

*Lake Michigan
Sampler Guild*

Memories of 2007

2007 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	Program
1/14/2007 1:30-4:00	2007 Guild Project Meeting at Glen Ellyn Library LMSG-Jane Stevens
2/11/2007 1:30-4:00	February 2007 Stitch-In Meeting at Glen Ellyn Library LMSG-Jane Stevens
3/17/2007 9:00-4:00	Acorn Sampler Workshop at Buehler YMCA Eileen Bennett
3/18/2007 1:30-4:00	Sampler Research Meeting at Buehler YMCA Eileen Bennett
4/15/2007 1:30-4:00	Guild Nametag Meeting at Glen Ellyn Library LMSG-Jane Stevens
5/20/2007 1:30-4:00	Crazy Quilt Project and Bookmark Meeting at TBA LMSG-Jane Stevens
6/10/2007 1:30-4:00	2007 Guild Picnic Meeting at Home of Susan Balsai LMSG-Jane Stevens
7/21/2007 All day	Chicago Sampler Exhibit Field Trip Special Event at the Art Institute LMSG-Amy Keaton
7/28/2007 All day	2007 Scarlet Letter Field Trip Special Event at The Scarlet Letter LMSG-Katie Simmer
8/11/2007 9:00-12:00	1733 German Sampler Workshop Workshop at TBA

Date/Time	Program
	Margriet Hogue
8/11/2007 1:00-4:00	Dutch Spot Motif Sampler Workshop Workshop at TBA Margriet Hogue
8/12/2007 1:30-4:00	2007 Margriet Hogue Lecture Meeting at Buehler YMCA Margriet Hogue
9/8/2007 9:00-4:00	Betsy Morgan Workshop Workshop at TBA Betsy Morgan
9/9/2007 1:30-4:00	Finishing Techniques Meeting at Glen Ellyn Library LMSG-Carol Schaal
10/14/2007 1:30-4:00	2007 Anniversary Party Meeting at Glen Ellyn Library LMSG-Phine Phriends
11/11/2007 1:30-4:00	Plimoth Plantation Butterfly Ornament Meeting at Glen Ellyn Library LMSG-Leslie Lewis
12/9/2007 1:30-4:00	2007 Holiday Party and Ornament Exchange Meeting at Home of Mary Ann Anderson LMSG-Jane Stevens

[Edit](#)

2007 Guild Project

Date: 1/14/2007

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Glen Ellyn Library

Teacher: LMSG-Jane Stevens

Join us for our first meeting of the year where we begin our 2007 Guild Project, the [Jenning Band Sampler](#) from [The Scarlet Letter](#). If you would like to participate, you can buy your kit direct from The Scarlet Letter. It's a small 17th century sampler, so you'll still have time for other projects. The kit with cotton floss is \$36 and with silk floss is \$60. If you would like to just purchase the chart, it is \$10. We hope you'll join in the fun.

This will also be our fourth year of the Stitcher's Challenge projects. Bring your "hopeful" projects, those which you want to finish during the year, and make a contract with the guild to get them done. We'll track your progress throughout the year and award prizes in December. It's good motivation to finish a project and fun to see the progress made by the participants. 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.



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 Jane Stevens by the end of January. Good luck and happy stitching!

Highlights

We had a good turnout for our first meeting of 2007 despite a forecast of bad weather. Our new president, Katie Simmer, began with a short business meeting. We had a report from Jean Lieberman regarding membership renewals. About 45 members have paid their 2007 dues and we have several new members. If you pay by the end of February, you will be listed in our membership handbook. Our outgoing treasurer, Katie Simmer, had a short report – we are solvent and starting the new year in good shape! Next meeting, we will hear from our new treasurer, Joyce Reid. Susan Balsai thanked the outgoing officers and gave them a gift of appreciation for their work for the guild.



Katie made an important announcement. If we ever have to cancel the meeting due to bad weather conditions, an announcement will be posted on the website the morning of the meeting. Please check the website before coming to the meeting or, if you don't have Internet access, please contact Katie or one of the other officers.

Then the meeting was turned over to Jane Stevens to review the programs for 2007. Our February program will be a stitch-in for the guild nametag. Jane will be supplying all materials so contact her to sign up. Katie encouraged everyone to wear a nametag at meetings. If you haven't stitched the LMSG nametag, wear one from another guild or fill out a

paper one that will be supplied at the meetings. We are going to make a real effort this year to wear nametags so that we can get to know everyone! You won't want to miss the second part of February's program – Nancy Sturgeon is changing the focus of her business and will be selling some of her books and materials. Make sure you take advantage of this stash enhancement opportunity!

