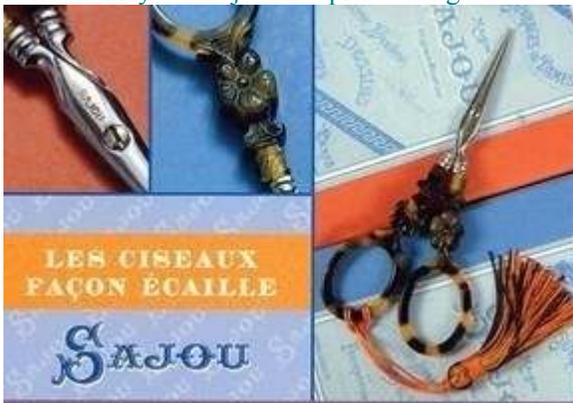


A note about the exchange rate . . .

. . . and its effect on our published prices. Please note that the **prices published in our newsletters reflect the price on that day and in that shipment** . In the past six weeks we have seen a number of prices increase, and some substantially, from shipment to shipment. We cannot honor previously published prices for our reorders for merchandise subject to the currency exchange rates, i.e., anything coming from across the pond. For example, the current prices for the following items that arrived this week are as follows:



The Spring/Summer Seasonal Biscornus, chartpack+accessories+threadpack are now \$46 for the package. We have a number of you on the list to receive the Autumn/Winter Biscornu in this series. There will be a published price at the time we receive our first shipment; any reorders may be subject to a price change.

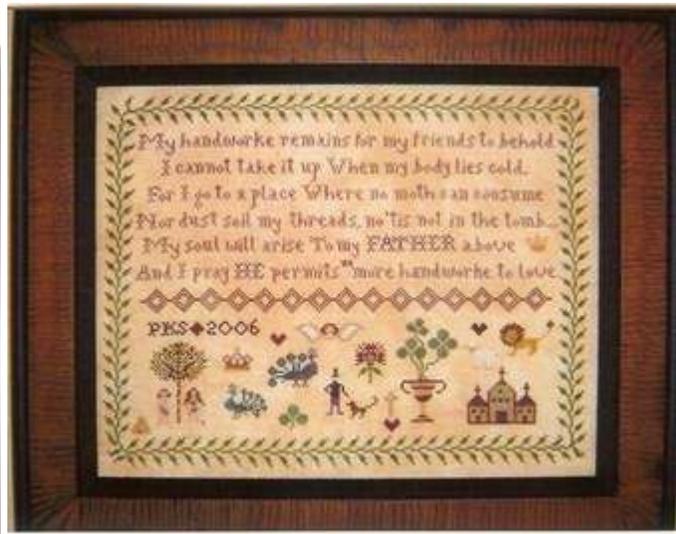
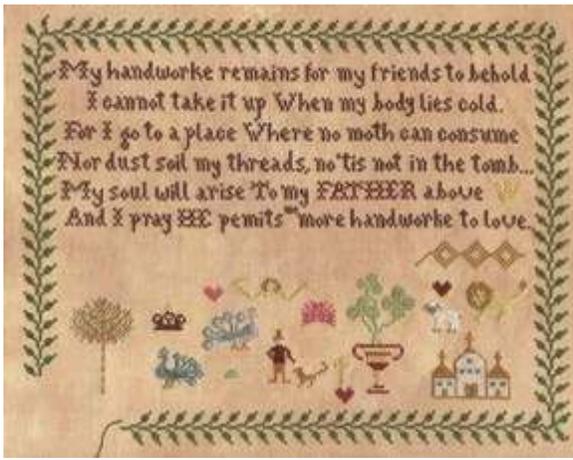


Our second shipment of these beautiful tortoise-shell-handled scissors arrived yesterday with a substantial price increase. The current price is \$79. We still have some stock of the Eiffel tower scissors at the \$66 price .

If you have been waiting for any of these items, please reaffirm or cancel your order either by e-mail or by phone (our toll-free number: 1.888.942.8842). For a few of you, we have your item(s) at the initial price, simply waiting to ship with the remainder of your order. If we don't hear from you either way, we will contact you prior to shipping. I wish I had a crystal ball and could anticipate and order just enough to fill all of your orders the first time around.

