

November's Sampler of the Month

Through close of business today, save 15% on any combination of the chart (\$11), the Belle Soie (6@\$5.50=\$33), and the fabric (a 40c cut with 2-inch margins is \$11; other count cuts will be larger and, therefore, proportionately a bit more).



December's Samplers of the Month

For this very special Season of Seasons we have selected **two** new designs from *Midsummer Night Designs/Deborah Thorpe* each with a beautiful Christmas sentiment that speaks to my heart. "Fear Not" (\$8) I've begun stitching over 1 on 29c Croissant, The Attic's exclusive hand-dyed 29c Glenshee, with *Belle Soie* ~ the beautiful words of the Christmas story as recorded in Luke in the King James version were a part of each Christmas Eve program that myself and my siblings participated in throughout grade school as students at St. Mark's Lutheran School, and today that tradition still continues with my great nieces and nephews who also put on the Christmas program every Christmas Eve. And as we came out of the church and hurried for home to see if Santa had been there, there was always a soft, beautiful snowfall that blanketed the countryside and made it an even more beautiful Christmas Eve.



"A Christmas Sampler" (\$9) with its very meaningful verse ~ "I will honor Christmas in my heart and try to keep it all the year" ~ we've converted to Belle Soie scanned on *Lakeside Linen's* 40c Vintage Sand Dune.



Save 15% during December on any combination of the chart, silk, and fabric.

December Attic Addict Specials

As an AA member at The Attic purchase any of these in-stock items during the month of December at a 15% discount:

- Designs by *Midsummer Night Designs* ~ go to Deborah's Web site to view the collection:
<http://www.midsummernightdesigns.com/>
- *Lakeside Linen*
- *Belle Soie*
silk

Additionally, as a special thank-you to our AA members for their loyal support all year long, during this special season of the heart you or your spouse/significant other may enjoy a **one-time Christmas gifting/shopping time at a 15% discount** on all in-stock merchandise except items marked "No Discount." Please remember to tell us at the register before we begin your check-out so that we may apply your discount properly. Of course, your AA **membership needs to be current.**

Holiday Happenings

Flat Ornament Finishing

One Class

Instructor: Christy

Fee: \$25 (includes finishing materials)

Tomorrow, Saturday, December 1, 1 - 3:30 p.m.

One last chance to finish your stitched ornament for this Season. Flat (as opposed to puffy, pillow-like) ornament finishing is this class technique. Bring your stitched ornament and backing fabric, and the rest will be provided. Christy will show you how easy it is to finish your ornaments with twisted cording.

Our Annual Kris Kringle Party

Please join us on **Thursday evening, December 20, from 6 ~ ???** for a Christmas celebration that will include food and fruit punch and, for some who have finished theirs, an ornament exchange. Do come, though, even if you're not participating in the exchange. It's an inspiration to see the beautifully stitched and finished ornaments ~ and gives us great ideas, with an annual resolution that next year I will begin earlier so that I can stitch more ornaments!

Holiday Hours

Monday, December 24 - Closed

Tuesday, December 25 - Closed

Wednesday, December 26 through Saturday, December 29 - regular hours

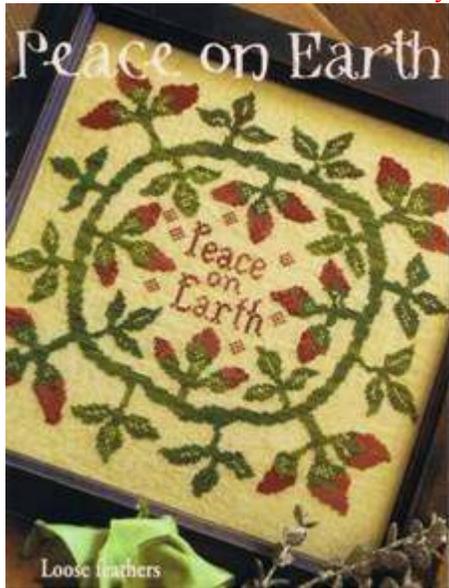
Monday, December 31 - Closed

Tuesday, January 1 - Closed

What's New in the Shop

Where did November go? It's all a blur for me ~ with wonderful memories from our Merry Cox Workshop weekend, followed by our Silent Auction for Breast Cancer Research, followed by a Thanksgiving trip to Wisconsin ~ and now a desperate attempt to return to normal, whatever normal is. There's so much that's come in since our last eNewsletter that only a small portion can be included today ~ random selections follow.