In March, Eileen Bennett will join us for a workshop and lecture. On Saturday, March 17th, Eileen will teach a workshop on a brand new 17th century style band sampler. She is still stitching the model, so we don't have a picture yet. This piece will be taught for the first time at our workshop. On Sunday, March 18th, she will present a lecture on how to do sampler research. There will be no charge to members for this lecture. She will discuss the forms and worksheets she uses in doing her research. In April and May, we will be doing a crazy quilt project. There were several books on display showing samples of the techniques. In June, we will have the guild picnic at Susan Balsai's house. Jane is finalizing more exciting programs for the rest of 2007!

For our program, Jane introduced the 2007 guild project: the Jennings Band Sampler from the Scarlet Letter. The sampler is available on the Scarlet Letter website, if you would like to join in the fun. Jane will be publishing a stitching schedule which will be posted on this website. See the program description for a picture and details. Jane also talked about our fourth annual Stitcher's Challenge. If you want to participate, please turn your forms in to Jane at the February meeting. We'll do an update at the picnic to see your progress (did you at least find your project?) and hopefully, we will see your finished results in December.

We had three items for show and tell.

Hope to see you at the next meeting on February 11th! Remember to renew your membership so you won't miss out on any of our exciting 2007 programs!

Show and Tell



Catherine Agnes



The Embroideress



Stitching Heaven

[Edit](#)

February 2007 Stitch-In

Date: 2/11/2007

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Glen Ellyn Library

Teacher: LMSG-Jane Stevens

Our February program will be a stitch-in for the guild nametag. Jane Stevens will be supplying all materials so contact her to sign up. We are going to make a real effort this year to wear nametags so that we can get to know everyone!

You won't want to miss the second part of February's program – Nancy Sturgeon is changing the focus of her business and will be selling some of her books and materials. Make sure you take advantage of this stash enhancement opportunity!

[Edit](#)

February 2007 Stitch-In

Date: 2/11/2007

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Glen Ellyn Library

Teacher: LMSG-Jane Stevens

Our February program will be a stitch-in for the guild nametag. Jane Stevens will be supplying all materials so contact her to sign up. We are going to make a real effort this year to wear nametags so that we can get to know everyone!

You won't want to miss the second part of February's program – Nancy Sturgeon is changing the focus of her business and will be selling some of her books and materials. Make sure you take advantage of this stash enhancement opportunity!

[Edit](#)

Sampler Research

Date: 3/18/2007

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Buehler YMCA

Teacher: Eileen Bennett

Eileen Bennett will be at our regular meeting to present her workshop on Sampler Research. This will be open to all members. However, to make sure that we have enough copies of the forms she will be distributing, please contact Jane Stevens, our program chair, to sign up.

Highlights

Our president, Katie Simmer, began our meeting with a few announcements. The April meeting will be a stitch-in for our guild nametag that was postponed from the February meeting. Jane Stevens will be supplying all materials to those who have signed up. We are going to make a real effort this year to wear nametags so that we can get to know everyone! The May program will be a presentation on crazy quilt techniques. There will be another project available for those who prefer an alternate.



Carol Schaal gave us a summary of her experiences at Jeanine's workshops in Williamsburg. This was supposed to be Jeanine's last workshop and it sounded like those who attended had a wonderful time. If you missed it, the tradition may be continued by some of the other teachers. We'll hear more about this at future meetings. Carol also told us about the National Counted Cross Stitch show at Rockome, IL June 15th-24th.

Amy Keaton made some announcements on the exhibit she is organizing for the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America. The exhibit will have 75-80 American samplers from museums and private collections around the country. The samplers will be displayed in two locations, the Cultural Center in downtown Chicago and at the Clarke House. There will be an exhibit catalog, a gala opening, a guided tour and an antique road show for samplers on June 23rd. Amy is looking for some volunteers to be at the Clarke House and stitch on a Saturday morning from 10 to 11:30. The dates are May 19th, June 16th and July 21st. If you would like to volunteer or you would like more information on the exhibit, please contact Amy.

Jane Stevens introduced Eileen Bennett who presented our program titled Sampler Research 101. Eileen began by explaining that samplers are not a hobby or a passion for her, but an obsession. We each received a packet that contained information on samplers and hints on how to go about researching the stitcher's genealogy. We started with some sampler trivia: do you know who stitched the oldest (known) dated sampler and the year it was stitched? Eileen gave us a list of websites that she uses in her research, but cautioned us to verify the information we find. Even though the Internet is a wonderful resource, she encouraged us not to overlook the information in our local libraries. We also received a bibliography of sampler books, copies of forms Eileen uses in her research and hints on how to organize the information we collect. We ended with a question and answer period and the opportunity to review materials Eileen collected on a sampler she has recently researched.

We had several items for show and tell.

This month's program, announcements, and show and tell were very impressive. We have some very knowledgeable and talented members! See you all next month at our name tag stitch-in!

