



The Needler

January 2012

Volume 21, Issue 1

Official Newsletter of the NJ Needle Artists Chapter of ANG

Schedule of Events 2012

January 18
Intro to Quilt Designs

February 15
Transfer of Design,
Selection of Thread &
Stitches

March 21
Quilt Design continued

April 18
Quilt Design continued

April 28
NJ Needlefest

May 16
Stash Auction

June 20
Quilt Design continued

July 18
Quilt Design continued

August 15
Quilt Design continued

September 19
Seminar & Quilt projects
continued

October 17
Seminar & Quilt projects

November 21
Seminar & Quilt projects

December 19
Election of Officers and
Holiday Party

Meeting Place:
Bernards Twp Library
32 South Maple Ave
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
(908) 204-3031

Meeting Time:
7:00pm to 9:00pm

2011 Projects

Most members have finished their Susan Reed Stitch of the Month mystery. It has been a wonderful opportunity to see how colors and fibers provide a totally different result with the same design. Several members have had their pieces framed and it's been interesting to see how the framing enhances the finished piece even further.



2012 Projects

Since many of us are planning to attend Seminar in Philadelphia, we'll be doing a short part year project so that we can concentrate on stitching our seminar pieces at the end of the year. Our group project will be the creation and stitching of quilt squares using threads from our stashes. In February, we will learn how to transfer the quilt designs to needlepoint and how to choose colors. In March, Kathy Marinovich will talk about the history of quilts. When we are done, we will put together a chapter book with the designs and the stories about their creation.

Carol also discussed our planned field trip to Fireside Stitchery on a Saturday in March or April. Please e-mail Carol at carolkingbarrow@yahoo.com if you would like to go and please include what dates are no good for you. She'll arrange for a date with as few conflicts as possible – which is tricky in a group like ours! ✂

News from National

The 2012 ANG Seminar Brochure information has been sent to the publisher and should be mailed out by mid-February. The Web Brochure should be up and running by March 1.

Please consider donating some of your excess canvases to ANG, for use in the Auction. Also if you have stitched a piece that you enjoyed stitching, but just don't want to have it finished because you can't figure out what to do with it, or you already have needlepoint in every room and corner of your house, ANG would be delighted to accept these pieces as well. They will finish these pieces into wonderful works of art for the Auction.

All donations are tax-deductible, and the proceeds of the auctions, are used for ANG educational activities. Please complete the Auction Donation Form

<http://www.needlepoint.org/forms/AuctionDonationForm.pdf> or contact the Auction Chair at auction@needlepoint.org if you need more information, or would like to donate canvases to ANG. ✂

Be on the lookout for needles!

Since children use the rooms we use for our meetings, please check around for needles, tacks, etc. before leaving.

The President's Message

January 2012

Happy 2012 to all our New Jersey Needle Artist members. The upcoming year promises to be fun filled and educational for all our members.

Your board has been very busy discussing, suggesting and finalizing a great year of programs. We will be addressing our next stitching project in a new way that will allow more freedom for all our members. Make sure you come to our January meeting to get the scoop on all the details.

As we all know this years ANG seminar is in Philadelphia. The proximity is too great to not take advantage. As we near the August date we will begin to address details pertaining to carpooling, rooming and whatever else needs to be discussed. If you are planning on going – great! I am sure you will not be disappointed. If you do not have seminar on your calendar you should consider attending. There are many great classes, the vendor expo, teacher showcase and other interesting meetings. If you have never gone before this is your opportunity to have the seminar experience in the most cost effective way possible.

Seminar will not be on the East coast for a few years after 2012. Think about it!

April 28, 2012 will bring the first annual New Jersey Needle Festival. The location will be Chester, NJ at the Church of the Messiah. It promises to be a great day where you can spend an hour, or the day, stitching/knitting/cross stitching/rug hooking with your friends and fellow

NJNA members. There will also be other ANG guilds there for you to talk with and meet. If you would like to sign-up to sit at the NJNA tables, please contact Rosie Lunde for a registration form. The entrance fee is \$15 and lunch is \$10= \$25/person. We do hope you are able to make this new event and join the NJNA table. The current list of vendors is: Foxview Needlepoint & Rug Hooking, Dove Stitch, Swoon Fibers, Heart In Hand Rug Hooking and Mrs. Stitches. For more information, please visit www.needlefest.com.

