

January's Sampler of the Month



There's one more week in January and one more week to take advantage of the 15% savings on our January Sampler of the Month, "The Song They Sang" by *Kathy Barrick-Dieter/Carriage House Samplings*. Our model is stitched with Belle Soie on 40c Vintage from Lakeside, shown framed in a beautiful hand-grained frame from *Cathy Campbell/Primitive Traditions*. Save 15% on any combination of the chart (\$9), the fabric (\$10), or the silks, charted for 9 colors of Needlepoint, Inc. (\$36) ~ stitched above with 7 colors of Belle Soie (\$38.50). Frames will be made to order, whether for 40c, 36c, or ??? ~ and will be available sometime in February, after the Nashville market, with plenty of time to stitch this piece before it's ready for framing.

January Classes at The Attic

Flat Ornament Finishing

One Class

Instructor: Christy

Fee: \$25 (includes finishing materials)

Tomorrow, Saturday, January 26, 9:30 - 12:30 p.m.

Some of us didn't get our ornaments finished last month, so here's a chance to get an early start for this year. Bring your stitched ornament and backing fabric, and the rest will be provided. Christy will show you how easy it is to finish your ornaments with twisted cording. Please note that this is not the flat-fold finishing class but, rather, the flat ornament.

Reversible Cross Stitch

One 4-Hr. Class

Instructor: Linda

Fee: \$30

Tomorrow, Saturday, January 26, 1 - 5 p.m.

In this four-hour class Linda will teach you four reversible cross-stitch methods: the marking stitch, the Italian reversible, and two other methods. You can do this on either linen, evenweave, or aida; give us your choice when you register. Below is a scan of both the front and the back of Linda's exemplar.



February Classes at The Attic



Waterfield Band Sampler continues . . .

Waterfield Band Sampler Study/Stitch Group Sessions: ????

Saturday, February 2, 10 a.m. - Noon Fee: \$25 for 6 sessions or \$5/session

I'll try to remember to bring my camera so that I can show you photos of the beautiful samplers that are unfolding on various shades of linen. Some of you are making great progress on this masterful design by **Page Dorsey/The Sampler Workes**. We will spend several hours together again learning from each other, getting inspiration from those who "have gone before." Please call to let us know you will be joining us.



Beginning Hardanger - Part 2

Instructor: Linda

Part 2 - 2-Hr. Class

Saturday February 9, 10 - 12 p.m.

Fee: \$20

This is the second meeting of this class, where you will learn the basics of this beautiful Norwegian embroidery technique while creating a lovely sachet from Janice Love's "Hardanger Bible," *Basics and Beyond*. The book (\$15) that is the text for this class has very excellent and comprehensive instructions, and it includes the class project design as well as five other lacy sachets. As always, students receive a 10% discount on the book + supplies purchased for this class, including scissors, magnification, etc.

Coming in February

Saturday, February 2 - Semi-Annual Framing Frenzy ~ This is your twice-yearly opportunity to save 20% on the custom-frame costs for framing your needlework heirlooms. Bring in your stitched piece(s), give Sandy your budget parameters and a brief idea of your likes and dislikes, and Sandy will do the rest. A \$20 deposit (plus tax) is required. Many of you have come to know Sandy's eye for selecting exactly the right frame for your needlework piece. This **20% discount applies to custom frames only**, as opposed to ready-mades, **and includes the frame and any mats or fillets**. It does **not** include the labor charge, which is never discounted, nor ready-made frames. No orders will be accepted with a deadline. Depending on the number of orders taken and the materials selected, turn-around time can be several months. It should also be noted that any non-promotional framing orders written at our regular framing rates will take precedence over the FF orders. **This very special semi-annual event is open to away customers as well. Send your finished piece in and include the above information.**

Sunday, February 3 ~ Super Bowl Sale - Noon - 4 p.m. Don't miss this opportunity to take advantage of deep discounts. If you've been in the shop lately, you know that we have too much stuff! It's time to move it on out to make room for all that's coming in February. Please note: The time has been extended :-(- another hour because **You Know Who** isn't playing in the Big Game this year! So, on the bright side, shop till you drop!

