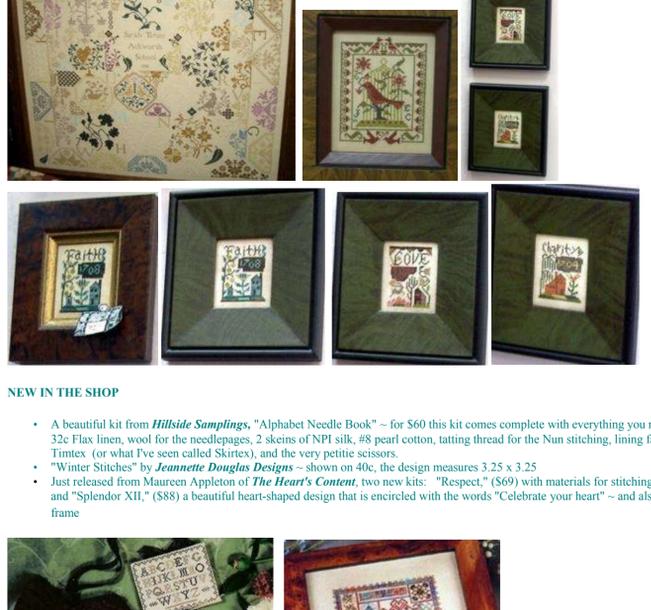


**Thursday, December 22, 6 - 9 p.m.** ~ This is a tradition at The Attic, begun many years ago when I was a customer, and all these years later it basically follows the same tradition and format. This is a party for you, our customers, with our Amish-recipe punch, food, and the best part, an ornament exchange. Anyone wishing to participate brings their stitched ornament gift-wrapped (or gift-bagged) with your name on the inside. All who bring a stitched ornament draw a number, and that determines the order in which you get to choose the ornament you take home. (**Please note the date change** ~ originally scheduled for December 15, until I learned that was the night of Tyler & Hannah's Christmas program)

**SOME OF WHAT'S BEEN SHOWING IN THE SHOP**

- Beautiful "Sarah Tatum," a *Scarlet Letter* reproduction that comes only as a kit, but it is a kit worth owning/stitching for sure. Our model is kindly on loan from our friend and customer, Debra Williams, whose beautiful stitching is well documented in this magnificent piece.
- "The Gilded Cage," a *Carrage House Samplings* design that Attic staffer Janet kindly loaned us during the Merry Cox weekend. This is one that hadn't been in my to-do basket until Janet finished hers and put it in the perfect hand-painted frame from *Primitive Traditions*. I see I haven't let you see much of the gorgeous frame, but I hope you get the idea.
- The set of three was also kindly loaned to us by Janet, a wonderful series from *The Good Huswife*, "Faith," "Love," and "Charity"~ Janet's are again beautifully framed in *Primitive Traditions'* handpainted frames. And here's an example of what a difference a frame makes on these charming saltboxes. I stitched this several years ago (the photo with the model number tag on it) and chose a burlid frame with a gilded inside edge, and I loved the frame. BUT when I saw the same piece in the frame Janet chose, I've decided to reframe mine ~ and finish the series. If you'd like these charts for your stitching basket, don't delay. We can still get all three designs from one of our distributors, but of one of them there is very limited availability.



**NEW IN THE SHOP**

- A beautiful kit from *Hillside Samplings*, "Alphabet Needle Book" ~ for \$60 this kit comes complete with everything you need to make all that you see pictured: 32e Flax linen, wool for the needlepages, 2 skeins of NPI silk, #8 pearl cotton, tatting thread for the Nun stitching, lining fabric, Mokuba ribbon, interfacing, Timtex (or what I've seen called Skirtex), and the very petite scissors.
- "Winter Stitches" by *Jeanette Douglas Designs* ~ shown on 40c, the design measures 3.25 x 3.25
- Just released from Maureen Appleton of *The Heart's Content*, two new kits: "Respect," (\$69) with materials for stitching/finishing both the sampler and the fob ~ and "Splendor XII," (\$88) a beautiful heart-shaped design that is encircled with the words "Celebrate your heart" ~ and also included in this kit is the heart-shaped frame



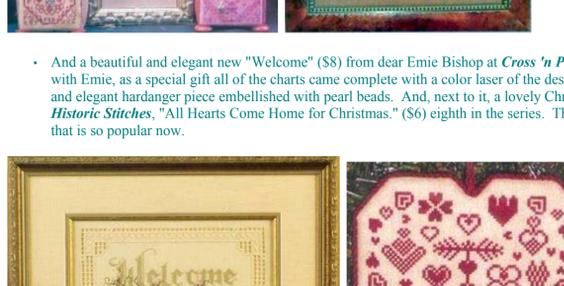
- The next group of pictures are ornament designs (each \$6) from a favorite at The Attic, *Milady's Needle*: "Another Sampler Christmas," "Visions of Sugar Plums," and "Over the River."