Loose Feathers Pattern #28, "Peace on Earth," that we've shown with a scan on 40c Vintage Lentil from **Lakeside Linens** ~ the chart calls for two shades of red and two of green in hand-dyed cotton overdyes ~ we suggest a red and a green Belle Soie for the same cost as the 4 hand-dyed cottons.



I LOVE this newest from **Diane Williams/Little House Needleworks**, "Brave Hearts" (\$7) ~ You may wonder why a red, white, and blue design release at this time of year. Diane explains on her Web site: "Little House Needleworks is ending the year paying tribute to those brave hearts that serve and have served our great country. The very special verse is taken from a poem, 'Under the Stars' written by William Rice. The verse first appeared in 'An American Anthology, 1787-1900' by Edmond Clarence Stedman. The current copyright is held by Bartleby, copyright 2001, and has been used with their permission." It is stitched with **Belle Soie**.

The next two are from Diane's daughter Nikki of **Country Cottage Needleworks** in a new series, "Country Cottage Kids" ~ "Cowboy Dreams" and "Garden Girl," each \$7.



From *The Victoria Sampler*, the very beautiful "Heirloom Nativity Sampler" (\$74 with embellishment pack)~ "Home for Christmas" (\$10) by Cathy Jean ~ "Beautiful Finishing 2" includes ornament designs and finishing instructions for them as well as for scissors fobs, tassels, and cording, with color photographs detailing every step. At \$16, this is an excellent resource for your finishing "challenges" when you don't have Christy close at hand.



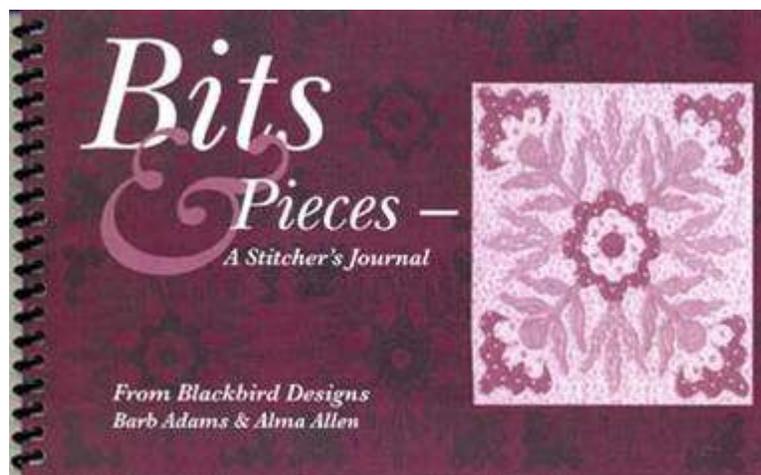
Three Seasonal samplers from the late great **Jan Houtman** of the Netherlands: "Christmas 2005" (\$28) ~ "Advent 1993" (\$21) ~ "Christmas 1990 Sampler" (\$21)



Two Kreinik ornament kits on 18c perforated paper, each \$7.50 ~ and from **Charlette's Collectibles**, a leaflet (\$7) with designs for Dimensional Victorian Santas that were VERY popular auction items at our 2006 Silent Auction for Breast Cancer Research ~ so we were happy to find these designs available. Thank you, Rhonda!



From **Cecelia/The Thread Gatherer**, a beautiful limited edition collection of silks, "Old World Collection," six flosses and one 7 mm ribbon, \$42 ~ and just in the door this morning from **Barb and Alma of Blackbird Designs**, "A Stitcher's Journal," \$16.