As always, if you have an idea for a program or would like to present something to the group that especially interests you, please feel free to contact Carol or any of the board members.

Everyone on the board would be happy to discuss your ideas and how to present them to the group.

Here's to a great year for the New Jersey Needle Artists!

Happy Stitching,
SUSAN

**"A hobby a day keeps the
doldrums away." — Phyllis McGinley**

Letter from the Editor

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. It's amazing how quickly the time goes and we're into another new year. It seems only yesterday we were worried about Y2K.

With a new year, many people like to make resolutions or set goals for themselves. This year for the first time, I set some stitching goals. I'm working on spending at least 15 minutes every day stitching as well as improving my laying skills. I've had a lot of practice with my piano piece!

Hopefully your goals for the year include attending our monthly meetings. We each gain so much from seeing what others are doing and being able to gain advice from other members.

Diane

New Jersey Needle Festival

Saturday April 28

The New Jersey Needle Festival will be held on Saturday, April 28 from 9:30 to 4:30 in Chester, New Jersey. This festival is being sponsored by Foxview Needlepoint and is based on "Hook-ins" favored by rug hookers! There will be vendors, door prizes and lots of fellow stitchers in attendance. NJNA has taken two tables of six for a total of 12 spots. The cost is \$25 and includes lunch since no outside food is allowed. Rosie is

handling the NJNA registration for individual spots. Please send a check for \$25 to

Rosie Lunde
34 Gunther Street
Mendham, NJ 07945

and indicate whether you want Turkey and Provolone or Ham and Swiss for your sandwich and coke, diet coke, or water as your beverage. The lunch also includes chips, cookie, and apple. NJNA will "eat" any unused spots. ✂

Field Trip: Fireside Stitchery

March or April

Please e-mail Carol at carolkingbarrow@yahoo.com if you would like to join a field trip to Fireside Stitchery on a Saturday in March or April and please include what dates are no good for you. She'll arrange for a date with as few conflicts as possible!

**"The power of imagination makes us
infinite." — John Muir**

ANG Correspondence Courses

**Thistle and Kilt:
Goldwork and Plaid**

and

Through the Tinsel
By Michael Roberts

Michele Roberts' designs, Thistle and Kilt: Goldwork and Plaid and Through the Tinsel, are small intermediate level designs, with a varying amount of goldwork.

For Through the Tinsel, the student has the option of purchasing Michele's original watercolor of Bethlehem at night computer-printed on the Congress cloth or choosing to print her/his own design following the discussion in the booklet. The design area is 7" x 5" x 1/2". The instruction booklet, includes full color close-ups of the design, at each stage, as well as large numbered diagrams. For more information:

<http://needlepoint.org/CorrClasses/classes/through-the-tinsel.php>.

In Thistle and Kilt: Goldwork and Plaid, Michele combines several symbols

of Scotland - a bejeweled goldwork thistle and the Royal Stewart Hunting Tartan - in this 7-1/2" x 9-1/2"; x 1/4 design on #18 canvas. Using Chottie Alderson's plaid stitch, the background is created in six shades of Caron Impressions silk and wool. The instruction booklet, also discusses how to create the background in your own heraldic tartan pattern. Traditional raised and dimensional English goldwork produces the thistle leaves and bulb, to which Swarovski bicone crystals are attached. For more information:

<http://needlepoint.org/CorrClasses/classes/thistle-and-kilt.php>.

"Happiness is not a station you arrive at, but a manner of traveling." — Margaret Lee Runbeck

2012 Seminar

Although, Seminar 2011 has come and gone, it is time to begin planning for Seminar 2012 in Philadelphia. Our National Coordinator, Barb Richardson, has already begun the preparation for our 40th Anniversary. This will truly be a walk down Memory Lane!

