

Inspired Needle News

Special points of interest:

- Online Needlework Show
- Crystal Reindeer
- How to use a Trolley Needle
- Market Goodies
- New Items

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Market Review

This fall's needlework Market was held for the second year in a row in St. Charles, Missouri. It brings fond memories to me because my very first-ever market that I was able to attend was in this location. I was wowed by the hotel, the cute, little town, the designers and the general excitement of it all. Now, with two other markets under my belt, this past weekend's market still had plenty of "wow" factor. The theme, it seemed, was Halloween. Almost every booth we went into was decked out in spooky garb. Every pattern we picked up was cuter than the last. It

really was hard to make decisions as I wanted to take it all home with me, and lots of it!! As it turned out, I made selections the best I could, based on my knowledge of what you, my dear customers, like. I hope you will be pleased with my choices! Elsewhere in this newsletter are snippets of information about your most popular designers and a couple less-well-known, too. Come out to the shop to see what surprises I have in store for you.

To learn more details about what Market is, what it's like to attend

and what you do at Market, please see my blog at in-



Embassy Suites -typical view of the vendor suites.

spiredneedle.blogspot.com I will be updating the blog in the next few days. Blog posting, like new products, take a bit to get into the computer, but the end result, I hope, will be worth the effort. I trust you're all keeping busy with seasonal stitching projects during this cool, fall weather!

Carriage House Samplings

Kathy Barrick of Carriage House Samplings has just released a new design called "Christmas at Hawk Run Hollow". You may be familiar with her other "Hawk Run Hollow" designs. You might even have some in your



stash! Well, a group of stitchers here at the shop decided that they want to stitch this design but need some encouragement. We

will be forming a stitch-along group whereby we work on a new block each month. If you're interested, please call or send me an email. I'll be sending out more information in the future. This should be a fun stitch!

The Online Needlework Show

Just when you thought there couldn't be any new needlework designs for a while, along comes the Online Needlework Show! If you're not familiar with the concept, here's the low-down. An online needlework show is similar to a trade show (or Market) in which no traveling is involved. A group of vendors bring to the tradeshow a sampling of their design offerings. The hitch is that the "tradeshow" is held online! On Wednesday, October 7, the Online Show opens for business. You open your web browser and click on the

following link: <http://www.needleworkshow.com>

It's as simple as this: you can browse the vendor "booths" by clicking on individual vendors in the "GENERAL VIEWING" section. If you find something exciting that you want to purchase, just send an email to the shop.... cathy@inspiredneedle.com listing the title of the item you want and at which Vendor booth you saw the item. On Monday, October 12, the online show will end. At that



The EASY way to shop. Show is open 24/7 starting 10/7 at 2pm EDT. Show ends 10/12

time, I'll submit my orders with the different vendors. When the orders arrive at the shop, I'll give you a call to let you know! Nothing could be simpler. You get to preview the tradeshow items before they ever get brought to the shop. No guessing as to what you'll like! You may also view the vendor website & order items not listed for the online show. I hope you all find this show to be a benefit! Please call if you have any questions.

Just in Time for Christmas (next year, that is)!

People always ask if there was any one item at the Fall Needlework Market that caused a "wow" reaction out of me. There were several items that I had to scoop up because I knew that my customers would love them. One set of designs that caused me to do a double-take was Hinzeit's Crystal Reindeer. This de-

signer released a whole set of 8 reindeer, along with Rudolph and Santa's Sleigh. Each one, by themselves, is beautiful, but the 8 reindeer, stitched in a row on one piece of

"Dancer wears a frilly, pink tutu".

fabric was absolutely stunning! Each reindeer is decked out with costumes appropriate to their names; for example, "Dancer" wears a frilly, pink tutu. "Comet" is sporting a smoking rocket on his back. "Cupid" is

Just in Time for Christmas (continued)

decked out in pretty pink and red hearts. Her Royal Stitchiness, Debbie, is working on the 8-reindeer model right now and as soon as she has the first guy stitched, she'll bring him in



the shop so you all can see him in person. Each reindeer's antlers are bejeweled with Swarovski crystals, making him glisten like freshly fallen snow! You will have the opportunity to sign

up for the Crystal Reindeer club, in which you will receive one reindeer pattern a month. By next year this time, your team should be ready for framing, just in time for the holidays. Inquire in shop for all the details!

