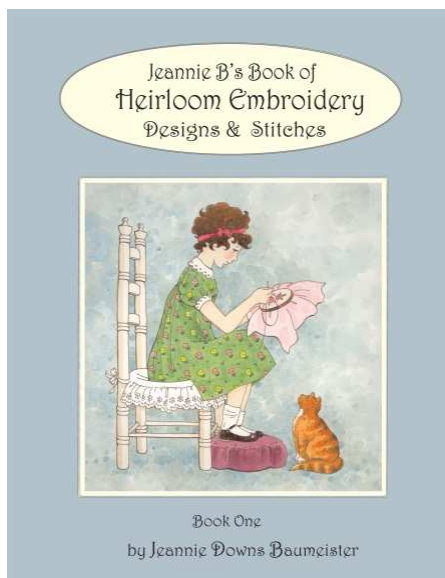


Hello everyone! (feel free to forward this to your friends!)

## January 2008

Welcome to a new year- hopefully full of ideas and stitching!  
One of the things that I miss the most, living here in Southern California, is the seasons. Since I grew up with seasons, I think I (unconsciously) marked the passing of time with the changing of the seasons. Out here we have almost summer, summer and almost the end of summer! The weather is pretty constant and nothing ever slows down because it is winter. Well, we are definitely experiencing a California winter right now! It has rained for the last week, and I have been able to enjoy one of my favorite pleasures – curling up with a space heater at my feet and stitching while I listen to the rain! It will probably be the only rain we get this year, but I will enjoy it while it is here! I was fortunate enough to be able to go to a needlework show in Long Beach a few weeks ago – I brought home lots of ideas and some new items that I will be carrying – I will be introducing them in the next few newsletters. This newsletter I am going to be talking about the importance of being **On Grain**, especially when cutting out your garment pieces. Also, at the end I have attached information about this year's Stitching Serenity in Santa Barbara. We are pleased to announce Julia Golson as our teacher! For those of you who aren't familiar with her, she is a wonderful teacher that does exquisite embroidery. She does not teach often these days, so we are very fortunate to have her as our guest teacher!



Jeannie Baumeister of the Old Fashioned Baby patterns is introducing her new book, Jeannie B's Book of Heirloom Embroidery Designs and Stitches, Book One. For any one who loves to stitch, especially on baby garments, this book will be a welcome addition to your library! Scheduled to arrive early February, Reg \$20

Special **\$16**

**DOVO Scissors** I was able to see the complete line of DOVO scissors at the Needlework show, and there are several styles that I am going to be adding to those I already carry!



The first style is a 3 ½ inch, fine point **curved** pair of scissors. The points on the blade are fine enough to slip under the smallest stitch. The curved blade enables you to lift up the stitch and then clip, keeping the blades away from the fabric! Reg \$40, for this newsletter, they are on sale for

**\$35.00**



Next, I have another **curved** blade style. These scissors are all the rage with machine embroiderers (and anyone who sews on a machine). The scissors are 4 inches, which is long enough to actually reach under the foot of your machine. The blades are curved, and each blade has a tiny nub at the end, similar to the nub on the 1 nub scissors used to cut fabric away behind lace and Madeira applique'. The nubs let you clip away at threads while the fabric is still under your machine foot without the points clipping the fabric.

\*\*\*Please note that the pictured scissors **DO NOT** show a curved blade – I don't have a picture available for that style.

Reg. \$42 they are on special for **\$35.00**



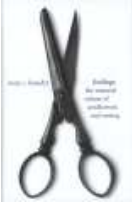
Another new style that I am adding is the DOVO Industry shear. In the garment industry workrooms, the standard shear is a clunky 9" pair of scissors that is used for cutting out garments. The longer length gives stability when cutting out each piece. The problem I have had is that they are heavy in my hand. DOVO has taken care of that with their Industry standard shear. Still 9", but cuts like a dream without the heaviness of other shears, you will love these! Reg \$175, this month as an introductory price they are

**\$150!**

Next month I will be adding more styles, so stay tuned!

\*\*\*\*\*New Book Alert\*\*\*\*\*

A new book is being released this week:



Findings: The Material Culture of Needlework by Mary Beaudry, retail \$55. It looks wonderful! Here is the deal.....my wholesale cost is \$44, and you can get it on Amazon for \$45.65, (and free shipping, as it is over \$25). Because of this, I am not going to carry it, but here is the

Amazon link, if you are interested! Cut and paste in your browser.

[http://www.amazon.com/Findings-Material-Culture-Needlework-Sewing/dp/0300110936/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1201566696&sr=8-1](http://www.amazon.com/Findings-Material-Culture-Needlework-Sewing/dp/0300110936/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1201566696&sr=8-1)

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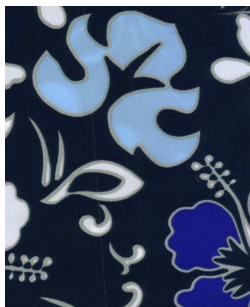
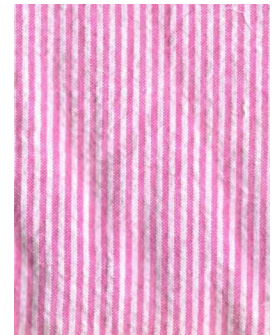
## Vaune's Fabric Closet



I found a great springtime stripe, with a seersucker feel! I have a bolt of pink stripe and blue stripe. Great for dresses, jumpers, rompers, and little boys' outfits!

