



THE STITCHING POST

DECEMBER 2011

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It really hit me recently that we have become so consumed with the routines of everyday life (the daily job, our children and their needs, errands and activities for the home...just to name a few) that we forget to look beyond them. The busyness leads us to neglect the realization that it's time to take a break from these routines. We need to change things up a little bit, do something different from the everyday "norm", something "outside the box".

I recently had the special opportunity to do just that. It had been quite awhile since I took a few days off and did a little traveling for pleasure, a very positive change from those daily routines (I just didn't know it at the time). I knew I was over-due for a few days off but this change allowed me to re-charge my batteries. Thoughts became clearer, feelings of excitement and rejuvenation appeared. It opened the door to a new perspective and gave me the ability to re-focus on important things.

You may not appreciate the importance of changing a routine, taking time away or days off until you actually make that move. I recommend this to everyone, whatever you can do to make a change, no matter how small. I know now that any time spent in a way that is different from the "norm" can be advantageous in many ways, more than I realized was possible. Maybe I won't wait so long to do it again...

We don't want you to wait too long to come to the shop again so we have lots of upcoming events for the next few months. Be sure to read on and mark dates and times on your calendars!

OPEN HOUSE—The Holiday season is in full swing and there's no time like the present to relax and de-stress. Join us for our annual Holiday Open House on **Saturday, December 3rd**. This is a good time to enjoy shopping for your friends, other family members that enjoy stitching or splurge on something for you! If you're not sure what to purchase for the needleworkers in your life, we offer gift certificates in any denomination. Enjoy some light refreshments while you pick up any last minute items you might need to put the finishing touches on your presents. We appreciate you shopping with us

throughout the year and have a gift waiting for you when you make a purchase. We wish everyone a wonderful and safe Holiday season with your families and friends as we look towards 2012.

INVENTORY CLEARANCE – A counting we will go, a counting we will go...it's that time again when we need to count all of the items in the shop and make sure they match the number the computer says we have in stock (sure they do!). We want to ring in the New Year with our family and friends and it will make our New Year's Eve go faster if we have fewer things in the shop to count. Your help is always appreciated and the best way for you to assist us with the inventory process is to take advantage of the following discounts:

DEC 26th - 29th – 20% off regularly priced items; **50% off** sale items

DEC 30th – 25% off regularly priced items; **60% off** sale items

- χ *Sale prices are **ONLY** on **IN STOCK** merchandise*
- χ *Stephanie Dawn Bags and kits from The Crewelwork Company will be **15% off** the regular price during this time*
- χ *Discounts **do not** apply to special orders, DMC floss, or hardback books,*
- χ *Super Saver cards can be punched, but may **not** be redeemed during this sale*

CANVAS CLUB—We are offering a canvas club this year featuring Gold Stars and Silver Bells. The designs are from Rainbow Gallery and will be stitched on 18 count canvas. They can be finished as ornaments, used to decorate a wreath, or strung across a mantle with garland. You can come up with lots of possibilities for these! There will be six stars and six bells each done with a variety of threads and different stitches. The club will last for a full year; cost is \$15 and membership entitles you to:

- ❖ A free chart every month
- ❖ Kits for purchase for that month's sampler
- ❖ Coupons for special discounts

Sign up now and begin your designs in January and by next Christmas you'll have silver bells and gold stars for your decorating pleasure!

NEEDLEWORK MARKETS—There are traditionally two markets at this time of year, however since they are so close together we usually attend only the Nashville market in February. The January show this year has moved from California to Phoenix, Arizona and although the two are still about a month apart, we are going to plan to attend both venues this year. We will start to have the new things from the Phoenix market out on **Saturday, January 28th**. Much of the new from Phoenix will need to be shipped, but whatever we can carry with us will be available for purchase.

The annual Nashville market is at the end of February, so the new from that show, mostly a cash and carry show, will be available starting **Saturday, March 3rd**. We always look forward to the trade shows and traveling to both of these at the beginning of the year will be an exciting way to launch 2012!



