

YOUTH EMBROIDERERS NEWS

WINTER 2019

I saw some people making snowmen last week so I guess Winter snow is on the way and even here for some of our members.

This newsletter has come pretty close in time to the Fall one (which was late) but I really wanted to send you all some Christmas ornament supplies and ideas. I hope you will have an opportunity to stitch them and give them to someone special. But before you give them away, be sure to take a photo of them to send to me.

I'm a little sad because I have no photos of our members' work to share with you. Please send me some at youth@eac-acb.ca

Make sure that the email address is changed in your or your parents' email because the old one no longer works.

And the new EAC website is now www.eac-acb.ca There are a few things that still need some adjusting on the Youth section, but I'm looking for ideas. Tell me what you would like to see there and I'll see what I can do to make it happen. No matter which or how you celebrate, have a wonderful season and keep your needles flashing.

Elizabeth





Hooray and congratulations are in order

The Eleanor Thomas Youth Award has been presented to:

The Thread Whisperers of Victoria, BC

Their chapter leader tells me they intend to work on the Ribbon Embroidery Course as a group.

Congratulations and we look forward to seeing your finished projects.

With this newsletter

I've included the materials required to stitch two of the patterns. The felt with threads and beads is for the mittens pattern

The snowflake fabric with threads and beads is for the little tree outline.

You may choose to use the materials for your own design or a different pattern.

Whichever you do, have fun and I'd love to see some photos.



What does Frosty take when he gets sick?

What does Frosty like to put on his icebergers?

What does Mrs. Claus sing to Santa on his birthday?



FINISHING YOUR ORNAMENTS

There are many ways you can finish your ornaments. All of them start by trimming your finished stitching to the preferred size.

Most often that means leaving about 3 – 4 cm all the way around your embroidered design. A little bit extra is best because you can always make it smaller, but you can't put the extra material back on.

You can add a hanging loop using a length of matching embroidery thread, a piece of ribbon or make a fancier twisted cord.

I've included some ideas but if you want more, here's some websites you might want to see.

<https://www.needlenthread.com/2014/12/how-to-finish-an-embroidered-christmas-ornament.html>

<https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/embroidered-holiday-ornament-4155317>

<http://www.crossstitchreview.com/ornament-finishing-techniques/>

Pillow (for embroidery on any kind of fabric)

Trim your design and a piece of backing fabric (felt, quilting cotton, etc.) to the same size. Place them together with the design and any pattern on the backing fabric facing each other (inwards so you can't see the designs).

As you sew them together using needle and thread or a sewing machine, remember to leave an opening about 2 – 3cm long on one edge. When you get them sewn together, turn your ornament right way out, add some stuffing and with a thread that matches your fabrics, sew the little hole closed with small, neat stitches.

You can trim this with a matching cord or braid, if you like.

Flat with a fringe

This is (nice for embroidery made on linen or evenweave fabric, e.g. cross-stitch, Hardanger, etc.)

Trim your design and cut a piece of felt that is about 1 cm smaller than your trimmed ornament.

Place the two pieces together with the design and any print on your backing fabric facing out (so you can see the designs). Make sure the felt is centred on the design.

Use a running stitch to sew the two fabrics together. Keep your stitches short and firm so you can make your fringe.

When you have finished sewing, carefully pick threads that are outside your stitched line to make your fringe.

Padded flat (uses two pieces of thin card to keep it flat)

You will use a bit of glue stick but only to hold your fabric while you stitch. After you glue the fabrics to the little band of glue, lay the sandwiches under a heavy book for an hour to let them dry before you sew the front to the back.

Trim your design and a piece of backing fabric to the same size.

Cut a piece of card (similar to a cereal box) to the size and shape you want your finished ornament to be. About 1.5 cm smaller all around than you trimmed your fabric is good. You will also need to cut one piece of fibre fill (quilt batting) the same size as the cards.

If there is printing on the card circles, try to use the card so the printed sides are in the middle of your finished ornaments, not next to the fabric. The printing might show through the fabric.

Lightly dab your glue stick in the centre of one of the pieces of card. Centre the backing fabric (print side out) over the glue side of the card and press it on. Run a little bit of glue stick along the edge on the other side of this circle and neatly fold in the backing fabric. Lightly dab one side of the second piece of card and press the fibre fill to it.

