



# News Blast

April 2018

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## **Contact Us:**

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## **Store Hours: (EST)**

Monday: 10am to 4pm  
Tuesday: 10am to 7pm  
Wednesday: 10am to 4pm  
Thursday: 10am to 4pm  
Friday: 10am to 4pm  
Saturday: 10am to 4pm

## *How to Make Classes More Helpful*

**Jill Elia**

We are a bit late with our Newsletter this month and for that I apologize. We have been extremely busy here at Louise's in the last few months. We have welcomed lots of new stitchers lately. As a result our time for some things has been limited.

Along with new customers comes increased participation in classes. We love having everyone in class and love to see the progress that our customers make on their stitching and in their stitching ability. A number of newer stitchers have expressed some trepidation about picking stitches on their own when they are not in class and I hope to help with that so that you can make the most of your time when you are here for class.

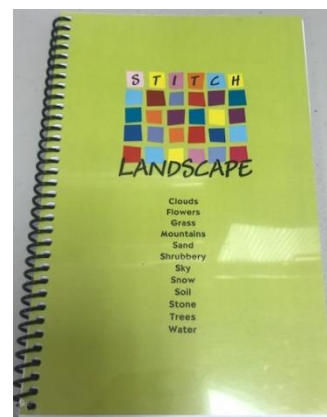
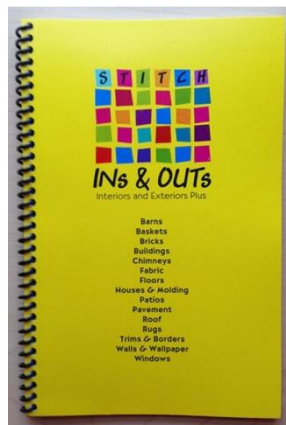
The most helpful thing you can do for yourself in coming to class is to bring the necessary stitching supplies. Many of our customers are now also bringing their own lights and floor stands as our shop models are always in use.

Next be sure to bring your stitch books with you. Our shop samples are always in use and often times end up having sleep overs before returning to us at a later date. We recommend that everyone purchase a copy of Stitches to Go by Suzanne Howren and Beth Robertson. This is a great book to start learning stitches with and it is very portable.



Other great recommendations are Stitch Landscapes and Stitch Ins & Outs. Another older set, but incredibly valuable set is the Stitches for Effect series, which also by Suzanne Howren and Beth Robertson. There are 3 books in the series: Stitches For Effect, More Stitches for Effect, and Even More Stitches for Effect. These book have indexes by Stitch, Effect, and Thread. The third book has an index that references all 3 of the books. Each of these books shows a stitch and then has a paragraph about how the stitch can be used, and the desired effect it will give.

The discussion then goes on to tell you what type of thread would look nice with the stitch. Although these books were written several years ago and we currently use threads that were not in use at the time of writing, we can certainly direct you to the type of thread that will work with your stitch and canvas. There are many other books that we like and recommend but these are all a good start for a fabulous stitching library.



Now that you are loaded down with supplies and books, you can further prepare yourself by looking through your books ahead of time and come with some ideas of stitches that you would like to try. Karen will help you decide if the stitch will fit the canvas area you are working on and if the scale of the stitch is correct. Our classes are all embellishment classes that are designed to help you with your personal canvas and your vision for your canvas. During each class Karen will get around to each person to help with an area or two, she will also give you “homework” to work on for the next time you come to class. As our classes grow, we ask that you be patient with Karen and I as we perfect our system. We do ask that new customers come early to get acquainted with us, so that we can assess your abilities and learn what you want to accomplish with your canvas. I too will be out on the floor more as we grow in order to help Karen with the class.

We also book private lessons with Karen and these should be booked a couple of weeks ahead due to the increasing demand. Private lessons are \$25.00 per hour.

In the near future we will be announcing other classes to be held here at Louise's so be sure to stay up to date with our Facebook, Instagram pages, as well as our website.

## **Trunk Show**

Come check out our April trunk show – DeDe Needleworks. All of the handpainted canvases (including special orders) are 20% off. DeDe Needleworks are distributed by Fleur de Paris and can be found at the following web address - [https://www.fleurdeparis.com/product-category/canvas\\_designs/dede-needleworks/](https://www.fleurdeparis.com/product-category/canvas_designs/dede-needleworks/). Check out the site, then call us or come in to order.

## ***Beading: About Needles and Threads***

**Diane Snyder**

The range of threads and cords used by beaders includes many different types, but as needlepointers, we basically work with two types of thread: nylons and braided/bonded.

Nylon beading thread is sold under a number of brand names such as Nymo, C-Lon, Superlon, and S-Lon. These threads are made at the exact same specifications; the only difference is that C-Lon is on a taller spool than S-Lon or Superlon and has more yardage on each spool. This is a plied and bonded nylon string sometimes also identified by a TEX number which indicates the width of the thread.



Nymo size 00 is a TEX 33 weight; Its small width is ideal for making multiple passes through a single bead, especially the smaller size 14/15 beads. Nymo size D is a TEX 45 weight, a slightly thicker version, also good for small seed beads. Higher TEX weights are suitable for cording and knotting pearls in jewelry-making, but less appropriate for needlepoint applications.