July's Sampler of the Month ~ "My Handworke" from *Paulette Stewart of Plum Street Samplers*

Only a few days remain for you to take advantage of purchasing this beautiful sampler design and all the materials for it at a 15% savings. My model is stitched on 45c Vintage Light Exemplar from *Lakeside Linens* with Soie de Paris (\$3.50/skein) from *Au Ver A'Soie*. Pictured here as well is Kay's beautiful completed and framed model done on 36c Vintage Bittersweet ??with Au Ver A'Soie silks. Paulette used 36c Vintage Sand Dune from *Lakeside* for her model and NPI silks. As you can see, this sampler is beautiful on several different linens using a variety of silks. Of course, we would be happy to convert this for you to Belle Soie as well. I know some of you have chosen Au Ver A'Soie and we did receive our order this week ~ there are still several colors on back order, so we may wait to ship till all are here.



AUGUST HAPPENINGS at The Attic



Beginning Linen

Instructor: Linda

One 2-Hr. Class

Saturday, August 4, 10:30-12:30 Fee: \$30 (includes all materials)

Here's the beautiful geranium bookmark that is the class project for the Beginning Linen class that Linda uses to teach you important techniques, with the classic book "Linen Stitches" as the class text. You will learn basic techniques and a wonderful edge finishing stitch, the nun's stitch, as well as stitching with overdyed threads. Join Linda for a fun-filled 2 hours with lots of tips!



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

Saturday, August 18, 10 a.m. - Noon Fee: \$25 for 6 sessions or \$5/session

The photo above is arguably the most beautiful band on this exquisite band sampler from *Page Dorsey/The Sampler Workes*. But it's difficult to choose a most beautiful because the whole of this design is gorgeous. And we are finally setting time aside, hopefully monthly or every six weeks, to stitch this magnificent sampler together. In this self-paced setting I will be stitching this along with all of you, and therefore this will not be structured as our other "teaching classes." Help with stitches and techniques will be available, but I may not be able to keep up with some of you and not be at the point that you are in the sampler. Color copies of close-up photos taken while we had the model here will also be available to those registered for this class as a stitching aid. As a group it will be our goal to complete this heirloom piece within a year. Let's see if we can. Please call to register.



Beading a Fob Class

Instructor: Debra Fee: \$25

Saturday, August 18, 1 - 4 p.m.

These charming new fob kits from *Fern Ridge Collections* are their newest, but there's more, like "Frizzled," the beaded version of *La-D-Da's* "Miss Mary Mack.". Now your only difficulty will be choosing which one to bead! They're all so adorable. Debra took a class at the Nashville market and is anxious to share the tips and tricks she learned there because, as she says, she was previously frustrated to the point of not finishing her first project, and then she learned from the experts! Since then she's completed a number of these, including one of the newest, the swan fob called "Under the Willow." **Included in your class fee is a bead mat, wire threader, and long needle**. Bring magnification if needed and any other of your favorite beading tools, like a Tacky Bob if you have it. If not, we will have some in the shop.

Coming in September ~ A Very Special Sunday Afternoon



Don't forget to register if you plan to be with us on **Sunday afternoon, September 9** (time to be announced) when we will be privileged to host a "Live Trunk Show" featuring three of the most talented women in our industry: *Country Cottage Needleworks'* Nikki Leeman, *Little House Needleworks'* Diane Williams, and *Crescent Colours'* Sharon Crescent.