WINTER STITCH NIGHT—Now is the time to work on some projects for YOU! It's the post-Holiday season and what could be more wonderful than spending a night out with fellow friends and stitchers. Join us on **Saturday, January 14th from 6:00-10:00** for a light supper, stitching and lots of laughs. Cost for the evening is \$15; payment is due when signing up to secure your spot for the night.

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY—We came so close last year and is it possible that our young Ravens team is even younger this year? The rookies don't seem to disappoint and the year looks to be quite promising! Kick off your Super Bowl game-day by shopping with us on **Sunday, February 5th from 1-5 PM**. Everyone has a winning game by receiving **20% off** your purchases (**in-stock merchandise only**)! Enjoy a fun afternoon with us while you stock up on all the supplies you need for your upcoming projects. We'll all be dressed in purple, no matter who goes to the big game! (No Super Saver Cards or Custom Framing)

SPRING STITCHING WEEKEND—Everyone had a fabulous time at our fall stitching event and since one can never have enough opportunities to spend time with friends doing something we enjoy so much, we have decided to offer a weekend again this spring! Plans are in the works for the weekend of **April 21st & 22nd** at the Crowne Plaza in Timonium, MD. Lunch on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday will be included for the weekend; dinner on Saturday will be on your own with choices available from plenty of great restaurants nearby. You are welcome to stay overnight on Saturday and we can provide that information when you sign up. Cost for the weekend will be \$135 and is due at the time of sign-up. Space will be limited, so call today to reserve your spot—what a wonderful way to kick off the spring season!



NEW RIGHT NOW

MYSTERY CLUB SAMPLER—This new sampler mystery began in October, with the next two parts being released in November and December. The sampler is Margaret Cottam, age 9 and was designed by La-D-Da. The piece uses Cocoa linen fabric from Weeks Dye Works and eight colors of the Weeks floss. The charts will be available for a limited time but it's not too late to sign up for this mystery design. Call the shop today to reserve your set!

SHEPHERD'S BUSH—Thomas is the new stocking for this year and it has a wonderful little village scene on the bottom. **Santa's Flight** is a new leaflet that features three of the small designs done for the Ornament magazine framed together. New kits include **Get Scared**, and **Creepy Pincushion**

JBW DESIGNS—Many of you saw models of Judy's new things after the show here in Baltimore. If you missed them, you'll want to look for **Reindeer Stocking**, **Hearts I & Hearts II**, **Christmas Welcome**, **French Country Ornaments II** is a

collection of reindeer, and **Needle Roll and Needle Case**, a chart which shows both items (pre-made and available for purchase).

BY THE BAY—The Stitch an Inch series is a group of small square designs that can be done individually or all together. The latest set out is **Fall Stitch an Inch**; if you like these be sure to check out the **Halloween** and the two sets for **Summer**

DRAWN THREAD—The last three months of the **Pocket Calendars** have been released. These could be stitched all together on one fabric or stitched individually and finished as hangings—lots of possibilities! **Holly and the Ivy Sampler**; **I love Halloween Hanger**

BLUE RIBBON DESIGNS—**Quilted Garden**; **Pocketful of Peppermint**

COUNTRY STITCHES—A new monthly series called **Word Play**

LIZZIE KATE—The **6 Fat Men Flip-It** series features snowmen of all shapes and sizes that can be stitched with the border pattern from Linda or stitched separately. **Tiny Tidings XVI** features seven new designs, quick to stitch for great gift ideas. **2011 Santa**—He's coming to Town!! **Be Jolly** is a special kit for the 2011 Holiday season.

BLACKBIRD DESIGNS—**Schoolgirl's Work** was released in August and features samplers from the Spencer Museum of Art. The book contains eleven projects from Barb and Alma that were inspired by these amazing samplers. **Halloween Eve**, **Raven Bewitched**, **Morning Star**, and **Casting a Spell** are the other latest releases.

