

DRAPERY & DESIGN PROFESSIONAL

Volume 2012, Issue 2



Serving the Custom Home Furnishings Industry since 1993



From the Editor-in-Chief

What's New?



Michele Williams

I love getting e-mails from my favorite stores telling me what new services or products they have available. I always take a look at their new offerings to see whether it's something that would benefit or interest me. Often I pass along the information to a friend who's in the market for a particular product or service.

At CHFA, we're offering some new and exciting options for 2012.

- Our traveling class list has been expanded to include nine classes — all of which are two days in duration. This information can be found in our Spring/Summer Course guide on our website at www.chfacademy.com.
- We're also offering Video Streaming with the Premium Plus membership. With Video Streaming you'll get more than 36 hours of In the Workroom™, featuring the CHFA classroom experience, network sponsor facility tours, and real-life workroom business activity. You can purchase a membership upgrade at www.intheworkroom.com.
- We have three new classes added to our already spectacular lineup for the year. You can find this information on the Spring/Summer Course guide on our website at www.chfacademy.com.

So, have you considered offering something fresh and new to your customers? Maybe it's a new way to fabricate a specialty item, or a rendering service. It could be new business hours or a great hardware line. Don't miss the opportunity to add to your business and then connect with your customers to share the news. They just might be interested! 🐦

Michele Williams

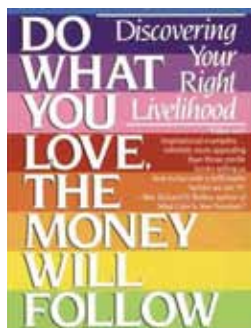


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A PUBLICATION OF THE CUSTOM HOME FURNISHINGS ACADEMY

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Donna Cash operates a workroom in Flowery Branch, GA. She's a 20-year veteran of the window coverings industry and has an associates degree from the Art Institute of Atlanta. She's a WFCP Associate, and a member of WCAA, DraperyPro and the Designers Workroom Council in Georgia. Donna is also a certified yoga instructor.

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Parlez-Vous Drapery?



Jenna Abbott is the sole proprietor of Sew Elegant by Jenna, a to-the-trade workroom founded in 2001 and located in Sacramento California. She is a founding member of the Northern California Chapter of the WCAA, the former Executive Director of the National WCAA and a proud alumnus of the Custom Home Furnishings Academy.

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Subscribers'
Weekend



Michele Williams is the Communications Director of the CHF Academy and the Drapery & Design Professional magazine Editor-in-Chief. She owns The Scarlet Thread, a drapery workroom in Alpharetta, GA, which she launched in 2000 after a successful career in financial software design. Michele also serves on the WCAA national board of directors as VP.

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Diary of a One
Person Workroom



Lauri Lodini owns and operates My Window Dresser, a one person, to-the-trade workroom in Langhorne, PA. A workroom owner for seven years, Lauri has a fine arts degree from Long Island University. She is a CHF Alumni, CHF Alumni Design Contest winner and WCAA Member. Lauri specializes in detail orientated window treatments and soft furnishings.

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Fabulous Fan
Folding



Ann Johnson, owner of Sew Easy Windows, Avon Lake, OH, is the author of "The Professional Workroom Handbook of Swags" - popular manuals on swag patterns. She invented Square it Up!, a swag pattern drafting tool, is an instructor for CHF Academy; a member of GCDP, WCAA, WAOA and represents DreaDreamDraper. Seweasywindows.com

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Smocked Drapery
with Diamond
Loop Tape



Susan Woodcock is Brand Experience Manager for Rowley Company. Prior to joining Rowley, Susan owned Tavern Hill, a professional drapery workroom founded in 1988. She is a popular industry speaker and a former instructor at CHFA. Susan has been featured in many books, magazines and CHF Academy videos. She's a member of the WCAA and a WFCP expert.

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The Ultimate
Sample Kit



Terri Booser owns An Interior Stitch, a wholesale drapery workroom in Wattsburg, PA, which she established in 1990. She has been a CHF Instructor since 2005, respected for her encouraging, organized and patient approach with students. She is CHFA's Curriculum Director and the Construction Zone Coordinator for the Vision International Window Coverings Expo.

