

THIS WEEKEND AT *The Attic*

Punchneedle
Instructor: Christy
Today, December 16, 2 - 4 p.m.

One 2-Hr. Class
Fee: \$50 (includes all materials)



For anyone who's got their shopping, wrapping, baking, and decorating completed and has always wanted to learn punchneedle, come and spend a few hours at the shop this afternoon and learn this fun, fast, and easy centuries-old technique. The class project is your choice of either of the pins shown here ~ both designs come in your kit. In the 2 hours you may be able to complete your 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 how easy this technique is and a number of her beautifully finished models featuring a variety of finishing techniques. You will also receive a 10% discount on all supplies ~ patterns, thread, etc. ~ for your next punchneedle project(s). As fast as these stitch up, you may be able to finish one in time for that last-minute gift!

CHRISTMAS AT *The Attic*

- Thursday, December 21, 6 - 9 p.m.** ~ Our annual Kris Kringle Party. Please join us for some Seasonal music, food and our favorite fruit punch, and conviviality ~ and join in the ornament exchange, either as a participant or an observer ~ a great place to get ideas for next year's ornament stitching! There will also be some surprise guests, we hope! It's a secret so I can't tell, but here's a hint: Scotland. Please plan to join us ~ and don't eat before you come because we'll have ham sandwiches and sweet treats and chocolate and more!

Special Holiday Hours

- Saturday, December 22, 10 - 5 p.m.**
- Monday, December 25 ~ CLOSED**
- Saturday, December 30, 10 - 5 p.m.**
- Monday, January 1, 2007 ~ SALE!!! ~ 10 - 2 p.m.**

MERRY COX WORKSHOPS NOVEMBER 2007

We are privileged and honored to announce that Merry Cox will again be with us at *The Attic* for four workshops in 2007! Merry has reduced her teaching schedule considerably, and we are thrilled that she has kept us on her teaching schedule. Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the second weekend of November ~ **Friday night through Sunday, November 9, 10, and 11**. Many details are still being addressed, **including the fourth project, which will be chosen from among Merry's treasures from the past**. If you have a favorite Merry project that you missed along the way, please e-mail me with your suggestions, and we will choose the one that receives the most "votes." Prestitching kits for three of the four projects will be available sometime in January. "A Beautiful Day in Williamsburg" will NOT be a prestitched piece.

The three projects already selected will be:



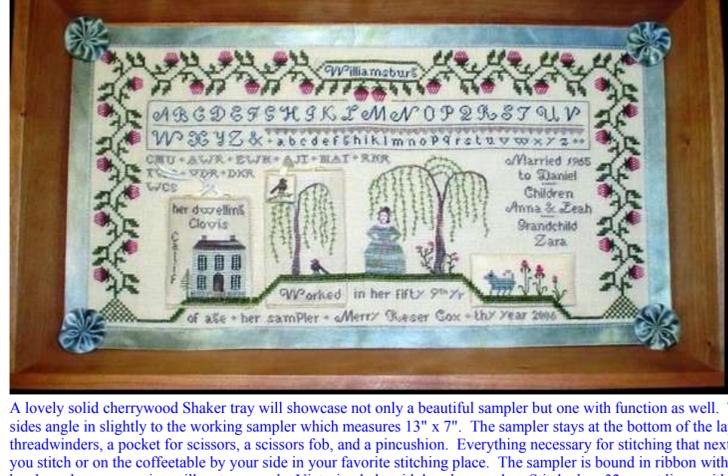
Flowers in the Fall

Lovely blue flowers surround a pincushion bird and then are mounted on top of a faux-grained box. The flowers and leaves are stitched in tent stitch over 1 and then finished and shaped to give a dimensional look. A thimble bucket sits in front of the bird and the bird's tail acts as a pinkeep. The faux-grained box is lined in silk and houses a small needlebook. This whole sewing set then goes into a beautiful silk plaid drawstring bag with stitched nameplate. Kit includes all stitching and finishing materials and faux-grained box.



A Diminutive Sewing Set

A handmade rectangular carrier found in an antique shop inspired this project. This diminutive carrier is 7" x 4" at the base, reproduced in beautiful cherry wood. A silk "mattress" lies at the bottom of the carrier with small silk-covered compartments at each end. One compartment houses a stitched pincushion, and the other is perfect for a thimble and emery. A petite silk mending bag (3" x 2" at the base and 3" high), a scissors, and a roll-up sampler complement the set. The mending bag has pockets inside, and the bottom is a needlebook with pins neatly stored around the base. A friend's antique mending bag was Merry's inspiration for this little treasure. The roll-up sampler is intended to showcase favorite alphabets, motifs, and stitches. It is lined with matching silk and tied with silk ribbons. This lovely diminutive set has an antique Shaker feel, surely to become a family heirloom. Kit includes carrier and all stitching and finishing materials.