Show and Tell



To the Acorn



Gavin Antique Samplers



Margaret Gibson



Desert Star



Toccata 1

[Edit](#)

Acorn Sampler

Date: 3/17/2007

Time: 9:00-4:00

Type: Workshop

Location: Buehler YMCA

Teacher: Eileen Bennett

Eileen Bennett will be teaching a band sampler. It will have an acorn motif and will use 17th century stitches. This design is so new, we don't have a picture because Eileen is busily stitching the model! We will be the first group to see and stitch this piece. The maximum kit cost will be #32.00.

[Edit](#)

Guild Nametag

Date: 4/15/2007

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Glen Ellyn Library

Teacher: LMSG-Jane Stevens

Highlights

Katie Simmer began the meeting by asking the members to check the website about once a week for updated information on programs. Then Jane Stevens reviewed our upcoming program schedule in detail. At our next meeting in May, there will be two programs. Jane will present a program on crazy quilting. If you want to participate, bring in the materials you would like to use. If you don't have muslin, Jane will have some available. She will discuss piecing techniques and the stitches that can be used on a crazy quilt. If you have books or samples of crazy quilts, please bring them along to the meeting.



At the same meeting, Marilyn Vanover will demonstrate how to make picot buttonhole edging which is used on a bookmark pattern that she will distribute. The pattern is from Needlemaid Designs.

In June, there will be a picnic at Susan Balsai's house. The guild will supply burgers, brats, chips and pop. Please bring an appetizer, salad or desert. There will be plenty of food to eat and we'll guarantee you won't go away hungry! In July, we are planning a trip to Chicago to view the sampler exhibit Amy Keaton has organized for the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America. More information about the trip will be available on this website, so please check back for further announcements. Margriet Hogue will be coming in August. She will be teaching two samplers on Saturday. On Sunday morning, we hope she will present the sterling silver tape measure that goes with the pieces she has previously taught for the guild. Margriet will give a lecture at our Sunday afternoon meeting. Remember that the library is closed over the summer and all meetings will be held at alternate locations.



In September, we hope to be back at the Glen Ellyn library. On Saturday, Betsy Morgan will present a workshop. A picture and description of the workshop will soon be available on this website. At the Sunday meeting, Carol Schaal will present finishing techniques that can be used on the LMSG nametag or on Christmas ornaments. October will be our anniversary party. Make sure you will be able to come because there will be more than one anniversary surprise! We don't know what the Phine Friends are planning, but they have something in the works. You'll hear more about this at future meetings.

In November, we hope that Joanne Harvey will present a workshop. We are in the process of confirming which sampler will be taught. December will be our holiday party and ornament exchange. Instead of bringing your finished 2007 projects to the December meeting, please bring them to the first meeting of the new year. At the January meeting, we will review what we accomplished in 2007 and sign our Stitcher's Challenge contracts to set our goals for 2008.

We had several items for show and tell.

We had an enjoyable time stitching at our meeting. Jane made up kits for stitching the guild nametag. Each person got a kit with a choice of linen of various counts and colors. Get busy stitching those nametags so you will be ready for Carol Schaal's program on finishing techniques in September. Hope to see you at our May meeting!

Show and Tell



Acorn Sampler



Quaker Sewing Case 1 of 2



Quaker Sewing Case 2 of 2

[Edit](#)

Crazy Quilt Project and Bookmark

Date: 5/20/2007

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: TBA

Teacher: LMSG-Jane Stevens

At the May meeting, there will be two programs. Jane Stevens will present a program on crazy quilting. If you want to participate, bring in the materials you would like to use. If you don't have muslin, Jane will have some available. She will discuss piecing techniques and the stitches that can be used on a crazy quilt. If you have books or samples of crazy quilts, please bring them along to the meeting.

The other presentation at the May meeting will be a brief class to learn the picot buttonhole edge stitch. A pattern for a bookmark will be supplied. This is a free pattern from the Needlemaid Designs website. Marilyn Vanover will supply a sample piece of linen and wildflower thread and will demonstrate the stitch for anyone who is interested.



Highlights

Katie Simmer, our President, started the meeting with many exciting announcements..

Margriet Hogue will be teaching the Silver Tape Measure workshop on Sunday, August 12th, in the morning before our general meeting. If you are interested, please let Katie or Jane Stevens know. Margriet wants a tentative count so she can order the silver. Deadlines for signup will be the July meeting.

At our general meeting on August 12th at 1:30, Margriet will be presenting a slide lecture. Subject will be announced.

We are planning not one, but two road trips in July! The first will be Saturday, July 21st when we will be carpooling to Chicago to see the sampler exhibit at the Clarke House and at the Chicago Cultural Center. Amy Keaton has promised us a personalized tour. In addition to viewing the exhibits, there may be a stitch in, so check this website for further announcements.

