



Vaune's April 2017 Newsletter

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Hello to everyone! Yes, I am still here, and things are busier than ever. It has been a whirlwind start to 2017, and it does not look like it is going to slow down anytime soon. I can't complain, since I am having fun and doing things that I love. SATB was wonderful - a bit cold to start out with (8° in D.C. when I changed planes), but warmed up by the end.

I just returned from Arkansas, teaching at Sewing in the Foothills. What a wonderful group of women- I thoroughly enjoyed myself! I will be in the Boston area in May - teaching and going to Emma's graduation. She will be getting her MBA and then moving back to sunny SoCal where she already has a job :)

I was in Puyallup, WA, for the Sewing and Stitchery Expo, in March. One of the classes that I taught was Elements of Embroidery. I had 150+ students and was so happy to see the interest in hand embroidery!

For those of you who have attended the school that Cindy and I do, I have been looking at alternative locations since St. Mary's has closed. I have found a couple and are narrowing them down. There is a possibility that we may be holding them in 2 different locations, one here and in the middle of the country. Nothing until 2018, but stay tuned!!

I saw a post from Jan about a some **needle info** that I had posted in a previous newsletter. I thought I would run it again, along with some updates. I went looking in my files and found it.... from March 2005 (yes, that would be 12 YEARS AGO!!!).

I have included some more great **Liberty of London** fabric finds, in both **Tana lawn** and a soft as butter **corduroy**, as well as a few other goodies for you to look at. I hope to run into you soon!

Big news on our home front - Annie is engaged to a wonderful guy! This just happened this week, so more on that as we have more details!

*Have a Happy and Blessed Easter
Happy Stitching,
Vaune*

Where I'll Be.....

April 7-8, 2017

*Sewing in the Foothills
Rogers, AR*

May 20, 2017

Boston Area

July 28-30, 2017

*Costume College
Woodland Hills, CA*

October 13, 2017

*SAGA Convention
St. Louis, MO*

October 27-28, 2017

*Celebrate Sewing
Anaheim, CA*

January 6-11, 2017

*SATB
Myrtle Beach, SC*

February 9-11, 2017

*Victorian Smockers
Delray Beach, FL*

March 1-4, 2-18

Sewing and Stitchery Expo

Magazine Articles

Beyond the Basic Yoke

Summer Sprinkles

is in the current Summer issue of Classic Sewing Magazine. Do you have your issue?! The fabric is a wonderful cotton that is a tone on tone polka dot in a light electric blue color. The fabric is soft and pleats like butter, wonderful to go through a pleater.

Yardage is available, as well as kits! Kits come in 2 sizes: 2,3,4 and 5,6. Kit includes:

Fabric	German Interfacing for collar	Thread
Rik Rak	Buttons	Piping cord
Floss	Coton a Broder # 25	

Tone on Tone Dot
45" , 100% cotton

\$15.00/yd



Kits

Size 2,3, 4

\$53

Sizes 5,6

\$61

Optional add on
Classic Yoke Dress Pattern (Size 2-6)
\$15



See article for instructions on Peek-a Boo Rik Rak finish on sash!



Supé Sale!!!

LED Light Box

Manufacturer is coming out with an 'improved' model (more expensive), so I am getting a GREAT deal on these. The light box does not get hot, lasts 10,000 hours, and has a grid that you can see when it is turned on. This is perfect for tracing designs on to your fabric. The light area is approximately 17" by 11", large enough to see and trace your embroidery designs! Reg. \$179

Special \$110 - save \$69!!!

When stock is gone, the price will go up to \$189.

Meet up with me in the D.C. area

Monday, May 22

If you can make it..... I have been looking at getting a dress form for a while now. I want to start sewing more for myself, but (as is the case for most of us) I am hard to fit. I am very short waisted, so the dress forms that are available don't work too well for me, as you can usually adjust them in or out, but not so much up and down. There is a company outside of D.C. that scans you and then makes a dress form to fit you, and I am taking the plunge (or the scan)! I am flying in to BWI on Monday, 5/22. I will get in around 10:30, rent a car and drive over to Kensington, which is about 30 miles from BWI, (between DC and BWI) for an appointment at noon. It should only take about 30 minutes, so if anyone wants to meet up with me for a late lunch, let me know! Return flight is about 6:30, so I am thinking if I am back at the airport by 4:30, I should have time to return the car and check in (no luggage). For you locals, if this is not enough time, please let me know!!

If you can make it, PLEASE email me at vaune@vaune. come and let me know. If you have suggestions for a place for lunch, speak up!

I hope to hear from you!!!



Ditto Form
4233 Howard Ave., Suite C
Kensington, MD 20895

It's finally back (in ecru)!

German Interfacing

I have been out of ecru GI for over a year - it was not in stock the last time I ordered, but it has arrived! German Interfacing is a fusible, lightweight batiste interfacing. It is perfect for collars, cuffs, button plackets, or anyplace that needs a little extra stability. It comes in 3 colors:

White - perfect for all whites as well as colors of medium weight fabrics.