The Seminar Brochure will be in the mail before you know it (mid-February)! Although ANG is not offering Early Registration, you can now see candid shots of the 2012 classes, on the Website, under Seminar 2011, Daily Photos (<http://www.needlepoint.org/Seminar-11/photos.php>) - they are the ones labeled 1-Day Class, 2-Day Class, etc. rather than a date. Make note of the classes that interest you, and register as soon as you receive your brochure.

Please plan to join all of ANG as we celebrate "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow" in 2012, in Philadelphia!

A Journey with Needleart

A special event called "A JOURNEY WITH NEEDLEART" will be held in each of the ANG Seminar cities in 2012 - 2014.

Along with the yearly Seminar and the celebrations associated with that

event, there will be another very important event, a first of its kind, as leaders in the needleart community come together to form a three year venture meant to bring needleart to the attention of a wider audience. It is aimed at artists, art collectors, fiber art enthusiasts, and the general public. This venture begins with an amazing needlework exhibit at the Philadelphia Art Alliance, (PAA), in the beautiful Rittenhouse Square section of Philly. The exhibit will be an art exhibit, comprised of antique samplers and of modern samplers. It will focus on pieces from the far past, and move into highlighting the beautiful work, the modern approach found in today's work. Orna Willis is chairing the committee in charge of this exhibit. In addition to the exhibit there will be an auction of needlework that will take place on the opening night of the exhibit.

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They always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself. — Andy Warhol

Needlepoint Tips & Tricks Kreinik Needlepoint Thread Uses

By Susan Hoekstra, Foxview Needlepoint & Rug Hooking

- Very Fine (#4) Braid for light details on 18 to 30 count canvas
- Fine (#8) Braid for light details on 18 to 30 count canvas
- Tapestry (#12) Braid use on 18 to 30 count canvas
- Medium (#16) Braid use on 14 to 18 count canvas
- Canvas (#24) Braid use on 13 count canvas
- Heavy (#32) Braid use on 10 to 14 count canvas
- 1/8" Ribbon use on 10 to 14 count canvas
- 1/16" Ribbon use on 18 to 24 count canvas

Susan Hoekstra
Foxview Needlepoint & Rug Hooking
www.foxview.com

iPhone / iPad / Droid Apps

Stitch Landscapes is now available as an Apple App.

Sandy Arthurs' Shapes II is available for the iPhone; it is easy to understand and very useful! Unfortunately their budget does not allow them to include the Droid at this time.

SuZy's Portable Stitches II now runs as a native app on the iPad; there is no longer a need to enlarge it. The graphs are super clear.

To summarize the list of available iPhone/iPad apps:

- Shapes of Needlepoint by Duo Designs, Inc
- Shapes of Needlepoint 2 by Duo Designs, Inc
- Stitch landscape by Little Shoppe Canvas Company
- eBook: Needlepoint Encyclopedia by Procypher Software Co.
- SuZy's Portable Stitches by SuZy's Stitches (great for iPhone)
- Suzy's Portable Stitches II (designed for iPad)
- iStitches Volume One by Ruth Schmuff
- iStitches Volume Two by Ruth Schmuff

Only SuZy Murphy's book, SuZy's Portable Stitches, is available on the Android. ✂

Happiness lies in the joy of achievement and the thrill of creative effort. -- Franklin D. Roosevelt

Future Trunk Shows

Mrs. Stitches has some wonderful trunk shows coming up so mark your calendars accordingly.

- Susan Roberts Needlepoint Designs, Inc. - April 2012
- Melissa Shirley Designs - November 2012
- Point Of It All - April 2013
- Jean Smith Designs - October 2013

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Needlepoint Tips & Tricks

Row or Thread-ending Stitches

Sometimes when following stitch diagrams, especially when moving to a different row, ending a thread, etc., the pull of the last stitch is different from the others, and it shows. You can sometimes fix this by taking an additional tiny stitch in some hidden place before doing the stitch. Other options are to take the longer route to the next row - think of the difference between tent stitch (very little thread across the back) and continental (much longer thread on the back).

