

New Jersey Needle Artists
American Needlepoint Guild
April 16, 2014 Meeting

Hi Everyone –

Fourteen members attended another informative meeting!

Diane opened the meeting and Heidi gave the treasurer's report. We have \$1,643.80 in our account. The newsletter is almost done – stay tuned to your e-mail!

We discussed the Frankie workshop format and experience. Most liked having a few weeks between sessions to get caught up on stitching and get rid of all the spaghetti strings. While it might be nice to have a professional teacher, many felt that the cost would be too high. Sentiment varied on whether to pass the whole design out at once or to pace the installments. Overall, people seemed to enjoy Frankie!

Carol discussed several program items. The NJ Needlefest is being held on April 26 in Pluckemin, NJ. NJNA will have a table there. The door prizes look fabulous, as usual! You can still contact Susan H. if you want to attend!

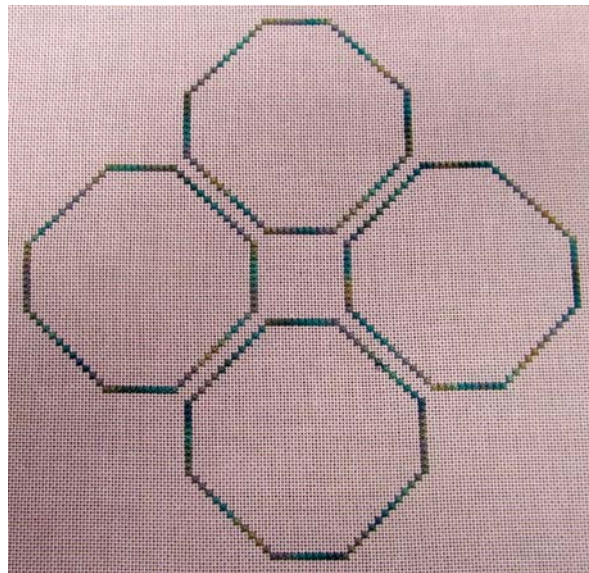
NJNA is planning to stitch a sampler in memory of Barbara Davis, a longtime, active member. The finished piece will be presented to her husband. We will be adapting the English garden sampler that Linda showed us last month for needlepoint. Carol has basted the outline on congress cloth and has most of the DMC threads that are required. We sent a sign-up sheet around and members signed up to complete various segments of the design.



Next, Carol announced that we would be doing a pilot class for Susan H's "A Thread for All Seasons: A Color Interaction Study" that has been accepted for the Myrtle Beach ANG seminar in 2015. The pilot class will be held on May 18 at Rosie's. Stitchers will need to bring 9-inch by 9-inch stretcher bars, scissors, needle threaders, and laying tools.