Leslie Lewis attended the opening night gala for the exhibit. She said that there are about eight samplers at the Clarke House and the rest are at the Chicago Cultural Center. She had a sampler poster from the exhibit and said an exhibit catalog is being published. There are also a couple of reproduction kits for sale. She encouraged everyone not to miss this great local opportunity to view antique samplers!

Our second July road trip will be to the Scarlet Letter, tentatively scheduled for July 28th. Marsha has invited us to visit her gallery to see her sampler models. Books and graphs will also be available. Members will receive a 10% discount on purchases. Kits can be ordered if she does not have the one you want in stock. We are checking to see if we can pre-order kits for pickup on visit day. If you haven't visited the Scarlet Letter, don't miss this opportunity to view many beautiful samplers and also enjoy a ride through the Wisconsin countryside. Further announcements for this trip, including carpooling arrangements, will be available in the near future. If you are interested in going, contact Katie Simmer by phone or email.

Plimoth Plantation is starting a project to reproduce a silk and metal thread embroidered jacket from the early 1600's. Tricia Wilson Nguyen is the technical advisor for the project. It is estimated that the jacket will take 2500-3000 stitching hours to complete. Prospective stitchers must complete the sample in the kit and return it to establish their skill level. If you are interested in participating in this exciting historical project, you can order a kit from Plimoth Plantation. LMSG is considering making a donation to this project. For more information, visit www.plimoth.org/embroidery-blog.

Jane Stevens did a demonstration on how to make a Crazy Quilt. She brought her sewing machine and showed a piecing technique. She also brought a wall hanging that she has pieced and has started stitching. It illustrated a variety of materials including various types of stitches and threads, and use of buttons, ribbons and lace for further decoration.

Marilyn Vanover gave out directions for making a bookmark with picot edging and your initials. She demonstrated the stitch and had doodle cloths for those who were interested in practicing the stitch.

We hope to see everyone on June 10th at our picnic at Susan Balsai's house. There will be many good things to eat, good company, and more exciting news about upcoming events!

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2007 Guild Picnic

Date: 6/10/2007

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Home of Susan Balsai

Teacher: LMSG-Jane Stevens

In June, join us for a guild picnic and progress check on our year long contracts at the home of 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 Jane Stevens know what you are bringing. It promises to be a casual afternoon of fun. Please direct questions to Susan or Jane. We promise you won't go away hungry! In addition, bring "evidence" of your progress on your year long contract. 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.

Highlights

Hope you were able to join us for good food and good fun at our annual guild picnic. We began with the food – lots of it. There were hamburgers and brats and all of the goodies the members brought to share. After everyone finished eating, we went inside and Katie began the meeting. First, we decided to make our annual donation to the Plimoth Jacket project. More information about it can be found at www.plimoth.org/embroidery-blog/. Marilyn Vanover received her kit from the project. You stitch several samples and return them for evaluation. There is a pattern for a butterfly that you get to keep. Marilyn passed around the kit so we could see the linen and thread. The linen is 50 count, but it is not counted embroidery.

There is a July 10th cut off for the Margriet Hogue classes. We still need more people to sign up, so please contact Jane Stevens, our program chair if you would like to attend.

The main topic was the details of our two July field trips. The first will be to see the Colonial Dames' sampler exhibit in Chicago. We'll meet in Chicago at the Clarke House on July 21st at 10:00AM and then go to the Chicago Cultural Center for a personal tour of the samplers by Amy Keaton. The second field trip will be on July 28th to the Scarlet Letter. We'll have the opportunity to shop from 11:00 until 3:00. Cost for the trip will be \$10 which includes a catered lunch.

Amy needs people to stitch at the Clarke house on June 16th. Contact Amy Keaton if you are interested.

Then came our favorite part of the picnic (next to the food): show and tell. We had an incredible variety of show and tell. Amy brought her latest antique sampler for us to admire. It was from New Hampshire and stitched in the 1800's. Amy's daughter, Emily, was a special guest. She showed us a star that she stitched on plastic canvas with yarn colors that she had chosen by herself. One of our members had been to Turkey and showed many examples of Turkish needlework including a belt, hats, socks, scarves and silk thread. Many other members shared their progress on the Jennings band sampler group project and on their Stitcher's Challenge projects. We all enjoyed seeing everyone's work.

Thanks to Susan for hosting our 2007 picnic. We hope you can join us for one of our July field trips. Happy stitching!

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](#)

Chicago Sampler Exhibit Field Trip

Date: 7/21/2007

Time: All day

Type: Special

Location: TBA

Teacher: LMSG-Amy Keaton

Join us for a field trip to see the Colonial Dames' sampler exhibit at the the Clarke House and the Chicago Cultural Center. We will meet at the Clarke House for a stitch-in from 10:00 until 11:30. You will also be able to view the samplers on display at the Clarke House during that time. At 12:15, we will move to the Chicago Cultural Center. Amy Keaton will give us a guided tour of the 55 samplers which are being exhibited. After the tour, you can have lunch at the Cultural Center cafeteria or go to one of the nearby restaurants. There will be an exhibit catalog for sale along with sampler cards and a poster. Don't miss this once in a life time opportunity! According to Amy, it is estimated that 100,000 people will view the exhibit by the time it closes at the end of July.

