



Newsletter of the Blue Ribbon Chapter

American Needlepoint Guild, Inc.

Volume 10, Issue 8

August 1, 2026

Indicates change

In person events (meetings, SIPs, and lunches) are weather permitting.

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Calendar

Tuesday, August 18
6:00 - 7:00 pm
7:00 - 7:15 pm
7:15 - 8:30 pm

Sunday, August 23
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday, August 29
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Tuesday, September 15
6:00 - 6:45 pm
6:45 - 7:15 pm
7:15 - 8:30 pm

Saturday, October 10
1:00 - 1:30 pm
1:30 - 2:00 pm
2:00 - 4:00

Tuesday, November 17
6:00 - 6:45 pm
6:45 - 7:15 pm
7:15 - 8:30 pm

Tuesday, December 15
6:00 - 6:45 pm
6:45 - 7:15 pm
7:15 - 8:30 pm

Tuesday, January 19
6:00 - 6:45 pm
6:45 - 7:15 pm
7:15 - 8:30 pm

Tuesday, January 19
6:00 - 6:45 pm
6:45 - 7:15 pm
7:15 - 8:30 pm

Monthly meeting – Knights of Columbus and Teams
Log in to Teams (6:15 pm); social/stitching time
Business meeting
Study topic – Nordic Gnome

Stitch-in-Public at the Iowa State Fair, Room A
(Varied Industries Building, 1st floor)

Stitch-in-Public, Bistro at Blooms, 1440 Blairs Ferry Rd NE, Marion

Monthly meeting – Knights of Columbus and Teams
Log in to Teams (6:15 pm); social/stitching time
Board and business meetings
Study topic – State Fair Recap and Yo-Yo/Dorset Button Ornament. Kick off WIP Challenge.

Monthly meeting – North Liberty Library and Teams
Social/stitching time; log in to Teams
Chapter business meeting
Study topic – Yo-Yo/Dorset Button Ornament

Monthly meeting – Knights of Columbus and Teams
Log in to Teams (6:15 pm); social/stitching time
Chapter business meeting
Study topic – Finishing – Nametag and Sea Urchin. Kick off WIP Challenge

Monthly meeting –Teams
Social/stitching time; log in to Teams
Board and business meetings
Study topic – WIP Challenge

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Visit the Blue Ribbon Chapter website at <https://www.blueribbonang.com>

Facebook page – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/4605737459498550>

Blue Ribbon ANG Chapter Meeting Minutes, July 11, 2026

Business Meeting

- President Heidi Parker called the meeting to order at 2:31 pm.
- Members present – Heidi Parker, Cindy Baldwin, Robin Rossignol, Jamie Randall, Kareen Strumpel
- Vote on officers
 - o Heidi presented the slate:
 - President – Cindy Baldwin
 - President Elect – Robin Rossignol
 - Secretary – Julia Ackerman
 - Treasurer – Jamie Randall
 - VP Membership – Jamee Klein
 - o No objections were made
 - o Robin Rossignol moved that the slate be accepted as presented, Cindy Baldwin seconded.
 - o Slate unanimously accepted.
- Officer Reports
 - o Secretary Report – Amend June Board minutes to move Robin from officers attending to members attending. The minutes will be republished in the August newsletter.
 - o Treasurer Report – June Balance - \$1,092.59.

Old Business

- New officers – please get with predecessors and be prepared to take on roles.
- State Fair – Stitch In Public the last Sunday, August 23rd.

New Business

- None

Meeting adjourned at 2:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Baldwin

The Blue Ribbon Chapter of American Needlepoint Guild, Inc. (ANG), invites interested individuals, regardless of expertise, into membership. Dues are \$20 per year payable to the Chapter. You must be a current ANG member to belong to the Chapter. ANG membership information can be found at <http://www.needlepoint.org/membership.php>.

Guests and visitors are welcomed.

Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of every month (except May, July, and October) starting with a social time at 6:00 pm, with the formal meeting starting at 7:00 pm. These meetings are held at the Knights of Columbus, 1620 E Avenue NE, Cedar Rapids, IA and on Teams. Meetings in December, January, and February will be held on Teams only, starting with Teams login/social time at 6:15 pm, with the formal meeting starting at 7:00 pm.

