

Where Samplers Rule

THE ATTIC

2012 December 30

Issue No. 12-38

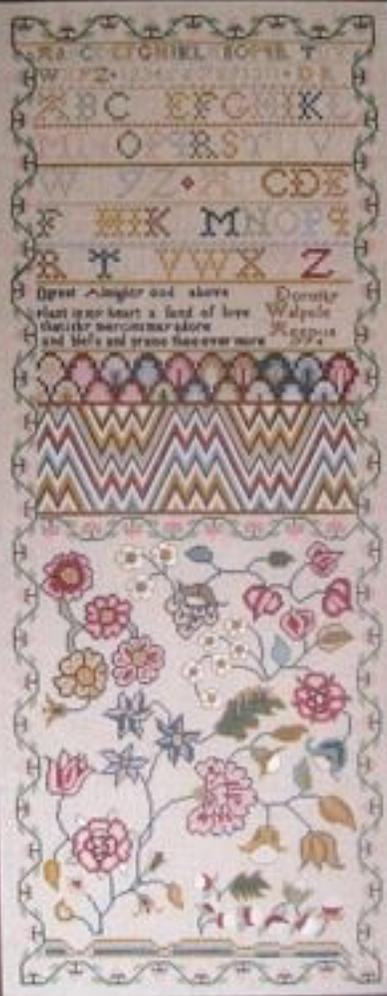
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**January Sampler of the Month ~
Your Choice (thru the first 3
weeks of January . . .)**

Through January 31 save 15%
on your purchase of 2 of these:
* chart, linen & silks
* or Kit

. . . until the publication of a very beautiful sampler that I am thrilled to present as our
later-in-January Sampler of the Month. More details a bit later in the month. But until
then, you can pick your own! There are so many beautiful ones . . . how to choose?
Here are just a few of my favorites ~ and there are many more in that category!



From the Left Above: *The Scarlet Letter's* "Dorothy Walpole" ~ *The Essamplaire's* kit, "Victorine Delacroix," this one stitched by Marianne ~ *The Essamplaire's* kit, "Anne Maria Clarke" ~ *Gigi R's* "Anne Auriol"

The Attic, Mesa, AZ Toll-Free: 1.888.94-ATTIC (1.888.942.8842) www.atticneedlework.com

January

As an **Attic Addicts Club** member, save 15% on the following during January:

- * *Reproduction Sampler charts/kits*
- * *Lakeside Linens (Custom cuts)*
- * *All Solid Silks*



Unicorn Wedding Sampler Stitch-Along

~ See page 14 for Linda's instructions for Dividing Bands 3, 4, 5, and 6 and Band 2.



Thanks to all of you who supported our BCRF efforts this year. We are pleased to announce that we've sent checks totaling \$15,000+ to the Foundation, from auction proceeds & cookbook sales, plus proceeds from *Cherished Stitches'* "Hope" ornament kit. Thank you once again for supporting our efforts for the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.



Saturday, January 5, 10:30-12:30, Beginning Linen

This class is appropriate for both beginning stitchers and anyone wishing to refine their skills. The class project is Linda's Tulip needlebook design, and the \$30 fee includes her expert instruction + all project materials



Friday, January 18, 1 - 4 PM, Paint the Box This class setting arose out of a mistake in the date in our last eNewsletter, and when we got a phone registration from JaNae, who is attending our Sampler Symposium, we realized that we could hold the class on Friday as well, for those of you coming for our special weekend! For more information about the class, see below! Fee: \$30



Saturday, January 19, 1 - 4 PM, Paint the Box

Linda will teach you to finish your box for this wonderful ornament collection to be stored in the box. Paint your box **before** coming to class ~ time in class will be spent "trimming" the box with the gold paint and lining it. All finishing materials are included, unless you wish to bring your own lining paper (2 12x12 scrapbook pages) Fee: \$30

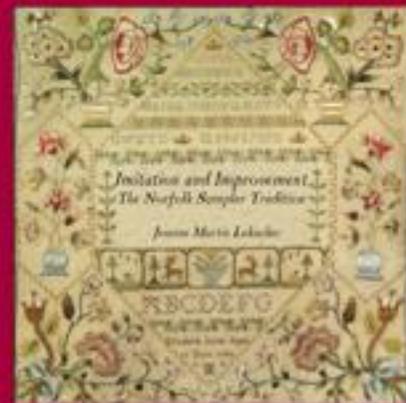
Thursday, February 21, with checkout on Sunday, February 24, The Attic's Annual Junipine Retreat
Currently sold out; waiting list only. Fee: \$300

We still have some BCRF cookbooks left.