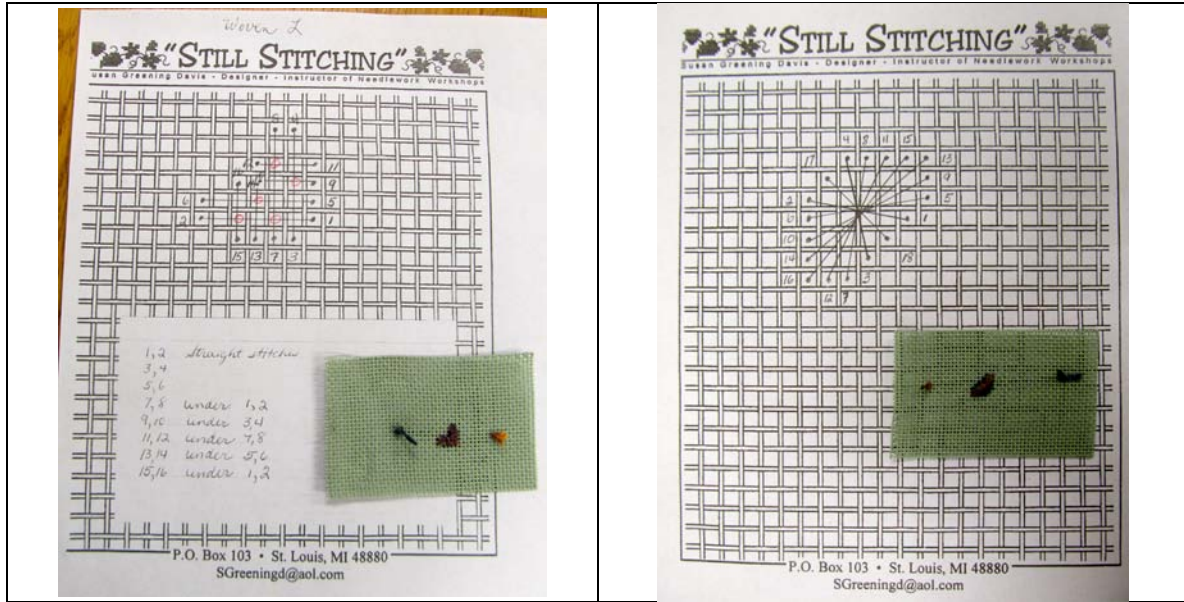
Finally, the new ANG Chapter Project Book is out on CD. We can check out the pictures on the ANG website. Please let Carol know if you are interesting in doing any of these as a Chapter project.

The SOTM group is continuing this year. After two months of the ANG SOTM project for 2014 – we decided to abort. Instead, we decided to do Kurdy Bigg's "A Different View" which contains lots of Jean Hilton stitches and many opportunities to use your stash. This is the chapter project for SBANG in 2014 and Rosie was able to get the design through them. We will be getting hints from SBANG and sharing our photos with them in return. Our first meeting was on April 12 where we handed out the instructions and formulated a plan for the rest of the year. This promises to be a fun design to stitch. Here is Robin's stitching completed and ready for the May meeting.



We will also form a second special stitching group to do "Serengeti" by Pamela Harding. We should receive our kits in early May, but we do not intend to get started until late in the summer.

After show and tell, Sue C. led us through the Butterfly Sheath stitch and the Woven L stitch – both of which will be used on the folding Ort Box with a Twist! The Ort Box is our chapter program for the next few months. Members should continue stitching and be ready to begin finishing in July.



Because Sue C. thinks that the Ort Box stitching directions do not require further instruction in May, Susan H. has agreed to do a color analysis on our SOTM pieces from 2013! She will bring some special viewers that will help with the analysis – for purchase by anyone who is interested.

