

THIS WEEKEND at The Attic

- **Saturday, 10 - 12 a.m.** ~ "My Stitching Treasures" Class 3 will meet for this very popular *Jeannette Douglas Designs* keepsake box, a perfect project for personalization, with inspiration from Rhonda Moon, whose Treasures box was on display for nearly a year in the shop.
- **Sunday afternoon, 1:00-4:00 p.m.** ~ it's the third Sunday in May, and that means it's time once again for Sampler Sunday. Please join us under the cool fans in our classroom for an afternoon with like-minded needleworkers, stitch on your favorite sampler in progress, see the beautiful pieces that others are creating, join in the discussion of one of our favorite needlework topics here at *The Attic* ~ samplers ~ and enjoy iced tea and dessert. **Please call to register.** Fee, \$10.

LOOKING AHEAD

Next week's newsletter will have a schedule of classes beginning in June, which will include punchneedle, reversible cross stitch, hemstitching, *Thistle Threads'* "French Monogram" set (\$85 for the complete kit, including all finishing supplies), and more. Pictured below are photographs of Nancy's beautiful set that many of us admired when she was here last November for Merry's classes.



NEW IN THE SHOP



Courtney brought this in last night for framing, her beautiful "A Most Noble Pursuit" (\$40) finished in record time by our world-famous turbo stitcher, with her very clever adaptation of adding the designers' names below each of their blocks, as well as her personalization at the top. She's kindly offered to let us hang it on her "gallery wall" in the shop when it's framed. For those of you who never visited the shop, here are selections from her needle that hang above the piano in the shop.



- The newest from *Kathy Barrick-Dieter/Carriage House Samplings* arrived earlier this week. I'm loving her virtue series (\$7 each) ~ if you want a sense of completion in a few short evenings, these stitch up very quickly ~ "Hope" and "Honor" are ready for framing and "Love" is almost finished ~ "Charity" and "Faith" are scans from Kathy's charts showing the exquisite frames (\$30 each) from *Cathy Campbell/Primitive Traditions*. The charts include conversions to *Crescent Colours*, our favorite hand-dyed cotton floss.



- Also new from *Carriage House Samplings*, "Remember Me" (\$9) and "A Visiting Bird" (\$9), also beautifully framed in hand-grained frames from *Primitive Traditions*



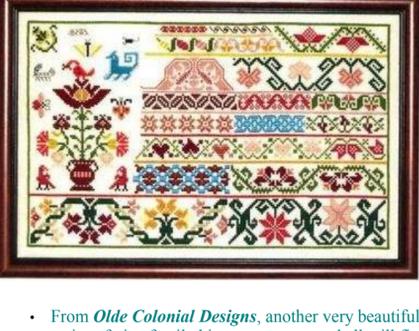
- This week's deliveries also included two shipments from France ~ unfortunately, the shipment from *Reflets de Soie* was only 25% of our order ~ the remainder somehow came out of the envelope and the shipper is searching for it. We did get a few copies of a beautiful reproduction sampler that Leontine Guigue, 12 years old at the time, stitched in March of 1900 as an affectionate tribute to her parents, "Le Marquoir de Leontine."
- A shipment from *Long Dog Samplers* arrived safely, and here is "Sarabande" (\$23), the latest design from Julia.



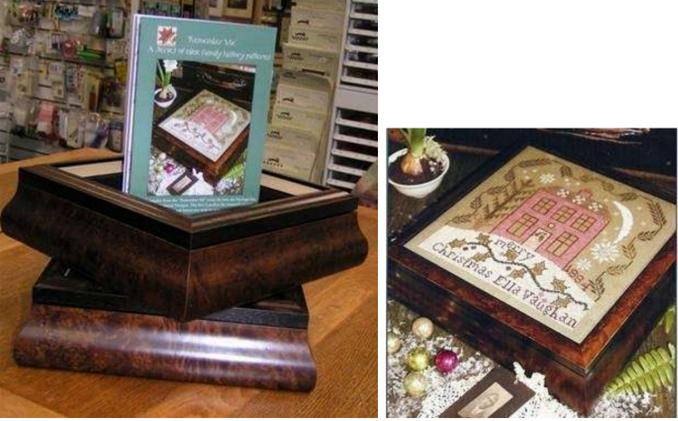
- It could be considered a bonanza week here, with three more new sampler designs, these from *Exemplar Dames Design Company*. In order of appearance below, "Trinity" (\$34), "Leslie's Peacock Garden" (\$14) and "Quaker Hornbook" (\$16).



- Last, but certainly not least, in the sampler category, "Mexican Convent Sampler" (\$8) ~ not a reproduction but an adaptation, according to Nancy Sue Havener of *Graceful Lily Needlework*, taken from several sources, including an unfinished Mexican convent sampler that she owns and several of which charted from a Mexican sampler on public display in the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, England.



- From *Olde Colonial Designs*, another very beautiful box created especially for the "Remember Me" series from *Blackbird Designs*, a series of nine family history patterns, and all will fit in this box. The two pictured below are for the design stitched on 40c. I can, however, order a larger box for a larger-count fabric. And I'm sorry, I forgot to make note of the box price, but my memory, not very reliable these days, says it's \$140+.



- And new from Paula at *Kelmscott Designs*, more beautiful accessory pieces for your needlework treasures boxes: (1) a package of 10 Thread Rings (\$6), another beautiful Needle Minder, "Nita's Peacock" (\$8), and more of the lovely Celtic flower mother-of-pearl Thread Winders (\$6).



Last Saturday we had special visitors at the shop, and Grandma Jean had some time to sit down with Hannah and watch her practice her needlework on a Snowman on 6c ~ she did quite well on his hat, which is as far as we got before it was time to go to dinner. The restaurant was very crowded, being the weekend of Mother's Day, and we had over an hour to wait, so we walked over to the mall so Hannah could get her ears repierced. You can see here how much her brother was enjoying it!



It's time to close for this week and get to the shop. We got a lovely shipment of *Lakeside Linens* yesterday, with some special-order fabrics to ship off to some of you, but there's LOTS more for our in-store inventory, so if you've been waiting for linens to arrive for a nice selection, we have it now! However, the 36c Light Exemplar for Cathy Campbell's beautiful "Florentine Borders Sewing Chest" did not arrive. We will let you know as soon as it does, for those of you waiting for the materials kit. The pattern and stitching instructions are here and we can ship them to the workshop registrants now if you wish or you can wait for the linen to arrive. The NPI silk is also here.

These hot summer months when many of our resident customers leave the Valley of the Sun for cooler pastures ~ our in-shop visitors are much fewer now and into the Fall (October here), so we are very grateful for your interest in what we have to fill your stitching baskets.

Some wonder why people live here, in this hot Southwestern desert clime that gets pretty unbearable at times, especially in our 100+-degree season, which began last week and runs through, on average, October 3. Well, there are some special treats for desert dwellers ~ hummingbirds galore. Here are photos Joy took of a hummingbird nest on her patio.

