

Favorite quotes from Downton Abbey:

CORA

This is our new footman, Mamma. What should we call you?

JIMMY KENT

Jimmy.

MR CARSON

James, Your Ladyship.

[Carson steps forward and clears his throat.]

MR CARSON

This is James.

ROBERT

Welcome to Downton, James.

JAMES

Thank you, milord.

[James stands there stiffly and looks sideways at Carson before exiting.]

MARY

Well done, Carson. That must've cheered up the maids.

VIOLET

He looks like a footman in a musical review.

EDITH

Poor Alfred. We mustn't allow him to be completely overshadowed.

MR CARSON

Quite right, my lady. Hard work and diligence weigh more than beauty in the real world.

[Carson steps away.]

VIOLET

If only that were true.



March 7, 2015

Can you believe it? Nothing funny happened this week.

Well, there were the guys on the interstate doing some kind of work in the wind, where the pylons kept blowing over and the stuff they were spraying went everywhere but where it was supposed to. Makes you wonder whether the maintenance schedulers pay any attention to the weather reports or whether they just decide that Tuesday sounds like a good day to work outside.

And then there was the guy who was trying to push a stack of saran wrapped water bottles back upright - the big water dispensing ones. The stack had a decided lean to it and the only way to straighten it out would have been to unwrap, restack and rewrap. But no, this guy was trying to push it back upright. It reminded me of a bunch of photos my brother sent to me, captioned "Why Women Live Longer." Google it sometime. This photo sums it up pretty well, though.

So instead, I'll remind you that it's not yet spring. I don't care what the thermometer says or that the wind is only a light breeze, and that the skies are a marvelous blue. And that it will probably be like this all weekend. Isn't it great!

And I'd like to give a shout out to Central High's cast, pit orchestra and crew for their marvelous job on Beauty and the Beast. Seeing talented individuals on stage and in the pit having a marvelous time is truly inspiring. The familiar songs from stage and screen were given new life by the singers, dancers and orchestra. Opening night was a success and there are repeat performances tonight at 7 and tomorrow at 2 and 7.

And don't forget the Delta Kappa Gamma book sale tomorrow and Sunday. See poster below.

WHY WOMEN LIVE LONGER THAN MEN

1. Because of stuff like this:



2. And this:



Happy not Spring yet!

Delta Kappa Gamma
International Society of Women in Education

Used
Book Sale
March 7 & 8
Saturday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

In the
Wyoming State Warehouse
1/2 block east on Campstool from south end of Norris
Viaduct.
Across from refinery.

Please donate used books:
February 1 through March 3

Collection boxes at

Both Cheyenne Albertson's
Both Safeway stores
Natural Grocers King Soopers
Gold's Gym

For home pickup call **637-5347** or **632-0209**
DKG will pick up within a 10-mile radius
(Leave a message)

DOWNTON ABBEY RETREAT!

**The dates are set for March 20-22, Nagel Warren
Mansion. Special Attraction: Downton Abbey Trunk**

Show!

We are set for Friday March 20 through Sunday March 22. You will be able to check in mid afternoon on Friday and we will plan to leave Sunday mid afternoon. We have 8 king bed rooms reserved. Cost is based upon double occupancy. If you prefer a single room, you will need to let me know very quickly so I can look into booking a different room (cost of retreat will need to be adjusted). Reservations will be made through me and you can secure your spot with a down payment of half the cost by Feb. 15. The rest will be due by March 15.

If you need to cancel, I will need to know 30 days in advance. But if something comes up, please talk to me because we might be able to work something out.

We will be sewing in the conference rooms in the basement. There are 3 rooms that can accommodate about 16 sewers. I will set up separate tables for cutting and will plan on having 2 irons/boards. If you just want to come to sew, and go home at night to your own bed, I might be able to accommodate that. However, I don't want to get more than 16 sewers. If you are interested in this option, let me know and I'll see what I can work out.

At the retreat, you may sew on any project that you like -- it does not have to be a Downton Abbey Quilt. For those of you sewing your Downton Abbey quilts, though, I will provide instruction for this year's quilt (quilt blocks will be online prior to the retreat).

During the retreat, we will play some games, win some door prizes, watch some episodes of Downton Abbey, take High Tea on Saturday, and sew our socks off!

