

I've been a very busy eight days since our last newsletter, a very exciting time with lots to tell you about, and more needlework news than I can possibly fit in or newsletter, so I'll go as far as I can and save the rest for another time.

Because of last week's needlework market, with lots of scanning to do to get you digital representations of some of what we saw at the Indianapolis TNNA tradeshow, and brought home from the Sample-It-evening, the promised summer class schedule will have to wait a bit longer. But we will have some fun classes/projects for you to fill up your summer stitching hours.

I took a fabulous class myself at the show, from Teresa Layman, also known as the "Knot Lady." Teresa's designs are simply exquisite, all done in French and Colonial knots. Don't say "no" fill you've tried it! So adorable, and much faster than you'd expect! We're having Teresa's trunk show in November-December, and we've talked about having Teresa possibly teach for us on her way out West from Connecticut sometime in the future. But in the meantime, I can't wait to share what I learned from her with all of you. She is a fabulous teacher, and taking her class was definitely one of the highlights for me in Indianapolis – as well as seeing all of the beautiful models and renewing friendships, meeting new friends, spending time with Vickie, who makes me laugh, and visiting the great city of Indianapolis. I loved it, and I hope the organization considers holding it there again. All the hotels are connected to the convention center by skywalks, and the restaurant selection downtown within walking distance of anywhere was fabulous – as was the 1800's Catholic church a block from our hotel, with its beautiful stained glass windows and interior architecture that is reminiscent of the beautiful churches built around that same time period in the Wisconsin German community where I was raised.

Punchneedle One 2-Hr. Class
Instructor: Christy Fee: \$50 (includes all materials)
Tomorrow, June 17, 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 heart 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.

Reversible Cross Stitch One 4-Hr. Class
Instructor: Linda Fee: \$30
Saturday, June 24, 1 - 5 p.m.
 In this four-hour class you will learn 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 the front and the back.



PUNCH & COOKIES CLUB
 July's adorable kit + frame has arrived, and so the Punch & Cookies Club will meet tomorrow at 11 a.m., for punch and cookies and to punch together, if you wish, and to pick up your order. If you are a P&C Club member but can't be there tomorrow, we, of course, will hold your July kit/frame for you until it's convenient for you to come in.

PRIMITIVE TRADITIONS' FLORENTINE BORDER SEWING CHEST
 We have received our shipment of 36c Light Exemplar and are mailing the instructions and fabric and/or Needlepoint, Inc. silk as quickly as we can. Another glitch has arisen, however – I know that we need these bumps in the road to help us appreciate when things go smoothly – and that is that we have a limited amount of one of the silk colors. An oversight when our order was pulled is quickly being rectified by a special shipment from California, which we hope will arrive tomorrow. Some of you have received your supplies; others are on their way; others will go out as soon as we get the one color. Thanks very much for your patience.

MARKET PREVIEW/ORDER OPPORTUNITY
 As you know, we just returned from the TNNA market with many wonderful things, a bit of it here now in singles, and much on its way. As has been the case the past few years, a "Sample It" night, voluntary on the part of the designers, is an opportunity for shopowners to view what's new and take home one of whatever is new from the participating designers. So we have some samples that we will have on display in the classroom for you to view and place your orders. Some of what we have is included here.

NEW IN THE SHOP ~ OR ON THE WAY
 Oh, dear, where to begin? In no particular order but simply in the order I scanned things ~ here's some very exciting things to keep your needles busy for a while, and many do not show prices – some I don't know the prices yet; others I didn't have time to price – but where I know them, it's there.

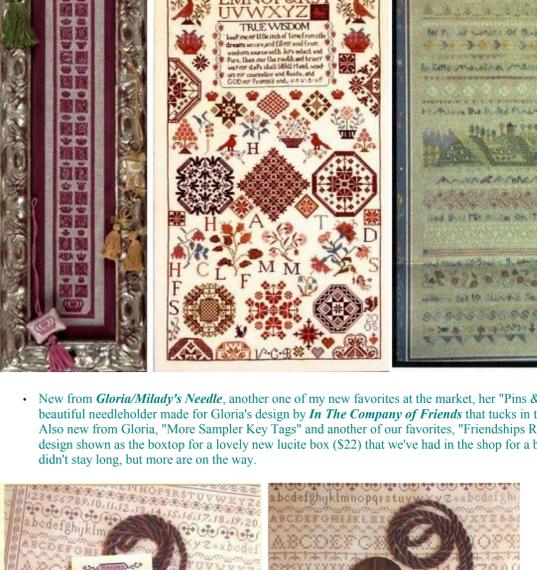
- One of my most favorite finds, (and you will see as you read on that I have LOTS of favorites) from *Rosewood Manor*, "And A Forest Grew." (\$15) a simply stunning design. You may remember our featuring the beautiful "Silent Sampler" in our May 1 newsletter (if you want to see it again, go to our Web site, to our 05-01-06 newsletter) ~ Karen has done it again with a fabulous design. I LOVE trees, and this sampler has an amazing forest! And I love red birds, and there's a flock of them here. And I love deer, and Karen has some wonderful deer scampering through her forest ~ and bunnies and squirrels and other birds as well ~ and she also shows several needlework "smalls" using a few of the motifs. These charts are on their way, may be in the mailbox tomorrow!