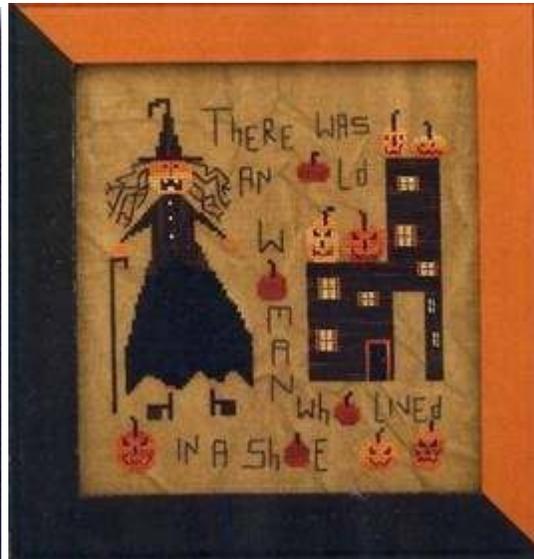
Sharon visited the shop yesterday afternoon and gave us a preview of several of her new frame styles, and I had my camera handy! There will be LOTS more, sized for your linen-count preference, i.e., 28-, 32-, 36-, or 40-count. and designed especially for *Little House Needleworks'* and *Country Cottage Needleworks'* charming designs ~ but VERY perfect for lots of our other needlework completions.

NEW IN THE SHOP

It's here! This was one of my favorite things from the Columbus needlework market, an incredibly clever project from the dynamic duo of designers at *Fern Ridge Collections*, and they are truly gifted artists. They've named this "Collage Collection," and it's a fabric book that will be such fun to assemble. It's easy to see how much fun Pat and Peggy had when they designed this, as seen in the second and third scans: The page that holds your paper scissors is embellished with a rock. Rock-paper-scissors, remember? And the next scan shows the page that holds your tape measure. The pocket is decorated with a music measure. I love it! There's not a lot of stitching-stitching to it ~ the cover page and a few more small pieces for other pages. Pictured also is the gorgeous fabric used for the book, and all of the pieces are already cut to size for you! Remaining kit pieces: the linen, specialty fibers and silk ribbons, an embellishment package of buttons and beads and charms. The package includes even the Skirtex cut to size. All for \$56! Watch for a future Saturday workshop to assemble this fun fabric book. Debra is working on hers now.



>From another talented design duo, *Prairie Moon*, "Queen of Hearts" and "There Was An Old Woman," both \$10.



Sandra Sullivan/Homespun Elegance continues through the decades to give us wonderfully charming designs. Here is "Sheep May Safely Graze" (\$8 + brass sheep) and "America," (\$8) shown either framed or in a prefinished pillow ~ on order, so I don't have that price for you yet.



New from *Historical Sampler Company*, "Berry Family Tree Sampler" (\$14) and "Noel Sampler" (\$11).



A second design from *Lisa/The Primitive Needle*, "Kindred Spirits" (\$8) stitched with our favorite, *Belle Soie's* Noir, Carrot Cake, and Kiwi, on 40c hand-dyed linen! Love this one, Lisa. I'm sure your mom loves it also ~ how sweet to dedicate this design to her!



Two great reproductions from *Needleprint*, "Sarah Spence's 1806 Ackworth Sampler" (\$21) and "Margreet Beemsterboer's Sampler of Motifs from Marken" (\$21). This leaflet also contains some incredibly interesting details about the Marker people and their embroidery. It makes me want to visit this tiny peninsula just north of Amsterdam. Despite their poverty, the women enriched their lives with their exquisite embroidery, decorating their every-day wear for themselves and their children. Their babies' bibs were also beautifully embroidered. Isn't it remarkable, the joy that has been received from doing embroidery throughout the ages! The model was done on 32c white with hand-dyed fibers. We show here our choice: 40c Vintage Maritime White with *Belle Soie's* Noir and Cinnamon Stick. Old Crow would also be lovely, but there's no variation in its color, and I personally prefer the subtle color changes as I'm stitching, especially with black! The design on 40c would be 20.5 x 13.9.





And all of what I've shown you thus far was from last week but just didn't fit in last week's edition, and now we are finally up to what's come in since Monday.

From **Diane Williams/Little House Needleworks**, each \$7, "Captain's Inn" - can you read this charming verse: "A wet sheet and a flowing sea, A wind that follows fast, And fills the white and rustling sail, And bends the gallant mast" ~ and "Fruit Game Boards" and "Two White Houses."



