

*Lake Michigan
Sampler Guild*

Memories of 2010

2010 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	Title
1/10/2010 1:30-4:00	2010 Stitches Challenge Meeting at Wheaton Community Center LMSG-Lynn McVey
2/14/2010 1:30-4:00	Redwork Embroidery Meeting at Wheaton Community Center LMSG-Lynn McVey
3/14/2010 1:30-4:00	Framing Needlework with Monica Pratt of Welcome Stitchery Meeting at Wheaton Community Center Monica Pratt
4/10/2010 9:00-4:00	My Favorite Scottish Sampler Workshop at Wheaton Community Center Robin Laukhuf
4/11/2010 1:30-4:00	Hand Dyed Fibers by Robin Laukhuf of Olde Willow StitcheryThreads, Inc. Meeting at Wheaton Community Center Robin Laukhuf
7/11/2010 1:30-4:00	2010 Guild Picnic Meeting at Home of Susan Balsai LMSG-Susan Balsai
6/13/2010 1:30-4:00	LMSG Special Project by La D Da/Lori Markovic Meeting at Wheaton Community Center Lori Markovic
8/21/2010 9:00-12:00	Tricia Nguyen Workshop Jacobean Silk Purl Flower Workshop at Wheaton Community Center Tricia Nguyen
8/21/2010 1:15-4:15	Tricia Nguyen Workshop Abby Cozzens 1836 Family Register Sampler Workshop at Wheaton Community Center Tricia Nguyen
8/21/2010 4:30-5:30	Tricia Nguyen Lecture Metal Threads and Creativity in the 17th Century Special Event at Wheaton Community Center

Date	Title
	Tricia Nguyen
9/12/2010 1:30-4:00	2010 Welcome Back Meeting at Wheaton Community Center LMSG-Lynn Mcvey
	Shop Hop! – Cancelled
10/10/2010 1:30-4:00	2010 Anniversary Party Meeting at Wheaton Community Center LMSG-Lynn McVey
11/14/2010 1:30-4:00	Hand Dyed Linens Meeting at Wheaton Community Center LMSG-Lynn McVey
12/12/2010 1:30-4:00	2010 Holiday Party and Ornament Exchange Meeting at Home of Susan Balsai LMSG-Lynn McVey

[Edit](#)

2010 Stitchers Challenge

Date: 1/10/2010

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Wheaton Community Center

Teacher: LMSG-Lynn McVey

Try something new this year to celebrate a new decade! Consider the Round Robin Friendship Sampler Project. In order to make it a fun interactive project, there are a few guidelines, but the design elements are up to you and your round robin group.

1. Sign up with two or three other guild members.
2. Choose your own fabric and fibers and if you want a specific design style, choose that as well. Or, leave the designs and fibers to each individual in the group.
3. You work the first section of your own piece. You can make that larger than the 50 by 50 stitches design size if you wish. Your design can be in the center, on the first section or anywhere you want. Complete your segment and don't forget your own initials or name and the date.
4. Pass your piece to the next person in the group. Agree to a time limit for the whole group. For instance , two months to complete each segment of each other's sampler.
5. Keep the other segments that are not your own on the small side. Between 50 by 50 stitches, they can be a motif, a band, and add each contributors' initials.
- 6, When planning your project, keep the ground fabric to a reasonable size like 32 count. It is not supposed to be a tedious project. You can plan the motifs, fibers, and overall design, or you can just let it evolve with the creativity of the members of your group.
7. By mid year you should have a good start on your sampler with several segments completed. By the end of 2010 you will have a piece of needlework that has your own design and designs of each of the members of your group. So, if you have four people in your group, you will have your sampler with four segments. You will also have a lovely sampler that has been stitched by friends in the guild.

If you want, you can still do our traditional Stitcher's Challenge. Contract form is below. If you can't make the January meeting. but would like to participate in the 2010 Stitcher's Challenge, fill out the contract form and send it to Lynn McVey by the end of January. Good luck!

