needlework supplies & class FEB/MAR 2019

WE LOVE NEEDLEPOINT PIG THME!

The most lovable part of needlepoint is sharing it with fellow enthusiasts. Many of you may have been in a class situation with a very special person who mentions AT LEAST once a day that she loves needlepoint; we feel the same. I doubt that all people feel that way about their hobby unless is is sewing, knitting or gardening. There is just something special about "making" something. I wish that I could be as enthusiastic about running or even walking, but somehow my needlepoint can transport me to places that exercise does not. My needlepoint projects are as fascinating to me as a really good novel, but it is not as hard to find an equally good needlepoint project as it seems to be to

> find another great work of fiction. I am in awe of the designs available to us and who knew there were so many threads or colors out there to slide into our needles.

My Happy Valentine's Day wish for you is that you can curl up with a really special needlepoint project and weave your needle through the last remaining weeks of Winter.

Amy's Golden Strand 3808 Summer Avenue Memphis, TN 38122 phone: 901.458.6109 fax: 901.323.4701

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NEW PRODUCTS

pages 3-4, 7

MOSAICS

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CUSTOMER GALLERY

pages 18-22

AND MORE

NEW STITCH GUID



NEW DESIGNER

We have a new designer on our walls... The Plum Stitchery. Joanna Somers creates original designs and collaborates with artists of every style bring to some uniquely dynamic canvases to the

needlepoint industry. We had such fun browsing her website and couldn't resist these delightful canvases for our shop. Everything from Christmas, Halloween, to Florals and Travel



Amy's

to fun Retro ornaments (are you old enough to remember the rotary dial phones?). Look for these canvases on our website later this month. Joanna was introduced to needlepoint by her mother-in-law in 2013. She worked at her local needlepoint shop for

MAGNET: 1800

several years, which led her to paint canvases. As a stay-at-home mom with 3 children and another on the way, she decided to devote her time to family and started her own painting business in 2017.





NEW CANVASES

5750

COST:

TENNESSEE TRAVEL STAR BY RAYMOND CRAWFORD

Raymond Crawford is creating a whole series of state Travel stars. We have TN on order and Lori has jumped at the chance to write a stitch guide for this fun, new canvas. Each star will depict images specific to that respective state. For our Tennessee Star, we have the state flower (Iris), Chattanooga Choo-Choo, State capital Nashville (Parthenon), Smoky Mountains, State animal (raccoon), Memphis/Nashville (guitar). Available April, 2019.

THE REAL HOUSEWIVES BY ROGUE NEEDLEPOINT

Are you a fan of the Real Housewives franchise? (Maybe don't want to admit it). Rogue Needlepoint has designed a great new line for this reality TV series and just in time for the release of a new season on February 12. Each canvas measures only 2.5" and would be a quick stitch for sure.

COST: 24⁰⁰

Amy's

OF INTEREST

NEEDLES: WHEN TO USE DIFFERENT SIZES?

13 VS. 18? MULTIPLE STRANDS VS. ONE STRAND? BULLIONS? TAPESTRY VS. CHENILLE?

It is easy to forget that the small unassuming needle is a powerful tool to guide the success or failure of a stitch technique. The fact that you are able to cram your thread into the eye of the needle does not mean that it is necessarily the right size or the right style for the job.

Most of our needlepoint is worked with a Tapestry Needle. A Tapestry Needle has a large elongated eye for ease in threading the sometimes heavier weight threads needed and a blunt point for sliding easily through the holes or "voids" of the canvas without piercing other stitches or canvas threads. The sizes of needles range from #13 to #28, the larger the number the smaller the needle. There are also different styles of Tapestry Needles such as bent, curved, and double pointed, but usually needlepoint uses a straight single pointed needle. Selecting the size needle to use can sometimes be as easy as choosing a



TAPESTRY NEEDLES

needle that slides through the canvas easily and can accommodate the thread being used. There are some other factors to be considered that will be helpful in how smooth you can make the surface of your stitching. An added benefit to using the correct needle size is less wear and tear on your finger muscles and joints.

