

CACTUS CABLERS

Fall, 2003

E-NEWSLETTER

Vol. 15, No. 4

Letter from the President



This is my last letter as president of the Cactus Cablers and I must admit I've enjoyed it immensely. Being a leader [so to speak] was not as difficult as I thought it would be.

The worst part for me was writing the president's letter. Often the writer's current mood is reflected in what is written and so it is with me. I always avoid writing if I'm not in the right mood because my emotion comes through.....and I do tend to be long-winded. Enough of the emotional stuff, lets get down to the fun stuff!

The field trip to Patagonia was outstanding. It was just before 10:00 when we arrived in Patagonia. We were so interested in looking around that we missed the turn off to Pat's house, which was where we just happened to be looking! Before we realized it, we were heading out of town! The town was so peaceful and quiet; it was as if no one had awakened yet. After the grand tour of Pat's house, we got to work making WeeCare© gowns. At lunch, we ate outside where the air was so fresh and there were no sounds of traffic.

Leaving Pat's, we went to a winery that Dorothy knew about, and everyone proceeded to sample wine and buy the man's wares. It was a very special day in the beautiful countryside, and we even managed to get some WeeCare© work done.

Everything gets kind of hectic at years end. I know in my family it starts around the first week in November with birthdays [five] and goes until after Christmas. Then we lose focus and just veg-out, but in the New Year

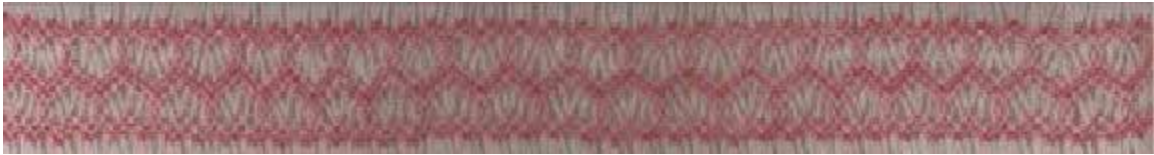
we'll fall back into an easy routine and hope we'll get ahead before the next holiday season-----we never do.

Things change, but basically stay the same. Every year I tell myself I'm going to get ahead of the rush, I try, but it seldom happens. That's because life fills in if one lets it. This is exactly what happens to me. I guess, for me there will only be momentary gaps, but I wouldn't have it any other way. I can always have hope though!

Terri

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PROGRAMS

November 19th - Madeira Appliqué & Embroidery – Debi Rix

This is a SAGA Chapter program featuring hand embroidery of a handkerchief using a Madeira motif in one corner with pin stitch technique to stitch colored fabric on white fabric and embellish another corner with embroidery such as stem stitch, lazy daisy, and granitos.

Mini-lesson – Honeycomb Smocking – Linda Richards

One of the oldest and most elastic smocking stitches, which can be used very effectively in adult wear.

December 6th – Holiday Party

See you at 12:30 p.m. at the Tohono Chul Tea Room. If you are planning to attend, make sure you have signed up with Gwenn Engle!

January 21st, 2004 – SAGA Trunk Show

What a way to start the year – no one has to prepare a program! Just come for a most enjoyable afternoon of viewing lovely garments made by smockers from across the country. You'll leave inspired and ready to get started on your own special garment!

February 18th – Traditional Smocks – Pat Mencke

Pat will show us how to create lovely smocked garments with rectangles of fabric. This is the original and traditional manner in which smocked garments were made.

Mini-lesson –??????

What are you interested in learning this year?

Refreshments

January – Incredible Edibles anyone??????

February – Loretta Paxton & Linda Richards

Sit & Stitch (aka Stitch & Bitch!)

January 6th – Linda Richards' home

Wow!!!! Those of you who had to miss the "field trip" Sit & Stitch Pat Mencke's home in Patagonia missed a real treat. We had a great time. The weather was perfect, our hostess was delightful, the food was amazing and the stop at the winery on the way home was a blast!! In addition to all of that, we worked on 12 gowns!

