



**Saguaro Stitchers Chapter
American Needlepoint Guild, Inc.
March 2016 Newsletter**



NEXT MEETING

Mar 17, 2016

Apr 21, 2016

May 19, 2016

Holiday Inn Express
7350 E Gold Dust Ave
Scottsdale, Arizona
10:00am - 1:00pm

OFFICERS

President:
Alice Hall
email:
president@saguarostitchers.org

Vice-President:
LaVerne Walters
email:
programs@saguarostitchers.org

Secretary:
Nancy Chapman
email:
secretary@saguarostitchers.org

Treasurer:
Sonny Yokum
email:
treasurer@saguarostitchers.org

Asst. Treasurer/Membership:
Jan Prestin
email:
membership@saguarostitchers.org

Newsletter Editor:
Barbara Shaw
email:
newsletter@saguarostitchers.org

Assistant Editor:

Name Tag Kit Committee:

Sunshine Committee:
Dodie Stoneburner

Webmistress:
Karen Willett
email:
webmaster@saguarostitchers.org

Good Day Ladies:

I cannot believe we are already in March, the years are passing way too quickly. There are two matters we need to discuss.

For several years now our guild has used email to communicate all our news, information and sign up requirements. However, we are still having problems with members replying to emails, particularly ones that have a deadline to them. An example of that is the Kurdy Biggs Bells class to be taught at the March meeting. We sent two emails asking all interested members to sign up and pay no later than Dec 31st. Kurdy had requested we let her know early January, so she could have the charts printed and to us in time for the class. By the Dec. 31st we had 18 members signed up, over the next several weeks after the deadline 7 (seven) additional members signed up, which necessitated our asking for more charts. We found we could kit our own bead kits at a reasonable price and asked members to sign up. We had 18 signups and purchased beads to make 20 kits. Again after that deadline 7 more members signed up. This required additional beads had to be obtained at a higher price. This also necessitated that our teacher committee make innumerable phone calls.

To add to the confusion, instead of replying the person in who sent the emails requesting the interested member to sign up by the deadline, reply emails were sent to other members of the board, or money was sent directly to the Treasurer without replying to the email sender.

We, your board, are working hard to present and make available to members programs and visiting teachers that are fun, interesting and reasonably priced. In order to do this all we ask of members is that you reply by the deadline to the person sending the emails. Going forth, signups will not be accepted after the deadline. In some cases we may be able to offer a waiting list.

There have been questions regarding members who stay and take the program class getting an extra bonus. In the March, Kurdy Biggs Bells class, members who stay will be given a piece of green canvas. This bonus is a thank you from the teacher/member to the members who are interested enough to stay and participate. We hope this will increase the number of members who stay for class. It is disheartening when the teacher has spent time preparing a lesson plan and only one or two members stay.

See our monthly programs and visiting teachers listed in this newsletter and know that you can always find them at www.saguarostitchers.org. Also look for the free chart in this newsletter.

Happy Stitching,
Alice

SAGUARO STITCHERS WEBSITE

Don't forget that we have our very own website, www.saguarostitchers.org. Karen Willett has done a wonderful job organizing and maintaining the website. It contains workshops, projects, newsletters, membership information, as well as links to local needlework shops, and other valuable information. Bookmark the site and check it often!

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Dodie Stoneburner is our Sunshine Committee contact. If any of you know of someone in our chapter who recently lost a loved one, or has developed a serious illness and could use a "Thinking of You" card, please contact Dodie with name and address information so she can send them a card. Thank you, Dodie!

NEED A RIDE TO MEETINGS???

Problems crop up and it's always on meeting day, right? If you need a ride, whether it is occasionally or to all of our meetings, call any of your Board Members. We will do our best to find you a ride. Needless to say, we are getting a bit older and moving just a bit slower, so you need to give us as much notice as possible for the best results. We will do our best to get you there.

