

# Needlenotes

Newsletter of the American Bunka Embroidery Association ~~ October 2011

## ***Out of Lexington Kentucky and on to Rutland Vermont!***



ABEA stitchers who attended the Lexington national seminar left with excitement over the location, memories of friends who are only seen once a year, and new Bunka friendships that cross the US-Canadian border. Fun was had by all!

Next year we are heading to Rutland Vermont. If you think you may have been hearing of this location—you are right. The Rutland area was hit hard by the recent hurricane Irene's water dump. Your association is working to make sure all will be well for our visit next August. More to be shared in the December Needlenotes.

For all others touched by the recent storms, I hope you 'weathered' well! As the season turns and fall begins to show her color—take care and enjoy your stitching time.

Anita, Needlenotes Editor

## ***ABEA President's Report, Lexington KY, August 2011***

First I would like to thank my officers, Barbara Lane, Anita Palmer and Beverly Enos. I would also like to thank Denise Richard and Evelyne Carrier for the French translation of NeedleNotes. For the past two years Beverly Enos, as Treasurer, took care of all the financials. For the past 4 years, Barbara, as Vice President, has been as my side, ready with advice and assistance every time I needed it. This is a team effort, with a good deal of consultation with all the officers as well as many other people who contribute to the functioning of the Association. Also for the past two years, Anita Palmer has assumed two roles: Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary. She has also managed the activities of the Lending Library archives along with Kate Baird – something they're been doing for several years now, relying on donation of materials from many of our members. The Lending Library is truly a treasure that we all can enjoy – either by borrowing material directly or through articles published in NeedleNotes. Anita also did the legwork of searching out hotels for the 2013 seminar. This is a very time-consuming job, often requiring going back and forth with various venues in order to obtain all the information we need to make informed decisions.



The Hollyhock, Sunflower and Thistle chapters have been working hard to bring us another National Seminar which I'm sure will be a huge success. Thank you ladies – I know from personal experience how much work goes into hosting a seminar.

Our Judging Committee consisting of Lila Lansrud and Barbara Lane, headed up by Elery Shaw have been busy examining the requirements for instructor certification due to the elimination of several Matsuhato kits as well as the Basic 50. They will also conduct the Judging Workshop during seminar this year. Elery Shaw has continued to maintain the ABEA website. Thank you Elery, for the time you spend looking after our internet visibility.

This year Kate Baird put together a selection of pictures for discussion for next year's classes – thank you ladies for your efforts - it is not a simple task trying to come up with a balance selection of classes of different levels and interests while also trying not to duplicate previous offerings.

My recommendations for the Council of Masters:

- In my recommendations the last 3 years, I asked that we find additional help for the translation of NeedleNotes. At the moment, we have two volunteers (along with myself) doing the translation, but it truly is a big job and one that is time-sensitive. We must continue to search for people who can - even if it is only an article or two from time to time.
- We need to try to develop workshops and classes on the creative side of Bunka-shishu. From the number of entries in the Original Stitchery and Original Design categories (both in competition and for display only) the last couple of years, it is clear that this is an area our stitchers want to explore.

My recommendations to the membership:

- Get involved – there are many areas where you can be active – articles for NeedleNotes, translation, serve on a committee.
- Let us know what you want from the ABEA and what you'd like to see in NeedleNotes.

- Receive NeedleNotes by e-mail. It is better for the environment, quicker, less expensive to produce, and you will receive an exclusive article pulled from the Lending Library archives.

It is YOUR association and we need your input in order for it to continue to flourish and be of value. It has been a privilege to serve as your President the last 4 years and I wish the very best to my successor.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Normandeau - ABEA President

## Fun in Lexington Kentucky!



Shaker and Stallion Tour



Social Buffet



Social Discussions



Class Experiences



## NeedleNotes Email Extra

This month's email extra is information on three size 1 Matsuhato kits that are discontinued.

Each could be a possible holiday gift that could be quickly completed with left over threads! Enjoy...

