



# THE SCARLET LETTER



We had a lovely gathering of the sampler-minded here on Sunday the 10th of September. The Scarlet Letter gallery was open and lit for the first time in almost six years, and it was exciting to greet many old and new friends. Bill Webb played a variety of musical instruments contributing to the beautiful and relaxing ambiance. His website is [www.billwebbmusic.com](http://www.billwebbmusic.com).

Strolling around the historic buildings of Smoke Ham Farm between visits to the gallery and shop was aided by maps, handed out by my sister, Nada. Then there was dining al fresco on the front porch, featuring a peacock themed sampler cake (a taste of a new design to come...), fresh vegetables from my garden, Wisconsin cheeses, non-native guacamole, and my mother's wonderful orange cake recipe. More photos of the open house are at the end of the newsletter.

In fact it was such a lovely event that I hope to repeat it in the spring of 2018, during daffodil time. Stay tuned! Space is, alas, limited as I do not have staff, but if I can enlist my super-organized sister Nada to help, as well as great friends like Kathy, Pam and Bill, we will be good to go.



*Entrance to the Scarlet Letter shop*



*The sampler cake, Wisconsin cheeses, and some fresh veggies from my garden were some of the treats available.*



*Enjoying lunch and music on the porch*

It's time once again for the mystery plant contest. If you can specifically identify this vegetable, you win your choice of any graph. The vegetable is shown in the picture at the right. Click on the photo for a larger image. Check the [Newsletters Puzzles page](#) to see if it has been identified yet.



*Mystery vegetable*

It has been a long time since I took a holiday, and the time is approaching. I will be in Italy from the 19th of September until early October, seeking out more unusual antique embroideries such as [THE BLACK GRYPHON](#) which I found at an antiques market in Arezzo. As most customers know I ship pronto, but orders placed between September 18th and October 4th will not be processed or shipped until after October 5th. You should be able to reach me by email during that time, unless I am catatonic from eating too much fresh pasta and gelato. I appreciate your understanding.



*The Black Gryphon*

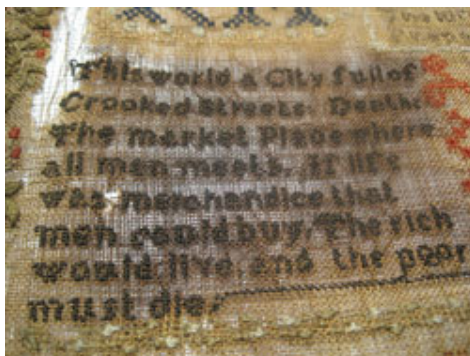
There are no new samplers this month, but several are in the works for this fall. Sneak previews of two are below.

Arrivederci!

Marsha



## Sneak Previews



*A wonderful verse, from a sampler by Ann Carbutt, available later this year.*



*A peacock and a badger will be featured on a new design, available later this year.*

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## Open House Photos

Click on any photo to view a larger image.



*Looking at samplers in the gallery*



*Nancy admires a sampler in the gallery*



*Susan and her mother Mary study a sampler*



*Mary Ann enjoying the gallery*



*Beautiful mums and the mystery vegetable*



*A group of Scarlet Letter shoppers*



*Pat and Doris have some garden vegetables, Wisconsin cheese and cake*



*The peacock cake*



*Enjoying lunch on the porch*



*Lots of items to look at in the shop*



*Some charts, linen scrap bags, floss and kits are on sale!*



*Mary and Pat in the shop*



*The 1892 farmhouse - home of the Scarlet Letter*



*Entrance to the gallery*



*Judy and Marilyn (Scarlet Letter webmistress)*



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