Support a great cause (all net proceeds go to breast cancer research) by buying a copy(s) of the **Recipes for a Cure** cookbook for a donation of \$14.95 (or more) with fabulous time-tested recipes as well as complimentary designs from 11 designers.

Coming in February



We are taking your pre-orders now for *Imitation and Improvement: The Norfolk Sampler Tradition*, \$92.95.

This new volume identifies and interprets a distinctive body of samplers executed by the girls of Norfolk during a dramatic time of social and cultural change in late 18th-century Britain. The motifs and style of these samplers reveal a rich engagement with textile craft and industry that was both regional and international in scope. These works are analyzed for their exquisite beauty and skill and for the civic, moral and educational values that they embodied in Norfolk society from 1730 to 1830. By closely studying the intricate and distinguishing features of these samplers, Ms. Lukacher's book opens up remarkable vistas onto a complex social landscape and the significant and primary place of textile art within it.

Reserve your copy now.

The faculty for *The Attic's 2013 Sampler Symposium*, 5 PM Friday, Jan 18 ~ 4 PM Sunday, Jan 20 (daily schedule 9-4):

- Lorraine Mootz, Celle, Germany, co-author of *Samplers and Designs: Three Centuries of European Samplers*
- Vickie Jennett of *NeedleWorkPress*
- Sherri Jones of *Patrick's Woods*
- Joanne Martin Lukacher, author of *Imitation and Improvement: The Norfolk Sampler Tradition*

(Registration is full for this Symposium; waiting list only.) The \$450 fee includes a Friday night light supper; continental breakfast, lunch, and breaks Saturday and Sunday; 2 reproduction sampler charts from Lorraine Mootz that are exclusive to workshop attendees; kit for Vickie Jennett's workshop as well as for Sherri Jones' Sunday workshop. *Registration is limited due to the size of the room. A non-refundable deposit of \$50 is due upon registration.* The balance will be due upon issuance of the pre-stitching kits for Vickie's workshop. Announcement of when the kits are ready for mailing will be in a future newsletter. The event will again be held at Hyatt Place Mesa, where they have available an Attic Needlework room block with prices of \$119 for King rooms and \$129 for Queen/Queen rooms. [Here](#) is their Website. Free shuttle service to the shop is provided (airport transportation is not), so renting a car is really not necessary.

Lorraine will present two slide lectures and several charted samplers from her collection:

* **Sajou, School, and Plain Sewing Samplers** Towards the end of the 19th century, the working of fine samplers in many elaborate stitches had given way to the often red alphabet marking samplers made by girls in school during their required needlework instruction. While alphabets and numbers dominated, motifs from the popular accordion-folded pattern booklets were often scattered around the samplers or grouped at the bottom or top. Along with marking in cross and satin stitch, these young hands learned to knit, crochet, darn, sew, patch, and mend with astounding excellence. Lorraine will be showing slides from her collection of early to later alphabet samplers, pattern booklets, instructional manuals for teachers, and plain sewing samplers from France, Germany, England, and the United States. To accompany her lecture she has reproduced Marguerite Dumas' 1895 French school sampler with 4 alphabets, numbers from 1-0, four different borders, as well as some of the popular Sajou motifs from the little pattern booklets so popular around the turn of the century. Also reproduced and available to attendees will be charts of two other French schoolgirl samplers, one from Marguerite's daughter Claudia Morel 1927 and one from F. Potherat 1891.

* **Decorated Towels on Both Sides of the Atlantic** This is a slide lecture on European and Pennsylvania German decorated towels from Lorraine's collection. Discussed is where the towels were made, why they were made, what motifs are found on the various decorated towels as well as their relation to samplers. (An aside: according to Ellen Gehret it is a no-no to say "show towel" as that is a relatively new term never used by the Pennsylvania Germans.)