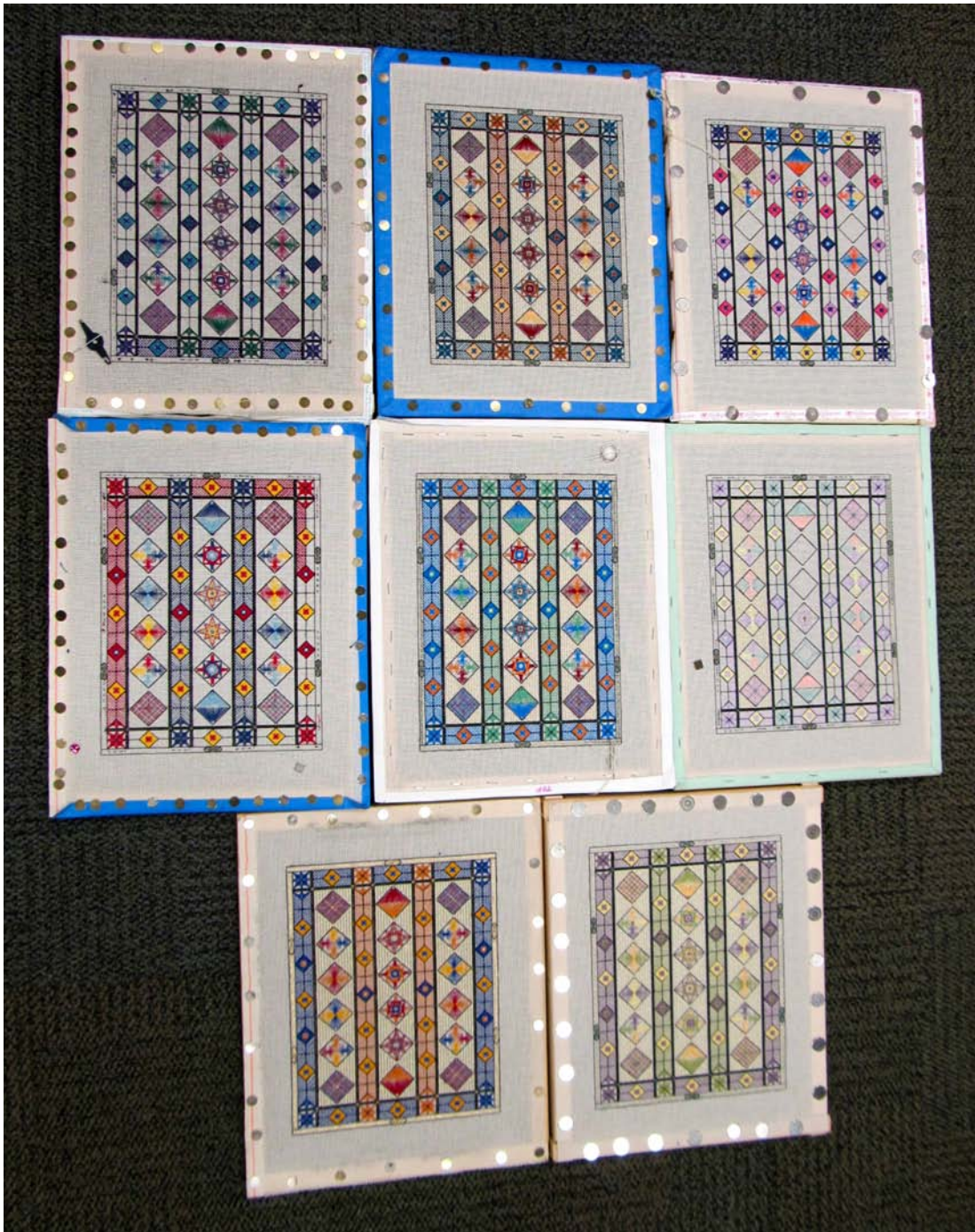
I hope you'll enjoy our show and tell pictures! We also got to see a sneak preview of the angel that Susan H. is stitching for the ANG Myrtle Beach seminar. Her class and the kit will include all the supplies for finishing this into a flying angel blowing a trumpet! Sorry, no pictures YET! And this afternoon, she started working on a series of squares within squares for an ANG correspondence course – she is designing as she goes, so we won't know what to expect until we see it again!

Happy Stitching!