Included in the cost:

2 nights (2 per room) at the Nagel Warren Mansion (such a treat!)
Sat & Sun breakfast
High tea on Saturday
Set of patterns for quilt
Door prizes
Lots of Fun !!!

Downton Abbey Trunk Show (quilts provided by Andover from the new line)

Lunch and dinners are on our own. There are plenty of fun restaurants downtown. You can also check out what is playing at the Lincoln Center and go to a movie (for a buck or two).

Cost per person = \$250. A \$120 deposit will secure your room. Single Room supplement is \$75. We need a minimum of 10 quilters for the retreat.

Blocks will be posted on line at www.aroundtheblockquilts.com You can find the blocks under the "What's New" tab (once I get them posted). Fabric requirements for the quilt are also given. These blocks will stay posted for a limited time and we'll have them in the store. Price to buy in store is \$1 for one page or \$2 for 2 pages --

to help me cover the costs of the ink.

I now have the forms for the contest.

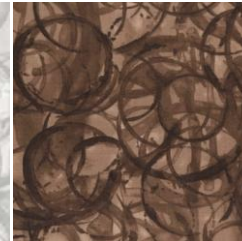
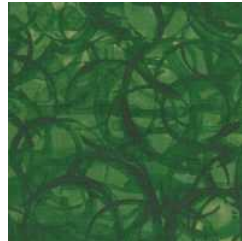


They face adversity and endure hardships; yet all too often their troubles go unnoticed. We also honor those Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines who must miss holidays, birthdays, and family moments in far-away distant lands. It is for the family members who keep the house running while their husband, wife, son or daughter is away. It is for the children who dearly miss their deployed parent, brother, sister, uncle, or aunt. We say thank you to the men and women who have volunteered to serve our country and preserve our freedom.

See previous posts for more info on submitting a quilt for the challenge.

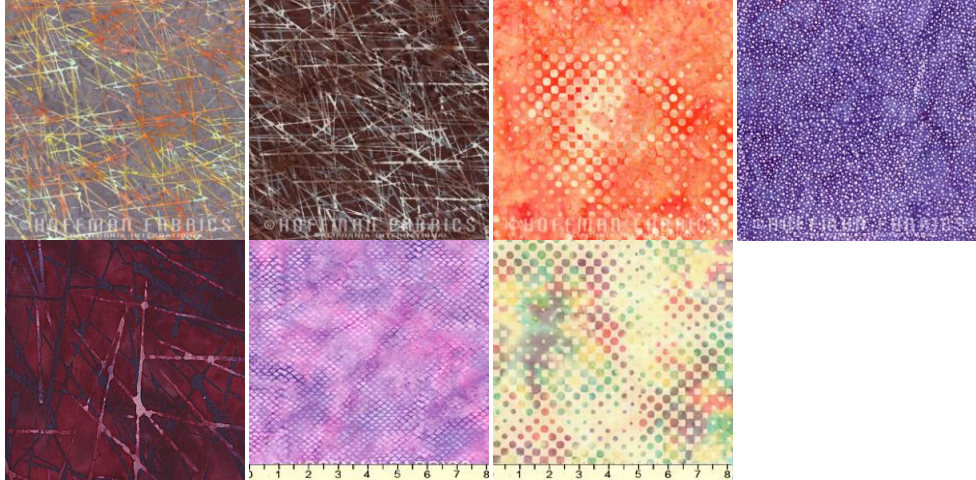
WHAT'S NEW!!







From Hoffman--batiks:



From Moda:



March Classes & Special Events

Block of the Month Sat. Mar 7, 10:30-11:15 FREE

Join at any time. You get a free fat quarter if you come to class with the previous month's completed block. This year we're making a neutrally colored quilt (tans, taupes, greys, etc.)-come to class in January to see an example.

Monthly Minis First Saturday of the Month, Jan-Dec. 4-6 Barb Boyer \$20 ongoing

Knitting: Back to Basics. Mon. Mar 9 6-8:30 \$20 Carol Moler

Each month we will offer a selection of projects for the beginner and more advanced knitter. In March we will how to bind off the projects we've been working on for the past couple of months. We will also have a beginning ribbing project, like a head band or scarf. For more experienced knitters, the project will be a slouch hat, joined in the round with ribbing.