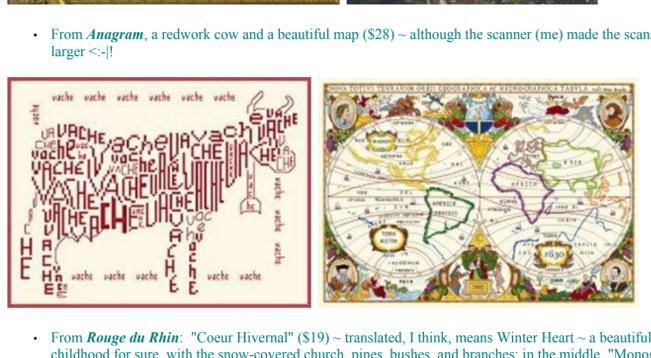
- This next grouping features a new Quaker design from Ellen Chester of *With My Needle*, "An Emblem of Love" (\$14) ~ and next week we'll show you our model that Cindy's already finished ~ and "Beauty and Grace," a charming sewing case featuring a swan, one of our favorite motifs ~ and the Limited Edition Kit from *Just\*<sup>N</sup>an*, a chartpack that includes the pattern, embellishments, and frame set for \$19.



- Two of several new designs from *The Workbasket*: "Quaker Evens" and "A Stitch in Time," both \$10 and both very popular with our customers. The Quakers are always a hit, and this sampler has a wonderful axiom that we all can relate to about the necessity to stitch, "A stitch in time saves my mind." There are several other things new from Candy and Mary. Go to <http://www.theworkbasket.net/new> to see them all.



- And a beautiful and elegant new "Welcome" (\$8) from dear Emie Bishop at *Cross 'n Patch* ~ because we're on automatic shipment with Emie, as a special gift all of the charts came complete with a color laser of the design made up by Emie herself ~ this is a very elegant and elegant handpaper piece embellished with pearl beads. And, next to it, a lovely Christmas ornament designed by Susan Biggers of *Historic Stitches*, "All Hearts Come Home for Christmas." (\$6) eighth in the series. This one's got to be a favorite, with the redwork that is so popular now.



- From *Anagram*, a redwork cow and a beautiful map (\$28) ~ although the scanner (me) made the scans the same size, the map is much larger <-!!



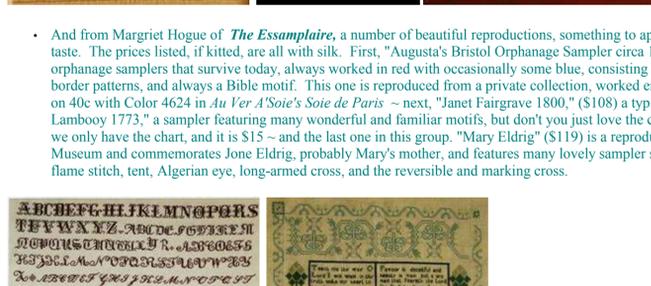
- From *Rouge du Rhin*: "Coeur Hivernal" (\$19) ~ translated, I think, means Winter Heart ~ a beautiful rendition of a scene from my childhood for sure, with the snow-covered church, pines, bushes, and branches; in the middle, "Monogram for Manon," (\$19) that shows an "M" but comes complete with a gorgeous alphabet ~ and "Joyeux Noel," (\$14) a lovely Christmas design.



- From *My Big Toe Designs*, two beautiful samplers, "Morning Prayer" (\$10) and "The Beatitudes," (\$16) a beautiful companion piece to their previously published design, "The Lord's Prayer" featured in an earlier newsletter.