Cheers,

Rosie

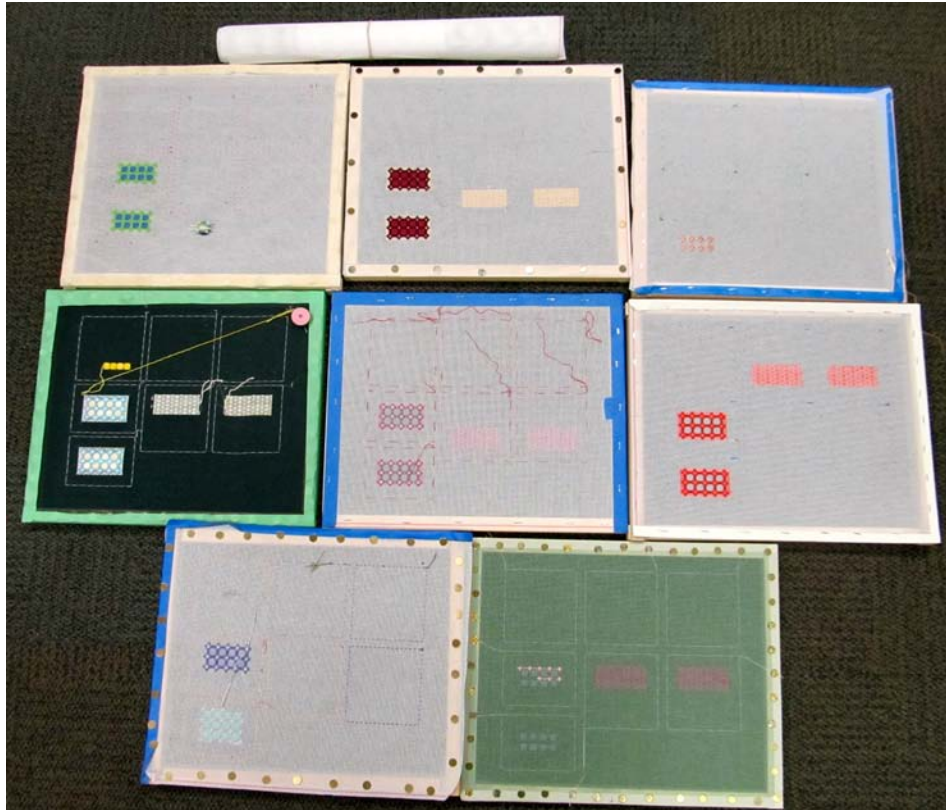
FRANKIE! WORKSHOP



Only finished “Frankie’s” will be shown individually. Updated progress for each will appear on our website under Workshops!

Top Row: Heidi, Rosie, Rona
Middle Row: Diane, Linda, Mary
Bottom Row: Robin, Ellen

ORT BOX WITH A TWIST!



Here's the current status on our Ort Boxes. I love Rona's decision to include her rolled up canvas in this group picture! I apologize, but I can only identify a few of the stitchers on this photo!

FINISHED!



Diane made these darling Easter baskets many years ago – one for each kid. We love the 3-D fluffy tails on the bunnies! Note how they got progressively smaller!



Nancy, our newest member, put most of us to shame with her finished NJNA name tag.

She noted that the website directions said to make it the same size as the printed template, but she thought that smaller would have been better. However, we could all easily read it from across the room! The directions called for using Medici wool which Nancy was able to get at the Edwardian Needle – but not many colors are available. I think it might be time for an NJNA Nametag update! Great Job, Nancy!

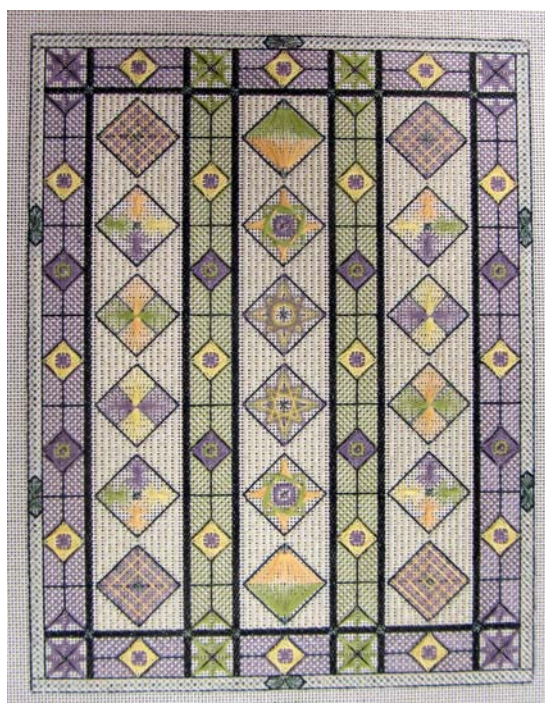


Rosie completed this Nova Kimono in 2006, but she just picked it up at the framer's today! This should fit in well with the other Asian influences in her home.

STITCHED!



