

Amy's

needlework supplies & classes

FEB/MAR 2018

HAPPY NEW YEAR AGAIN!

what's inside this month



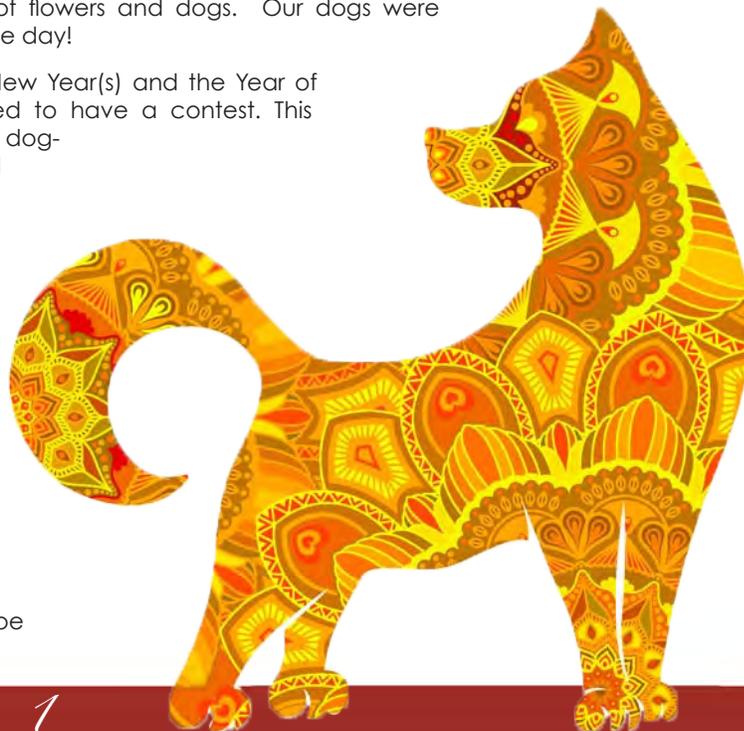
No, we didn't forget to change this header, but it's only fitting - this month begins the Chinese New Year, the Year of the Dog. Why a dog you might ask? Dog is one of the 12 animals in the Chinese zodiac, a cycle of twelve stations or "signs" along the apparent path of the sun through the cosmos. The dog symbolizes luck. People born in the Year of the Dog are considered to be loyal, honest, responsible, courageous, communicative, serious, and warm-hearted.

Little did we know that we would find some New Year celebration in Las Vegas as we headed off to market. Market never disappoints... great new products (and we found a lot), creative new canvases, and fun times connecting

with friends and designers from all across the country. Las Vegas was a new venue for us and we took advantage of the location by catching a show, "O" Cirque de Soleil in the Bellagio. And if that wasn't enough, the Bellagio was celebrating the Year of the Dog with fabulous displays of flowers and dogs. Our dogs were barking by the end of the day!

So, in the spirit of the New Year(s) and the Year of the Dog we've decided to have a contest. This issue is filled with many dog-related products and canvases, among other references. The first person to correctly count all of the dogs in this newsletter will receive 18% (2018) off their next order. Get to work and be the first person to find them all. The winner will be announced on Facebook.

NOTE: There will only be one winner.



NEW PRODUCTS

pages 2-5, 8

HOME STUDY

pages 6-7

NEW STITCH GUIDES

page 9

CUSTOMER GALLERY

pages 17-19

AND MORE!

Amy's Golden Strand

3808 Summer Avenue

Memphis, TN 38122

phone: 901.458.6109

fax: 901.323.4701

NEW PRODUCTS

NEW MAGNETS



COST: \$14⁰⁰-\$20⁰⁰



THREAD MAGIC

If you shed a tear when you heard that Thread Heaven was "no more" then you will be delighted to hear about THREAD MAGIC by Taylor Seville. This thread conditioner is hypoallergenic, acid-free, and is safe to use on all threads and fabrics. When you run your thread through Thread Magic it strengthens and eliminates static from the strand/strands to help prevent tangling. Make sure the cut ends of your thread are run through the conditioner as well. This will collect all those loose ends together, which will help your thread slide through the eye of the needle without splitting or fraying. The little round pot is too cute with its notched, slide-through design. Lay the thread across the conditioner and between the grooves, pop the lid back on and pull the thread through the slots. Presto... well-behaved thread to use.

COST: \$10⁰⁰

NEW PRODUCTS

BAGS FROM VICTORIA WHITSON



TOTE ME AROUND/ 2-PIECES
COST: \$48⁰⁰

Can you ever have too many bags? We were thrilled to see a new exhibitor in Las Vegas. Victoria has the most wonderful collection of project bags. A large clear plastic tote with accompanying small bags to hold personal items, stitching tools and just about anything else you might need. Hot diggity dog... we just had to order some for the shop.



