

*Amy's*

needlework supplies & classes

MAY 2013

what's inside this month

## HAPPY HUMONGOUS BIRTHDAY!!!

**H**oly Moley - - - where did the time go? We all say this every year, but it really comes home to us with a little sting when we hit those landmark birthdays...THE BIG 30 when people under 20 no longer trust you... FABULOUS 40 when everyone starts to call you "ma'am"...50 when you REALLY do know everything, and the government has no idea what they are doing with your tax dollars...and then 60 when you start to understand the comments about "getting old isn't for sissies." Yup, sure enough I hit 60 this month and I am stunned!!! I'm not really unhappy about it, just wondering how I got here so FAST. At least I get to celebrate my birthday during one of the most delightful months of the year...not too hot, not too cold and usually plenty of blue skies.

To celebrate my birthday, I am going to make a fun gift box to share with one of our customers. I love presents, and I want to give one away at the end of the month. This will be fun! Every customer during the month of May (pay attention to the cut-off date) will be entered in a drawing for this great gift box full of goodies...threads, accessories, surprises...even the box is needlepoint. If you place an order on-line, you will be entered; if you walk in and purchase something, you will be entered; if you call to order, you will be entered; if you E-mail an order, you will be entered; and all Home Study participants will be entered. It is automatic....there is no need to even ask....you are entered. Absolutely every customer who shops at Amy's Golden Strand between May 1 and May 26th will be entered in the drawing for Amy's Birthday Gift. The drawing will take place on Tuesday, May 28th, and we will notify the lucky winner by June 1st (the winner will also be announced in the June Newsletter)

Happy Birthday everyone and GOOD LUCK!

*Amy*

*Amy's Golden Strand*  
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# Accessories fit for a Queen

## Tudor Home Study Series fob & magnet sets



*Catherine of Aragon*

*Anne Boleyn*

*Jane Seymour*

*Henry VIII*

*Anne of Cleves*

*Katherine Howard*

*Katherine Parr*

The genius talent of Merry L Prints came up with these divine stitching tools. These are scissor fobs with matching magnets fit for a queen...actually designed for the Tudor Queen's in our Home Study Project. There is a jeweled set to appeal to every taste, and each has been assigned a regal name. Select yours today and we will have a magnet, fob or complete set made to order for you.

### QUEENS

COST: FOB \$36<sup>00</sup>

MAGNET \$14<sup>00</sup>

SET \$50<sup>00</sup>

### HENRY VIII

COST: FOB \$52<sup>00</sup>

MAGNET \$16<sup>00</sup>

SET \$68<sup>00</sup>



As you can see, the beader is smokin' to get these sets ready to roll. Be patient. She is a miracle worker, but there is only one of her and many of US!



### “MAY” YOU BUY THEM UP!

We just brought home many of these from the Dallas market, but the grapes won't be available until the very end of May. We will be taking pre-orders for them.

