



THE STITCHING POST

JUNE 2010

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WHEW—Is it over?? Did we make it thru the cold to finally see some warmer sunny days? It looks like those days are behind us, hopefully for a few winters to come! Some interesting and motivating thoughts came to me during those cold and snowy winter months. While I've been stitching lots of models for the shop, I'm not getting much done from my own stash (like many of you, I have a nice sized one too, that is ever growing!). Since I'm working on all these "new" things, maybe I should try completing some of the older UFO's from my collection in between the shop models. Sure, there are new things I'd love to start for me, but why begin those when a) I have so many started already, and more importantly, b) another exciting piece needs to be done so all of you can see it in the shop.

My next thought was that maybe I could finish off one of my works in progress for each one that I stitch of the new designs. It hasn't worked so far because I've finished several already for the shop and none for me! So then I decided to make a list of those UFO's, see what was nearest completion and go from there. A plan of attack was put into place on one of those "bonus" days that I couldn't get into the shop (I got into my stitching room instead!!) and now I can work on a couple of my pieces in between the designs for the shop. We'll see how many I actually get finished—it won't be a one to one ratio, but at least with a plan I can make a little progress.

While plans don't always work out the way we want them to, it does make you feel good to set a goal and work towards it. We've got lots of things scheduled for the upcoming months, so mark some of these events on your calendar and make it your goal to keep up with all of the happenings at your favorite needlework shop!

SPRING CLEARANCE EVENT—Just a reminder to help us with our spring cleaning in the shop. During the week of **May 31st – June 5th**, we'll offer savings on a variety of merchandise including some fabrics, as well as discounts on select needlepoint canvases. Stop in and help us out so we can make room for all the new items that will be brought back from the two upcoming markets.

MARKET DAYS—Speaking of which, we are off to Columbus at the beginning of June. This trade show is in a convention center, so it is a large event to cover in three days! It encompasses cross stitch, needlepoint, and knitting. Although we don't need to shop the knitting fibers themselves (but we do take a look as they are gorgeous to see and touch!), sometimes one finds unique things that might be used in our world. For us, a big focus for this show is to see lots of new hand-painted canvases, connect with the needlepoint designers and set up some trunk shows for the coming year. Most of this show is by order only, so it will take a couple of weeks for things to start to arrive. We'll provide as many pictures of things as we can after we have returned in mid-June and as the items come in, we will get them out to the floor.

The September trade show in St. Charles is an explosion of new cross stitch designs, ready to get you invigorated and excited about the upcoming Holiday season. We'll carry as much of the new back as we can so you can get right into stitching the latest things for gift-giving. Everything that comes back from the show with us will be available for purchase by **Saturday, October 2nd** so stop in the shop after both markets for all of the wonderful treasures!

BY THE BAY TRUNK SHOW—During the month of June, we will be offering a trunk show from cross stitch designer Donna Bayliss and By The Bay. You have seen some of her models stitched in the shop and her nautical themes are more popular than ever. During this event we will be offering a special raffle to those who make a purchase from the show. This prize package will include a By The Bay faux painted frame and the four "Box Of" Season charts. Each of the seasons can be interchanged in the frame and when you fill out your raffle ticket, it will be sent back to Donna so that you will receive information on new designs from the company as they are released! Be sure to come in during the month of June, see these wonderful models and take a chance on the raffle prize!



HANDBLESSINGS QUILT CLUB—Blessed Are the Piecemakers is a new quilt design from Handblessings, available only through the shop. The design is stitched in rich jewel tone colors using over-dyed threads. For twelve months, starting in June, there will be a new quilt square pattern available. Cost for the club is \$15 and we will offer the threads and fabric together as an optional kit available for purchase.

STITCHERS' NIGHT—Summer stitch night will be **Saturday, July 17th** from **6:30 – 10:30**. Come in and beat the heat for the evening—we'll have snacks and some cool refreshing treats while you stitch the night away! Cost for the evening is \$15. Space will be limited so call to reserve your spot!