Place your embroidered design carefully centred (facing out) over the fibre fill. Turn the sandwich over. Run a little line of glue along the edge on the other side of the card and neatly fold the edges of your embroidery in over the glued edge.

Place the front and back together and using thread that matches the fabrics, sew them together using a "Whip Stitch".

If you want you can sew a braid around the edge before you add a hanging loop.



Riddle me this

*I'm tall when I'm
young, and I'm short
when I'm old, what
am I?*

*Why are Christmas
trees bad at
embroidering?*

Christmas List

6 letters remaining: _____

C	C	O	N	C	E	R	T	T	C
P	A	C	I	S	U	M	R	O	A
R	R	R	L	F	E	E	R	R	R
E	E	J	O	R	E	E	G	N	D
S	E	O	R	L	B	I	N	A	S
E	D	Y	F	M	F	E	D	M	A
N	N	R	E	T	E	I	L	E	T
T	I	C	I	R	G	H	O	N	N
D	E	R	G	N	T	S	C	T	A
D	R	G	N	I	K	C	O	T	S

CARDS	FOOD	PRESENT
CAROL	GIFT	RED
COLD	GREEN	REINDEER
CONCERT	JOY	SANTA
DECEMBER	MERRY	STOCKING
DRINK	MUSIC	TREE
ELF	ORNAMENT	

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Riddle me this:

How does Frosty get to school?

What does Frosty eat for lunch?

Mistletoe and Poinsettia mittens



Supplies

Perle # 8 Colours: 434 (light brown); 319 (dark pistachio green); 368 (light pistachio green); 666 (bright red)

DMC stranded floss #498 (dark red)

Wool felt or wool fabric: dark green, blue or black

Seed beads: yellow & white or pearl

Beading thread

Crewel needle (size 3/9) & beading needle

Light-weight card

To start

Using the mitten outline, make a tracing template from stiff card.

Trace around the template onto your fabric. On the dark fabric, use tailor's chalk; chalk will brush off as you work so be prepared to remark the outline 1-2 times throughout stitching.

Alternatively, make your template slightly larger than desired, tracing with a fine tip marker.

The marker is trimmed off when cutting the finished mitten.

Using fading or washable pen or chalk, draw a free hand stem onto the mitten starting ~3/4" from the cuff. Don't use anything permanent for drawing the stem as you may want to change the flow of the line.

Each mitten stitched will be unique since the line of the branches and placement of leaf groups and flowers will vary each time you stitch the design. Where along the stem you place your mistletoe and poinsettias is your choice. Have fun and use the pattern only as a guide, not a rule!!

Mistletoe

Stem (Perle # 434) : Draw a three branching stem and stitch with wrapped double running stitch .

Leaves (Perle # 368) : Stitch clusters of 3-4 lazy daisy stitches along the stems, keeping the central points up and the petals fanned out at the bottom. To layer the stitch, make second daisies over the first, using the same central point and shifting the anchor stitch slightly left, right, inside or outside the first stitch.

Berries (beading thread) : Using white or pearl seed beads, stitch a clusters of 2-6 beads at the points of each leaf cluster.

When you have completed the primary groupings, you may want to add random leaves or berries along the branches.

Poinsettia

Stem (DMC Perle # 434 and #319) : Draw a single long branch down centre of mitten with a shorter branch towards thumb. Stitch double running stitch in #434 , wrapping with #319 .

Leaves (DMC Perle #319) : Create 3-5 leaf clusters along the stems, stitching 5 lazy daisies stitched with points toward the stem and arranged along an imaginary line with two daisies on each side and one forming point.

Petals (DMC Perle # 666 and floss # 498) : With DMC Perle # 666, make 2-3 rough circles (1/4" centre) of lazy daisy stitches along main stem and 1 along the shorter branch. Vary the length and centre point of each petal. Double the daisy using 1 strand of DMC floss # 498. If there is a large gap between petals, you may want to fill in with an extra floss daisy. Or you may wish to leave one flower as a part circle.

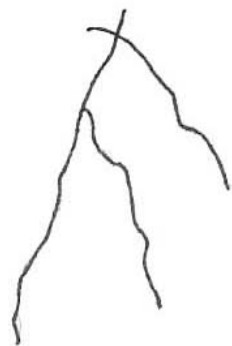
Centre: stitch a cluster of 4-8 yellow beads in the centre of each flower.

When you have completed the primary groupings, you may want to add random leaves/petals or berries along the branch.

