



HOT ENOUGH TO ...

fry an egg on the sidewalk. That's what we said about this kind of weather when I was a girl (and no, it wasn't during Revolutionary War. ☺) Then, of course, what should we expect in July and early August?

The heat has driven many of us inside ... and to our stitching. *THAT* is a good thing! My goodness, fall and the holidays are truly just around the corner when you consider stitching hours. Do you know what you want to get done before the holidays? My list is getting longer instead of shorter. lol

There certainly is a lot going on as we move into fall. The Calendar of Events and the list of classes provide some clues. PLUS, the 16th Annual *Especially for You* walk (we want YOU on our team!) ... our annual *Fall Kickoff* activities ... the *Online Needlework Show* ... and a lot more. Never a dull moment!

So, there are lots of activities. But, what about patterns, fabrics, etc.? We're working hard to bring in an ever expanding selection to tempt your stitching itch. The "What's New" section of our website is a good place to check for the newest charts. As for fabrics and threads, I generally don't list them in the Whats New section ... there aren't any pictures! But, be assured that more are coming in every month. Just remember, if you don't see exactly what you want, let us know and we'll see what we can do to find it in for you ... and orders are never a problem!

Take care ... stay cool ... come see us soon!

Always in Stitches,

MARK YOUR CALENDAR ...

HOLIDAY HOURS

Monday, September 4 – Closed
Thursday, November 23 – Closed
Monday, December 25 – Closed
Monday, January 1 thru
Saturday, January 6 – Closed

ANNUAL TAILGATING EVENT (September 16)

ESPECIALLY FOR YOU – 16th Annual Women's Race Against Breast Cancer (October 8)

EMBELLISHED TEXTILES EXHIBIT

National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library
(April 8 - October 1)

VARIETY OF NEW CLASSES ...

Take the opportunity to learn something new or different ... or more about something you already do. Look at what's scheduled for the coming weeks!

Kumihimo (Instructor: Rose Mary) – A Japanese braid-making technique.

Market Bag (Instructor: Dian Boysen) – Easy for those that know how to crochet.

Shuttle Tatting (Instructor: Chris Thomson) – Beginners welcome!

Beginning Knitting (Instructor: Ann Torbert)

Kool Mittens (Instructor: Rebecca) – Dying wool, knitting and felting.

WATCH FOR MORE! ...

JUST CROSS STITCH MAGAZINE'S ORNAMENT EDITION

ONLINE NEEDLEWORK SHOW

SANTA'S HELPERS ... We'll be helping Santa by providing an evening of shopping for your significant other. (☺ You can come too if you want!)

STITCHED TOGETHER ...

(A NEW column written about stitchers, by stitchers!)

Featured Stitcher: Helen Garringer

Helen grew up in Sigourney, Iowa and now lives in Van Horne. She is an avid (!) cross stitcher. Her latest project cannot be divulged here because it's for her secret pal in the Stitch-N-Bitch group she attends once a week. Other things she is working on include a table topper and a Needle Nana stand-up by Lizzie Kate.

When asked if there was a piece of needlework that most impressed her, she immediately mentioned a wedding sampler done by Linda Lee Miller. In addition, Helen has several pieces of needlework handed down from family members. A framed, crocheted Lord's Prayer done by her husband's grandmother and a quilt done by her grandmother in 1930 are but only two. Helen has many pieces of needlework in her home, but the one of hers that she hopes her family members pass down is her perpetual calendar.

(by Dian Boysen)

ESPECIALLY FOR YOU (Women's Race Against Breast Cancer)

(Sunday, October 8)

The mission of *Especially for You* is to raise funds for women unable to afford breast-cancer screening and to educate women on the importance of early detection.

Yes! We have our own team walking again this year. (Registration forms are available at Village Needlework.) Join our team and walk (or run) with us! And then, maybe the best part, join us for breakfast. ☺

Click on this link for more information from the organizers: [Especially for You](#)

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL?!

Hearing this television ad and seeing all the football hoopla in the newspapers made me realize that, even though it's still hot and muggy, fall activities are truly kicking off. That can mean some welcome, uninterrupted, hours stitching as you watch (or ignore!) football. But, as much as anything, it means there are only about 100 days until the holidays hit full stride.