Saturday, February 16 ~ Nashville Market Day! 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. ~ with a special early hour of shopping beginning at 9 a.m.. for our Attic Addicts

Sunday, February 17 ~ Sampler Sunday, 1 - 4 p.m.

Thursday - Sunday, February 21 - 24, Junipine Retreat ~ registration is full for this year

Friday, February 29 ~ Opening Tea (\$10/person) for the Biennial Phoenix Needlework Show, 2 - 5 p.m. Preregistration deadline is February 15. If you are interested in attending this special preview event, please e-mail me and I will put you

in touch with Alaine Steuk, Chairman. You may wish to become a Patron, Benefactor, or Angel for this event because all of the net proceeds benefit a most worthwhile charity, A Stepping Stone Foundation. Alaine will send you all of the details.

Coming in March

22nd Biennial Phoenix Needlework Show ~ March 1 - 21, Shemer Art Center & Museum, 5005 East Camelback Road, Phoenix. The informational bookmarks are available in the shop.

Coming to The Attic Very Soon

Shipping to us today (they were waiting for the linen to arrive) from our distributor: **Loose Feathers #29, "Where My Heart Blooms"** is the first in this year's series from *Barb+Alma/Blackbird Designs*. Last week I was having trouble hitting the right number keys, I guess. This is the **6th** year of this series that usually includes **6** patterns, but there's a free pattern to all who collect all **6** this year, a special bonus at the end: From each of the patterns printed this year motifs will be chosen which, when combined, will make a new sampler. Which ones will be chosen? How will the sampler go together? The mystery will be solved in the final Loose Feather pattern, which will be printed in November of 2008. You will need all 6 patterns to make the bonus sampler. A stitching diagram will be provided to show placement of the motifs.



Above, on the left, is the design stitched with overdyed cottons and, on the right, the eight gorgeous Belle Soie conversion that Bunny of our staff did yesterday afternoon, and they are scanned onto 40c Vintage fabric from *Lakeside Linens*, two different linens, each with enough color in the fabric to reflect the palette beautifully.

Coming from *Barb & Alma/Blackbird Designs* at the Nashville market, a cross-stitch book and two new patterns in the "Remember Me" series. The titles for the two new patterns are "I Thee Wed" and "Mildred's Garden House." The book is titled "Thank You Sarah Tobias" and includes cross stitch patterns and the original antique sampler by Sarah Tobias. We will be bringing back LOTS of all of these because every year the *Blackbird* books are some of THE most popular items at the show.

Also Coming in February:

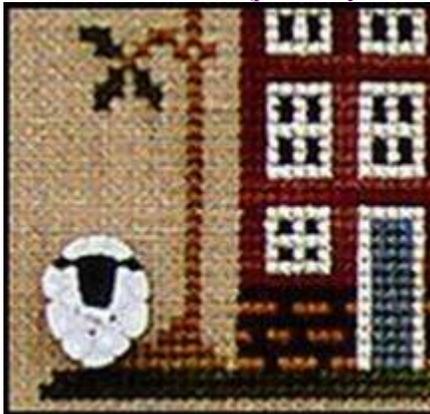


A new threadpack series, "Sweet Treats," with six parts: February - Sweet Treats; March - Cupcake; April - Tart; May - Ice Cream; June - Pie; July - Cake \$23 - \$12

Each thread pack contains a chart from *Country Cottage Needleworks*, threads from *Crescent Colours*, and buttons from *Just Another Button Company*. The model was stitched on 28c Vintage Lentil Linen from *Lakeside Linens*. The first block (\$23) to be released, *Sweet Treats*, comes with seven skeins of floss which will be used to complete the border and the rest of the other five blocks as well. Packs 2 through 6 (\$12) will each contain two skeins of floss and three buttons to use with the threads from the first pack. When stitched on 28c fabric, the approximate finished size of the entire design with border is 13" x 9". The stitch count is 184 x 127. The frame is from The Family Tree and also available from *Crescent Colours*. The first threadpack will be shipping to us in February ~ reserve yours now.

Here's a sneak peek at two Nashville releases coming from *Diane Williams/Little House Needleworks*:

To the left is a snippet from the Crescent Colours release, "Heart of America." This kit (\$38) will include the pattern, 12 skeins of hand-dyed threads, and six JABCO buttons. To the right is a snippet from a Hoffman exclusive, "My Needle's Work." This release (price as yet undetermined) contains the chart and thread.



