

July 2008

Connecting Threads



Reminders of Gentler Times in Hand-dyed Threads & Ribbons by The Thread Gatherer

Special points of interest:

- * Just Six Words
- * The best Angel Food Cake
- * New Colors
- * New Charts Using our Threads
- * Childhood Memory Book
- * Life Savors

Inside this issue:

No Minimum Orders	2
New Colors	2
Summer Limited Edition	2
Combing Needle Art	3
A Garden Journal	3
Designs using Threads	3
Beyond the Dyepot	4

Just Six Words

I have a good friend Kelly, whose Mom writes an incredible blog at www.shirleystcottage.blogspot.com. One of Shirley's latest blogs dealt with 'Six Words'. It is said that Ernest Hemingway was asked to write a story in just six words. His reply he called his best work: "For Sale. Baby Shoes. Never Worn". Quite a story is told in those six words.

Try writing a life memoir in just six words: Here are a few of my favorites I found:

"Barefoot on linoleum, dancing with rainbows." -April

"Long interesting road, many correct turns" - Kevin

"Not Quite What I Was Planning"

"Making Sure You Remember My Name"

"Not all smart people are successful." (I can't remember what spot on the web I found this but the entire story around this man's six words was tragic, yet he had such a great attitude in spite of the injustices he had survived."

And here are a couple of mine:

Just me dyeing, threads that is.

Remembering a boys only tree house.

Empty arms, then two babies together.

Reminders of gentler times lovingly stitched.

Try writing just six words and telling a story with them. . . .

Just Six Words

For Sale.
Baby
Shoes.
Never
Worn.

-Ernest Hemmingway

Life Savors for July

Popsicles. . . .

Fireflies. . . .

Walking Barefoot. . .

Cherry Pie. . .

4th of July Parades. . . .

Picking daisies. . . .

Early morning fishing trips. . .

Fire works against the night sky. . .

Homemade Ice Cream. . . .

Summer lightening and rain storms. . .

Ice cold lemonade. . .

Morning dew on daisies. . .

Hammocks and naps. . .

New Order Policy & No Minimums

We no longer have any minimum order requirements for shops. This means that only 1 skein of thread can be ordered!! We do have a minimum shipping/handling fee of \$3.00 for all orders under \$50.00. We hope this makes it easier for shops to order quickly any special order for a retail customer. If your shop does not carry our products or will not



Looking out for
the best interests
of our customers!

order them for you, please contact us for ordering assistance. We have many shops that carry the entire line or lines of our products and they provide great customer assistance.

No longer having
to meet a
minimum order
requirement will
make special
orders easier to
fill!

Limited Edition Lazy Summer Days Collection:

Our 'Lazy Summer Days' Limited Edition package includes Silk 'n Colors named:

Cloud Gazing
Watching the Grass Grow
Dandelion Days
Lazy Summer Days
Honeycomb Flower

Lemonade Jive

And Tackle box Outing is the 4mm ribbon. Available from your local needlework shop by special order only while supplies last!



New Silk 'n Colors!

This release of new colors has a 'red-pink' color theme. Sometimes we are inspired in one color family and this seemed the case with our new colors.

These colors are being shipped to our automatic customers in July and released to the shops not on our automatic program at the Sept wholesale show. Maritta, my daughter who works with me came up with the names. SNC 269 Stiletto Sidewalk is a mix of red violet, red-rust, and bur-

gundy. SNC 271 Bohemian Tryst is a hot combination of pale coral, raspberry, orange, rust and burgundy. Inspired by a new fabric at quilt market we just had to dye this color combination! SNC 270 Lipstick Playground combines all the colors of lipstick that little girls (or big girls) love to try on!

There are too many colors to name, but just about any lipstick color in the coral, pink of red family is in this color!



A Fabric Garden Journal

Following the Quilt Market in May in Portland Oregon we were contacted by Basic Grey and asked to make a fabric book using their new line of quilting fabric by Moda. If you every purchase scrapbook decorative paper you might know that Basic Grey is a company that produces absolutely beautiful paper! Using their new fabric I made this "Garden Journal" that will be on display at the summer wholesale market for crafting and scrapbooking. It also used our hand-dyed Romantique (silk satin ribbon) and Elegance (hand-dyed velvet ribbon) which you can see on our website: www.dyedonawhim.com. Needle felted leaves and a fabric yo-yo flower.