Remember to bring the projects you contracted to finish in 2009 to the meeting for show and tell. Click on one of the links below to print the contract form:

- [Contract form in PDF format](#)

Highlights

Joyce Reid, our president, began the meeting by welcoming everyone and wishing us a happy new year. She reminded us that dues for 2010 are due. The new directory will be published in February, so please renew before then to have your name included in the directory.



An article on samplers written by Kathy Staples has been published in *Early American Life*. Joyce passed a copy of the magazine around so we could take a look at it. It is quite extensive and includes information on Margriet Hogue, Joanne Harvey and Tricia Wilson Nguyen.

Lynn McVey, our program chair for 2010, reviewed the programs scheduled for the first part of 2010. The theme this year is "year of friendship". We're starting the year with a round robin. Pick a project and invite a few members from the guild to stitch a small part of it. Hopefully, you'll get to know them a little better and you'll end up with a very special piece of needlework. Lynn described the details of the round robin and encouraged members to try it out. And you can always do the traditional contract challenge.

In February, Lynn will present a program on Redwork. The cost will be \$5.00 due the day of the program. Please let Lynn know if you want to participate so she will know how many kits to make up. In March, there will be a program on framing presented by Monica Pratt from Welcome Stitchery.

In April, Robin Laukhuf from Olde Willow Stitchery will teach a workshop titled *My Favorite Scottish Sampler*. A detailed description and picture are available on this website. The cost of the kit is only \$75. Deadline for signup is the end of February so signup today! Please pay the entire kit fee when you sign up. The teaching fee will depend on the number of participants. It will be announced and will be due the day of the workshop.

Joyce introduced a new member, Karin Zieren, who moved here from New Jersey. Karin has lived in locations all over the world and loves to stitch. Welcome Karin!

We heard about Mary Snell's textile tour to Uzbekistan. The trip was organized by the Textile Society of America. Mary was gone for three weeks and she had books, many photographs and samples of various types of needlework. We enjoyed examining the pieces up close.



Carol Schaal brought samples of a new technique to finish ornaments. She had various types of materials and ornaments, some complete and some in progress. She explained the technique to anyone who was interested.



We had some great items for show and tell and then went on to our program. stitching contracts. What a way to start the new year! Most of the members who came to the meeting today had submitted a stitcher's challenge contract and had completed it! Those who did received a reward from the guild. We were all motivated by the completed projects!

Click on the links below for more information about our show and tell items along with pictures. Hope to see you at our February meeting. Contact Lynn McVey to sign up for the program on redwork.

Show and Tell



[Forty Stitches](#)



[Cherries for Cherie](#)



[Phillis Edmonds.](#)



[Hornbook](#)



[Rachael Hyde](#)



[Christmas House](#)

[Edit](#)

Redwork Embroidery

Date: 2/14/2010

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Wheaton Community Center

Teacher: LMSG-Lynn McVey

Redwork Embroidery from penny squares to present. What is old is New Again! Kits available for purchase for approximately \$5. Try a penny square of muslin and a variety of designs. Design your own project with a flour sack towel and project downloads. This is a versatile and simple form of needlework that comes into popularity thru quilts and modern designs. There are many books that use redwork in quilting and household projects as well as websites with seasonal and modern designs. A Valentine for you!

Highlights

Joyce Reid, our president, began the meeting with a few announcements. When you register for a workshop, the full kit fee must be paid at that time. An estimate of the teaching fee will be announced with the workshop, but it is not due until the day of the workshop. Since the teaching fee is calculated by dividing the expenses for the workshop by the number of people attending, the teaching fee will go down as the number registered for the workshop goes up. The exact teaching fee will be announced and is payable at the beginning of the workshop. Membership fees for 2010 are due. If you want to participate in the exciting programs scheduled for 2010, there's still time to renew! Karyn, our membership chair, will be sending reminder emails to the members who have not renewed. Logons for members who do not renew will be disabled on March 1st.

Lynn McVey, our program chair, talked about the Robin Laukhuf workshop scheduled for April titled My Favorite Scottish Sampler. We have 12 people signed up, so the workshop is now confirmed. On Sunday after the workshop, Robin will present a program on hand dyed fibers.