Downton Abbey Sampler Quilt Thurs. March 12, 1-4 ongoing

Knit Pickers' Club Thur. March 12, 6-8:30

Every second Thursday, we're getting together to practice our knitting. The Club is open to all skill levels. We want to share what we've learned, find new patterns, and simply just sit and knit. If you are in the Monday knitting classes, you can work on your project and get help, if you need it.

Hand Embroidery Club Sat. March 14, 10-11:30 FREE

(Club normally meets the 2nd Sat. of each month from 10-noon)

This year we're doing birds-state birds. We will have between 40-50 birds (some states use the same bird) for you to stitch. Various setting for turning the birds into a quilt will be provided. Color suggestions for the birds will also be offered. As a bonus, you will get the state outlines, state flowers, and other patterns to compliment the birds. You can join anytime.

Table Runner of the Month: Leaves

Sat. Mar 14 1-6 \$20 or free if you buy the kit Jo Sunderman
We will be making different table runners each month. This table runner includes applied (fused) leaves and simple piecing. It's easy to extend the length to fit the size of your table.

Sew Simple Hexie Flowers Mon. Mar. 16, 1-3

English paper piecing dates back to the early 1800s. It is a hand sewing method that uses paper templates to help sew complex angles together, like hexagons. Instead of traditional hexagon shapes, we will make "hexi flowers" using the shape called bishop's mitre, or jewel. We will make a bouquet of different flowers that will be applied onto a background, to make a small wall hanging. This class is for both beginners and experienced paper piecers.

Hand Quilting Thurs. Mar. 19, 1-3 \$25 Sandra Freeburg

Hand quilting is an art that should not be lost. By the end of Sandra's class you will be hand quilting with confidence. Everyone has at least one special quilt that calls out for hand quilting. And there is nothing better than the feel of a hand quilted quilt. Do yourself a favor and learn this art that connects us to our past -- our mothers, grandmothers and great grandmothers.

**DOWNTON ABBEY RETREAT!
AND DOWNTON ABBEY TRUNK SHOW!
WARREN NAGEL MANSION
MARCH 20-22**

See Dec. 12 Newsletter for more details (on web at aroundtheblockquilts.com)

Beginning Machine Quilting Wed. Mar 22, 1:30-4 OR 6-8:30 \$25 Sue Frerich

Be prepared to quilt! You will practice your quilting skills on various samples, using both your walking foot and darning foot. Batting, threads, needles and patterns will be discussed. Who knows? By the time you leave you may even be able to write/quilt your name!

Hand Applique Club

Thursday Mar. 26 1:30-4 free

The last Thursday of each month, we're getting together to practice our hand applique skills. The Club is open to all skill levels. We want to share what we've learned, find new patterns, and simply just sit and sew. More and more patterns are showing applique work, and while sometimes you can just fuse it down, learning how to hand applique is a wonderful skill that can be carried anywhere you go.

Bertie's Year last Friday of the month, 1-4

Bertie's Year is a small wall hanging, (or you can make each block into a mini quilt for display each month). Bertie is done in flannels and wool (kit only includes flannel). Bertie (the bird) and friends (squirrel, pumpkins) are applied with crazy quilt embroidery embellishments.

Friday Nighters Fri. Mar. 27, 5:30-9 \$10 (one time fee for year)

This class will help you get organized for Christmas 2015 -- or just help you get things done. You give me a list of your "to dos" or unfinished projects you want to finish and then each month I check off what you've completed. Trust me. If you need incentive to stay on track, this is it. You can bring your sewing machine or do hand work.

Machine Servicing Mon Mar 30, 10-6

Chris Blakeman from Blackman Vacuum and Sewing will come to the shop to service machines! We are hoping to be able to handle up to 20 machines, but I'll keep you posted. For now, I will start a list, first come first served, of everyone who wants a sewing machine serviced. Pricing will depend upon machine, but more details will follow. Machines can be dropped off at the shop on Sunday between 4-5 (please don't bring them earlier because there is a class) and on Monday after 10. Machines will need to be picked up no later than noon on Tuesday, unless other arrangements are made (we don't have the room to store machines). Let me know if you are interested!

April Classes & Special Events

Beginning Machine Applique

Wed. April 1, 1:00-4 or 6-9 \$25 Barb Boyer

So many quilts use applique these days. Learn the ins and outs of machine applique, from points to curves. We will practice the button hole/blanket stitch, satin stitch, and you can also play around with your decorative stitches. Threads, fusibles and stabilizers will be discussed.

