April 2016

Dora Young Correspondence

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Dora Tyoung 1915-
Dorie Young 1915-
Myrtle Hamilton

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Place of Birth: Portland, Maine
Date of birth: Jan. 28, 1915
Home address: 128 Rogers Rd. Kittery, Me. 03904
Publications: All New KNOTLESS TATTING Designs
              Oct. 1974

Biographical information
Dear Mr. Thayer,

Just arrived home from a long tour and will take care of your request in about a week or so.

Thank you for your interest.

I've been visiting Myrtle Hamilyton who writes and designs for Tower Press Pub. She is a very interesting person and I had a lovely time with her.

Sincerely,

Dorie

[Signature]
Aug. 9, 1976

The enclosed news item may cover all you want to know. I work the second shift at the Navy Yard Print ship, so have a business address as I sleep late mornings. (Dorie, Box 386, Kittery, Me. 03904)

I might add I just did this work absentmindedly when ill and had a hard time to figure it out when well. So far the ladies seem to be taking to it, and I welcome any and all questions. It is the first major and practical change in tatting, and opens a new field for designs, and uses. I'm proud its an American contribution to tatting.

Sincerely,

Dorie Young
'Knotless Tatting' Book Is Published By Kittery Woman,

To coincide with the widespread revival of interest in the art of tatting, one which was almost lost, Mrs. Dora Young of Kittery has produced a book of 21 all new and original tatting designs, to be available October 31st, 1974. "Knotless Tatting" is priced at $2.95 plus 35c postage and handling (plus 15c tax for Maine residents), and is available direct from Mrs. Young at Box 386, Kittery, Maine 03904.

Mrs. Young's new knotless method makes this ancient art easy for all to learn, the first major change in tatting since it originated in the Orient. From there it was taken to Europe, where it was known as knotting, and brought to this country by our first settlers. No new patterns have been available for many years and those published in the Victorian era, when tatting was all the rage, are hard to come by nowadays.

Included in "All New Knotless Tatting" are general instructions, first steps and basic stitches, with clear, easy to understand sketches showing the hand, thread and shuttle positions.

These 21 new designs are suitable for use as doilies, tablecloths and bedspreads, potholders and centerpieces, or for edgings to dresser scarves, guest towels, pillowcases, handkerchiefs and clothing. The designs are shown in clear, black and white photographs, with close-ups of the motifs used. Full directions are also given.

Mrs. Young's interest in needlework dates from her childhood, when she crocheted clothes for her dolls. She first learned to tat when she was in high school and many years later — during a period of ill-health in 1955 — she came across one of her early examples, from which she taught herself to tat all over again. She set herself a 20-year goal to provide new patterns for those who have been tatting — and waiting for them — for half a century, and for those young people who are learning for the first time, such as the two young girls in Camden who are learning to tat from their father.

Macrame, another form of knotting stemming from the sailor's art, has become popular again in recent years, and it is interesting to note that, after she was widowed in 1966, Mrs. Young worked in the Food Service at the Portsmouth Naval Hospital and is now at the Print Shop at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. She and her late husband Percy, have one son and eight grandchildren.

Mrs. Young was born in Portland, attending school there and later in Berlin, N. H., graduating from Livermore Falls High School at Livermore Falls in 1933.