Susan Balsai gave us a preview of the upcoming August workshop which will be presented by Tricia Nguyen. There will probably be two half day workshops on Saturday with an evening lecture. We'll add details to this website as soon as plans are finalized.

Lynn McVey presented our Valentine's Day program on Redwork and Penny Squares. First she passed out our kits which were in a very festive red and white bag, very appropriate for Valentine's Day. It contained a muslin square with a heart design for practicing your redwork stitches, a needle, a ball of turkey red pearl cotton thread, instructions and patterns rolled up and tied with a red ribbon, a towel to embroider after your practice and even a chocolate candy heart! Many of us started stitching our hearts as Lynn talked about Penny Squares.

Penny Squares became popular in the 1880s. Girls and boys could go to the store and purchase a square for a penny. They could choose from a book of perforated paper designs and then that design would be marked on their fabric with chalk or perhaps cinnamon! Later, designs were pre-stamped on the fabric.



Turkey red thread was a traditional choice for stitching the designs until 1900 when more thread colors became available. The thread was color-fast and did not run. Lynn commented that it was so durable, it might even outlast the fabric it was used on.

Lynn outlined the practice design on our muslin using a very fine tip permanent acid-free marker. She explained that you can use any type of embroidery stitch you wish, but you might want to start with outline, backstitch or stem stitch. It doesn't matter how small your stitches are, just try to keep them even and consistent. Some of us tried using chain stitch and fern stitch in other parts of the design. The important part is to have fun!

Lynn concluded by inviting us to take a closer look at the many books she brought describing all different types of redwork designs. Thanks, Lynn for a great program! What a nice, relaxing way to spend a Valentine's Day afternoon. There are a few kits left. Contact Lynn if you would like to purchase one.

In addition, we had several items for show and tell. Karyn Pechinski brought an antique French sampler that she purchased on eBay. She is trying to find out more about the girl who stitched it and is enjoying the research process. Other show and tell items are below.

We hope you will join us for our next meeting on March 14th! Our program will be about the the process of framing needlework presented by Monica Pratt from Welcome Stitchery Needlework and Frame shop.



Show and Tell



Silverwood Sampler



Tocatta Five



Elizabeth Yeagers

[Edit](#)

Framing Needlework with Monica Pratt of Welcome Stitchery

Date: 3/14/2010

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Wheaton Community Center

Teacher: Morica Pratt

Guest speaker Monica Pratt from Welcome Stitchery Needlework and Frame shop. Monica will give a presentation about the process of framing needlework. She will discuss how good stitching techniques lend themselves to beautifully framed results. Many of you are familiar with Monica and her lovely needlework shop. She is also a framer and has completed courses in framing techniques with Juhl frames. She will use examples to describe the different steps a piece of needlework goes through to be properly stretched and professionally mounted and framed. Please join us for the program.

Highlights

The March meeting featured a visit from Monica Pratt from Welcome Stitchery. Monica has been framing needlework for eighteen years. She gave us many insights as to what goes on inside the frame. She described the process of framing a piece of needlework and the many layers required between foam core, and stainless steel pins, spacers, and backing material and the wide range of glass available. She brought many framed examples with a variety of combinations, from shadow boxes to a padded mounting with no glass. She told us cautionary tales of what happens when our projects don't have enough fabric or when they have too much fabric. We all left with a better sense of what to expect from any framer in regards to handling our needlework. There are things we can actually do to prepare our needlework when we are starting a project in order to make a successful framed project. We all had an appreciation for the amount of work involved in stretching and finishing a piece of linen inside the frame to make it last as a treasured heirloom. Monica left us with a much better understanding of the framing process and all the different materials and considerations we can take into account when investing in the perfect framing for our needlework. We ended the meeting with a lovely taste of Irish soda bread. We met a few new associate members. Karyn Pechinski raffled a very charming sewing pocket which she created from the February redwork project and her own talent for finishing and embellishing. Joyce Reid was the lucky recipient of the charming piece.