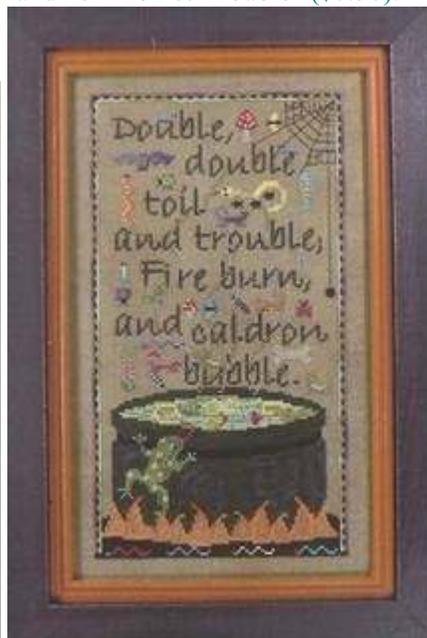
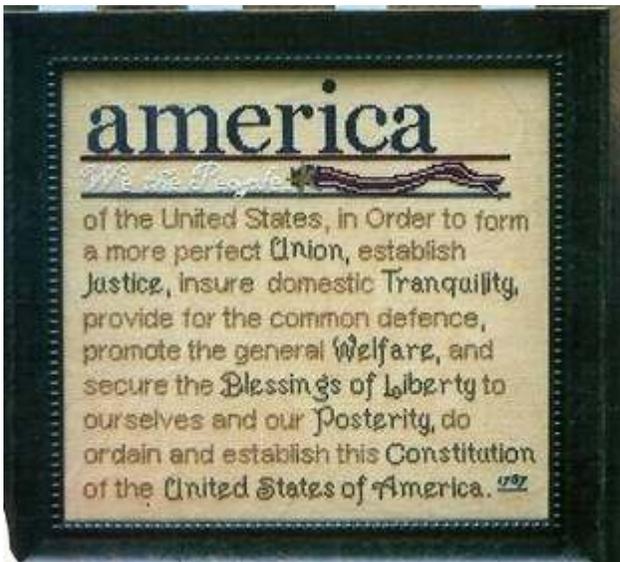
From **Nikki/Country Cottage Needleworks**, "Home Sweet Home," (\$7) perfect for this beautifully striped pillow from **Trail Creek Farm** or finished as a wall hanging or framed. Next, from **Elizabeth's Designs**, "Pastel Alphabet Sampler" (\$6.50) ~ and on the far right, "Summer Shade" (\$8) from **By the Bay Needleart** ~ forgive the unintended distortions from the plastic bag it was in when scanned.



Blue Ribbon Designs' "In the Pumpkin Patch" (\$10) and "Pumpkins and Poltergeists" (\$11).



Linda/Erica Michaels has charted for us the very patriotic Preamble to our Constitution "We the People," (\$6.50), words that have meant so much to generations of Americans ~ and her "Toil & Trouble" (\$7.50).