When ending threads at the end of a row you can bury the thread back into the same row (except for basketweave, of course, which should be secured in a horizontal or vertical direction because the diagonal direction forms ridges with such a small stitch). However, when a thread ends in the middle of a row, it should be secured in the direction of the next stitch to maintain the same tension. The new thread should come from behind.

Because the area in front has not been filled yet, many people end the thread in the backing of the partially completed row and start the new thread with a waste knot. This often creates a noticeable gap. I usually park the ending tail in a safe place where it won't get pierced and secure it after the row is completed - an extra step, but if you leave the needle on this thread, you won't lose much time.

You can anchor the new thread in the backing of the completed part of the row and lock the tail with a back stitch before you take the first stitch. However, make sure this first stitch is not too loose or too tight as this would be difficult to correct later.

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Simple can be harder than complex: You have to work hard to get your thinking clean to make it simple. — Steve Jobs

Needlepoint Tips & Tricks

Laying Threads

This involves laying threads neatly when the stitch is a diagonal one. When you think about it, it is impossible for multiple threads to lay side by side when they're coming out of the corner of a hole. They come out bunched up. You have to get the threads to separate right there at the corner, and then they have to stay that way until you finish the stitch. The laying tool helps, of course, but it doesn't change the geometry, and then you have to do the same thing when you go back into a corner.

The solution is often to use a bigger needle that deforms the hole. The enlarged or deformed hole is easier to lay threads from.

Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase. — Martin Luther King, Jr

Local Classes and Stitch-Ins

There are several classes and stitch-ins scheduled at our local needlepoint stores:

- Thursday Stitch-Ins at Mrs. Stitches will be from 12 Noon to 5:00 pm
- Thursday Night's Stitch and Chat at Ridgewood Needlepoint from 7:00pm-9:00pm be sure to RSVP as they need at least 3 people to hold the gathering.
 - Stitching Bee in Chatham has stitching/studio time on select Tuesdays from 1 pm to 3pm

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Shining Needle Society Cyberworkshop

Elizabeth Class by Gay Ann Rogers
Registration opens May 1

The design for Elizabeth is available only as a part of the Shining Needle Society Class. To see the design and find more information, go to http://www.gayannrogers.com/site_2/Elizabeth_Class.html.

The cost for the class is \$275.00, which includes the instructions booklet, the congress cloth, all threads, beads and most importantly all pearls, shipping inside the U.S., Shining Needle Society administrative fees and of course the class.

"It is better to ask some of the questions than to know all of the answers." — James Thurber

Local Upcoming Events

New Jersey Needle Festival

- Sponsored by Foxview Needlepoint & The General Maxwell Chapter of the DAR
- Sat., April 28, 2012
- 9:30 am to 4:30 pm
- 50 State Road 24, Chester, NJ
- www.needlefest.com

Potomac Chapter 2012 Workshops

Open to Ghosts

The Potomac Chapter of ANG, located in the Northern Virginia area of Washington, DC. is hosting two exciting workshops in the spring of 2012: Bone Jangles with Janet Zickler Casey and Leaf Collage with Terry Dryden.

BONE JANGLES (2 day workshop)

Teacher: Janet Zickler Casey

Dates: March 10-11, 2012.

Bone Jangles is a ghoulishly charming three-dimensional "shelf-sitter" doll stitched on 18ct. white mono canvas in a delightful array of fun and funky fibers and stitches. Threads included in the kit are Splendor silk, Kreinik Metallics, Ribbon Floss, Soft Sheen Fyre Werks, Petite Very Velvet, and Silk Ribbon. Techniques included in this class include ruched ribbon, padding, and a variety of textured stitches.

The main body of Bone Jangles stands approximately 12 inches tall and sits on a chair or shelf with his feet dangling over the edge. Discussions in class will include ways that the student

can use some of their own beads buttons and findings to complete the legs and to personalize the design.

