
acorns & threads

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hours: tues – 10am – 5pm
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Winter – 2008

Reminder: OPEN EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT
Until 8:00 pm

Jeannine's Corner

The delivery of this newsletter should answer the questions that have been burning in your minds since the first of January – no, you have not dropped off the mailing list, and yes, I am still sending out newsletters!! Trying to get 2007 tucked away, and planning for 2008 took a bit longer this year than most. My current favorite theory is that global warming is causing the earth to spin faster, causing time to pass quicker. It can't be that I'm getting older.

I am very excited about this year, which is the start of my fourth year as owner! It's hard to believe it's been over three years. (See above time theory.)

NEW WAY TO POSSIBLY GET FREE THINGS AT ACORNS & THREADS! The shop is taking the key tag program to another level. Each month three key tags will be drawn and the winners will receive a \$10 coupon good towards the purchase of merchandise (classes and study groups excluded). The winners will be announced in the newsletter. Then, those key tags will also be entered in the year-end drawing for the big prizes. So, more ways to get free stuff! The winners for January are: Lu Lane; Lindee Cox and Janet Beckett. Congratulations!

Another thing that is changing are the membership fees for study groups. We are making them \$5 per session, rather than charging for six months at a time. You can still pay ahead if you want, but this should make it easier for many of you to make it to one or two study groups, and see what everyone else is stitching on!

Jeannette Douglas is returning to teach the first weekend in April. She's designed another great exclusive project for the shop, and it promises to be great fun! There are pictures of the (almost completed) model in the shop. And don't forget all the classes being offered by our in-house teachers.

Wintertime is a great time to start those new projects and learn some new techniques.

There are lots of good things planned for the upcoming year, so keep checking the newsletter (either on-line or hard copy) for dates and times. Consider joining a study group, which will be even easier than ever in 2008!

Nashville Days

Starts Friday - February 15 - 10am
and lasts for 2 weeks

Another year – another fabulous two weeks of Nashville Days. What is that you ask? Well, shop owners and designers all gather in Nashville for a weekend of selling and shopping. We will be returning with up to four suitcases of new inventory for your buying pleasure starting at 10am on Friday February 15. There will be lots of new stuff which will include limited edition kits, new fabric, new thread colors, new designs and so on and so on. Remember, we can't bring everything back, so over the following two weeks to a month, we can guarantee that we will be getting new shipments almost every day! The shop plays western music, we wear denim and quite frankly, make it a very fun event. New stuff is always fun to buy and sell! Mark your calendars and visit often.

TRUNK SHOWS IN MARCH

Teresa Layman Designs is a company that produces the most fantastic miniature embroidery "knotwork" projects. She usually has three trunk shows traveling the nation at any one time, but the shop has arranged to have all three arrive at the shop in March. Unbelievable. You will be so inspired. They are very hard to describe in a short newsletter like this, but visit her website and read about her company. You will want to do every single project for sure. www.teresalayman.com

Jeannette Douglas will also be sending her trunk show in March. Yes, yes, I know we had this event two years ago. But can I tell you how much new stuff she has had since then! Plus, having this trunk show right before she comes to teach will be such a special treat.

It's been hard to pin down the exact dates of each of these trunk shows, so please watch our website for the announcement of the exact dates, or call the shop in mid-February. We should have everything finalized by then!

Let's get stitch' in

Open Stitch Group - Free

First Tuesday Night of the Month - 5pm-8pm
We've added an extra Open Stitch Group on
April 22

Open Stitch Group meets the first Tuesday night of the month from 5:00pm – 8:00 pm. Please bring your cross stitch project, your own chair and join in the fun

Cross Stitch-Part II

Sunday – April 20 - 2pm - 5pm

This is a must class for everyone who has ever cross stitched. I would say that almost all of my customers are self-taught. You will review how to anchor your threads, tie them off, learn ¼ and ½ stitches; backstitching; proper hoops and needles; various kinds of fabric and threads, etc. etc. You will also learn the technique of “over 2” or beginning linen. So many of the charts today are using this technique, we feel compelled to teach it to you in this class. It's the best 3 hours you will ever spend learning about the basics of cross stitch. Cost: \$30 Teacher: Jennifer Howard