TRIPLE PLAY/ 4-PIECES
COST: \$42⁰⁰

SINGLES CLUB

This month we ship the Kathy Schenkel Top Hat Snowman. This is the final canvas in the Christmas Singles Club D. Watch for the April newsletter for information on Singles Club E ... we'll be like dogs barkin' around the Christmas tree.

CHRISTMAS CLUB D

Starting December 2017
(December, January, February)



Coastal Patchwork Tree
Kelly Clark
\$108²⁵
Kit includes canvas, guide, & threads



Fat Santa with Tree
Carol Dupree
\$101⁷⁵
Kit includes canvas, guide, & threads



Top Hat Snowman
Kathy Schenkel
\$99⁰⁰
Kit includes canvas, guide, & threads

NEW PRODUCTS

FROM POINT2POINTE

STITCHABLE MAGNETS

Stitch a canvas in an evening with threads from your stash. Designed to be self-finishing, and with assistance from a great tutorial on Jan's website (www.youtube.com/watch?v=tcnYAYj2bJo), finish your magnet with the small metal frame and strong neodymium magnet (included). Point2Pointe has a huge selection of 1" square canvases to fit into their wine/olive oil bottle stoppers, pendants, wine charms, needle minder magnets and cuff links.



COST: \$30⁰⁰ EACH

4" STRETCHER BARS

Did you know that 4" stretcher bars are not available? Well, they are now. Point2Pointe now carries these small bars which are perfect for her tiny canvases. We grabbed a few at market and can always order more to go with your other sizes of Mini Stretcher Bars. Sorry, regular sized bars will not work with these 4" bars.



COST: \$3⁰⁰

CANVAS WINE TOTES

Perfect gift for your favorite wine lover, or a to-go tote to take your own bottle to the next get-together and be the top dog. The canvases can be mixed and matched with the different colors of totes. Great colors of natural, lime green, fuchsia or golden orange woven jute bags with handles. Several designs are available, but you could also design and stitch someone's name or monogram on a strip of canvas to go with any of the totes.

COST: \$57⁵⁰



NEW BOOK REVIEW

JUST IN THE NICK OF TIME

BY CAROLE H. LAKE



Trust Carole Lake to come up with another good-idea book. This book is perfect for the beginner to intermediate stitcher to dabble in stitch selection for their canvas. Obviously she thought of what would be helpful and convenient to the stitcher on the go who might need a little helping hand with a last minute stitch decision. The book is a spiral bound, half-page (5.5" x 8") size with stitch selection tips in the front followed by stitch diagrams on the front and back of each page. There is a helpful page of instructions for stitching Basketweave correctly by following the weave of the canvas. Although the pages are not numbered and there is no index (by design so that you will flip through often, instead of just going to your favorites all the time) the stitches are listed alphabetically so you can easily find the stitch you are looking for if you remember the name. Carole has added her experience and knowledge to each page with suggestions on type and size of thread to use, color variations, size limitations and even areas that would be enhanced by using the stitch on that page.

All of the stitches in the book are fairly easy to do and to compensate, so it will not intimidate the stitcher with less experience. Many of the stitches are duplicates of those that I have in several other books,

BUT the convenient "throw it in your stitch bag"

size and weight of the book is perfect for stitching groups, classes, or trips. Even though I own a million books and you can't teach an old dog new tricks, I was still able to find a few stitches that peaked my interest: Gate Stitch, Patio Cashmere, Patterned Smyrna and Scotch on a String. I am planning on immediately showing this book to several of my newer needlepoint customers because I believe that it is an excellent entry-level stitch book. This book doesn't just drop you off at the curb of the stitch diagram, it takes you by the hand and makes sure you get on the right bus for each design area.

COST: \$30⁰⁰

CURRENT HOME STUDY!