[Edit](#)

2007 Scarlet Letter Field Trip

Date: 7/28/2007

Time: All day

Type: Special

Location: Scarlet Letter

Teacher: LMSG-Katie Simmer

Join us for a field trip to the Scarlet Letter on Saturday, July 28th. We will carpool in groups to the shop located near Sullivan, Wisconsin. From 11:00 until 3:00, you will have the opportunity to see the many sampler models on display in the gallery and to look at the needlework books that Marsha has for sale. If you know what you want ahead of time, send Marsha an email by July 14th with your list of items and she will make up the kits for pickup on visit day. Please only pre-order the kits you know you want. If you find other kits you would like to purchase during your visit, Marsha will make them up and mail them without charging for shipping. And you will receive a 10% discount on all kits purchased! Charts and books will be available for purchase the day of our visit.

Contact Katie Simmer if you would like to go on the field trip. She will help you find the carpool nearest you. Cost for the field trip is \$10.00 which includes a catered lunch. Don't miss this opportunity to visit the Scarlet Letter and Marsha's beautiful samplers in person!

[Edit](#)

2007 Margriet Hogue Lecture

Date: 8/12/2007

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Buehler YMCA

Teacher: Margriet Hogue

[Edit](#)

1733 German Sampler Workshop

Date: 8/11/2007

Time: 9:00-12:00

Type: Workshop

Location: TBA

Teacher: Margriet Hogue

Margriet Hogue of The Essamplaire will teach two pieces on Saturday, August 11th. Each sampler will be a half day workshop, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Click on the picture for a larger image.

1733 German Sampler

The 1733 German sampler is an unusually lovely sampler. Worked in a band format with alphabets, a wonderful central band with figures holding hands copied from Johann Sibmacher's "Schon Neus Modelbuch", followed by small bands, it includes trees, birds and other motifs seen on German samplers. The sampler will be stitched on 40 ct. linen with silk floss. Stitches used are double running, marking cross and montenegrin. Kit fee is \$160.



On Sunday, August 12th from 9:00 to 12:00, Margriet will teach the Silver Tape Measure Cover which is the companion piece to others she has taught for us. The kit fee will be approximately \$160 depending on price of silver. Pictures will be available soon.

[Edit](#)

Dutch Spot Motif Sampler Workshop

Date: 8/11/2007

Time: 1:00-4:00

Type: Workshop

Location: TBA

Teacher: Margriet Hogue

Margriet Hogue of The Essamplaire will teach two pieces on Saturday, August 11th. Each sampler will be a half day workshop, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Click on the picture for a larger image.

Dutch Spot Motif Sampler

The spot motif sampler is a wonderful example of a mid-18th century Dutch sampler. These samplers consist of randomly placed motifs worked in rococo or queen stitch, flame stitch, algerian eye, cross stitch variations and tent stitch. The sampler will be worked on 35 ct. linen using silk floss. Kit fee is \$154.



On Sunday, August 12th from 9:00 to 12:00, Margriet will teach the Silver Tape Measure Cover which is the companion piece to others she has taught for us. The kit fee will be approximately \$160 depending on price of silver. Pictures will be available soon.

[Edit](#)

Finishing Techniques

Date: 9/9/2007

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Glen Ellyn Library

Teacher: LMSG-Carol Schaal

FINISHING!? Do you hate to hear that word? Wish someone else would be available to finish your ornaments, name tags, or small pieces? Then attend our September meeting to learn about various finishing techniques. Ornaments will include pillow style as well as flat; dress them up with buttons, beads, and ribbons. Make a twisted cord, use purchased cording/tassels, or join them using backstitch or chain stitch. Directions for finishing your name tag as a pouch will also be given. You'll be able to practice joinings and keep them as a reference. Once you get started, you'll enjoy doing finishing for yourself!

Highlights

Katie Simmer, our president, began the meeting with some announcements. Next year, the \$25 deposit must be paid when you sign up for a workshop. The balance of the kit fee for the workshop will be due 30 days before the workshop. The teaching fee may be paid on the day of the workshop. The second announcement was that the DAR museum in Washington, D.C. is putting together an exhibit on 19th century American samplers. They are looking for a Michigan sampler to include in the exhibit. If you own one or know of one, please contact Katie so she can put you in touch with the exhibit co-ordinator.

Katie reminded everyone that our October meeting will be our 9th anniversary celebration. We are all looking forward to the anniversary surprise from the Phine Friends. If you signed up, please make sure that you pay the \$25 fee to Katie. We hope you will be able to join us for the fun and the cake!