Rosie's "Frankie" in her own colorway. The color choices gave this piece an unexpected southwestern feel.



Ellen's "Frankie" in the Monet colorway.



Robin's "Frankie" in her own colorway. This has the feel of the sidelights in European churches which is the effect that Robin was going for. She used Gold instead of Mermaid Shimmer for the metallic thread. She also changed the spacing on the white background threads to get better coverage.



With these bright colors, this could only belong to Rona! Rona wanted to stitch a Sudoku puzzle and so she made this one up on her own. It uses variegated DMC 5 perle cotton and watercolours. She'll be our expert when we do our Sudoku project later this year.



Diane has been working on this teacup canvas for a long time. In fact, she was working on it at our Adirondack retreat last fall! Diane picked a very interesting background stitch that we hope she will teach us for our stitch notebooks! Note: she has already blocked this – twice!

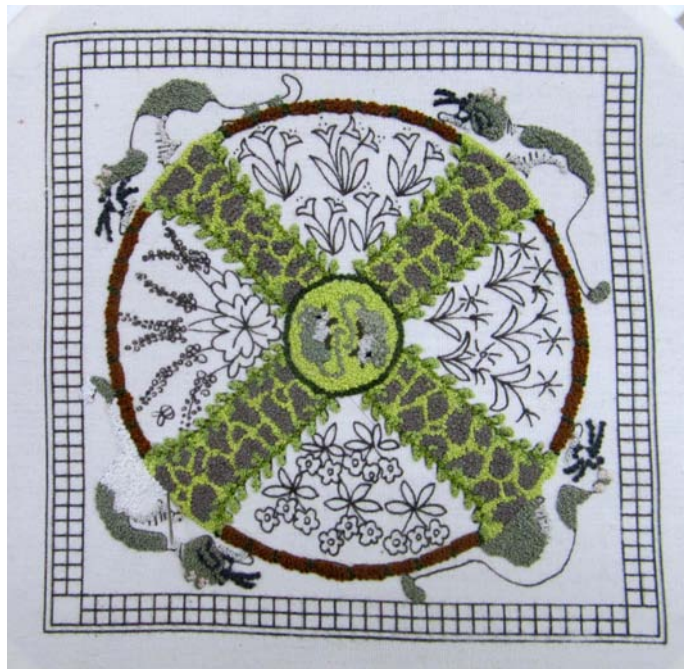
IN-PROGRESS!



This is Rosie's Tuscan Midnight by Kathy Rees, still two "rounds" shy of being done! Rosie bought this at the first NJ Needlefest two years ago. She started stitching it at last year's Needlefest and she plans to finish it at this year's Needlefest later in April!



Mary is doing a Kathy Rees piece called “Burst of Stars” in the oceanic teal color way. This is a workshop currently being offered at Mrs. Stitches in Mendham. On the left is last month’s progress – if you look at last month’s meeting summary, you can see the month before! Isn’t this beautiful?



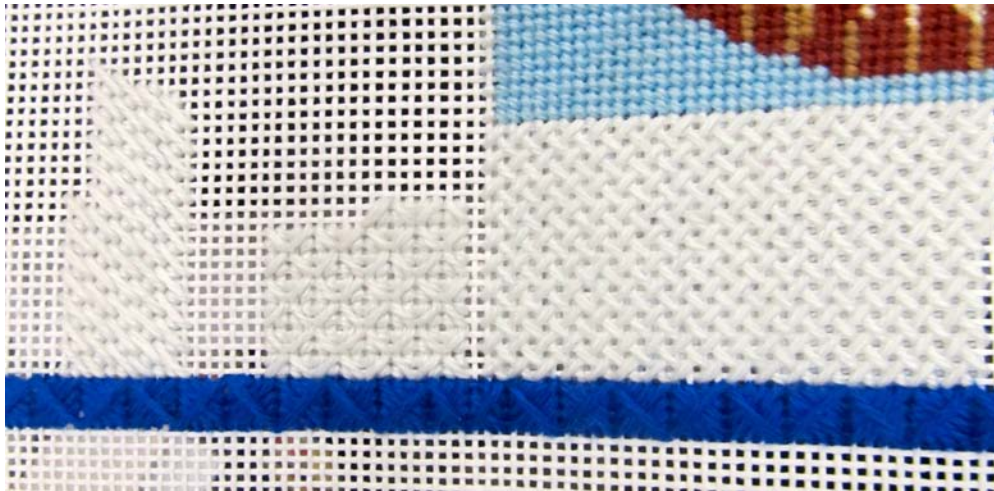
Ellen was stitching this “Miniature Rug”. It consists entirely of French and Colonial knots done with a single strand of floss! So tiny! We all want Ellen to teach us the difference between French and Colonial knots – for our stitch notebooks! Pretty please?



