



Introducing Liz Thompson!

GLBG: When did you start beading—and beadweaving—and why?

The first time I started with beads was in the late 1960's when my older sister was making bracelets and necklaces that were on elastic cords and tied on.

Fast forward to about 1994, when one of the doctors that I worked with came into the office one day with a little kit to make earrings and proceeded to show me how. I thought "Huh, if she can do it....." My addiction was born.

I've done crafts ever since I can remember – my mother taught me to embroider, then taught me to weave, and we used early embroidery paint pens on pillow cases. I learned to sew Barbie clothes on an old Singer sewing machine.

But beads? They have reached in and grabbed hold of my inner self as no other craft has.



GLBG: How much time do you spend beading a day?

I'll admit it. Hardly a day doesn't go by without me doing something with the beads. Does that make me addicted? Probably and I am okay with that!

GLBG: What is your favorite stitch to work with and why?

Right Angle Weave – I don't need to even hesitate with my answer. I love it. There is so much that can be done with this stitch. I learned from the master – Marcia DeCoster.

GLBG: What does your beading space look like?

Gods, my desk is a mess. I clean it up and promise that I won't let it happen again and it does. My husband and I share a spare room between us for the beads and the computer. He's very unhappy when the beads move (at night, all by themselves) to the computer desk. I don't know how that happens.

GLBG: What's your goal when you teach?

I have been told that I am a pretty thorough and patient teacher, and I should be as I have Marcia DeCoster as my friend and mentor helping me. I thoroughly enjoy helping her at Bead and Button every year – it really helps me hone my skills even better. I will admit that writing instructions is not my favorite thing to do, but I am getting better. My goal would be to ensure that everyone "gets it" with the project or the technique.

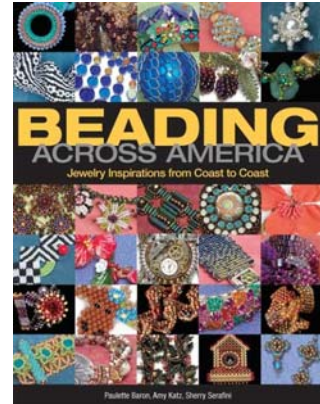


GLBG: Describe your excitement when you find that one of your pieces is going to be published.



When I learned that one of my bead embroidery projects was going to be published in Bead and Button magazine, you could have scraped me off the ceiling, I was so excited. Since then, I have been featured in a book called Flatwork by Nicole Campanella, featured on Robin Atkins blog several times and co-taught a class at the Bead and Button show in 2011 with Marcia. My participation in “Beading Across America”

was a complete boost to my ego as I was recommended by two individuals whose work I respect a great deal.



GLBG: What's the best way for other beaders to reach you regarding classes?

Email me ethomps1@gmail.com – I do teach at Stony Creek Beads in Ypsilanti.

GLBG: When did you join GLBG and how did you find out about us?

Shortly after I started beading, I noticed a blurb in the Sunday paper about a bead show that day – way out at 14 Mile Road and Van Dyke. Since hubby was watching football that day, I decided to make the drive – I was completely blown away!! One of the first persons that I met was Jude Sullivan, how could I forget her since she was carrying a little hedgehog in a pouch around her neck.

GLBG: How do you participate in the GLBG?

First, I volunteer when I can. It could be at the Bead Bonanza shows, assisting as needed at one of the meetings, or it could be helping an instructor in the classroom. Currently, my main volunteer position is webmaster for the guild. I am completely self taught – it’s a challenge!!

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