

FOCUS ON ... Youthful Hands Needle Crafts

Teri of Youthful Hands Needle Crafts comes from a family of artistic & creative women. Both her grandmother and mother were excellent seamstresses and clothing designers, and her daughter is in the process of opening her own seamstress shop!

Teri's mother was also a talented needle crafter who taught her to embroider when she was four. Teri remembers proudly holding out her embroidered handkerchief to her mother, who would ruthlessly pull out any crooked or messy stitches. Far from being deterred it spurred Teri on to work more neatly. By the age of 6, she was completing table linens and small crewel and cross stitch pieces.

As she continued to enjoy my love of needle crafts, Teri found it difficult to find specialty threads in the craft stores in her area.

In 2005, with husband Mark's help, Teri started Youthful Hands Needle Crafts. She has enjoyed offering great products such as Gentle Art, Weeks Dye Works, Carrie's, Threadworx, Crescent Colours, Valdani, and many others, giving her great satisfaction to be able to provide a service to the worldwide crafting community.

Sunny*dyes Fabrics began in 2007 as a result of Teri gathering materials for a special project. She couldn't seem to find just the right fabric for it. White is good for clouds and laundry but didn't seem to do justice to the beautiful design she was working on. She needed a special fabric! Since Teri has always loved color, and wanted to test her creativity, she decided to try hand painting

fabric. Teri found a new love and, later that year, launched her own fabric line-sunny*dyes fabrics.

Teri considers sunny*dyes fabrics to be different from other specialty fabrics because they are individually hand painted using only non-toxic paints and dyes, never completed in assembly-line fashion. Sunny*dyes specializes in sunrises, sunsets, skies, and surf & sand/sky & meadow fabrics. The fabrics are also unique in that they are paintings on their own!



Teri now have over 50 fabrics that can be customized as to fabric type and size, and made to your specifications. Want to make your project pop with the perfect fabric? Email her and she'll design it for you!

Teri and Mark at Youthful Hands Needle Crafts look forward to having you join their many

happy customers worldwide, from the U.S.A. to Europe, Spain, Russia, China and beyond!

They invite you to visit her shop - No. 24 in The Stitchers Village. You'll find it in the bottom left-hand bank of shops on the home page.

Check out the many great products they sell and sign up for their free newsletter to be the first to get a peek at new items. And keep checking back - their 'Fabric of the Month' and 'Fibers of the Month' Clubs start soon!

For a chance to win sunny*dyes fabrics worth over \$100 from Youthful Hands Needle Crafts, turn to page Page 9 and enter the competition!

MOUNTING NEEDLEWORK ON JACKETS by Jen Funk-Weber



I read a question on a crafting message board that got me thinking. A stitcher asked for ideas on how to finish a cross-stitched picture. She loves to stitch but has no desire to frame her work in the traditional "picture" way; she's not allowed to hang things on the walls in her apartment, anyway.

I love this question! It's not that I have anything against framed needlework. I don't. It's more that I have something for alternative uses for, and presentations of, needlework. I especially like the idea of displaying our needlework in public. That's why I'm so into our Funk & Weber Designs bracelet, tag, and bookmark patterns; they put our creative efforts Out There.

But this stitcher already has a picture stitched. It's something like 10 x 12 inches, not exactly bracelet or tag material. My suggestion? Sew it to the back of a jacket. In my mind, I see it on the back of a vintage jean jacket, but lots of jackets could work.

How would I do this?

*Trim the 4 sides of the fabric so they are even: about 2 inches beyond the stitched area.

*Wash or steam the piece, iron and block it. You want it to look clean, smooth, and straight.

*If you know how to hemstitch edges, do it. If not, keep reading ...

*Press the raw edges to the back, creating a 5/8-inch hem.

*I would miter the corners, but I'm that way.

*Stitch around the piece about 1/4-inch in from the edge. This could be done with a contrasting thread and decorative stitch, or it could simply be done with a thread that matches the ground fabric so that it more or less disappears. You could backstitch through both layers by hand or zip around the piece on a sewing machine.

*After stitching all the way around the needlework, I'd pin it to the back of the jacket and stitch it in place, either with a slip stitch by hand or with a somewhat long stitch on the sewing machine.

Why would I stitch the piece twice? Why not stitch the hem under and the piece to the jacket at the same time?

You could. My goal in two-step stitching is to create a hemmed piece that can be removed fairly easily when the jacket needs to be washed. I'd just rip the second stitching.