Ecru - works well with lightweight or sheer fabrics that have color (white can fade the colors of sheer fabric)

Black - a great choice for black and dark colors

As it is 100% cotton, it needs to be pre-shrunk! Simply immerse in lukewarm water (not hot - you do not want to melt the fusible glue), squeeze water out by rolling in a towel and drape over a chair to air dry.

\$15 yard - Special is 3 yards (your choice of colors) for \$39

*I package German Interfacing in 1 yard packages, but if you want a continuous piece, just let me know and I can do that for you as well!

Gingham Fat Quarters

Perfect for piping, these gingham fat quarters are a generous 30" wide by 18" down the selvedge. There is plenty of fabric for piping, as well as collars and cuffs. Always handy to have in your stash, I have 2 assortments for this newsletter. These wide Fat Quarters are \$4 each, with a special for each assortment of 4, only **\$13**

Summer

Hot Pink, Lime green, Turquoise, and Orange



Patriotic

Red, Red Pique, Royal Blue, White Pique



Linings

For the last several months, every time I have gone down to the garment district, I have found some great linings for coats and jackets.

First up is Flannel Backed Satin in White. It is 60" wide and perfect for jackets, coats, and capes. The fabric has a nice satin that is backed by a soft flannel, providing a nice warmth to your garment.

Reg. \$14.00 / yard, special **\$10/yard**

Next up is a silky navy polyester with small stars. It is 58" wide. Soft and smooth, so it does not stick to your clothes as you pull your garment on over your clothes.

Reg. \$9.00/yard, special \$6.00 / yard

Finally, a cute pink polka dot print - tiny pink polka dots on white. It is 50" wide. I am not sure of the content, but feels like a poly blend. A perfect pop of color for young and old alike!

Reg. \$9.00 / yard, special \$6.00 / yard



Remember - these are my garment district Fabric finds, so they are limited to stock on hand. These are fabrics that I find that can't be re-ordered - once they are gone, they are gone!

L o L Fabric Finds!

I have SEVERAL fabrics in this issue - some great Fabric Finds from the garment district, some one of a kind dream fabrics, and some great basics that are always welcome in your stash!

Liberty of London Fabric Finds

More Liberty of London Tana lawn - there are 3 prints to choose from. 54" wide and 100% cotton. These color ways are no longer being printed - when these pieces are gone, price will go back to \$40/yd.

-just \$28 /yd.



#1 Berry/Orange #2 Pink Floral #3 Blue/Mauve floral

Liberty of London Fine Wale Corduroy

The luxury of Tana lawn in a fine wale corduroy - it pleats like butter! 100% cotton. I have limited yardage of the corduroys, as they are hard to find. Mmmmm! Reg. \$45/yd

special - \$30 /yd.



#4 Blue/Red floral

Remember - I do not post my fabric find on my website until I give you first chance at them. Just send me an email of what you want!



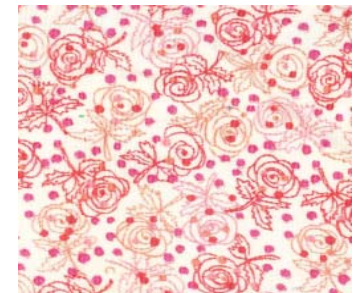
#5 Blue/Orange/Yellow



#6 Pink/Yellow/Teal



#7 Plum/Magenta



#8 Raspberry/Orange

RFID Fabric Shielding Efficiency 99.99%



RFID (think the new 'chip' credit cards) allows your info to be transferred wirelessly. Unfortunately, your info can be accessed by handheld skimmers (yes, another way to compromise your cc's).

The new RFID fabric is a safe guard for your cc's, Passports, ID's, etc. It is made of 23% Copper 27% Nickle 50% Polyester, 42/43in wide. The contents guard the RFID info so that skanners can not get through to the info in your chip. Use this to line wallets, pockets in bags, passport carriers, etc., to safeguard your information.

\$30 / yd or

\$8 for a Fat Quarter (18" by 21")

Needles... (again)

I am including the needle information I first shared 12 years ago....plus a bit more! I hope this helps with your needle questions!

Needles are made from a drawn wire that is cut to a length equal to two needles (the needles are made two at a time). The points are then formed on each end and the needles are ground to make the points fine and sharp. Next, the eyes are marked and stamped. Any metal scraps are removed. The needles are then hardened and tempered, to prevent the needles from being brittle. They are scoured, to remove any burrs, and then polished. Once this is complete, the needles are nickel plated, which helps prevent rust.

*****Tip***** If you are having a hard time threading a needle, try turning it around and putting the thread through the other side! Because the eyes are stamped in the needle, it is going to be easier to put the needle through on one side than the other, especially if the eye is small!

Needles come in many different sizes. The size of the needle used depends on the fabric that it is going to be used on, and the size of the thread it is going to be used with! Typically, the lighter the fabric, the finer the thread, the smaller the needle.

*****Tip***** For needles, the LARGER the number, the **SMALLER** the needle!

There are several different types of needles, each with a different purpose. While I will be the first one to admit that sometimes, I just use whichever needle is the most handy, there is a purpose to the different types of needles! A sharp, for example, is a much better choice to hem a sweet little voile baby dress than a darning would be. Here is a list of the most commonly used needles (at least in heirloom sewing) and what they are generally used for.