[Edit](#)

Hand Dyed Fibers by Robin Laukhuf of Olde Willow StitcheryThreads, Inc.

Date: 4/11/2010

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Wheaton Community Center

Teacher: Robin Laukhuf

Robin Laukhuf will give a presentation about her business of hand dyed fibers. She will use a projector to show some of the process involved in dyeing cotton and silk fibers for sale and distribution. She is featured as a contributor to Sampler and Antique Quarterly Magazine and the online magazine The Gift of Stitching. It should be an interesting program and will give us some insights into the fibers we work with. Robin will also bring some fibers and charts for sale. Please join us in April.

Highlights

Joyce Reid, our president, opened the meeting with some announcements. Lynn McVey reviewed the program schedule for upcoming meetings. Please remember that there is no meeting scheduled in May.

In June, Lori Markovic of La D Da designs will present a unique project designed just for our guild! It will be a small ort box with a “fishy” lid design that nods to our Lake Michigan Fishing Lady motif. Deadline to sign up is May 2nd and the cost is just \$35. There will be no teaching fee. Lyn encouraged everyone to sign up.



Our picnic is in July and then Tricia Nguyen will teach two workshops on Saturday August 21. They are the Jacobean Silk Purl Flower and the Abby Cozzens 1836 Family Register Sampler. Sign up deadline is June 13 because of the unique fibers that need to be assembled for the kits. Her workshops will probably be held even if less than 12 people sign up. The exact teaching fee will be announced and is payable at the beginning of the workshops.

Our program was presented by Robin Laukhuf. She told us about the early history of the art of dyed fibers which began thousands of years ago. Why use hand dyed fibers in your project? Robin explained the many reasons including the ability to get exactly the colors you want. She talked about the different types of fibers: cotton, wool, linen, silk and perle cotton and the products that can be used to dye each one. The different types of dyes were discussed in detail and Robin explained which dyes could be used for which fibers.

Do you want to try to dye your own fibers? Robin described the process she uses:

- Soak your floss in water to remove sizing
- Remove and dip the floss in the color dye
- Wrap it in saran wrap
- Microwave for a short period of time (under a minute)
- Caution – make sure you let it cool before opening the saran wrap.
- Let the floss dry

She provided a handout that gave us a lot of additional information. We learned that no fiber is colorfast (fading by washing) or lightfast (fading by exposure to light).

Even if you don't ever dye your own fibers, Robin gave us an appreciation for the work that goes into the process. Thanks Robin, for a very interesting and informative talk.

We hope you will join us for our next meeting on Sunday, June 13, Lori Markovic of La D Da designs will present a unique project designed just for our guild! Sign up deadline is May 2nd. **There is no LMSG meeting in May.**



We had many items for show and tell. Click on the links below to view the pictures.

Show and Tell



[The Four Agreements](#)



[Sarah Harvey](#)



[Cottage Huswife 1 of 2](#)



[Cottage Huswife 2 of 2](#)



[Tamari ball 1 of 2](#)



[Tamari ball 2 of 2](#)



[Tennessee Sampler](#)



[Mary Thompson](#)

[Edit](#)

My Favorite Scottish Sampler

Date: 4/10/2010

Time: 9:00-4:00

Type: Workshop

Location: Wheaton Community Center

Teacher: Robin Laukhuf

Robin Laukhuf from Olde Willow Stitchery will teach My Favorite Scottish Sampler. It is a new teaching piece she will share from a sampler she recently purchased in Scotland. Stitched on 36 count vintage Lakeside Linen with seven colors of Olde Willow Stitchery Silks. Specialty stitches include Algerian Eyelet, Satin, Straight Stitch and Four Sided stitch.

The kit cost is approximately \$75. Teaching fees for the workshop are estimated at \$80. The sampler is stitched on 36 count vintage Lakeside Linen and full skeins of hand dyed Olde Willow Stitchery silk floss in shades of browns, rose, peach and green.