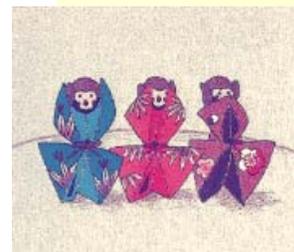


*M117 Ny* - This fairy-like picture is a collection of beautiful colors using simple flat stitching, blending, with accents of lame thread.

*M129 Pegasus* - This fun to stitch picture uses a series of small and longer stitches using the bunka needle along with a sewing needle with a defined color sequence to create a woven appearance.

*M1206 See, Hear, Speak No Evil* - Humorous version of this classic image with monkeys wearing beautiful kimonos.

Email extra includes color picture, thread chart, line drawing and numbered line drawing for each of the above kits.



## 2011 Lexington Competition Results

Competition results from the recent ABEA National Seminar in Lexington Kentucky follow. Judging team for the event included Lead Master Judge Elery Shaw, Mastern Judges Anne Myers and Barbara Lane, National Judge Anita Palmer and Teller Mary Jane Frank. Although it was a small show, the stitching was excellent as demonstrated by the number of Blue ribbons awarded. This was the first national seminar to use the new Kit judging form that causes the judges to focus on the overall product quality instead of specific stitching problem areas. At the conclusion of the judging, Anita Palmer had qualified to be named a Master Judge.

Show Awards	Stitcher
Amateur Best in Show	Catherine Dean with the Matsuhato 245 Horses Heads
Professional Best in Show	Lila Landsrud with her Original Stitchery
Popular Choice	Rachel Cavanaugh with her Original Stitchery



Catherine Dean

Lila Landsrud

Rachel Cavanaugh

Category	Ribbon	Stitcher
<b>Beginner</b>		
Numbered	Blue	Brenda Summey
<b>Intermediate</b>		
Numbered	Blue	Mary Jane Frank
Matsuhato	Blue	Catherine Dean, Melinda Palmer
<b>Advanced</b>		
Matsuhato	Blue	Francoise Lemieux, Rita Lupien
	White	Judy Capone, Ruth Morin
Original Stichery	Red	Darlene Shellene
<b>Senior</b>		
Original Stichery	Blue	Rachel Cavanaugh
<b>Professional</b>		

Numbered	Blue	Mary Ann Sewell
Matsuhato	Blue	Diane Bergeron, Sylvie Lauzon
	Red	Evelyn Brown, Sandy Kelley
Original Stitchery	Blue	Lila Lansrud, Mary Ann Sewell
	Red	Elaine Brousseau
Original Design	Red	Beverly Enos

## First Ever ABEA Sales Table Results

It is safe to say that this first ever ABEA sponsored Stitcher Sales Table event was a SUCCESS! No matter how you review it

- Nearly \$10,000 value of items available (lots of deals, discontinued kits, kits not seen for a long long time at an ABEA national seminar).
- Over 400 items displayed ranging from needles, kits, work frames, fabric, thread, etc.
- 11 attending stitchers able to offer their Bunka stash to others and convert to cash—nearly \$2500 went home with those ladies!
- ABEA raised nearly \$350
  - Close out process balanced to the dollar and the inventory item—thank you everybody for making this such a positive event.

A large thank you needs to go to Fern Burdette and Ted Brown who manned the table throughout the seminar. For the grand opening, they were joined by Melinda Palmer who also was the resource who did the pre-registration check-in of all the sales table merchandise.

Although this offering was a special event as there was not a volunteering vendor for the Lexington seminar—the association will consider this option again in the future when no vendor is available.



## ABEA 2011 Financial Report

\*denotes change from report presented at seminar by Treasurer due to post-seminar expenses.

<b>Income</b>	
Certification	50.00
Dues	5023.00
Lending Library	80.00
Seminar	6925.00
Donation	100.00
Overpaid Dues	6.00
Bank Credit	6.38
Lotus Kits	810.00
	<u>\$13,000.38</u>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Awards	82.94
Exchange Rate	82.94
Seminar 2010	2525.00
Seminar 2011	3418.15 *
Hostess Chapter	325.50 *
Tour-Lexington	2320.00
Tour-Boston	523.44
Refund	780.00 *
Needlenotes	1230.33
Shipping/Postage	69.91
Seminar Hotel - Vermont	500.00
	<u>\$11,858.21</u>
<b>Profit</b>	<u>\$1,142.17 **</u>

\*\* deposit for 2013 hotel being negotiated currently.

