

Let Your Creative Sparks Fly!

This year's theme is creativity. All of us are creative, whether you believe it or not. From picking out that perfect pattern to changing one thread because it adds something to creating your own designs, this needlework of ours allows our creative juices to flow. We will start the year looking at where our stitching started and where it is now, begin an ongoing canvas project, and explore different ways to use needle and thread. We hope that you will enjoy this as much as we did putting it together.

January 10 and 16

Something Old, Something New: Our Stitching Journey

Members



Let's start the year by exploring our stitching journey. What was your starting point? Did your mother teach you, a grandmother or an aunt? Did you start with embroidery and move on to other forms of needlework? Or did you start with counted cross stitch or canvas work? Bring along a piece of your earliest needlework and something more recent (within the last two years) and be ready to share your needlework journey.

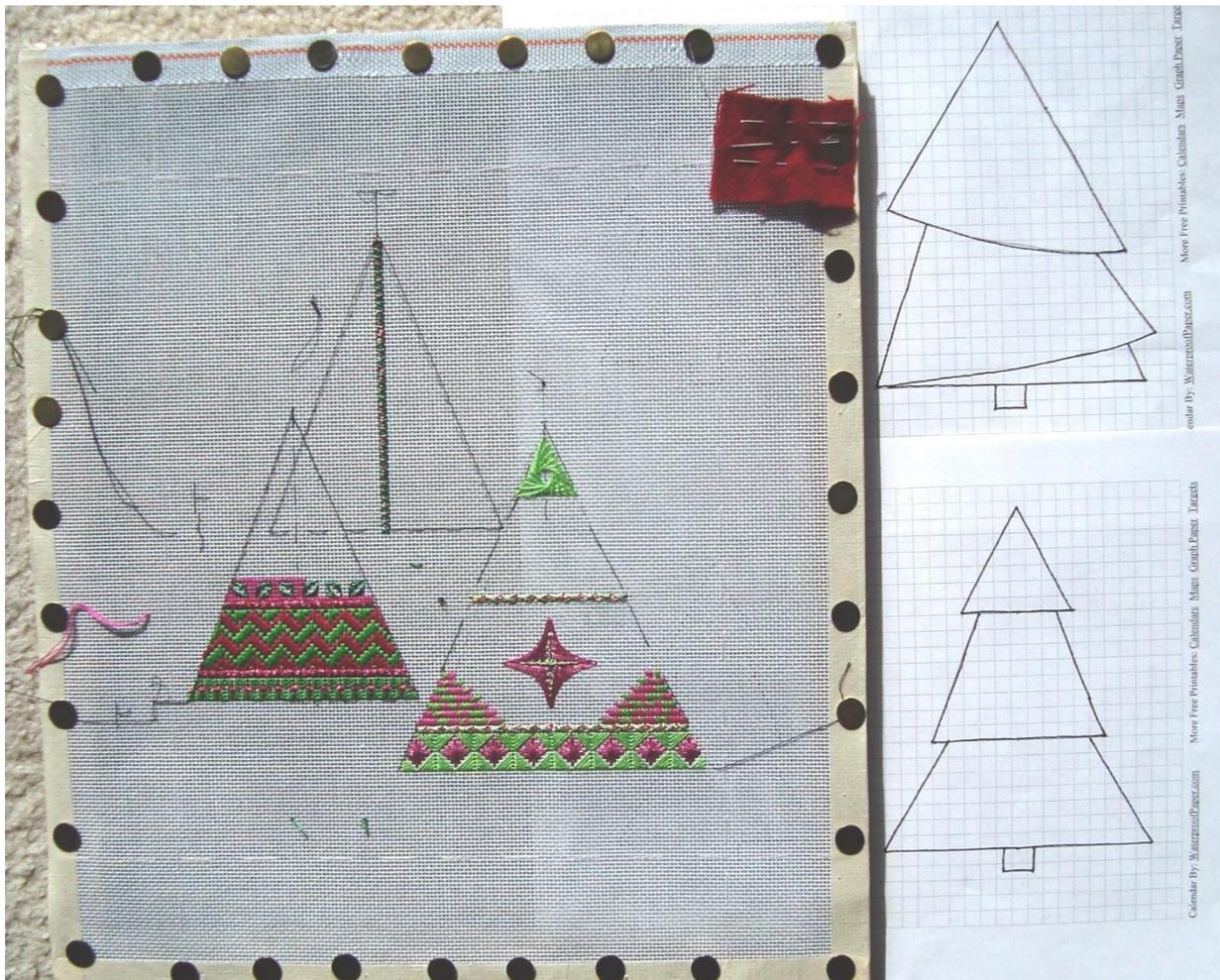
February 14 and 20

Three Pines

Debra Steaffens

This year's ongoing project centers around three different pine shapes. You'll begin this project by deciding which pine shape(s) and size(s) you want to use in your design. Did I say your design? Yes, I did, as this project will be designed by you. The instructions will include the three pine shapes each in two sizes, a number of possible stitches to use in your design and other good sources for stitches. You can stitch as many pines as you want – a single pine to a whole forest – and whatever season you want – Christmas, Easter, Halloween, etc.

Look for an email in early January with the pine shapes and what you should bring with you to the February meeting.



March 13 and 19

A Journey of Felting

Barb Zellmer

Barb is a life-long knitter, collector of fibers, painter and dabbler in metal work. A few years ago, Barb and her sister visited a niece at a farm where she taught sheep shearing. She brought home bags of sheared wool, had it processed into roving and taught herself needle felting. Barb has felted a variety of figures and creatures and has sold some of her pieces at craft fairs and retail outlets. Barb says "Needle felting is fairly easy to master, very enjoyable, and just a little addictive."

Barb will give us a brief overview of 'needle felting', along with a demonstration of the technique. There will also be an opportunity to purchase a kit to create a small needle felted piece (likely a small bird) as you follow instructions during the demonstration.