Did you groan? Oh, come on--it's not that big

of a deal! Or maybe you wash your jackets more often than I do. In that case, an alternative could be to attach the piece with snaps, buttons, or Velcro. It would be fun to have a jacket with changeable needlework.

I have no idea if jean jackets are "in," and I can't say I care. Needlework is timeless, so whatever is used to display the needlework becomes timeless, too, right? That's my claim, and I'm sticking to it. Bring on autumn temperatures; my jacket and I are ready!



What's New In The World of Needlework!

or ... A Little Retail Therapy is Always Good For The Soul!

NEW! from ROSEWOOD MANOR

4 New Christmas/Winter Greeting Cards

the blank card includes color cover, chart on back cover, matching envelope with envelope seal.

Vintage Lace

This 18 page booklet includes 12 mini charts, and two medium sized charts - one is a welcome design.

Quaker Diamonds

A 10 page booklet which includes 6 mini designs and loads of "Be Creative!" ideas.

Ring In Christmas

A fold-out chart, which includes two ornaments, although any of the many motifs in the stocking can be stitched as ornaments. It also includes an alphabet for personalizing if desired.



Greeting Cards



Vintage Lace



Quaker Diamonds



Ring In Christmas

Rosewood Manor designs are available for purchase from the Village shoppes.

The Gift of Stitching

The Gift of Stitching is a digital magazine for cross stitches. There are 12 issues a year and each issue is downloaded to the subscriber's computer. Easy to read, print and store. Every issue contains beautiful charts, interviews with popular designers, informative articles and so much more.

1 Year Subscription \$20 - 12 issues
2 Year Subscription \$35 - 24 issues
Subscribe at www.thegiftofstitching.com

We also sell back issues, downloadable and on CD, project kits and unique needlework accessories.

WWW.THEGIFTOFSTITCHING.COM

MEMBERS NEEDLEWORK GALLERY UPDATE

One of our members asked if it were possible to notify members in some way when anyone updates entries in their Gallery Rooms in the Members Needlework Gallery.

We think we've come up with a workable solution! If you go to the Members Gallery now you will see that we have added a 'Updated on' line under the Gallery names on the silver plaques.

We also rearranged the plaques whilst we were there, so that it's a bit easier to see all the galleries that have been established.

It's fun to see what everyone has been working on over the past few months ... there's some beautiful work on show - keep up the great work everyone!

HALLOWEEN SCAVENGER HUNT!

**WIN A TREATS BAG FILLED WITH \$25 GIFT
CERTIFICATES FROM THE FOLLOWING STORES**

**\$500
PRIZE**

**3 Stitches • Always in Stitches
BushMountain Stitchery • BushMountain Framing
Cecilia's Samplers • Everything Cross Stitch
Fobbles • Haberdashery Designs
Hanging By A Thread • Inspired Needle
Laurel's Stitchery • Lazy Daisy Stitchery
Picture This Plus • Salty Yarns
Stitchers Workshop • Stitches 'n Things
Stitches From The Heart • The Cottage Lane
Traditional Stitches • Youthful Hands Needle Crafts**

Each of the participating stores have posed two questions.
The answers can be found somewhere on their websites.
Visit their websites via their shopfronts on the home page of
The Stitchers Village at www.stitchersvillage.com

List the answers in the same order as the questions
appear overleaf and email your entry to
janie@stitchersvillage.com by **October 30, 2009**.

The first correct entry to be randomly drawn on
October 31, 2009 will be the winner and will be
contacted via email. **The winner will be announced
in the November 1 edition of The Stitchers Voice.**

