

Stitcher's Hideaway 2017 Winter Escape Fun Report

The annual Winter Escape keeps growing and growing! It started out as a 2-day event, and then an optional 3rd day was added. But soon stitchers were begging for more days until 3 optional days were added to make it a Stitchers Hide-a-week! Woo-hoo!!

What could be better than to run away with other stitchers in the middle of winter and go to a warm and cozy place for days and nights of stitching, shopping, awesome food, and great fun?!

Forty-eight stitchers came from CT, MA, ME, NJ, NY, RI -- and Florida! What?!? A Floridian choose to come to chilly New England in the winter? She sure did! LOL! Although I have to say that this year was very mild. There was just a little snow on the ground and we actually had a very warm day with many of us taking walks and enjoying some sunshine.



Upon arrival each stitcher received a Fun Pack of donated goodies from [Bush Mountain Stitchery](#), [Elizabeth's Designs](#), [Kreinik](#), [Morning Glory Needleworks](#), [Rosewood Manor](#), [Samplers & Such](#), [Stitchers Hideaway](#), [Udder Cream](#), [Victoria Sampler](#) and [Weeks Dye Works](#)!

Each attendee received a special wintry chocolate treat from Janice Beebe, one of the attendees! I'd show you a picture of it...but...well, I ate it. Heh-heh... Janice delivered the goodies to my house and stayed to help pack up all the Fun Packs! What a help! Thank you, Janice!

[Bush Mountain Stitchery](#) set up shop for us all 5 days of the retreat -- right there in our stitching room! It was awesome! A stitcher's paradise! Thank you, Maeann & Gary Bush!



What fun to hear the buzz of all the conversations and laughter!





Our delicious meals were in “The Barn” at the Publick House -- right next to our stitching room!



Before and after each meal we enjoyed hanging out and chatting.



The ceiling was decorated with big snowflakes and icicles.

We had the most incredible door prizes!!! They came from [123Stitch](#), [Bush Mountain Stitchery](#), [Morning Glory Needleworks](#), [Rosewood Manor](#), [Stitchers Hideaway](#), [Seraphim Hand Dyed Fabrics by Laurie](#), [Victoria Sampler](#), [Weeks Dye Works](#), [With My Needle](#), Kathy Roseen (a friend of Stitchers Hideaway), and amazing items from an anonymous donor. We all got to see each other's door prizes -- so many wonderful designs!!



Ada with a door prize from an Anonymous Donor



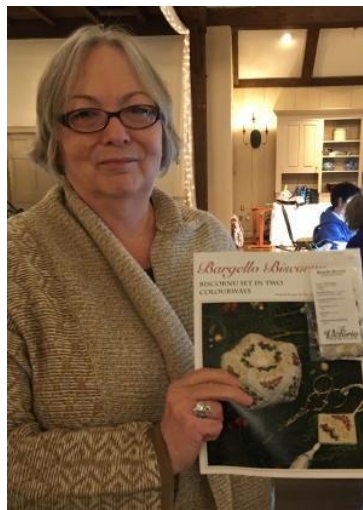
Bob with a door prize from With My Needle



Barbara with a door prize from Rosewood Manor



Deb with a door prize from Norden Crafts



Anita with a door prize from an Anonymous Donor



Jamie with a door prize from 123Stitch



Jeannette with a door prize from an Anonymous Donor



Jeanne with a \$25 gift certificate from 123Stitch



Kathy with a door prize from an Anonymous Donor



Bev with a door prize from Rosewood Manor



Chris with a door prize from With My Needle



Janet with a door prize from an Anonymous Donor



Janice with a door prize from Rosewood Manor



Kate with a door prize from an Anonymous Donor



Ellen with a door prize from an Anonymous Donor



Linda with a door prize from an Anonymous Donor



Ellen with a door prize from Rosewood Manor



Maria with a door prize from With My Needle



Christine with a door prize from Rosewood Manor



Linda with a door prize from 123Stitch



Linda with a door prize from Kathy Roseen, a friend of Stitches Hideaway



Di with a door prize from With My Needle



Connie with a door prize from an Anonymous Donor



Jacqueline with a door prize from Stitches Hideaway

We had several Show 'n Tell sessions, but you can just imagine that we were sharing what we were working on with each other all throughout the retreat. So many designs!!! So many fabulous designers!!! And we heard great stories of stitching adventures, too. Here's a sampling...





Andrea



Ellen



Hildie





Ellen



Pat



Bob



Janice



Bob



Melissa



Anita





And there were more Door Prizes!!



Marie with a door prize from an Anonymous Donor



Sue with a door prize from an Anonymous Donor



Janice with a door prize from an Anonymous Donor



Maureen with door prize from Rosewood Manor



Terre with a door prize from an Anonymous Donor



Melissa with a door prize from an Anonymous Donor



Nancy with a door prize from an Anonymous Donor



Pat with door prize from With My Needle



Sue with a door prize from 123Stitch



Me with my wonderful Michael

This retreat was quite different for me. (What an understatement!) My husband Michael and I had been in a terrible car accident a month before, with me spending 3 days in the hospital and a week in rehab learning to walk again! I thought for a while that I would need my buddies to run the event for me, but with the help of Michael and many of the attendees, I was able to be there and run things.

I had a great time being with everyone but was forbidden to cross stitch due to whiplash injuries. I sure missed being able to stitch, but what fun I had going from table to table to spend time catching up with everyone! I had the use of an office chair with wheels that allowed me to glide around the room (what a sight!) and a cane to help me the rest of the time.



Have cane will travel!



This is Kris Jacobson of the Public House next to me. She is Banquet Manager, Event Coordinator, Entertainer Extraordinaire, Photo Bomber, Teller of Ghost Stories, and so much more. I've worked with Kris for a number of years and her assistance, support, and creative ideas have always been wonderful -- but never more so than at this retreat when extra help was needed. Thank you, Kris!! XOXO



I would have been really struggling without the help of Jen Cane, my good friend who came to my house to do things that I was unable to do myself due to whiplash injuries. She spent a good chunk of time getting all the fun packs together and transporting loads of stuff to the retreat. She set up my shop there, too. And then when the retreat was done she packed everything back up for me and transported things back to my home. She also gathered up all the items donated by the attendees to bring to a women's safe house. THANK YOU, JEN!!!



Stephanie with door prize from With My Needle

“Thank you for once again organizing a WONDERFUL “Winter Escape”! As always, the friends, the fun, the food made it a relaxing - and rejuvenating - few days. I love seeing all the projects and marvel at the needlework skills of the group. It is always nice to visit with friends and make new ones. And I even accomplished a lot on my pieces! Already I am looking forward to October and next February.

The only “cloud” was knowing you are still in pain and working hard to heal. Can't believe you actually “carried on” to make the retreat happen so soon after your accident. I hope and pray you have a speedy recovery so you will be able to enjoy stitching and all other good things in the near future.”
Best, Stephanie



Kate with a door prize from an anonymous donor

“I want to take this opportunity to thank you for such a wonderful time at the Stitcher's Hideaway last month. It was a truly wonderful event, and Bob and I had a terrific time. You did a great job arranging everything, the door prizes were wonderful, and you were very brave after your accident to have gone ahead and held the event.

I can't tell you how great this event is and can only hope it continues for years and years.

Thank you for everything you do, and for everything you are.”

Your friend,
Kate Festo

Oh, what a wonderful time! And the good news is that I'll be offering the 5-day option for 2018!
Sue