Workshop

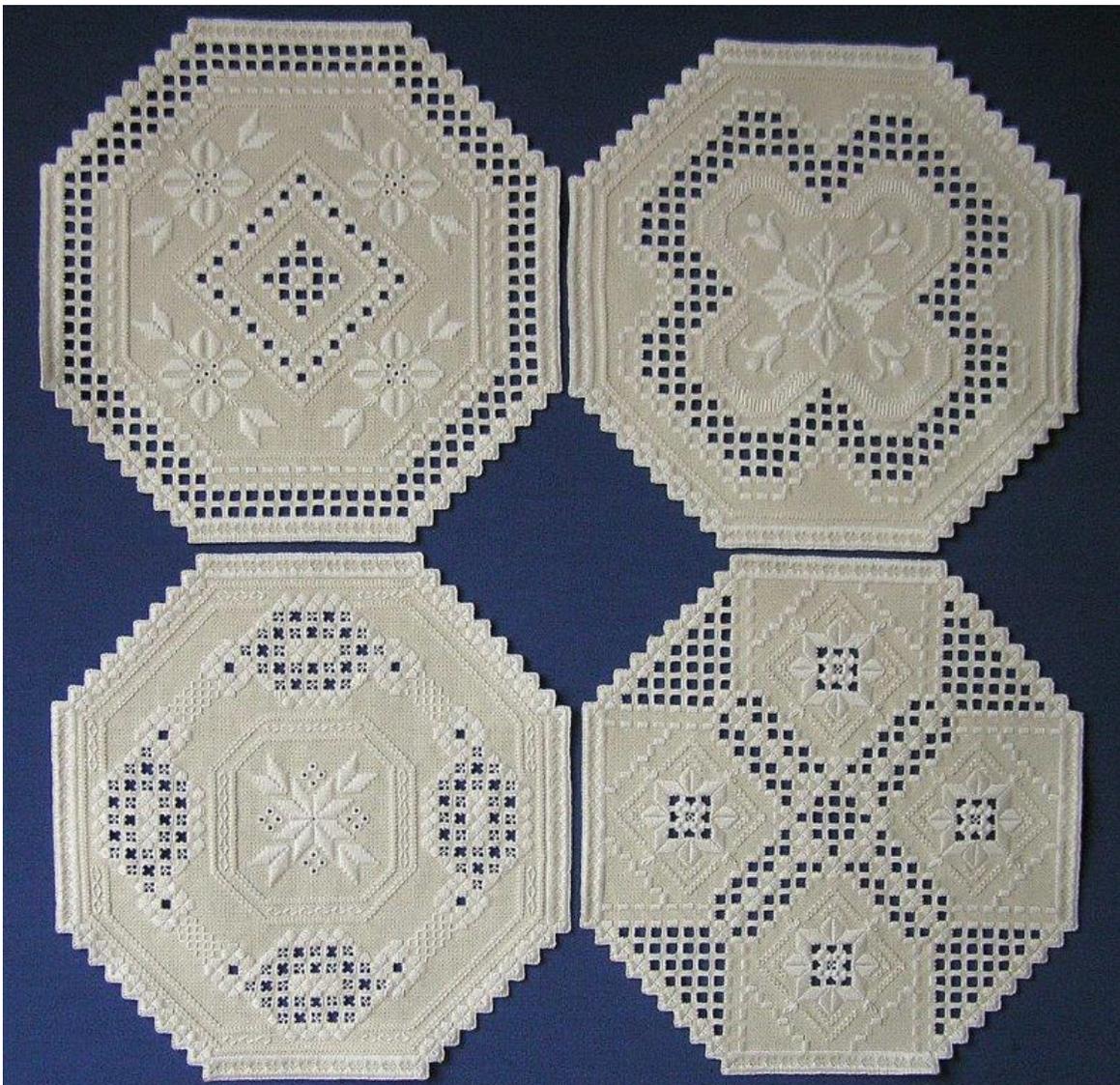
March 20-21

Floral Plates

Donna Olson

Donna Olson is a designer/embroiderer/instructor of the classic Norwegian Hardangersom embroidery which reached its well-known style in the late 1800s. Donna learned Hardangersom from the Norwegian women in Stoughton and followed up with classes through EGA. Donna has taught Hardangersom through the Madison Area Technical College, EGA and local needlework stores. Donna is also the owner of Satin Stitches, through which she designs and sells charted traditional and contemporary Hardangersom designs.

In this workshop, a variety of basic Hardanger embroidery stitches are used in different ways to make each plate unique. In two days we will practice the stitches on a “doodle cloth” and set up and stitch some on the plate of your choice.

