

Design Your Own French Alphabet Sampler Three 2-Hr. Classes

Instructor: Jean Fee: \$30
Saturdays, January 14/March 11/May 6, 10 - 12 Noon

This continues to be a very popular class here at *The Attic*. Using beautiful French alphabet books, your choice of several, as our text, we will design our own French Alphabet Sampler. The classes are scheduled with time in between to allow for stitching, planning, stitching, inspiration, and stitching! Our models are all cross stitch, but there is a good deal of time invested especially in the larger letters. You will enjoy the inspiration and ideas that you get from your fellow students. As always, students with this as an unfinished project are invited to join the class at no additional fee, but please register. My model is stitched on 40-count cream New Castle linen using two shades of Soie 100/3, with *Alphabets Anciens*, *Le Livre Des Lettres*, and *Repertoire des Motifs* and *des Frises* as my primary references. Here are examples of mine unfinished, and Tamami's and Tedra's framed samplers.



Punchneedle One 2-Hr. Class
Instructor: Christy Fee: \$45 (includes all materials)

Saturday, January 14, 2 - 4 p.m.

Another class setting and opportunity to learn this fun, easy, centuries-old technique. In the 2-hour class you should be able to complete your pumpkin pin. Your fee includes everything you need to get started: #3 Punchneedle, special locking hoop, design printed on weaver's cloth, and a threadkit. Christy will show you the technique and several of her finished models.



Sampler Sunday Sunday, January 15, 1 - 4 p.m.

Instructor: Jean Fee: \$10

It's already the third Sunday of the month coming up, and that means it's time for our first Sampler Sunday of 2006. Join us for a quiet time away from football, bring your favorite in-process sampler to work on, something for Show & Tell to share with the group of sampler lovers if you like ~ we all love to see others' projects. There will be a very special surprise as part of our program this Sunday ~ the slideshow can wait ~ it's much more interesting to see the real thing! As always, tea and dessert will be served. **Please call to register** so that we know how many tables/chairs to set up, etc.

NEW IN THE SHOP

- From everyone's favorite, *The Drawn Thread*, two sewing cases, "Red Lace Sewing Case" and "Three Friends." Both are very lovely and will make wonderful additions to our sewing baskets. Can one ever have too many sewing cases? When the design is from one of our favorite designers, the answer is resoundingly no!



New from *The Victoria Sampler*:

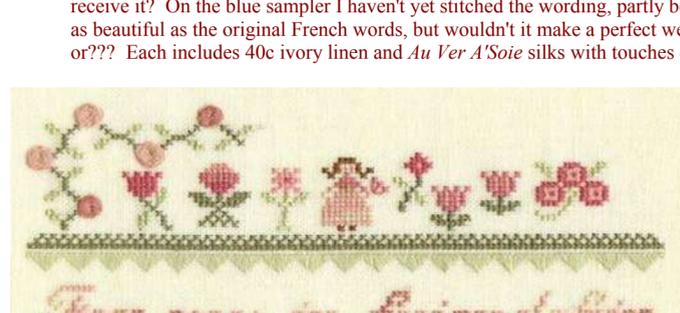
- in Thea's Alphabet Sampler Series, "H" is for Homemaker" ~ and "H" is also for all of the specialty stitches Thea incorporates into these alphabet samplers ~ this time it's the Herringbone stitch, the Half Rhodes, the Hungarian Cross Stitch ~ you get the idea ~ very clever indeed
- "Heirloom Wedding Treasures" featuring a ringbearer's pillow, bridal purse, and bridesmaid keepsakes ~ these are some of the most exquisite hardanger designs I've seen in a while
- and for our neighbors to the north, "O Canada Sampler." first designed on the occasion of Canada's 125th birthday in 1992, incorporating many historical and national symbols throughout ~ and since Arizona is the winter home to many Canadians, we thought it a nice addition to our inventory at this time of year



- See-through plastic totes in four different sizes with our Attic logo and important contact information. The two smaller sizes make wonderful tool carriers ~ how nice to be able to see what's there! And the two larger sizes are handled ~ the largest of these is large enough for LOTS of projects or a piece that's mounted on stretcher bars. The bags range in price from \$7.50 and \$8.50 for the smallest to \$14 and \$15 for the larger handled versions.
- In the shop for several weeks now, the February 2006 issue of *Just CrossStitch* magazine features on its cover a design by Marianne Diemer/*Rouge du Rhin*, whose favorite color is red! If you're not into making pillows, the French monogram is a 111 x 111 design and will fit perfectly onto the beautiful pillows from *JBW Designs/Trail Creek Farm*, originally designed for a Christmas sampler ~ I've shown you the back as well to illustrate the clever design of these pillows ~ to stitch, simply unbutton, remove the pillow filler, and apply your chosen design, and when your needlework is finished, so is your pillow! Simply iron it, reinsert the pillow form, button it, and voila! You have a finished pillow. These pillows come in 28c and 40c, in flax or ivory, and with burgundy or dark green backings, and sell for \$39. I just noticed that the scans I did on the flatbed distort the shape of the pillow somewhat ~ its measurements are approximately 7 x 7.5, not an exact square but close enough ~ as John tells me often, riding by on horseback at midnight, no one will notice.



- And, lastly, two charming kits from Sylvie Tonnelier/*Au fil des rêves* ~ I know they've been in a previous e-newsletter, adorable designs but even more so when stitched ~ these will make perfect projects for gift-giving, quick to stitch and who wouldn't love to receive it? On the blue sampler I haven't yet stitched the wording, partly because of indecision on how to make the English translation as beautiful as the original French words, but wouldn't it make a perfect wedding sampler, anniversary sampler, new-house sampler, or??? Each includes 40c ivory linen and *Au Ver A'Soie* silks with touches of *Gloriana* ~ \$29 each.



We've redone the front display but I forgot to photograph it, so it will wait till next week. A year ago at this time we were preparing to welcome many of you for The Attic's Sampler Weekend ~ now it is a very special needlework memory for me, and for those of you who joined us ~ here's a photograph from the archives of our three fabulous presenters ~ from left to right, Maureen Appleton, Lorraine Mootz, and Dr. Maureen Groggin.



I hear from many of you that you enjoy the family photos. I enjoy sharing them as well, with you, my extended family. Here's one from several that I snapped last Sunday at Ralph and Amy's dining room table. Ralph made us a delicious dinner that included ratatouille and, a children's favorite, spaghetti and porcupine balls. Tyler and Hannah had given up way too early on the spaghetti, so Grandpa taught them how to "suck" the spaghetti strands ~ now that it was a game, they both almost cleaned their plates, and were ready for dessert!



Enjoy your week! With some of you having Monday as a Holiday, come in and pay us a visit. We're always open on Mondays, and we will be this week as well. We still have some great storewide clearance items on the tables in the classroom at 40% off, including hand-dyed linens.