

Chapter News

Chapters have recently received the 2005-2006 Chapter Project Book and the updated 2006 edition of the President's Handbook. These publications are filled with valuable information, and I encourage everyone to take the time to review them. The projects from the Chapter Project Book are intended to be used for chapter programs. They may be made available to members who are not able to attend the chapter meeting. Members-at-large may have access to these projects by joining a chapter.

EASTERN AREA NEWS

Judy Badger, Area Representative



The latticed needlepoint design by Heidi Kelleher.



Another interpretation.



The bargello-inspired design by Dee Lande.

New Jersey Needle Artists

Chapter members stitched their choice of two member-designed brick covers during 2005. Chapter President Heidi Kelleher created a latticed needlepoint cover and Dee Lande, editor of the chapter's newsletter, designed a bargello-inspired cover. Heidi and Dee presented one or two stitches at every monthly meeting, culminating in the demonstration of two brick finishing techniques in November. Some members chose to stitch both designs; some bought new threads and others raided their stashes. We marveled over the different effects that each stitcher created as we inspired each other to try variations of the presented stitches. Members also shared their intentions for using the covered bricks as frame weights, bookends, doorstops, or even as Christmas gifts for friends.

The chapter is naturally proud of its two talented designers and of its unique and

beautiful 2005 stitching project.

Congratulations to the **Northern Virginia Chapter** for being one of the first chapters to undertake a project from the 2005-2006 Chapter Project Book. Their January program was the delightful ort box.

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA NEWS

Melinda Burr, Area Representative

The **Cahaba Lily Chapter** (AL) has recently committed to a new community service project thanks to Sara Campbell,



Sorting items donated to Needle Delights' Project Shoebox are, from left, Jane Guthrie, Sara Campbell, and Beverly Culwell. Not pictured: B.J. Scharath.

the new chairman for community service. The chapter is participating in Project Shoebox, an effort organized by Needle Delights in Pensacola, Florida, to help needleworkers along the coast who lost everything after the ravages of Hurricane Katrina, including all of their needlework canvases, threads, scissors, and accessories. How appropriate that Needle Delights is the organizer — they were wiped out by Hurricane Ivan last year. The Lilies are very proud of the donations made by the chapter, which were enough to fill the trunk of member Jane Guthrie's car!

WESTERN AREA NEWS

Doris Akers, Area Representative

Western Area chapters deserve a hardy pat on the back for their many charitable contributions during 2005. To name a few: **Cactus Wren Chapter** (AZ) donated to Toys for Tots, **Portland Chapter** (OR) donated items to Habitat for Humanity to be used in its Community Center, **Sunkissed Stitchers Chapter** (CA) donated new toiletry items to YWCA Wings, and **Wine Country Chapter** (CA) donated socks and underwear to a local charity.

The Western Area chapters are also busy working on their ANG Auction projects for the 2006 Seminar in Tucson. Word has it that the members of the **Mt. Tam Canvas Workers Chapter** (CA) are working on another tree for the Auction. Their last one sold for \$16,000 at Auction and spawned a gorgeous book.

SOUTHEASTERN AREA NEWS

Ellen Miller, Area Representative

The **Queen Charlotte Chapter** (NC) concluded their 2005 Bring and Brag program at their holiday party. Each month, the members are encouraged to bring their finished pieces to chapter meetings for "show and tell." The items must be stitched to completion, but don't have to be mounted or framed. For each completed piece, the member puts her name on a slip of paper, which is used for a drawing at the end of the year. The winner can choose from a variety of prizes: a gift certificate from her favorite needlework shop, a magazine subscription, a book, or another needlework-related item. It can also be used to defray the cost of ANG dues or an ANG educational opportunity. This is certainly a win-win for all involved.