Nymo/C-Lon/Superlon is strong and relatively easy to use. It is inexpensive and comes in many colors. It is a nylon monochord, which means it is a single bonded strand, not several strands braided together. It won't untwist and separate, but it will fray and can be pierced with your needle. It is helpful to use a conditioning agent such as beeswax or Thread Magic. Nymo has stretch but not memory; it is helpful to stretch it slightly before stitching. Nymo also tangles easily and knots and stitches are not easy to undo. Nymo bobbins contain about 64 yards.

FireLine is a brand of braided nylon made of gel-spun polyethylene, which is extruded in a single strand. These strands are braided together and then fused. Because of this it is strong, abrasion resistant, does not require conditioning, and does not stretch. It is easy to thread on a needle, does not frequently tangle (although it can develop kinks), and is extremely difficult to pierce with a needle.



FireLine is stiffer than nylon beading threads. It is recommended for use with bugle beads where the sharp glass edges may cut or abrade a nylon thread. FireLine is sold by test; the higher the pounds, the stronger the test. The number of pounds is the amount of pressure required to break the thread. A 6-lb FireLine will fit needle sizes from 10 to 13, and can fit through beads up to a size 14/15. However, for multiple passes, a smaller weight such as 4-lb test is easier to use. FireLine is available from 2-lb test to 20-lb test, but the 4- and 6-lb tests are most compatible with needlepoint use.

FireLine comes in limited colors, but a distinct advantage is that it comes in a clear Crystal, which is slightly transparent in color. Another versatile color is Smoke Gray, since it goes



well with neutral, bright, and dark color beads. Both will respectively lighten or darken any transparent or clear beads.

The choice of needles for beading can also make quite a bit of difference. Regular sewing or embroidery needles are thicker and have eyes that are slightly bigger in diameter than the shaft of the needle. This may cause problems with fitting through the beads or with making multiple passes through the beads. If you find yourself discarding a lot of beads that don't fit the needle, the problem may be the needle size and not the quality of the bead.

Beading needles are slightly flexible with a reinforced eye and a slightly rounded point. The longer needles will bend and flex more so than the shorter ones, but this is more of a feature for off-loom stitches and jewelry makers. Unless you are stringing long lines of beads together, the shorter needles work better for needlepoint. Beading needles come in size 10 or 12. Japanese beading needles are sold under the Tulip or Miyuki brand names. English needles are sold by Bohin and John James.

Choosing your needle size also depends on the bead size with which you are working. In general, for beads size 14/15 or larger, use a size 10 needle. If you are working with the very small Charlottes (smaller than 15/0) use a size 12 needle.

## April 2018 Calendar

**Stitch In** - Our next monthly **Stitch In** will be Saturday, April 21, 2018 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. No instruction or fees – just a fun time with other great stitchers. Share your ideas and learn from others. Refreshments are provided.

**Threads, Stitches and More** - every Monday, 1:00 to 4:00 pm - an informal canvas embellishment class with Karen Chrissinger. Classes are \$11 for two hours and \$15 for three hours.

**Sip and Stitch** – every Tuesday, 7:00 to 9:00 pm - an informal canvas embellishment class, with Jill Elia - and wine. Classes are \$11.

**Thursdays with Karen** - every Thursday, 1:00 to 4:00 pm - an informal canvas embellishment class. Classes are \$11 for two hours and \$15 for three hours.

**Private Classes** – One-on-one sessions are also available. These sessions are \$25/hour and require advance arrangements.

## April Birthday Bucks



Louise's Needlework

**20% OFF Your Total Purchase**

244 W. Olentangy St.  
Powell, OH 43065

During the month of April, bring this coupon and proof of your birth date. One coupon per year per newsletter subscriber. May not be combined with other

Expires April 30, 2018



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## Our Latest Arrivals



**Bejeweled Santa with s.g. \$63**  
Just Libby Designs. Handpainted on 18 mesh canvas. Total canvas size 10 x 12.



**SuperHeros' Emblems \$122**  
Alice Peterson Designs. Hand painted canvas on 13 mesh. Canvas size is 10 x 20.



**Fall Girl \$102**  
Alice Peterson design handpainted on 18 mesh canvas. Total canvas size 13 x 15.



**Standing checkered Reindeer \$117**  
Raymond Crawford Designs. Hand-painted canvas on 18 mesh. Canvas size is 12 x 14.



**Give Thanks \$83**  
JL Canvas Company Designs. Hand-painted canvas on 18 mesh. Stitch Guide included. Canvas size is 10 x 12.



**White Poppy Delight \$200**  
Poppies hand painted on 18 mesh by Julie Mar. Canvas size 17 x 14.



**The Claus Closeline \$168**  
Alice Peterson Designs. Hand painted on 13 mesh. Canvas size is 17 x 20.



**Mediterranean Diet \$90**  
Hand painted on 18 mesh by Melissa Prince. Canvas comes with Stitch Guide by Suzie Vallerie. Canvas size 10 x 10.



**Wooden Horse Sled \$54**  
Hand painted on 18 mesh by Melissa Prince. Canvas size 9 x 9.

*Happy Stitching!*