

This morning I began my weekly journey down the newsletter path with great anticipation for several reasons: because I had some wonderful things to show you AND because I started the journey 2 hours earlier than usual (my exercise class was cancelled today ~ trainer is on vacation! Yea! It started out to be a GREAT Friday) ~ and was planning to have this in your "In" boxes earlier than usual. Well, the best laid plans . . .!!!! Blame it on operator error. After a mid-week trip to the computer doctor for a check-up and an "energy boost," today's scanning didn't give me the usual prompts and I had to go about it a bit differently ~ that's a bit scary for this technophobe, and I found that I'd saved all 50 scanned images into a PDF file rather than in JPEG format. It has taken a number of hours and several phone calls to finally get this to you today. Today it was my technical support/shopowner/Chico pal Cathe Ray to the rescue. Her suggestion: Google the words "convert PDF to JPG" and it worked! I found a downloadable trial version that saved the day. They imbedded some words on some of the images, but that's okay. I am happy to give them a plug because they helped me out tremendously: PDF Image Magic turned this day around for me!

FIRST, A Couple of Important Notes

- Regarding November's *Merry Cox Workshops*, all workshops will again be held at the Dobson Ranch Inn in Mesa. Please go to their Web site to "see" the property: www.dobsonranchinn.com/ There is a room block being held for us through October 8, 2007. Please refer to **Group No. 803051** or **Attic Needlework Group** when making your reservations. The room rates are \$89/night for a single or double. Pre-stitching kits for three of the workshops have arrived and have been distributed, except that we needed more because more of you have now registered. Kits will be distributed to all of you as soon as they arrive. Please note that for Sunday's class, **A Diminutive Sewing Set**, Merry's wood man could commit to having 50 pieces ready for her by November for this class. We surpassed the 50 mark two weeks ago. We have tried to remember to tell any of you registering at this point that you may have to wait a bit for your "wood" part to the kit, but if we have forgotten to inform any of you, please take note of this. Merry may have sufficient wood parts left from other venues where she is teaching this prior to November, but we wanted all of you who have registered within the past two weeks to be aware of a possible delay in delivery for that part of your kit.
- Regarding May's *Diane Clements' Acorn Etui Workshop*, the kits have been received for pre-stitching and all of you have been notified but just in case the message went awry . . .
- Regarding *JBW Designs' "French Country Love"* in the Color Code Over Two chart, the two color symbols for the pink and avacado have been reversed.
- Regarding *Primitive Traditions'* wonderful series, *Ladies Pocket Needfuls*, Cathy notified us that two charts are in need of corrections, and she is reprinting and mailing the corrections to us now. For the "Card Purse," a reprint will be necessary to substitute. If you have purchased this chart in the shop, please bring in your old one and we will replace it with a new one. If you have received it by mail order, please contact me by e-mail and I will replace the chart. However, in the meantime, for the "Checkbook Keeper," the symbol list should be as follows:

Dark square	NPS 981	DMC 3770	Taupe, very light
Double slash	NPS 301	DMC 436	Antique Brown, very light
Small dot	NPS 695	DMC 782	Palomino Gold
Plus sign	NPS 208	DMC 918	Russet Red, dark
Heart	NPS 244	DMC 3011	Moss Green, dk
X	NPS 243	DMC 3012	Moss Green med.
Triangle	NPS 975	DMC 3032	Mouse Gray, dark

NEW IN THE SHOP

We didn't begin this eNewsletter with this weekend's shop happenings ~ because the only thing happening is shopping! And we have lots of new stuff to help with that!

One more week to save 15% on March's Sampler of the Month and its supplies. Shown here: AVAS on 29c hand-dyed Cottonfields Glenshee, the "New England Sampler" image, and the NPI on 29c hand-dyed Glenshee. Please note that the designer has stitched her model on 25c over 1, and that is why we are recommending the Glenshee. It is absolutely our very favorite fabric to use for stitching over 1 ~ of course, imported and marketed by the originator of the marvelous over-one technique, Maureen Appleton of *The Heart's Content*.



APRIL'S SAMPLER OF THE MONTH

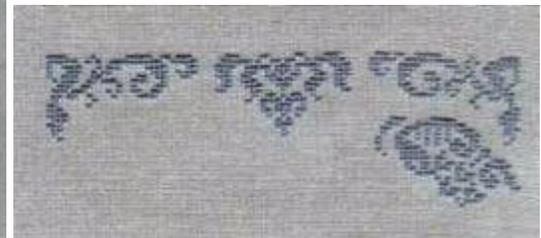
As you've no doubt noticed, we've been taken with hornbooks lately ~ and enjoyed Linda's fabulous hornbook cookies at Sampler Sunday ~ so we decided to choose this new chartpack as our next Sampler of the Month. The chartpack, "Sampler Hornbook," (\$24) is from *The Prairie Sampler and* includes the small wooden hornbook for mounting your sampler when complete. Charted for five colors (gold, black, brown, red, and green), here is that palette in *Crescent Colours'* Soie Belle on, you guessed it, 29c hand-dyed Glenshee in Muffin ~ the sampler is designed to be stitched over 1 on 28c, so 29c Glenshee works perfectly! Here's the perfect size piece for you to try this fabric and technique. Getting my inspiration from Tamami, who stitches most everything in red, I decided to try it in a monochromatic and beautiful "Rose of Sharon" from *Crescent Colours*. I hope the ruler gives you an idea of the scale of this project. Perhaps I'll have it finished by next week to show you.