COST: FROM \$12<sup>00</sup> TO \$16<sup>00</sup>

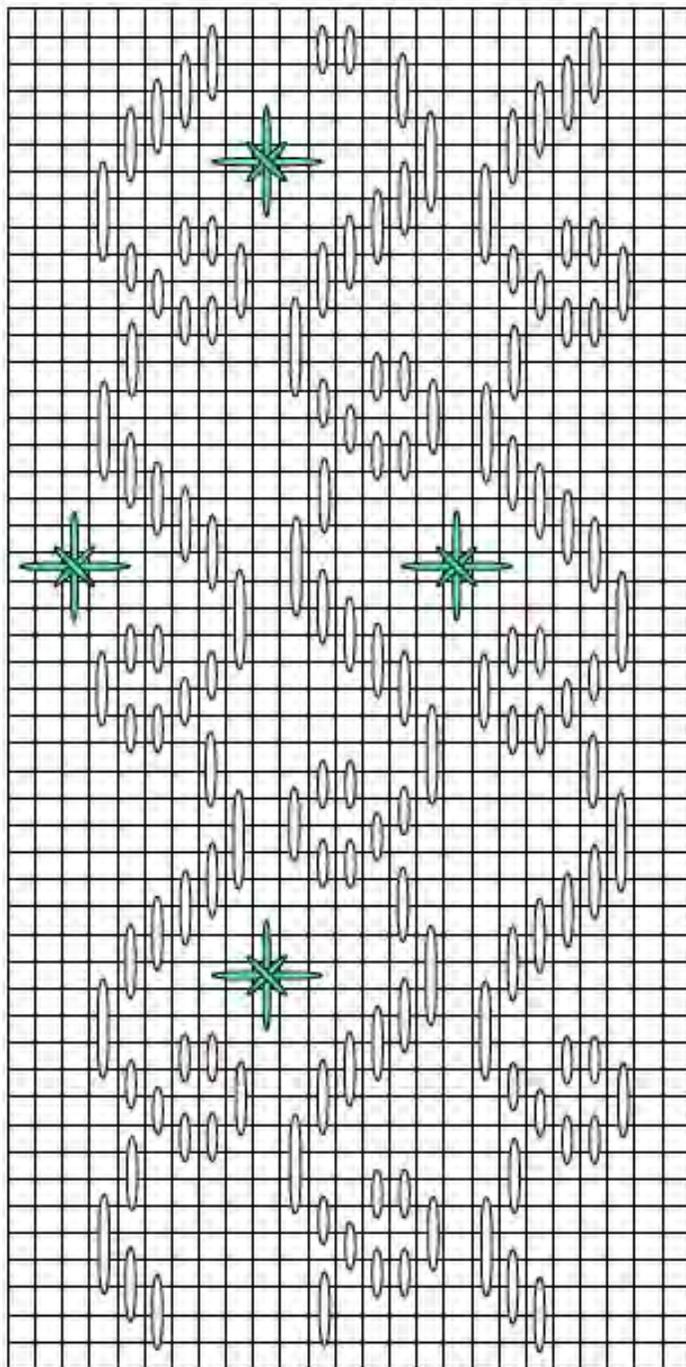


Would you like to win: a wooden, stitchable tool-keeper box; a small Amy's suitcase; an Amy Cookbook chapter; a Needle Buddies magnet; reading glasses; a Namaste Needle Buddy case; two thread holders; a pair of Premax scissors; a stitching charm, a small satin tool case; as well as a huge sampler of our store's threads, beads, and sequins? The total value of this birthday surprise is over \$450<sup>00</sup>!

All you have to do is purchase something from Amy's Golden Strand between May 1 and May 26. We must have your address, E-mail address, or a phone number, and you will be entered in the drawing to celebrate Amy's 60th birthday. The drawing will take place the morning of May 28th, and the winner will be announced in June's newsletter.



Off-set Confetti Ribbons with Stars



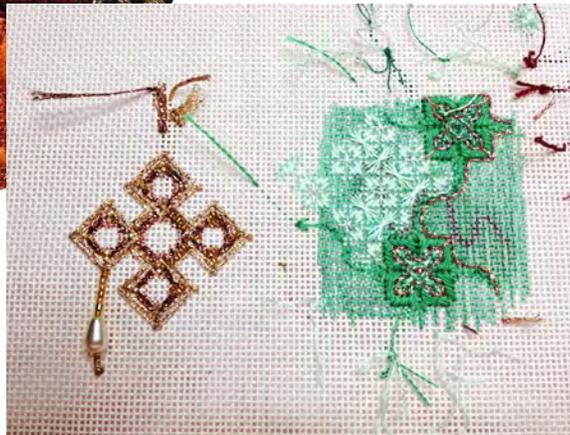
# CURRENT HOME STUDY



The experience of working on this incredible design has been pure joy from day one. Even the small snags, which involved tearing out my stitching, haven't dampened my spirits. I have already finished two queen sections (Anne of Cleves and Catherine of Aragon) and can't wait to get to my stitching on the next section. I always love stitching and have had so much fun over the years with the Home Study Projects...whatta' JOB!!!