This fabric is 100% cotton and is 58 inches wide!

**\$8.00** / yard



Perfect for board shorts, bathing suit cover-ups, sundress and shirts, this board short microfabric is great for kids of all ages, and yes, it does go through the pleater!

60 in wide **\$8.00** / yard

\*\*\*Jan/Feb special for your Easter sewing! All voile is **20%** off !\*\*  
(white /pink /blue /ecru /med. blue /navy /black)



New from Ott-Light, this is an Ott Light with a twist! Known for its wonderful light, this new Ott Light is RECHARGABLE! Perfect for classes when plugs are at a premium! And even better, you can use the light while it is plugged in and recharging! Rechargeable batteries and AC adapter included. Retails for \$129.95, for, it is on sale for

**\$105**

And now about *grainlines*!

When fabric is woven, the woof threads are put on the loom vertically (which would be considered the 'length' of the fabric). The warp threads are then woven in and out of the vertical threads, going from side to side (selvage to selvage). The fabric is woven on grain or on the straight, even though it may not appear that way by the time you actually buy it in a store. Each time the fabric is handled or rolled, chances are that it is not lined up perfectly and then seems to be off grain, but there are a couple ways of bringing it back in line!

When 'cutting' your fabric, to make sure that it is on grain, it can either be torn (fabric will tear along the grainline) or a thread can be pulled and then the fabric cut along the pulled thread. When I was in Madeira at the Imperial Bordados, they had a worker whose job was to cut the linen to the correct size. She started out with a roll of linen and would clip the fabric and then pull on the thread while she held the scissors open and followed the thread. She did this so quickly that each time I took a picture, she was  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way across the fabric by the time the picture actually recorded the image!

(a note about printed fabrics – if a fabric has a design that has been printed instead of woven, and the fabric was not straight as the printing began, the design will be crooked when the fabric is actually straight. If it is a stripe or an obvious pattern, please think twice before deciding to use the fabric. You have to make a choice between having your garment on grain, or having it look crooked)!

Now that I have explained a little bit about what a grainline is, let me tell you why it is important! As I explained earlier, the fabric is woven left to right. If you hold a piece of fabric, with a selvage in each hand the grainline runs vertically, perpendicular to the floor. This is the way it should hang on your body, exactly as it was woven. That means that for every piece you cut out, pretend that the grainline is pointing straight down to the ground! For sleeves the grainline should run from the center of the top of the sleeve (shoulder side) to the bottom of the sleeve. For the skirt front and the skirt back, again, the arrow should run vertically from the top to the bottom of the skirt, pointing to the ground. When pieces are not cut on the straight, they do not hang the same. If they are cut crooked, they stretch easier, have a harder time laying flat, and don't look right. Have you ever seen a Peter Pan collar that doesn't lay quite right – the edge kind of curls up instead of laying flat? That is because the collar was not cut on the straight.

Even if you are meticulous with your sewing, if the garment is not cut out correctly, it will show in the final look. The most expensive garments all take care with the way that they are cut out!

Well, I hope you have enjoyed this! If you have any questions, as always, just send me an email. The information about Julia Golson and Stitching Serenity follows, and the 2008 SAGA Convention information will be posted on the SAGA website in March, with registration in May. I know I'll be teaching there, so I hope to see you there! Next month, I have a couple of great new sewing books for kids, and I hope to have some 3, 3.5, and 4 x magnification glasses! If you are looking for something, let me know and I'll see if I can find it!

Happy Stitching!

Vaune

# Stitching Serenity VIII

The 'Berry Good Chapter of SAGA  
Invites you to join us for a 2 day class  
at St. Mary;s Retreat Center in Santa Barbara  
with our guest teacher

## Julia Golson

June 27 thru 29, 2008

Julia is a certified instructor of fine hand sewing for EGA, has studied extensively with Sarah Stone, Marion Scoular and in Madeira and Scotland: has taught since 1981 for SAGA, Martha Pullen and been published in Sew Beautiful and Creative Needle, as well as her own books, patterns and smocking plates.

Cost - \$350.00

Includes room and board and all class fees

Hold your place with a \$100 deposit

For more information or to register  
Contact Roseann Saldinger at 818-340-7642 or  
Email [sewfine22002@yahoo.com](mailto:sewfine22002@yahoo.com)  
Or Vaune Pierce at [vaune@vaune.com](mailto:vaune@vaune.com)

Check for deposit made out to Berry Good Smocker  
20530 Quedo Dr., Woodland Hills, CA 91364

Class Description

# “Two Day Embroidery Camp”

by

Julia Golson

You will create an elegant workbasket while brushing up on the pin stitch and your favorite embroidery stitches using both floche and silk ribbon. First, you will pin stitch a 7mm silk ribbon bow to the finest lined. Then embroider a lovely perennial garland that meanders on and around the bow.

The finished piece may then be laced to mat board and mounted to the basket. The kit contains the basket, linen, needles, 22 colors of floche, 7 colors of silk ribbon and instructions.

This class is approved by SAGA for 4 Artisan points

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I am coming to SS VIII

June 27-29, 2008

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_