Meetings in May, July, and October are held on the 2nd Saturday of the month starting with social time at 1:00 pm and the formal meeting beginning at 1:30 pm. The Saturday meetings are held at the North Liberty Public Library, 520 W. Cherry St, North Liberty, IA and on Teams.

Board meetings will be held in September, December, March, and June.

The Blue Ribbon ANG Newsletter is published monthly. Deadline for submission of items is the 20th day of each month.

Newsletter Editor: Cindy Baldwin cabaldwin1828@gmail.com

2026-2027 Officers

Past President Heidi Parker (handparker@gmail.com)

President Cindy Baldwin (cabaldwin1828@gmail.com)

President Elect Robin Rossignol (robin-ann-rossignol@uiowa.edu)

VP-Membership Jamee Klein (jameek34@gmail.com)

Secretary Julia Ackerman (jcacker@aol.com)

Treasurer Jamie Randall (jvandereide@gmail.com)

Chapter website: <https://www.blueribbonang.com/>

Blue Ribbon ANG Chapter Meeting Minutes, June 16, 2026 (revised)**Board Meeting**

- President Heidi Parker called the meeting to order at 6:45 pm.
- Officers present – Heidi Parker, Cindy Baldwin, Connie Rosene, Jamee Klein
- Members present – Joan Ackerman, Julia Ackerman, Jamie Randall, Kareen Strumpel, Ruth Topp, Robin Rossignol
- Guest – Cindy Ackerman

Old Business

- Slate of officers
 - o President – Cindy Baldwin
 - o President Elect – Robin Rossignol
 - o VP Membership – Jamee Klein
 - o Secretary – Julia Ackerman
 - o Treasurer – Jamie Randall

New Business

- None

Business Meeting

- President Heidi Parker called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
- Officer Reports
 - o Secretary Report – Approved as published.
 - o Treasurer Report – May Balance - \$1,538.16.
 - Domain, state fair, and rent paid will show in June.
 - o Membership Report
 - Nothing to report.
 - Reach out to National to get information on new ANG members in Iowa listed in March/April Needle Pointers. Connie will reach out to them. (Laura Sohn and Teresa Simmons)

Old Business

- New officers – please get with predecessors and be prepared to take on roles.
- July Meeting – finishing nametags and sea urchin. Make sure to bring materials. Read the instructions for the nametag and sea urchin.
- State Fair – Stitch In Public the last Sunday, August 23rd.

New Business

- State Fair
 - o Deadline is end of month (July 1st).
 - o All divisions same as last year.
 - o New Division – America 250. Needlework is one class. Anything red, white, and blue.
 - o Drop off the last Saturday in July.
 - o Ask if you have any questions or if you need help with divisions.

Upcoming Events

- 7/11 - Member meeting – North Liberty Library
- 8/18 - Member meeting – Knights of Columbus
- 8/23 – Stitch in Public at Iowa State Fair

Meeting Adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Program/Study Topic

- Twisted Cord

Respectfully submitted,
Heidi Parker

Nametag

Please remember to wear your nametags at meetings and when we are stitching in public.

Blue Ribbon ANG Website

Our website (<https://www.blueribbonang.com/>) has a Members Only page. When you go to the website, you'll see a Log In button to the right of ANG. Click on that and follow the instructions. Cindy Baldwin must approve access. Once you are approved, the last page on the website is Members. Click on that to add information about yourself.

Hover over Members and you'll see Files. You'll see several folders, including Study Topics. Patterns and information for past study topics are saved here. Anyone can create folders and add files. If you have questions, ask Cindy.

August Study Topic – Nordic Gnome

We will work on Kurdy Biggs' Nordic Gnome.

Future Study Topics

Thanks to everyone for suggesting projects and voting. We chose the projects with the most votes, and the tentative schedule is below. We'll adjust the schedule if necessary as we go along.