ZERO DEGREES NORTH

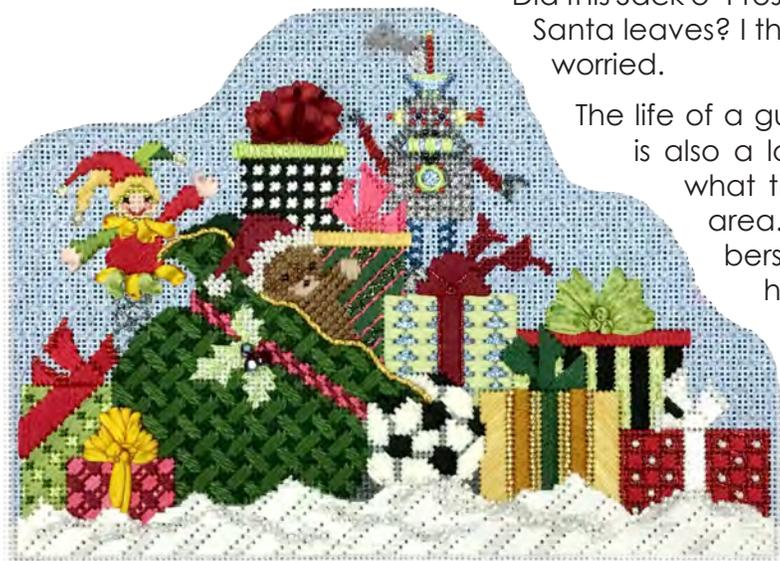
BY KELLY CLARK



Did this Sack o' Presents fall off the sleigh? Will they see it before Santa leaves? I think that I see MY PRESENT in there and I am worried.

The life of a guide writer is mostly needlepoint, but there is also a lot of imagination that goes into deciding what the texture and pattern to assign to each area. Sometimes that imagination can go a little berserk especially when you add the daily (and holiday) pressures of life.

The Sack o' Presents is such a fun jumble of wrapped and unwrapped presents. The colors are playful and the little robot was tons of fun to work, although I am still struggling a bit to get the diagram just perfect, so if your mailing is a little tardy, it is the robot's fault.



Kit #4
Sack o' Presents
COST: \$136⁵⁰
canvas, guide, & threads

Kit #3
Christmas Tree
COST: \$172⁵⁰
canvas, guide, & threads

Kit #2
Santa's Sleigh
COST: \$176⁵⁰
canvas, guide, & threads

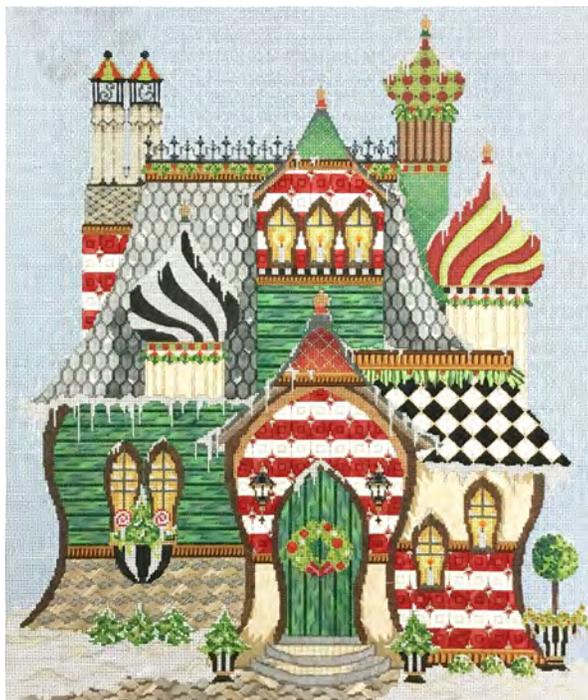
Kit #1
The North Pole
COST: \$216²⁵
canvas, guide, & threads



CURRENT HOME STUDY!

ZERO DEGREES NORTH

BY KELLY CLARK

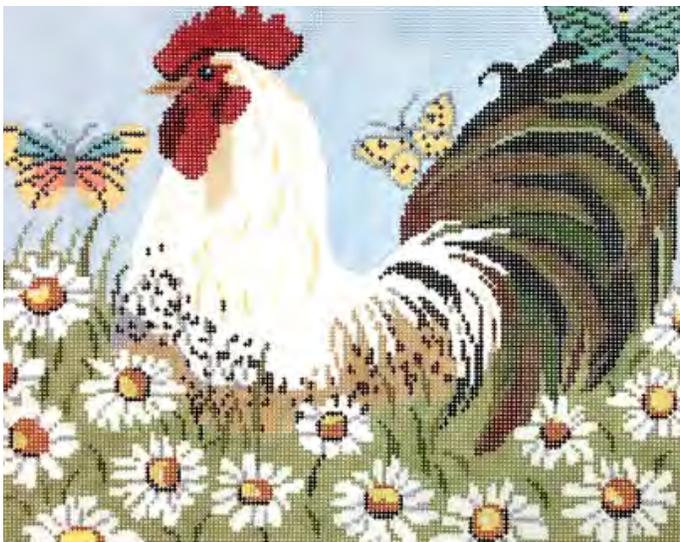


Part B of the Residence moves forward with more large areas to be. Foundation stone on the first floor and under the chimney are worked in this kit. The green walls of stained wood boards and matching green door, along with the red and cream striped walls are addressed to continue with the structure of the house. You will now have front steps to walk up to the green door and more closely admire the black and cream diamond roof. I still need to stitch the snow on the ground and a few other areas in order to get the next kit finished and ready for shipping March 1.