Last week we received *Blackbird Designs'* latest design in their Loose Feathers Club, "Their Song." This design begins their 2007 series and their fifth year of this VERY successful series, and we learn from reading the inside cover that, while last year the theme was the garden, "This year's theme features our friends, the birds, those constant reminders of the natural world around us." They go on to discuss birds and their images and their abilities to speak in mythology as sources of wisdom, and they remind us of our ongoing use of the bird as a messenger in the saying "A little bird told me." Then they cite a traditional rhyme that uses the number of crows present to predict the future: "One crow is for sorrow. Two for joy. Three for a girl, Four for a boy, Five crows for silver, Six crows for gold, Seven crows for a secret never to be told." And Barb stitched seven crows into her sampler ~ and that provided the inspiration for the 40c hand-dyed linen that Bunny of The Attic staff dyed especially for this piece. It's called "The Crow's Secret," and it is shown below in the scan showing the Weeks Dye Works colors used in this design. Bunny has been dyeing fabric for her own use for years, and when the chart arrived and we had no 40c in the shop that would work, she volunteered to dye some for us. It has the distressed look of an antique. And we love it! I showed my husband and he exclaimed, "You want it to look like that?" It is only being made available in a precut size for this Loose Feathers design on 40c linen ~ 12 x 13.5 (\$10).



I was also "captured" this week by a new design that came in from *Ink Circles*, "This Heat of Mine" (\$8). I couldn't wait to try this new AVAS color 1422 on this beautiful piece of *Lakeside Linens'* 40c Vintage Winter Sky, and so I didn't wait any longer!

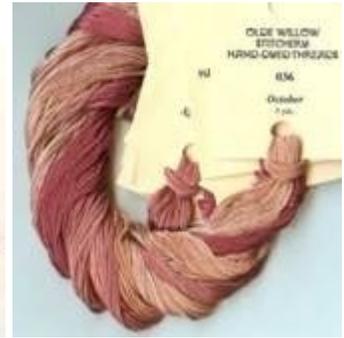


Speaking of *A Ver A'Soie*, for 20 years now, ever since Darlene O'Steen's "Pomegranate Sampler" first appeared on the cover of *Just CrossStitch* magazine, this shop has been making 3-meter skeins from the large 45-meter hanks. We have just instituted a change and will no longer be "skeining" AVAS but, rather, purchasing it in 5-meter skeins (\$3.50). It simply became a matter of not enough available staff time to commit to this labor-intensive task. We have quite a lot of the 3-meter skeins remaining, so this will be a very gradual change.

Also just in from *Ink Circles*, "Blackstone Fantasy Garden" (\$16) and, from *Needlemania*, "Hidden Roses" (\$12) published by Marc Davis, who's been stitching since 1970, beginning with needlepoint, until he was "captured" by cross stitch about 10 years ago. Several of his stitched pieces have been award winners at the Woodlawn Plantation Needlework Show, and Marc has developed a reputation for producing beautiful needlework, so I'm sure we can look forward to many more beautiful designs from *Needlemania*.



And more beautiful designs, this time from the very charming Italian, Giulia Ponti Antichi, known to many of you as GPA. Here is her exquisite "Queen Sofia's Sewing Bag and Chatelaine" (\$23) and the beautiful threadpack (\$30) from *Olde Willow Stitchery*. Finishing kits are available (and on their way from Italy) for both the sewing bag and the chatelaine, and we've also ordered the lavender-scented waxer and the hand cream vase to complete Queen Sofia's array of accoutrements. Prices will be available when the shipment is received.



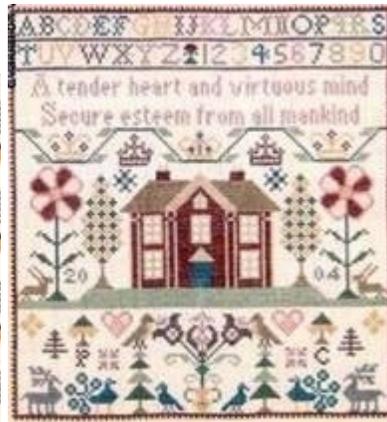
Also new in the shop this week, from *Blue Ribbon Designs*, "Red Velvet Building Blocks" (\$11) ~ and from *Arachne's Silken Web*, "Alphabet Gameboard" (\$16) ~ and from a voice from the past, *Curtis Boehringer*, a beautiful selection of Old World Santas done in Redwork; this \$26 chartpack includes 12 designs and suggestions for 3 projects: a pillow, a wallhanging, or a quilt featuring all 12.