At our November meeting, Leslie Lewis will demonstrate the stitches used in the Plimoth Plantation butterfly ornament kit (detached buttonhole and detached trellis). If you are interested in participating, you can order a kit for \$45 direct from the Plimoth Plantation at <http://www.plimoth.org/embroidery-blog/>. The kit fee includes a \$20 donation to the museum. Even if you don't order the kit, you are still welcome to attend the meeting and learn how to do these challenging stitches.

Our program chair for next year, Carol Schaal, announced one of the programs on our 2008 schedule. Carol Humphrey, textile curator for the Fitzwilliam Museum, will present a program on April 13th on Ackworth School samplers. If you own Carol's book, you are welcome to bring it along for her to autograph. You won't want to miss this great presentation, so make sure you mark your calendar!

Amy Keaton now has the catalogues from the Colonial Dames' sampler exhibit at the the Clarke House and the Chicago Cultural Center. The price is \$25. Please contact Amy if you are interested in purchasing one.

We had several items for show and tell.

Katie introduced our program by saying “I assume all of you have finished your Christmas ornament...”, which brought a laugh from those at the meeting. The meeting was turned over to Carol Schaal who talked about how to finish ornaments. She provided a handout to each person on different types of finishing techniques along with a piece of skirtex big enough to finish several ornaments.



Carol began by talking about cardboard cut-out ornaments and passed around many samples of the technique. She encouraged everyone to use skirtex to stiffen the ornament instead of cardboard. Over time, cardboard bends and bows while skirtex holds its shape. She demonstrated techniques for assembling the ornament and suggested that we use acid free double sided sticky tape instead of glue to put them together.



Next, Carol talked about the pillow finishing technique. She provided a number of tips including:

- Sew the ornament together with strong thread like beading or tatting thread.
- A sharpened stick, like a chop stick, can be used to flatten seams and smooth corners after you turn the ornament right side out.
- To avoid lumpy stuffing, shred it before you stuff the ornament.



We learned about diagonal pillow ornaments, quilted pillow ornaments, tuffets, and cording techniques (and tools which are available that can make the creation of cording easier). Carol concluded by showing us joining techniques. She demonstrated the reverse chain stitch and showed us how to sew ornaments together. Doodle cloths were handed out and we got to try our hand at doing the demonstrated stitches. Completed ornaments using the techniques were passed around for us to admire.



Carol brought dozens of ornaments to share with us. At the end of the presentation, we asked if we each could choose our favorite to take home. She said, no, but we were welcome to come up and take a closer look at them. We hope that you were inspired by Carol's presentation and that you will go home and try out what you learned. As a result of Carol's

presentation, we hope that there will be more completed ornaments for our 2007 Christmas ornament exchange. Thanks, Carol for a very enjoyable and informative presentation! See you in October for our 9th anniversary celebration.

Show and Tell



[Jennings Band Sampler](#)

[Edit](#)

Betsy Morgan Workshop

Date: 9/8/2007

Time: 9:00-4:00

Type: Workshop

Location: TBA

Teacher: Betsy Morgan

Betsy will be teaching Marzie D'orts. It's a cute horseshoe shaped box that uses a variety of stitching techniques. It can be used as a place to put orts, or it can store a treasure. For those of you who signed up, or wish to sign up, please submit a workshop form with a \$25.00 deposit by Monday, August 13th. Jane will have forms and the picture at the workshops this Saturday and at the meeting Sunday. The kit includes all materials and the cost is \$65.00. The teachers fee will be a maximum of \$29.00.



Note from Pat Carlson: It is a darling box, stitched on natural linen. The sides of the curved box are done in whitework and the top has a colored thread design. The white, lacy design on the sides stands out against the color of the linen and makes the piece very special.

Click on the picture for a larger image.

[Edit](#)

2007 Anniversary Party

Date: 10/14/2007

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Glen Ellyn Library

Teacher: LMSG-Phine Phriends

Lake Michigan Sampler Guild's very own Phine Phriends are happy to present a package of treasures and tokens to celebrate the 9th anniversary of the Guild. Inside you will find a special personalized sampler notebook for your pocket or purse, a scissors fob kit tucked into its own little tiny handmade box as well as other delightful surprises. The cost is \$25. To reserve your piece, send an email to Mary Ann Anderson. Let her know what initials (up to 3) you want to use.



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

Highlights

We had an excellent turn out for our 9th anniversary celebration! First on the agenda was the election of new officers. Marilyn Vanover is Assistant Program Chair, Ginny Baker is secretary, Mary Draniczarek is 2nd Vice President and Membership. Congratulations to our new officers!