In case you wonder about guide writers and teachers, when we hit the books for ideas, we don't always know what we are doing -- or at least I don't. I study the book, I try it on scrap canvas and then I jump in and try it. My stitch guides explain in depth what I did, but you may just find that you can tell me a thing or two when it comes down to working with some of these ideas. Never hold

back on information... if you have a suggestion or a different way of doing things, I want to know about it. The Tudors Home Study has a Facebook page, and we will enroll every participant on it who has Facebook so that we can all share, visit, commiserate and admire each other's work.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

April 15 through May 5 shipping Group One, Kit One of the Tudors Home Study  
 May 28 through May 30 shipping Group One, Kit Two of the Tudors Home Study

In the November 2012 newsletter, we set the stage for this Home Study with the political and religious atmosphere of the early years of Henry VIII's reign. Each month for the next six months, we will explore the details of each of Henry's queens. Do not worry if the kits of the Home Study do not correspond with the queen in the current newsletter...the project needs to be worked in proximity order, not chronological order. Join us each month with our "toe dip" into a fascinating period of English history.

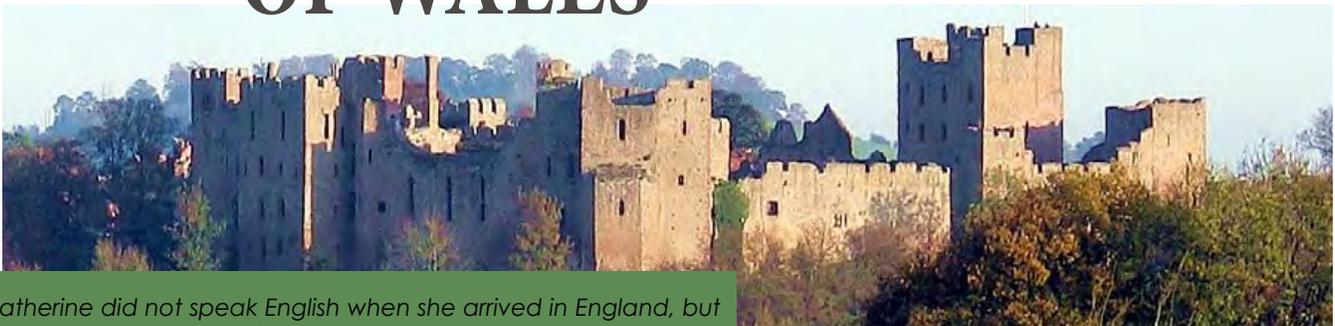
# PRINCESS CATALINA DE ARAGON

Catalina of Aragon, born in 1485, was the youngest child of Ferdinand of Aragon and Isabella of Castille. During her childhood she witnessed numerous battles and celebrations as her parents attempted to complete the reconquista and secure their ruling over the newly combined realm, which would later become Spain. Catherine was a princess who was raised piously in the warmth of the south, witnessing her parents' participation in such moments in history as the surrender of Grenada by the Moors and the first voyage of discovery by Christopher Columbus. She and her siblings were highly educated, as Ferdinand and Isabella planned to marry them off to the heirs of neighboring nations to help secure the status of their realm. Catalina was only four, when her parents betrothed her to Arthur, age two, the "future king of England" and son of Henry VII, who believed the marriage of his son to a Spanish princess would secure his newly won nation's foothold in Europe. (See last month's newsletter).



*A statue of Infanta Catalina de Aragon at her birthplace, Alcalá de Henares, Spain.*

# PRINCESS CATHERINE OF WALES



*Catherine did not speak English when she arrived in England, but it was believed she and Arthur could communicate with Latin. Unfortunately, they were each taught a different pronunciation, and were still unable to communicate except in writing.*

When she was almost 16, Catherine made the journey to England to marry Arthur, the Prince of Wales. Arthur and Catherine moved to Ludlow castle, and both became ill only a few months later. Catherine survived, but Arthur succumbed to the illness. Less than six months after their marriage, Arthur was dead and Catherine was left a young widow in a strange country.

# THE FORGOTTEN PRINCESS

Henry VII had another son, Henry, almost 6 years Catherine's junior. Before Catherine could even return to the court in London, Henry VII began negotiating with Ferdinand to keep the Spanish princess in England. If Catherine were returned to Spain, her substantial dowry, as well as her inheritance as dowager Princess of Wales, would go with her.



Henry VIII, at age 18.

*Dowager(n): A widow with a title or property derived from her late husband*

A dispensation was granted by the pope allowing for the marriage of Catherine and

Henry (despite Catherine's previous marriage), and Catherine was for a period of time betrothed to Henry. The betrothal was later repudiated as Henry VII and Ferdinand continued to disagree over the arrangements. For seven years, Catherine sat in limbo waiting for a decision concerning her future. Despite her royalty, Catherine lived in poverty during this time--supported by neither her father nor her father-in-law, and dismissed by many except as a pawn.