I just love all the details that Kelly has incorporated into this design. I am having a great time working out the puzzles to get it just right.



NEW CANVASES FROM MARKET



NEW GUIDES AVAILABLE NOW



Who Has the Joy?
by Raymond Crawford
18m
6" x 7"

Canvas \$ 77⁰⁰
Stitch Guide \$ 52⁵⁰
Thread Kit \$ 88⁰⁰



Santa Caroller

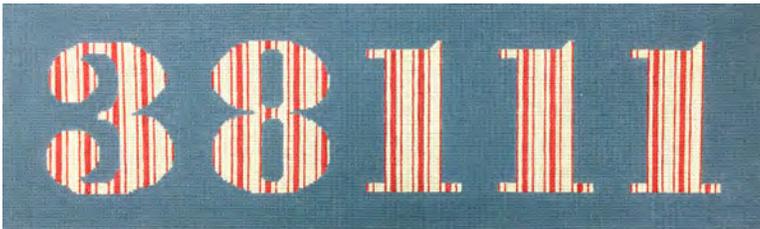
by Maggie
18m
4" x 4"

Canvas	\$ 53 ⁰⁰
Stitch Guide	\$ 25 ⁰⁰
Thread Kit	\$ 52 ⁰⁰

Poolside

by Patti Mann
18m
9" x 12"

Canvas \$ 176⁰⁰
Stitch Guide \$ 87⁵⁰
Thread Kit \$ 99⁵⁰



Zip 3

by Patty Paints
from the Collection
18m
22" x 6"

Canvas \$ 165⁰⁰
Stitch Guide \$ 70⁰⁰
Thread Kit (2 colorways)
blue \$ 78⁰⁰
grey spruce \$ 65⁷⁵



Hibiscus

by Colors of Praise
18m
11" x 6"

Canvas	\$ 106 ⁰⁰
Stitch Guide	\$ 35 ⁰⁰
Thread Kit	\$ 94 ⁴⁰

Amy's been working like a dog to get these new guides done!

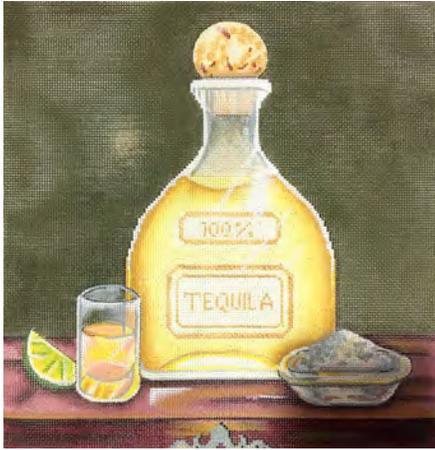
Nibbles

by Once in a Blue Moon
18m
9" x 7.25"

Canvas	\$ 88 ⁰⁰
Stitch Guide	\$ 52 ⁵⁰
Thread Kit	\$ 71 ⁵⁵

NEW GUIDES COMING SOON

BY AMY BUNGER



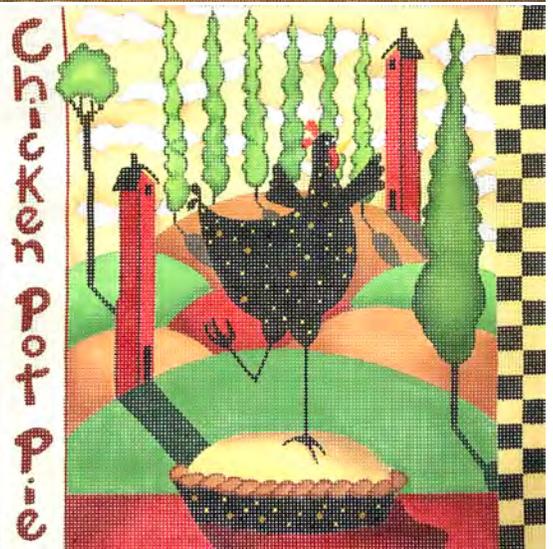
Tequila
by Alice Peterson
18m
10" x 10"

Canvas	\$123 ⁵⁰
Stitch Guide	TBD
Thread Kit	TBD



Scary Books
by Melissa Shirley
18m
16" x 9"

Canvas	\$286 ⁰⁰
Stitch Guide	TBD
Thread Kit	TBD



Chicken Pot Pie
by Strictly Christmas
18m
8.5" x 8.5"

Canvas	\$145 ⁵⁰
Stitch Guide	TBD
Thread Kit	TBD



Christmas Trees with Border
by Needledeeva
18m
12.5" x 5.5"

Canvas	\$152 ⁰⁰
Stitch Guide	TBD
Thread Kit	TBD

STITCH GUIDES!

