



Letter from the President



As our membership grows by leaps and bounds, I am encouraged by the many positive ideas I have received. I love to see your smiling faces as you come in the

door.

Did you notice that we received recognition in *SAGANews* for our "Each One Teach One" program? An experienced smocker teaches a newer, less experienced smocker, how to smock. Their project piece is a Wee Care© gown.

Linda Richards has collected twenty years of Wee Care© plates and has published them in our newsletter for our convenience. If you need to know how to get a copy, just ask. Thanks, Linda.

We also have a Sit & Stitch and potluck luncheon the second Tuesday of each month at a member's home where we construct the gowns. What fun we have! Everyone is welcome, we have a ball.

If you have any ideas for programs call Linda or myself. If you wish to conduct one of these, please let us know. We need the support of each and every member when it comes to our program schedule. We have a couple of very exciting and creative programs already lined up for the first part of the year but we still have some program openings.

Don't forget the AZ State Workshop in Phoenix on March 13, hosted by Desert Rows this year. Their ladies have been very busy planning and have a wonderful day in store for us.

We'll have a great year.....

Jacki

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Mary Glenn Memorial

We haven't had a meeting since Mary Glenn passed away in early December and we need to decide what we would like to do in her memory. A donation to SAGA has been suggested. Mary loved smocking and was a longtime early member of SAGA.

PROGRAMS

January 21st - SAGA Trunk Show

Our favorite and most relaxing program of the year! You don't have to do anything but show up and enjoy beautiful garments from across the country. What a way to start the New Year!

Mini-lesson – mini lessons begin again next month.

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 – Smocking on knits – Linda Richards

A fun and modern twist on traditional smocking.

March 17th – Wee Care© Workshop

We now supply three hospitals with WeeCare© gowns. That means we

need to stay on top of this project all year long. We have been using the Sit & Stitch for WeeCare© but we still need a couple of regular meeting workshops in order to keep up.

What to bring:

Sewing machine, serger, pleater, scissors, marking pen, iron and pad, mcs. supplies

Mini-lesson - no mini lesson this month.

April 21st – Backsmocking is more than utilitarian! – Terri Kilgore

Terri has been inspired once again to take something very simple and turn it into something very elegant!

Backsmocking can be plain, ordinary and utilitarian, except in Terri's hands! Terri will show us some samples that will change your mind forever about how to use backsmocking to your advantage!!

Mini-lesson – Pleating two layers of fabric – Linda Richards

Refreshments

January – Incredible Edibles

February – Loretta Paxton & Linda Richards

March – Terri Kilgore & Jacki Spatafore

April – ?????

Sit & Stitch (aka Stitch & Bitch!)

February 3rd – Terri Kilgore

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.

March 2nd – Please Volunteer

Community Service Projects etc.

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

We had a great turnout for the first Sit & Stitch of the year and it was a very productive group. Ten of us were able to get 22 gowns well underway for our Wee Care© commitment to St. Joseph's.

But, that is not nearly enough!!! March will be a regular Wee Care© workshop – check the program section of the newsletter for the list of items to bring.

Also, you can feel free to contact **Terri** for fabric if you want to construct gowns on your own and help **Terri** get them ready for the kits.

Please remember this is a group commitment and we all need to do our share and help keep Terri supplied with gowns!

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

Kits will be available very soon!

Davis Monthan AFB – Holiday Follow-Up

Gloria, my contact at DM, apologized for not sending a Thank You card out yet, but things are still pretty hectic in their office. I can attest to that because I tried three times before I finally reached her! She was always with a client.

She said that everything was met with rave reviews. Sizes 5 and under worked out fine, but if we choose to do this again next year, it would be better to lean toward the very young child. I know how we all just hate doing the INFANT-TODDLER things!

Most of the enlisted men & women are very young, and therefore have younger children. Very few are more than 7 years old.

The fact that all the items were unwrapped gave them a better chance to

pair up a child with the proper gift. In some instances even trying on the clothes to make sure they fit!

Thumbs up ladies---job well done!! **Terri**

2004 Workshop

**Desert Rows SAGA
Chapter
Phoenix, AZ**

March 13, 2004

The day will begin at 9 AM with a continental breakfast. This will allow a little time for those caught in traffic and other delays. We have not set the exact time schedule for the programs, but we will have several learning opportunities throughout the morning with free kits provided, and then break for the luncheon.