Vickie LoPiccolo Jennett's "A Token of Friendship" graced the cover of the Spring 2003 *Sampler & Antique Needlework Quarterly*. This charming project fits so perfectly with Lorraine's slide lecture that we asked Vickie to present a workshop on the construction of her "little book." Here's what she says about this project: *I have always loved letters in all shapes and forms. So, when I stumbled upon a tiny "pattern book" in a South Dakota antiques shop, my curiosity was piqued. Exactly 10 years ago I was delving into a subject new to me and to many other 21st-century needleworkers. I had not yet met Lori Mootz, nor been exposed to her wealth of expertise. What I did have, though, was a dogged determination to study and recreate one of these books that blended my two passions: letters and needlework. I took the liberty of creating a pattern; took advantage of several friends (no, I still don't stitch on 40ct linen) and managed to piece together a precious little project that found its way to the cover of **Sampler and Antique Needlework Quarterly**. You would have thought I made the cover of *The Rolling Stone*. Fact of the matter, that article opened the door to countless opportunities to write about something I loved instead of just completing writing assignments. I am as delighted today to bring you this project as I was 10 years ago when it appeared in SANQ. If you complete the stitching for *A Token of Friendship*, you will walk away from this class with your very own completed fold-out book. Stitches are mostly cross stitch with limited long-arm cross, backstitch, and a nun's stitch border. Even if you don't complete the stitching, you can complete the book and add your stitched piece (or the mini-project of your choice.)*

Joanne Martin Lukacher, author of a new book, *Imitation and Improvement: The Norfolk Sampler Tradition*, available in February 2013, will present a lecture on a distinctive body of samplers executed by the girls of Norfolk during a dramatic time of social and cultural change in late 18th-century Britain. The motifs and style of these samplers reveal a rich engagement with textile craft and industry that was both regional and international in scope. These works are analyzed for their exquisite beauty and skill and for the civic, moral, and educational values that they embodied in Norfolk society from 1730 to 1830. By closely studying the intricate and distinguishing features of these samplers, Ms. Lukacher opens up remarkable vistas onto a complex social landscape and the significant and primary place of textile art within it.

A sneak peek at the stunning sampler design from *In the Company of Friends* included within Ms. Lukacher's book.

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Sherri Jones' workshop will feature her *Button Lover's Brag Book*:

This stitched book is designed to showcase a select few of your most exquisite buttons, modern or vintage. The model book incorporates 8 stitched 'pages' to display buttons made of pearl, glass and metals, as well as buttons known as calicos and fashion buttons (including fabric and thread buttons). Six vintage button cards are reproduced on fabric to display buttons on three of the pages. Stitched designs surround buttons on the remaining pages. Pages can easily be customized to reflect your favorite button styles, or you can focus on a selection of just one style of button. You do not need an extensive collection of buttons. Buttons can be added over time as you enjoy collecting. And buttons are not permanently attached so that you may use a special button for another project. The book measures approx. 4" x 6". The book is stitched on 32 count linen with silk floss in vintage tones of brown and blue. The book is finished by hand with simple finishing techniques. Kit does NOT include buttons.

Sherri will also present a slide lecture on the fun facts and trivia about buttons.

The weekend's schedule as planned now:

Friday night, 5 PM, light supper in The Gallery, followed at 6 by workshop to construct Vickie's wonderful little book.

Saturday, beginning at 9 AM, slide shows & lectures with Lorraine Mootz and Joanne Martin Lukacher, with an hour for lunch in The Gallery. Saturday evening, reception at the shop, with a special visit from Nancy Mills, displaying her buttons for sale.

Sunday, beginning at 9 AM, all-day workshop with Sherri Jones, including her slide lecture.

Monday's Optional Class with *Sherri Jones/Patrick's Woods*

A Fine and Fancy Tulip Tray



This unique tray was inspired by an antique Mauchline ware tray, circa 1910. The tray, made exclusively for **Patrick's Woods**, is crafted from rich dark walnut.

The five fancy-edged panels are laced together with custom dyed silk satin ribbons. Five stitched pockets are embellished with a variety of Florentine patterns and scatterings of tulip and swan motifs, stitched with silk floss in vintage tones of rose pink, old gold, light mocha and grey green. The bottom panel shimmers with pattern darning stitching in icy rose silk. Pearl buttons shown on the panels ARE included in the kit, and are attached with silk ribbon bows. Of course, there will be options for button and bow placement as well as for the pockets.

The petite tulip tray is fitted with a tulip shaped needle case, small pyn pillow, a vintage velvet berry cushion and a pyn berry tower.

A matching ruler and thread palette are available separately.