A short history of Scottish samplers will be discussed in class. Scottish samplers are revered for the beautiful letter and flower motifs. Motifs of trees, flowers, vases and birds are part of this lovely sampler. The finished design size is approximately 12 inches wide by 16 inches high.

The firm deadline for sign up will be FEBRUARY 28. Six weeks are required for assembling materials. Contact our program chair, Lynn Mcvey, if you have any questions. Click on the picture for a larger image.



[Edit](#)

LMSG Special Project by La D Da/Lori Markovic

Date: 6/13/2010

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Wheaton Community Center

Teacher: Lori Markovic

On Sunday, June 13, Lori Markovic of La D Da designs will present a unique project designed just for our guild! It will be a small ort box with a "fishy" lid design that nods to our Lake Michigan Fishing Lady motif. The kit will include a paper mache box, linen, belle soie silks and a charm. The total cost for this unique kit and instructions is \$35. You need not be present at the workshop to order a kit. But you don't want to miss the opportunity to meet Lori Markovic. She will also bring a selection of her wonderful charts for a mini trunk show! Join us for a fun summer project!



Sign up deadline is May 31. Since there is no LMSG program scheduled for May, register for this as soon as possible.

Click on the picture for a larger image.

Highlights

Susan Balsai ran our June meeting. She told us that we have enough people registered to hold Tricia Wilson Nguyen's workshops on August 21st. The exact time for Tricia's lecture on Saturday evening has not yet been scheduled. We'll post the information on the website as soon as it is available. Tricia Nguyen will teach two workshops for us: the Jacobean Silk Purl Flower and the Abby Cozzens 1836 Family Register Sampler. Signup deadline was today, June 13th.

Lynn McVey reminded everyone to sign up for the picnic in July at the home of Susan Balsai. The guild will provide the hamburgers, brats and things to drink. Just bring a salad, dessert or other goodie to share. Hope to see you there!

Lori Markovic of La D Da designs was our June guest speaker. She presented a special project designed just for LMSG, a fishy ort box. Kits were distributed and then Lori talked about the contents. She went around the room table by table and showed us how to do the finishing. She gave us some good hints on how to put the box together. Let's see how many people finish by July! We all enjoyed meeting Lori and seeing the other samplers that she brought along to share with us.



We had some interesting items for show and tell. Click on the links below to view the pictures.

Show and Tell



ABC



White Blossoms



Box with Sampler Top



Floral 15



Miss Lila's Garden



Mares Eat Oats



Rooster Sampler

[Edit](#)

2010 Guild Picnic

Date: 7/11/2010

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Home of Susan Balsai

Teacher: LMSG-Susan Balsai

Join us for our annual guild picnic. The guild will provide the main course, chips, drinks and paper goods. If you did not sign up at the June meeting, please let Susan know by e-mail that you will attend so she can get a reasonable food count. Please bring a dish to share, salad, side or dessert. It is always a fun summer tradition for the guild. Please join in the fun!

In addition, bring along your contract project. You'll have an opportunity during show and tell to share your progress. Location: Susan Balsai's home at 8132 Danneil Circle, Long Grove, IL 60047. Look on the website for a map and directions.

[Edit](#)

Tricia Nguyen Lecture Metal Threads and Creativity in the 17th Century

Date: 8/21/2010

Time: 4:30-5:30

Type: Special

Location: Wheaton Community Center

Teacher: Tricia Nguyen

Tricia Nguyen will teach two workshops on Saturday August 21. They are the Jacobean Silk Purl Flower and the Abby Cozzens 1836 Family Register Sampler.

Tricia will give a short lecture about 17th century thread techniques at the end of the workshops. This lecture is open to all LMSG members even if they do not attend one of the workshops.

[Edit](#)

Tricia Nguyen Workshop Jacobean Silk Purl Flower

Date: 8/21/2010

Time: 9:00-12:00

Type: Workshop

Location: Wheaton Community Center

Teacher: Tricia Nguyen

Tricia Nguyen will teach two workshops on Saturday August 21. They are the Jacobean Silk Purl Flower and the Abby Cozzens 1836 Family Register Sampler.

