



# HAWAII STITCHERY & FIBRE ARTS GUILD

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2020

## *Remembering.....Lorraine*

*E ho'omaha me ka maluhia (rest in peace)*



BY AILEEN KANESHIRO

HSFAG has lost a much admired and beloved member. Lorraine Tokuyama was THE role model member for many years. She was highly productive with needle, thread, and fabric and could be relied on for something to share at show-and-tell during our monthly meetings. Here's what I had to say about Lorraine back in 2015:

*"In all my years as a member, Lorraine stands out as the most prolific and multi-talented. She probably has brought more items for show-and-tell than the rest of us combined. Lorraine not only sews, she quilts, does sashiko, does kumihimo, and knits! I probably missed some of her other needlework talents but you get the idea.*

*Here's five more reasons why I am a big fan of Lorraine:*

*1. She is a life-long learner and likes to share what she has learned, 2. She regularly attends meetings and will try anything even if it's not in her usual repertoire (such as mixed media and silk-screening), 3. She's been a regular volunteer for Second Saturday. (She rode the bus to participate before going to her kumihimo class!) 4. She shows up at each meeting spiffily dressed (often in her own creation) wearing her best accessory which is her genuine smile, and 5. She's a great baker as well as a needleworker."*

In addition to the above, Lorraine regularly volunteered to do an activity at our October Make-and-Takes and always gave some of her money to the Orpha Herrick Scholarship Fund afterwards. Cynthia Oshiro recalled attending the Linda Lee workshop with where Lorraine was able to execute a tricky hemming technique perfectly on her garment.

Here's what Eileen Roether had to say about Lorraine: *"I sat next to Lorraine at a Cancer Cap event – which was held in a sewing machine shop--when I first moved to Hawaii 22 years ago. She took me to The Embroiderers Guild, The Bead Society, HSFAG, American Sewing Guild, Hawaii Quilt Guild - This is how I got to know so many talented women here in Honolulu."* *"I attended many classes with her - think she attended EVERY class given here in Honolulu. She always finished her project quickly, beautifully*

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*and with her own little twist on it - always in time for show 'n tell at the next HSFAG meeting. The BEST part of being in class with her is that she always brought the BEST treats. I hope to be like her when I'm her age - happy, cheerful, and full of life."*

Lorraine was admitted to Palolo Chinese Home over a year ago under hospice care. She outlived her hospice status and Lorraine continued to be Lorraine despite her dependence on 24-hour oxygen and her shortness of breath whenever she exerted herself. She continued to be a life-long learner and was a voracious reader. She enjoyed watching the UH football games on TV and enjoyed catching glimpses of her grandson who is on the coaching staff. She continued to be cheerful and offered a hug with outstretched arms to everyone that visited. She regularly practiced the waning art of letter writing. She participated in the last two Second Saturday prep sessions that were held at Palolo Home. She regularly attended the activities offered at Palolo Home and gave whatever was going on her full attention and enthusiasm. She even paid her \$10 to participate in the Boro Inspired Challenge!

Laurie Matsushima reported that to celebrate her 97<sup>th</sup> birthday, Lorraine's quilting hui Sewing with Aloha presented Lorraine with six lap quilts which she happily passed around to her closest friends at Palolo Home.

Pat Steinhoff, the president of the Handweavers' Hui had this to write about Lorraine: *"We were saddened to learn of the passing of member Lorraine Tokuyama. She was famous for attending a workshop or Hui meeting where a technique was taught, and coming back a few days later having made something spectacular using that technique."*

Upon learning of Lorraine's passing, here's what Sue Larson wanted to let us know: *"Lorraine was an inspiration to everyone who had the pleasure to cross her path, whether taking one of her classes or at a meeting, or.....? She was multi-talented, forever learning something new and sharing her knowledge with others. She always had a kind word and a smile. Even though I am no longer living in Hawaii, Lorraine and I corresponded up to 2 weeks before she passed. I had sent her a Christmas card with a small piece of Japanese fabric someone had donated. She wrote back to thank me and tell me she was excited about using the piece in her boro challenge for HSFAG. Sadly, we won't get to see her new work of art."*

In her working years, Lorraine was an occupational therapist and instructor for students with special needs. She worked tirelessly to help her students to make progress and wasn't afraid to advocate for them when she recognized that accommodations needed to be made in order for her students to move on to "normal school." She was a champion for the underdog!

Lorraine passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 15—25 days after her 97<sup>th</sup> birthday. She will be sorely missed. Lorraine was not only a role model for being skilled at the needle-arts, she was a role model for a life fully lived and well lived until the very end.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR LORRAINE TOKUYAMA

THURSDAY, MARCH 26 —KUHIO DAY

CHURCH OF THE CROSSROADS

1212 UNIVERSITY AVENUE

10:00 VISITATION

11:00 SERVICE

LUNCH TO FOLLOW IN WEAVER HALL

INURNMENT WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE NATIONAL CEMETERY OF THE PACIFIC AT A LATER DATE

# Aileen's Message

HSFAG PRESIDENT, AILEEN KANESHIRO

## FEBRUARY 2020 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



By now most of you have learned that we have lost our beloved member, Lorraine Tokuyama. Please read the separate article in this newsletter where I and other members share their reflections on Lorraine “Meemo” Tokuyama. For those that want to extend their condolences to the family and don’t plan on attending Lorraine’s memorial service on their own, a sympathy card will be passed around. Offering koden (money) is optional.