Design size: 7X12

Kit fee: \$95.00

Ghosts are allowed

LEAF COLLAGE (3 day workshop)

Teacher: Terry Dryden

Dates: April 14-26, 2012

You will learn how to transfer patterns to canvas using the new Transfer Artist Paper and then how to interpret the leaf sketches of Leaf Collage using a straight stitch sketch technique. Have fun coloring the exposed canvas with a multi-layer marker technique using transparent Copic markers. Many different decorative stitch patterns will be used to interpret the collage patterns as well as the five frames which surround the leaf patterns. The canvas you receive will have the leaf transfers already in place.

Design Size: 10-1/2" x 12-1/2"

Kit fee: 165.00

Ghosts are allowed.

The Potomac chapter is paying the teaching fee*. Since the chapter is paying the teaching fees, you must be a member of Potomac ANG (chapter dues are \$12/year) which requires membership in ANG

http://www.needlepoint.org/member_at_large/mal_join_or_renew.php.

For pictures, more information about the workshops and registration information, please go to <http://potomacang.shutterfly.com/>

If you have any questions, please contact cscloudon@comcast.net

When people keep telling you that you can't do a thing, you kind of like to try it. – Margaret Chase Smith

ANG Contact Information

Please contact ANG if you have moved or changed your address, or you need to update ANG's database with your email address.

This is easy to do, on the Web or by email. On the Web, go to the ANG page (<http://needlepoint.org/ChangeMember.php>) and fill in the blanks. Then click the "Submit Changes" button.



People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel. – Maya Angelou

2012 ANG Stitch of the Month

Beth Robertson and Suzanne Howren were asked to design and coordinate the 2012 SOTM to honor ANG's 40th anniversary. They selected ruby red, the gemstone for that anniversary year, as the basis for the monochromatic color scheme.

They also decided to invite past seminar teachers (their families if they've passed on) to contribute to the design, and apparently the list is enough that this is going to be a stimulating stitching experience. Among the designers are: Chottie Alderson, Ann Caswell, Mary Clubb, Jean Hilton, Joyce Lukomski, Tony Minieri, Kaye Neufeld, Shay Pendray, Jean Taggart, and Anna-Marie Winter.

The design is monochromatic and done in shades of red. The selection of threads promises a rich, textured needlepoint piece: Kreinik metallics in a variety of weights; silk Grandeur, Splendor, Trebizond, and Waterlilies; Panache; Soy Luster; and cotton ThreadworX Overdyed Floss and Wildflowers. It's embellished with Mill Hill seed beads and SJ Designs pearl hearts.

The fibers are beautiful, as you can see from the photo of most of the fibers at <http://stitchything.blogspot.com/>. The list of fibers and color options are available on the ANG Web site (<http://www.needlepoint.org/newsletter.php>) including suggestions on different colors and/or fibers.

Scarlet Thread has created an ANG 2012 Stitch of the Month kit of the fibers, beads, and canvas and it is available from their web site (<http://stores.intuitwebsites.com/ScarletThread/StoreFront.bok>).

Remember, the first installment of this charted needlepoint mystery will be posted on the ANG Web site on or around January 1, 2012. It is the only way to get the pattern.

Unless your LNS (or the ones listed as carrying all the supplies for the 2012 SOTM design) already has the 9mm SJ Designs hearts in stock, you will not be able to get them.

SJ Designs posted on their website on Nov 15 that the 9mm hearts are out of stock and are no longer being made. However, they will carry 8mm ones instead. This should not make a big difference in the design.

More than anything, this is just an FYI.