New Charts Using our Threads!

We've received several new charts using our threads:

My Big Toe released "I Am" A beautiful alphabet and gives us much to think about in just those two words.

The Workbasket released A Quaker House and a Peacock. I Love the peacock and I am working on a bird handmade book incorporating cross stitch on some of the pages. I'll post pictures when completed.

We re-added SNC 217 Windwhistle Cottage to the line after it was used in

Needle made Designs: Ackworth Variations Part I (I think you need 4 skeins to complete all three parts.)

The Sampler Woolly by Homespun Elegance chart even includes a basket and bit of wool yarn for finishing!

A chart O Christmas Trees by Forever in My heart is a whimsical combination

of trees.

And coming soon will be:

I Love Needle and Thread by Forever in My heart, using words penned by My own hand!

Cross Eyed Cricket will be releasing new charts mid July using several of our fibers and ribbons and I am very excited about what Vicki is doing.

Keslyn's has released 4 new charts using our threads:

Galaxy, Hearts Galore, A Tear, and Catrina's Christmas I liked all of them but my favorite is 'A Tear'. I love the thread 'hearts' out of our Gilded Lavender. It is exquisite!

M Designs has released new charts using our threads also:

A very cute mermaid called 'Didi's

Mermaid' and 'Grandma's Quilt'. What a great idea to remember an actual quilt!

Although there may be other new charts using our threads these are the only ones we have recently received patterns for.

We appreciate these designers using our threads and we appreciate you stitching with our threads!

I also have an ornament coming out in the Italian Christmas Ornament publication that benefits a Children's Hospital in Rome. I'm excited for this publication to become available in the fall—all I can say is that Judy Odell designed the ornament specifications and it is going to be wonderful! I can't yet share the theme of my Ornament but it reflects a country of my heritage and a custom we have observed.

Your shops can order this publication for you or contact us for information on shops whom we know will have this in stock.

**"We grow
too soon
old and
too late
smart."**

-German Saying

Blue Ribbon Designs released 'Good Karma', a lovely design with peacocks, other motifs and a wonderful verse regarding doing good and reaping the benefits of doing so.

The Thread Gatherer & Dyed On A Whim

Reminders of Gentler Times in Hand-dyed Threads & Ribbons by The Thread Gatherer

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We love the needle and thread and all fiber and fabric arts that remind us of gentler times. I still remember watching my Grandmother, Bessie Maybelle, working on crochet pieces and quilting. She belonged to a sewing club in Nebraska and when she moved to Idaho each woman in the group gave her an embroidered flour sack towel. I have a couple of these towels and wonder about each woman who cared enough about my Grandmother to embroider a towel for her. My Grandma must have cherished these very much because she never used them. I think we need to promote more 'needlework groups' where weekly or bi-weekly women meet to stitch and enjoy each others companionship and support. My friend Sheryl from New Zealand has a "Natter" Night" (in New Zealand to 'visit' is to Natter). She says "Natter" also means: "Needle and thread together equal relaxation". Don't you just love this?! If you start a 'Natter Night' send us a picture and how you promote it and we'll include it in a future newsletter!

Beyond the Dye Pot—The Best Angel Food Cake Recipe (and it is Gluten Free)

14 Egg Whites

1 1/2 tsp Cream of Tartar

1/2 tsp salt

2/3 C granulated sugar

1 C powdered Sugar

1/2 C Potato Starch flour (this looks like cornstarch, but it is different than plain potato flour. Do NOT use potato flour)

1/2 C cornstarch

In a large glass or metal (not plastic) bowl place egg whites, cream of tartar and salt. Beat until mixture is well

blended. Continue to beat on high speed gradually adding the granulated sugar until sugar is dissolved and whites form stiff peaks.

Sift together the potato starch flour, cornstarch and powdered sugar. Fold into the beaten egg whites about 1/4 of the sifted ingredients at a time using a rubber spatula and gentle folding motion. Pour batter into an ungreased 9" tube pan and cut through the batter with a table knife to break up any air bubbles. Bake at 370-375 degrees for 35-40 minutes in a preheated oven. Bake until the top springs back when lightly touched. Be sure it is completely done or it will fall from the pan while cooling. Any shiny

white parts indicate that it is not yet done. Cook completely in the pan (upside down).