- September, October – State Fair Recap and Yo-Yo (September)/Dorset Button Ornament (October).
- November – Finishing – Nametag and Sea Urchin. Kick off WIP Challenge.
- December, January, February 2027 – WIP Challenge
- March, April 2027 – Hilton Head, Marilyn Owen. Needle Pointers, September/October 2021, pages 30-37.
- May 2027 – Diamond Elegance II, Barbara Richardson. Needle Pointers, July 2013, pages 32-33.
- June, July 2027 – Sedona Sunset, Kurdy Biggs. Needle Pointers, May/June 2025, pages 24-31.
- August, September, October 2027 – Fiesta, Mary Knapp. Needle Pointers, July/Aug 2022, pages 24-36.

We are going to put off the Art Deco Tree, Deborah Reichert. (Needle Pointers, November/December 2024, pages 38-61.) We need someone to take the lead on the project and right now, no one is ready to do that.

ANG's Quarterly Stitch for this quarter is a small (2 ¾" x 2 ¾") blackwork project that would make a good biscornu. It includes a brief history of blackwork and describes three methods for stitching blackwork designs. If you are interested, go to the Quarterly Stitch page (<https://www.needlepoint.org/page/QUARTERLY-STITCH>), **before the end of August**, and download the file (you do need to be logged in).

Blogs

- Convert metallic threads from one brand to another <https://fabyreilly.com/2026/07/27/convert-metallic-threads-from-one-brand-to-another/>
- Why I Love Wool Felt <https://weefolkstudio.com/2026/05/03/why-i-love-wool-felt/>
- Using Embroidery Stitches in Needlepoint Part 1: The Chain Stitch <https://poppymonkneedlepointkits.com/blogs/the-5-minute-needlepoint-blog/using-embroidery-stitches-in-needlepoint-part-1-the-chain-stitch>
- Needlepoint Tent Stitch: Fun Facts <https://poppymonkneedlepointkits.com/blogs/the-5-minute-needlepoint-blog/needlepoint-tent-stitch-fun-facts>

Interesting Needlework and Related Info on the Internet

- 78 Embroidery Projects That Were Too Stunning Not To Share (New Pics) <https://www.boredpanda.com/interesting-cool-embroidery/>
- Muscarelle unveils America's Tapestry: 13 Colonies, 13 stories, 1 nation <https://www.whro.org/arts-culture/2026-06-23/muscarelle-unveils-americas-tapestry-13-colonies-13-stories-1-nation>
- AI Artist Turns His Generated Compositions Into Tactile Embroidered Works [Interview] <https://mymodernmet.com/richard-nadler-ai-artist-embroidery/>
- Embroiderers' Guild of America (EGA) 2026 Fiber Forum <https://egausa.org/gallery/2026-fiber-forum/>
- National Academy of Needlearts (NAN) 2026 Exemplary Ribbon Winners <https://gallery.needleart.org/2026-exemplary-ribbon-winners/>
- Stitching Tutorials & Stitch Diagram Library <https://theneedlepointer.com/pages/stitching-tutorials-stitch-diagram-library>. There are videos for many of the stitches.

- This Iowa Museum Tells American History Through Thread, Fabric, And Color <https://www.travelmag.com/this-iowa-museum-tells-american-history-through-thread-fabric-and-color/>

Needlework Holidays

- September is National Needlepoint Month.
- July 25th is National Thread the Needle Day.
- July 30th is World Embroidery Day.
- August 8th is World Cross Stitch Day.
- Stitch in Public day (Feb 1st) and the entire month of February is National Embroidery Month.