Any activity becomes creative when the doer cares about doing it right or better." - John Updike

Correction: November NeedlePointers

There is a small mistake in the November issue of "Needle Pointers." A correction will be in the March issue since the January had already gone to the publisher. The materials list for Victoria Nessels' Pinwheel Ornament should read:

--1 spool Kreinik #8 Metallic Braid (#152V vintage sienna; Trebizond Silk #401, red)

--1 spool #12 Kreinik Metallic Braid (#051 HL sapphire; Trebizond Silk #401 red)

--In the Christmas colorway, Kreinik #12 Metallic Braid #008 green is used in the woven cross in place of the Kreinik #12 Metallic Braid #051 HL sapphire.

After Vickie provided her original Pinwheel Ornament colorway, she very graciously agreed to also share with us her Christmas colorway. In her haste to get it all to me so that you could have it in time to stitch for the holidays, there was a small slip up. Vickie sends her apologies.

Since most will be using our stash for our Pinwheel Ornaments, it's likely that most didn't even notice this small mistake. Vickie is one of our newer needlepoint designers. Expect to be seeing a lot more of her exciting creations.

Sandy Rodgers
ANG Needle Pointers Editor

Needlepoint Tips and Tricks Finding a neutral grey fiber

Many greys aren't neutral greys but are either warm (yellow or red) or cool (blue, green, or violet). There are a couple of light Threadworx that are neutral and Caron has one shade, Salt & Pepper, that is neutral.

There is an easy way to shop for neutral greys in the store. Go with a skein of red thread and with a skein of blue thread. Put one next to a possible gray thread. Then do the same with the other thread. If it is a neutral gray, it will look warm next to the blue thread and cool next to the red thread. If it doesn't do both, it isn't a neutral grey. ✂

Needlepoint Tips and Tricks Finishing Canvas Edges

In order to avoid catching threads on the raw canvas edges, there are several ways to finish them before you begin stitching.

- Masking tape - it does not stick or leave residue when removed. Easy to stick tacks through.
- Grosgrain or smooth ribbon - fold the ribbon over the edge and zigzag stitch it; it holds the tacks well and makes the canvas easier to stretch on the bars. Think of all the fabulous patterns and colors you can use to add some zing to your canvas.
- Frame cover – fabric cover that fits over your frame while still allowing

you to stitch. You can make one using old ace bandages.

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The secret to success is to do the common things uncommonly well. — John D. Rockefeller Jr.

Interesting Web Sites

- Destashing Blog
<http://stitchingdestashing.blogspot.com/>
- Stitchers UFO Challenge:
<http://stitchersufochallenge.blogspot.com>

Needlepoint Tips and Tricks Choose the Right Needlepoint Yarn for any Project

Needlepoint yarns and threads come in a wide variety of fibers, colors, textures, and weights. This basic guide describes the different options and when to use them.

The vast assortment of different yarns and threads available today can be confusing. Which ones work best for needlepoint? How should a needle pointer choose the right yarn or thread for a particular project?

It's actually easier than it looks to choose the right needlepoint yarn. Start by considering what gauge canvas will be used for the project, and how the project will be used.

Match the Yarn's Weight and Thickness to the Needlepoint Canvas

The yarn should be thin enough to slip easily through the holes in the needlepoint canvas you are using without catching or fraying, and thick enough that the canvas threads won't show through the design. As a general rule, the lower the canvas gauge number, the heavier and thicker the yarn should be. Gauge 3 rug canvas calls for a very thick yarn, while gauge 26 silk gauze canvas needs ultra-fine silk thread.

Match the Yarn Fiber and Durability to the Project's Intended Use

Needlepoint yarns are made from a number of different fibers, including wool, cotton, silk, acrylic, rayon, and metallic. Wool is the traditional favorite because it is naturally strong and comes in a rich variety of colors. Needlepoint wool yarn can last for centuries with proper treatment. Its natural durability makes it a good choice for projects that will get heavy use, such as chair seats or sofa cushions. Knitting yarn is not recommended for those projects, because they are spun with shorter and softer fibers than needlepoint wool yarns, which makes them less durable.

Less sturdy options like rayon and metallic threads can work for projects that won't be handled regularly, such as wall hangings or Christmas ornaments.

