

# Becky J Designs

## *Crossing Threads with Becky J*

### *Old Fashioned cross stitch the easy way*

February 2010

It's been a while since the last newsletter. I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. I know that we did. In January I was fortunate enough to be able to go on a fun cruise with Holly Pike of Artistic Threadworks and sneak in a visit with my son's family and grandchildren in Florida.

I have not been idle though. I have been working on new design sets and free designs for our members of our website. I am also working with Nita O'Keefe in her new Dream Club, which is an extension of Nita's Threadnest. You can find more information about this @ [www.nitasplace.com](http://www.nitasplace.com).

Another venture we have been having fun with the Cross Stitch Me caricature custom designs. Find information on [Artistic Threadworks.com](http://ArtisticThreadworks.com).

Next week I am traveling to the panhandle of Florida to participate in "The Party in the Panhandle" with Holly Pike of Artistic Threadworks. I am looking forward to seeing new and old friends and will teaching a class on how to use Pattern Maker to create the Custom Cross Stitch Me designs from caricatures of photos. The date of the event is February 27, 2010.

### **Breaking News:**

We are introducing a new feature for our members. It is called Cross Stitch Station. This is a three month subscription. For \$19.95 you will receive 4 design sets of your choice in most machines' native format. You will also have the option of buying ANY design pack, both current as well as new design collections, for the half price of \$9.97 each. Quarterly renewals grant you *another* free set and the continued option of buying any more also at half-price. More information about this is available on our website as well as all of our design collections.

## What's Going On?

I hope you are enjoying the Alphabet Series. I have gotten a lot of feedback while traveling about the popularity of these designs. The newest alphabet that just started is the Cat Alphabet. The first four letters of the Alphabet are up on the website. We will continue the same practice of putting up two letters every two weeks. I know that there are a lot of people out there that have been hit with hard times due to the economy and really appreciate free designs. We will also introduce new designs as well.

We also have started a new video series on You Tube called "Exploring Pattern Maker with Becky J". There are four videos up now. The first is called Pattern Maker Demo. It shows what the Pattern Maker software will do and a video of what the software can do. There is also a video which is a "how to" for how to stitch and create cross stitch clocks with step by step instructions. The links will be included below:

## What's New with Becky J

### Newest Design Packs

Our Newest sets include: **Native American Animals** The designs fit the machines with the capacity of 5 by 7 inch hoop limits and larger.



We also have **Baby Quack Ups, Christmas Sunbonnet Squares, Lil Critters, and Domestic Diva Belles**



### **Tips and Tricks using Pattern Maker**

1. When creating a design from clip art designs you can import the graphic into Pattern Maker, select the size you want your finished design to be as well as the stitch size and number of colors you want the software to use to create the pattern. Once the pattern is created you will only use this pattern to create and save your palette of colors for your template. To save the palette go to the Palette Menu>Save palette As and name the palette to the name of your pattern. Now repeat the process and import your graphic image into Pattern Maker again. This time select the option "Include image as underlay for tracing". This will create a template of the graphic so you can simply color on top of it. Once the template is completed you can open your palette of colors for the design by going to the Palette Menu>Open palette and find the palette you saved before. You can use the colors from this palette as well as add any other colors you want to use in the design.

Where in the world is Becky J going to be next?

**Original Sewing and Quilt Expo**, Duluth, GA. March 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>  
For more information contact: [www.sewingexpo.com](http://www.sewingexpo.com)

**American Embroidery Conference** Marietta, GA  
April 21<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> For more information contact Dianne Pomeroy  
[www.american-embroidery-conference.com](http://www.american-embroidery-conference.com)

Martha Pullen's Sewing Market, Arlington, TX June 20-22<sup>nd</sup>  
[www.marthapullen.com](http://www.marthapullen.com)