2012 in Rutland Vermont, Purple Dragon Arts will be the seminar vendor!



## Certifications

At the banquet in Lexington the following ABEA members were presented with certificates for completing requirements:

Master	Kate Baird and Anita Palmer
Silver Designer	Elery Shaw
Certified Instructor	Ruth Moran and Don Cziewski
Master Judge	Anita Palmer
Certified Judge	Nancy Vicari

## **Misc Bunka News**

Iris Chapter charter member Katherine Woodruff is at 100 years of age is still interested in Bunka. However her eyesight is failing, so she is unable to enjoy the NeedleNotes. Sally Zdbel spoke with her recently and other than her eyesight she is doing well. She has been living with her daughter for the past several years. She has asked us to utilize her membership dues for some other purpose, so Iris chapter will not be renewing her ABEA dues. ABEA will be sorry to lose Katherine as a member but we know that her stitching heart will always be with Bunka! (submitted by Lila Lansrud, Iris Chapter President)

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## **Looking for M2852 on Blue Fabric**

Brenda Brown of the Florida Hibiscus chapter is looking for Matsuhato kit #2852 on the BLUE fabric. It seems that the new one is on silver which is not what I want. If anyone has this kit and is willing to sell it, please contact Brenda at email: [brenda1457@aol.com](mailto:brenda1457@aol.com) or call 813-286-9686.



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## **ABEA Certification Application Form Updates**

At the 2011 Annual Seminar changes to application forms were recommended by the Judging Committee and adopted by the Annual General Membership. Some changes were necessary because of the availability of Matsuhato kits, other changes were necessary to make the application and judging process easier. As always this is an on going challenge for the ABEA and it is something that has to be constantly revisited. It is always helpful to have input regarding these topics, so please send any suggestions to the officers to help us understand your thoughts about these forms.

Changes explained:

- All the forms now show which kits are discontinued by Matsuhato. An asterisk next to the kit number on the form indicates this. This does not mean we will not accept the kit stitched. If you have the kit or can get a discontinued kit we are happy to accept the kit as part of that application. We are just indicating that we know these kits are now difficult to get.
- For the Stitching Master Application we added 4 more choices, and allow any Size 15 or LARGER Matsuhato kit to be entered as part of this category.
- The Silver and Gold Designer forms have changed to help with the process for the Judges behind the scenes. Up until now we have only had a few people going through this track and the Judges/Officers have been keeping records. You must be responsible for your own tracking and the forms and instructions have been updated to reflect what we want you to do. We removed the 3 year requirement as ACI from the Silver designer, but you should be an ACI when you submit the originals to be judged at seminar.
- The Gold Designer forms have also changed to help with process.
- One of the major points on the Silver and Gold Designer forms is that the Judges would encourage applicants to put brief notes with their originals to explain the intent of the design and it will also be possible for Judges to interview candidates about their originals. This is important as the ABEA's intent is to encourage and applaud all efforts in the design space, and sometimes a lack of understanding by the judges can be detrimental to the applicant.
- The largest changes have been made to the application form for Certified Instructor. For more than two years the Judging committee has been working to try to compensate for the lack of the Basic 50. We explored several different avenues and the form now reflects where we are in the process. This is going to be an area that may see more changes.
- Again, if you have a Basic 50, we would prefer to see you stitch it. It is an invaluable teaching tool for you in addition to the techniques you cover when you stitch it.
- Other than the Basic 50 we have changed the kit requirements. In some categories there are more choices. In some, M245 Horses, there is no choice. We feel there are elements in that particular kit you need to learn, from color planning, smooth blending, and particular stitch techniques that appear in no other kit. Remember you might have to teach this kit.
- We want you to do a Size 3 fluffy and we want you to sculpt the fluffy. Matsuhato has virtually discontinued all its fluffy kits, so we are allowing you to choose ANY Fluffy kit that has sculpting in to show this technique. If you wish to do a fluffy original in this category, as long as your judge/instructor agrees that it meets our requirements – go for it!