Some yarns can be separated into smaller strands to make a thinner yarn when needed. Persian needlepoint yarn has three strands, and embroidery floss has multiple strands, the exact number depending on what fiber the floss was spun from.

Most Popular Needlepoint Yarns and Threads

Persian Yarn. An all-purpose, 3-strand wool yarn spun specifically for needlepoint in wool and acrylic. The strands can easily be separated to make thinner yarn. It's also possible to add more strands to make a thicker yarn.

Tapestry Yarn. This single-strand yarn spun in either wool or acrylic is slightly finer than Persian yarn. It's difficult to separate tapestry yarn into thinner strands.

Crewel Yarn. A fine single-strand yarn spun from either wool or acrylic, crewel yarn is much finer than Persian yarn. It is usually used for crewel embroidery, but can also be used as a needlepoint yarn.

Embroidery Floss. This multiple-strand thread is available in cotton, rayon, or silk. The strands can easily be separated to produce the proper thickness for a particular project.

Pearl Cotton. A lustrous, single-strand cotton thread used for embroidery. It can't be separated into thinner strands. Pearl cotton is available in three weights: fine (#8), medium (#5) and heavy (#3).

Matte Embroidery Cotton. A soft, single-strand cotton thread with a dull finish.

Metallic Thread. Available in a variety of weights, colors, and textures. This is mainly used to highlight small areas, because it doesn't wear well.

While the yarns and threads listed here are the ones most commonly used for needlepoint, they certainly aren't the only choices. Almost any fiber that can be threaded through a tapestry needle and will fit through the openings in the needlepoint canvas can be used for needlepoint. It might be fun to try some of the gorgeous decorative knitting wools available today, ribbon, or even strips of torn fabric for projects that won't get heavy wear.

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Thread Inventory Spreadsheets

Linda Reinmiller continues to update her Thread Inventory Spreadsheets. The links to the spreadsheets are found at <http://www.lkreinmiller.com/thread-inventories.html>.

Presencia Spreadsheet: Includes solid and variegated floss and solid and variegated perle cotton except size 3, which is very limited color-wise. The color names are from the DMC conversion chart as she couldn't find a list of Presencia with the color names. If anyone has a complete list please send it along and I'll put those into the spreadsheet.

Kreinik Spreadsheet: includes blending filament, size 4-16 metallics, and specialty threads as well as #24 and #32 braid, 1/8" and 1/16" ribbon.

Mill Hill Spreadsheet (not threads but definitely stash): includes seed beads, petite beads, Magnificas, bugle, Pebble/Pony beads (sizes 3, 6, 8), and Treasures.

ThreadWorx Spreadsheet: includes floss and #5 and #8 perle cotton.

Au Ver A Soie Spreadsheet: which has Soie Perlee and Soie 100/3

Thread Gatherer spreadsheet: only includes Silk 'n Colors overdyed silk floss. If the thread color is highlighted in light grey that means the color has existed at some point but may be discontinued. Any color not highlighted was found on some sort of current list - either the order form, the downloadable color list, or the individual pages on the web site. At the end of the list are the families of colors TG has designated Tints, Tones, Shades, divided by lines to indicate color families.

Linda has also added a link to as well as a link between the thread inventory page and the thread conversion page so you don't have to go out to the main page to get to them.

The following Thread Color Charts and Conversion Charts are available:

Needlepoint Threads:

<http://www.needlepointers.com/ShowArticles.aspx?NavID=1547>

Thread, floss & fibers conversion charts:

<http://www.freewebs.com/crossstitchpicturelibrary/conversiontablescharts.htm>

Floss Conversion Charts:

<http://www.cyberstitchers.com/stitchingtools/conversionchart.asp>

Needlepoint, Inc. Silk to DMC

Floss Conversion:

<http://drawnthread.com/Resources/Conversion%20PDF/needlepointsil to DMC.pdf>

DMC Floss to Needlepoint Silk:

<http://www.stitchesnthings.com/DMCtoNeedlepointSilk.html>

An interesting approach to conversions: <http://threadchart.info/>

Fabric Calculator, Thread Checklists, and Thread conversions: <http://www.findstitch.com/resources/>

Floss conversion charts: <http://crossstitch.about.com/od/flossc>

[onversioncharts/floss_conversion_charts.htm](http://conversioncharts/floss_conversion_charts.htm)

ThreadWorx conversions:

(<http://www.lkreinmiller.com/thread-conversion-links.html>)

Needle Artworks

(www.needleartworks.com) also has a several thread inventory lists that can be printed or exported to Excel.

