



News Blast

April 2019

Happy SPRING!

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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

Jill Elia

Spring is finally here along with new blooms, warmer weather (let's hope anyway), and new canvases coming from Market! Our Stitch In this month will feature a Physical Therapist who will help us with how we can take care of our bodies while we stitch. I don't know about everyone else but my hands and neck bother me after lots of stitching so I am looking forward to this talk. Join us on Saturday April 20th from 12 to 4, as we welcome Holly Kern as our speaker. Come relax, and stitch with friends before your Easter celebration on Sunday.

We are kicking off our spring with a beautiful silk ribbon class! I will be teaching a custom design by Susan over the course of 2 days. This is a fun piece and stitches up quickly. We will be working with various sizes of silk ribbon and learning ribbon stitches that will help you to enhance needlepoint canvases for years to come. The class will be offered May 4th and 5th. Class size will be limited to 12 spots, a second class will be offered later in the year. Call us at 614-436-3905 for all information regarding this class.

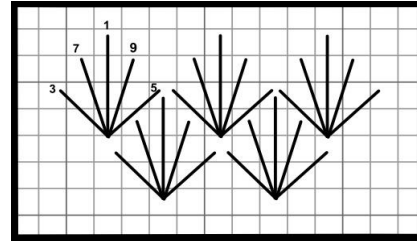


We are also launching a new club! Join us as we stitch 12 Days of Christmas and Backgrounds! We are always getting requests for background stitches and we have always wanted to feature this Petei 12 Days of Christmas series and the two ideas became the perfect match. This series is fun and fast, and incorporates beads, ribbons and so much more. I have truly enjoyed stitching this series; call us for information and to sign up at 614-436-3905.



Stitch Spotlight: Diamond Ray **by Diane Snyder**

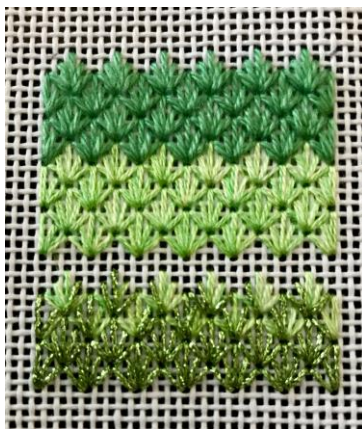
For this stitch, the shape of each group or motif resembles a small leaf. This makes it an obvious choice for any type of leaf; you can vary the lengths and the angles of the individual stitches to fit the painted canvas. It can also be combined in a repeating pattern and used for other areas of greenery, such as bushes, garlands, trees and large areas of open landscapes.



This stitch is a repeating pattern of 5 individual stitches all sharing the same bottom hole. Start by placing the center stitch straight from the top to the bottom. Next, place the two outer stitches which will be on a true diagonal. Finally, place the in-between stitches, which are at oblique angles. Notice that the outer stitches of the two neighboring motifs will share the same top hole; in addition, the top of the center stitch in the row below also shares the same canvas hole.

This stitch is not limited to just leaves and trees. It can also be used as a filling stitch, with the overall pattern being a series of interlocking diamond shapes with small areas of open canvas showing through between the individual stitches. The pattern can also be worked horizontally or diagonally, or with the points of the stitches facing up or down.

Your choice of thread textures and weights will also have an impact on how smooth or dense the pattern will appear when stitched. A thinner thread or fewer strands will highlight the individual stitches. A thicker thread or more strands will hide the open areas giving a denser coverage in the pattern. An overdyed thread will add some color contrast and gradation. For the greens (such as sample below) it gives a more natural look to an area of greenery; as an overall pattern it breaks up the visual density, appearing lighter and adding more movement. Combining different weights and textures of threads adds even more movement, gradation, and contrast which breaks up the visual density even more.



The sample was stitched using 1 strand of Caron Impressions #5086 for the top 4 rows. The next 4 rows were stitched with 2 strands of Caron Waterlilies #201.

The bottom section was stitched combining 2 strands of Waterlilies #201 with 1 strand of #8 Kreinik Braid 015. At the upper edge, most of the individual stitches were done with Waterlilies, adding single stitches of #8 Braid. As the pattern progressed downward, more of the individual stitches were done with #8 Braid until the bottom row which is all done in #8 Braid.

