

Blog #58 - A Visit With Awesome Friends

Tuesday, 23 May 2017

Tuesday, the 9th of May, time to leave Nashua. In the morning travelled by car back to the Boston airport to fly to Cincinnati, Ohio, as I had been invited by Ellen & Tom Chester (of 'With My Needle' fame) to stay with them for a few days. Arrived there late that afternoon to be met with huge smiles and hugs from both of these lovely people.

Together we drove to their golf course community subdivision,

along the peaceful tree-lined streets to their street - Shaker Run,

past the golf clubhouse

to their beautiful home

and was taken to my gorgeous bedroom!

Antiques and samplers everywhere!!

I felt like royalty!!!



*That evening - and the next -
enjoyed a delicious dinner
at their gorgeous antique table
in their elegant dining room
with antique samplers adorning the walls.*



*Every morning Ellen wakes early
and settles down on her favourite couch
in the family room
to stitch for a few hours
before beginning her daily chores.*

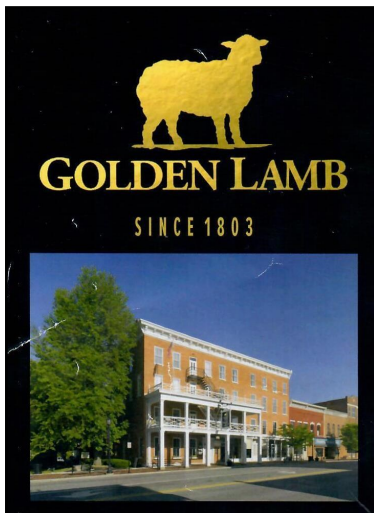
Isn't this an awesome spot?!

*The arms of the couch are not threadbare
like my stitching chair!*



Later in the morning Ellen and I went "antiquing" and at lunchtime Tom joined us for lunch at the Golden Lamb Inn which was built in 1803. Since being built this inn has hosted many USA Presidents for a night and so most of the rooms were named after those who had stayed. Unoccupied rooms were 'roped off' but open for viewing and the décor in each room was fabulous. Rooms on the top floor were "mini" museums showing the articles and lifestyle of the original Shaker owners/family.

On the walls of the dining area hung antique cross stitch piece after antique cross stitch piece - each piece worked on perforated paper. Just wonderful.



*Back home at Ellen's I wandered from room to room to room
in absolute awe of Ellen's handiwork.*

*On every available space on every available wall (front lobby, lounge,
dining room, family room, hallways, landings, bedrooms, etc.), sampler
after sampler after sampler hung.*

*I can't possibly show all but to follow are a few pictures of them - the
first being the one at the right that Ellen posted on her blog when she and
Tom first moved into this lovely home.*



And here are a few more - but only a very, very, very few of the many.

*One of my favourite areas was what Ellen called, "Quaker Alley".
It was the walkway between the hall/dining room and the kitchen.*

*On both sides of the walkway there were Quaker sampler designs -
all reproductions of samplers created by girls in the late 1700's
and early 1800's at the Ackworth School, England -
the boarding school for children of Quaker families.*



Quaker Alley



As for the samplers on the walls in Ellen's office - I will have to show these in my next blog.

*In addition to the wonderful array of samplers hanging on the walls, there were cabinets and baskets throughout the house
overflowing with needlework pieces - huswifs, pincushions, scissor fobs, needlebooks, etc. etc.*

The cabinet pictured below is filled with antique needlework pieces.



*On top of the cabinet - baskets as pictured below
and the pic to the right shows the contents
of one of the baskets.*

All pieces stitched by Ellen!



I cannot find the words to adequately describe the feast for the eyes and peace for the soul.

As mentioned above more in my next blog. Till then ... enjoy stitching your current project.