Saltbox Seasons Thread Packs

These newest thread packs (\$12) will contain five skeins of *Crescent Colours* cotton thread and the chart from *Little House Needleworks*. You can stitch them individually or all on one piece of fabric as shown here. Several of the Vintage linens from *Lakeside Linens* would work beautifully. The release schedule is as follows: February, "Blessed are the Meek"; March, "Blessed are the Pure in Heart"; April, "Blessed are the Merciful"; and May, "Blessed are the Peacemakers."



Also coming at Nashville from *Crescent Colours*: 10 new Belle Soie colors (Angel Blush, Bahama Breeze, Enchanted Forest, Lily Pad, Tortoise Shell, Purple Paradise, Blue Heaven, Spring Violet, Peacock, and Petticoat Blue) ~ I can hardly wait! And five new cottons (Bean Sprout, Blacksmith Blue, Pea Pod, Peanut Brittle, and Snowball). Can't you just imagine how much fun Sharon and her team have naming these! But not nearly as much fun as we have using them.

Speaking of hand-dyed products, we are so fortunate to be in this time and place that we find ourselves in today's needlework world that we have available to us the wonderful products that come to us from some very talented needlewomen, specially hand-dyed with loving care. Something we take for granted, perhaps, and have come to expect is the consistency of the colors without a comprehension at all of the behind-the-scenes work that goes into getting these materials to us ~ and the time and materials spent in redeveloping the dye recipe when the dye manufacturer suddenly changes their product. Yes, there sometimes are color inconsistencies, but that can be a wonderful thing! The new color is often more beautiful than the old and always has an application. The moral of the story: Collect your favorite colors now in the hand-dyed product lines that you love because next year it may be a different color, something that is totally out of the control of the dyers.

Coming from *Just*Nan*



A Buzz of Anticipation? If you listen carefully, you may hear a faint buzzing in the background. That buzzing is getting louder as the Nashville market date approaches. There we will get our first peek at Barnabee's Bride. It's another little enamel and crystal box for you with special stitching surprises inside. Her name is Bella Bee, and Barnabee met her while on his quest for the sweetest flower. She is a Limited Edition kit - \$60 - (including graph, instructions, linen, finishing materials, embellishments, and box ~ no floss!) just like Lady Scarlet was last year and will ship to us after the Nashville market. Reserve yours today! Nan says, "Rest assured, she is very pretty, and you will love her!" Sorry, there's no picture available just yet.

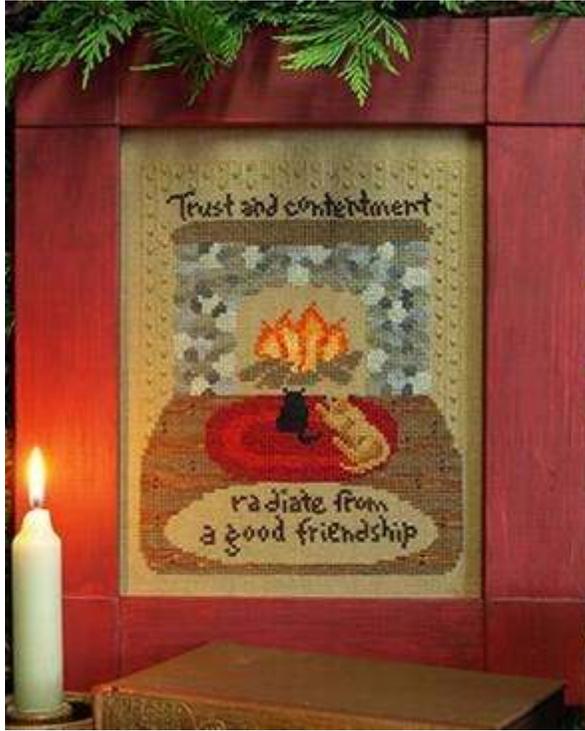
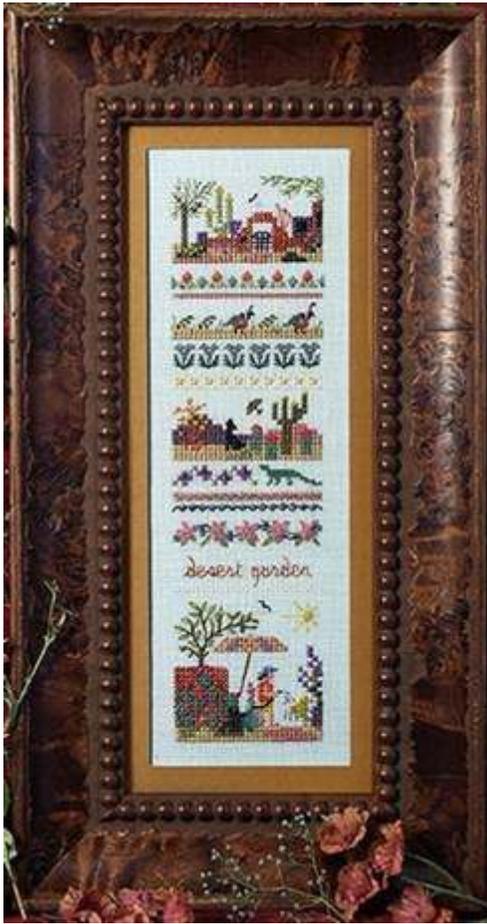
In the Shop Now



