

Inspired Needle News

To Market We Will Go

Special points of interest:

- St. Charles Needlecraft Market
- Just Nan new designs
- Waterfall Glen EGA
- Railroading How-To
- New Items

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We're gearing up for The National NeedleArts Association (TNNA) Fall needlecraft market which will be held later this month in St. Charles, MO. This will be the second year in a row for this new location. I've perused the vendor registration and many familiar designer names are listed along with some promising new ones! Even with the just released designs that were delivered this past week, Lizzie*Kate promises to have four new designs available at Market! Three will be Christmas kits but one will be a Limited Edition Halloween fob. We will

try to hit this booth early to scoop us as many fobs as we can! Shepherd's Bush will not disappoint and will have a new stocking and some charms available along with other surprise goodies. The last of the Birthstone Samplers and some French inspired Alphabet Samplers will be available from The Sweetheart Tree as well as an intriguing box top kit....Sandie is a bit secretive about this one. Blackbird Designs will have a new multi-design book available titled "Joyeux Noel" filled with samplers and small projects. The long-awaited

"Christmas at Hawk Run Hallow" will be found at the Carriage House Samplings booth along with a re-print



What surprises await us at St. Charles Needlecraft Market?

of an OOP design from The Goode Huswife. As always, Fern Ridge designs will be a delight. This talented duo always pleases with a fresh, fun needlework small. Lastly, we'll return with new colors from Weeks, Gentle Art, Thread Gatherer, Dinky-Dyes, Crescent Colours and a few new thread companies!

Just Nan's Halloween Hits

Nan Caldera has recently released her spooky lineup of Halloween designs. In addition to the popular "Over The Top" quarterly tin release, "Spooky", you will find "Counting Bats", a thriller of a sampler, stitched on 28



2 for glee; 3 for mischief; 4 for flee; 5 for trick; 6 for

count Cashel overdyed Frenzy by Zweigart. The chilling verse is "1 for horror;

treat; 7 for the monster you never want to meet". A complete silk kit from Access is also available. Adding to the needle slide collection is "Pumpkin Tapestry" and "Pumpkin Jack" is the newest Charm Garden pin.

An Afternoon with Waterfall Glen Chapter EGA

Please join us at the shop for an Open House with members of the Waterfall Glen Chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild of America. This group of needleworkers formed a chapter of EGA more than ten years ago. During this time, they met monthly where they conducted short business meetings and then commenced with a needlework program to promote a new needlework technique, present a



lecture on a needlework-related subject, conduct a hands-on workshop, etc. The purpose of EGA is to foster the highest standards of excellence in the practice of the art of embroidery through an active program of education and study and to preserve the heritage of the art of embroidery. At the Open House on Saturday, September 12, from 11 to 3, the EGA members will share information about Chapter projects, Group Correspondence

Courses, Chapter Mystery Sampler projects and will have lots of needlework on display. If you've ever wondered what EGA is and does, now is your opportunity! You need not be a great needle-artist to join EGA. All that is required is that you share a passion for the needle arts and have a willingness to learn. Not all types of embroidery is for everyone. Soak up what you like and be appreciative of our varied interests and talents! Come ask questions, ask for a demonstration, learn a new technique or simply sit and chat.

Bent Creek New Releases

Now in the shop are the latest designs from Bent Creek. The first installment of the Big Round Zipper is "Hometown". The verse "in the round" tells us to "Go with all your heart". A new Photobooth is Frank N Boo. These crazy characters, Frankenstein and a ghost are making silly for the camera. It is hysteri-

cal! "Kitty Kitty" is the next member of The Branch series. There is one more release to go to fill out the tree limb. So far there is the wise owl, bees and hive, squirrel and now the cat. I

"Go with all your heart"Big Round Zipper Hometown

guess it's a pretty strong branch to hold all those animals! Uber Pumpkin is a BIG Jack-o-Lantern with a Halloween grin and last of the new releases is the "12 Days of Christmas Stocking".

Do You Blog?