Two tests that will help you choose the correct size needle for the job. First, slide the needle you want to use through the canvas without any thread in it. Does it slide through easily? Next, thread the same needle with your desired thread and try sliding it through the canvas again. Does it still slide through easily or do you hear or feel a tiny thump when the thread in the eye of the needle hits the canvas and has to be slightly tugged through? If you feel any resistance of the thread passing through the hole of the canvas, you need to try a larger needle. The needle's job is not only to carry the thread through the canvas, but also to prepare the canvas by slightly spreading the hole of the canvas to accommodate the thread. This will also protect the condition of the thread by reducing the abrasion of the canvas. Another test to help find the correct size of the needle is to use stranded thread in straight satin. Thread up the number of strands you normally use for straight satin into the needle size you usually use. Work about 5 straight satin stitches side by side using a laying tool to control the strands and keep them as smooth as you can. Study the stitches carefully to see what is happening at the top and bottom of each stitch. Are the strands laying side by side in the hole of the canvas or are they bunching up in the small space? Try the same test using the next larger size needle and studying the stitches again. Normally using at least one size larger needle for satin stitching will improve the smooth appearance of the stitches because the larger needle will spread the hole of the canvas slightly to allow the strands to lay side by side instead of bunching up.

OF INTEREST NEEDLES: WHEN TO USE DIFFERENT SIZES?



Amy's

The Tapestry Needle is not the only needle used in needlepoint stitches. Sometimes a sharp point is needed. Chenille Needles have large eyes and sizes just like Tapestry Needles but they have a sharp point. There are many stitches and stitch techniques that need a sharp point. Split stitches are much easier to work with a sharp needle. The sharp point allows you to pierce the previous stitch evenly and does not leave a "punched hole" look when the stitch is finished. Random stitching screams for the stitches to pierce previous stitches as CHENILLE NEEDLES well as canvas threads and this is very difficult

to do with a blunt pointed needle. The backstitches and running stitches used in many counted stitch patterns give a clean crisp pattern when the stitches are pierced in the canvas hole placing them end to end rather than sliding side by side in the canvas hole creating a jagged appearance in the pattern.

Both Tapestry and Chenille Needles have a shank that is more narrow at the business end getting slightly wider at the eye end of the needle. Milliner and Straw needles have the same thickness from end to end making them excellent choices for making smooth tight Bullion Knots. Many a Bullion Knot has been messed up while trying to pull the widened eye of a Tapestry Needle through the tight wraps. In some cases it is almost impossible to pull the needle through without physically loosening the wraps of the Bullion first.

The needles mentioned in this article represent the tip of the iceberg when it comes to needles. They all have strengths and weaknesses and are designed for different tasks. I like to keep a full package of assorted sizes of Tapestry and Chenille needles on hand, but I also have: an assortment package of Embroidery Needles (smaller, thinner and very_ small eye) for a quick applique' or basting job, an assortment package of Milliners Needles for the aforementioned Bullions, and Beading Needles for attaching beads, sequins and small found objects. I do also occasionally use Glovers Needles (leather work) and Felting



Needles, but those can slip to the back of my drawer as I do not use them as often.

Remember, with any needle, there is no such thing as one needle lasts a lifetime. When the surface of the needle appears slightly dulled, a bit more gray than silver, then it is time to pitch it and get a new one. When the surface of the needle is worn off, the base metal inside can leave marks on your canvas in the form of metal deposits on your thread. This will show up more on white and lighter colors than on dark, but it is still present.

Amy's

NEW PRODUCTS

TULIP NEEDLES

I have been asked to carry Tulip brand needles by a few customers over the last year or so. My efforts to find them came up fruitless until I received notice that Rainbow Gallery has put in some types and sizes. They have not arrived at Rainbow Gallery in quantity yet, but we do have a limited supply of Tapestry Needles in stock now.

I was able to obtain a sample of the needles, but only in one size. In our store we sell more #22 Tapestry Needle than any other size so I tried to get one to test. Unfortunately I received a #24 Tapestry Needle instead. No problem, I can test any size needle and see what all the fuss is about. I decided to try more than just "stitching" to figure out what makes this needle tick, so to speak. First I tried threading it with a variety of threads and then different types of stitches.

My threading tests included: 4 strands of silk (normally difficult to get into #24 needles), 1 strand of Wildflower (basically size 8 Perle cotton), 1 strand of Painter's Thread (similar in size to Neon Rays), 1 strand of Kreinik Size 8 Braid, 1 strand of Kreinik Size 4 Braid, 1 strand of Silk Lame' Petite, 1 and 2 strands of Burmilana, and both 1 and 2 strands of Weeks Dye Works Wool.