The \$285 workshop fee includes the workshop kit as well as continental breakfast, lunch, and break treats morning and afternoon. The workshop will run from 9 - 4 PM. (Registration is full; waiting list only at this point.)

“Ann Bowers” Our 2013 Attic Stitch-Along



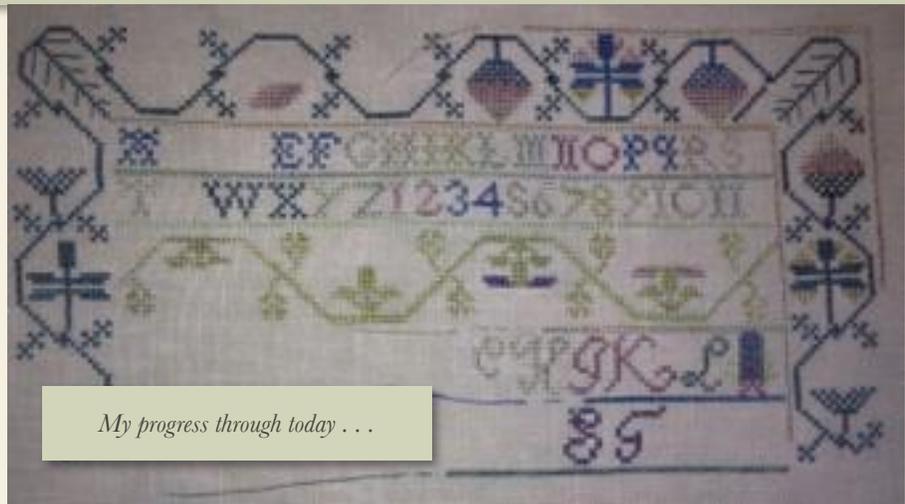
I am thrilled that there are so many others of you who want to join me in recreating Ann’s gorgeous sampler.

The *Instruction Sheet* included with your kit says, “Read Entire Instructions Before Beginning” It should answer many of your questions, but if you have others, please let me know and I will answer them here, in the pages of our eNewsletters, because others may very well have the same questions.

The instructions suggest using two strands of floss. However, since we as a group are stitching on 35c and 40c, some with DMC and others with silk, please use your discretion here. For example, on 40c with silk, one strand is used, as well as on 35c. That’s what made me a silk convert early on: using only one strand provided good coverage. On 35c, however, with DMC, it is personal preference. Some will prefer using 2 strands, while other will choose to stitch with 1 strand.

The verses on “Ann Bowers”
*Arise Awake Your Lamps to Take
 And Do No Longer Slumber You
 Must Then Trim To Waite on Him
 Unto His Wedding Chamber * Ann
 Bowers Her Sampler Made In The 13
 Year of Her Age * * W X Y Z*

*Love Thou The Lord And He Will
 Be A Tender Father Unto The WXY*



My progress through today . . .

Ann Bowers Sampler

Joanne provides the following information in the kit: “Ann Bowers was born in Newport on June 18th, 1734. She was the daughter of Jonathan Bowers, a builder of boats, and Mary Boss. We know that the family were members of the Quaker Society of Friends in Newport. Perhaps due to the economic devastation experienced in Newport during the American Revolution and the death of her father, Ann and her mother moved to Swansey, Massachusetts in 1780. We have no further genealogical information to glean on the remainder of Ann’s life.”

Stitches used in this piece are cross stitch over two threads, cross stitch over one thread, back stitch, satin stitch, Algerian eye, and queen stitch. On 35c linen, sampler size is 9 3/4 x 21 1/2; on 40c linen, 8 1/2 x 18 3/4.

The kit is available on 35c linen with DMC (\$80) or 35c or 40c linen with silk (\$150). Valeri’s model, *left*, is stitched with silks.

It’s not too late to join us on this Stitch-Along journey to reproduce Ann Bowers’ beautiful sampler. Let us know which linen and thread you would like and we’ll order your kit so that you can begin!



If we stitch one - two bands per month, we should be able to complete this beautiful sampler in 2013.

Joanne suggests in #4 on page 2 to establish the undulating floral border around the entire piece and also working both the outer and inner tan borders. Those tan borders serve as perfect check points to ensure your counting is correct before getting too far afield.