*Dispensation(n): an act whereby in a particular case a lawful superior grants relaxation of an existing law.*

When Henry VII died in 1509 and young Henry took the crown, one the new king's first actions was to marry Catherine, who was finally crowned Queen of England in a joint coronation ceremony with her husband Henry VIII on June 24, 1509.

*16th century woodcut of the coronation of Henry VIII of England and Catherine of Aragon showing their heraldic badges, the Tudor Rose and the Pomegranate. The pomegranate was a symbol of fertility and Catherine's childhood home of Granada.*

# HOW DO I DO THAT?

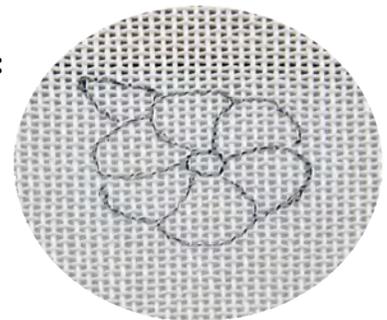
## GLUE...ON MY CANVAS????

Gluing “found objects” to your canvas is not as scary and hazardous as you might think. This ole’ girl has recently learned a few new tricks. Using G-S Hypo Fabric Cement, which is archival fabric glue (meaning acid-free and dries flexible), you can attach items to your needlepoint canvas which can enhance your creations. It is easy to do, but I thought you might enjoy having a few tips.



### MATERIALS YOU WILL NEED:

- G-S Hypo Fabric Cement
- Tape
- Tweezers
- Plastic Bag
- Magnifier (optional)



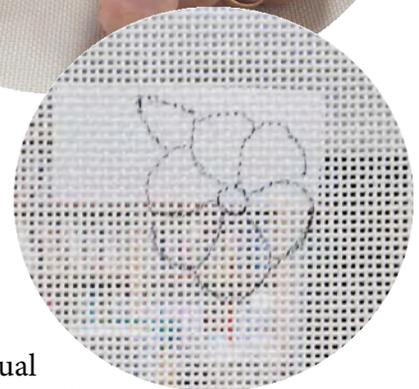
### STEP #1 --

Cover the backside of your needlepoint canvas where the glue will be applied using tape. Any tape will do as long as it will not leave any sticky residue once it is removed. I have used Scotch Brand Magic™ Tape in the demo photos.



### STEP #2 --

Prepare your working area. Have your tweezers and found object to be attached handy. Set a plastic bag close to your working area (not on the canvas) on which to set the glue. A magnifier close by might be helpful to get the pin stopper back into the precision tip of the glue tube (I couldn't SEE it). Set your canvas on a flat surface, like a table.



### STEP #3 --

Set the found object you want to attach to the canvas on the area to get a visual of how much area it will cover. You want to glue the center area that the object will cover without gluing the edges of the area.

# HOW DO I DO THAT?

## GLUE...ON MY CANVAS????

### STEP #4 --

In the center of the area to be covered, but again NOT the outside edges of the area, fill the holes of the canvas with glue. You need enough glue to slightly bulge above the canvas to come in contact with the object, but not so much glue that it squeezes out the sides of the object.

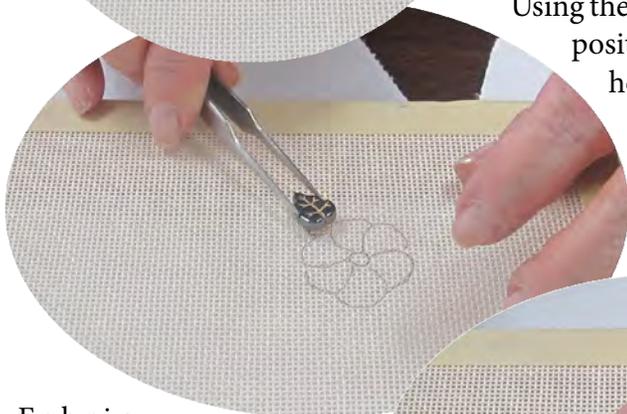


### STEP #5 --

Reinsert the pin in the glue applicator (magnifier for me here) and set it on the plastic bag...don't panic you have time to do this.

