

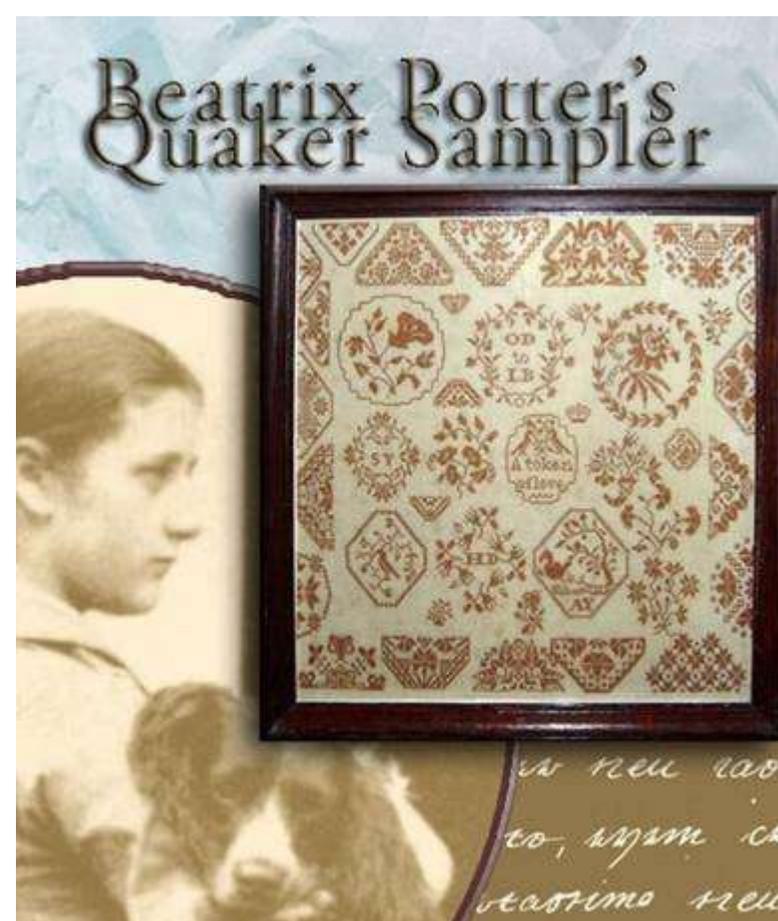
This will necessarily be short today because I've been out of the shop the past week with one of the several flus that are making the rounds here in our poor-air-quality Valley of the Sun, and so I have no idea what's new in the shop, but whatever, it will wait till next week.

And I was feeling very sorry for myself because of the ill timing of all of this, when I've had to miss the Teddy Bear Tea with Hannah at The Ritz this week and our Kris Kringle Party at the shop last night and shopping and gift-wrapping and baking and all of the other things that remained on my to-do list for this week, until I learned of something that put it all in perspective for me. Sue Gastler, the talented designer known to all of you as **Abbey Lane Designs**, went into the hospital two days ago with a broken leg, and x-rays revealed the presence of tumors not only in her leg but also in her lung. Complete knee replacement surgery was, according to her son, very successful, and now they await the prognosis regarding the tumors. If you wish to send a card, the address can be found on her Web site: [www.abbeylanedesigns.net](http://www.abbeylanedesigns.net). I'm sure she and her family will gain strength from hearing from your good wishes and prayers. And the strength of the human spirit, combined with the power of prayer, will work miracles in this Season of Miracles that I know many of you have witnessed yourself.

## FEBRUARY 2006 ~

~ promises to be a banner month with two spectacular samplers releasing at the same time:

- Moments after hitting "Send" last week I had an e-mail from Jacqueline Holdsworth, author of this year's most popular books, the Ackworth calendar and the Ackworth pattern book, announcing the February release of a reproduction Quaker that I'm sure will be equally as popular as her books. Last week's e-mail announced the release as a kit; this week an e-mail came announcing that, bowing to demand here in the USA, and for the US market only, the reproduction will be available as a chart. If the dollar holds, the chart is expected to sell at around \$20-22. We are taking reservations now for "Beatrix Potter's Quaker Sampler."
- And, in case any of you missed last week's newsletter for any reason, here again is "A Most Noble Pursuit," a limited edition collaborative effort between ten of your favorite designers: **Brightneedle, Carriage House Samplings, Hands to Work, La D Da, Patricia Ann Designs, Praiseworthy Stitches, Primitive Traditions, A Stitch and A Prayer, With My Needle, and The WorkBasket**. The model is stitched on 36c **Lakeside Linens'** Light Exemplar with **Needlepoint, Inc.** silk. There will be special cuts of Lakeside Linen both in 36c and 40c and threadpacks also available. The price of the chart will be \$40. Reserve this one as well.



All on my wonderful staff, without whom not much would happen at The Attic, join me in wishing you a most memorable Holiday with your family and friends. Happy Christmas and Happy Hannakuh. For all of our away Attic friends whom we've not had the pleasure of meeting, in the back row, Sandy, Joy, Christy; middle row, Betsy, Janet, and Amy; front row, Debra and Jean.



I received the attachment this week. I thought the images were so beautiful and the message equally so that I wanted to share it with all of you. I hope you're able to open the attachment. It is presented as a Power Point slideshow, and is one of the nicest of these that I've seen.

Amy, Betsy, Christy, Debra, Janet, Joy, Sandy, and Jean

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