"Old World Collection," a threadpack (\$42) from *The Thread Gatherer* with limited edition colors: Emperor's Cloak, Norwegian Waters, Mother Land Photo, Mandil de Abuela, Sun King, Black Forest, and a luscious silk ribbon.

From *The Victoria Sampler*: 3rd in the Lace Series, "Welcome Hearts Sampler" (\$21 w/accessory pack) ~ next in the Alphabet Sampler Series, "R is for Runner" (\$42 w/accessory pack) ~ "Desert Garden Sampler" (\$10) ~ and "Truth & Contentment" (\$10)





From *Just*Nan*: "Mitten Men" (\$8) shown in a gorgeous special-order frame (\$33) and also in a WhimZi frame (\$18.50) ~ "Memories" (\$13.50 w/embellishments) ~ "Florentine Floral" (\$13 w/embellishments)





From *Waxing Moon Designs*: "Let It Snow . . . Somewhere Else!" (\$11.50 w/embellishments) + frame (\$29) ~ "Winter Wonder" (\$4.50) + frame (\$29)



~ and "Family Forever" (\$10 w/charms) ~ "Stitching Mends the Soul" (\$7)



From *Kreinik*, "Snowman Stocking" kit on perforated paper (\$8) ~ and January and February's *Pine Mountain* Monthly Punch Needle Kits (\$14) with frames (\$20) ~ each kit comes with a punch recipe ~ and these frames are cuter than can possibly be captured in a scan. The January frame is very "snowy" with its glitter-like finish and the very clever ribbon embellishments on February's frame vary somewhat from frame to frame, each one cuter than the next!



And from *The Drawn Thread*, "26 Stitches" (\$12) ~ and Part Seven in the Sampler of Stitches Series (\$12).



It's time to go pack ~ **GO PACK GO** ~ whoops, I can't get that refrain out of my head, despite the Giants' victory (as Angelica was quick to remind me of last night after I'd almost recovered from my mourning period) ~ it's really time to go pack my suitcases because very shortly we're off to the mountains to enjoy a weekend with our son, daughter-in-law, and grandchildren, part of our Christmas gift to them, the gift of time together, uninterrupted, in a cabin in the Oak Creek Canyon region of Sedona ~ a tradition that we began last year when we were blessed with a beautiful snowfall that absolutely enchanted Tyler and Hannah. We're keeping our fingers crossed for snow again this year ~ a storm moving into Arizona this weekend offers some promise of that. Here's how beautiful the snowfall was last year:



Because you are all like our family, and we yours, I hope, many of you will want to know that Betsy is recovering splendidly from her second knee replacement surgery.



She was roller skating down the hospital hallways yesterday ~ well, almost ~ just before she was released to go home. She plans to be back among us very soon, but in the meantime she says hello to all who know her.

Enjoy your week while we prepare for the **Not So Super Bowl Game** before which we will have a **Super Bowl Sale** that will make the game pale by comparison.

Jean Lea

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