I did it again. Forgot to take photos during the February meeting. Thanks to Jennie Tsue and Lei Batty, for the photos that were taken at the February meeting. The other good news is that there will be a follow-up session with Carrie so that everyone should be able to finish their puffy crystal heart. It won’t take place until April, however. More details will follow in the next newsletter. Carrie is also exploring whether she can schedule a session (photos please) outside of our regular meeting. Thanks, Carrie!



There are now twelve ladies who intend to enter the Boro-Inspired Challenge thus far. They have paid their \$10 refundable entry fee and received their bonus pieces of fabric. It would be so much better to have many more ladies enter. This challenge is my kind of challenge since it is OK for workmanship to be wonky, imperfect, or as the Japanese would say, wabi sabi. If you plan to enter, please do so by the March meeting since it will be the final time the bonus fabric pieces will be available.

The Challenge criteria are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. As you can see, they are purposely broad to encourage participation. This is an opportunity to show off your work where ever your comfort zone lies. The winner will receive \$100 and \$25 will be awarded to someone else who entered through a random drawing.

A few days before her passing, Lorraine graciously donated vintage kimono scraps to share. The pieces were divided into 19 grab bags and will be passed out only to those that enter the Challenge. This is a first-come-first-served bonus so if I were you, I would put down my money as soon as I arrive at the March meeting. Thank you, Lorraine, for sharing!

Lei Batty has graciously offered to be the presenter at the March Meeting. If you have a smart phone, an ipad, or a laptop, bring it to the March meeting. We’ll not only talk about Facebook, Instagram, and Pinterest, we will walk you through downloading these applications and give suggestions as to how these applications could greatly enhance your interests. The Guild will also establish an Instagram (aka IG) account in an effort to attract younger creatives since that is the medium they are currently most interested in, more so than looking at print. Join us and see what you may have been missing! The Museum of Art School will allow us to use their wifi so we will have an internet connection at the meeting.

Lei is the proprietress of Destash Hawaii. If you are looking for things vintage, especially vintage fabric and local fashion, she’s a great resource. Sarah Chinen is also a great resource when it comes to talking about vintage items. See you at the meeting—with your phones, ipads, and laptops!

# *“A Woman of Many Talents”*

BY CHARLENE EL-SWAIFY



Lorraine Tokuyama is a woman of many talents. She has accomplished much during her lifetime and I know her best for her needlework and quilting.

Growing up she learned embroidery stitches like chain, lazy daisy and feather stitch from her mother. In second grade at Japanese school she learned the basic sashiko stitches. This she liked because of the precise stitches. By third grade she was sewing her own clothes. At first, she made more sheath-like dresses. But once she discovered patterns, she learned to adjust them and made many more styles.

She also helped her mother with the Japanese quilts (futon) by embroidering the borders so that the quilts could be finished.

Once she retired from teaching, she decided to join several guilds. Among them were the Hawaii Quilt Guild, HSFAG, Sewing and Embroidery Guilds.

She attended a sashiko workshop at the Japanese Cultural Center sponsored by Kuni Dry Goods. The Temari Center for Asian and Pacific Arts was impressed with her work and asked Lorraine to teach at Temari. She has also taught at Calico Cat. For several years she traveled with Quilt Hawaii, a mainland company, to the neighbor islands teaching sashiko.



In the quilting area, she took Hawaiian Quilting from Puu Kalani at the Bishop Museum and also from Carol Kanalii. She joined the Hawaii Quilt Guild in its second year. She was the featured quilter at one of the HQG quilt shows. One of her displayed designs, the travelers' jacket, was a big hit.



She became interested in Weaving through Orpha Herrick. She attended a workshop on doll making with Elinor Peace Bailey. In 2014 she was accepted into the Hawaii Craftsman art exhibit and her entry was a sashiko piece with a new twist.

She took classes from Clotilde and made a jacket that turned into a tote. She tried her hand at heritage sewing and smocking with a class from Martha Pullen, in Huntsville Alabama. She added her own spin by including sashiko in her piece. She was also a member of the lauhala weaving group, Aloha Ulana Me Ka Lokomaikai.

We are all saddened by the passing of Lorraine. She will be sorely missed by many.

There's also an excellent article about Lorraine in the April 2017 issue of the Hawaii Herald. Here's the link: <https://temarihawaii.org/news/2017/4/5/ninety-something-lorraine-tokuyama-92-and-still-kicking>

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# MARCH 4TH - WORKSHOP

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LET'S LEARN ABOUT THE INTERNET.....

## “INSTAGRAM, PINTEREST, & FACEBOOK: RESOURCES FOR CREATIVE INSPIRATION AND EXPRESSIONS”

WORKSHOP BY LEI BATTY

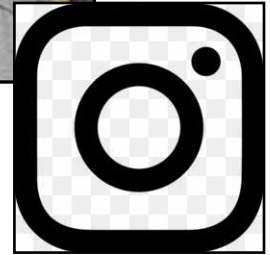
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2020

HONOLULU MUSEUM OF ART SCHOOL

(1111 VICTORIA ST.)