Finishing

Using a long strand of DMC Perle colour/s of your choice, twist a hanging cord.

Cut a piece of wool backing to fit your mitten outline. Hand-sew or machine-sew together, anchoring the hanging loop at upper corner opposite thumb. Leave cuff open or sew closed as preferred. Trim to sewn outline, taking care not to cut the hanging loop.



mistletoe stem



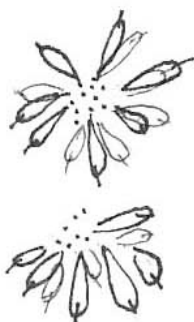
mistletoe



doubled
lazy daisy



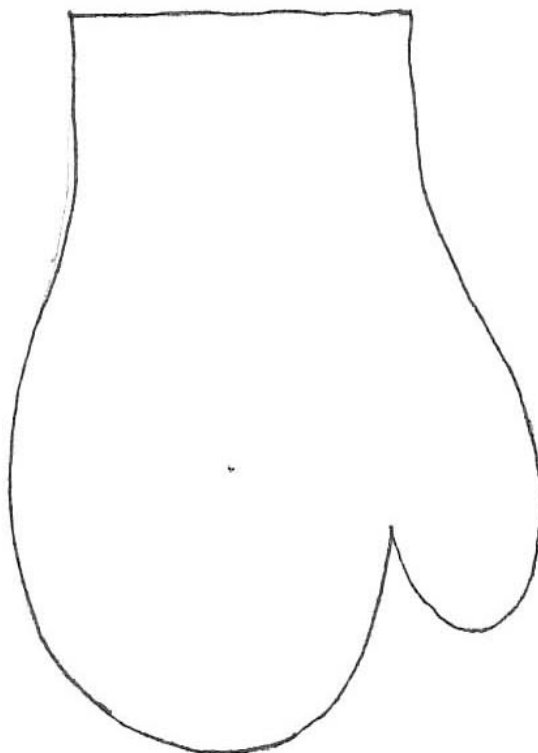
poinsettia
stem



poinsettia
flower



poinsettia
leaf



CAROLS – ONLY FIND THE WORDS IN BOLD.

X	R	E	D	N	E	T	Y
M	O	T	H	E	R	L	I
D	L	I	H	C	N	S	N
P	E	A	C	E	I	I	F
Y	S	X	V	L	G	A	A
L	O	A	E	R	H	L	N
O	E	N	I	X	T	L	T
H	T	V	S	L	E	E	P

Silent Night, Holy Night, All is Calm, All is Bright

Round Yon **Virgin, Mother and Child**

Holy **Infant So Tender** and Mild

Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

M	Y	S	T	A	R	S	J
Y	A	L	I	T	T	L	E
P	W	N	O	X	L	X	S
E	A	B	G	O	H	D	U
E	D	E	R	E	K	A	S
L	O	D	F	O	R	E	Y
S	W	E	E	T	X	H	D
A	N	T	H	G	I	R	B

Away in a Manger, No Crib for a Bed

The **Little Lord Jesus** Lay Down His **Sweet Head**

The **Stars** in the **Bright Sky Looked Down** Where He **Lay**

The Little Lord Jesus **Asleep** in the **Hay.**

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Riddle me this

What do sheep say to the shepherds at
Christmas?

Where does Santa stay when he's on
holiday?

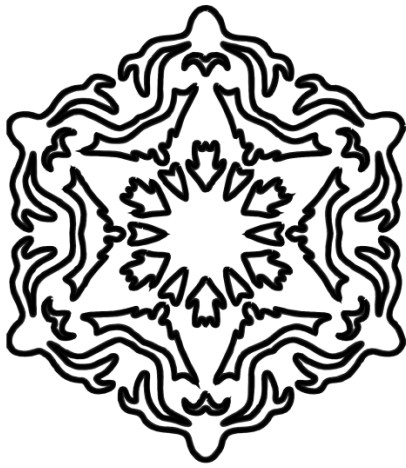
Knock knock

Who's there?