PROGRAMS

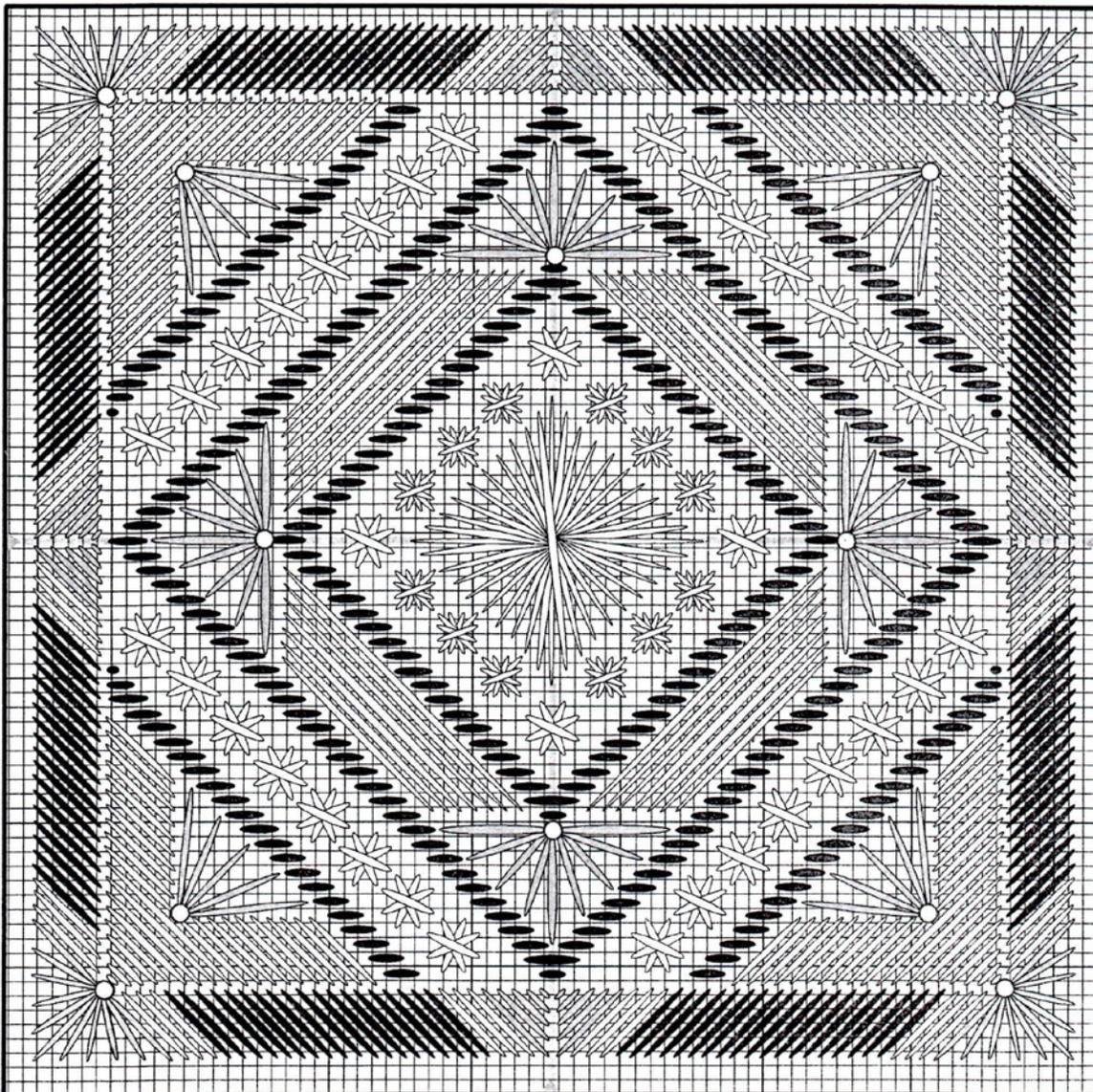
The year is off to a great start, with more interesting projects planned. This month, March, Alice is leading us in a Threadles chart, Christmas Bells. You have already received information from Anne. April is our Stash Sale. Be sure to begin "weeding out" your stash! Just so you will be able to add to your stash with super bargains at the sale. We have a great project planned for May. The "Parking Lot" by BJ Finch is pictured in the last issue of Needlepointers. It is done in three colorways, although you can also choose your own colors. The design is line drawn on interlock canvas for easy self finishing. The plan is to stitch this over the summer and do the finishing at the first meeting in September. If you were at the Nancy Cucci workshop, she showed hers there. The price of the canvas with line drawings and instructions is \$24.00. Check out the picture in Needlepointers (hopefully we will have a model at the March meeting) and be prepared to sign up and pay for your kit. The deadline for signup and payment is April 15. Also, at the March meeting we will be discussing our end of the year festivities. Bring your ideas! Until then, Happy St. Patricks Day and Happy Stitching.
La Verne Walters



