the members at the January meeting and prizes will be awarded.

Mary Ann Anderson
2540 Pebble Creek Drive
Lisle IL
630-245-0442

Mary Ann lives just west of the Morton Arboretum in Lisle.
355 to 88 West
Exit Route 53 South
Turn right (west) at 1st light—Warrenville Road
Turn right (north) at Leask Lane
Leask Lane runs North & South along the western edge of the Morton Arboretum.
Leask Lane runs between Butterfield Road in Wheaton and Warrenville Road in Lisle.
There is a light at both ends of Leask Lane.
Turn west on Pebble Creek Drive off of Leask Lane.
The subdivision sign reads Corporate Woods.

Highlights

We hope you were able to attend our 2006 holiday party. One of our members, Mary Ann Anderson, offered to have the party at her house when we found out the library was unavailable. We all agreed that it was much nicer to celebrate the holiday in someone's home. As we arrived, we talked while we enjoyed sampling the goodies everyone had brought. We also admired Mary Ann's samplers and holiday decorations. The festive decorations put everyone in the holiday spirit!





After enjoying good food and company, we had a short business meeting. Susan Balsai made a few announcements regarding the 2007 schedule and commented on how much she has enjoyed being president of the guild. Then we went around the room and each member who participated in the 2006 Stitchers Challenge described her accomplishments. Several participants finished their chosen piece, had it framed and brought it to share. Some finished multiple projects, but everyone made some progress even if it was only finding their kit! Everyone who participated received a prize. We all agreed that we would like to continue the Stitchers Challenge next year because it provides additional motivation to finish projects and we really enjoy seeing everyone's progress. Susan stated that this is her favorite meeting of the year!



This year, we had ten ornaments for the ornament exchange. This ties the previous 2002 record when we also had ten. Some of our members commented that they just finished at the last minute. One said that she almost had to wrap it up unfinished with a promise to complete it and mail it back! The ornaments were placed on a table in Mary Ann's family room. We drew numbers and chose a package in turn. Some of us were really tempted to "steal" but people were so happy with what they recieved that no one had the heart to take any away!



The variety of ornaments and

the talent of our members is always amazing. After opening the packages, we gathered the ornaments together so that we would all have the opportunity to take a closer look at them. Please click on the picture at the right for a larger image.

We hope you were able to join us for an enjoyable holiday party. Thank you Mary Ann for volunteering to have the party in your home and making it special. Have a wonderful holiday and we hope to see you at our January meeting!



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