Editor's Note

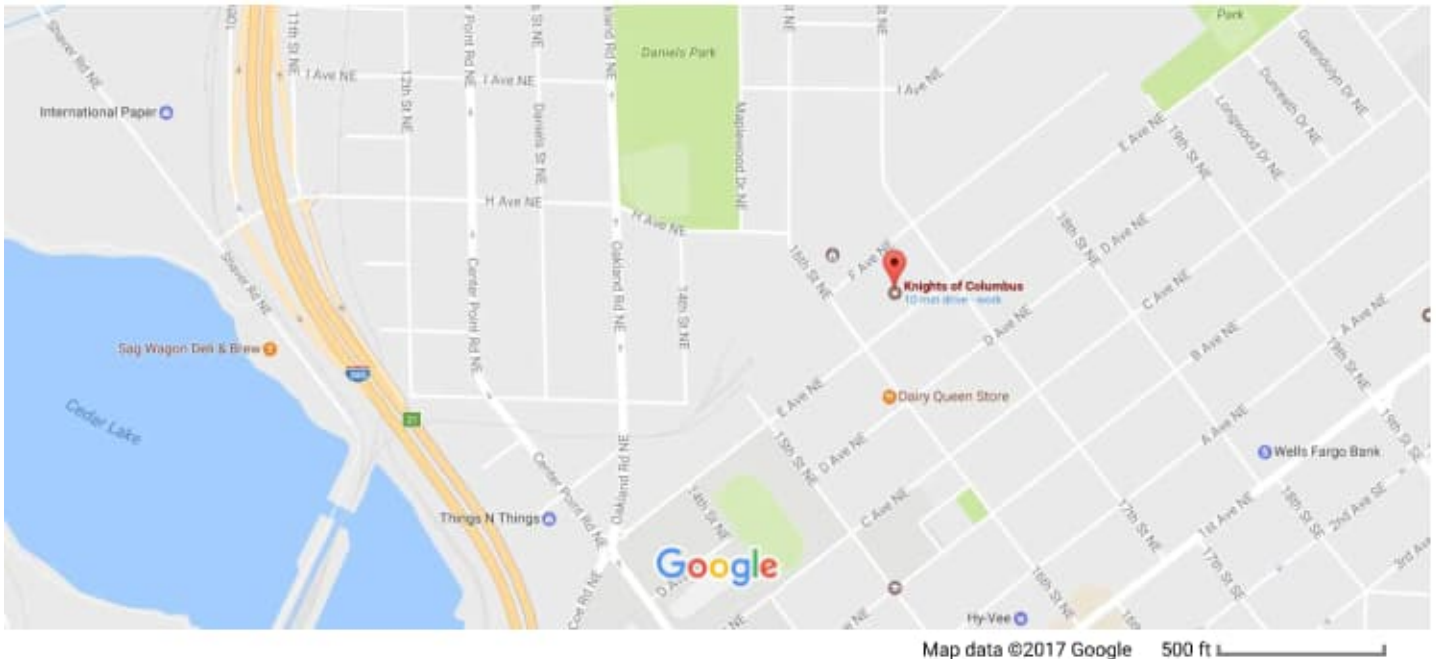
Items included in the newsletter are ones that I think the membership might be interested in. I'm also happy to include news items or suggestions you send me, so please feel free to send things to me for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Cindy