Back Basting Applique Thur. April 2, 1-3 Sandra Freeburg \$25

Back basting is a template free method of needle turn applique. No slippery freezer paper or chalked lines on top that never seem to get turned under quite right. This method is especially great for traveling, because your pieces will be basted onto your background -- no need for pins to get in the way. This class is great for beginners and all levels of appliquers. Don't let hand applique frustrate you. It's really easy and relaxing!

Block of the Month Sat. April 4, 10:30-11:15 FREE

Join at any time. You get a free fat quarter if you come to class with the previous month's completed block. This year we're making a neutrally colored quilt (tans, taupes, greys, etc.)-come to class in January to see an example.

ABCs of Binding Sat. April 4, noon-1 \$20 Jo Sunderman

Learn the ins and outs of selecting binding, cutting binding and applying binding. It's easier than you think. If you have a project you are working on, be sure to bring it to class for some hands on advice.

Monthly Minis First Saturday of the Month, Jan-Dec. 4-6 Barb Boyer \$20 ongoing

Monday Morning Quilts April 6 10-2

Free, if you buy that month's kit
Each month we will feature quilts from the Quilter's World magazine or other fun quilts. We will choose one of the quilts from the magazine and make limited kits. In class, we will show you how to put the quilt together and you will have time to get started. Quilts will be big or small or in between. Quilt TBA.

Downton Abbey Sampler Quilt Thurs. April 9, 1-4 ongoing

Knit Pickers' Club Thur. April 9, 6-8:30

Every second Thursday, we're getting together to practice our knitting. The Club is open to all skill levels. We want to share what we've learned, find new patterns, and simply just sit and knit. If you are in the Monday knitting classes, you can work on your project and get help, if you need it.

Hand Embroidery Club Sat. April 11, 10-11:30 FREE

(Club normally meets the 2nd Sat. of each month from 10-noon)

This year we're doing birds-state birds. We will have between 40-50 birds (some states use the same bird) for you to stitch. Various setting for turning the birds into a quilt will be provided. Color suggestions for the birds will also be offered. As a bonus, you will get the state outlines, state flowers, and other patterns to compliment the birds. You can join anytime.

Table Runner of the Month:

Triangle Frenzy Hexagon Table Topper Sat. April 11 1-6 \$20

or free if you buy the kit Barb Boyer

We will be making different table runners each month. This table runner uses the 12" 60 degree triangle and a large (10"-11") border stripe . Kit will include fabric and the ruler (if you already have a ruler, ruler price will be deducted from kit price).

Knitting: Back to Basics. Mon. April 13 6-8:30 \$20 Carol Moler

Each month we will offer a selection of projects for the beginner and more advanced knitter. In April we learn how to join in the round. Beginning project will either be a hat or a cowl. For more experienced knitters, the project will be a longer twisted cowl or a bag suitable for felting at a later date.

Shop Hop At the Ranch April 17 & 18

Bertie's Year last Friday of the month, 1-4

Bertie's Year is a small wall hanging, (or you can make each block into a mini quilt for display each month). Bertie is done in flannels and wool (kit only includes flannel). Bertie (the bird) and friends (squirrel, pumpkins) are appliqued with crazy quilt embroidery embellishments.

Friday Nighters Fri. April 24, 5:30-9 \$10 (one time fee for year)

This class will help you get organized for Christmas 2015 -- or just help you get things done. You give me a list of your "to dos" or unfinished projects you want to finish and then each month I check off what you've completed. Trust me. If you need incentive to stay on track, this is it. You can bring your sewing machine or do hand work.

Woodland Fairies Quilt Sat. April 25 20:30-5 \$20 Barb Boyer

The perfect quilt for a little girl or anyone who likes purple. The quilt takes about 20 fat quarters plus borders. Michael Miller's fairies are popular, and these fairies glisten & sparkle. Kits will be available.

Pillow Case Party Sun. April 26 1-4 FREE

If you've never made a pillow case, or just want some time to sew a pillow case, this class is for you. This is a great mother/daughter styled class and pillow cases make great presents!