I have been reading blogs for several years but felt persuaded earlier this year to start my own blog. It is called Inspired News and you can find it at <http://inspirednews.blogspot.com> I try to post little snips of my life from



time to time. Sometimes I share my family; other times trips I take or I post about something I've stitched! It's a sort of online diary and is fun to look back at months later with remembrance. If you so choose, you can even leave comments on my posts. I'd love

to hear what you think about what I've written. Do you blog? Please share the URL with me. I would like to create a shop listing of blogs to share with our readers. So many of you are not only talented stitchers but talented writers, too! Send an email to the shop with the Blog name & addy.

Take a Ride on the Railroad

Did you ever look at a design you were stitching and think your stitches could look nicer but weren't sure exactly what the problem might be? A sure fire way to go from ho-hum stitching to "shazaam" stitches would be to get your threads to lie flat and not twist. Easier said than done, right? Never fear! This is an easy remedy and once you get the hang of it,



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

you will do it unconsciously. The technique is called railroading. What you do is bring your needle to the front of the fabric as usual. When you put the needle down through the fabric, make sure it slips between the two threads (assuming you are stitching with two strands of floss). The needle separates the



Stitched design using railroad technique

two strands and those guys jump apart and straighten up like two little soldiers. Repeat this technique each time you bring the needle down through the fabric and you will be amazed at how smooth and beautiful your stitches will look. You will be rewarded for the extra effort of railroading because your needlework will stand out from all the rest!

Prairie Schooler

Prairie Schooler has released the annual set of holiday designs. The single page 2009 Santa is sporting two pair of ice skates and a hockey stick. "Christmas Eve" depicts Santa pulled in



The Prairie Schooler "Christmas Eve"

his sleigh by reindeer with a sack bursting with toys. "Holly Days" is a collection of eight ornaments of Santa, Snowmen and children frolicking in the snow. In the same fashion, "Boo To You" are eight Halloween ornaments of toothy Jack-o-

lantern, spooky cats and owls, a creepy moon, skeleton and witch and a haunted house. Likewise, "Fall Fields" are autumnal ornaments of squirrel, fox, pheasant, duck, hare and other wildlife. *Prairie Schooler* only prints a limited number of copies, so if you're a fan, now's the time to pick up the charts!

New Items in the Shop

Mirabilia: Shakespeare's Fairies

Little House Needleworks: Pumpkins 4 Sale, A Walk in the Park

Blackbird Designs: Tis Hallowe'en

Waxing Moon: May Monthly Sampler, Quick Stitches for Halloween (When Witches Go Riding, Trick or Treat, Happy

Halloween, Bittersweet Witch Hat (Limited Edition)

Jeannette Douglas: My Stitching Album Rhodes Rhapsody

Lizzie*Kate: Christmas By The Letter "RIST" and "MAS", Tiny Tidings XIV, I'll Get My Elves On That, It's A Jingle Out There,



Waxing Moon Quick Stitches for Halloween

Touch The Dust Boxer, Sampling Christmas

Country Stitches-With Thy Needle: Miss Snow Fairy, My Hearth & Home

Miss Crescent's Crowne: Sewphia Wool Pincushion and Companion Kit

Namaste: Buddy Cases, project pouches

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May your needle be inspired!

We're on the web!
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Educational Lineup and Other Stuff

The Garden Party refresher class was enjoyed by those that attended. Everyone picked up some new stitching tips!

S is for Stitcher

Stay tuned for new class dates for this Victoria Sampler Alphabet piece.

If there is a class you'd like to take, please let us know by either sending an email or mentioning it the next time you're in the shop. Several classes are in



Victoria Sampler's Alphabet Series "S is for Stitcher"

the works so watch this space in future newsletters.



Mirabilia "Shakespeare's Fairies"



Blue Ribbon Designs "Afraid of the Dark"



Little House Needleworks
"Pumpkins 4 Sale"

I Love My Job!

The summer is winding down and the kids are back in school. Perhaps you have some free time on your hands? We're looking for someone to help out in the shop on Saturdays and maybe an extra day or two a month. If your schedule is flexible and you'd love to work in a creative environment, surrounded by all your favorite stitchy fixins, come in and talk to Cathy.