Ellen is also stitching this whimsical witch and cats on a broom!

The witch is mostly done and Ellen started on the cat behind the witch by stitching the ruffled orange collar.

I love the collar, but Ellen thinks it stands out too much. The consensus from the meeting was that she needed to stitch the cat's green dress before she started ripping out!

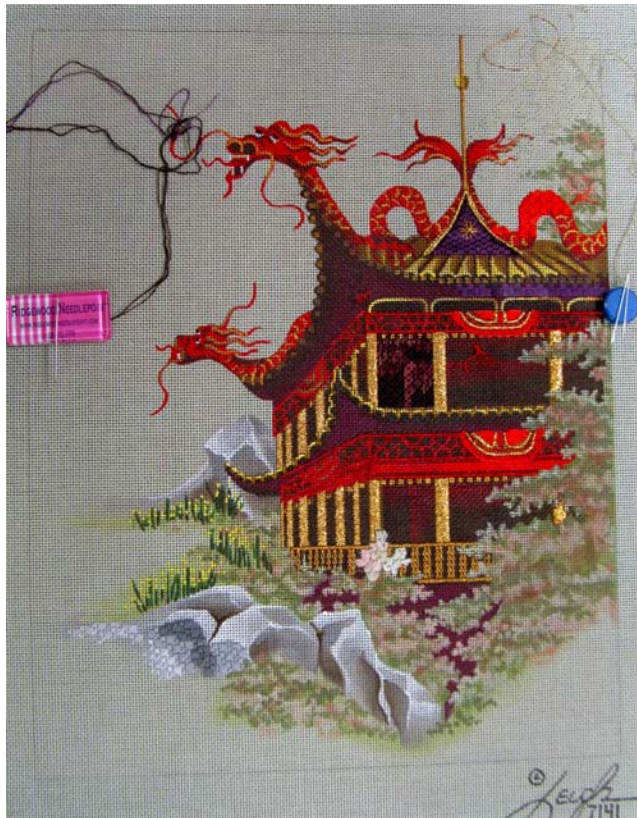


As reported in March, Heidi has completed the alphabet letters in basketweave. This month she completed the blue border and had to decide on a background stitch. The lower picture shows her three options: Nobuko, Reversing Mosaic, and Horizontal Lattice. She decided on the Horizontal Lattice because 1) it didn't pull the canvas like Nobuko, 2) it was easy to compensate, and 3) the odd number of threads between the borders meant that the Reversing Mosaic would have half a stitch at one of the sides.

Heidi will definitely be teaching the Horizontal Lattice at a future meeting!



Nancy B. is working on this pumpkin from Labors of Love. It will be finished as a 3-D standup jack-o-lantern! The eyes and teeth will be stitched with glow in the dark threads – how cool is that? Nancy is using a stitch guide developed by Elena at Beyond Knits and Needles in Caldwell, NJ!



Last, we have Linda's striking pagoda canvas. This is from a three day embellishment class that she is taking at Ridgewood Needlepoint. Linda picked the canvas and Tony Minieri developed a stitch guide and thread selection for it. Each of the 16-18 people in the class chose their own canvas. I can't imagine a better thread choice for the tree's leaves.