Have a canvas and want to know if Amy has written a stitch guide for it...Our stitch guide catalog is searchable by Designer and Subject.

CLEAN, RESTORE, PAINT

WITH NANCY LUKOSKIE

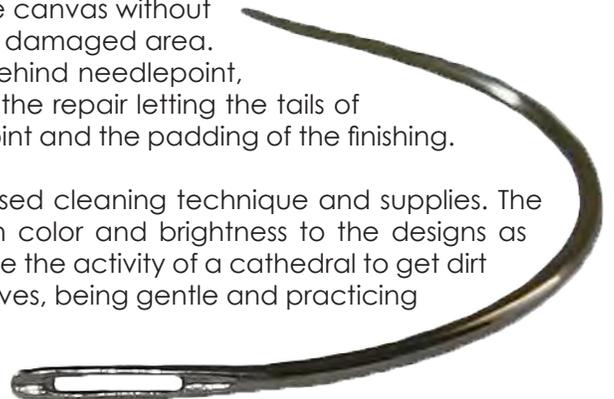


Very early one November day Jill and I met at the Target parking lot for a day's adventure. We hit the road before the sun hit the horizon to motor ourselves down to Canton, MS to Gray's Episcopal Retreat to join in the educational fun of the Liturgical lessons being taught by various experts in icon making and flower arranging, to mention a few. We only had one day to be away, so we signed up for Needlepoint Restoration taught by Nancy Lukoskie, owner/operator of Fancy Finishing. Among her many jobs of needlepoint finishing and restoration, Nancy is in charge of all cleaning, repairs, replacement, and new project development of the National Cathedral Needlepoint in Washington, D. C. Impressive credentials for sure.

When we arrived and signed in, we were treated to a lovely breakfast and met several people involved with the program as well as a few of the instructors. The retreat is wonderful with living areas, classrooms, cafeteria, chapel, and outdoor activity spaces around a small lake. There is another whole area of the retreat which we did not see with dormitories, common areas, and more classrooms. The area is massive and seems to be well used. I bet it is a beehive of activity in the Summer months.

Students were encouraged to bring needlepoint that needed repair or cleaning, but none of us brought anything to show and tell, so we started the morning looking at slides and video of recent and past repairs along with discussion of how to gently clean (when possible) and repair damaged needlepoint. There was also some discussion on signs of damage beyond repair. Nancy brought some actual samples of stitched needlepoint finished onto a padded piece similar to a kneeler, as well as stitched needlepoint still flat before finishing to demonstrate the way it is handled during the cleaning and repair process. Then it was time for us to try our hand at sewing with curved needles. The curved needles are used to replace missing stitches, whether worn by use, eaten by critters, or just mysteriously missing. These ingenious tools are also used to reweave damaged ground fabric such as popped or split canvas threads. Looking at the curved needle you would think that it was easy enough to use making the job of in and out of the canvas all in the same motion, this was NOT the case at all. We both giggled over our struggle to aim and shoot with this bent arrow. The needle tends to roll in one direction or the other between your fingers while you are trying to push it along under the needlepoint without taking too deep of a bite into the padding. I have great admiration for the people who do this job. The curved needle allows you to slide below the surface of the canvas without pulling the canvas up, which would put more strain on the damaged area. To anchor the repair thread it is not knotted or trapped behind needlepoint, in this case it is started and ended a distance away from the repair letting the tails of the thread lay trapped between the back of the needlepoint and the padding of the finishing.

When the curved-needle experience was over, we discussed cleaning technique and supplies. The cleaning process of removing stains or restoring as much color and brightness to the designs as possible had me riveted to my chair. You don't have to have the activity of a cathedral to get dirt and stains on your needlepoint. As with the repairs themselves, being gentle and practicing patience are the key goals.



CLEAN, RESTORE, PAINT

WITH NANCY LUKOSKIE

The cleaning instructions were aimed at general "keep it clean" and how to clean issues you would more frequently run into on a church kneeler, but the information is fabulous. If you have needlework that comes into contact with "life" like a pillow, footstool or rug; vacuum it frequently using the soft brush attachment on your vacuum. This would be the brush with the longer soft bristles, not the shorter stiff bristles. Vacuum all areas of the needlework, including the fabric backing and cording. Wine spills and other liquids should be blotted up with paper towels to removed as much as possible, then use a cotton ball or Q-tip soaked in fizzy club soda to gently dab (do NOT rub) the spot until the area is clean. If you must brush the needlepoint, do so in the direction of the stitch. Do not saturate the area with moisture. Dry dirt and ashes should be vacuumed as soon as possible to prevent the ashes/dirt from rubbing into the needlepoint. If some of the dry dirt/ashes have rubbed into the needlepoint, grab that club soda and the cotton ball again and dab, dab, DAB until the area is clean. Removing wax from needlepoint involved paper towels and a warm, not hot, iron. Place the paper towel over the wax and press lightly with the warm iron to soften the wax and have it be absorbed by the paper towel. Move the paper towel to a clean area or replace with another towel and repeat the slight pressure with the iron until all of the wax has been absorbed into the paper.