**TURN THE PAGE FOR
THE QUESTIONS!**

TSV HALLOWEEN SCAVENGER HUNT questions

1. **3 STITCHES:** Who is Stoney?
2. **3 STITCHES:** What scissors were custom made for 3 Stitches?
3. **ALWAYS IN STITCHES:** What is the Spinning Monkey's motto?
4. **ALWAYS IN STITCHES:** How many 'exclusives' does Always in Stitches have?
5. **BUSHMOUNTAIN STITCHERY:** What new release has crows, pumpkins, acorns all in one under the sun?
6. **BUSHMOUNTAIN STITCHERY:** What design has a spider with an embroidery hoop?
7. **BUSHMOUNTAIN FRAMING:** How many pumpkins are on BushMountain Framing website?
8. **BUSHMOUNTAIN FRAMING:** What is flying around Halloweentown?
9. **CECILIA'S SAMPLERS:** What are the dates for our Fall 2010 Stitching Weekend?
10. **CECILIA'S SAMPLERS:** What is the name of one of the free charts offered on our website?
11. **EVERYTHING CROSS STITCH:** Name 1 of 3 Halloween charts that customers who purchased Baby Ghosts from Mystic Stitch also purchased.
12. **EVERYTHING CROSS STITCH:** How many jack-o-lantern's are on Janlynn's counted cross stitch kit "Happy Halloween Sampler"?
13. **FOBBLES:** What is happening a Fobbles on 31 October, 2009?
14. **FOBBLES:** Who designed Golden Dawn, the Fobbles Exclusive Hardanger kit?
15. **HABERDASHERY:** What is the third line of the 'Welcome Message'?
16. **HABERDASHERY:** What is the definition of 'Haberdasher/Haberdashery'?
17. **HANGING BY A THREAD:** How many Bee Pins are there on the What's New Page?
18. **HANGING BY A THREAD:** Who will be teaching in June 2010 & which projects will be taught?
19. **INSPIRED NEEDLE:** Creepy and crawly and things that go bump in the night....three items share this one-word name which, when uttered, will scare the daylights out of you and cause you to jump! What is the name of the item(s)? Provide the names of the companies that designed the charts/manufactured the items.
20. **INSPIRED NEEDLE:** Here's a type of Tri-Bond question: Ram's, bull, car. All three can be combined with this word. What is the word? Find the Dames of the Needle design that uses this word.
21. **LAUREL'S STITCHERY:** What's the spooky creature at the top of the main catalog page?
22. **LAUREL'S STITCHERY:** What are the words above the scary ghost on the website?
23. **LAZY DAISY STITCHERY:** What spooky pumpkin ornament are we making in class in October?
24. **LAZY DAISY STITCHERY:** What strikingly different Halloween themed design by the Courtney Collection is featured on our New Arrivals page?
25. **PICTURE THIS PLUS:** What 2 fabric color choices do we offer for the Boo Club?
26. **PICTURE THIS PLUS:** What 3 fabric colors do we suggest for the Boys are Back in Town?
27. **SALTY YARNS:** Who are the teachers for the last event for 2009?
28. **SALTY YARNS:** What is the name of the group that meets monthly at Salty Yarns?
29. **STITCHERS WORKSHOP:** What is so special about this October?
30. **STITCHERS WORKSHOP:** Where are Little Witches hanging around on our website?
31. **STITCHES 'N THINGS:** What event is happening in mid-October?
32. **STITCHES 'N THINGS:** What kind of animal is dressed up for Trick or Treating?
33. **STITCHES FROM THE HEART:** We have a State Tree chart for sale in our online store. What is the name of the chart and who designed it?
34. **STITCHES FROM THE HEART:** We have something witchy designed by Turquoise Graphic & Design. What is the name of the chart?
35. **THE COTTAGE LANE:** Name 2 titles of Halloween designs by Crabapple Studios.
36. **THE COTTAGE LANE:** What am I: In Red, Green, or Pink, I am so "Handy" I think!
37. **TRADITIONAL STITCHES:** One of our designers has a wicked sense of humor. One of her newest designs has a "garden" of storm clouds, spooky creatures and has a play on the old word "wrought". What is the name of this design?
38. **TRADITIONAL STITCHES:** "Sugar & Lace" is one of Thea Dueck's newest designs. Although it isn't pictured, the ornament that accompanies the bell pull is in the shape of a ---? (seasonal treat)
39. **YOUTHFUL HANDS NEEDLE CRAFTS:** Which fabric depicts a Fall sky?
40. **YOUTHFUL HANDS NEEDLE CRAFTS:** What is the girl holding on our logo?

HALLOWEEN THEMED CLASSES!

The Cat's Whiskers
Design Studio

AVAILABLE
OCTOBER 09
ONLY!



Olde Willow Stitchery
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SPECIALLY
DESIGNED
FOR
HALLOWEEN '09
IN THE
STITCHERS
VILLAGE!



The Cat's Whiskers
Design Studio



Cindy Valentine
Designs

These Classes Are Available
NOW In Our School House

Sheila's Bletcher

Well the schools are back and we are all back to our night (and day) classes. I've restarted my City & Guild's course. Those of you in the UK may know about these courses. They are vocational courses usually run in colleges preparing you for the world of work. So why am I doing one you might ask? I am officially retired but still love to learn. My embroidery was a lifeline nine years ago when I was not very well and I realised how much it meant to me. So I went back to college and started The City & Guilds Craft and Design course with emphasis on Embroidery as the craft I was studying.