- Three new sampler reproductions from *The Scarlet Letter* that we've gotten the charts for: "Maria Theresa Wilkinson," (\$16) a very lovely English sampler with a composition that is well balanced and features a charming scene, was originally stitched by a nine-year-old in 1825: "Labour after such things, as are more for use, than for ornament, and with the Bee rather endeavour to gather honey, than like the silly Butterfly to paint they wings" ~ "American Quaker Band Sampler" (\$10) that has a date of 1803 ~ and another beautiful English sampler in lovely pastel colors and an unusual border surrounding the 23rd Psalm (\$17).



- And from Margriet Hogue of *The Essamplaire*, a number of beautiful reproductions, something to appeal to every sampler lover's taste. The prices listed, if kitted, are all with silk. First, "Regusta's Bristolon Orphanage Sampler circa 1870," very typical of many of the orphanage samplers that survived today, always worked in red with occasionally some blue, consisting of rows of alphabets and small border patterns, and always a Bible motif. This one is reproduced from a private collection, worked entirely in cross stitch. Our kit is on 40c with Color 4624 in *Au Ver A'Soie's Soie de Paris* ~ next, "Janet Fairgrave 1800," (\$108) a typical Scottish sampler ~ "Maria Lambooy 1773," a sampler featuring many wonderful and familiar motifs, but don't you just love the cupola in the lower right corner; we only have the chart, and it is \$15 ~ and the last one in this group, "Mary Eldrig" (\$119) is just a reproduction from the Fitzwilliam Museum and commemorates Jones Eldrig, probably Mary's mother, and features many lovely sampler stitches: satin, double running, flame stitch, tent, Algerian eye, long-armed cross, and the reversible and marking cross.



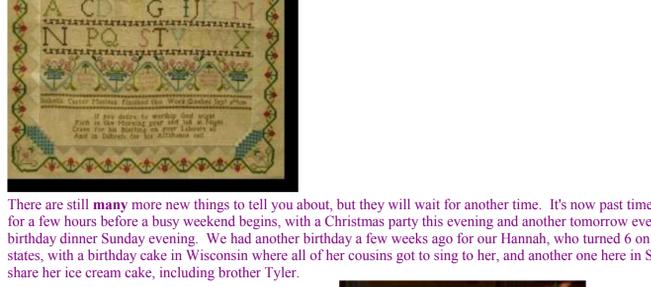
- The next group of four is also from *The Essamplaire*: top left, "Rafaela Elmer 1831" (\$129) is of Spanish origin and is a reproduction from the Museum of International Folk Art in Santa Fe, New Mexico ~ "Margaret Ellerby" (\$32), whose alphabets and motifs show us that Margaret was a Quaker girl; this is a reproduction from The Haslemere Educational Museum in England ~ bottom left, "Anno 1674" (\$105) features a number of wonderful motifs from the left to well past the middle of the sampler, including the galloping dappled horse with a long tail and clipped mane, a large peacock, Joshua and Caleb, and many religious symbols; the right side is filled with beautiful bands of surface embroidery ~ and, in the lower right, "Sarah Johnson" (\$32), a charming diminutive sampler from a private collection that measures only 5.5 x 7.5 on 40c linen.



- And last for today, but certainly not least, "Isabella Carter MacClean" (\$139), a sampler with a wonderful provenance about the sampler and its maker; this reproduction, from *The Essamplaire*, is of a sampler in the collection of Bill and Joyce Subjack



There are still many more new things to tell you about, but they will wait for another time. It's now past time to hit "Send" and get to the shop for a few hours before a busy weekend begins, with a Christmas party this evening and another tomorrow evening, and then a postponed birthday dinner Sunday evening. We had another birthday a few weeks ago for our Hannah, who turned 6 on November 27, celebrated in two states, with a birthday cake in Wisconsin where all of her cousins got to sing to her, and another one here in Surprise, with lots of family to share her ice cream cake, including brother Tyler.



Enjoy your week ~ I hope you find a little time to spend with your needle in this very busy Season of Love ~ like the sampler says, "A stitch in time saves my mind!" And I know many of you experience that same retreat in your needlework. My best to all of you,  
Jean Lea

*Attic Needlework & Collectibles*

106 East McKellips Road, Suite 111  
Mesa, Arizona 85201  
480.898.1838 ~ FAX: 480.898.0332  
Toll-Free: 1.888.4.ATTIC  
[www.atticneedlework.com/](http://www.atticneedlework.com/)