

APRIL CLASSES at The Attic

Design Your Own French Alphabet Sampler Class 3 of Three 2-Hr. Classes
Instructor: Jean Fee: \$30
Saturday, April 14, 11:00-1:00 p.m.



We are meeting for our third class in this series and, unfortunately, my "L" sampler isn't much further than when this photograph was taken. It's an exquisite piece, and we have had some lovely finishes resulting from previous classes. Two are pictured above, framed models of Tamami's and Tedra's from a class several years ago. I'm hoping to get re-inspired to work on mine again, and that is one of the reasons for our getting together, for all of us to inspire each other. My sampler 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. The late-morning start time will allow travel time for students coming from Tucson and San Diego. As always, previous students with this as an unfinished project are invited to "audit" the class at no additional fee, but **please register**.

Sampler Sunday ~ April 14, 1:00-4:00 p.m. ~ Fee: \$10

It is already the third Sunday of the month! And that means it is time once again to spend a quiet afternoon sharing our love of needlework, and most especially samplers, for several hours. Please join us for a lovely Sunday afternoon with a wonderful group of ladies, and please bring your show-and-tell pieces to share, finished or in progress ~ one of the best things about this class. **Please call to register.**

Pineapple Saturday at The Attic aka "Welcome to our World"

Instructors: Christy (a.m.) and Debra (p.m.) Fees: \$20 (a.m.) and \$15 (p.m.)
Saturday, April 21, 9:30 - 12:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.



This most charming set of needlework accessories will be the focus on **Saturday, April 21**, beginning at **9:30 a.m.** when Christy will share her expertise in finishing for the pineapple pincushion, the needlebook, and the scrimshaw carriers. In the afternoon Debra will teach the beaded fob, and Debra is anxious to share with you the tips and tricks she learned at the

Nashville beading class she took that will make **the flat peyote beading as easy as cross stitch** ! You may spend the day with us or morning or afternoon, your choice. The materials for these workshops are included in complete kits from **Fern Ridge Collections**, priced as follows: Needlebook - \$30; Smalls (includes the pincushion and scrim holders) - \$26; Basket Lining - \$16; Beaded Fob - \$36. The basket itself is \$60 and the set of scrimshaw is \$90. You may choose to do any or all of these kits for this workshop. Call to register as soon as possible so that we are sure to have enough kits available for all.

Punchneedle

Instructor: Christy

Saturday, April ??, 2 - 4 p.m.

One 2-Hr. Class

Fee: \$50 (includes all materials)



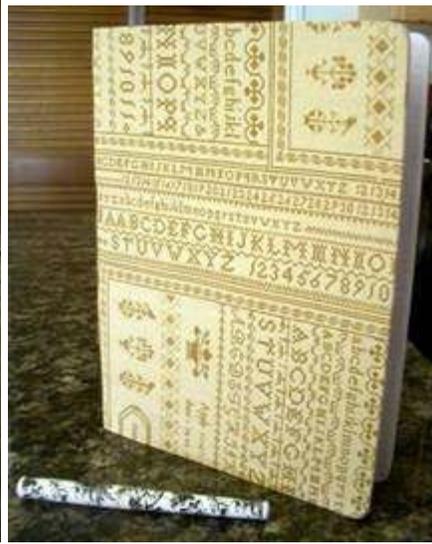
Christy's back from Australia and ready to teach another class in this fun, fast, and easy centuries-old technique. The class project is your choice of either of the pins shown here ~ both designs come in your kit. In the 2 hours you may be able to complete your pin. Your fee includes everything you need to get started: #3 Punchneedle, special locking hoop, design printed on weaver's cloth, and a threadkit. Christy will show you this very easy technique and a number of her beautifully finished models featuring a variety of finishing techniques. You will also receive a 10% discount on all supplies ~ patterns, thread, etc. ~ for your next punchneedle project(s).