For January let’s stitch the various borders across the top and down the sides as far as the first and second row of Upper Case alphabets and numerals. In February we will start on the carnation band

Blue Ribbon Designs Spring Sampler Club . . . with the charts (\$8.50 each) releasing approximately January 21st, February 25th, and March 25th, and the entire sampler revealed with the third installment.

Belinda's springtime stitching mystery sampler is being stitched on a 30c *Weeks* linen (my guess of Lt. Khaki was obviously wrong; it's Blue Jeans, with the hint to "keep your pants on") with 23 skeins of *Weeks* floss used in the main design, with several multiples. A fat quarter of the 30c is perfect for the 150H x 300W design size ~ of course, we'll be doing a conversion to overdyed silks and offering it on a 40c as well as a 35c (8.75H x 17.25W).

Each chart will have questions that will unlock a code when all three designs are purchased. The code will unlock a mystery bonus on Blue Ribbon Designs' website. www.blueribbondesigns.com The bonus will be put on her website when the 3rd installment is released. If you don't have online access, we'll include the bonus pattern with your third installment.



Little House Needleworks' Little Sheep Virtues



Left, a sneak peek at Diane's 2013 Series starting in January, *Little Sheep Virtues*, with 12 wonderful months of sheep! The designs are mounted onto wool and finished as pillows (January's uses *Weeks'* Palomino Houndstooth) Each design is 61 x 61 and were designed to be stitched as individual pieces. DMC threads were used, but as usual, we will be doing a conversion to overdyes and kitting it with a 36c hand-dyed linen. If you'd like to stitch all of these on one piece of linen, tell us your preferred layout, i.e., three across and four down or . . . The virtues as listed on their Website are:

HOPE LOVE PEACE COURAGE FAITH SIMPLICITY
PATIENCE WISDOM FRIENDSHIP KINDNESS
GRATITUDE JOYFULNESS

Each design has at least one sheep, a virtue, an optional button, and at least one heart.

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A blast from the past, these samplers from *The City Stitcher* have been around for several decades and today are just as appealing as they were the first time I saw them in The Attic as a customer. Clockwise from above left: "Phebe's Forest" \$5 ~ "A Guide to Thee" \$5 ~ "Prairie Farm Sampler" \$4 ~ "Strawberry Sampler" \$6 ~ "Weeping Tree Sampler" \$5 ~ "Adam and Eve Sampler" \$5



Unicorn Wedding Sampler Stitch-Along

From Linda, your Stitch-along leader: *I apologize for the delay in getting the second portion of this SAL to you. As they say, "If you want to make God laugh, tell Him your plans."* (As many of you know, Linda has been dealing with some health challenges and enduring innumerable tests. She is finally feeling better and getting some answers, although more tests are still in her future.)

Dividing Bands 3 and 6 are straight forward. A simple four-sided stitch is all you need. The diagram is a good one and shows how the stitch is done. I think this stitch looks best when pulled slightly as shown in the photo to the right.



Dividing Bands 4 and 5 are also pretty straight forward, but to minimize having to run your threads under stitches on the back, stitch either the top half or bottom half of the dividing band on the trip from left to right and complete the other half on the return trip. I stitched the bottom portion of the dividing band first, as you can see in the photo above. I finished the upper part of the dividing band on the return trip, as you can see in the photo on the right.

I am leaving cutting the linen and sewing on the pearls until later.



In Band 2, putting in basting lines at the top and bottom of this band makes it much easier to know just where the faggoting stitch diagonals begin and end. I like the faggoting stitch best when it is slightly pulled. The satin stitch motifs are easy to stitch. You work will look best when you remember to take you needle down in a hole that already has a thread and come up in an empty hole. We will talk about the Bullion knots next time.

Needleworkers Share



2 of Anita's beautiful samplers, "Susan Rambo 1839 Sampler" by *Cross-Point Designs* & *The City Stitcher's* "Weeping Tree Sampler"



A box we have in the shop which Sandy stained & lined with felt before mounting a customer's needlework on the inside cover.



This gentleman came in for more beads & metallic thread for his very beautiful "Celtic Christmas" \$14 from *Lavender & Lace*.

Sonja's Beautiful Project Completed



We've heard from several of you that you've completed your Merry Cox projects. Sonja sent photos of her exquisite Palais Royal. I wish mine looked like this . . . finished!



Wintery scene from our family's home in Watertown, Wisconsin . . .



. . . and our wee tree this year.

We hope your heart is filled with beautiful memories of a lovely time with your loved ones.

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