Directions to Knights of Columbus Hall

1620 E Avenue NE, Cedar Rapids, IA

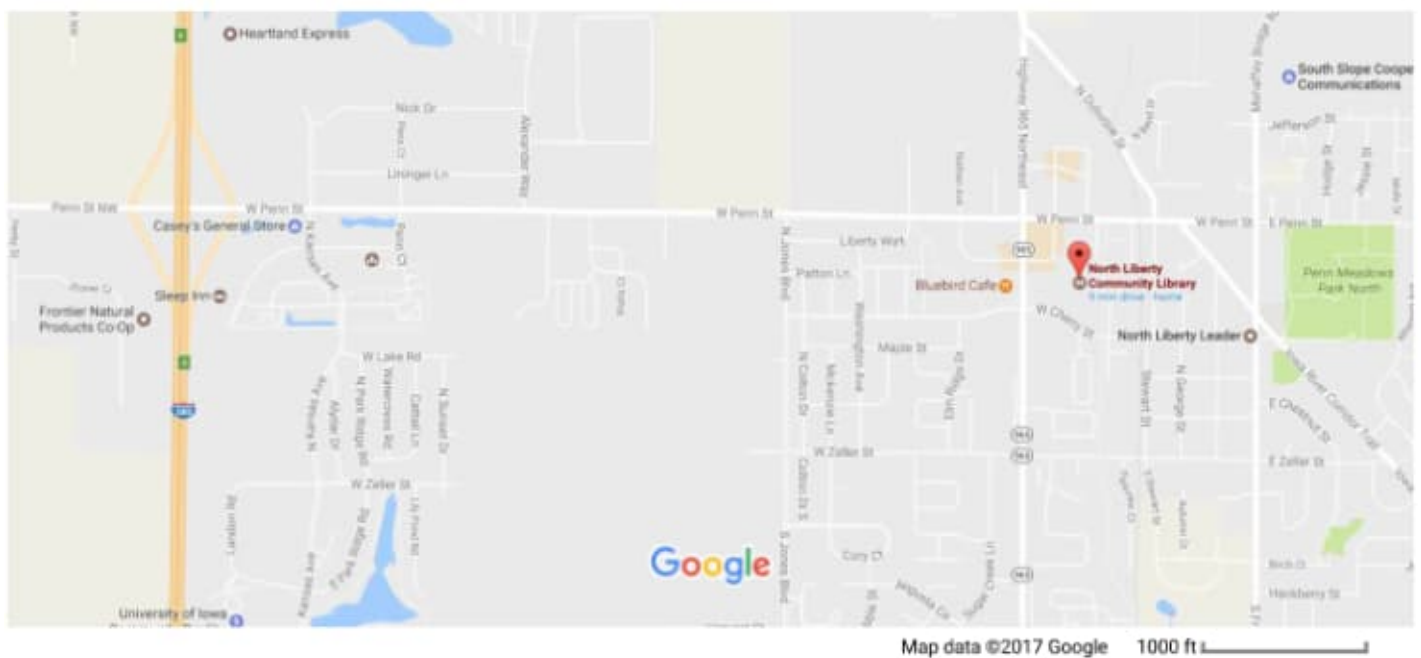
From I380, take the H Avenue exit. Turn onto H Ave NE. Turn right onto 16th St NE. Turn left onto E Ave NE. The Knights of Columbus Hall is on the left.



Directions to North Liberty Public Library

520 W. Cherry St, North Liberty, IA

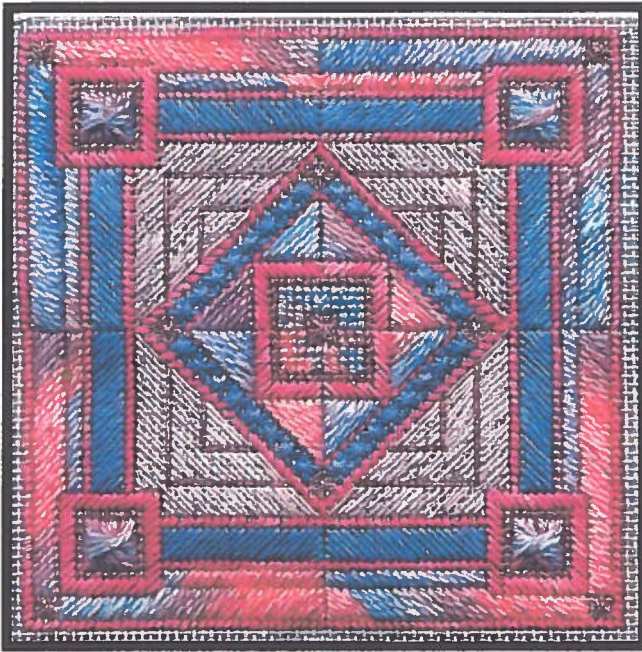
From I380, take the Penn St exit. Go east on Penn St. Turn right on Highway 965 NE. Turn left on Cherry St. The library entrance is on the west side of the building.