Supplies needed for stain prevention and removal:

- Club Soda Water (fresh, not flat)
- Cotton balls, Q-tips, paper towels
- Iron
- Vacuum with soft bristle attachment

Our class continued with tips on actually washing, drying and blocking needlepoint. When we found that we had a little time at the end of the class, Nancy let us play with her paints and canvas and had a mini design painting class. We had a hard time tearing ourselves away for the trip back to Memphis. Jill and I both highly recommend taking ANY class from Nancy Lukoskie on restoration, cleaning, designing, and/or starting a church-based group project. She had incredible information and an enthusiastic sharing attitude that are the trademarks of an excellent teacher.

For information on classes and services from Nancy Lukoskie you can contact her by E-mail at: NLukoskie@aol.com or see her website: www.fancyworkfinishing.com

For information on the Liturgical Arts Conference please contact:
Gray Center
Episcopal Camp and Conference Center
1530 Way Rd
Canton, MS 39046



NEW STITCH GUIDES

BY LORI CARTER



Teddy & Teddy Princess

18m

3.75" x 4.75"

Canvas of your choice

Both Canvases

Stitch Guide

Thread Kit

\$ 55⁰⁰

\$110⁰⁰

\$ 35⁰⁰

\$ 76⁰⁰



Bunch of Gifts & Dancing Penguin

18m

3.75" x 4.75"

Canvas of your choice

Both Canvases

Stitch Guide

Thread Kit

\$ 55⁰⁰

\$110⁰⁰

\$ 35⁰⁰

TBA



Harlequin & Candle in the Window

18m

4" x 4.5"

Canvas of your choice

Both Canvases

Stitch Guide

Thread Kit

\$ 55⁰⁰

\$110⁰⁰

\$ 35⁰⁰

TBA

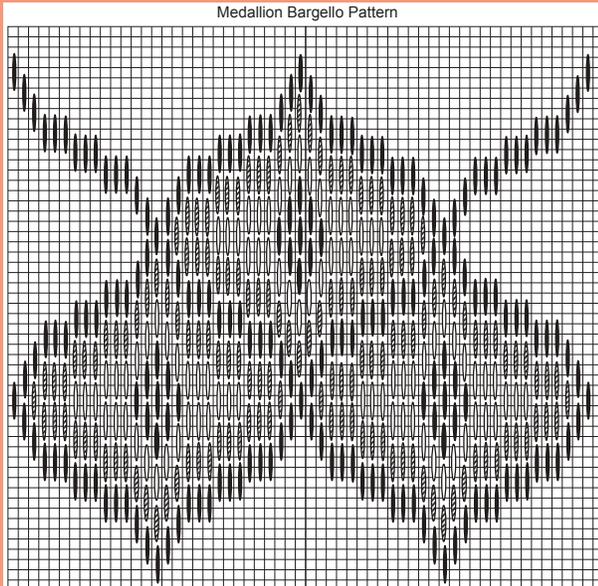
The current home study pieces are too big for your Christmas tree, but these 6 cute ornaments, all adapted from the Zero Degrees North series by Kelly Clark, are the perfect size for any tree or wreath.

Stitch guides by Lori Carter, with Amy Bunger, will be available for canvas pairs. Thread kits will do both canvases in the pair; however you are not required to purchase both canvases.

The first pair is ready, so just let us know if you are interested in any or all. Check website often as they will be added as they are finished.

STITCH OF THE MONTH

Medallion Bargello Pattern



MEDALLION BARGELLO

Bargello is a fast and fun pattern repeat. The dramatic pattern that develops is loads of fun to use in large design areas of painted canvas, but it is also lots of fun to just start with a blank canvas and go for it. Maybe you have a footstool that need covering, a bench that could use a cushion, or even want a throw pillow for a bed or sofa to match the colors of your decor. This design could use 4 intensities of the same color for the pattern; or a contrasting color for the framework stitches that outlines each medallion with three intensities of color to fill the openings.