- Attached to the CI Application Form there is a list of stitches that the ABEA feels all Certified Instructors should know how to stitch. As you complete the kits on the Application Form you and your Instructor/Judge can check off the stitches you have done. When you have completed all your pictures and compare them to the list you will see what stitches are left. At this point it is up to you and your instructor to sit down together and make sure you know the stitches that you haven't done.
- By doing this we feel we have replaced the BASIC 50 and you have a good foundation to continue the traditions of Japanese Bunka and maintain a high standard of stitching quality in your new students.

I hope you will find this helpful as you read the forms. They will be available at [www.americanbunka.com](http://www.americanbunka.com) as soon as possible. The new forms have the date of June 2011 in the bottom right corner.

## **The Art of Judging – Phraseology Assist to Judges**

Written by Loretta Kandies 1992

The Phraseology provided in the following chart is expressive, constructive, informative, descriptive and brief. Its value is to enable the judge to communicate her understanding of the Bunka Embroidery show exhibits appropriately and discreetly. The words and phrases she selects for her objective and constructive analysis are also of great value to the exhibitor – a potential judge.

When we look for words and phrases to describe what we see and feel, it is best to avoid exaggeration. Rather than choose the most expansive or derogatory terms we should select those that will most accurately picture the degree of correctness, artistry, and beauty of our observations. The good judge is always kind and constructive.

The following is divided into the categories used in Judging “Originals”. Under each grouping are compiled lists of words and phrases that are thought provoking, effective and useful in describing the positive and the negative qualities of each picture being judged.

You will note that many of the same words and expressions may fit into more than one category, especially if the categories are closely related. Some of the categories are broken down into ways of describing emotional response and analytical technical appraisals. Hopefully, judges should enrich their power to express themselves orally and in writing.

- Herein is an expressive vocabulary that is constructive, informative and brief.
- Words and phrases are tabulated according to plus attributes and minus qualities
- Headings used Judging Criteria for Originals are the same here for easy reference
- Further breakdowns are given to describe:
  - Emotional responses
  - Analytical and technical appraisals

Constructive comments by respected Judges gives exhibitors encouragement particularly if no award is placed. Those few extra words clarify, acknowledge effort made and help to channel creative power so future attempts will receive credit.

In the next year's *Needlenotes*, additional material will be published from Loretta's original document. The first categories are Balance, Proportion/Scale, and Dominance/Contrast are shown below:

	<b>Plus Qualities – Strength</b>	<b>Minus Qualities - Weakness</b>
<b>Balance</b>	Interest achieved by creative placement, restful, serene, graceful pleasing symmetry	Disturbing top heavy, bottom heavy, one sided, too exact in distribution balance destroyed by an overpowering pull to one side or the other.
<b>Proportion and Scale</b>	<p><b>Proportion:</b> Graceful, relationship, interesting proportions throughout, striking, dramatic effects created through relationship.</p> <p><b>Scale:</b> Composition properly related; satisfying relationship between individual components.</p>	Top heavy, bottom heavy, disturbing relationship.
<b>Dominance and Contrast</b>	<p><b>Dominance:</b> Commanding, compelling, important structural feature, strong center of interest, repetition of similar elements creates emphasis.</p> <p><b>Contrast:</b> Dominant qualities unified by slight differences; focal area controlled but gently diffused. Note: Lack of focal area or several areas of interest are typically twentieth-century modern.</p>	<p>Lacks punch, over dominance or overemphasis, no unifying element, inadequate center of interest, competing interests divide dominant, too many dominate features destroy unity.</p> <p>Unity destroyed by too much variety, too many dominant features, too much contrast; too concentrated.</p>



This material was written by ABEA's newest Sensi Loretta Kandies nearly 20 years ago. With Lexington a possible drive for Loretta's daughter Pat, Loretta was able to join us in Lexington. Her joy of life, love of Bunka, and desire to ensure that the ABEA continues for many more years was clearly communicated.