CHRISTMAS IN JULY—The annual Christmas in July sale will take place **Monday, July 19th** thru **Saturday, July 24th**. Take **20% off** all in stock Christmas items, including books, kits, and canvases. This is the best time of year to get a head-start on all your Holiday stitching. The Mill Hill picture and ornament kits are fun to stitch and make great gifts. These are wonderful to take on vacation, so as an extra special during this week, when you **buy five** Christmas kits at regular price, you will get the **sixth** one **FREE!**



HALLOWEEN IN AUGUST—Many retailers celebrate Christmas in July so why not celebrate **Halloween in August?** During the week of **Monday, August 9th** thru **Saturday, August 14th** enjoy a **20% discount** on all in-stock Halloween designs. You never know what other spooky surprises we might 'brew up' between now and then so be sure to stop by for a ghoulish good time!



FALL STITCHING WEEKEND—Our Autumn stitching event has been planned for **September 18th** and **19th** at the Crowne Plaza in Timonium. The weekend there last fall was wonderful so we decided to return this year. Cost for the weekend is \$125. This includes lunch on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. Dinner on Saturday will be on your own and there are plenty of restaurants and shopping in the area for you to take advantage of throughout the weekend. You can stay over night on Saturday and we can provide you with room block information when you sign up. We look forward to a relaxing weekend, with many of you completing works, starting new projects and enjoying time with fellow stitchers. Reserve your space for this fun weekend—call the shop today!

NEW RIGHT NOW

CARRIAGE HOUSE—Autumn at Hawk Run is the **latest and last** release for Kathy Barrick. She has made the decision to retire from designing at this time and focus on other avenues of interest. Her designs will be available thru June, so please let us know if there are any you wish to order.

LIZZIE KATE—Dog Lessons for people is finally here! Many of you have been waiting for that since the **Cat Lessons** arrived earlier in the year. The last three **Green Flips** are here along with the new Boxer kit **Well Behaved Women**. The new Flip-It series for the next half of the year will be **Christmas Rules...**stay tuned!

CRESCENT COLOURS—In addition to the new threads in the Crescent Colours line, there are two new series. The first is **Summer Seascapes**, a five part series from Country Cottage, featuring beach cottages and palm trees—**island getaway, anyone?** The second is from Raise the Roof, entitled **Libertyville**. This one is a four part series so be sure to sign-up so that you aren't missing any of the 'pieces'!

BLACKBIRD DESIGNS—Honeysuckle Manor is the latest book that was released in Nashville. The book contains nine projects, including a sampler and a variety of smalls. The first two in a new series called **Anniversaries of the Heart** was released then as well and the third installment, **A Wish for You** is now available. **Threads of Time** is an engagement calendar for 2011 that features photographs from Alma of everyday sewing items. It features a different page for each week of the year, paired with a photograph from her collection.

JBW DESIGNS—New in the French Country series are a **Butterfly**, **French Country Homes**, and a **Noah's Ark** stitched in red. **Twas the Night** Ornament series is a collection of four leaflets with charms that can be stitched individually as ornaments or all together on one piece of fabric. It is wonderful done both ways—watch for our model of the twelve stitched together!



VICTORIA SAMPLER—Mermaid Song features a nautically inspired set of smalls; **Hands to Work** and **Birds of a Feather** are new samplers

MILL HILL—The new series of Autumn kits includes **Fall Blooms**, **Gather Together** and **Ghost Dance** (cute!). The fall pin kits are here too, as well as a new kit series from Debbie Mumm called **Moonlight Madness**

JEANNETTE DOUGLAS DESIGNS—Thistle Stitches; a new series of small pieces called **Mini Stitches—Acorn, Silver Needle, and Pom & Pear; Friendship Sweet Bag**

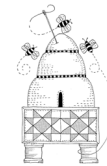
LITTLE HOUSE NEEDLEWORKS—The ornament series continues to be popular with the current release of **Winter Sheep**. A couple of the ornaments are stitched and in the shop and you won't want to miss any of these! Sign-up to be on our automatic list and we'll hold them for you each month. The next one is a **Red House**... Also new is **Robin Hood**

SHEPHERD'S BUSH—My Land, Blue Snowman, and Liberty Pincushion & Fob kits

HINZEIT—Lots of new from Hinzeit and Kay's frames, including **Bookworm, Dolphins, Cupcakes**, a new series of **Dress Forms**, and **Charmed Hearts**. All have wonderful frames to match from Kay's!