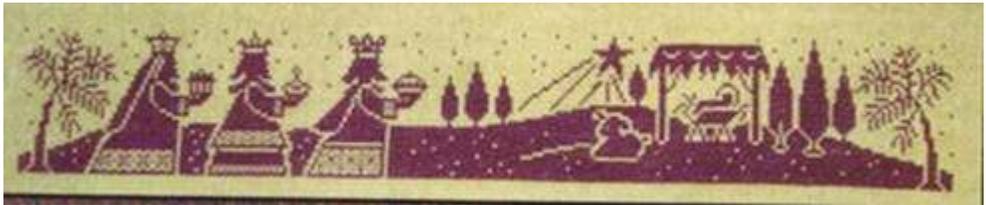


Three new releases from **Ellen Chester/With My Needle**: "Kind and True" (\$12) ~ "Maidens of the Sea," \$16 w/two

carved fish-shaped threadwinders, an embroidered sewing case and matching scissors weight honoring mermaids with a lovely verse on the inside of the sewing case: "Who would be a mermaid fair, Singing alone combing her hair, Under the sea to a golden curl, With a comb of pearl on a throne?" The verse is from Tennyson's *The Mermaid* written in 1893. And a queen-stitch lover's dream, "A Work'd Pocketbook," (\$16) a design similar to the pocketbooks popular from about 1740 until 1790, used by both men and women. Solidly stitched in the beautiful queen stitch.

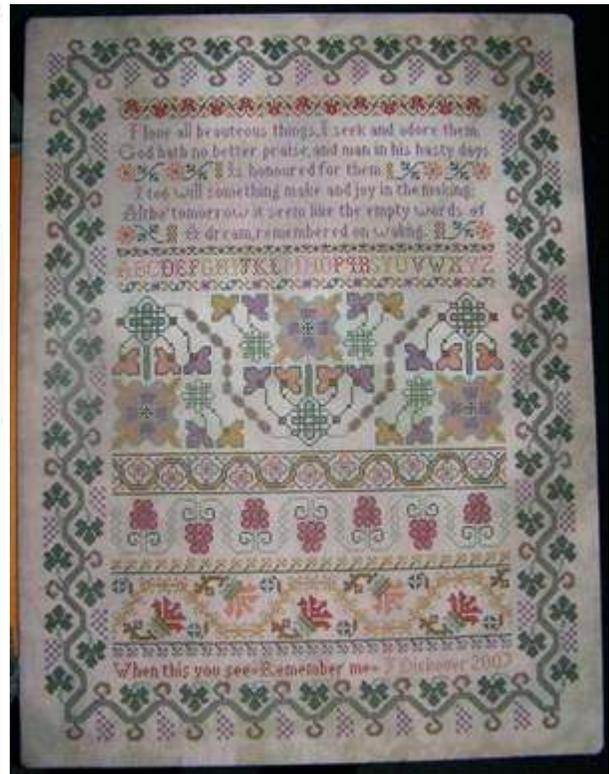
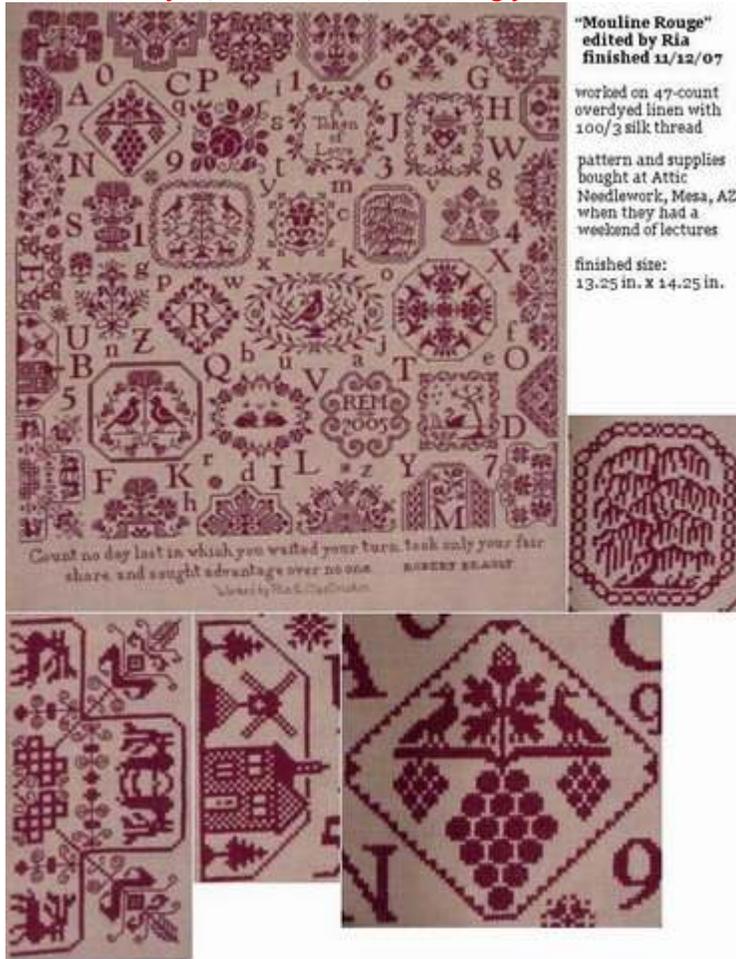