- Shipping next week, with receipt expected by the weekend, "The Village of Hawk Run Hollow" from *Kathy/Carriage House Samplings* – another stunning sampler design from Kathy, as a companion piece to "Houses of Hawk Run Hollow" ~ beautifully complemented by its *Primitive Traditions* frame ~ stitched with Needlepoint, Inc. silk on Lakeside's 40c Sand Dune. Lakeside is doing special cuts for this piece in 36c or 40c in Standard Sand Dune or Vintage Sand Dune. If you wish to preorder the chart and/or the linen, we'll be happy to reserve it for you. When ordering the line, please specify the count and whether Standard or Vintage.

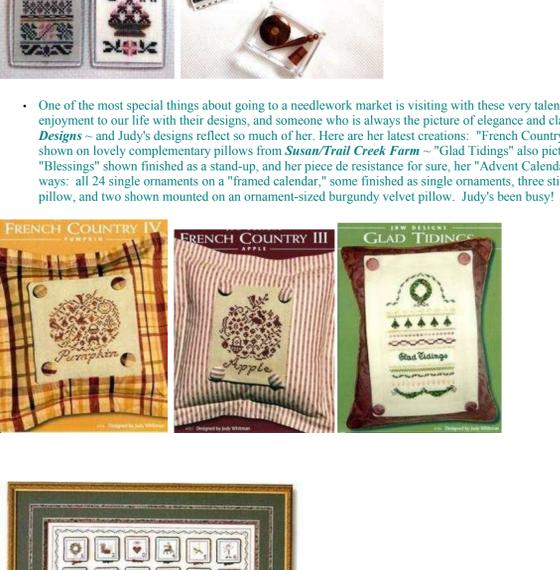


- Also coming, from a bit further away and across the pond, the newest design from *Long Dog Samplers*, "Bristol Fashion." I LOVE this one as well ~ monochromatic samplers are such a joy to stitch, especially in the evening after a long day or when traveling. I thought stitching with one color would be B-O-R-I-N-G, but not so, especially when you choose your favorite color, in one of the fabulous overdays that we have available to us. And I also love this sampler piece. Julia Line has a very interesting write-up about the Bristol orphanage samplers on her Web site at <http://perso.orange.fr/longdog/bristol.html> ~ and I hope to have a wonderful needlework story for next week's newsletter about some eighth-grade young ladies I had the pleasure of meeting at the Indianapolis show who, under the tutelage of their teacher, have been reproducing some of the Bristol orphanage samplers ~ and sometime in the future we will be able to stitch them because of their dedicated work.



Pictured below, three more of my favorite newest designs in our sampler world. From right to left:

- The very elegant "Splendor XV" also called "The Queen's Alphabet" from *Maureen/The Heart's Content* ~ stitched over 1 on 40c, its size is most unique, 2 x 16! Don't let me have the perfect spot for a sampler this size? And in keeping with the royalty of this beautiful design, it concludes with a most appropriate crown, shown also as a scissors fob. We're so happy that Maureen was able to do a little bit of designing in between serious health problems and a personal scare with breast cancer and a sister who was diagnosed with it! What a trooper she is! And it's always such a treat to see her booth full of the exquisitely beautiful creations from the Queen of Over One. One of our favorite ways to put thread on linen.
- "True Wisdom" (\$40), the newest design from *Vilma/Exampler Dames/Exampars From The Heart* ~ this one must be taking the long way around Cape Horn ~ I know it takes a while for anything to come to us from the East Coast, but sometimes it gets ridiculous. Some of them here joke that we are still serviced by the Pony Express! The verse on this sampler reads: "Keep me my little inch of time from idle dreams secure, and fill my soul from wisdom's source with Joy's select and pure. Then over the rough and briery way my steps shall lightly tend, wisdom my counsellor and guide, and GOD my just and timely end."
- And coming soon from *Shepherd's Bush*, their latest magnificent kit, "America" ~ just in time to stitch for the 5th anniversary of America's most horrific 9.11 ~ with the words from a most favorite patriotic song, "America, the Beautiful!" This stunning sampler combines many wonderful counted thread techniques ~ we saw the model in Indianapolis, and I received permission to show you this picture, captured from their Web site ~ a better representation will be available soon.



- New from *Gloria/Milady's Needle*, another one of my new favorites at the market, her "Pins & Needles" design, complete with a beautiful needleholder made for Gloria's design by *In The Company of Friends* that tucks in the back in its "flapless" envelope." Also new from Gloria, "More Sampler Key Tags" and another of our favorites, "Friendships Rule," with an adaptation from this design shown as the boxtop for a lovely new lucite box (\$22) that we've had in the shop for a brief moment ~ it was so lovely, it didn't stay long, but more are on the way.