I loved it, I learned about embroideries I had never even heard about before, Hardanger, blackwork, withdrawn thread work and many many more. I also went back to my days in the Primary School where I used art, paint and craft to enthuse the children – yes I was a teacher back then. I loved doing arty clarty things and my course encouraged me to play even more. We used acrylic paints and dyes on fabrics to create beautiful backgrounds for our embroidery. We used the photo copier to help us with new designs and we did lots and lots of samples of different techniques, finishings and embellishments.

My first try at free-machine embroidery was done during those first two years and I

made braids and buttons, cords and fastenings. I loved the challenge. It was hard work with lots of paper work to go along with the learning. It was all worth while and I completed my Certificate in the prescribed two years. What was I to do then? Well I completed another C&G certificate with the emphasis on Patchwork and Quilting. The reason for this was that I had found that I was using lots of patchwork and quilting techniques in my work. This is one of the



first items I made. It is a wall hanging based on a picture of the inside of a cave. I used some of my first 'felt' It also had hand-made beads, stitching into sweetie papers, melted synthetics, bleached velvets, machine embroidery, coloured fabrics. All these things I had been taught during the course and I tried to include as much of that learning as possible.

If you get a chance to go back to school and learn then I would advise you to jump at it. It's fantastic.

You would think that after 4 years I would have been fed up but no, glutton for punishment, I continued onto the Diploma level of the course and I just have one more year to go. What can I do after all that? – Perhaps a degree? Who knows?

Sheila



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE SHOPPES IN THE VILLAGE

Shop 2 - HANGING BY A THREAD

Patrick's Woods Classes

June 12 and 13, 2010

Registrations now open for both of these classes. You can see the beautiful class pieces on display in our windows!

Shop 6 - 3 STITCHES

Saturday October 10

Jo Mason of Dinky Dyes is bring The Texas Stitchers from The Stitchers Village to our store. Each stitcher will receive a stitching bag, fall chart designed for this event by The Cross Eyed Kat, wooden ruler, thread holder and fabric furnished by 3 Stitches and silk thread supplied by Dinky Dyes.

Saturday October 17

We welcome the American Needlepoint Guild with gifts and extra help on duty to answer your every questions. We look forward to seeing each of you here.

Saturday October 31

We are having a Halloween Party with lots of Trick or Treats for you to take home. Popcorn, apple cider and of course plenty of candies will be available! See you there!

Shop 18 - NEEDLE NY-DLE NOO

'Sunday Session' October 4, 10am - 2pm

It's Biscornu Sunday this month ... learn how to put a biscornu together, or just bring along some stitching and join us around our Stitching Table. Janie Hubble from The Cat's Whiskers Design Studio will be there to help with curly biscornu questions. BYO lunch!

Shop 21 - BUSH MOUNTAIN STITCHERY

Saturday October 10, 11am - 4pm

Kathy Barrick-Dieter, Designer from Carriage House Samplings will be at BushMountain Stitchery for the day for a meet and greet.

There will be door prizes and giveaways and 'munchies'.

Kathy will be bringing her models as well as her new design 'Christmas at Hawk Run Hollow'.

So ... if you are close by on Saturday October 10 don't forget to drop in to say hello.

Shop 23 - STITCHES 'N' THINGS

Stitchalot Weekend

October 16-18, 2009.

Held at the Comfort Inn in Davison, Michigan over the weekend October 16-18, 2009. A Stitcher's Boutique will be on-site, and a designer model trunk show from By The Bay Needlearts is also being held at the Weekend. See website Specials page for details.

Moonlight Madness

Our popular framing event will be held from October 24-31. Whether in-store or on-line, ALL FRAMES, whether in stock OR special ordered, all custom framing (mats, glass, spacers, mounting fee) and custom mats from Sekas or Jill Rensel are all discounted. Please visit our website via our shopfront on the home page of The Stitchers Village to find out more!

Shop 29 - STITCHERS WORKSHOP

Pat Dugan of the Stitchers Workshop is planning special events for the next twelve months to celebrate Stitchers Workshops 15th birthday!

Be sure to check out her website each and every month to find out what special event Pat has on for the month!

We'll list them here too so that you don't miss out!

Happy 15th birthday Stitchers Workshop!



BRIGHT SPARK NEEDED!