Think of this stitch as more than just leaves and greens. Imagine using different shades of blues, overdyes and metallics to create a sky or sea. Angle the stitches to create movement of wind or waves. Pull out your doodle cloth and have fun experimenting!

The Joys of Counted Needlepoint by Susan Houchin

I have been stitching counted pieces for several years. In fact, there was a time when that's all that I stitched. I found a book at a local used-book store which was a classic, *Needlepoint Designs From Oriental Rugs*, by Grethe Sorensen. As a fan of Oriental rugs, I loved the designs and began to work my way through the book, stitching many of the designs. Some I framed, some I made into pillows. Since then, I have collected other books and have stitched some of their patterns.

Stitching a counted design from a pattern requires some different skills than we normally use when stitching a painted canvas. First, I start with a blank piece of canvas and I plot a grid on the canvas. When marking a canvas that will later be hidden by the stitches, it is important to use a waterproof pen rather than a pencil or a water-soluble pen; pencil and water-soluble pens will bleed into the threads, especially if the canvas gets wet (ie when blocking a canvas). Once the grid is marked, I find a starting point which is usually indicated in the printed pattern. From that point on I count threads and holes to place the stitches, matching them to the pattern.

In the early stage of stitching a counted piece, it is extremely important to place the stitches correctly. I have ripped out any incorrectly placed stitches numerous times and had to do them over. This is important because later stitches and patterns in the design will be built off these beginning stitches. Any mistake in the early stages will result in bigger problems later. The most challenging part of working on a counted piece is getting the stitches placed where they belong. This requires great concentration, an ability to count accurately, and remembering patterns for small groups of stitches. I learned recently that doing counted work in the midst of a group of friends can be difficult. I do better when I am stitching at home alone, where I can concentrate.

The joys of counted pieces are many. I like that I start with a blank canvas and end with something amazing that I created myself. Blank canvas is less expensive than a painted canvas. That allows me to work on larger pieces, or to spend more on the threads. I also love the experience of choosing the colors I will use. I can follow the color choices in the directions or choose my own colors. I like to think of this as 'painting with fiber.' It is very satisfying.

The Beginning



Setting the Pattern



Filling in the Pattern ...



Almost there.....



Hooray - - Finished and Framed!



2019 Calendar

Stitch In - Our next monthly ***Stitch In*** will be Saturday, April 20, 2019 from 12:00 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.

Monday Threads, Stitches and More - 1:00 to 4:00 pm - an informal canvas embellishment class. Our teacher Brenda is back! Thanks Diane, for being here in her absence. 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.

Thursday Threads, Stitches and More - 1:00 to 4:00 pm - an informal canvas embellishment class with Jill Elia. Classes are \$11 for two hours and \$15 for three hours.

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

New Canvases – Just arrived from Market!



Stacked Preents \$35
BB Needlepoint Designs
18 ct, 5 x 9 canvas



Knit \$28
Kathy Schenkel Designs
18 mesh, 5 x 6 canvas



Little Tykes with SG \$63
Valerie Needlepoint Gallery
18 mesh, 8 x 8 canvas



Bunny Butts with SG \$88
Vallerie Needlepoint Gallery
13 mesh, 8 x 12 canvas & SG



Joy To The World \$55
And More Needlepoint Designs
18 mesh, 9 x 12 canvas



Santas List with SG \$104
Melissa Shirley Designs
18 mesh, 10 x c 11 canvas



Lilac Flower Pot with SG \$165
Valerie Needlepoint Gallery
18 ct, 14 x 14 canvas



It's Not a Home...\$67
Strictly Chrstmeas Designs
18 mesh, 12 x 12 canvas

Birthday Coupon Policy

Birthday coupons are just like your birthday! You get to celebrate one day a year at Louise's. Birthday coupons are to be used on in stock items only; we do allow them to be used on sale canvases. They are not good on special orders. All coupon purchases must be started and finished in the same day.

April Birthday Bucks



Louise's Needlework

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20% OFF Your Total Purchase

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 coupons and may not be used for the purchase of gift certificate or trunk show canvases. To use this coupon for special orders, coupon must be present, and payment received at the time special orders are placed.

April 30, 2019