- One of the most special things about going to a needlework market is visiting with these very talented people who add so much enjoyment to our life with their designs, and someone who is always the picture of elegance and class is Judy Whitman of *JBW Designs* ~ and Judy's designs reflect so much of her. Here are her latest creations: "French Country IV" and "French Country III" shown on lovely complementary pillows from *Susan/Trail Creek Farm* ~ "Glad Tidings" also pictured on a TCF pillow, "Blessings" shown finished as a stand-up, and her piece de resistance for sure, her "Advent Calendar," shown finished in so many ways ~ all 24 single ornaments on a "framed calendar," some finished as single ornaments, three stitched on a beautiful Tartan plaid pillow, and two shown mounted on an ornament-sized burgundy velvet pillow. Judy's been busy! And now we will be as well!



- Speaking of being busy, *Marij/Hzinzel* and *Kathy/Kay's Frames* have been very hard at work, creating new and wonderful design+frame combinations. We ordered all of them, came home with one each of the designs and six of the frames, all that was available at Sample It! But if you want any of these, you know the ropes: reserve yours now. The frames take a while, all handmade, of course! But by the time you have it stitched, they'll be here. My favorite, the "December 25" in the beautiful font and the sepia tones ~ and "Christmas Past" ~ and "July 4th" ~ and ... well, you get the idea! Please note: The "Best Witches" frame ornamentation comes in orange or purple; the "December 25" frame ornamentation varies as well, all very lovely!



- And last for today, but certainly not least, Tina and Teri have also been very busy. In addition to the beautiful "America" shown above, here are more new kits from them: "Summer is Waving" (\$12) ~ "Autumn is Giving" (\$12) ~ "Autumn Blessings" (\$34) ~ "Keeping The Bees" (\$16) ~ and "Tending The Blooms" (\$16) ~ sorry, no new sheep kits this time, but we made a request, on behalf of many of you!



- If you've missed any of the prior issues, and even if you haven't, you will want to own the Tenth Anniversary Edition of the JCS Ornament Issue, now printed and winging its way to shops everywhere, including The Attic. We expect its delivery any day ~ keeping in mind the Pony Express service we sometimes feel the recipient of. This anniversary edition is made up of "the best" from the previous 10 years.

Here's a scan of both covers:

JUST IN

A new pairing of two of our favorites, *Little House Needleworks* and *Crescent Colours*, a new fruit series that combines thread (full skeins) and design, all for only \$12. Here's, *Crow* stitched on 40c New Castle Summer Khaki. You may not be able to see it, but cute Mr. Crow is perched on the watermelon, enjoying a refreshing summer treat ~ he has a bite in his beak!

TOWN SQUARE

As a shop attending the TNNA market, one of the wonderful gifts and benefits we received was 40 complimentary charts from 40 different designers ~ all buildings that one might find, or hope to find, in the "perfect" town square, like a sweet shoppe, a button shop, the haberdashery shop, a saloon, the pet shop, the silversmith shop, a schoolhouse with a flag!!! and more!!! So many wonderful and creative people participated in this very special gift, available only to shops attending the market, as their way of saying thank you to those of us who spent the time and money to be there. And now we can use them to say thank you to you, for your patronage and your friendship. Many of the designs used specialty fibers, buttons, sterling silver charms, and hand-dyed linens! We've ordered many of these items, and some are waiting to be ordered. There's not been enough time this past week!

Then came the dilemma: how do we make these available to our customers? *Jamie/Knotted Tree NeedleArt* had a wonderful suggestion: Hold a "Ladies Night Out On The Town" gathering at the shop, with the chartpack of 40 charts available to attendees as part of their "evening fund" and then in a following "Ladies Night Out" have contest(s) and prize(s) for the best, the largest, the funkiest, etc. stitched town square! Details are still to be worked out.

But we have many friends/customers out there in e-mail land who could not attend and, in the inimitable good humor of one of our customers, have to be "ghost attendees." And then Lois called with another great idea: Scan them and put them on a CD and let you print what you like. What a great idea! So once they're scanned and available on a CD, and we have some of the extras available in the shop, I'll put it in the newsletter that it's now ready for distribution.

Thanks for taking the time to wade through what has become this week a tome! And, most of all, thanks for your patronage and your support of Attic Needlework ~ which provides me the opportunity to go to market for you, one of my greatest pleasures!

Enjoy your weekend ~ and we look forward with glee to what is to come!

Jean Lea
Attic Needlework & Collectibles
 106 East McKellips Road, Suite 111
 Mesa, Arizona 85201
 480.898.1838 ~ FAX: 480.898.0332
 Toll-Free: 1.888.94-ATTIC
www.atticneedlework.com