Stained Glass Square

For Rainbow Gallery by:

LAURA J. PERIN DESIGNS



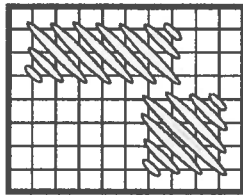
Symbol	Materials		
	<u>Rainbow Gallery's:</u>	<u>Pastels</u>	or <u>Jewels</u>
	Hi-Lights	H612-Peach	H612-Peach
	Treasure Braid-Petite	PB13-Pink	PB14-Bronze
	Overture	V53-Baton Rouge	V55-Monarch
	Pebbly Perle	P121-Dusty Pink	P391-Spice
	Pebbly Perle	P57-Marine Blue	P74-Dark Jade
Design Count: 70w x 70h stitches			
Design Size: 3 7/8" x 3 7/8" on 18 ct. mono canvas (pale complementary color)			
Cut Canvas Size: 6" x 6"			

General Instructions:

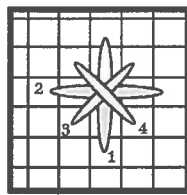
- To keep work taut, scroll bars are highly recommended.
- This design offers a pastel or jewel tone version, but please experiment with different color combinations, as well as different thread types. For instance, you may prefer to use #5 pearl cotton threads instead of the Pebbly Perles mentioned.
- Start all threads with a waste knot on top of fabric; end all threads by weaving them into back of existing work. Avoid carrying thread across back of open fabric.
- *NOTE: Overture is a 4-ply cotton; separate the plies and use only ONE ply for all stitching.*

STITCHING INSTRUCTIONS:

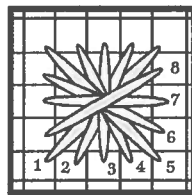
- Step 1. Center Block:** Mark center of canvas. With one strand of Treasure Braid, begin at center and stitch a small Rhodes Square (over 4 x 4 threads). With 1 ply of Overture, Tent Stitch the four sections of central square. With 1 strand of Treasure Braid, Cross Stitch around the square. With medium color Pebbly Perle, Diagonal Satin Stitch over 2 threads around the metallic row.
- Step 2. Center Diamond:** With 1 ply Overture, Diagonal Satin Stitch the triangle sides, going over 7 threads. Backstitch around diamond with medium Pebbly Perle. With dark Pebbly Perle, stitch the Smyrna Stars, counting carefully at tips. Put metallic Smyrna Stars in diamond points, then surround diamond area with medium Pebbly Perle straight stitches. See Main Graph for all color and stitch placement.
- Step 3. Metallic Background:** With 1 strand of Hi-lights, Diagonal Satin Stitch the background rows over 4 threads. When finished, with 1 strand of Treasure Braid lay long straight stitches in the 'ditches.'
- Step 4. Dark Inner Border:** Tent Stitch the next row with the medium Pebbly Perle. Diagonal Stitch the wide border in dark Pebbly Perle, then Tent Stitch the other side with medium Pebbly Perle. Stitch corner Rhodes Stitches with 1 ply Overture, going over 6 threads. Outline with a row of Treasure Braid, then finish corner blocks with Diagonal Stitches (over 2 threads) in medium Pebbly Perle.
- Step 5. Outer Borders:** With 1 ply Overture, Diagonal Satin Stitch a narrow row (over 2 threads) between the corner blocks. Continuing with Overture, Diagonal Satin Stitch a wider border over 4 threads at widest part. Make a small Rhodes Stitch with Treasure Braid in corners. Finish with a row of medium Pebble Perle.