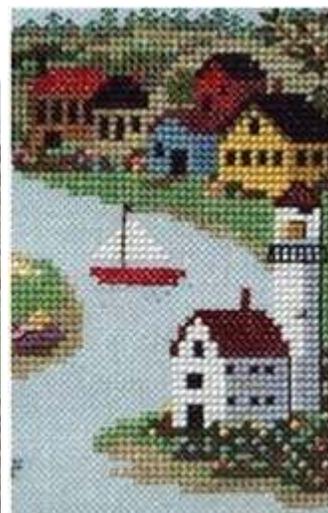
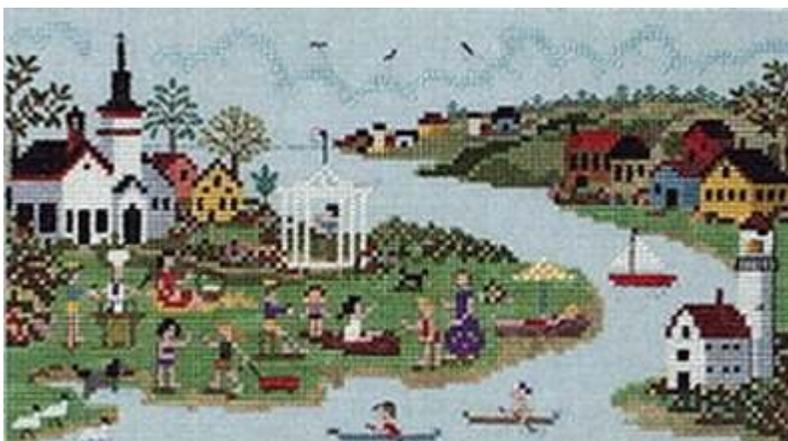
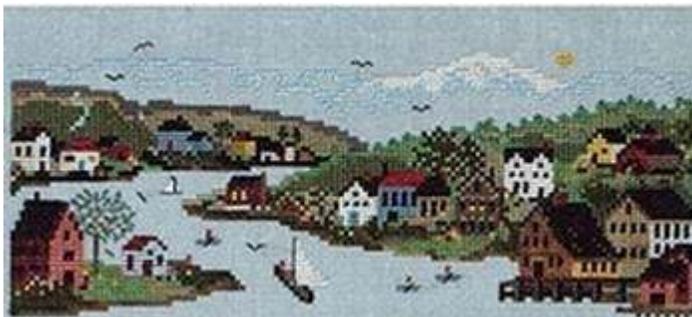
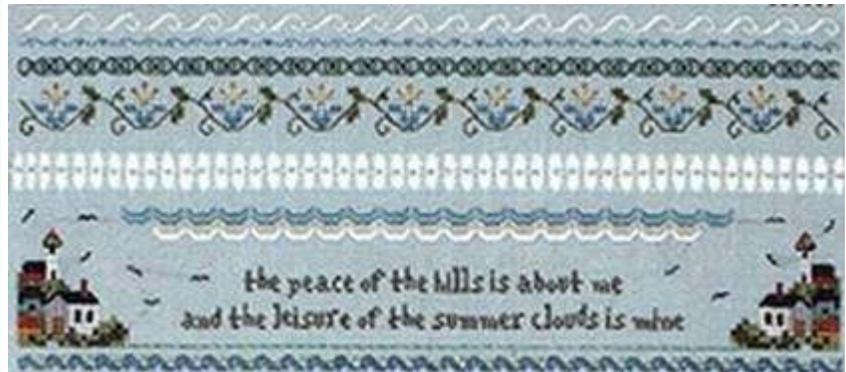
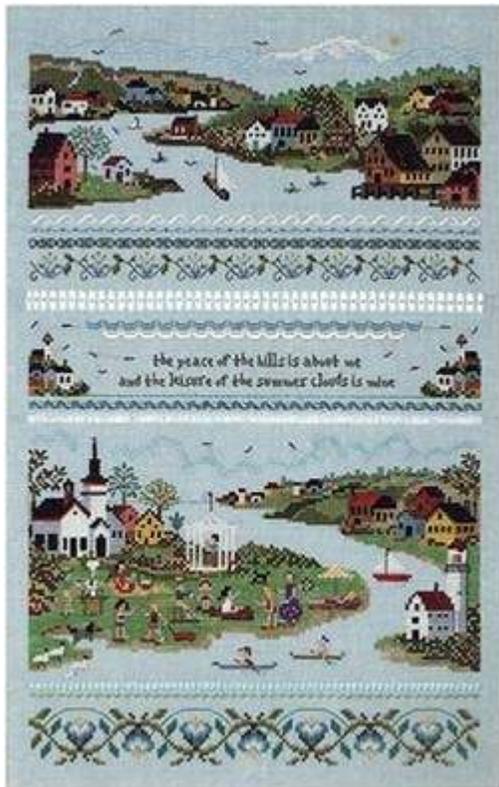


Paulette/Plum Street Samplers also has a new Autumn chart, "Bugs & Hisses" (\$8) ~ and the last months of her Quaker

Calendar (each \$5), IV, V, and VI. How fabulous would these motifs be over 1 on 28c, 29c, or 30c?! The largest motif would measure approximately 1.9 x 1.5.