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Happiness lies in the joy of achievement and the thrill of creative effort. - Franklin D. Roosevelt

New Designer

Canvas Art by Barbi is a new company AND designer. She has interesting letter designs as well as heart designs. Her website is <http://www.canvasartbybarbi.com> if you want to check it out. ✂

New Threads

Gloriana has developed a new hand-dyed thread, Duchess Silk. Colors blend with other threads/yarns by Gloriana. All of the colors are tone-on-tone (subtle) hand-dyed twisted silk. The colors are subtle to make them more "needlepoint friendly" with a gentle color change.

Duchess Silk comes in a 24 yard skein. Use single strand on #18 mesh. There are 15 Colors "so far".

✂

What's New

Hyla's High Cotton has announced 21 new colors. Included in them are a great set of hot pinks, a family of Christmas reds as well as some other great colors.

Sullivan's has some neat packs of their threads. They have 12 colors in each in 15 yard skeins. These are good combinations and they have clever names such as Fruit Fun and Floral Fest. They have also brought out project cards that will hold up to 20 colors.

Kelly Clark has added some Christmas pieces to her Dan DiPaolo collection. Kelly also has a new monthly series that will start in March called Tremendous Trees, offered through shops. She also has some new peppermint sticks.

Brenda E. Kocher's new Tootsiebulbbles design, Rachel's Ribbons could be made into an unusual birth sampler or embellished with a charm.

Melissa Prince has a great collection of "everyday" purses that come with handles. There are some lovely geometric and other designs. They also have simple backs, great for showing off fancy stitches.

DebBee's Designs has just come out with Rice Pudding, a design composed only of Rice Stitches. It's easy enough for beginners, but it's great style will attract many others.

Lee Needle Art has introduced some exquisite Judaic designs by Rebecca Shore. These include Tallis Bags as well as coordinated sets of yamulkes, tfillins (Torah scroll boxes), attorahs, and tallis bags in three designs.

JulieMar has a great custom snowman that can be personalized in one of seven sweater colors and a school or team name. ✂

Kissing Pillows

If you would like to use your stitching for a good cause, consider stitching a "Kissing Pillow", which are small keepsakes for children and loved ones of deploying soldiers and also for the departing soldiers. The idea is beautiful. The loved ones kisses the pillow and gives it to the departing

soldier. Not only does the soldier receive a pillow, so does the family. The soldier kisses a pillow for each family member to hold onto until the safe return from war. It is a comfort for the entire family during the lonely times for the soldiers and for the families left behind.

CyberPointers ANG has the directions and charts for stitching and finishing these pillows in .pdf form on the Yahoo group. ✂

NJNA Board Members

Co-Presidents

Sue Hoekstra
susan@foxview.com

Robin Marion
rmarion@metlife.com

VP Membership

Rosie Lunde
rlunde@att.net

VP Programs

Carol King-Barrow
carol.king@pnc.com

Kathy Marinovich
marinovich@optonline.net

Secretary

Sue Chadwick
suesci@aol.com

Treasurer

Heidi Kelleher
h.kelleher@verizon.net

Newsletter

Diane Burgess
dmbstitch@gmail.com

needle·point (-pɔɪnt') noun

1. embroidery done with wool thread on canvas, used for upholstery, decorative hangings, pillow covers, etc.
2. a kind of lace made on a paper pattern, with a needle instead of a bobbin
 in full needlepoint lace

Webster's New World College

<http://www.yourdictionary.com/needlepoint>