We meet the first Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. unless otherwise announced. **We are now focusing on Wee Care© gowns at each Sit & Stitch.**

Bring a salad or dessert to share for lunch. The hostess will provide the beverages. Please call (or e-mail) the hostess if you are planning to attend – if you don't, you might not have a chair! If you need directions to any of the homes for the next meetings, get in touch with the hostess.

**Community
Service Projects
etc.**

**UMC, TMC 7 St.
Joseph's - Wee Care©
gowns in three sizes,
hooded blankets &
knitted caps**

This is an on going project and if you find yourself with time on your hands, please feel free to contact Terri and ask for fabric. You don't have to wait for a kit to do a gown. Terri will supply you with fabric **Holiday** if you want to do a gown from start to finish. This is a great way to learn to smock for our beginners. The project is small enough not to be overwhelming and only simple stitches are needed to make a beautiful gown!

**Please do your share
and help keep Terri
supplied with gowns!**



**Arizona School for the
Deaf and Blind -
"Joanie doll" and quilts**

Pat Grabber is putting together kits with fabric squares and batting for the quilts. **Terri** has created the pattern for the doll clothes and **Linda** has digitized the embroidery design for the doll faces and body text and made a pattern for the bodies. Please help anywhere you can with this project. All aspects of this project are really quite simple!

**Davis Monthon AFB -
Military Families –
Holiday Donations**

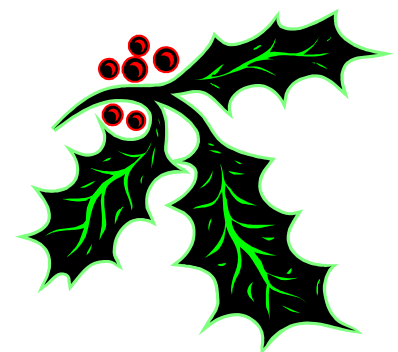
We have decided this year that it would be very appropriate to support our military families. Many of these families have a parent or sometimes both parents who are serving our country overseas in Iraq or other far away places. This puts a strain on the families especially during the holidays.

We will be donating clothing for children, smocked or unsmocked, in any size that you choose to make. Toys, books, games etc. are

also very appropriate donations. If you would like to make a cash donation, one of our members with base privileges will purchase gift certificates for the commissary. These are to be unwrapped gifts and they will be dispersed by someone on the base who is familiar with the families in need.

SAGA Raffle Basket

Thanks to all of you who contributed to the basket we sent to the SAGA National Convention. It was beautiful and it was won by a SAGA member from Chesapeake Treasures which happens to be the chapter Dorothy's sister belongs to, it's a small world isn't it!! She loved everything and we received a beautiful thank you note.





2004 Workshop

Desert Rows SAGA Chapter Phoenix, AZ

Keep Saturday, March 13, 2004 open for a workshop sponsored by Desert Rows in Phoenix. We have participated back and forth with these ladies for many years and always have a great time! You won't want to miss this workshop – we always have a great time!

2004 Raffle Doll “Vivian”

There is not much time left to get your garments made for the raffle doll!! If you want to earn points that go toward paying your SAGA dues, you must make something for the doll and/or sell tickets.

Tickets are going fast this year. Get yours at the meeting this month if you haven't already taken some. And make sure you buy some for yourself!!

All ticket money and clothes must be turned in at the holiday party to be counted. The winning raffle ticket is drawn that day and the doll is delivered soon after that to the winner.

Raglan Sleeve Cardigan Sweater for 18” Doll

By Myrna Cruz

(Reprinted from Cable Car Cablers Sept/Oct'92)

3 ply yarn

#2 & #3 needles

Gauge stockinette stitch: 13 stitches = 2” 9 rows = 1”

Back: Cast on 46 stitches using #2 needles. K1, P1 for 6 rows of ribbing. With #3 needles, work stockinette stitch for 3 ¼” (K1 row, P1 row), ending with a purl row. Bind off 2 stitches at the beginning of the next 2 rows; 42 stitches will remain.

To shape raglan sleeve:

Row 1: K1, K2 tog, K to last 3 stitches; K2 tog, K1.

Row 2: Purl

Repeat these last 2 rows until 12 decrease rows have been worked ending with a purl row. Put remaining 18 stitches on a holder.