7:00 P.M. - ROOM 201

(PLEASE CONFIRM ROOM ASSIGNMENT W/GUARD)



NEED SOME INSPIRATION TO GET YOUR CREATIVE JUICES FLOWING? THERE ARE MILLIONS OF PHOTOS AND DESCRIPTIONS OUT THERE OF WORKS DONE BY CREATIVE FOLKS LIKE YOU. ACCESS TO THEM CAN BE TROUBLESOME IF YOU JUST USE GOOGLE, SINCE THE ADS COME UP FIRST. INSTAGRAM, PINTEREST, AND FACEBOOK ARE BETTER WAYS TO REV UP YOUR SEARCHES FOR INSPIRATION.

LEI BATTY AND HER RECRUITED ASSISTANTS (AKA HER DAUGHTER AND NIECE) WILL DESCRIBE HOW TO DOWNLOAD THESE APPLICATIONS SO THAT YOU CAN FOLLOW SUBJECTS OR PEOPLE SPECIFIC TO YOUR INTERESTS. BRING YOUR SMART PHONES, IPADS, AND CHARGED LAPTOPS SO THAT LEI CAN WALK YOU THROUGH THE PROCESS.

BEFORE COMING TO THE MEETING, BE PREPARED WITH A PHOTO OF YOURSELF WHICH YOU WOULD LIKE TO USE FOR YOUR OWN ACCOUNT PAGE. WE WILL FOCUS ON INSTAGRAM FIRST SO IF YOU ARE ABLE TO DOWNLOAD THE APP BEFORE THE MEETING, THAT WOULD SAVE A LOT OF TIME.



DID YOU KNOW THAT HSFAG HAS A PINTEREST PAGE? GO TO HSFAG.ORG AND CLICK ON THE LINK TO PINTEREST. THERE ARE MULTIPLE PHOTOS OF AUTHENTIC AND BORO-INSPIRED PIECES.

**HAWAII STITCHERY & FIBRE ARTS GUILD**  
www.hsfag.org

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# Things you should know about Authentic Boro:

SOURCE: WIKIPEDIA

Boro are a class of Japanese textiles that have been mended or patched together. The term is derived from *boroboro*, meaning something tattered or repaired. As hemp was more widely available in Japan than cotton, they were often woven together for warmth. Cotton could not be cultivated in cold areas, especially the northernmost region of Aomori Prefecture. During the Edo period, fabrics made from silk and cotton were reserved for only a select portion of the upper class. Boro thus came to predominately signify clothing worn by the peasant farming classes who mended their garments with spare fabric scraps out of economic necessity. In many cases, the usage of boro garments would be handed down over generations, eventually resembling a patchwork after decades of mending... Boro also exemplifies the Japanese aesthetic of wabisabi, in that the fabric reflects the beauty of natural wear and use.



## The Boro-Inspired Challenge.....

Here's the criteria for those members who plan to enter the Challenge:

1. Membership must be current (dues paid for 2020)
2. There is no minimum or maximum size entry
3. A sewing machine can be used but there must be some hand-stitching in the entered piece.
4. Although most authentic pieces were indigo-dyed, there is no color limitation
5. The entry can be in more than one piece if they are a grouping such as a top and bottom
6. The base piece doesn't necessarily need to be 100% made by the member. It could be an embellished piece of store-bought clothing, home décor, or a cigar box, etc.
7. The fabric used doesn't have to be of Japanese origin nor does it require the use of "rags."
8. The deadline for completion and submission of the boro-inspired piece is our June meeting and potluck on June 3, 2020. Submit your piece in a covered container such as a brown paper bag to Eileen Roether by 6:00 p.m.
9. Only those who paid their \$10 entry fee and have a submission will get their entry fee refunded.

The criteria are extremely broad in order to encourage member participation and creativity. Your member-peers will be voting on the piece they like the best so please make sure the entered piece makes your peers think of boro when they examine it. Good Luck!

Any questions: please speak with any board member.



HAWAII STITCHERY & FIBRE ARTS GUILD  
C/O KAREN KUBA-HORI  
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KANEHOHE, HAWAII 96744



\*\*\*DATES TO REMEMBER\*\*\*

MEETINGS

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH  
HONOLULU MUSEUM OF ART SCHOOL  
6 TO 7PM HSFAG - BOARD MEETING  
7 TO 9PM HSFAG - GENERAL MEETING &  
WORKSHOP  
(CHECK-IN WITH GUARD, FOR FINAL MEETING  
LOCATION)

**March 4, 2020**

**“INSTAGRAM, PINTERIST, & FACEBOOK:  
RESOURCES FOR CREATIVE INSPIRATION AND  
EXPRESSIONS”**

**Workshop by Lei Batty**

**March 26, 2020**

**Celebration of Life**

**Lorraine Tokuyama**

**Church of the Crossroads - 11:00am**

... HSFAG 2020 BOARD ...

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