The Jacobean Silk Purl Flower is a 3" by 4" lily like flower filled in with six colors of silk covered purl. Tricia will show us three different ways to apply the silk purl to result in great textural relief off the surface of the ground fabric. The flower and its leaves are outlined in 1 1/2 inch gilt twist, a heavy gold thread. The surrounding space is sprinkled with gilt spangles held in place with gilt check purl. A few accents will be made of gilt silk twist covered wire to add a bit of extra sparkle to the flower. Tricia will show us how to actually make these gilt silk twist covered purl fibers in class! Extensive photography of historical examples will be used in class to illustrate the techniques.



Click on the picture for a larger image.

***Students should bring a pair of fine scissors for cutting metal as well as a frame, hoop or Q-snap capable of keeping a 9" x 10" piece of linen taut with a working area of 3" x 4" minimum.

Kit fee is \$110. Sign up deadline is June 13 because of the unique fibers that need to be assembled for the kits.



[Edit](#)

Tricia Nguyen Workshop Abby Cozzens 1836 Family Register Sampler

Date: 8/21/2010

Time: 1:15-4:15

Type: Workshop

Location: Wheaton Community Center

Teacher: Tricia Nguyen

Tricia Nguyen will teach two workshops on Saturday August 21. They are the Jacobean Silk Purl Flower and the Abby Cozzens 1836 Family Register Sampler.

Click on the picture for a larger image.

Tricia will teach a workshop based on the 1836 Abby Cozzens sampler from Tricia's private collection. Tricia will teach students the technique of unravleing filament silk to produce crinkle silk fibers to be used in satin stitches for a very unique look. The sampler is worked on a dark tan background with a central counted area of stitching (over 2) which frame the register information. Bordering the columns is a set of undulating old rose vines worked in satin stitch with crinkle silk. Our interpretation will be smaller than the original, while maintaining the original proportions. Each student can supply their own family information as the sampler was never filled in by Abby. The linen will be outlined and pre-marked with a light brown ink. We will each be making a lovely reproduction with our own personal family names included, and learning a lovely crinkle silk technique!



*** Tricia recommends that students bring an 18 inch roller frame to class in order to mount the linen before stitching.

Kit fee is \$120. Sign up deadline is June 13. Sign up deadline is June 13 because of the unique fibers that need to be assembled for the kits.



[Edit](#)

2010 Welcome Back

Date: 9/12/2010

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Wheaton Community Center

Teacher: LMSG-Lynn Mcvey

Summer is over, Welcome back to the Guild! Show and Tell/3 ways! Bring a Friend/maybe someone you know is interested in needle work and wants to see what we do. Bring a Sewing Basket/ maybe one you stitched like Barbara Jackson's basket or a huswife. Maybe you would rather bring your own childhood basket or an antique that you found in your travels. We can compare many different styles from our members and guests sewing baskets. Bring a plate of cookies to share with new friends and old friends. A nice relaxing Sunday afternoon after the kids are back in school and autumn is in the air.

Highlights

Joyce Reid conducted our business meeting before the program.

A nominating committee is being formed to find an assistant program chair for next year. This position can be shared by two or more people. We are going to change the focus of this position to be more of a program coordinator.

Responsibility for an individual program can be delegated to a member of the guild. If you are interested in this position or would be willing to do a program for the guild, please contact Joyce Reid. We need your help!

Joyce explained that she has done some looking for another meeting location. She is looking in the Schaumburg area because it seems to be centrally located based on where our members live. If you know of any good locations in that area (community center, etc.), please contact Joyce.

The Shop Hop scheduled for October 9th has been canceled. Elaine Hoagland's house sale is on that date. Our 12th anniversary party will be on October 10th. If you haven't signed up yet, please email Lynn McVey before the October meeting to ensure she has a kit for you. The cost is \$5.

The holiday party will be at Susan Balsai's home. The date will be finalized soon.