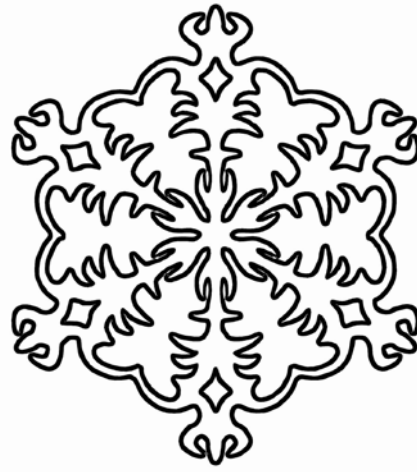
Needle

Needle who?

Needle little reminder that
Christmas is coming.



SNOW FLAKE



SNOW FLAKE

Christmas Fir Tree

This ornament is made using only one stitch, a modified fir stitch (only the top portion is stitched).

Fabric: any even weave fabric (Aida, linen, etc.): thread count will affect finished size, e.g. on 14 count Aida, stitched area will 2.75" x 2.75", on 11 count – 3.5" x 3.5". When measuring fabric, allow at least 2 ½ times the "stitched area" for finishing.

Threads: stitcher's choice: 4-6 strands of floss, 1 strand #8 or #5 Perle cotton, or other thread as suitable for chosen fabric. You require green for tree and brown for trunk. With stranded cotton, try mixing together individual strands of several colours stranded floss or using variegated thread.

Notions: Seed beads or small sequins for "ornaments", star for tree top if desired
Felt for backing

Stitching:

1. Find centre of fabric and begin stitching tree branches from centre of diagram. Stitching horizontal rows makes counting pattern easier. Remember to change colours at trunk.
2. Stitch bead or sequins as indicated, and place star at tree top.

Finishing:

Option 1 - Fringed edge:

Cut a felt square about 1"-2" larger than the stitched area, to desired size of pillow. Centre it over back of stitching and stitch together using running stitch or other edging stitch, leaving space at the top to stuff the pillow and insert a hanging loop. Stitch opening closed. Trim excess fabric to desired length of fringe. Withdraw threads to create fringe.

Option 2 – Coloured edge:

Trim excess fabric from stitching to desired size of finished ornament. Cut square of felt slightly larger than fabric. Centre it over back of stitching so an even amount of felt colour shows on front and stitch together using running stitch or other edging stitch, leaving space at the top to stuff the pillow and insert a hanging loop. Stitch opening closed.

DID YOU PUZZLE OUT THESE ANSWERS??

I'm thin but I'm not a piece of wire
 I'm sharp but I'm not a pencil
 I'm made of metal but I'm not a nail
 I have an eye but I can't see
 Answer: a needle

Riddle: If a red house is made of red bricks, and a yellow house is made of yellow bricks, what is a greenhouse made of? Answer: Glass, all greenhouses are made of glass.

Riddle: What answer can you never answer yes to? Answer: Are you asleep yet?

Why was the baby ghost sad? Answer: He wanted his mummy!

What do witches put on their bagels? Answer: Scream Cheese

Do you know how to make a witch itch? Answer: You take away the w!\

Stitch Scramble

Unscramble the stitch names.

