

GETTING TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS ...

IT'S ALWAYS FUN TO MEET NEW PEOPLE AND CATCH UP WITH OLD FRIENDS ...

This month we hear from Melissa Walker, a Stitchers Village member from Texas, USA. Here is Melissa's story about her work on 'And They Sinned' (ATS) by Examplar Dames.

Melissa started ATS back in late 2007 and she takes up the story from here ...

After seeing many, many beautiful examples of ATS I was very inspired. And I'm not sure where the idea came from, maybe from viewing pictures of antique samplers on the web but I decided to make ATS a tour de force of specialty stitches. And to make it singularly and obviously my own.

Just the sheer size of this sampler makes it exceptional but that wasn't enough for me, so I set about stitching it my way. Whenever and wherever the mood strikes me I add a specialty stitch.

My vine border is made up of cross and leaf stitches. The sun peeking out from behind the cloud is filled with rice stitches. (On 36 count I will never make that mistake again - I joke that it must have taken me 18 hours just to fill that bit in.)

My butterflies are stitched over one. The eyes of the peacocks' tails are Jessica stitches. I've added fangs to some of the

snakes, and on all the snakes, their spots are specialty stitches too. The Tree of Life has my and my husband's initials "carved" on it. MW + AW. The six apples on the Tree of Life and the seventh in Eve's hand are Rhodes stitches.

Now, Adam & Eve. There I made a big change to the design. I decided that my Adam and Eve were to be anatomically correct. To do that I needed completely new figures. I found a pair I liked from another chart I owned but stylistically they were too different from the rest of the figures on ATS, so I re-charted them to fit the style. That only took a few afternoons and much pencil eraser.

In further personalization I've changed the verse to one that was on a sampler in a novel I read (Jennifer Crusie's 'Faking It'). It is much more 'me' and I think in keeping with the irreverent tone of what is actually a very serious example of my skill as a needleworker.

With ATS I've finally made good use of all the stitch guides I've accumulated over the years.

I've just past the third-way mark of the sampler and there is much more to be done. Maybe I'll finish by 2015?

Pictures can be found at www.needleworker.net under Single Project Albums; And They Sinned.



SCAVENGER HUNT COMPETITION WINNER!

Thank you all for your patience ... we had lots and lots of entries and it took a lot of time to trawl through them to find the winner.

**Our congratulations go to
KIMBERLEY B.**

DON'T FORGET to enter the November Crossword competition for a chance to win a \$100 gift certificate from Bushmountain Stitchery & Framing See the November 1 newsletter in the Archives of the Newspaper Office.



ANSWERS TO THE HALLOWEEN SCAVENGER HUNT

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|
| 1 | 3 Stitches mascot | 19 | "Boo!" Designer names are Amy Bruecken Designs, Pine Mountain Designs, Kelmscott Designs |
| 2 | Dovo, Emerald Green Handles with xxx's engraved on the blade. | 20 | Horn. "New England Horn Book" |
| 3 | Live to Stitch | 21 | Bat |
| 4 | 5 | 22 | Happy Halloween |
| 5 | Great Pumpkin Conspiracy | 23 | Scared folk pumpkin |
| 6 | Web of Stash | 24 | Beasties |
| 7 | 21 | 25 | Monet and Kermit |
| 8 | A bat | 26 | Mirage, Echo, Shadow |
| 9 | Nov 4th-7th, 2010 | 27 | Pam Reed, Catherine Jordan and Pat Cherry |
| 10 | Auntum Oak Leaves, Letters and Leaves. By the Light of the Moon, Pumpkin Visitor | 28 | Stitch 'n Bitch |
| 11 | Wicked Witch, Franky the Thinker, or Vinny The Vampire | 29 | Begins SW's 15th year in business |
| 12 | 7 | 30 | Bead page, Fern Ridge Designs |
| 13 | Vintage Homestead Patchwork workshop | 31 | A Stitchalot weekend/stitchers weekend/stitchers retreat |
| 14 | Jennifer C Burns | 32 | Golden Retriever/dog |
| 15 | Welcome my friends to the stitching that never ends. | 33 | Texas State Tree by Nouveau Encore Designs |
| 16 | A dealer in various small articles such as ribbons, thread and needles. A haberdasher's shop. | 34 | Witchy Hat. |
| 17 | 2 | 35 | Halloween Sachet Pillows and Trick or Treat Bags |
| 18 | Sherri Jones of Patrick's Woods, projects are Lucet Passmenterie & A Silk Purse & The Mermaid's Two Tales | 36 | Handy Caddy |
| | | 37 | Garden of Eerie |
| | | 38 | Sugar Plum |
| | | 39 | Autumn Zephyr |
| | | 40 | A basket |