Mastering Curves & Free Motion Quilting

Thursday April 30 1:00-4 OR 6-9 \$50 Barb Boyer & Sue Frerich

This is a 4 part class, offered on consecutive Thursdays through May 21. We will work on a whole cloth project, each week adding new designs. Class #1: straight lines (with darning/hopping foot), grasses, zig zags, trees. Class #2: flowers & leaves. Class #3: stippling & fill stitches. Class #4: free hand shapes, from clouds to birds, to animals. In class students will practice the designs and then start adding the designs on the whole cloth quilt.

Hand Applique Club

Thursday April 30 1:30-4 free

The last Thursday of each month, we're getting together to practice our hand applique skills. The Club is open to all skill levels. We want to share what we've learned, find new patterns, and simply just sit and sew. More and more patterns are showing applique work, and while sometimes you can just fuse it down, learning how to hand applique is a wonderful skill that can be carried anywhere you go.

March 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 CLOSED	2 Monday Morning Quilts 10-2	3	4 Beginning Quilt 1-4 Or 6-8:30	5 Full Moon	6 Open Sew1-4	7 BOM 10:30-11:30 Monthly Minis 4-6

8 Beginning Quilt 1-4	9 Knitting: Back to Basics: Ribbing & Bind offs 6-8:30	10	11 Beginning Quilt 1-4 Or 6-8:30	12 Downton Abbey Sampler 1-4 Knit Pickers' Club 6-8:30	13	14 Embroidery Club 10-noon Leaves Table Runner 1-5
15 Beginning Quilt 1-4	16 Sew Simple Hexi Flowers 1-5	17	18	19 Hand Quilting 1-3	20 Open Sew 1-4 Downton Abbey Retreat	21 National Quilt Day Downton Abbey Retreat
22 Downton Abbey Retreat	23	24	25 Beginning Machine Quilting 1-4 or 6-9	26 Hand Applique Club 1:30-4	27 Bertie's Year 1-4 Friday Nighters 5:30 -?	28
29 Beginning Quilt 1-4	30 Machine Service	31				
Color of the Month: Green						

April 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Beginning Machine Applique 1-4 or 6-9	2 Back Basting 1:00-3:00	3 Open Sew1-4	4 BOM 10:30-11:30 Binding demo noon-1 Monthly Minis 4-6 Full Moon
5 CLOSED	6 Monday Morning Quilts 10-2	7	8	9 Downton Abbey Sampler 1-4 Knit Pickers' Club 6-8:30	10	11 Embroidery Club 10-noon Hexagon Table Runner 1-5
12	13 Knitting: Back to Basics: Knitting in the Round 6-8:30	14	15	16	17 Shop Hop	18 Shop Hop
19	20	21	22	23	24 Bertie's Year 1-4 Friday Nighters 5:30 -?	25 Fairies Quilt 10:30-5
26 Pillowcase Party 1-4	27	28	29 Mastering Curves & Free	30 Hand Applique Club		

			Motion Quilting 1-4	1:30-4		
Color of the Month: Yellow						

HAND APPLIQUE CLUB

This is a get-together & stitch class. Many of us are trying hand applique these days-- patterns are calling for a lot more applique. The club is designed for quilters who already do some hand applique, but beginners are welcome as well. We will share techniques, suggest patterns, talk about threads and, in general, just stitch. A little quiet time away from the distractions of home is what we need to get our projects done.

HAND EMBROIDERY CLUB

If you want to learn to hand embroider or just brush up your technique, join us on the second Saturday of the month from 10 to noon. We provide free vintage patterns, and this year we will have free patterns of girls with hats, that you can embroider, embellish and color. Each month Kathy Sconce shows us a new stitch to try, plus, she guides us through thread choices, how to knot, fabrics to use, and tracing techniques.

Knit Pickin' Club

This is another get-together class to sit & knit, work on our projects, share information and get some help. We will share techniques, suggest patterns, but mainly we'll sit & knit (or pick).

Toad Toters

On full moon days (as noted in the calendar) you will get 20% off all purchases (not otherwise discounted) that you can fit in your bag. You must bring your bag to participate.

Full Moon Days: January 5 (observed), February 3, March 5, April 4.

Discount Policy

We will honor only one discount -- whichever is largest. You can't combine a 10% with a 25% discount to get a 35% discount. On this we can't be bribed.

Color of the Month

January purple, February red, March green, April yellow

Join the fun and come feel the difference of quality fabrics.

Happy quilting!

Sincerely,

Barbara Boyer
Around the Block
307-433-9555
www.aroundtheblockquilts.com

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