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Rolling Grommet
Setter Cart



Donna Cash operates a workroom in Flowery Branch, GA. She's a 20-year veteran of the window coverings industry and has an associates degree from the Art Institute of Atlanta. She's a WFCP Associate, and a member of WCAA, DraperyPro and the Designers Workroom Council in Georgia. Donna is also a certified yoga instructor.

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Albrecht Dürer
Was Here



Judi Turner owner/designer for Domicil design in Dover, NH since 1992. Starting business in Germany, global inspiration continues to be an interest and influence. Domicil design is a resource for clients looking for custom treatments, slipcovers, DIY supplies and soft furnishings. Judi is the current President of the WCAA Virtual Chapter.

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Easy Shaped
Banding



Judy Peters owns Palmetto Drapery LLC in Anderson, SC. She holds a degree in education from Clemson University, and was a middle school science teacher prior to opening her award-winning workroom in 1995. She is a member of the WCAA, WFCP, and is a CHFA Career Professional. Judy is committed to fabricating products that "not simply meet, but exceed client expectations". Visit her website at www.palmettodrapery.com

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Pillow and
Duvet Closures



Donna Cash operates a workroom in Flowery Branch, GA. She's a 20-year veteran of the window coverings industry and has an associates degree from the Art Institute of Atlanta. She's a WFCP Associate, and a member of WCAA, DraperyPro and the Designers Workroom Council in Georgia. Donna is also a certified yoga instructor.

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Constructing a
Simple Ottoman



Holly Bucciarelli is sole proprietor of Holly's Custom Window Coverings, a wholesale/retail workroom, founded in 2002 and located in Nokomis, Florida. She specializes in high-end fabrication of home furnishings, is a WFCP Associate and member of the Drapery & Design Professional Network and Advisory Board. Her website is www.hollys.windowluxury.com

Smocked Drapery With Diamond Loop Tape

By Susan Woodcock
Charlotte, NC



Traditional smocked drapery headings are sewn with individual pencil pleats and then hand stitched. The end results are stunning, but the amount of time it takes to preplan and sew can be cost prohibitive for some projects. To achieve the same look in less time, use a sew-on shirring tape, and then hand tack. You will be impressed by the end results.

The sample shown here was made with the 4-inch diamond loop tape from Rowley Company. This sew-on shirring tape has loop pile woven on one side, making it compatible with hook strip products for easy installation.

Step 1 Make a lined drapery panel using three times fullness, finishing the hems along all sides. Measure the finished drapery length, folding over material to the reverse side at the top. Cut away any excess fabric on the reverse, leaving 3 inches of face fabric folded over. Cut away linings and interlinings at the finished length if they are too thick and bulky. Measure off enough shirring tape to go across the top of the flat drapery panel, allowing 1 inch extra on each end, and cut. Place cut shirring tape with the loop side up along back of the drapery heading and pin in place, tucking under 1 inch at each end. (Photo 1)

Step 2 Attach shirring tape to the drapery panel using a matching thread and sewing each side of the tape and in between each shirring cord. Be careful not to sew over the shirring cords. At each end of the tape pull out the three shirring cords and tie together securely. Secure one end of the shirring cords and pull the other, gathering up the drapery until it is the correct size. After gathering up the tape, the diamond pattern may not be perfect and defined (Photo 2); you must manipulate the fabric into the design. On thin fabrics the diamond smocking will be clear, but on thicker and interlined fabrics the heading will appear messy. To create the traditional diamond pattern, hand stitch at the top, bottom and center of the smocked heading.

Step 3 To hand tack the smocking, use a good quality hand sewing needle and four strands of matching thread. Knot the thread and start your stitch inside of where the tack will be placed, then loop the thread over catching the opposite side of the shirring and back to the center. Pull the thread tight to create a horizontal tack on the front, add one more stitch and then knot and trim away the thread. Repeat across the shirring tape until you've formed all the diamonds. (Photo 3)

To create more interest in your smocked heading, use a contrasting thread or embroidery floss to hand tack the pattern, or add beads or small buttons at each tack point. Install with a right angle hook strip or, if you're using decorative drapery hardware, insert drapery pins into the back of the heading at 4 to 5 inches apart. 🐿



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