Left Front: Cast on 28 stitches using #2 needles. K1, P1 for 6 rows of ribbing. With #3 needles, work stockinette stitch for 3 ¼”, (keeping the last 7 stitches in K1, P1 ribbing) ending with a purl row. Bind off 2 stitches at the beginning of the next row; 26 stitches will remain.

To shape raglan sleeve:

Row 1: K1, K2 tog, K to last 7 stitches (keep these 7 stitches in ribbing)

Row 2: first 7 stitches are in ribbing, purl the remaining stitches.

Repeat these last 2 rows until 12 decrease rows have been worked ending with a purl row. Put remaining 14 stitches on a holder.

Right Front: Work as for the left front, reversing front band and armhole edge.

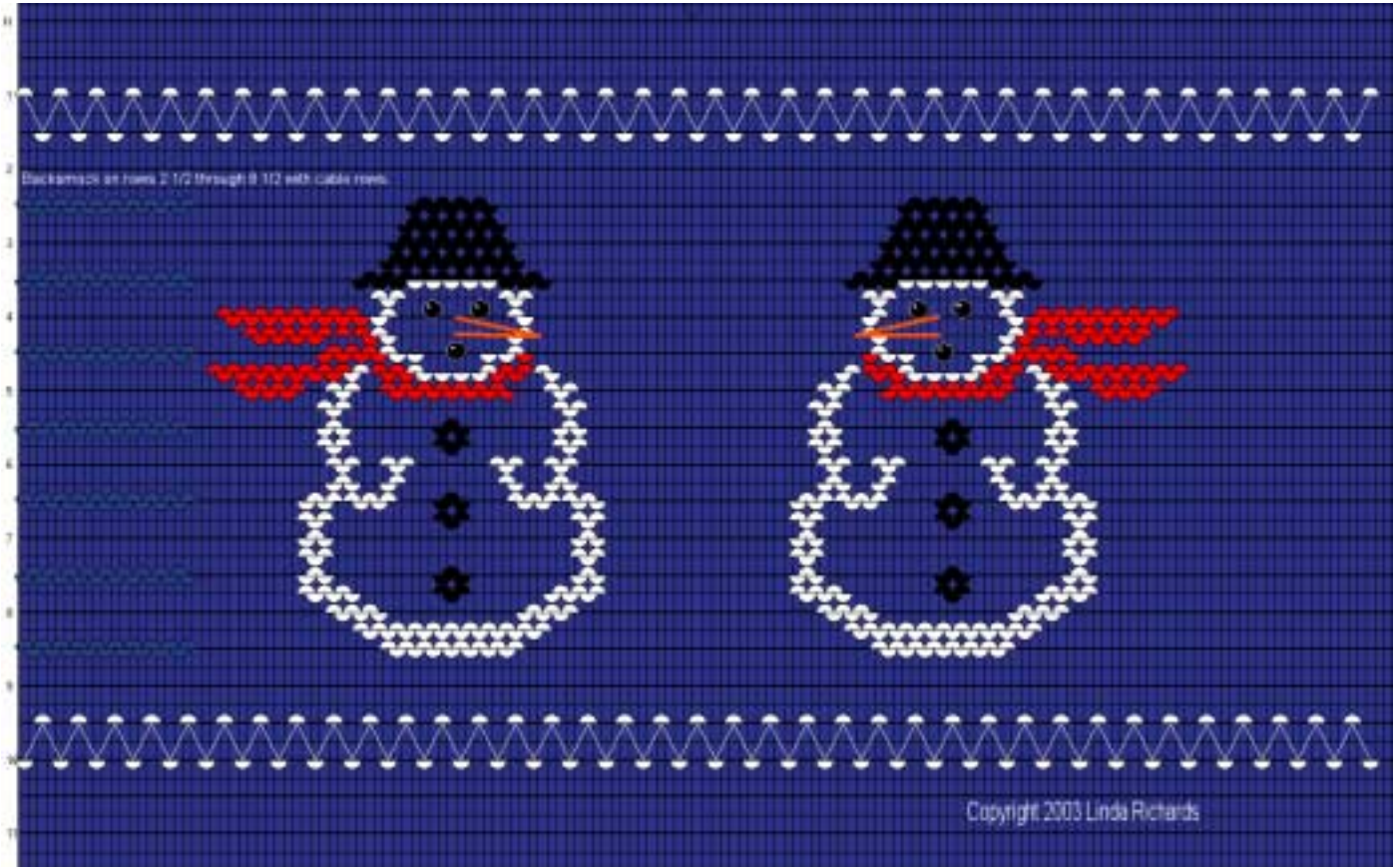
For buttons you can just sew buttons onto the front band and use Velcro to close the sweater. If you choose to knit the buttonholes, mark your 5 or 6 buttonholes evenly and work as follows on the right front (Purl side of the front band), **First Row:** purl to last 6 stitches; K1, P1, bind off 1 stitch, P1, K1, P1. **Second Row:** K1, P1, K1, cast on one stitch, K1, P1; then continue to end of row as usual.