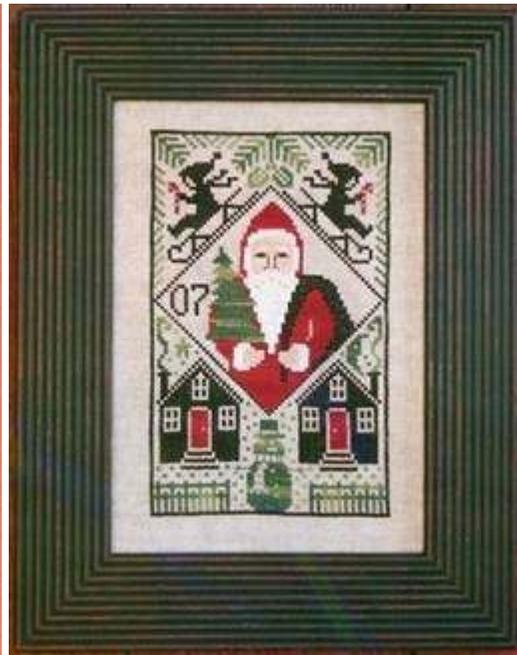
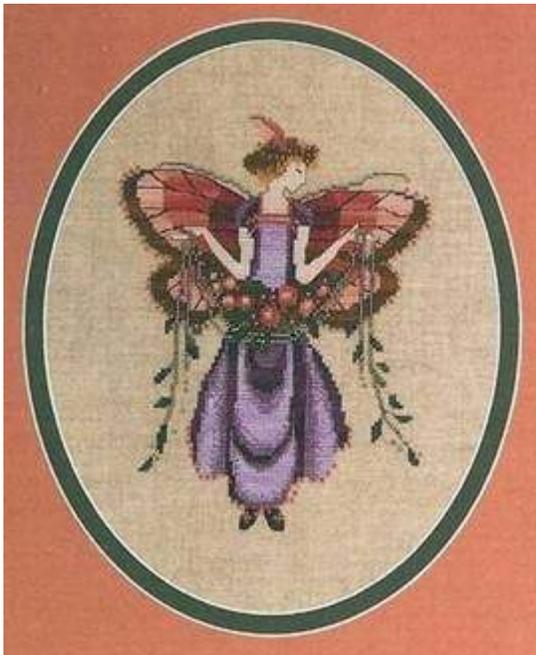
A very beautiful new sampler from *Thea/The Victoria Sampler*, "Harbour Village" (\$12.50) ~ we frequently also have available the accompanying threadpacks, but for this one we chose to forego that because it uses several *Gentle Art* threads, AVAS silk, and NPI silk, all of which we have and you may have as well, and also Kreinik Mori, for which we have a conversion. As Sandy said when she saw the design, the threads in your stash would work very well for many of the design elements ~ stitched on 28c Cashel Rue Green, which color is available in 32c and 36c as well, so you have LOTS of choices. You may also choose to do a portion of the design, some of which are cropped below. The verse is wonderful: "The peace of the hills is about me, and the leisure of the summer clouds is mine." The beautiful harbour scenes make this desert rat want to hop a plane and go there!



Also new from *The Victoria Sampler*, "Beautiful Finishing 1" (\$17) with detailed instructions and diagrams for a "fold-over" bellpull, a "hemstitched" bellpull, and a "blanket stitch" bellpull, including color photographs of many of the finishing steps ~ and next in this series, "P is for Princess," (\$39 w/accessory pack) ~ and many of us are lucky enough to have a "princess" in our lives!



Two new kits that are not so "new" anymore ~ I just haven't gotten them into a newsletter. First, from *Mirabilia*, "Thanksgiving Harvest Fairy" (\$50 for the limited edition kit) ~ and "Let It Snow," another limited edition kit, this one from *The Prairie Schooler* for \$26.