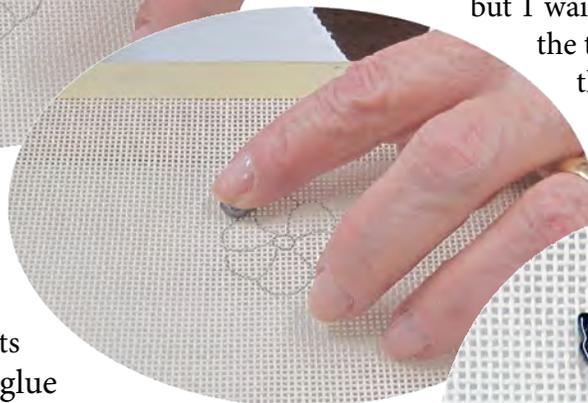
### STEP #6 --

Using the tweezers if the item is small, or your fingers for larger items, position the found object over the glue and press it in place, holding it with gentle pressure (don't bend your canvas) for about 60 seconds.



### STEP #7 --

Wait for the glue to set. I was told an hour would be good, but I waited overnight before I removed the tape and started to stitch around the object.



Fabric cement is great for applying crystals, google eyes or other charms, beads etc.... You may also "cement" objects on top of stitching. Less glue is needed as there are no "holes" of the canvas to fill. A spot or two of fabric cement may also be helpful to hold appliqué fabrics in place so you can stitch around them without having the appliqué shift or move. Cement is not your best option for emergency thread repair, but if there is no other option, it might be considered....I am still exploring the uses of fabric cement.



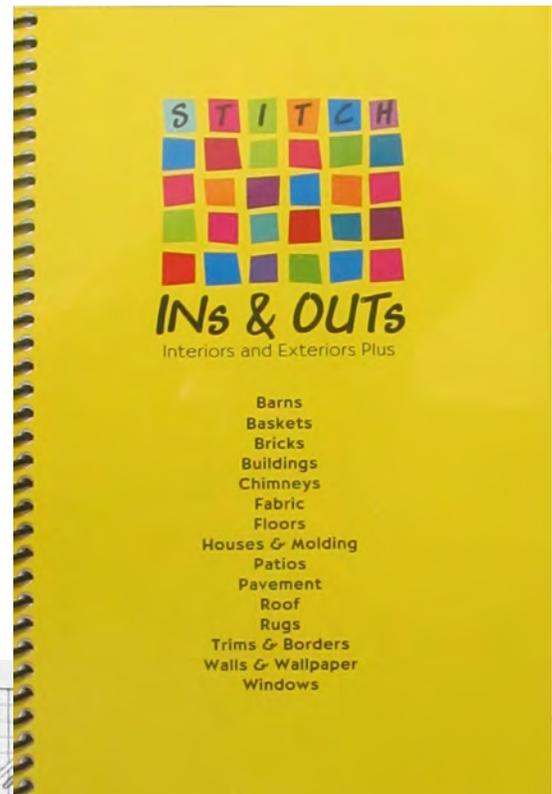
G-S FABRIC CEMENT \$5<sup>50</sup>

## INS & OUTS INTERIORS AND EXTERIORS!! BY LITTLE SHOPPE

All of us search through our many books for inspiration when selecting stitches for our projects. Once again Stacey Tombros has delivered an excellent source for great stitches. Her books are themed. The first book helped with ideas on landscaping and nature. This book concentrates on architecture and other things that are found in and around the house.