Whether you are a football fan or just want to have some fun, come join us as we celebrate one of the first weekends of football with a kick off of our own.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th

Tailgating - begins at 9:30 AM

Kick-off - at 10 AM

- Score a **Touchdown (6% discount)** between 10 AM and Noon on any of our in-stock items.
- Score an **Extra Point (1%)** if you are sporting your school colors.
- Munchies? Of course!

Take this opportunity to see what is new, get those supplies for your holiday projects, check out upcoming classes, visit with friends ... and save!

PLAN AHEAD ...

Are you planning to give stitched items as gifts this holiday season? Unless you're doing the finishing work yourself, it's a good idea to check for deadlines now.

The dates we're hearing most often are:

- **November 1st** - for "soft" finishing (pillows, etc)
- **November 13th** - for framing.

The holidays are coming sooner than you think!



MILLIE's MUSINGS ...

I had to go to the doggy dentist last week. It might have been 90 degrees outside, but I wore the wool sweater Rebecca made for me. Thank you Rebecca!

CALL TODAY AND REGISTER ...

There are a series of classes just waiting to be scheduled. We've added brief descriptions where we felt the term was unfamiliar. Call today and let us know if you're interested. If there's enough interest, we'll get them scheduled pronto!

- **Bunka** – Loosely, Bunka is a Japanese form of punch embroidery generally using rayon (vs cotton) threads.
- **Hardanger/Beginning**
- **Potholders (Knit or Crochet)**
- **Canvas (aka Needlepoint) / Beginning**
- **Embroidery on Paper**
- **Crocheted Lace**
- **Afghan Stitch**
- **Shawl Knit Along** – Knit a shawl using finger or lace-weight yarns, maybe angora or mohair. The pattern is from Interweave Knits. We featured it before. I'm just slow getting it going.

Do you have something in mind that you don't see here? Give us a call! One-on-one and customized classes are always an option.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS ...

(See [Calendar/Classes](#) for details!)

- 08/05 Stars for a New Millennium Group
- 08/07 Sampler Groups
- 08/10 Community Stitching
- 08/12 Beginning Knitting (1st of 2 sessions)
- 08/15 Beginning Cross Stitch
- 08/17 Cedar Valley EGA Meeting
- 08/21 Plum Grove EGA Meeting
- 08/21 Smocking Guild Meeting
- 08/22 Kumihimo
- 08/24 Community Stitching
- 08/26 **Village Christmas**
- 08/28 Kumihimo
- 09/02 Stars for a New Millennium Group
- 09/04 CLOSED**
- 09/05 Tatting (1st of 4 sessions)
- 09/09 Tatting (1st of 4 sessions)
- 09/16 **Fall Kickoff / Tailgating!**
- 09/19 Market Bag (1st of 2 sessions)
- 09/23 Beginning Knitting (1st of 2 sessions)
- 09/25 Market Bag (1st of 2 sessions)

Please remember to vote for our website on the *Top Cross Stitch Sites* as often as you can using the links near the bottom on our website's home page. That really helps us. Thank you!

REBECCA SAYS ...



Lets have a **Yarn Tasting Party**.

If you've been reading all the newest knitting magazines you have probably seen lots of new yarns from some unusual fibers. There's a lot more out there than cotton and wool! **Southwest Trading Company** is one of the innovators in new and unusual yarns. **Crystal Palace** has come out with a great new selection of Fall yarns as well. Alpaca is a hot right now; not so new but a great fiber anyway!

So...we are going to have a "Yarn Tasting Party" as part of our Fall Kickoff Saturday. I will have samples of all these neat new fibers and yarns available for you to sample as well as patterns using these yarns to inspire you. Receive a 10% discount on special orders of these yarns, placed on the 16th through the end of the month.

Also, you probably noticed that we have some new teachers at the shop.

Ann Torbert has been knitting for a couple years and enjoys teaching beginning knitting. She works for the Iowa State Extension service working with kid's programs.

Chris Thomson is a spinner, knitter, bobbin lacer and tatter. She is working on a beautiful tatted tablecloth and is very accomplished.