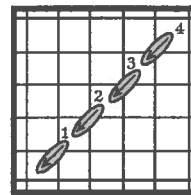
Diagonal Satin Stitch



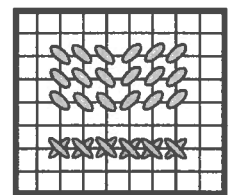
Smyrna Star



Rhodes Stitch

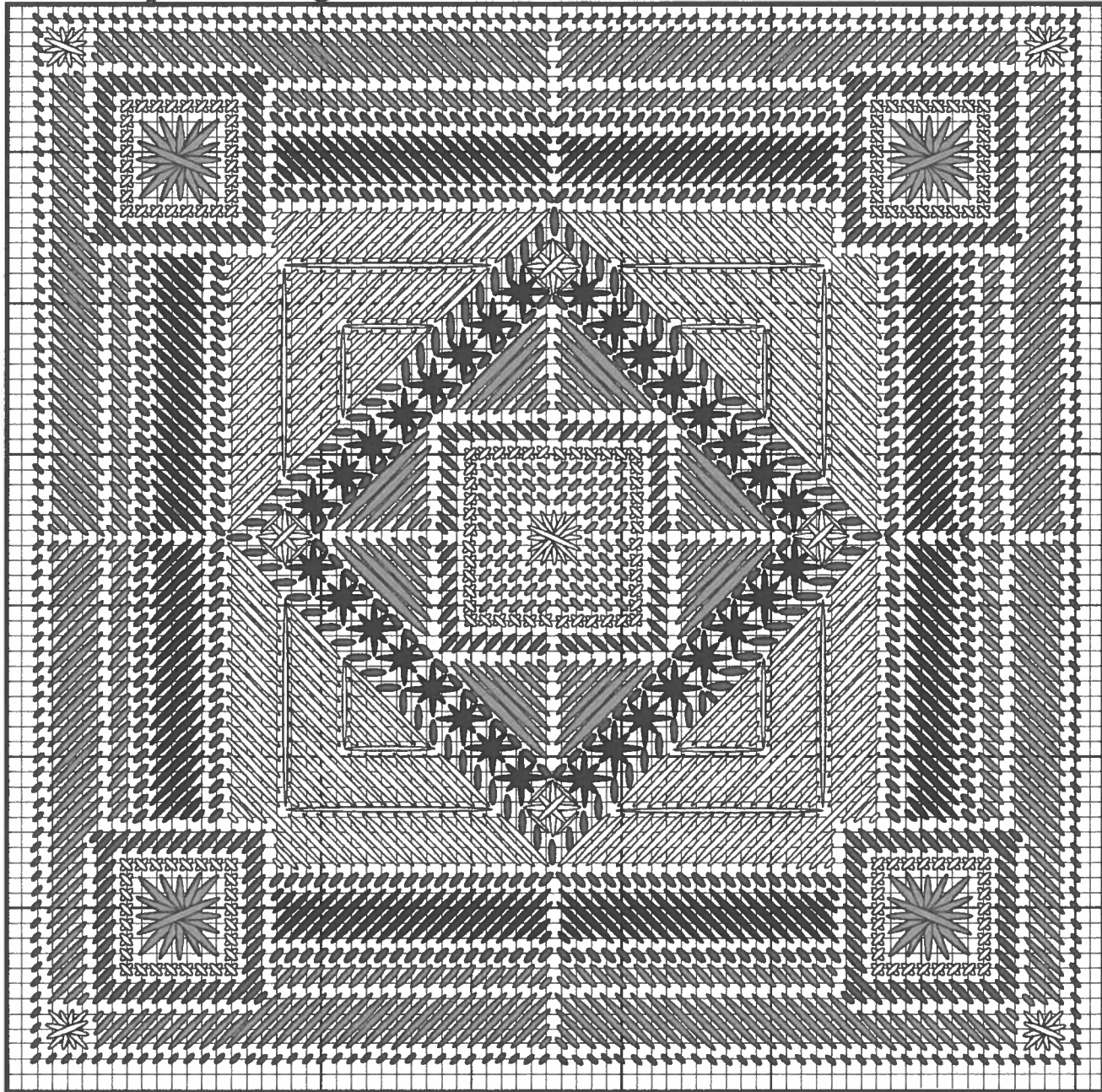


Backstitch



Tent & Cross Stitches

Main Graph, showing all stitches



your local needlework shop

For more information about LAURA J. PERIN DESIGNS please contact

*Be creative...
use various types
of threads...
and have fun!*

Rainbow Gallery's:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Hi-lights, light color | Pebbly Perle, medium color |
| Treasure Braid, (metallic) | Pebbly Perle, dark color |
| Overture (varigated cotton) | NOTE: Use one strand of all threads,
but use one PLY of Overture. |