Sleeves (make 2): Cast on 38 stitches using a #2 needle. K1, P1 for 6 rows. With #3 needles, work in stockinette stitch for 3 ½”. Bind off 2 stitches at the beginning of the next 2 rows; 34 stitches will remain. Start raglan decreasing (as for back) decreasing 2 stitches at each side of sleeve on every Knit row. Repeat until 12 decrease rows have been worked, ending with a Purl row; 10 stitches will remain. Place on holders.

Assemble the sweater by stitching all of the sleeve seams only (left front to sleeve, sleeve to back, back to next sleeve seam, then last sleeve seam to right front). From the right side, pick up all stitches that are on the holder (66 stitches in all). Work these 66 stitches in ribbing, (K1, P1) for 6 rows and bind off loosely in ribbing stitch. Then sew the underarm and side seams together.



SMOCKING PLATE



SNOWMEN

INSTRUCTIONS:

Row 1 – 1 ½: work Baby Wave across row using White (DMC Color# Blanc)

Row 9 ½ - 10: work Baby Wave across row using White (DMC Color# Blanc)

Backsmocking:

Row 2 ½ - Row 8 ½: Cable across row using Navy Blue (DMC Color # 336)

Left Snowman:

Row 2 ½: Begin on pleat 44, begin with a down Cable using Black, cable 9.

Row 2 ¾: On pleat 43 with a down cable, cable 11.

Row 3: On pleat 42 with a down cable, cable 13.

Row 3 ¼: On pleat 41 with a down cable, cable 15.

Row 3 ½: On pleat 38 with a down cable, cable 6 black, *cable 1 white, cable 1 black*, repeat directions between ** 4 more times, cable 6 black.



Row 3 $\frac{3}{4}$: On pleat 40, with an up cable using White, cable 3. Skip over to pleat 54 and with an up cable, cable 3.

Row 4: On pleat 23 with an up cable using Bright Orange Red (DMC Color# 606), cable 16; skip one cable, cable 2 using white; skip over to pleat 55 and beginning with an up cable, cable 2 white.

Row 4 $\frac{1}{4}$: On pleat 26 with an up cable using Bright Orange Red, cable 9, skip one cable, cable 2; cable 2 white. Skip over to pleat 55 and beginning with a down cable, cable 2 white.

Row 4 $\frac{1}{2}$: On pleat 34 work a Down Cable using Bright Orange Red, cable 7, cable 2 white, skip one cable, cable 1 white; skip over to pleat 52 cable 1 white, skip one cable, cable 2 white, cable 1 Bright Orange Red.

Row 4 $\frac{3}{4}$: On pleat 22 with an up cable using Bright Orange Red, cable 15, cable 2 white, skip one cable, cable 4 Bright Orange Red, cable 2 white, *skip one cable, cable 1 down cable*, repeat directions between ** twice more, cable 1 up cable white, cable 4 Bright Orange Red, skip one cable, cable 2 white.

Row 5: On pleat 25 with an up cable using Bright Orange Red cable 7, skip three cables; begin with an up cable, cable 3 white; skip 3 cables, begin with an up cable, cable 13 Bright Orange Red; skip over to pleat 59, begin with an up cable and cable 3 white.