Sampler of the Month



Here once again is the most popular ever in our Sampler-of-the-Month series, with hornbook chartpacks being shipped to many corners of the world in this cyberspace age in which we live. April's Sampler of the Month, "Sampler Hornbook" (\$24) is from Pam Schmidt of **The Prairie Sampler**. I stitched our model on hand-dyed Muffin 29-count Glenshee with the new **Belle Soie** from **Crescent Colours** in Rose of Sharon. If you'd prefer to stitch this charming little sampler in the five colors called for by the designer, red, green, brown, gold, and black, here's a scan of five beautiful **Belle Soie** silks for your sampler. For those of you waiting for yours, Pam has just received more hornbooks, which she is painting today and shipping tomorrow, and they will go out next week just as soon as we receive them.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE SHOP



Two "sampler" products from two of your favorites, Barb and Alma, the talented ladies of *Blackbird Designs* ~ a sampler notebook and needleroll, both crafted by Moda, the manufacturer of their beautiful quilting fabrics. The notebook measures approximately 7 x 9.5 inches and is filled with graphing/note-taking pages for \$14. The needleroll is similar to one available in very limited quantity last year and, now that Moda has produced them in large quantities, they are once again available, now for only \$15. My apologies for the varied color tones of the fabric ~ flash and no-flash changes it. I've also shown the notebook with a pen for scale ~ and the needleroll rolled and then both outside and in.



Premiering next week at the online needlework show, another wonderful accessory for your needlework baskets from

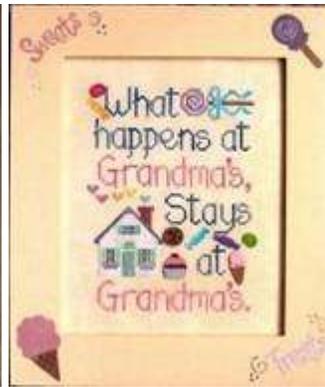
Paula/Kelmscott Designs, "Miller's Dragonflies" needle minder (\$8), named in memory of Paula's dear friend who lost her battle with thyroid cancer. \$1 of each sale is going to a charity selected by Cheryl Miller's family, The Oasis Sanctuary, which cares for abused and abandoned parrots. Also available as of the online show, the "Sampler House" thread keep, (\$6) which resembles a saltbox house when empty.



You may recall seeing this piece as part of a Nashville-exclusive kit in a collaboration between Little House Needleworks, Crescent Colours, and Kelmscott Designs. While this kit, "Thread Gathering," is officially sold out through its distributor, we still have a few remaining kits available (\$27), which include the design, 7 skeins of Crescent Colours hand-dyed threads, and the thread keep.



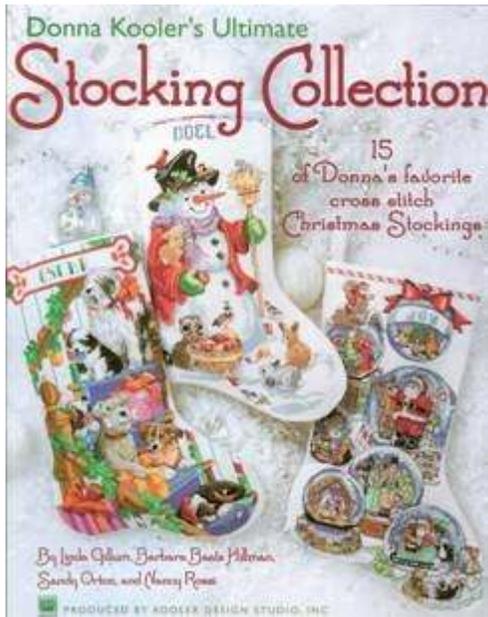
Three new kits from another of your favorites, *Shepherd's Bush*, each shown with a close-up so you can better appreciate the details, always wonderful from Tina and Terry: "Sisters" (\$12) ~ "A Friend" (\$12) ~ "Glad Heart" (\$28), with its charming little sheepie in the lower center of the design.