A Beautiful Day in Williamsburg

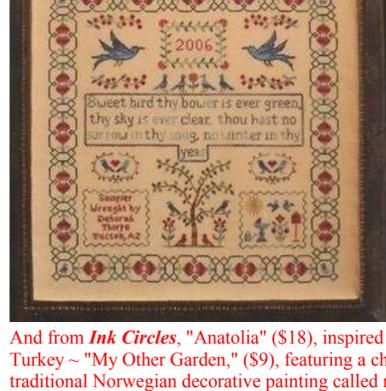
A lovely solid cherrywood Shaker tray will showcase not only a beautiful sampler but one with function as well. The lap tray measures 15" x 9" x 2" at the top, and the sides angle in slightly to the working sampler which measures 13" x 7". The sampler stays at the bottom of the lap tray and features a pocket for a silk needlebook and threadwinders, a pocket for scissors, a scissors fob, and a pincushion. Everything necessary for stitching that next project is at your fingertips whether on your lap while you stitch or on the coffee table by your side in your favorite stitching place. The sampler is bound in ribbon with rosettes in the corners, has two sets of alphabets, a floral border, a house, weeping willow trees, and a Victorian lady with her dog nearby. Stitched on 32-count linen with silk threads. Kit includes all stitching and finishing materials (except the scissors) and the cherry Shaker tray.

WHAT'S NEW in the Shop

Here's something we've had in for a month, and I keep forgetting to tell you about it until after I've hit "Send" but today I remembered! It's perfect for gift-giving ~ or for your own sewing basket ~ a beautiful new accessory/tool called a Sewing Compendium (\$40). Imported from England, this pewter and cobalt blue glass is a striking combination. Just as in Victorian times when women would gather to do their sewing in a social setting, we also gather in workshops, guild meetings, stitch-ins, or wherever we can find a group of like-minded needleworkers ~ and, thus, today there's still a need for wonderful sewing tools. This compendium is a reproduction featuring a sectioned pewter bobbin that also holds two needles! A cute little mouse sits on its top. A small pewter thimble rests on the beautiful cobalt blue glass bottle. All is held in place by a pewter collar in a "Forest of Flowers" design. 2 3/8" tall, 3/4" in diameter.



From *Deborah Thorpe/Midsummer Night Designs*, "Sweet Bird" (\$10) featuring a very favorite verse: "Sweet bird thy bower is ever green, thy sky is ever clear, thou hast no sorrow in thy song, no winter in thy year" ~ and this one, surprisingly, is called "Sheep" ~ it's the newest in *Heart in Hand's* Wool Whimsy Barnyard Quartet kit series (\$20)



And from *Ink Circles*, "Anatolia" (\$18), inspired by antique carpets found in centuries-old mosques in the Asian portion of modern day Turkey ~ "My Other Garden," (\$9), featuring a charming verse about "the garden in my mind" ~ and "Telemark Rose," (\$7) reminiscent of the traditional Norwegian decorative painting called rosemaling ~ and an elegant new cover for a previously published chart, "Cirque des Cercles" (\$16)..



Two more beautiful charts from *Fancy Work* for your sewing accessories ~ and the tins for them ~ (unfortunately, one has to eat the chocolate first!) "Whitman's Red Tin Sewing Set" (\$8) + tin (\$6) ~ and "Whitman's Tin Sewing Set" (\$8) + tin (\$3). **Please specify when ordering if you want the RED tin.**



CLOISSONÉ
 (top left)
1930'S REPLICA
 (top right)
WYNNEWOOD
 (bottom left)
WHITMAN'S TIN
SEWING SET



A PRAIRIE HALLOWEEN COMPANION

And a sneak "preview" of something special that will begin in February in Nashville ~ "A Prairie Halloween Companion" ~ a new monthly series starring *Prairie Moon, R&R Reproductions, Crescent Colours, and JABC!* 12 months of Halloween "treats" ~ ornaments, tree skirt, spooky wire tree ~ and the kits will be coming to you in very cool Halloween Chinese take-out boxes. At the end of the 12 months you will have an adorable Halloween decorative setup, complete with the tree and ornaments, tombstones, trick or treaters, spooky house, and more ~ with easy finishing instructions that even a challenged "finisher" like me can do, I'm told! If you love Halloween, and I know there are many of you out there, you will want to get on the reservations list for this!

That's all for this week ~ I'm sure you'll all very busy! I have to tend to preparations for the year's most beautiful Holiday Season and, if you're like me, haven't had the energy to pick up a needle for weeks ~ This has got to stop! I have too many things to stitch and get very crabby when weeks go by and my soul hasn't been fed by needle and thread. But the special gatherings of the Season make us slow down and enjoy the special moments to remember during these very memorable days and weeks preparing for Christmas ~ like the beautiful Christmas program put on by the children of Joy Christian School on Thursday evening. It reminded me of the years my brothers and sister and I spent at our elementary school in Wisconsin, Watertown's St. Mark's Lutheran School, and the Christmas programs we were a part of for so many years ~ still going on to this day, only this time with my great nieces and nephews participating. The tradition continues!
 Here's Hannah on her daddy's lap before the program began ~ and Tyler on stage! He's in the top row just to the left of center.



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