2018 CLASSES

Due to the overwhelming popularity of the Pick Your Poison classes last year, we are going to offer two Pick Your Poison classes in Spring, 2018. Both the class offered in May and the class offered in June will feature 4 canvases.

Amy will create a custom stitch guide for each of these four canvases and will pull all of the threads, beads, and found objects needed to finish each one. These classes are slightly larger at 12 to 14 students and you must choose at least one of the canvases being offered for the class.

Lunches and beverages will be included each day of this 3-day class.

PICK YOUR POISON CLASS I

May 24th thru 26th, 2018

(Deadline for canvas selection February 1, 2018)

Class Fee: \$450⁰⁰ per person
 \$100⁰⁰ non-refundable deposit due
 at sign up

CANVAS CHOICES:

French Kitchen II - small

by Peter Ashe, 18m, 12" x 15" \$352⁰⁰

Artichokes

by Laura Taylor (LoveYou More), 18m, 16" x 12" \$132⁰⁰

Communion (Lion)

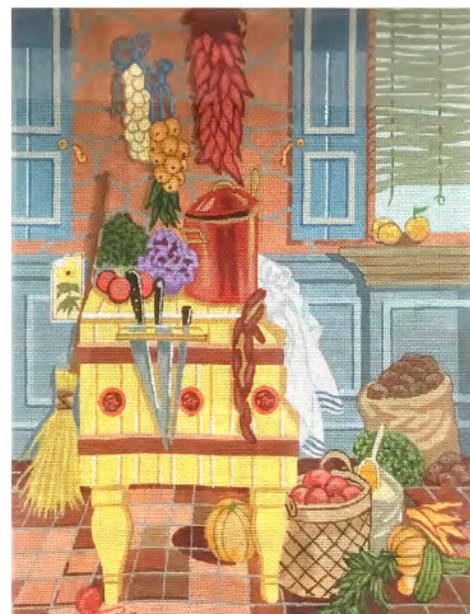
by Tapestry Fair, 18m, 14" x 11" \$253⁰⁰

4 Sunflowers

by Zecca, 18m, 8.5" x 8" \$125⁰⁰

Stitch Guides: TBD

Thread Kits: TBD



2018 CLASSES

PICK YOUR POISON CLASS II

June 28th thru 30th, 2018

(Deadline for canvas selection March 1, 2018)

Class Fee: \$450⁰⁰ per person
\$100⁰⁰ non-refundable deposit due
at sign up

Stitch Guides: TBA



CANVAS CHOICES:

Christmas Owls

by Love You More, 18m, 14" x 11" \$132⁰⁰

Sunflower Field

by Corey Schumann, 18m, 9" x 12" \$220⁰⁰

Witches at the Fence

by Patti Mann, 18m, 18" x 9" \$242⁰⁰

Winter Reflection

by Maggie, 18m, 10.5" x 8.5" \$172⁰⁰



12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS CLUB

We're going to keep you in the holiday season all year long with our new "12 Days of Christmas Stars" Club. Canvases by Raymond Crawford and Stitch Guides by Lori Carter. These ornaments will make a delightful grouping whether you hang them on a tree or wreath. We already have 5 of them finished. Call the shop to sign up or sign-up online with a \$100 deposit.



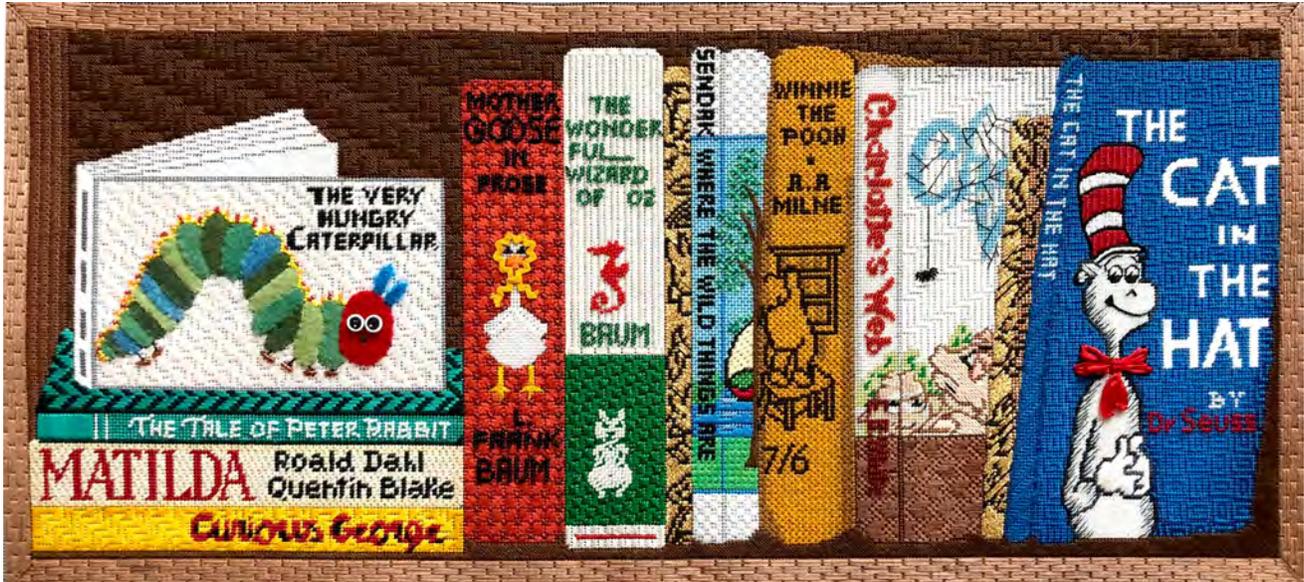
Always fun to use a magnet that matches the theme of your canvas. Couldn't resist picking up a few of these 12 Days of Christmas acrylic magnets at market to go with our new club. It makes me feel like a dog with two tails!