In Lexington ABEA took the moment to represent her Sensi certificate so that photos could be taken.

**Thank you Loretta from the whole of ABEA of your knowledge and gifts to the organization!**

### Your New ABEA Officers for 2011-12

Beginning October 1, 2011 for the next 2 years the following were elected to be the ABEA officers:

- Kate Baird (M) – President
- Evelyn Brown (M) – Vice President
- Vicki May (CI) – Treasurer
- Anita Palmer (M) – Corresponding Secretary/Needlenotes Editor.

### More Lexington Seminar Photos



### Mark your Calendars for Future ABEA Events

Date	Location	Hotel Info	Seminar Details	Contact
Feb 29-Mar 2,, 2012 4 <sup>th</sup> Annual Southern Regional Seminar	Holiday Inn Express 2620 International Speedway Blvd. Daytona FL 32134-5950 Phone: 386-258-6333	Room Rate: \$79 plus tax. Indicate that you are with ABEA. Hotel booking must be completed by 01February 2012	Class: M1460 Peonies in Vase. Registration \$135 includes kit Deadline 20December 2011 Open Class \$60	Evelyn Brown <a href="mailto:msbunka@yahoo.com">msbunka@yahoo.com</a> 352-685-3909  Sandy Kelley <a href="mailto:sandy4504@comcast.net">sandy4504@comcast.net</a> 352-638-9107
April 27-28, 2012 Azalea Seminar	Crown Plaza Hotel Boston North Shore 50 Ferncroft Road Danvers, MA 01923 Phone: 978-777-2500	More info to be provided early 2012.		Beverly Enos <a href="mailto:purpledragonarts@verizon.net">purpledragonarts@verizon.net</a> 978-352-6176
Jul 31-Aug 4, 2012 ABEA National Seminar	Rutland/Killington Vermont	More info to be provided in December Needlenotes.		

## Thoughts and a Flower for an ABEA Member and Family



Elaine Brosseau, a member of the Periwinkle chapter, who had to skip coming to seminar at the last minute this year because her husband had a stroke. He died Sept 27 following complications of that incident.

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### Tis ABEA Dues Time Again.....

Please ensure that you pay your chapter president your ABEA dues before 01Dec so you will not miss the December edition of *Needlenotes*. If you cannot pay your chapter president, please forward your dues payment to our new treasurer at the following address: Vicki May, 441 South Serenity Way, Greenwood IN 46142.



Dues amount in USD funds is \$20. Dues amount in CAD funds is \$21.

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### President's Corner

Fall is now upon us with it's beautiful foliage as a last hurrah before the snow flies. As I look out the window admiring the view and write my last President's Corner, I look back on all the changes that have taken place the last eight years serving the ABEA as an officer – four years as secretary and then 4 more as your president.

We have come a long way in that time. You can now receive NeedleNotes electronically and more quickly. We changed banks making international transactions simpler for our Canadian members – and for the treasurer. We created new avenues for you to pursue your skills and your creativity with Silver and Gold Designer and Semi-Master Stitcher and Master Stitcher. We made it easier to bring pictures to seminar now that they no longer need to be framed. We overhauled the judging system, concentrating on the picture as a whole and not focusing on what mistakes may have been made. And most recently we updated criteria for becoming instructors now that the Basic 50 is no longer available.

These changes are a reflection of our desire to listen to what YOU, the members want, and to better serve the membership as a whole. These changes have been suggested, discussed and implemented by the officers, the judging committee and the Council of Masters for which I thank them. I am very pleased to be able to say that I played a small part in it all. It has been an honor to serve the ABEA in the capacities of Recording Secretary and President. I would like to thank my officers Barbara Lane, Anita Palmer and Beverly Enos, and I wish success and the best of luck to our new slate of officers – Kate Baird, Evelyn Brown, Anita Palmer and Vicki May

*Sharon*

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### ABEA Officers for 2012-2013 Years

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