And from our sampler walls, photos of several reproductions by *Linda Danielson/Samplers Remembered*. Some have been featured in previous newsletters, but I am repeating them because the "Mary Allen Sampler, aka Village Square" shown below was rumored to be out of print, and I wanted anyone who yearns for this chart to know that it is still available. Linda and her husband, formerly part-time Arizona residents, recently sold their Massachusetts home and now live in the greater Phoenix area year-round, except for some time spent visiting their family/grandchildren/friends in Massachusetts. So here, below, are some of Linda's reproductions that she generously lets us display in the shop. All of the charts are \$12. In addition to Mary Allen's sampler, there is one Linda calls the "Chili Pepper Sampler," the "Redwork Alphabet Sampler" ~ one that Linda believes to be French, and "On Christmas Day."



And here are photographs taken of Linda's very beautiful French alphabet sampler as it emerged from Sandy's framing studio. Linda came in to take it home one day, and I asked to keep it a bit longer to photograph it because I knew you all would enjoy seeing it. Linda participated in our "Design Your Own French Alphabet Sampler" classes, and this was her result. The center letter I've cropped to show a close-up because it is so gorgeous, and I've also shown a close-up of Linda's inclusion of her grandchildren (bella, nate, and patrick) as part of her design. Isn't it wonderful? You, too, can have a French alphabet sampler of your very own ~ plan to join us when we schedule another class in September. And with enough of these classes, perhaps someday soon my "L" sampler will be finished.



It's time to hit "Send" and get to some other pressing things before leaving tomorrow morning for what has become an annual tradition, our own shopowners' retreat with dear friends from around the country. Roz and her husband Lynn have graciously agreed to have us yet again, and I am soooooo looking forward to the possibility of having goose bumps on Sunday when it's predicted to be partly cloudy with a high of only 78 in Portland! Roz and Lynn are two of the most gracious hosts-hostesses ever known to mankind, and we have the best of times! Cathe is bringing a beading project for all of us, Deb always has wonderful fashion tips and tricks, and Jeannine has arranged a private sampler viewing for us as a sidetrip on our way to the airport on Monday. And I am in charge of cooking the bacon ~ just like I like it ~ crisp! I have a nickname, but I won't share that with you here. I tell you all of this to say that any e-mails sent in the next several days will not be read/responded to until late Monday or Tuesday.

And yesterday, as I was giddy with excitement about this weekend's trip that only women understand when they're planning for a get-together, I received an e-mail from my son's adoptive mother in my "In" box, and it really hit home. It's full of truisms about our lives as women and how important other women are to us as we travel the journey of womanhood. And I think it is very applicable to what we experience in our needlework circles as well, so I decided to include it here today for all of you to read:

Time passes. Life happens. Distance separates. Children grow up. Jobs come and go. Love waxes and wanes. Men don't do what they're supposed to do. Hearts break. Parents die. Colleagues forget favors. Careers end. BUT.... Sisters are there, no matter how much time and how many miles are between you. A girlfriend is never farther away than needing her can reach. When you have to walk that lonesome valley and you have to walk it by yourself, the women in your life will be on the valley's rim, cheering you on, praying for you, pulling for you, intervening on your behalf, and waiting with open arms at the valley's end. Sometimes, they will even break the rules and walk beside you. Or come in and carry you out. Girlfriends, daughters, granddaughters, daughters-in-law, sisters, sisters-in-law, mothers, grandmothers, aunts, nieces, cousins, and extended family, all bless our life! The world wouldn't be the same without women, and neither would I. When we began this adventure called womanhood, we had no idea of the incredible joys or sorrows that lay ahead. Nor did we know how much we would need each other. Every day, we need each other still.

Speaking of needing each other, John and I thought that Mya needed a playmate, so last Friday John went to the shelter and found Tux, formerly known as Chino and then Clifford, but we renamed him Tux. He's a year and 1 month old, beautiful marbled gray Tabby with tuxedo markings on his chest (thus, his name) and we love him! Mya's still not sure if she does, but she's made great strides the past 6 days, and we hope they will soon be best buddies.



Wishing you a weekend filled with as much fun, great food, laughs, wonderful friendship, and memories as I know I am about to have. Back early next week with a very special treat as August's Sampler of the Month ~ and more!

Jean Lea

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