Acorns Sunday Sampler Club

Sunday – 11am – 1pm

Feb. 17, Mar.9 (Daylight Savings starts) and April 13
Join at anytime

This group talks about sampler designs, classes and seminars around the country, and whatever sampler projects we've started, or can't wait to start. Join us for sampler chatting and of course, sampler stitching! Some of us in the group have spent the last year stitching With My Needle's Ackworth Friendship Book, and are nearing completion of the stitching. We will be putting it together this year, into an accordion-style book with pockets as the instructions show, and making a drawstring bag to carry it in. One-Year Club Fee - \$60 or \$5 per afternoon

NEW **Nutty Holiday Club – 2008

Third Tuesday Evening of the Month – 5pm – 8pm
Started January 15, 2008
(but you can join at any time or
just drop in when you are in town)
Feb. 19, March 18 and April 15

In 2008, we are mixing the club up a bit. Instead of just focusing on Christmas, we will encourage participants to stitch on any holiday-themed project they want. We know that you guys love to stitch things related to Valentine's Day and July 4, but the biggest holiday by far that is not Christmas is Halloween. If you join the club before the first gathering in January, you will receive a 10% discount on all holiday-related finishing (i.e., ornaments, stockings and holiday pillows). One Year Club Fee: \$60 or \$5 per evening

“Chatelaine Designs”

by Martina Weber Stitch Group

Thursday Evening – 5pm – 8pm

Feb. 21, Mar. 20 and April 17

(You can join at any time or
just drop in when you are in town)

This self-paced ongoing group meets once a month to work on any project by “Chatelaine Designs”. As many of you know, Martina's newest projects are available “online” only, but the shop has many of the supplies in stock, and can get the rest. These are not difficult pieces, but just challenging enough in size and complexity to be more interesting if stitched along with others. After her “online” designs have been completed, at some point they are available in retail stores. If you are unfamiliar with Martina's work, ask us to show you when you are in the shop. Cost: \$5 per evening

Punchneedle

Beginning Punchneedle – Heart Project

Saturday - Feb. 23 – 11am – 2pm

Heart Project – Punchneedle is the newest, yet one of the oldest techniques in needlework. The project we are teaching will be a small heart, a bit after Valentine's Day, but appropriate anytime. The \$50 class fee includes all your supplies. You will only need to bring your enthusiasm to learn an age-old embroidery technique.

Beginning Embroidery

Saturday – April 19 – 1:30 – 4:30 pm

The first beginning embroidery class in January was a big hit, so we are offering it again. You'll be in stitches in no time!!!! You will be learning and practicing basic embroidery stitches such as the stem stitch, back stitch, lazy daisy stitch, chain stitch and satin stitch. “Knot” to mention a terrific no fail French knot and how to stitch using “knotless embroidery”. You will check out what's new in the world of embroidery, iron-on transfer and so forth. Class supplies will include fabric, hoop, needle, floss and design. Learn this hip technique because “Embroidery” is being touted as the new “Knitting”. Cost: \$35 Teacher: JoLyn Buhl

Beginning Hardanger Class

Part 1 - March 8 - Noon – 2pm and

Part 2 - April 12 - Noon – 2pm

This delicate form of open needlework can be traced to the Hardanger region of Norway hundreds of years ago. This technique gradually spread through Europe and then to the United States with the Scandinavian immigrants. Students will learn the basics of Hardanger including kloster blocks, cutting and needleweaving. Students will also learn buttonhole edge, dove's eye, satin motif and if time permits, eyelets. The project will be a small needle book. Homework will be given between classes so as to cover an assortment of different techniques. Cost: \$50 Teacher: Jean Drevdahl