The threading test results were good/possible on 4 strands of silk, 1 strand of Painter's Thread, and 1 strand of Kreinik Size 8 Braid...everything else was super easy to thread. Amazing that I could get 4 strands of Splendor Silk through the eye of a #24 needle without bunching, tearing, stress...I am impressed. It is NOT ideal to work with a #24 needle for the heavier threads because of the added wear and tear on the threads.

My stitching tests included: Basketweave, Gobelin, crossed stitches, and knotted stitches on #18 mesh and #24 mesh. I loved the feel of the needle, but make sure you use the appropriate size needle and thread for each canvas size.

Well, I was a little nonplussed after writing a long article about needles (BTW that information still stands). This little gem of a needle seems to defy friction and threading difficulties and each size needle will work in a wider range of tasks with ease and protection for your thread. The polishing technique on the Tulip needle leaves microscopic grooves in the surface of the needle that run lengthwise allowing the needle to slide through all fabric types with less friction. The eye is open and seems devoid of burrs or punch marks as well as thinly coated with gold. I have been told that the eye is easy to snap while stitching, but I did not notice



any difference in that problem than you would with any needle of comparable size. Although the price of the needles is almost 3 times the cost of other needles, I highly recommend them for avid stitchers. I am not a total tool snob, but these little jewels are a joy to use.

Each box of Tapestry contains one cork-stoppered vial of 6 needles and sells for \$8.50

Size available at this time: 18, 20, 22, 23, 24, and 25 Tapestry

Each box of Beading Needles contains 4 needles of either #10 short or #10 long for \$5.00.

TIP! Purchase the plastic boxed travel pack of Q-tips. Remove the small box of Q-tips from the plastic travel box and use the travel box to store your vials of Tulip Needles.



2019 NEEDLEPOINT MOSAICS

STARTING IN APRIL

What is a Needlepoint Mosaic Project? So many artists have fabulous small designs that are so clever and catch my imagination but do not have much area to embellish with stitches or can be overwhelmed with decorative stitches. Although I love these precious canvas ideas I am not always sure what to do with the small projects once I am finished with them. I have asked several artists to paint one or two of their small creations in the middle of a larger canvas so I might experiment with stitching frames or background areas around them.

Each of the projects in the Needlepoint Mosaic Series will be broken into 3 (possibly more in future projects) separate kits. The first kit will include the painted canvas, threads, and instructions for working a portion of the project. A month later the second kit of threads and instructions will be sent to work more areas of the canvas and finally on the third month the final kit of threads and instructions will be sent to complete the project. Each project stands alone, so it is your choice to sign up for just one project or sign up for several.

The very first Needlepoint Mosaic Project "experiment" was using a small cardinal design by Rogue Needlepoint. It was so much fun designing an elaborate frame of stitches to surround the colorful bird nestled in the autumn-colored leaves. Jill has been enthusiastically digging into this project for us and we have had a few sessions of discussion on color, texture, frame size and more. This project has been our testing ground and is still undergoing a few changes, but should be ready later this year if you are interested.



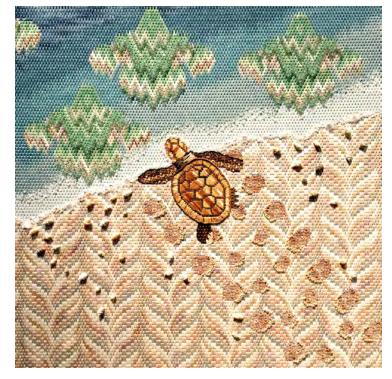
Cardinal





2019 NEEDLEPOINT MOSAICS TURTLE BAY BY LABORS OF LOVE

JP Sligh painted his solitary baby sea turtle on a larger canvas so I might develop a background to portray his scramble for life and the sea. I have always been fascinated by the feeling of drama, serenity, movement and shadow that can be implied with Bargello patterns. I took a classic Phoenix Bargello pattern and morphed it into more of a turtle shape by making it shorter, more blunt in some areas, a little wider in the wing span and with rounded wings to be more flipper-like. Then we started to play with color and thread. I roped two people into each working one pattern using any colors they liked out of a bag filled with aquas blues, turquoise greens, mossy green, and a bit of beige. Both volunteer experiments were fabulous, but to make the shape take on the image of a sea turtle just under the surface of the water I tweaked the color on one sample, added twinkle in another area, then



threw in some tan and a streak of aqua-lined green beads for good measure. The shadows were ready. So on to the water, sand and foamy edge of the surf...oh yeah, not to forget the cute little guy just reaching the relative safety of the water.