FROM NANCY'S NEEDLE—**Cardinal Caper** and **Woodland Star** are new counted canvas designs

THE SWEETHEART TREE—Two new Quadrilles are a **Quaker Quadrielle** and **Lavender Fields**; The **Williamsburg Tea Caddy Treasure Box** was a class piece and now has a matching fob. **Chickadee Winter Welcome**, **Teenie Hardanger IV & V**, **"W" is for Witch** and a cute little polar bear doing his **Christmas Fishin'**



CLASSES

General class conditions:

- Call or come in to reserve your class. Please do not just show up & assume a spot is available!
- Payment is due within one week from the time you sign up for the class.
- If a class does not have enough registrants and is cancelled, the money will be refunded, can be applied for shop credit, or applied to that class at a later time. If you are unable to attend and there is a substitute available, money will be refunded minus a \$5 processing fee.



BEGINNING CROSS STITCH – If you are interested in learning how to cross stitch, anyone in the shop will be glad to offer you guidance. We'll give you a swatch of fabric, show you the basic stitch and how it is done and you can try it out. We have a set of beginning instructions that will help you get started too. Do you have questions after already giving it a try? We'll be happy to answer those and try to give you some helpful hints or tips. You may want to follow-up by trying the **Stitching Over 2** class. Stop by the shop anytime so we can assist you in beginning or continuing on your needlework journey!



STITCHING OVER 2 –This class is a great opportunity to try working on a higher count of fabric, stitching over two threads. Dianna will share her knowledge about linen and evenweave fabrics, as well as the variety of threads that are available and some helpful tips, as you stitch on a small project.

Teacher: Dianna Heiger Cost: \$12
SAT., JAN. 21st, 10 AM – 12 PM



PUNCHNEEDLE – Have you heard people raving about this embroidery technique called punchneedle? This fun and easy needlework technique is worked from the back of the fabric using a special needle. It is quick to learn and you'll become addicted very easily, so come try your hand at it, expand your needlework repertoire and let us know what you think!

Teacher: Melinda Zachary Cost: \$20
**SAT., FEB. 4th, 10AM – 12 PM or
1:30 – 3:30 PM**



PAINTED RIBBONS – The Painted Stitches Ribbon Sampler is a great way to expand your needlepoint knowledge! You will learn 10 decorative stitches on this 14 mesh canvas using Threadworx Overdyed Vineyard Silks with coordinating colors from the Vineyard Silks Classic line. The bright, colorful ribbons pop off the black background as the decorative stitches harmonize with the overdyed threads. Each area is highlighted with one of the decorative stitches and any compensation stitches are already painted on the canvas. This bright piece is a fun way to try a variety of stitches and threads!

Teacher: Melinda Zachary Cost: \$110
SAT., FEB. 11th, 10 AM – 12 PM





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SNIPPETS



HOLIDAY HOURS

- ❖ **12/24 & 25 – SAT & SUN**
Closed for Christmas
- ❖ **12/26 - 12/30 – MON - FRI**
Regular hours for Inventory Clearance Sale!
- ❖ **12/31 - 1/2 – SAT - MON**
Closed for Inventory and New Year's
- ❖ **1/3 - TUES**
Re-open with regular hours for 2012

WOODLAWN—It's that time again when we are offering to take your entries to Woodlawn for the needlework show. Bring your finished work to the shop starting Monday, **January 16th** through **Saturday, February 4th**. The entry fee is due when you drop off your piece. You will receive one free pass good for the show held during the month of March in Alexandria, VA. Entries can be picked up in April.

WEATHER ALERTS—When the forecast calls for snowy and blustery conditions, be sure to call the shop for hours and the possibility of an early closing. We don't want anyone to make a trip and then be disappointed that we aren't open.



BOOKMARK STITCHING—We will be donating bookmarks again this spring to a local school or library to promote the Stitching for Literacy campaign. Winter is a great time to work on small projects like bookmarks. Last year we gave a local school over 120 bookmarks to promote reading within the classrooms. The bookmarks were extremely appreciated and it would be great to exceed that number this spring!



REMINDER—Please bring your complete chart with you when picking out fabric or threads for your project. It will be easier for us to assist you in making the best choices if the entire leaflet and instructions accompany you.