Throughout the day we will give everyone ample time to purchase raffle tickets for the many items on our raffle table, including two dolls. One doll is the new "Kit," a *Pleasant Company* doll with wardrobe and the other is an original *Smocking Sadie*, who was designed and clothed

by two of our chapter members.

After lunch, we will have another mini-class and then show and share. Please encourage all of your members to bring anything that they have made in the past year -- it does not have to be smocked; we enjoy all of the needle arts. A tag with pertinent information about the item should be attached to all show and share.

The women of **Desert Rows** have been preparing and really looking forward to this annual get together. We have prizes and surprises galore. At the close of the day, we hope to have lots of happy raffle prize winners, to have shared much smocking wisdom, and to have strengthened our friendships

New Members

We also had a stellar year in 2003 as far as new membership goes. We added **seven** brand new *official members* at the end of the year to our roster. Please welcome **Betty Olson, Linda Reed, Susan Price, Marion Dennison, Pat Grabher, Marilyn**

Bedell and Janet Enneper. Technically that means we increased our membership by 39% in one year!! Most of these ladies also jumped right in and participated in the doll raffle and also earned a portion or more of their SAGA dues.

Welcome ladies, we look forward to getting to know all of you better as the year passes!

To All of You

“Special people can turn an ordinary day into an extraordinary one.”

You made my day very beautiful, my heart very glad.

Thank you,
Bea Wilson

(From the Thank You card
Bea sent.)

2004 Raffle Doll “Jill”

You can start your sewing **EARLY** this year ladies!! We will be receiving a “Jill” doll again this year for our raffle and she will be here soon!!!!

“Jill” was the doll we raffled in 2002 and she was just adorable, can’t wait to see this one. Everything except the head is the same as the doll you were just sewing for – so keep on sewing and get your contributions in before the end of the year mad rush we all seem to face!!