Haberdashery Designs needs the help of a website designer to recreate and maintain their store website. It would help if you lived locally (Spokane, WA) but it's not essential. If you can help please contact Brenda at haberdasher@haberdasherydesigns.com

SEPTEMBER COMPETITION WINNER!

Congratulations go to **DARLENE DARIN** who correctly solved the crossword competition.

Darlene wins A Gift Certificate for goodies to be purchased at Laurel's Stitchery to the value of \$100.

Answers to the crossword competition: **Across:** 3. Sheri, 4. Alison, 5. Fifteen, 9. Announcement, 10. Virginia, 13. Oklahoma, 14. Flechtner, **Down:** 1. Online, 2. September, 3. Seven, 6. Bonus, 7. Laurel, 8. Red and White, 11. Beanie, 12. Dog

BOOKMARK FINISHING CLASS STARTS NOVEMBER 16, 2009

There's more to embroidered bookmarks than pre-finished rectangular forms. Lots more! Use scraps, stash, beads, buttons, charms, ribbons, hooks, and any and all fabrics and fibers to make simple, smart, and swanky bookmarks.

The trick is in the finishing, except it's really not so tricky. In fact, it's easy!

In **Bookmarks 101, Jen Funk Weber of Funk & Weber Designs** will teach four general ways to finish bookmarks from scratch, including no-sew methods and three techniques that employ simple backstitching, whip stitching, and fringed edges. She'll discuss variations of each of the finishing methods, providing dozens of exciting options.

The course will investigate a variety of materials for adhering, backing, and embellishing, and explore basic beading and wirework techniques and tools.



Together, you'll craft one-of-a kind bookmarks that are fully functional and fun to make and use.

This class does not address decorative patterns for bookmarks. The focus is on finishing, which can be decorative in its own right.

Sign up for this great class today in the 'Time Specific' section in the School House.

OCTOBER 2009 COMPETITION

Youthful Hands Needle Crafts from Northwestern Connecticut is sponsoring this month's members competition. **For a chance to win an assortment of sunny*dyes fabrics worth over \$100**

answer the following questions and email your answers to Janie on **editorTSV@stitchersvillage.com** by end of day on Friday **October 30, 2009.**

NB: You will find the answers to these questions on the Youthful Hands Needle Crafts website. Enter through their shopfront at Shop 24 on the homepage at The Stitchers Village.

1. Which fabric did Teri use to complete Ink Circles 'Octopus Garden'?
2. Which fabric has this description '...creepy shroud grey and dried blood red...'
3. Which fabric is made using real fiddlehead ferns?
4. Which fabric is named after a cookie?
5. Which fabric is a blend of 6 different shades of blue?
6. Name one of the fabrics sunny*dyes specializes in.
7. Name your favorite sunny*dyes fabric.



THE STITCHERS' VILLAGE

2010 Bookmark Challenge Contest

The Stitchers' Village has accepted the Needle and ThREAD: Stitching for Literacy 2010 Bookmark Challenge, and now we need your help.

The **Needle and ThREAD: Stitching for Literacy** program seeks to encourage and reward kids for reading—and introduce them to embroidery at the same time. Bookmark Challenge participants (like us) collect hand-stitched bookmarks and donate them to libraries and schools during Children's Book Week, where they are awarded to kids for reading accomplishments.

Will you help us put hand-stitched bookmarks into kids' hands and books by stitching a bookmark?

Naturally, we at The Stitchers' Village want to turn this into a contest, complete with prizes ...

The contest rules are simple:

1. Stitch a bookmark. Any pattern, technique, fabric, fiber, embellishments, etc. Every bookmark counts.
2. Send it to **The Stitchers' Village,**
12819 Bedford Falls Drive,
Cypress, TX 77429

between now and **May 6, 2010** for a chance to win a prize. Every bookmark receives one entry into the contest. If you stitch and send ten bookmarks, your name will be entered ten times into the drawing.

On May 7, 2010, winners will be randomly drawn from all entries. The Grand Prize winner will win a **Complete Set of Dinky Dyes Silk Embroidery Thread in a Stitching for Literacy Zippered Tote.** Five Runners Up will receive their choice of **twenty-five (25) skeins of Dinky Dyes 6-strand embroidery silk, and a Cat's Whiskers Design Studio chart or kit.**

Please help us promote literacy and share the joy of needlework.
As Jen Funk Weber, the Stitching for Literacy founder, says,
“Reading and stitching make the world a better place.”