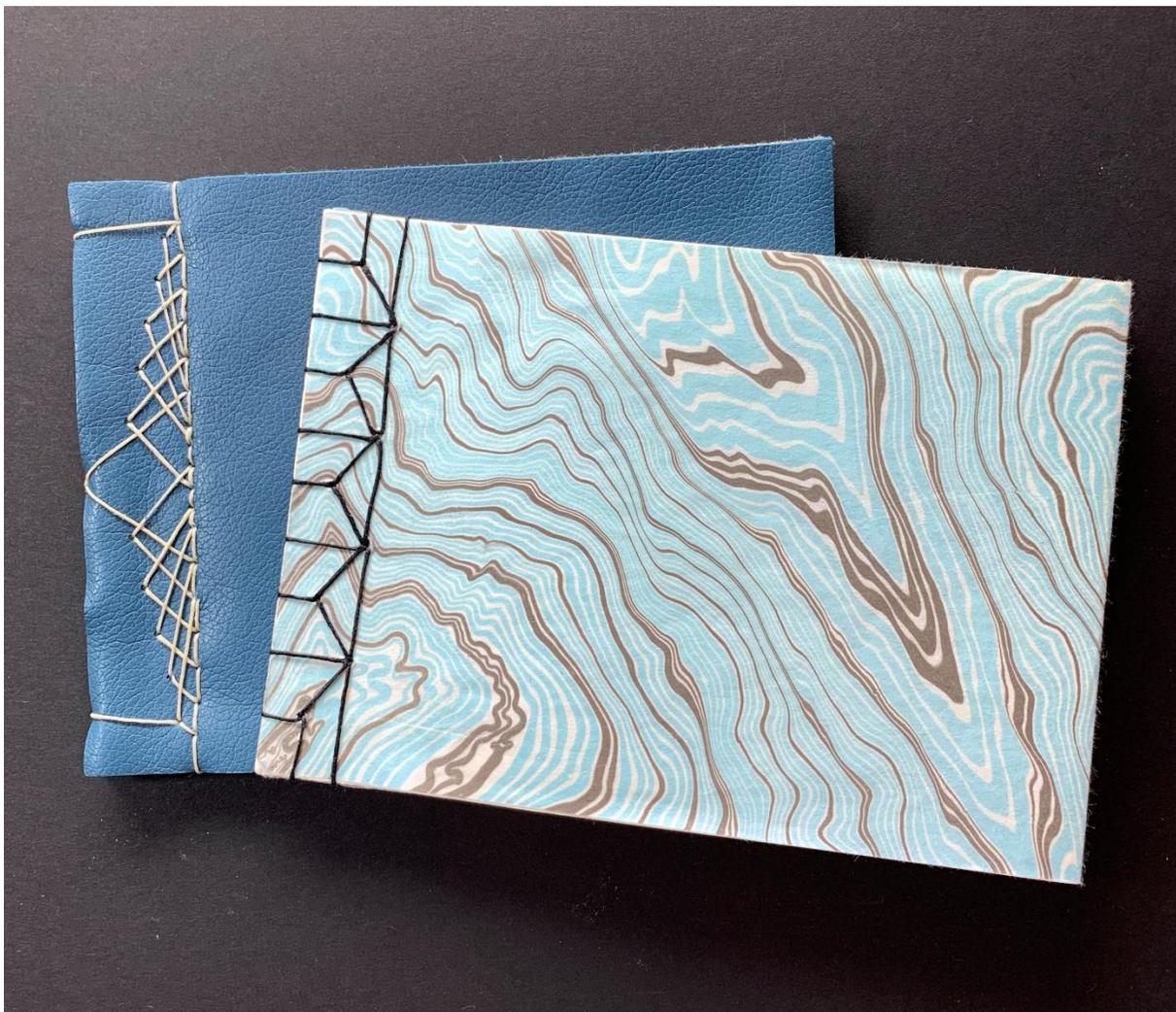


April 3 and 16

Book Binding

Dawn Kalies

Japanese stab binding is an easily mastered traditional book binding method. The binding is beautifully featured on the front and back covers. Participants will first make a traditional stab pattern notebook using waxed linen thread and traditionally decorated sumi paper for pages. Then they will learn a modern Tiara stab binding book design using waxed linen thread on a leather cover and Aida cloth for pages. The Aida cloth can be cross stitched after class. The books are beautiful and interesting. Participants will receive a kit for each book with covers and pages already cut to size and sewing holes already made. Participant time will be spent on actual book sewing. Anyone comfortable with a needle will be successful. The instructor has been an avid member of Madison's Bonefolder' Guild for over ten years making creative books using folded and sewn book structures.



May 8 and 21

Three Pines

Debra Steaffens

This meeting is a continuation of the ongoing project. We'll catch up with where you are on the project and answer any questions you may have.

Workshop

May 16

Fantasy Flowers

Andrea Sapon

This workshop will consist of creating three Ultra suede flowers by cutting and stitching petals together on a background of your choice (stash) or linen provided. Three flower patterns are provided. One of the flowers has double petals. The 3-dimensional flowers are two to three inches in diameter each. The project will be stitched using an 8" hoop. The flower centers are then embellished with beads, pearls, and stitches. The flowers can be transferred to clothing, cloth purse, or could be made into a pin if desired. The color palette is sophisticated using very soft pinks, peach, rose and creams.