COST: \$ 10⁰⁰



COST: \$ 53.00 EACH (WITH STITCH GUIDE \$78.00)

CUSTOMER GALLERY



"Children's Classics" Books

by Alice Peterson

stitched by Suzy Moore

stitch guide by Amy Bunger



Cookbooks

by Alice Peterson

stitched by Courtenay Butler

stitch guide by Amy Bunger

Candle Bell

by Raymond Crawford

stitched by Leslie Hannah

stitch guide by Amy Bunger



CUSTOMER GALLERY

Heritage II Collection
by Kelly Clark
stitched by Karen Jetton
stitch guides by Alison Hodgkiss
finishing by Stitches in Time

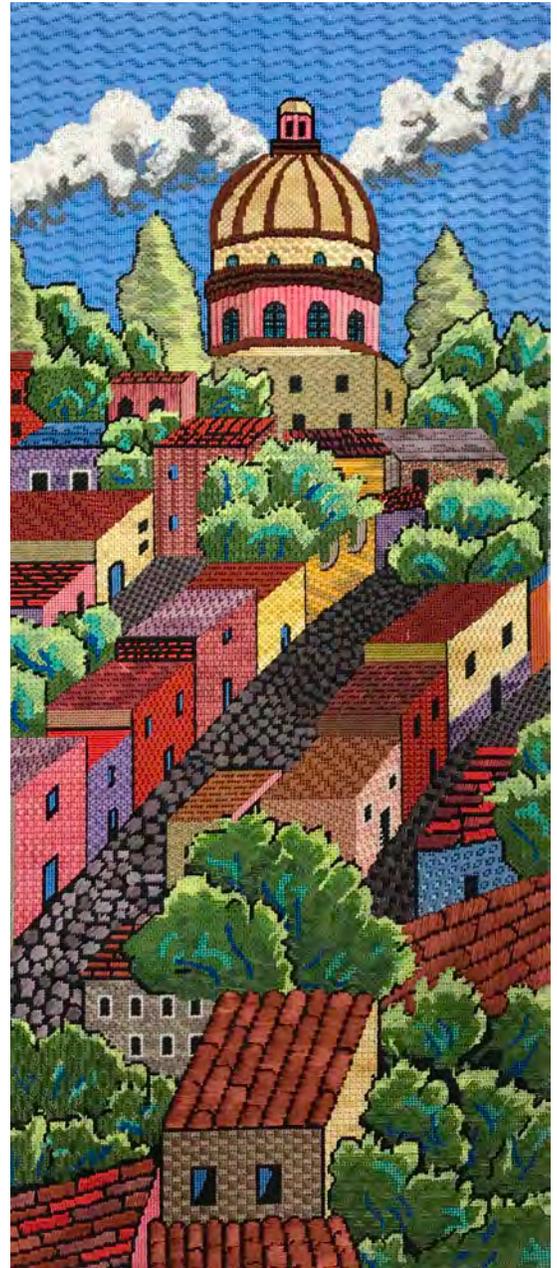


Heritage I Collection
by Kelly Clark
stitched by Karen Jetton
stitch guides by Alison Hodgkiss
finishing by Stitches in Time

CUSTOMER GALLERY



Folly
by Ewe & Eye
stitched by Jeanna Camp
stitch guide by Amy Bunger



My Walk Home
by Purple Palm Designs
stitched by Stephanie Cheney
stitch guide by Amy Bunger



Bunnies
by Ann Hanson from Barbara's Needlepoint
stitched by Patricia Wakefield
finishing by Barbara's Needlepoint