Katie Simmer, our president, made an exciting announcement: we now have an official LMSG pin! It was designed especially for us and comes in two styles, a pin or a charm. They will be available for purchase at meetings while supplies last and are \$12 each.



Next month, at our November meeting, Leslie Lewis will demonstrate the stitches used in the Plimoth Plantation butterfly ornament kit (detached buttonhole and detached trellis). If you are interested in participating, you can order a kit for \$45 directly from the Plimoth Plantation at <http://www.plimoth.org>. The kit fee includes a \$20 donation to the museum. Even if you don't order the kit, you are still welcome to attend the meeting and learn how to do these challenging stitches. Leslie will focus on teaching the detached buttonhole stitch. If you want to learn how it's done, bring an embroidery hoop, a piece of muslin and some pearl cotton to the meeting.

Don't forget that Carol Humphrey, textile curator for the Fitzwilliam Museum, will present a program on April 13, 2008 on Ackworth School samplers. If you own Carol's book, you are welcome to bring it along for her to autograph. You won't want to miss this great presentation, so make sure you mark your calendar! We'll have more about the 2008 schedule at the next meeting.

To celebrate our 9th anniversary, we had cake (chocolate, of course) and other goodies. We enjoyed the treats, looked at the show and tell items and talking with those who attended. Many members bought LMSG pins and charms.



Click on any of the pictures below for a larger image.

We had four items for show and tell:

The boxes containing our 9th anniversary surprise were waiting for us on the table at the back of the room. We were all very curious what secrets they held. Each box had a personalized name tag attached to twill tape tied in a bow. A short tape measure marked "Lake Michigan Sampler Guild" was tucked under the tape. The packages were wrapped so creatively, we were reluctant to untie the bow to find out what was inside.



The boxes contained several delightful surprises. There was a notebook marked with each person's initials with a sampler on the cover and a small pen. Opening the notebook, we found that even the inside covers were decorated. Each notebook also had a beaded marker to save your place. A small folder tied shut with a tiny bow contained a petite scissors. The folder was decorated with a gold scissors and tiny heart. A small handmade box held the instructions and materials to make a scissor fob. And, if you looked carefully, there were even some candy treats.



MaryAnn explained how she and Katie brainstormed to design the project. She described how the various items in the box were created and what materials were used. We'd all like to give a big THANK YOU to Katie, Maryann and her cousin for all of their hard work to make this a perfect 9th anniversary celebration!

Show and Tell



Marzie D orts 1 of 2



Marzie D orts 2 of 2



Frances Burwell



Ann Trump

[Edit](#)

Plimoth Plantation Butterfly Ornament

Date: 11/11/2007

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Glen Ellyn Library

Teacher: LMSG-Leslie Lewis

Next month, at our November meeting, Leslie Lewis will demonstrate the stitches used in the Plimoth Plantation butterfly ornament kit (detached buttonhole and detached trellis). If you are interested in participating, you can order a kit for \$45 direct from the Plimoth Plantation at www.plimoth.org. The kit fee includes a \$20 donation to the museum. Even if you don't order the kit, you are still welcome to attend the meeting and learn how to do these challenging stitches. Leslie will focus on teaching detached buttonhole. If you want to learn how it's done, bring an embroidery hoop, piece of muslin and some pearl cotton to the meeting.

Highlights

Our November meeting began with a review of the upcoming programs by our president, Katie Simmer. In December, we will have our holiday party at Mary Ann Anderson's house. Please bring along a sweet or savory treat to share. For directions and more information, see the program description. If you did not get your LMSG pin and/or charm yet, they will be available for purchase at the December meeting.

Carol Schaal talked about the exciting plans the guild has for 2008. We are still in the process of finalizing the schedule for the new year, but here's three of the confirmed programs that will be given by nationally known teachers:

- Carol Humphrey, textile curator for the Fitzwilliam Museum, will present a lecture on April 13th.
- Tricia Wilson-Nguyen will do a workshop (17th Century Band Sampler) on June 21st and lecture on the Plimoth Jacket project on June 22nd.
- Catherine Theron will do a workshop and have a surprise for our 10th anniversary on October 11th and 12th.

Several other programs are being planned that will be given by LMSG members. Some of our standard activities will be back by popular demand like the Holiday Party and Ornament Exchange, picnic, garage sale, and stitcher's challenge. The schedule will be available on this website as soon as it is finalized, so please check the home page for additional announcements in December.

At our January meeting, we will have our annual stitcher's challenge. We'll give out awards to those who completed their contract and sign new contracts for 2008. Bring the pieces you've finished in 2007 for show and tell and those you'd like to finish in 2008. Even if you didn't finish what you set out to do, come to the meeting and see what other members have accomplished. Hopefully, we'll inspire each other.

Make sure that you renew your membership for 2008, so that you don't miss any of the fun! When you renew your membership, please fill out the membership form. We want to ensure that we have updated contact information including email addresses for all members.