We are offering Turtle Bay as our premier Needlepoint Mosaic, and we should be able to start shipments of Kit #1 in April. We are taking orders now for this fun new project.

Kit #1 April 1Approximate \$21500canvas, guide, & threadsKit #2 May 1Approximate \$8000canvas, guide, & threadsKit #3 June 1Approximate \$6500canvas, guide, & threads

(Call if you need later shipping dates)

Designs Coming Soon: Aqua Perfume Vanity by Labors of Love, Asian in Green By Mindy, Cardinal by Rogue, Scalloped Pine by 3 Kittens, Old Glory by Rogue



HOW DO I DO THAT? IDEAS FOR STITCHING ARCHITECTURE HOW DO I STITCH GLASS & THE OBJECTS BEHIND GLASS?

Glass is a flat surface, or minimally wavy, and everything behind glass is flattened to the same flat one-dimension appearance. I have seen some truly beautiful canvas windows filled with 3-D stitching to create toys, curtains, people, flowers and more but in reality all of the items behind glass would be flat. I see nothing wrong with taking a little artistic license and making window art with 3-D stitching if that is the look you want. If however you want to make something look like it is behind glass here are a few suggestions.

Work the pane of glass in Basketweave, Alicia's Lace, Diagonal Rain Darning Pattern, T Stitch, Skip Tent or any other subtle stitch pattern that doesn't create a repeating shape or strong stripe using Accentuate or Kreinik Size 4 Braid in a glittering crystal color to enhance the glass, not the objects behind it. All of the stitching of the glass should be done with the same color (unless the glass changes color) and the same stitch. A different aproach would be to basketweave all of the objects behind the glass using the same type of thread, changing colors to match the painting. When the Basketweave is complete, work two or three long slanted

with of A Filame reflect to hit p tons o few wi This is large o don't glassy around with d padded around or e

stitches on top of the Basketweave with a alittering crystal color of Accentuate or Blending Filament to show there is reflection there. You don't have to hit people over the head with tons of long crystal streaks, just a few will get the message across. This is particularly effective for large areas of glass. A third idea, don't stitch anything in the glassy area. Build up the frame around the picture under glass with decorative stitches. Work padded satin for the mullions around the windowpanes. Bead or embellish the gilt work around the mirror but leave all the alass areas without any thread or stitching at all. This suggestion works better if the glass areas are small.

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TRIPLE "T" CLASS TEN TEMPTATIONS BY TONY

Have you ever taken a class from Tony Minieri? The experience is like no other class. In the TEN TEMPTATIONS class, Tony offers custom stitch guides for 10 different canvases. The variety of canvases appeal to a wide range of interests. When you arrive for class you will have your chosen canvas, custom guide and selected threads for that canvas and 3 days of scrumptious lunches and in-depth instruction from Tony. Tony teaches not only the stitches for your canvas, but also tidbits about stitching in general and how to improve your needlepoint game. There are sometimes discussions about why he assigned a specific look to a design area. The hands-on demonstrations are worth their weight in gold. The added benefit of being part of a class teaching more than one design is huge, as you might see a stitch or technique that would apply to one of your treasures at home.

Join us for the fun in one of the two 3-day Temptations Classes in June 2019. Sign up on the website or call the shop (901-458-6109). Only one session per person:

Session #1 — Thu., June 6 - Sat., June 8, 2019, or...Session #2 — Mon., June 10 - Wed., June 12, 2019

Choose one canvas (or more) from those below and on the next two pages (different mesh size or color changes cannot be offered for class canvases). Call with canvas selection as soon as possible to allow time to order canvases. Class canvases must be purchased from Amy's Golden Strand. Space is limited.