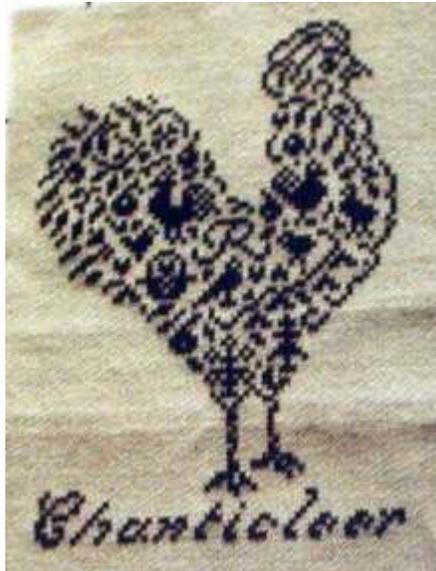
"Mermaid Sampler" from *Birds of a Feather*, complete with 32c Barn Owl fabric, \$21 ~ and from *Waxing Moon Designs*, "My Needle and My Floss" and "What Happens at Grandma's House" ~ each \$6.50. Notice the ice cream cone button in the lower right of the photo. Reminds me of the breakfast Hannah and Tyler have had a time or two at Grandma's house!



A new publication of Linda Calhoun's Heirloom Sampler Favorites, 14 traditional and inspiring keepsake samplers, some with specialty stitches and some with drawn threadwork ~ including a beautiful one for Mother's Day with a special tribute in its verse taken from Proverbs: "Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her own works praise her in the gates." ~ an Easter Sampler and other inspirational designs ~ others called "Samplers in Bloom" featuring gorgeous flowers. My favorite: the "Rose Sampler" with its lovely verse: "Where fall the tears of love the rose appears." \$10.95 for 14 sampler designs and complete with stitch diagrams! Quite a bargain.



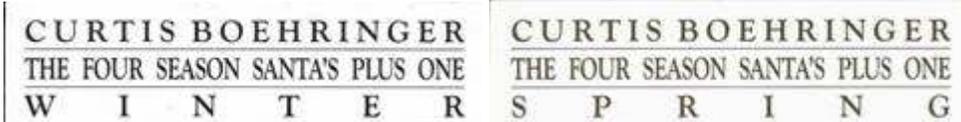
Donna Kooler's Ultimate Stocking Collection featuring 15 of Donna's favorite cross-stitch Christmas stockings designed by a group of very talented ladies: Linda Gillum, Barbara Baatz Hillman, Sandy Orton, and Nancy Rossi ~ \$22.95.



Something I've been wanting to show you for weeks now, another colorway for **JBW Designs'** "French Rooster" featuring a fabulous flanged black pillow with cream dots, perfect for using cream linen and a *Noir* thread, like **Crescent Colours'** Belle Soie in Noir. The pillow is \$54, the chart \$3, and the Belle Soie \$5.50.



Just in the door, the two newest in *Erica Michaels'* "Random Thoughts" series ~ "Random Thoughts of Summer" shown two ways and "Random Thoughts of Baby," shown in blue and pink ~ each chart is \$6.50.



More from their voice from the past, *Curtis Boehringer*, two charts, each with an ornament and a standup. All a cross-stitcher need do is look at the chart, pictured on the front cover, and one can easily imagine how charming these are, in either size. There's also a Summer and Autumn that we will be getting to complete this series. Each chart, \$6.



Mark your calendars for **Sunday, May 6, at 1:40 p.m.**, for a game between our Arizona Diamondbacks and the New York Mets. Bring your family and your needlework and help us reach our goal of putting the Diamondbacks at the top of this joint effort between Major League Baseball and our trade association, TNNA, The National NeedleArts Association. Thanks to the very cooperative effort of the Arizona Diamondbacks organization, tickets are available at a special price of \$15 each, with seating in the Infield Reserve section. In addition to enjoying the game while enjoying your most favorite pastime, each Stitch N' Pitch attendee will receive a tote bag stuffed full of goodie from participating needlework organizations/vendors. Call now to reserve your tickets. Tickets will be available at the shop next week. You may also purchase tickets directly from the Diamondbacks online at www.dbacks.com/ticketspecials or by calling 602.514.8400.