June 12 and 18 Grab Bag of Posies

Kim Knoche

A small silk ribbon embroidery project using four stitches with variations. For this “stash buster” project we will use silk ribbon, fabric, floss and needles from stash. Unique kits will be assembled and you will draw yours from a bin. What you get is what you stitch!



July TBD

Summer Social

This year's social will take place at the Tamarack Club House. We will provide the address and details in our newsletter.

August 14 and 20

Boutique Stitch-In

Our 2020 Show Committee will bring items to the August meetings for attendees to work on for the Show Boutique. Watch the August newsletter for more information concerning any stitching tools or supplies they may want the members to bring.

September 11

Fiber of Our Lives: Why Textiles Matter

Beverly Gordon

Artist and professor emeritus from UW-Madison (Design Studies Department), Beverly Gordon will explore how thread and fabrics affect almost everything we are concerned with - from everyday practical tasks and problems to the mythic realm, from social interaction to aesthetic satisfaction and spiritual experience. Her discussion integrates craft, art, science, history, and anthropology, drawing on examples from around the globe and throughout history. The talk is beautifully illustrated and will bring your love for fiber into a much broader context. The talk is not limited to embroidery, but Gordon will help you appreciate the special role of needlework and decorated textiles.



September 17

String Art

Kimberly Smith

Kimberly is our featured national teacher this year. Originally trained as an illustrator, she soon discovered fibers. This allowed her imagination to take her down a magical pathway to becoming the mixed media artist she is today. Featuring some of Kimberly's favorite stitching, String Art includes Tent, Jessicas, Crescents, Encroaching Gobelin, Satin and French Knots. The kit comes complete with 13 count canvas with solid color painted canvas background mounted on matt board, DMC perle cotton, needle and stitch guide. She even threads the first color and sticks the needle in the appropriate beginning hole.



Workshop

September 18-19

Curly Flower

Kimberly Smith

Kimberly is one of those artists that everyone should know. She shares her passion for her art and supports other artists with genuine affection. There is nothing overly complex about her. She finds inspiration all around her from nature but is not all hearts and flowers, she is bugs, dirt, water and animals. She will start with a simple inspiration from the garden, and the next thing you know there is a giant dragonfly landing on a beautiful bright pink flower. To take the piece a step farther, she will sometimes add dimension and the dragonfly is about to take off again.



Curly Flower is a painted canvas on 18 count. The design area is five inches square and is packed with fun techniques, from uncut Turkey Work with Silk Straw to couched wire to French Knots with Velvet. It's colorful, happy, full of texture and completely doable in a short amount of time.



October 9

Travel Treasures

Sandy Winder

Sandy and Jack enjoy international travel to experience other cultures and sights. Along the way Sandy has acquired interesting treasures - embroidered and woven fabrics, baskets, beadwork and other cultural artifacts while Jack photographs their discoveries. Come hear about "The Winders' World Wanderings".



October 15

To Be Determined

November 13

Nan's Sampler Needlecase

Kathie Zwettler

This project uses five different counted stitches (Algerian eye, ringed back stitch, nun stitch, herringbone, and long-armed cross) to create the frame of the design. While this project is designed to be a needle case, we are using it as the base for a nametag. When stitched on 28-count linen, the finished stitch area is 3.5 inches square. The inside square for your name will be approximately 2 inches square.

The instructions will be provided for a fee of \$1.50. All other materials (6" piece of linen, #12 perle cotton to match fabric and overdyed floss in your choice of color) will be provided by the individual...hopefully from your stash!



November 19

Annual Meeting

At this meeting we vote on the budget, slate of officers, and any other business that needs a membership vote. The 2021 program will also be introduced.

December TBD

Winter Social

Many of the details have not been totally worked out at this time. As the information is determined, we will share it with you in our newsletter.