We had several items for show and tell.

Leslie Lewis presented a program on how to do detached buttonhole stitch. Aida cloth and pearl cotton thread were passed out for practicing. Hoops and large needles were available for those who did not bring them along. Detailed instructions were also distributed for the detached buttonhole and trellis stitch. Leslie had us backstitch a rectangle or other small shape before demonstrating the detached buttonhole stitch. We each got to try our hand at the stitch. With only about 4 stitches to the inch, it was easy to see and practice. Leslie and Marilyn Vanover explained the technique of couching and described how the completed piece can be removed from the fabric and then sewn on for a 3D effect. A finished butterfly was passed around for us to admire. We took our Aida doodle clothes home so that we could practice more before we attempt to stitch a butterfly!



We hope you can join us for the holiday party in December. Have you finished your ornament yet? Better get busy, there are only 28 days remaining until the party! Happy Thanksgiving to everyone and happy stitching!

Show and Tell



[Stitching is the Berries](#)



[Catherine Agnes](#)



[Lilacs and Amethysts](#)



[Love and Wisdom](#)

[Edit](#)

2007 Holiday Party and Ornament Exchange

Date: 12/9/2007

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Home of Mary Ann Anderson

Teacher: LMSG-Jane Stevens

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. The party will once again be at the home of 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 that you braved the weather and attended our annual holiday party at Mary Ann Anderson's home. We had a wonderful time with good company, good food and outstanding ornaments. As the member's arrived, they were invited to wander around Mary Ann's home to view the many samplers she has hanging on the walls. Mary Ann's beautiful Christmas decorations definitely put us in the holiday spirit as we enjoyed homemade raspberry punch and each other's company.

The food was plentiful and outstanding as usual. We had a variety of goodies to choose from that were laid out on the counter in the kitchen. There was everything from a Russian meat pastry to Christmas cookies. And, of course, there was chocolate – including brownies, chocolate dipped pretzels, chocolate chip cookies, biscotti with chocolate pieces, chocolate covered cherry cookies and even chocolate dipped Ritz crackers! It was hard to choose what to eat, but we filled our plates and enjoyed chatting with each other until our meeting began.



Katie welcomed everyone and then turned the meeting over to Carol Schaal to review the plans for 2008. Her theme for next year is Samplers from A to Z. As the year progresses, she will talk about some of the basics from the types

of samplers to the materials used to create them. The January meeting will be the kickoff for our 2008 stitcher's challenge project. Look through your unfinished projects and pick your goal for 2008. There will be no group project, so you will have the opportunity to finish something that you have in your stash.



In February, Carol will present a program on schoolgirl samplers. She will bring her sampler collection to the meeting and asks the members to participate by bringing any antique or reproduction ABC marking samplers that they have in their own collections.

Here are some of the other confirmed programs that will be given by nationally known teachers:

- Carol Humphrey, textile curator for the Fitzwilliam Museum, will present a lecture on April 13th.
- Tricia Wilson-Nguyen will do a workshop (17th Century Band Sampler) on June 21st and lecture on the Plimoth Jacket project on June 22nd.
- Catherine Theron will do a workshop and have a surprise for our 10th anniversary on October 11th and 12th.

Other planned activities which don't yet have a confirmed date include:

- Joanne Harvey workshop
- Holiday Party and Ornament Exchange
- Picnic
- Garage sale
- Fibers and thread – program by Carol Schaal
- Royal School of Needlework – program by Kathy Matthews
- How to make boxes – program by Mary Ann Anderson.

The schedule will be available on this website as soon as it is finalized, so please check the home page for additional announcements. Just a reminder: it's time to renew your membership for 2008! You won't want to miss out on any of the fun, so send in your renewal today. We are asking everyone to fill out a membership form, so that we can check our records and make sure that they are up to date.

Katie gave a gift to outgoing officers Carol Schaal and Leslie Lewis. Gifts were also given to Pat Carlson for her work on the newsletter and Marilyn Fettingner for maintaining the website. Thanks to everyone who helps to make the guild so successful!

We had several items for show and tell.

The highlight of the holiday meeting is always the ornament exchange. This year, there were nine ornaments. Everyone who made an ornament picked a number and waited for their turn to select a package.



The ornaments were fantastic! Each was unique and we admired each and every one. No one "stole" this year, but several people were really tempted...



Remember to bring your finished 2007 stitcher's challenge projects to the January meeting. There will be a reward to those who accomplish their goals. Think about what you will choose to put in your contract for 2008.

We want to thank Mary Ann for having the holiday party at her home. Everyone who attended had a wonderful time. We hope that you find some time to relax and stitch before our January meeting. Happy holidays and Happy New Year to everyone!

Show and Tell



[Ackworth Ornaments](#)



[Ray Iverson Sampler](#)

[Edit](#)