

Info on [Stitching Weekend with Claudia Newton at the end!](#)
Hello everyone! (feel free to forward this to your friends!)

Happy Easter!

Happy Mother's Day!

For those of you waiting for the **A-Z of Whitework** and the **Embroidered Bags** books, I have just been notified that they are on their way. As soon as I get them in, I will turn around and get them shipped out to you!

This is usually my favorite time of the year. It is usually turning green for spring time, but we have only had about 2 inches of rain since November, so everything is still very brown. All of the beautiful spring and Easter decorations are staring to brighten everything up, which is wonderful!

I have been working diligently on my website – hopefully by the time you get this, it will be up and running. Check it out – www.vaune.com I just put in a new section – Vaune's Fabric Closet! I have found a source for end run fabrics down in the LA's garment district. Sometimes you can find a few treasures that can be had for a song! My imagination is brimming over with ideas for new outfits and classes. I also have all of my old newsletters posted, so if you want to read any back issues, they are all listed.

If you don't see something that you are looking for, send me an email and ask – chances are I don't have it up yet. If it is something that I don't have, I can usually tell you where to find it.

I am also on track for having my new woman's blouse pattern ready by June, and I have a few more on the drawing board!

The new issue of Creative Needle is here – check out the matching First Communion Dress and American Girl Doll Dress that I made.

Mother's Day Special!

I have just started carrying a WONDERFUL tote on wheels that you will love! Made by Tutto, it is the Rolls Royce of Machine totes! The Machine-on-Wheels is lightweight, yet sturdy, and folds down to a thin 3 inches for easy storage. It has 4 wheels, that each turn 360 degrees, enabling it to glide and turn with no problem! Inside are lots

of sectioned pockets to store your stuff, and straps to keep your machine steady. Both the sides and the top zip open, for easy access to your machine. 40% lighter than most totes this size, it is reinforced with fiberglass, making it strong enough to sit on! It comes in two sizes, and each size is available in 8 colors: Blue, Pink, Orange, Maroon, Black, Lime, Purple, and Red.

Even if you don't bring your machine, this is great for toting kits, supplies, etc. to and from class, or purchases at market! Treat yourself for Mother's Day! If you email me with your machine make and model, I can tell you which size for your machine, although I like the large size myself – more room for my things.



Medium: 19"L x
Reg. \$155.00

Mother's Day

\$130.00



12.25"H x 10"D

Special!

Large: 21"L x 13.25H x 12"D
Reg. \$175.00

Mother's Day Special

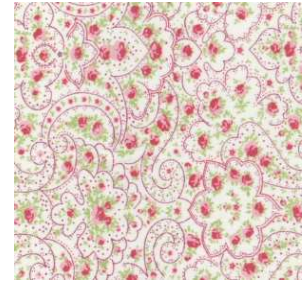
\$150.00

Fabric store for you! There is a nifty little fabric store in Oxnard, CA called Fabric Well (3075 Saviers Rd., 805-486-7826).

They don't do mail order, but if you are ever down in this neck of the woods, it is worth a visit. They have a lot of fabric – mostly quilting, but they also get in end runs of oddball fabric, and if you hit it right, Bingo! I have gotten linen, pique, lawn, cotton prints, and velvet, all for \$4 / yard. You have to pick through it, and the pieces are usually 2 - 3 yard pieces, but if you are willing to look, you can find some great bargains!

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Fun Fact: Did you know that polar fleece is made from recycled 2 litre soda bottles? It is that plastic that allows it to melt when it gets too hot!
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I have a wonderful fabric in for your spring sewing – It is a wonderfully soft lawn with a paisley print in light reds and pinks on a white background. For trims, you can use lace, Swiss embroideries, white pique', or just use a contrasting piping for a darling dress! The fabric is 100% cotton lawn and is 54 inches wide. It retails for \$16.00 per yard, but for this newsletter, I have it on sale for



\$13.00 / yard.

I also have the Swiss Pique' (fine wale) that is perfect for collars, cuffs and hems. 100% cotton and 54 inches wide, it is regularly \$26.00 yd and this month it is on special for

\$20.00 yard!

A wonderful stock up staple that comes in handy!