MERRY COX WORKSHOPS

Additional prestitching kits are here and have been shipped. Any of you waiting should receive yours very soon.



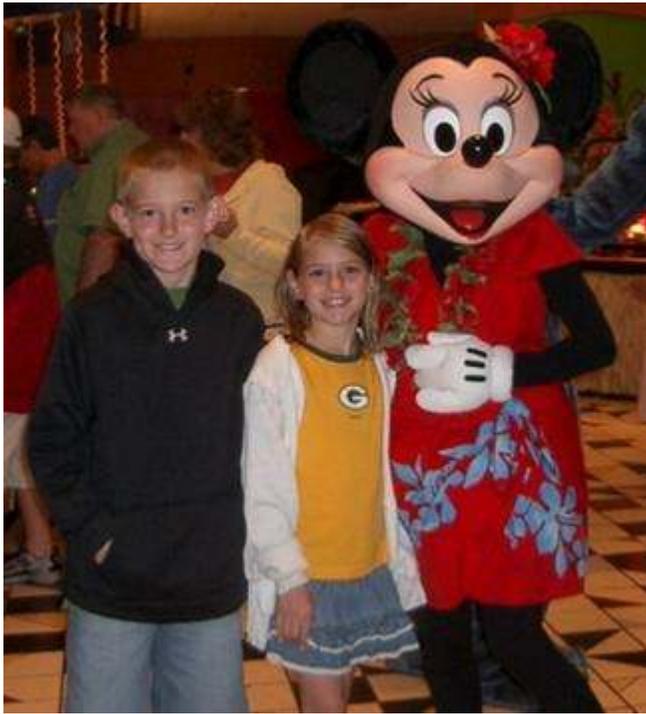
Some of you have asked to see more photos of Merry Cox's "Shepherd's Retreat Sewing Case," so Merry sent these additional photos showing the inside and back of this very charming, have-to-have needlework accessory. There's still time for you to complete the prestitching and join this class, scheduled for Saturday morning, November 10, 9 a.m. - Noon. Fee: \$125 (includes lunch). For a full description of the Merry Cox November weekend projects, please go to our Web site, www.atticneedlework.com ~ click on "Newsletter," go to "Past Newsletters," scroll down, and click on the "Merry Cox Workshops November 2007."

NEW MODELS IN THE SHOP



From left to right, "A Small Deer" (\$14) from *Dessins DHC*, on loan for a few months from Tedra ~ I love deer, and I think this one is especially nice. In the middle, a beautiful reproduction from *Susan/Historic Stitches*, "Sarah Hartley" (\$16) shown stitched on 40c Vintage Basketweave (I think) with NPI silks. And on the right, a charming little piece with lots of special deer, this one from *Prairie Moon*, "Blossom House" (\$8), stitched on 40c Vintage Autumn Gold with *Crescent Colours* hand-dyed floss.

It's time to hit "Send" and be on about the day. Last week I promised to share some photos of our trip to Disneyland, of all of us with Mickey's ears. (Notice the shirt Hannah is wearing! She knows how to win Grandma's heart!)



It was a wonderful couple of days ~ it's so aptly called "The Magic Kingdom" ~ a place where even gray-haired and "suspended" adults can become kids again, if only for a little while. What a hoot it is to see grown men wearing Peter Pan hats and women in Minnie's bow! And old age offers an excuse for staying off the scariest of roller coasters. I bought a T-shirt that says it all: "Where the glass slipper always fits."

It's beautiful Springtime weather here, and I know some of you are still shoveling ~ and the strong and perky daffodils will survive!

Our best to all of you from the ladies of The Attic.



And Happy Birthday, dear sister Gail! If only I could be there to help you celebrate your special day.

Jean Lea

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Jean