Puzzle # 1

LFY			F	L	Y					
SCOSR			C	R	O	S	S			
NNINRUG				R	U	N	N	I	N	G
LSIPT	S	P	L	I	T					
HNCIA				C	H	A	I	N		

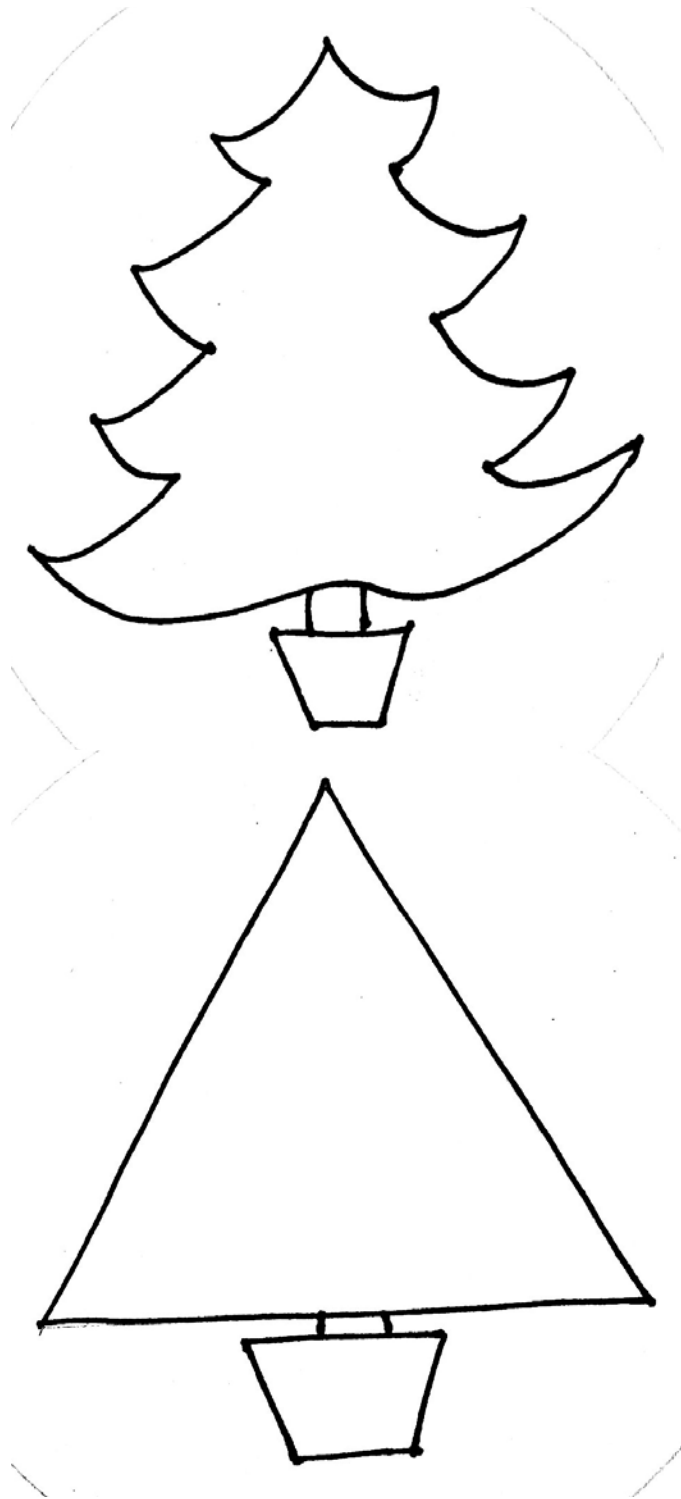
Puzzle # 2

AKBC			B	A	C	K			
ERAHFET	F	E	A	T	H	E	R		
LOARC		C	O	R	A	L			
NSIAT		S	A	T	I	N			
BNAEKTL		B	L	A	N	K	E	T	

Puzzle # 3

LYF				F	L	Y	
SAINT	S	A	T	I	N		
MEST				S	T	E	M
HNCAI			C	H	A	I	N
BEACL		C	A	B	L	E	
PORE			R	O	P	E	
NERF	F	E	R	N			
ESED			S	E	E	D	

Split stitch Christmas Tree



You can try stitching this tree using the Chain Stitch, Stem Stitch or Split Stitch. Use the Stitch Book you received when you joined or any other stitch guide you might have.

Trace the tree outline on to the white snowflake fabric.

Stitch the tree outline using 3 strands of the green thread.

Stitch a garland using the metallic thread.

Use one strand of white sewing thread to attach the beads. Bring your needle up through your fabric where you want a bead to be. Put one bead on your needle and sew it down firmly. Move to the next spot and continue until you have your tree decorated.

Add any other beads, sequins or decoration you choose. Stitch a little star at the top if you like.

You will need to use a very fine needle. If your needle won't go through your beads, try a smaller needle. If it's only one or two beads, just put them aside for another project or throw them out. You have lots in the kit.

If you...

Answer a riddle,

Write a letter,

Send a picture of your
stitched embroidery,

Solve a puzzle,

Send an e-mail,

Send a joke,

Send a drawing,

Send anything!

I'll send you a goody!

Try it! It works!!

IS IT TIME TO RENEW?

If this is your last issue, a notice will be on the front page of your newsletter.

Send in your renewal of \$15 to continue your National membership or....

Visit and join your local chapter to see what they've got on the go.

Please don't let your membership expire. Continue to receive the Youth Embroiderers' News, goodies, access to affordable correspondence courses, EAC exhibitions, Eleanor Thomas Youth Award, Leonida Leatherdale Library, prizes, PLUS much more – so...

See page 14 for the renewal form, if you want to use it to send in your cheque to the Youth Appointee or renew using a credit card on the EAC secure site www.eac-acb.ca