Class Fee \$450.00 per person Prices for guides & threads TBA \$100.00 non-refundable deposit due at sign-up

The excitement builds with the anticipation of a class with Tony Minieri. All of the canvases have been sent to Tony for his stitch guide magic. Once we get the guides and thread lists we can start ordering kits for everyone. These ten tempting canvases will be super exciting to watch as they unveil Tony's stitching secrets. I have selected the Giraffe in Mask, but may have to have another as well (divine decadence... TWO, just call me piglet).

IS THERE A MASKED MAN IN YOUR DREAMS OR ARE YOU MORE INTRIGUED BY THE KEEN-EYED PREDATOR)?

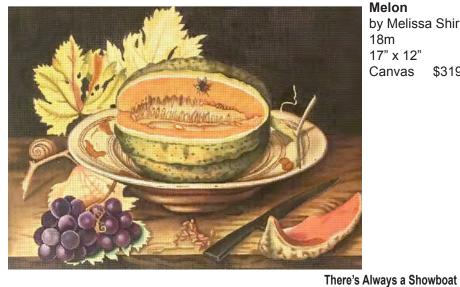




Eagle by Jane Tattersfield 18m 16" x 16" Canvas \$407⁰⁰ Tribal Mask Giraffe by Timothy Chapman from Tapestry Fair 18m 8.5" x 11.5" Canvas \$187^{oo}



IS A TRADITIONAL STILL LIFE PERFECT FOR YOUR DINING ROOM OR MAYBE WEARING YOUR FOOD IS A BETTER FIT FOR YOUR ABODE?



Amy's

Melon

by Melissa Shirley 18m 17" x 12" Canvas \$31900

by Vicki Sawyer

Canvas

18m 9" x 12" \$24900



DO YOU BLOOM ABOVE WATER OR BELOW WATER ON MOST DAYS?



Day Dreaming by Karen Dukes , from Julie Mar & Friends 18m 9" x 12" Canvas \$20500



Row of Poppies by A Stitch in Time 18m 19.5" x 10" \$22000 Canvas





ARE YOU A BEACH PERSON OR MORE OF A SPA DWELLER?



Amy's

Beach Babes

18m

by The Meredith Collection 11" x 14" Canvas \$19800



Canvas

HMMM, THE HOLIDAYS, ARE YOU A CHRISTMAS OR HALLOWEEN FAN??

13



Christmas Books

by Alice Peterson 18m 16" x 11.5" Canvas \$24250

Pumpkin Patch Party by The Meredith Collection 18m 23.5" x 12" Canvas \$33000





Author Amy Bunger

LIBRARY CLASS

The Classics

Scary Books

Alice Peterson Children's "Classics" Books

Melissuphidey Beach Books Alice Cookbooks

aligetenson halloween books

Miles Hinly Suplu's Books Mice Peterson Golfing Book Nook

ageo design testen's Library

Halloween Books

melissa shirley Thanksgiving books

Borrower's Name

Title

Alice

lelissa Chin

14

Date Due

Peterson

hirley

Meeting at the library seems to be a tradition here at the shop. I don't remember ever teaching any classes where we all had more fun than at the Amy's Golden Strand library. Once again we will offer a class filled with bookshelves and book nooks displaying books, curiosities, trophies, artwork, and more. As in years past, we have added a few new bookshelf guides to the choices. This year's new additions include: Alice Peterson's Golf Book Nook and Halloween Bookshelf (I didn't get finished last year), Melissa Shirley's 'Thanksgiving Books' Bookshelf, Rogue Design's 'Austin Shelf', and Melissa Shirley's new 'Halloween Books' Bookshelf. Check out all the choices and join us at the library for a group study on your chosen project and make new stitching friends.

Amy's

Class Fee: \$450⁰⁰ per

and threads TBA

\$100⁰⁰ non-refundable deposit due at sign up

lunch)

person (includes daily

Canvases, stitch guides,





Owl Hoots by Kirk & Bradley 18m 3.5" x 6.25"

 Canvas
 \$79⁵⁰

 Stitch Guide
 \$35⁰⁰

 Thread Kit
 \$54⁵⁰



Colorful Birds by Oasis 18m 7" x 13"

Amy's

Ghost Boos

4" x 6.25"

18m

\$7950

\$3500

\$4075

by Kirk & Bradley

Canvas

Stitch Guide Thread Kit

> Canvas Stitch Guide Thread Kit

\$119⁵⁰ \$87⁵⁰ \$175⁵⁰



Betty & Boo by Love You More 18m 7" x 9"