CURTIS BOEHRINGER
REDWORK BOOK of
OLD WORLD SANTAS

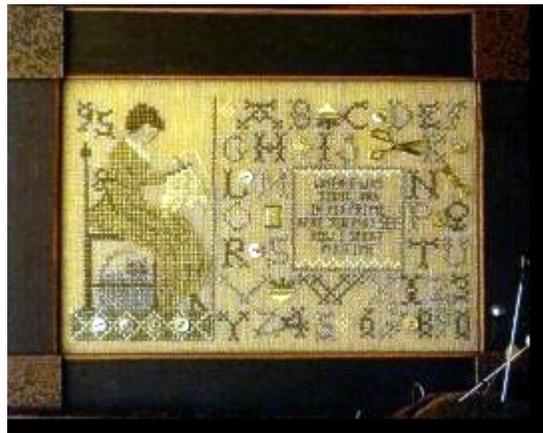


New sampler designs from *PLC Traditional Samplers* out of England, "Home is Where you Hang Your Sampler" (\$13) ~ "A Tender Heart Sampler" (\$17) ~ "Band Sampler" (\$17) ~ and "Live Each Day Sampler" (\$17) ~ and from *Threads of Gold*, two reproductions: "EMG 1819" (\$15) and "Rachel Marshall" (\$19).





From *Homespun Elegance*, "The Stitcher II" (\$10.70) and, next to it, "The Stitcher" from several years ago but perhaps new to some of you.



And also from *Homespun*, "Tooth Fairy Time" (\$6.50) and "Wee Dwellings" (\$7.50)



From *The Trilogy*, "Easter Lineup," (\$16 with Sterling Silver Posey Trinket) shown both over 1 and over 2 on 32c ~ and a Take Along Kit, "Flower Power" (\$25).



Three new bouquets from *Cedar Hill*, "Bouquet for February," "Bouquet for March," and "Wildflowers," each \$7.



From *Diane Graebner Designs/Lynn's Prints*, "They Smell So Sweet, Mom" (\$6) and a new series from *The Gathering Place* called Good Words, "Care" and "Bestow," both \$7.50.



Special project bags for sampler lovers, two sizes in the black, \$18 and \$24, and a matching bag to carry your stitching supplies, \$14 ~ sampler file folders (\$1.50 each) ~ and a beaded adaptation by *Fern Ridge Collections* of the fabulous "Miss Mary Mack" by *La-D-Da* (\$24)



Part y of "My Grandma's Attic" Series, "Jessica Carver" by *Lisa Cowell* (\$8) ~ "A Spot of Halloween" (\$8) from *Midnight Stitching* shown on 28c Flash from Colorscares ~ we have it in the shop in 40c! ~ and "Red Bird Fraktur" (\$6) from *Knotted Tree NeedleArt* ~ a double-sided whimsical design from *Praiseworthy Stitches*, "Where is Green Sheep?" (\$8) getting its name from a child's question about where does colored yarn come from? ~ and anothr sheep, this one, "Daffy Springtime" (\$6) from *KatiDid*.





Two charming new punch-needle designs: "The Rooster's Garden" (\$8) from *By the Bay Needleart* ~ and the latest in the very popular Punch 'n Cookies Club. These just keep getting cuter with each month. Begun last year, the P&C Club continues for another year. Each month the kit (which includes the design printed on weaver's cloth, the floss, and a cookie recipe!!!!) is \$12 and its adorable complementary frame varies between \$14 and \$18. If you would like to join our P&C Club, just call to register. Cancellation is accepted any time prior to the next month's shipment.



New publications from someone many of you have heard of, Jackie du Plessis of *It's Fine-ally Finished*. These beautiful needlework accessories have been teaching projects in the past and are now available in chartpack. "Queen's Needle Roll" (\$14) ~ "Ella's Slipper" (\$18) includes the tiny little spool that helps to provide perspective on the petite size of this "slipper" ~ "Pineapple Fob" (\$8) ~ "My Bee Safe" (\$18) ~ and "Sweet Strawberries" (\$18)



The day is almost over ~ so much for getting this out to you early in the day! I had planned to hit "Send" mid-morning and then join my son for lunch ~ today is a very special day for us as it marks the day we were reunited 14 years ago, a day that changed my life forever. Here is the beautiful family that John and I share our lives with today, thanks to the loving spirit of his parents, to whom I am deeply grateful.



Enjoy your week.

Jean Lea

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