Row 5 $\frac{1}{4}$: On pleat 34 with an up cable using White, cable 3; skip over to pleat 60 with an up cable, cable 3.

Row 5 $\frac{1}{2}$: On pleat 34 with a down cable using White, cable 3; skip over to pleat 60 with a down cable, cable 3.

Row 5 $\frac{3}{4}$: On pleat 34 with an up cable using White, cable 3; skip over to pleat 60 with an up cable, cable 3.

Row 6: On pleat 35 with an up cable using White, cable 3; skip over to pleat 41 with an up cable; skip over to pleat 53 with an up cable, cable 3; skip over to pleat 59 with an up cable, cable 3.

Row 6 $\frac{1}{4}$: On pleat 35 with a down cable using White, cable 3; skip over to pleat 42 with a down cable, cable 2; skip over to pleat 54 with an up cable, cable 2; skip over to pleat 59 with a down, cable 3.

Row 6 $\frac{1}{2}$: On pleat 32 with a down cable using White, cable 4; skip one cable; cable 5; skip over to pleat 55 with an up cable, cable 5; skip one cable, cable 4.

Row 6 $\frac{3}{4}$: On pleat 32 with an up Cable using White, cable 3; skip over to pleat 62 with an up cable, cable 3.

Row 7: On Pleat 32 with a down cable using white, cable 3; skip over to pleat 62 with a down cable, cable 3.

Row 7 $\frac{1}{4}$: On Pleat 32 with an up cable using white, cable 3; skip over to pleat 62 with an up cable, cable 3.

Row 7 $\frac{1}{2}$: On Pleat 32 with a down cable using white, cable 3; skip over to pleat 62 with a down cable, cable 3.

Row 7 $\frac{3}{4}$: On Pleat 32 with an up cable using white, cable 6 skip over to pleat 59 with a down cable, cable 6.

Row 8: On Pleat 35 with an up cable using white, cable 6 skip over to pleat 56 with a down cable, cable 6.

Row 8 $\frac{1}{4}$: On pleat 38 with an up cable using White, cable 21.

Row 8 $\frac{1}{2}$: On pleat 41 with an up cable using White, cable 15.

Right Snowman:

Reverse the instructions for the left snowman and work according to graph between pleats 86 and

Embellishments:

Row 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 5 $\frac{3}{4}$: Work a 6 cable floweret in black beginning on pleat 47; skip over to pleat 102 and work another 6 cable floweret for the right snowman.

Row 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 6 $\frac{3}{4}$: Work a 6 cable floweret in black beginning on pleat 47; skip over to pleat 102 and work another 6 cable floweret for the right snowman.