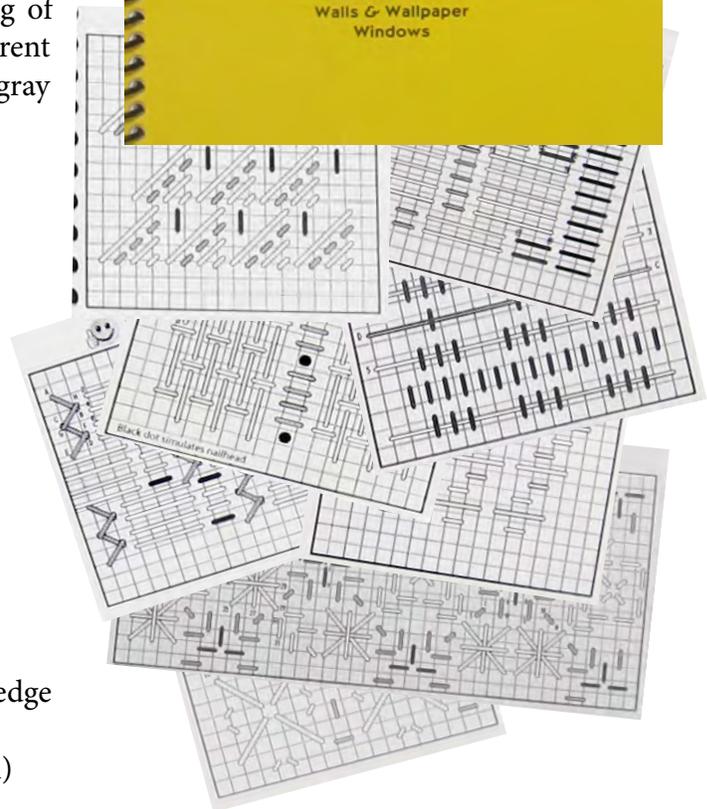
Our boxes of books were barely unpacked before I ripped open my copy and swept it away to my house. Yesterday I browsed through the pages while I drank my coffee...my favorite time of the day...I had more fun getting flashes of threads, canvases and ideas.

The front pages will explain the features of the book, including the "Stitch Hints". There are suggestions for selecting the perfect stitch, color and thread for an area. These "Stitch Hint" pages are at the beginning of each of the 16 sections of the book. The stitch diagrams are marked with smiley faces if there are thread suggestions at the beginning of that section. Pathway numbers are included, and different layers in the stitch patterns are indicated in varying gray scale from white to black.



### AMY'S PICKS FOR EACH SECTION:

- Barns -- #7
- Baskets -- #3
- Bricks -- toss up #18 or #19
- Buildings -- #4
- Chimneys -- #13
- Fabric -- oops another toss up #15 or #34
- Floors -- wow #9 or #17
- Houses -- #10
- Moulding -- #6
- Patios -- #6
- Pavement -- #8
- Roof -- #21
- Rugs -- #1 without knotted edge, #17 with knotted edge
- Trims & Borders -- #16...but ALL really
- Walls & Wallpaper -- #24 (I like it turned ¼ turn)
- Windows -- #18



# CUSTOMERS' WORKS



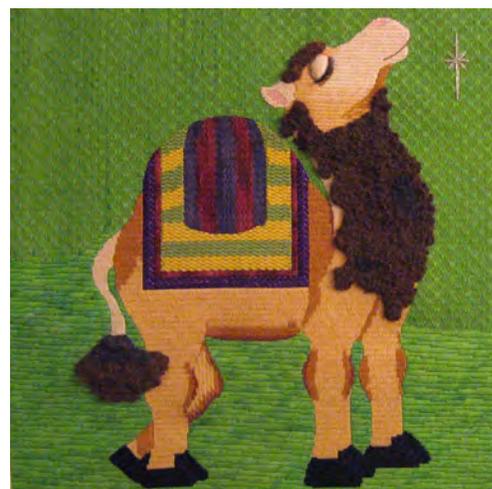
**MEMPHIS PATCH (SUMMER)**  
worked by LaQuita O'Dell.  
designed by Tony Minieri



**ANGEL WITH TRUMPET**  
worked Karen Jetton  
guide Tony Minieri  
designed from painting by Edward Burne-Jones



**4TH OF JULY MARCH**  
worked by Kathryn Clark  
guide by Amy Bunger  
designed by Ashley Dillon/Susan Roberts



**CAMEL CANVAS**  
(*nicknamed Hoshmakaka*)  
worked by Sandy Sifferman  
guide by Amy Bunger  
designed by Nan Hemple  
(no longer available)

*Sandy has a book about Hoshmakaka (camel) that she reads to her grandchildren each year at Christmas.*



# ODDS & ENDS

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### BIRTHDAY DRAWING

May 28

### TUDORS, GR. I, KIT 2

May 28-May 30



## CUSTOM STOCKINGS

We have a wonderful local artist, Beth Hunt, who does stockings to order.

We thought you might want to see one of her most recent pieces for a guitar playing, Fed-Ex employee.

What fun!

Please contact us if you are interested in having a stocking made.