Our September meeting was all about sewing baskets. Everyone who attended shared their baskets. There were old and new baskets, handmade and purchased baskets, and simple and ornate baskets. We had a great time hearing the stories about each one and then admiring all of them up close. Thanks to everyone who participated for making this a very special meeting. Some of the baskets and other show and tell items are below. Click on each picture for a larger image.



Show and Tell



Antique Sewing Basket



Antique Sewing Basket



Vintage Sewing Basket



Acorn Sewing Box 1 of 2



Acorn Sewing Box 2 of 2



Floral Glove Needlecase



Autumn Sampler



Quaker Huswife 1 of 2



Quaker Huswife 2 of 2



Vintage Huswife



Jane Longstreth



Tea Time asket

2010 Anniversary Party

Date: 10/10/2010

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Wheaton Community Center

Teacher: LMSG-Lynn McVey

Cupcakes and a sweet little kit project! Cost approximately \$5. Party refreshments and time to celebrate an even dozen years for our guild!

**Please contact the program chair to reserve a kit if you were unable to sign up at the September meeting. The cost for the kit is \$5 and can be paid at the October meeting.*

Always a fun meeting and a chance to catch up with stitching friends.

Highlights

Joyce Reid conducted our business meeting before the program.

In November, we will hold elections for the board offices of president, treasurer and assistant program chair. Leslie Lewis has volunteered for the office of president and Joyce Reid has volunteered to be treasurer. We still need an assistant program chair who will be responsible for planning our programs for 2012. This position can be shared by two or more people. We are going to change the focus of this position to be more of a program coordinator. Responsibility for an individual program can be delegated to a member of the guild. If you are interested in this position or would be willing to do a program for the guild, please contact Joyce Reid. We need your help!

The holiday party will be at Susan Balsai's home on December 12th. Have you completed your ornament for the annual ornament exchange! If not, you have two months to finish. Time to get started!

LMSG is now on Facebook! You can find us by searching for Lake Michigan Sampler Guild. If you have a Facebook account, please visit our page and add it to your likes. If you don't have an account, it's free and easy to create. Just follow the instructions on the Facebook home page at www.facebook.com. When you visit our page, please feel free to leave a comment on the wall. We'll keep the page updated with scheduled events, announcements and selected photos from our meetings. If you have suggestions, please contact Marilyn Fetting.

We celebrated our 12th anniversary with cupcakes! Our program chair, Lynn McVey, designed a cupcake pin cushion for our anniversary. Everything needed to complete the cushion including a Wilton Silicon Cupcake cup, linen, stuffing and instructions were assembled in a white bakery bag. Very appropriate for a cupcake pin cushion! Lynn passed out the kits to those who ordered them.

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Lynn brought us a special anniversary treat: cupcakes with loads of pink frosting! We had our choice of chocolate or vanilla. We enjoyed talking to one another and checking out everyone's latest projects. Click on each picture for a larger image.

Marilyn Vanover brought her latest completed projects for show and tell. Click on the links below to view the pictures.

Show and Tell



[Twelve Days of Christmas](#)



[Sharon's Garden](#)



[Count Your Blessings](#)

Hand Dyed Linens

Date: 11/14/2010

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Wheaton Community Center

Teacher: LMSG-Lynn McVey

We will have a business meeting. We need to elect several board members for the next two year term. We will be electing President, Treasurer and Assistant Program Chair to hold office for the next two years. If you have an interest in serving and promoting our guild into the next two years, please consider holding an office.

We will have a shorter program about hand dyed linens. We will discuss and compare commercial hand dyed linens including Weeks and Lakeside. We will also discuss home dyeing techniques and spot dyeing products to give ground fabric the aged look. Perhaps you have experience with some hand dyed linen or home dyeing you would share in the discussion? There will be several door prizes furnished by Weeks and R&R Reproductions for a few lucky members. There will also be a small piece of Lakeside linen for everyone to try. Excellent for stitching your ornament for exchange at the Holiday party! PLEASE NOTE: THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE GRAF ROOM ON THE LOWER LEVEL OF THE COMMUNITY CENTER.