Canvas	\$114 ⁵⁰
Stitch Guide	\$10500
Thread Kit	\$134 ⁰⁰

GUIDES COMING SOON BY AMY BUNGER



Indigo Bunting

Amy's

by Charley Harper		
from The Meredith Collection	Canvas	\$176 ⁵⁰
18m	Stitch Guide	TBA
12" x 8.5"	Thread Kit	TBA



Beach Umbrella by Patti Mann 18m 10" x 12"

Canvas \$18050 Stitch Guide Thread Kit

TBA

TBA



Agatha Hates Brooms

by The Plum Stitchery	Canvas	\$145 ⁵⁰
18m	Stitch Guide	TBA
9.5" x 9"	Thread Kit	TBA



Bunny by Strictly Christmas 18m

Canvas Stitch Guide Thread Kit

TBA

TBA

TBA

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BREEZY VANES CLUB

BY LORI CARTER

We're ready for Spring with our next Breezy Vanes. The beautiful pink and green kite, with ribbons tied to the tail will be flying out the door March 1. Canvases are by Rebecca Wood and stitch guides by Lori Carter. Sign up on the website or call the shop to join this fun club.

Fall / Witch Winter / Snowman Spring / Kites Summer / Eagle \$128⁰⁰ \$125⁷⁵ \$120²⁵ \$117²⁵ canvas, guide, & threads canvas, guide, & threads canvas, guide, & threads canvas, guide, & threads canvas, guide, & threads

EBRUARY WEATHER VANE

And we have a surprise... Lori has created a stitch guide for another weathervane in this Rebecca Woods' series. The February Valentine weathervane is now available. This Valentine angel is surrounded by hearts and her bow & arrow are at the ready to send love to all for Valentine's Day.



Amy's

Canvas \$ 66⁰⁰ Stitch Guide \$ 20⁰⁰ Thread Kit TBA

MAGNETS COST: 12⁰⁰ - 18⁰⁰



CUSTOMER GALLERY



Amy's





Spring Birdhouses by Kelly Clark stitched by Karen Jetton stitch guides by Amy Bunger finished by The Needle Bug





12 Days

12 Days of Christmas Stars by Raymond Crawford

stitched by Lori Carter & Jill Wilensky stitch guides by Lori Carter finishing by Barbara's Needlepoint

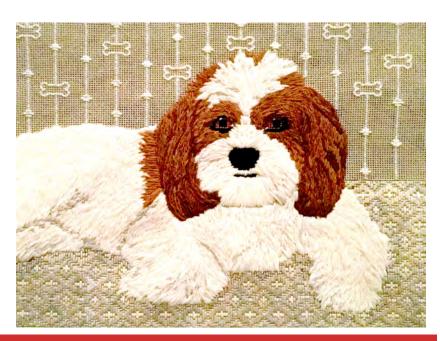




Amy's



Reading on the Beach by Patti Mann stitched by Kay Tomlinson Stitch Guide by Jenny Tumlin of Nashville Needleworks (*July/August*, 2017 Needlepoint Now Magazine) Deco Music in Reds by Mindy stitched by Peggy Wells stitch suggestions by Amy Bunger, Rent Amy Day



Elli from The Point of It All stitched by Janice Seifert stitch suggestions by Marilyn Caul

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Santa with Bears, Toys, and Instruments by Under the Rainbow from Barbara's Needlepoint stitched by Patricia Wakefield stitch guides by Janet Alter

Amy's



Starfish on the Beach by Labors of Love stitched by Marjorie Sink stitch guide by Mark Young with suggestions by Amy Bunger



Mistletoe Ornament by CanvasWorks stitched by Linda Diliplane stitch suggestions by Amy Bunger, Rent Amy Day

CUSTOMER GALLERY

Amy's



Chicken Salad by John Johannsen from Melissa Shirley stitched by Becky Austin stitch guide by Amy Bunger

Lady Liberty by Trubey Designs stitched by Nicole Coltharp

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CUSTOMER GALLERY

Amy's

Mother & Father Skating Stockings by Deux Amis Needlepoint stitched by Cindy McKown stitch guide by Cindy McKown

Nova by Genny Morrow stitched by Linda Mathews finished by Cindy McKown