Railroad? Maybe you Prefer a Trolley

Last month we discussed a way you could enhance the appearance of your stitched work by using a technique called “railroading”. This month, I’ll share my favorite way of taming that floss; by using a Trolley needle when I stitch. A Trolley needle is typically worn on a finger of your hand. I was taught to wear it on the thumb of the hand that does not hold the needle.



Put the needle down through the fabric between the two strands of

Here’s how to do it: bring the needle up through the fabric as usual. Before putting the needle back down through the fabric, tuck your Trolley needle beneath the floss, making sure the two strands are lying parallel to one another. For added loft in your fiber, lightly run the floss in a back-and-forth motion over the Trolley needle (i.e. “riding the trolley”). As you’re pulling the needle and floss down through the fabric, be sure the

Trolley needle remains between the floss and fabric. When the Trolley is snug against the fabric, remove it from beneath the floss and pull any remaining slack from beneath. Your stitch will lie nicely on top of the fabric, smooth as silk. Your stitches will have added sheen when they lie side by side, rather than twisted and unkempt. Stitching with a Trolley needle takes a bit more time, but with practice, you will develop a rhythm and hardly notice the effort. For a demonstration of its use, please ask Cathy in the shop.

Market Goodies

St. Charles Market had a nice, non-rushed feel to it this year and I felt I had more browsing time. Of course, it could just be that I finally learned the ropes and didn’t have to ask so many questions! Either



“Midnight Watch” by Blackbird Desings

way, it was fun seeing what new designs were waiting for us. I also brought back some neat little gadgets that you’re sure to enjoy. Ask to see the new needle minders and fobs.

The overwhelming theme at this Market was Halloween.

Each vendor suite was decked out for Pumpkin Day with a little bit of Christmas thrown in for good measure. Be sure to ask to see your favorite designers latest charts the next time you’re in the shop.

New Items in the Shop

Prairie Moon: The Crypt Club, Merry Xmas, Christmas & Halloween Key Chain, Pumpkin & Spider Web Boxes, The Hat in the Cat and Cat on a Hot Orange H, Snowman Fob

Milady’s Needle: ABC 123, Christmas Elegance, Halloween Rules, In The Garden, Winter is Past

Blackbird Designs: Joyeux Noel, Midnight

Watch, Halloween Greetings, Raise a Glass of Cheer

La-D-Da: A Bird in Hand, Give Her, Toil & Trouble

Carriage House Samplings: A Mind Independent & Free, Christmas at Hawn Run Hollow, The Curse of the Raven



Milady’s Needle “Winter Is Past”

Shepherd’s Bush: Holy Night, Jeffrey’s Stocking, Scaredy Sheep Fob Kit, Silver Snowman Charm, Spooky Night, We Will Go A Haunting

Rosewood Manor: Quaker Diamonds, Ring in Christmas, Vintage Lace

Whispered By The Wind: White Win-

ter

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May your needle be inspired!

We're on the web!
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Educational Lineup

All Spiced Up These sweet little ornaments are perfect for the beginner stitcher or those ready for the next step. Carol will walk you through the use of overdyed threads. Proper stitch execution is important when working with these fibers to achieve the desired result. Class will be held on a Saturday in November so you can have your ornament stitched in time to hang on the tree! The exact date is TBA. If interested in attending this class, please call the shop to reserve your space.



Button Up for Christmas #2

If you've ever wanted to learn how to stitch on counted canvas, here's your chance! Carol is working on a model by Needle Delights called Rose Quartz. This lovely geometric design is worked with lots of fun fibers! Rainbow Gallery Silk Lame Braid, Caron Collection Watercolours and DMC Perle Cotton are the specialty fibers. Learn the proper stitch sequence, how to lay your threads and proper tension to use. Rose Quartz will be suitable framed, as a box top or attached to the front of your favorite project bag. Additionally, if "rose" is not your color, let Carol help you select



Rose Quartz

a new colorway, more suitable to your tastes. We're taking sign-ups now for this course which will be taught later this year. Please call or email the shop to reserve your space.

Jeannette Douglas "My Stitching Album" monthly stitch-in at the shop; one Sunday per month.

Carriage House CHRH—monthly stitch-a-long.

?? What are you interested in stitching??