For me monochromatic designs are particularly enjoyable when I'm stressed and too tired after long days to do anything but X's ~ here are two that have provided therapeutic relief for me the past several weeks, both hold-overs from last year that didn't get finished before December 25: "Three Kings" from *Diane Arthurs/Imagining* stitched on 40c Vintage Autumn Gold with a very "royal" purple Soie 100/3 (the true richness of the purple couldn't be fully captured in the scan) ~ and "Quaker Christmas Sampler" from *Kathy Barrick/Carriage House Samplings* stitched on 40c Vintage Sienna Night with *Gloriana's* Luminescence.



And two very beautiful completions from customers ~ "Moulin Rouge" stitched on hand-dyed 45c that was actually 47c after the dyeing process, with a wonderful Quakerish-sounding verse added at the bottom. Ria said this almost ended up in her UFO pile several times, but it kept calling her back ~ and she just finished it. What a beauty! And also, with the colors tweaked a bit by Jean to "work better" with the fabric she chose, *Moira Blackburn's* "Remember Me Sampler." It's very gratifying to see the exquisite work of our customers, who have learned that a very special part of the full enjoyment of their needlework is to "make it their own" by modifying the choice of fabric or thread color or adding a meaningful

verse. Thank you, Ria and Jean, for sharing your work with us.



As you may have guessed by the absence of newsletters for several weeks, it's been a very busy month for us. We look forward to being able to "take time to smell the roses" ~ December is probably not the best time to try to accomplish that, but it's a worthy goal. November was very special in so many ways, not the least of which was our biennial Thanksgiving spent with our Wisconsin family in Watertown. It's always a memorable time ~ after the hunters come back from the "lodge" in the North woods, we have fun family time ~ we play board games and eat and play in the snow and eat and watch the Packers and eat more delicious food and shop and have another Thanksgiving meal the next day ~ and celebrate Hannah's 8th birthday with her Wisconsin cousins. Then it's back to Arizona ~ back to school for Tyler and Hannah ~ and on Tyler's second day back he had to present an oral report on an historical figure of his choosing. He chose William Penn, not knowing at that time that his Grandpa John's ancestors came to America in 1699 with a land grant from William Penn. I enjoyed being there for his presentation to his class. Then it was Hannah's real birthday, and time for another cake and another celebration in Arizona.



A note for AOL users: the format in which you receive our newsletter has been modified by AOL and is something that we have absolutely no control over.

More of all the new things to follow soon, I hope. Most of all, enjoy this beautiful Season of the Heart.

Jean Lea

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