Intermediate Hardanger

Part 1 - March 8 – 2:30pm – 4:30pm and

Part 2 - April 12 – 2:30pm – 4:30pm

This is an intermediate Hardanger class designed to teach you some of the elegant and beautiful centers in the woven bars of projects. During this class you will learn six filling stitches choosing from: Greek Cross, Picot, Whipped Spider Web, Woven Leaf, Square Filet, Buttonhole Bars, Curled V's, Woven Wheels, Ringed Split Wrapped Bars and Diagonals. Class supplies will include the Cross 'n Patch book "Steps for Beginning Hardanger", the Lugana fabric and one Caron Watercolor and Wildflower to complete your piece. Cost (kit and class): \$55 Teacher: Jean Drevdahl

Hardanger Study/Stitch Group

Last Tuesday Night of the Month - 5pm-8pm

Jan. 29, Feb. 26, Mar. 25 and April 29

Join at anytime !

Many of you love Hardanger. This Study Group has been extremely helpful for those of you who want to venture out on a new Hardanger project, but need a little help here and there. This is an ongoing group, so you can sign up at any time. One of our Hardanger "experts", Lynn Haynes is available to "help you" with your current Hardanger project, or help you plan the next one. I am even starting a new Hardanger project! Teacher In Residence: Lynn Haynes. Cost: \$5 per evening

Ongoing Classes

SAMPLER OF STITCHES

Tuesdays: Feb. 12, Mar. 11, Apr. 8, and May 13
6pm – 8pm

THE HERB GARDEN

Saturdays: Feb. 2, Mar. 8, and Apr. 12
9am – 11:30am

TOCCATA NUMBER THREE

Saturdays: Feb. 9, Mar. 15, Apr. 19, and May 17 9am -11am

Canned Nuts

**"Share a Smile" and Celebrate
"Procrastination Week"!!!**

Saturday - March 1 - 6pm - Midnight

"Canned Nuts" has always had some sort of theme going on and even though March 1 is "Share a Smile Day" and the following week is "National Procrastination Week", the theme for this Canned Nuts combines both themes. If you have "procrastinated" coming and seeing what's new from Nashville, we will "Share a Smile" with you when you come for the evening and stitch (and/or shop) from 6pm to midnight. Bring a project you are working on, your chair, and come for an evening to be shared with other stitchers (or shoppers). Pizza and assorted goodies will be served. As always, the cost is \$25.

Jeannette Douglas Weekend

April 5 at JoPa's - 9am – 4pm

April 6 - Acorns & Threads 10am – 3pm

'Threads I Love Sampler' building class.

In this unique class you will have the opportunity to build your own sampler bands. We will have a model sampler stitched but you will be able to enjoy having some input on your own piece. You will be given a booklet with stitches fully explained, and use this book as a handbook to the sampler. We will discuss some simple color theory and usage of what different stitches give you. Then we will play with the bands - for you to be able to personalize your own sampler. There are 18 rows of stitches one of them being the whole poem backstitched. You may want to change a lot or just a little that will be up to you. There will be plenty of stitching time to work out what you would like.

Please bring a scrap piece of linen to the workshop to practice a stitch or to see how the color theory works out! Remember your light and magnification if you need them. Also stretcher bars, preferably an 8 x11 Q snap. Your piece is approximately 5 x 11 ¾ "on 30 ct. linen.

The piece was built around a poem that Jeannette wrote when putting together thoughts for the class at Acorns & Threads.

"Threads I love"

The threads I love to hold
Alight my mind in color bold,
And when my stitches I lay down
My sampler does in glory crown.

So come enjoy a few days of playing with threads and stitches, and time with other stitchers as we share in our passion of needlework.

The cost for the two days including the kit and class, two lunches and assorted goodies is \$170. A \$50 non-refundable deposit will be required to reserve your spot for this weekend of "Threads I Love." The balance will be due by March 15.

Acorn Automatics!!!!