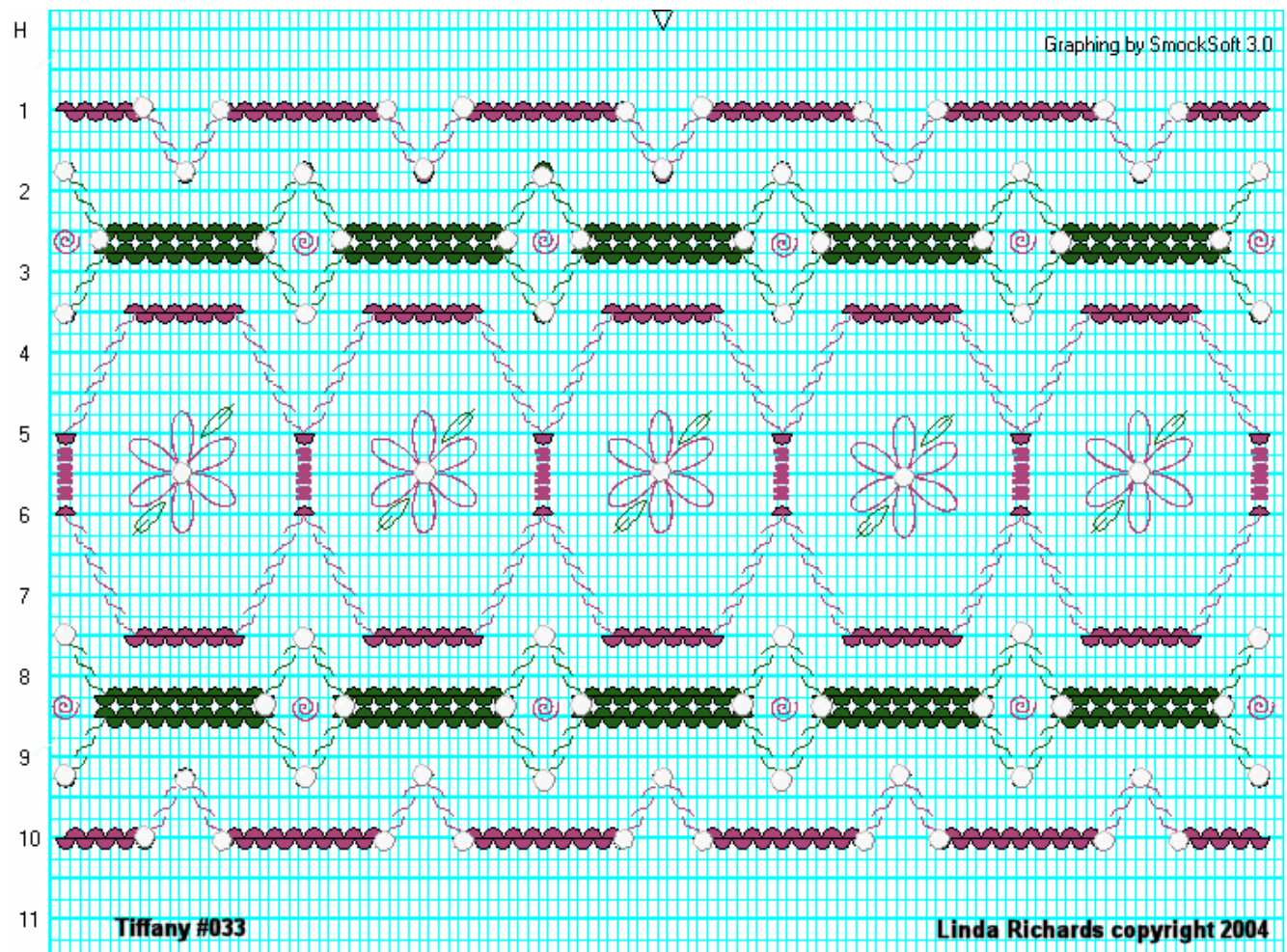
2003 Raffle Update

Considering that we got off to a rather slow start, we did amazingly well with our doll raffle this past year!!

We earned **\$907.00** in ticket sales and in addition we were given a very generous donation of **\$500.00** from the **Southern Arizona Telephone Pioneers** to be used for our Wee Care© project!! **Dorothy Badart** was quite instrumental in garnering this donation for us. Thirteen members earned their SAGA dues paid in full and nine others earned a portion of their dues. Nicely done ladies!!

SMOCKING PLATE

Tiffany



Smocking Instructions:

Pleat 12 rows. Design requires 186 pleats, DMC floss # 369, #3689, #604, white and *Mill Hill*® Antique Glass Beads #03021.

Backsmock on the first and last holding rows and on rows 4 ½ & 6 ½ with a cable stitch.

Row 1 ¾: Begin smocking in the center to establish and center the design. Begin with a down cable on the center two pleats and add a bead. **Trellis three up to row 1, add a bead to the first cable and cable 17 adding a bead to the last cable, trellis three down to row 1 ¾, make a down cable with a bead**. Repeat directions between ** - ** across row. Turn work upside down and repeat design to the other end.

Row 2 ½: Begin in the center again with a down cable. Cable 9, adding a bead to the last cable. Repeat the trellis three up to row 1 ¾, cable stitch with a bead, trellis three down to row 2 ½, cable 17. Always add a bead to first and last cable stitch before and after the trellis combination.

Row 2 ¾: Work a mirror stitch of the previous row. Do not add an extra bead at the beginning and ending of the cable stitches – just pass the needle through the bead already in place.

Row 3 ½: Begin in the center with a down cable. Cable 6, **trellis 6 down to row 5, cable 1, trellis 6 up to row 3 ½, cable 11**. Repeat directions between ** - ** across row. Turn work upside down and repeat design to the other end.

Row 6 – 7 ½: Work mirror stitch of the previous row. Finish frames by satin stitching over two pleats between rows 5 & 6 as shown on graph.

Rows 7 ½ - 9 ¼: Repeat directions for rows 2 ½ and 2 ¾.

Rows 9 ¼ - 10: Repeat row 1 ¾.

Embellishments:

Rose Buds: Work a 25 wrap bullion stitch in the center of each diamond created between rows 1 ¾ and 3 ½ and rows 7 ½ and 9 ¼. Form the bullion into a circle, tack the free side down. Add a French knot to the center to complete the flower.