FROM NANCY'S NEEDLE—New counted canvas pieces include **Two Lighthouses, Stained Glass Quilt** and **Tiptoe Thru the Tulips**.

NORDEN CRAFTS—Kris' Stitches is a series of charts compiled as samplers honoring and commemorating the life of Kris Stott from Norden Crafts, one of our industry's leading distributors. Kris passed away a year ago and sixty nine designers have contributed pieces to these wonderful compilations. There will be seven charts released over the next two years honoring Kris and all she did for our industry. The proceeds from the sales of these charts are being donated to various Animal Organizations, a cause for which Kris was very passionate. Sign-up to receive all of these leaflets—I have seen the first couple and you won't want to miss them!



CLASSES

General class conditions:

- Call or come in to reserve your class. Please do not just show up & assume a spot is available!
- Payment is due within one week from the time you sign up for the class.
- If a class does not have enough registrants and is cancelled, the money will be refunded, can be applied for shop credit, or applied to that class at a later time. If you are unable to attend and there is a substitute available, money will be refunded minus a \$5 processing fee.



CROSS STITCH 101 – If your cross stitch is rusty and you need a refresher or if you just want to give it a try, then this class is for you! You'll learn how to follow a chart, the threads to use (the variety just keeps expanding!), fabric sizes and other information while learning the basic stitch and getting some helpful hints as well. A small project will be started during class – by the time you finish, you'll be ready for the next step.

Teacher: Dianna Heiger \$12

SAT., JULY 17th, 10:00-11:30 AM



BEGINNING NEEDLEPOINT – During this two part class, Carol will share information and techniques for stitching on canvas. You'll learn two of the basic needlepoint stitches (continental and basketweave) giving you the knowledge to be able to work on any canvas. After learning the stitches, in the second half of the class you will get help in choosing a canvas and fibers to begin your first piece using these techniques.

Teacher: Carol Toll \$28

SAT., AUGUST 7th, 10 AM – 12 PM & 1:30 – 3:30 PM



STITCHING OVER 2 – Afraid to work on a higher count of fabric? This class is a great chance to give it a try! Dianna will share her knowledge about linen and evenweave fabrics, as well as helpful tips, as you stitch on a small project.

Teacher: Dianna Heiger \$12

SAT., AUGUST 21st, 10:00 – 11:30 AM



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SNIPPETS

TRUNK SHOWS—Our trunk shows for this year continue with shows in needlepoint (NP) and cross stitch (CS). During all of the needlepoint trunk shows, take **20% OFF** any canvases from the show and the threads purchased for those canvases **that day** will receive **15% OFF!** Please call or check the web site to make sure the trunk show has arrived as the start dates are approximate.

- ❖ **MAY** – Employee Trunk Show (CS & NP)
- ❖ **JUNE** – By The Bay (CS)
- ❖ **JULY 5th – 24th** – Raymond Crawford (NP)
- ❖ **AUG 28th – SEPT 11th** - Amanda Lawford (NP)

SUMMER HOLIDAYS—SHOP CLOSED

- ❖ **MONDAY, MAY 31st** – Memorial Day
- ❖ **SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JULY 3rd & 4th** - Independence Day Weekend
- ❖ **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th** – Labor Day

MORE NEWS ON THE FRAMING FRONT—

We are always working on ways to keep our framing area updated and current to give you the best selection of mat colors and frames for everything from samplers to whimsical, from needlepoint to artwork. In fact, we have so many corner samples, filets and metallic frames, we have run out of space to display all of these choices!

In the next month or so, we will be installing special panels on the wall to house all of our mouldings. It will make viewing easier for you, the framing area neater for us, and we won't have to struggle to find a home for each corner we take off the wall (there never seems to be a spot to put the corner back once we remove it!). Our hope is that by having these doors on the wall, it will create even more space for other treasures (more threads, ready-made frames, who knows?!).