Kurdy Biggs' Christmas Bells (March class) – class is full

At the Ball Park

Symbol	Materials	Design
	Overture (a 4-ply cotton), V103 - "Emeralds"	Count: 72h x 72w threads Size: 18 ct: 4"h x 4"w (Cut canvas at least 8" x 8") <i>This design can be done in lots of different thread colors, on lots of different canvas colors. Use pale, bright or dark thread colors on light, medium or dark canvas. Pick your variegated thread first, then match one solid color and two types of metallic threads to it. Have fun playing with this design!</i>
	Pebbly Perle, P56 - Christmas green	
	Neon Rays+, NP105 - Christmas green	
	Treasure Braid (8 strand), HG81 - gold	
	OPTIONAL: gold beads	
	#22 tapestry needle	
	8" x 8" 18 ct. mono canvas, eggshell	



NOTE: Each LINE on this graph represents ONE thread of the canvas.

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ENVELOPE FINISHED ORNAMENT

Cut canvas on all size 6 to 8 threads beyond last row of stitching. Run a small bead of white tacky glue along all edges. Fold trim edge, on all sides, at back stitching towards center of wrong side.

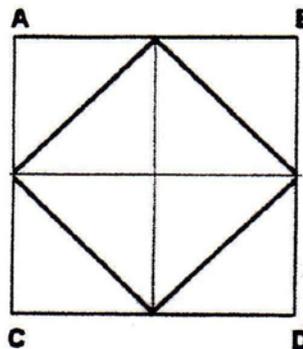
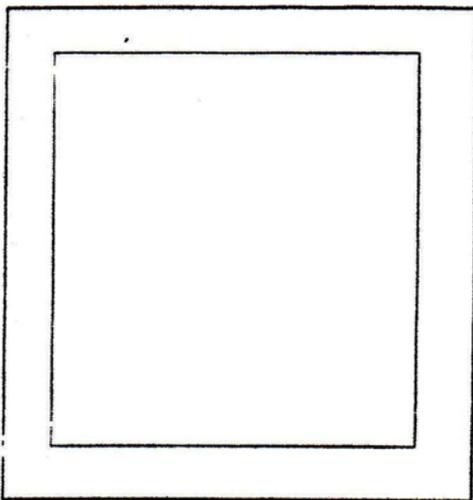
Use 12 - 15 inches of thread that the border was stitched with. Knot one end, bring needle up under the folded edge at the center of the back stitched border. Fold this side in half, wrong sides together and whip stitch through the back stitches. Do one or more stitch at end and slip the needle part way through the whipped stitches and cut. Repeat with the opposite corner.

The long opening will be stitch in the same way, except we will need to attach a hanger and tassel and stuff it.

On the third corner, attached with thread you hanger by stitching it to the folded edge. Close that corner same as the other two above.

Now we want to stuff the ornament. Take small pieces of the stuffing and push carefully into the three closed corners, use a blunt or rounded pusher, a chop stick works well. Keep stuffing the ornament working towards the last corner. Just before you get it as full as you want, attached the tassel by tacking it with thread to the folded edge. Put in a little more stuffing and whip stitch that edge close do not end off your thread.

The center can be closed by a cross stitch over all four corners meet, a Smyrna can also be use. If the center does not match up or it is not pleasing to your eye, a small button, crystal or charm can be stitched over the closure.



Take corner A and join it to corner B.

Using a long sewing thread that matches fabric colour, stitch the seam that is created by butting the line that A & B forms. Sew from the point to the centre.

