

New Jersey Needle Artists  
American Needlepoint Guild  
January 17, 2018 Meeting

Hi Everyone –

Happy New Year, NJNA Members! Eighteen members attended our first meeting of the year on a very frigid January night!

Diane was travelling so the rest of the board all helped to run the meeting. It was a busy meeting with money being collected for dues, SOTM, January kits, Wooden Boxes, and Woodlawn. NJNA welcomed Karen Paradise back to NJNA after she took a few years off to care for her ailing Mother and to go back to work. Karen has been stitching with Cathryn, Marge, and Ellen B at the Edwardian Needle and they convinced her to rejoin. Welcome back!!

Cathryn opened the meeting by getting us started on the January program, Winter Stars.



Winter Stars

In addition to providing the directions from the Rainbow Gallery website, Cathryn produced a list of notes to augment the instructions. Cathryn recommends using the notes and I have to concur with their helpfulness.

Some of us are doing Winter Stars from our stash and others ordered a kit with the recommended threads for \$15. Cathryn informed us that Pam at the Edwardian Needle donated all of the threads for the kits and only asked that the chapter collect the \$15 as a chapter donation. NJNA thanks Pam for this exceedingly generous contribution! By the way, she also tore up our check for the show and tell prize which will be awarded in February.

Heidi welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that we now have 42 members of NJNA if everyone renews! Heidi reminded us that the password for the members only sections of the NJNA website will change on February 6, 2018. Only members who have paid their 2018 dues will receive the new password.

The NJNA SOTM group has elected to stitch Lorene Salt's Kaleidoscope as our 2018 project.



On the left is the original colorway: Autumn Kaleidoscope. On the right is an aquamarine colorway. As usual, many NJNA SOTM members will experiment with their own colorway. Linda announced that we are up to 24 stitchers for our SOTM sessions: 19 doing Kaleidoscope and 5 continuing past projects!

In February, we plan to do another small project called "Valentine Heart." This is a design by Carole Lake of Stitchplay designs. As with many other projects, NJNA will provide the light blue canvas.



Valentine Heart

Cathryn passed out the listing of threads for the Valentine Heart – this is a good stash-busting piece. The website for the design listed six threads, but Cathryn substituted more readily-available threads instead. You will need 6-inch by 6-inch stretcher bars. I am going to raid my red stash and substitute copiously, but the official list follows:

Design Threads	Cathryn's Threads
Shimmer Blend Ribbon red/wine 39	Neon Rays + NP26 (2 cards in place of shimmer blend ribbon)
DMC Perle Cotton #8 white	Treasure Braid TR295 (instead of Tiara Blend)
Tiara Red Blend T145	Threadworx 81089 Bleeding Heart instead of the Needle Necessities OD)
Kreinik #8 braid 003HL and 002	Kreinik #8 braid 003HL and 002
Needle Necessities OD perle cotton #8 155	DMC Perle Cotton #8 white.

The board has decided to use March to reacquaint our members with our website and to teach our members how they can contribute to “NJNA is Blogging” by adding their own adventures with stores, classes, retreats, etc. We currently have about 400 followers on our blog!!

In April, NJNA will do a small eyelet design called “Mille Fleur.” NJNA will provide the white canvas. This is a study in eyelets and another good stash-buster! Isn't the pillow a great way to finish this design?



Some of the David McCaskill workshop participants were excited to see several of his topiary designs that Cathryn brought as examples to the workshop. So, NJNA is pleased to announce that we will stitch his “Patriotic Topiary” in May and June. The cost of the kit will be \$45 and it includes directions, drawn canvas, and embellishments. (See picture below.)

In July we will have our traditional salad supper and stitch-in. In August, we will augment our stitch-in with a discussion of common needlework mistakes. (I know I'll be able to contribute to THAT discussion!!)

In September, we will recap our experiences at the National ANG seminar in DC as well as stitch a small key fob. The programs for the rest of the year are evolving.



Patriotic Topiary

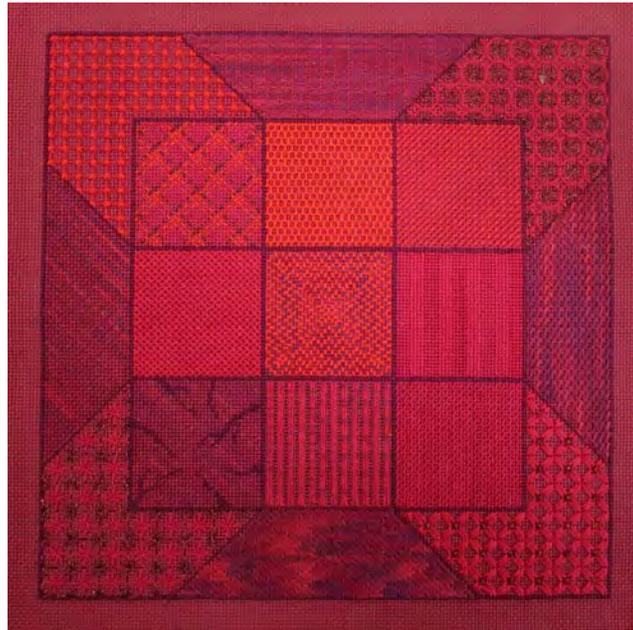
Rosie provided a quick summary of the 2017 financial report and proposed the budget for 2018. The NJNA treasury balance was \$3,516.66 at the end of the year. This includes about \$1,000 of prepaid SOTM accounts.

In 2018, NJNA plans to keep our meeting schedule on the third Wednesday of each month with two exceptions: the September meeting will be on September 12 and the November meeting will be on November 14. Please mark your calendars!

I hope you enjoy the show and tell pictures.

Cheers,  
Rosie

Show and Tell



This is Robin's finish of "Background Sampler I" in the red colorway. She did bargello in the overdyed floss for her bottom center trapezoid (the block that we had to do our own thing in!).  
Nice job, Robin!



This is Robin's finish of "Shell Game". She calls it the mardi gras colorway! I think the shells came out wonderfully.



This incredible piece was also stitched by Robin. It was a class at the 2017 ANG seminar in Anaheim. It is called "Summer Shimmer" and was taught by Kay Stanis. The mirror is stitched/attached using a shisha technique. But the shiny leaves are actual beetle wings. I don't think I could get past the ick/bug factor, but this type of beetle from Indo-china sheds its wings regularly. The beetle wings have been used since medieval times in the courts and temples from India to Japan. What a beautiful and interesting piece!!



Andrea B stitched this vibrant, self-finishing, zippered case that she found in Tina's stash!

The pansies are all stitched in basketweave in vibrant pansy colors!

I won an already stitched case like this in an auction and I carry all of my cords in it when I travel. You can never have enough small pouches – that's my motto!

Beautiful stitching, Andrea. Are you rueful yet, Tina?





I think I saved the best for last. Andrea has been working on this Marcy's canvas called "The Hat Shop" for several (10) months. She worked the stitches with Pam's help at the Edwardian Needle. I am awestruck by the technique of using an accentuate grid as the window panes and leaving the outside canvas showing through. What wonderful depth this gives the canvas! The beads, ribbons, and embellishments help to bring these hats to life! Framed by Rob at Framed Image in Pompton Plains. Wow!