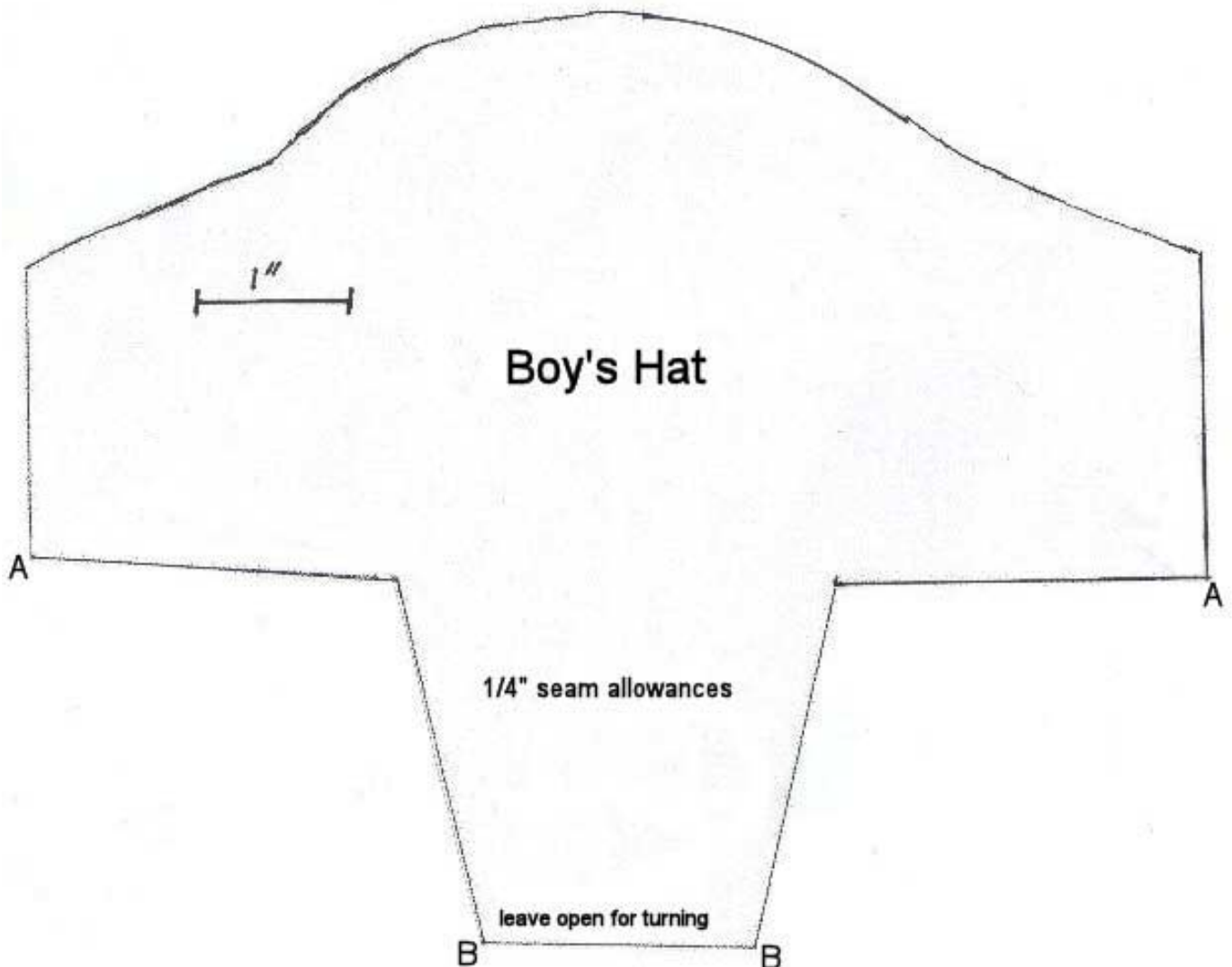
Flowers - Work a 5 or 6 petal flower in the center of each trellis frame. Use a 30 wrap bullion for each petal, leave the petals free, do not tack down the top of the loop. Add a bead to the center and complete with lazy daisy leaves.