Tip for machines – sewing and computers! Dust-Off, the compressed air (Freon) is wonderful to get dust and lint out of tiny spaces, like the bobbin area of your sewing machine. It also works wonder on your computer keyboard. Simply hold your keyboard upside down and stick the straw in between the keys and spray, little squirts at a time. Move the straw to different sections of keys and spray until the whole keyboard has been covered, and watch the dust and dirt fall out! Compresses air can be expensive – usually \$7.50 - \$10 at Office Depot, etc. but you can usually find it at Costco (a warehouse store) for about \$12, and it is 4 cans shrink wrapped together.

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Wave Ruler! This ruler is a lifesaver when you are making shaped hems and edges (Madeira Applique' etc.) Reg. \$19.00,

On sale this month for only **\$16.00!**

This ruler is also perfect for quilters and scrapbookers!

Sewing tips! In this newsletter, I am going to talk about collars. There is nothing worse when you look at a garment to have the look ruined by a collar that is not constructed correctly! Collars frame the face, are front and center, and are a good indicator of how the garment is constructed. I am going to give you a list of do's that will help you to make your collars worthy of the most exclusive children's shop!

Do's

Make sure that the neckline of the collar fits the neckline of the garment.

Make sure that the collar is cut ON GRAIN! When you are looking at the front of the garment, the collar should be pointing straight down to the ground.

Before you cut out the collar pieces, make sure you make the proper adjustments to the collar pattern piece if you are adding a trim (lace, swiss embroidery, rikrak, etc.). For every measurement of trim you add (at the collar front and the collar back), you need to subtract that amount from the collar itself. If you don't, your collar will not meet at center front and center back. If you are only adding piping, you do not need to make an adjustment.

Make sure you mark the front and the back of the collar pieces.

If the collar is made from light weight material, use an interfacing. You have several choices, as far as what you use for the interfacing. I usually use another layer of the same fabric or the wonderful iron-on 100% cotton German interfacing. Whichever you use, the interfacing

is put with the collar, not the collar lining. This really helps if you have a light colored fabric and are using a dark piping – it keeps the darker color from showing at the seam allowance.

Make sure that your collar meets at center front and center back. If you have a 2 piece collar (peter pan), the collar needs to meet at the center front at the seam line, not at the raw edge!

Once your collar is sewn, clip and trim the raw edges and turn. Match the collars with each other to make sure that they are the same!

Once you have the collars looking as you'd like them, take a piece of sewing thread (I try to use a color that I will notice, but not black or navy or a dark color) and baste along the outer edge, through the seam allowances. Keep this basting thread in place until you have finished constructing the collar. This helps to set the seams in the collar.

If you follow these tips, they will help you to make collars to be proud of! If you have any questions, just send me an email!

Last notion for this month!



The Purple Thang! This is an invaluable tool for turning points, corners, pressing tiny inside seams, holding fabric in place as it goes under the sewing machine needle!
Reg. \$3.00

Special this month **\$2.25**

Hope you get lots of sewing done, and I should have my pattern in the next newsletter!

Happy Stitching!

Vaune

STITCHING SERENITY VII
Presented by 'Berry Good Smockers
JUNE 22 - 24, 2006 Santa Barbara, CA

This year our teacher is Claudia Newton! Some of you may remember her from Anaheim at the 2006 SAGA Convention, and many of you have seen her work in Sew Beautiful!

Each participant will attend both of these 6 hour classes and can receive SAGA artisan points for each. These are all handwork projects. Class supply lists will be provided with your registration confirmation. Total cost including room, board, Classes and kits is \$350.

Whitework III: Sampler with Eyelet Variations

Whitework is an elegant and timeless embroidery art form. The primary focus on this sampler is on eyelets – round, teardrop, chain, filled (with needle lace), shaded, and blanket stitch. Other embroidery stitches include stem and wrapped stem, satin blanket stitch, trailing, and blanket stitch scallops. You will stitch on high quality linen, and instructions for laundering and pressing are included.

Shadow Hemstitch with Embroidery

Shadow hemstitch is a variation of hemstitching that looks like striped fabric when the stitching is finished. Stitched on the finest linen, pinwheel flowers with French knot centers, leaf stitch leaves and a scalloped padded blanket stitch accentuate the Shadow hemstitch. When the stitching is complete, you can make a glass case out of your handwork!

This year, we are limited to 25 students, so we are taking registrations on a first come, first serve basis. To register, please send your contact information and a \$100 deposit to:

Roseann Saldinger
20530 Quedo Dr.
Woodland Hills, CA 91364

Questions? Roseann at 818-340-7642 or sewfine@yahoo.com
Vaune at 805-529-5005 or vaune@vaune.com