Highlights

Joyce Reid conducted our business meeting before the program. She announced the candidates for 2011 offices: Leslie Lewis (President) and Joyce Reid (Treasurer). We did not have have a candidate for Assistant Programs so Karyn Pechinshi volunteered and Mary Snell volunteered to help her. Thanks to all of these members for helping out the guild by holding an office!

Joyce reviewed the tentative schedule for 2011. In January, there will be a bookmark kit. In February, Marilyn Vanover will show us how to finish the bookmark using hem stitch. In April, we are delighted to have Joann Harvey. She will be teaching two workshops and doing a slide lecture at our meeting. In June, Kathy Matthews will give a talk on her experiences on the Plimouth Jacket Tour. We will have the picnic in July, the Anniversary Party in October and the Holiday Party in December. There will be no meeting in May or August. Additional details on the schedule will be available on this website in the near future.

Joyce proposed that we change the rules for workshop registration. Currently our bylaws state that we must have 12 people registered in order to hold the workshop. We would like to change this to hold the workshop if all participants agree regardless of the number of people registered. Joyce also announced that Pat Carlson is going to transition responsibilities for the newsletter to another guild member.

Marilyn Fettinger made a couple of announcements. LMSG is now on Facebook! To view our page, click on the "Find us on Facebook" button that appears on the right side of our homepage and many other pages of our website. You can view the page even if you don't have a Facebook logon. We'll post events and photos and you'll find comments from other Facebook users. Check out the pictures in our Facebook photo album! Please add our page to your likes!

Marilyn also talked about the progress in designing a business card for our guild. We would like to have a card that could be distributed at shops and craft shows to increase awareness of our guild. You'll hear more about this at future

meetings. We are also going to do more publicity for workshops by emailing to other guilds to invite their members to participate.

Lynn McVey presented our program on hand dyed linens. She passed out a very informative handout that compared four commercial manufacturers of linen including names, counts and colors. We learned some interesting facts like linen count can affect color. Higher count fabrics are generally lighter. Don't store you hand dyed linens in plastic bags. Color changes can occur because of chemical reactions. Lynn also discussed home dyeing. She talked about the different types of natural dye materials like coffee, tea and acorns, for example. We learned what a mordant is and why they are important.



Lynn had samples of different kinds of linen from various manufacturers. Three lucky people received door prizes of linen. The rest of us got to choose a sample from a large basket full of many different types of linen. Thanks, Lynn, for an informative and interesting program!

Have you been working on your ornament? Our December Holiday Party and ornament exchange will be held at Susan Balsai's house on December 12th. If you want, bring along a holiday treat to share. They'll be lots of food and fun, so we hope to see you there!

2010 Holiday Party and Ornament Exchange

Date: 12/12/2010

Time: 1:30-4:00

Type: Meeting

Location: Home of Susan Balsai

Teacher: LMSG-Lynn McVey

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 be at Susan Balsai's home.

Highlights

Remember the song "Let It Snow"?

*The weather outside is frightful
But the fire is quite delightful ...*

That is a pretty accurate description of our holiday party. The weather was absolutely frightful, but we had seven members who braved the snow storm and attended. We enjoyed sampling the treats that everyone brought and talking with one another. Susan had a fire going in the family room fireplace and it was pleasant to stand in front of it and warm up.



We enjoyed looking at the tree in Susan's living room decorated with many ornaments that family members had made. In the dining room, there was a small tree trimmed with needlework ornaments. She told us the story about how she received the ornaments many years ago. We all admired how well the small tree showed off the ornaments. What a great idea!



There were five packages for the ornament exchange. We each drew numbers and selected a package. When Joyce's turn came, she threatened to "steal" but, in the end, she picked a package and so did the rest of the participants.



The ornaments were great! Check out the wonderful handiwork and variety. It's always fun to see what our members stitch each year.



We had several members who were unable to attend the party because of illness and several others that had schedule conflicts. And the snow certainly kept some of you away. We missed you! We hope that there is better weather in January. We will have a program on stitching a bookmark. Hope to see you there.