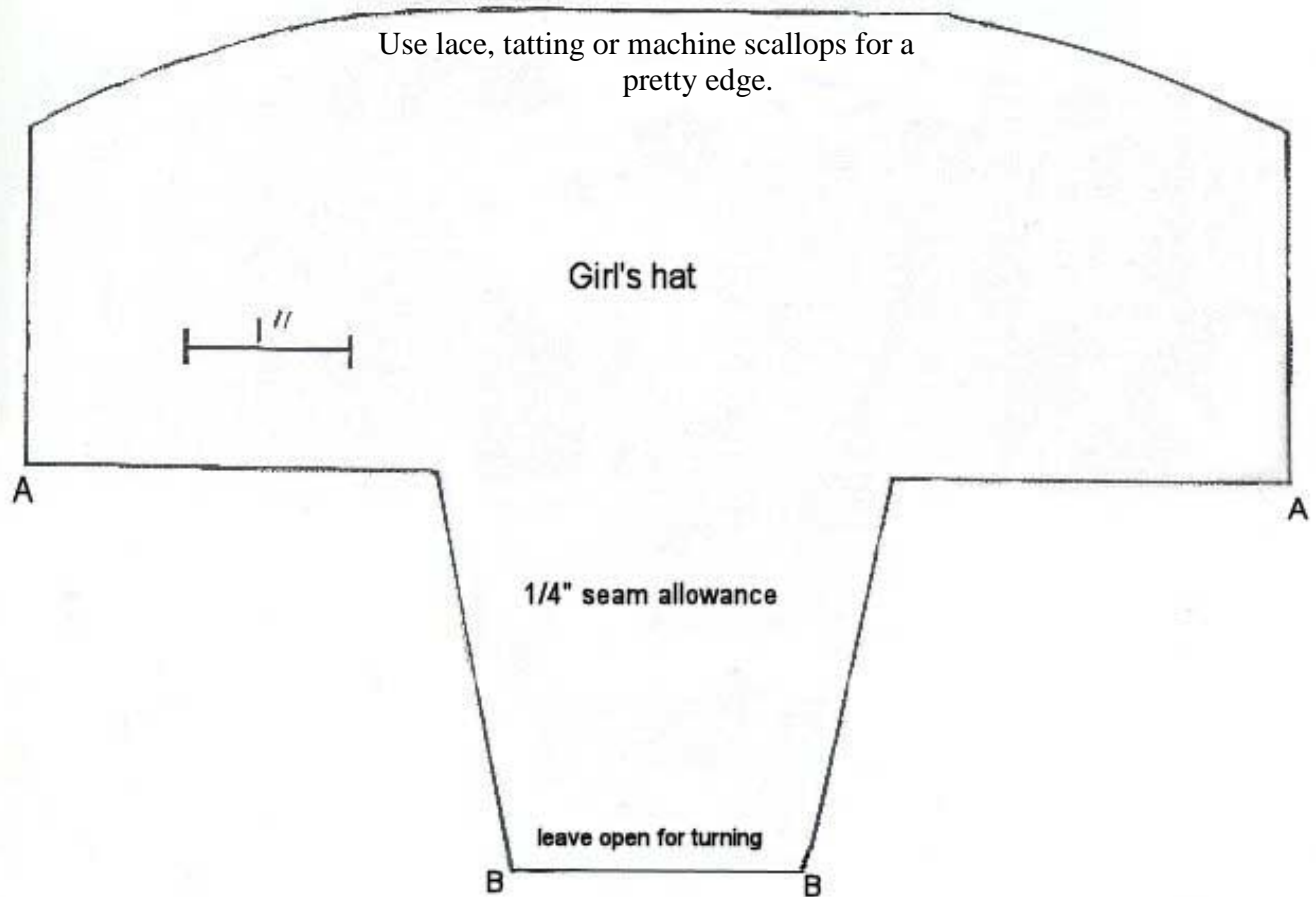
Wee Care© Bonnets

Terri Kilgore has resized and reshaped somewhat the Wee Care© bonnets from the Spring 2003, issue of *SAGANews* to fit our needs a little better.

The following patterns for a little boy or a little girl will allow you to be as creative as you would like to be by using shadow embroidery, machine embroidery, heirloom hand stitching or anything else you might like to embellish the top of the bonnet. Embellish the front edge of the girl's hat with lace, tatting or a scalloped machine embroidery stitch. Make sure the 1" mark on the pattern *actually measures 1"* when you reprint the pattern to insure that the size will be correct.

Draw the pattern on a 12" square of batiste and complete your desired design *before* cutting out the hat. Construct the hat using *three* layers of batiste and $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances. Turn right side out, stitch closed opening left for turning. Meet point "A" to point "B" and join with a small baby button. Add ribbon ties.





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