At this time, attach tassel at the point if desired.

Fold C to centre point and from the centre stitch to the outside point. Travel needle and thread under section C to outside point of D.

Stuff with Fiberfil, potpourri can be added.

Fold D to centre and begin stitching from outside point to centre. Add more stuffing if desired. Place tie at top and finish sewing up from centre to outside point. Place the tie opposite to the tassel.

For extra decoration, you can feather stitch over the seams for a pleasing effect.

VISITING TEACHERS

We have some exciting things in the works for your stitching enjoyment.

October 2016 – Kurdy Biggs of Threedles will be here to teach her Elegance Cubed. We currently have 19 signed up for this class, so there is still room if anyone else is interested.

2017 – We have two really great classes planned –

Debbie Rowley of DebBee's Designs is designing a piece for Saguario Stitcher which will be taught in late March/early April 2017. We are doing this in conjunction with the Tucson chapter so that we can share Debbie's travel expenses with them. It will be 8 x 8 and have three colorways – one hot (yellows through to magenta), one cool (blues and greens) and one in neutral colors. We hope to have a picture for you to drool over by the April meeting.

I know many of you have seen Susan Herrmann's Walking the Water's Edge and I am pleased to be able to post a picture. This is a one day class which concentrates on learning shading techniques and free form eyelets for the surf, among other things. We have not yet firmed up a date with Susan but are looking at either January or October of 2017.

We welcome any suggestions you have for teachers for the future. Please contact me with your comments and suggestions.

Anne

ELEGANCE CUBED



Designed by Kurdy Biggs



Walking the Water's Edge

MEMBERSHIP:

MEMBERSHIP: Jan Prestin, Membership, Assistant Treasurer

We currently have 51 paid members in our chapter. Please welcome our newest member:
Terry Klebba

If you haven't yet renewed your chapter dues for 2016, please send your check for \$15.00 with any updated information.

We love adding new members to our chapter, so if you have any stitching friends or relatives who would like to join ANG and Saguaro Stitchers, I will be happy to provide membership information. Our wonderful website, www.saguarostitchers.org, also has a link to access forms.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to our members with birthdays in March and April

MARCH

Charlotte Wells
Terry Klebba
Janice Sterling
Mary Ellen Bloomburg
Carla Hamilton
Jean Bennett

APRIL

Alice Hall
Beth Tischner
Lil Wattenberg

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AT OUR LOCAL SHOPS!

When you want to see what classes the local shops offer, all you have to do is go to <http://www.saguarostitchers.org/> and click on "LINKS". By clicking on each shop's link, you will be able to see a current list of all classes offered. We are so fortunate to have these great shops! Call the shop directly or check their web sites.

Attic Needlework 480-898-1838

BeStitched Needlepoint (480) 991-0706

Family Arts Needlework Shop 602-277-0694

Old Town Needlework 480-990-2270

Quail Run Needlework 480-551-1423

NEWSLETTER

Barbara Shaw, editor

Not all of our members are able to attend meetings on a regular basis. So, send me a photo of your completed piece along with a note containing your thoughts about the piece (difficulties, changes you made, what you learned, etc.). I know others would love to see your finished pieces and hear what you have to say about them.

E-mail Barbara Shaw at newsletter@saguarostitchers.org.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT

Date: _____

Name: _____ Birthday-Month/Day: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell or Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Check one: New Member: () Renewal: () Plural: ()

Membership Number: _____ Home Chapter (Plural) _____

DUES: Annual Membership

\$15.00 _____

Please make checks payable to: Saguaro Stitchers

Please mail to: Jan Prestin
 Contact by email at membership@saguarostitchers.org
 for mailing address

For additional membership questions, contact Jan Prestin.

Our meetings are held at the **Holiday Inn Express Scottsdale North**, and our room is available from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The business meeting begins at 10:30 a.m.

The address of the **Holiday Inn Express Scottsdale North** is at 7350 E Gold Dust Ave in Scottsdale. It is located on the curve where Gold Dust Ave becomes N 74th St, and it is accessible from Scottsdale Road or Shea Blvd. The telephone number is 480-596-6559.