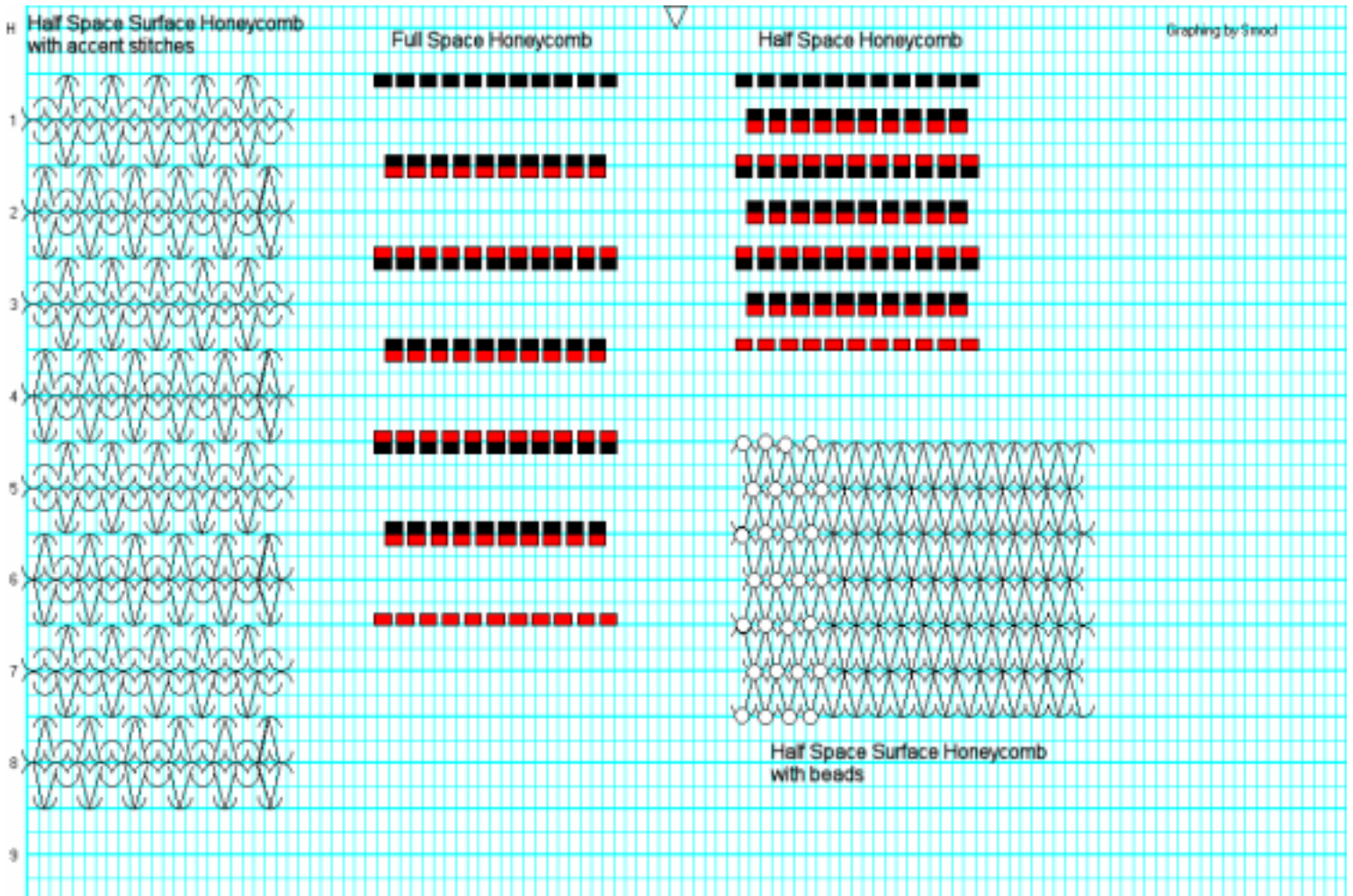
Row 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 7 $\frac{3}{4}$: Work a 6 cable floweret in black beginning on pleat 47; skip over to pleat 102 and work another 6 cable floweret for the right snowman.

Add small black beads for the eyes and mouth. Work a long bouillon in orange for the carrot nose.



NOVEMBER STITCH OF THE MONTH

Honeycomb Smocking



1. The Honeycomb Stitch is very elastic! It is most beautiful when you allow for that and stretch and block the design so that the open spaces are visible between the stitches – the honeycomb!!
2. This stitch is worked from the left to the right and the mantra is “old pleat, new pleat”. You are always using an old pleat along with a new pleat to form the stitch.
3. This stitch should be worked in a block with the stitches perfectly aligned in mirrored rows to get the best effect.
4. This stitch also uses more thread than other stitches because each pleat is used twice.
5. This stitch can be worked in the traditional manner in which just the level stitches show on the front or such that the carrying thread between the level stitches is visible on the front.



PATTERN REVIEW

“Frannie” Toddler’s Pocket Dress by Lyn Weeks



This is an adorable pattern! I just loved making it. The directions were clear and easy to follow. The piping detail on the yoke, collar and pocket are nice touch for a very simple little dress. I made a size four, and although it hasn't been worn yet, it looks like the sizing is accurate. There is a smocked version and an unsmocked version. It also includes a petticoat pattern and there are three pocket variations. This makes up fairly quickly and there is a minimal amount of smocking making the entire dress a fast project.

This dress reminds me of dresses my mother wore when she was a little girl. It's just old fashioned enough to be right in vogue! Check out the beautiful pictures of this dress on [Lyn Weeks'](#) site.

Reviewed by Linda Richards

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