Sharps – This is considered the standard sewing needle. It is a medium length needle with a round eye.
Embroidery (also called Crewel) – These needles are the same length and width as Sharp needles, but with a longer, oval eye. These needles are often used for embroidery and smocking!

Milliner (also called Straw) -These needles are long, with a round eye. Often used for millinery, basting, and decorative sewing. These needles are wonderful to use when making bullions! The shaft of the barrel of the needle is straight, not graduated, so when the thread is wrapped around the needle, all of the wraps are the same size!

Betweens – A short needle with a round eye. This needle is often called a quilting or a quilter's needle.

Darner – These are long needles with an oval eye, used for darning and basting. Also used for picture smocking and smocking with Ribbon Floss.

Tapestry – These needles have a large eye and a blunt point, often used for needlepoint. The blunt point allows the needle to go through fabric without tearing it, which is helpful when working with a loose weave fabric, such as linen.

Needles... (again) cont.

Chenille – These needles are the same as Tapestry needles, except with a sharp point.

When choosing your needle, keep in mind what you are going to be sewing on! Needles make holes in your fabric, and you want the smallest hole possible, but the needle has to be large enough to accommodate your thread!

Something new:

In the years since I originally wrote this, many of our tools, fabrics, and threads have become harder to acquire and the quality has not always been there. I am sorry to say that needles have not been an exception. John James (yellow and black package) and Richard Hemming (black with red label) are a perfect example. If you have old packages of these, look on the label. They say 'Made in England' on the front. They have since changed production so that the needles are only 'assembled' (packaged) in England.....

I have consistently had needles with burs from both John James and Richard Hemming, so they are no longer my go to choice of needles. (cont. on the next page).



Gift Certificates available! Perfect for any occasion!
Perfect for you! Available in any amount!

Needles... (again) cont.

Some of my favorite needles are:

Milliner needles – for bullions! I use 7,8,9 and 10 milliners for bullions, depending on how big I want my bullions to be, but my basic bullion needle is a size 8.

10 Sharp – for hems. This is a small needle and makes it easy to pick up a thread or two when hemming a garment.

7 Between – for working basic embroidery with floche. The round eye is not as wearing on floche as an oval eye. Floche is a 2 ply, soft twist thread and is not as 'sturdy' as floss, so a round eye helps.

7 Sharp - This is a great basic sewing needle, especially for fabrics that are a bit heavier than the very fine heri-loom fabrics. You can also use this needle for working with floche (it has a round eye), especially if you like a longer needle than a between.

8 Embroidery – I use this for smocking.

7 Darner – I use this for picture smocking.

5 Darner – This needle is a bit heavier and the eye is a bit larger, which makes it wonderful for using with Ribbon Floss!

28 Tapestry - Is my go to needle for pin stitch on loose weave fabrics like handkerchief linen

10 Embroidery - can be used for pin stitch on closer weave fabrics, such as batiste.

I have switch over to Bohin and Tulip needles for the most part. Bohin needles are French and in the same relative price range of the J and RH needles. The only problem is that they don't make all of my favorite needle sizes. I have also started using Tulip needles, which are from Japan. They are advertised as the 'Royal Needle'. I was introduced to them when I was taking a class from the Royal school of Needlework. I have to say they are very nice needles. They are more expensive, but they come packaged with a little wax seal and are in a glass tube with a stopper.



Tulip Needles - I am carrying the needles that I use the most:

7 Sharp (Sewing)

8 Embroidery

8 Milliner

10 Applique' (Sharp)

Tulip Needles are \$8.50 per package

Special \$8.00 per package

Order one of each of my favorites for **\$28** - that is a savings of **\$1.50** per package, for a total savings of **\$6.00**

Last but not Least...

DOVO Scissors Sale! *15% of all DOVO Scissors*



I had hopes of having this newsletter out in time for December of 2016, and this would have been one of my Christmas specials.....

All scissors and sets are 15% off. I have a few pair left of the 3.5" mini-shears, which are now out of production.

Check out my website: www.vaune.com/shop for the different styles available.

One of my favorite and most used- 5" serrated trimmer!



New Class for 2017

introduced at SATB

Ava

Ava is a sweet, swirly baby dress that is created using a beautiful Swiss lawn fabric. Sometimes less is more, and Ava is a perfect example of exquisite simplicity. The yoke has a tiny bit of lace beading, with a dash of embroidered rosebuds gracing the centers. Continuing this thread of simplicity, the lace is inserted in the center beneath the inverted pleat on the skirt front, giving just a peek of sweetness. You will learn the techniques for perfect beautiful bullion rosebuds, as well as the lace insertion technique using Point de Paris (pin stitch) by hand. We will also discuss machine insertion techniques for an additional option. Once you have learned the basic techniques, you can put the design elements to work, and go home with an almost finished dress!

Have wonderful Easter!

Happy Stitching,
Vaune

The Fine Print

Some things never make it to my website, as they are one time buys and you all get first crack! Send me an email (vaune@vaune.com) with what you want and your phone number and I will get right back to you! If you need to call, my number is 805-529-5005