As of the printing of this newsletter, these are the only series we are aware of. However, what typically happens is that a couple more pop up. Please contact us if you notice some monthly series we haven't mentioned here.

Lizzie Kate – "Living With Charm" - What a great idea she has come up with this year. Instead of a "monthly" theme, she is using a "Living With Charm" idea. As she says in her literature, "12 wise little WORDS to LIVE by! Stitch them separately, stitch two or more together, or stitch an entire year's WORTH of WISDOM." Visit the www.lizziekate.com website to see a picture of her new series. Call or email the shop to sign up.

Ordering From Hoffman Distributing

Remember, it is possible to shop at Acorns & Threads 24/7. Log on to the shop website (www.acornsandthreads.com) and the entire Hoffman Distributing catalog is available for you to purchase from via the [Hoffman Merchant Mall](#) page. This allows you to not only search their extensive catalog but to place an order. Just follow these few easy steps to find your next project or add to your collection.

Step 1 – “Select a Search Method” - a Designer, Keyword or Category Search

Step 2 – Locate the charts you wish to purchase and build a shopping cart.

Step 3 – Place your order, which Acorns & Threads will fill. We will call you when it arrives, or if you prefer, we will mail it to you. We don't bill your credit card until we mail your order, or you come to the shop to pick it up.

Step 4 – If you want to order something not available at Hoffman, or have a question, feel free to e-mail by clicking on “Contact Us.”

Samsarah – “**Baubles**” – This one is a little hard to explain, but we'll try. Samsarah has designed a “nine block” repetitive design for each month stitched on a windowpane fabric. As it turns out, we already have a model of the second installment, and it is a wonderful, yet different, type of series. Each design stands on its own, but we have also figured out how to make a wonderful picture out of all 12 designs on one piece of fabric. Check out our website and go to the Hoffman Merchant Mall to take a peak at the first three installments if you can't make it into the shop.

Nora Corbett Designs – “**Reindeer**” - If you love “Mirabilla Designs” and you love reindeer, you need to sign up for this automatic. Last year, Nora Corbett (designer of Mirabilla Designs) released Dasher and Donner and has just released Blitzen and Dancer at the beginning of this year. This series is going to be magnificent. Visit www.wichelt.com for a gander. They are the only vendor carrying these charts.

JABC – “**Teapots**” – This probably doesn't need any explanation, but just a reminder that every design JABC issues is so colorful and fun, they are hard to resist. This series is a free chart with the purchase of the button pack.

Calico Crossroads – “**Monthly Cats**” – This is the 3rd year they have released a monthly cat-ender series featuring the black cats from artwork by Kathleen Kelly of Kats by Kelly. The first two are available now. They would make a great present individually for the special someone or once again, all 12 would be great in a bell pull like the shop model

Blackbird Designs – “**Loose Feathers**” – If you are not aware of this series and love primitive samplers and sweet designs, this is a series for you. Alma and Barb (the designers) are very well known in the quilting world, so that will give you a sense of style. Please visit their official website” to get a peak.

www.dashdist.com/blackbird/loosefeathersclub/2008/loosefeather.htm

Pine Mountain Designs – “**Top Ties**” - What a cute and fanciful series. Each kit includes pre-sewn "Top Tie" pillow sham with organza ribbon ties, DMC floss, tapestry needle, color photograph and instructions. January is “Cool Crowd” and February is “Sweet Love” If you are unfamiliar with these kits, please visit their website www.pinemntndesigns to take a look at their wonderful projects. These are great little pickup projects for traveling and also for kids. They are simple and easy. If you find something you would like, please give the shop and call and we would be happy to order it for you. Remember, NO POSTAGE if you order from us.

The shop has sent out a couple of updates via e-mail! The updates do not replace the paper newsletter, at least not for a while. This is our chance to remind you of upcoming events, or to let you know of a new activity that came up after the newsletter was published. If you are interested in participating in this fabulous method of 21st century communication, please forward your e-mail address by e-mail (how clever) to

acorns@acornsandthreads.com