



April 1, 2016

Several noteworthy things have happened this week. And, no, I'm not talking about snow storm #2. I think we're up to 20+ inches in the last 7 days. And spring has just begun. But good news for Shop Hop--good weather is predicted!

A more interesting story than snowstorms, though, involves a comet, named P/2016 BA14, that had a close call with earth this week. Comets can be scarier close encounters than asteroids--mainly because the debris (tail) that accompanies a comet creates a wide path and if the earth passes through the tail, all sorts of debris can fall out of the skies. Which is exactly what happened this week. Now, we didn't get to see this comet in Wyoming because of the snow storm. But when we passed through the tail of the comet, it left its mark. In Wyoming.

Part of the debris from the tail landed just east of Jackson Hole. NASA calculated that the rock that landed, or more specifically, disintegrated about 500 feet above ground, was about 4-5 meters in diameter, and impacted an area about 20 miles due east of Jenny Lake. The force of the disintegration flattened trees in a circle about a mile around and created a depression about 30 meters deep. You may have felt the rumble caused by the hit. The impact was felt as far away as Denver.

"The good news," said Governor Mead, "is that we have a new lake that we can stock with trout. The bad news is geologists think the underground volcano caverns may have been disturbed. We won't know until summer whether Old Faithful will be affected. We're just fortunate that it didn't take off the top of the Grand Teton. A little further west and property values in Jackson could have been drastically impacted."

In more bizarre news, women have turned to chicken fattening pills to get bigger butts. It's no longer about fat Kardashian lips that women all over the world are craving. Well, some women. It's now all about how big your derriere is. Apparently the pills given to chickens to help fatten them up are useful to women who want to grow their butts, but keep other parts, like their waists, skinny. I can't explain it, I just write about it. Apparently taking a chicken fattening pill is safer than getting silicone injections in your rear end. A woman died recently when a silicone shot migrated from her rear end to her lungs, killing her. Now, I can honestly state that I don't need a chicken pill to enhance my buttocks. I do just fine with popcorn, cookies and twizzlers. But I guess this pill targets certain areas, leaving waspish waists intact.

And the final odd news of the week that you may have missed, construction has been halted on the renovations on the Capitol. Workers were digging around in the east-side basement, pulling out the asbestos that they carpeted over about 20 years ago (my old office, actually), and discovered a hidden trap door. Now, we all know about the tunnels that run between the Capitol and the Supreme Court and Hathaway buildings. This trap door led down into a small holding cell with a barricaded door. After they forced the door open, workers discovered a new tunnel that ran east to the site where St. Mary's School used to sit. And, of course, the tunnel wasn't empty. And that's what stopped construction. Bones. But whose?

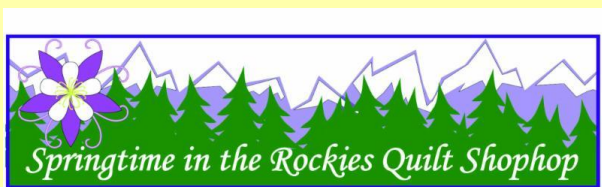
And that, folks, are the stories of the week. Only one of which is true. Happy April Fools Day.

Springtime in the Rockies 2016 Apron Challenge! Viewer's Choice Prizes Awarded!



Our theme for this year is all about aprons! Big ones, little ones, funny ones, short ones, tall ones. Design your own or use a commercial pattern. To participate, fill out an entry form and submit it to a participating quilt store by March 25. Aprons are due to the store by April 2. Aprons will hang at the Springtime in the Rockies Shop Hop at the Ranch, April 8 & 9. Gift Basket Prizes awarded: \$75 1st; \$50 2nd; \$25 3rd. Aprons and prizes can be collected from your participating shop after the show.

A few rules: Apron must be made by entrant. Apron must be made within the last 6 months.



Springtime in the Rockies Quilt Shop Hop - 2016

Demonstrations:

Time	Store	Class & Description
Friday/April 8		
10:00	Juke Box Quilting	Curved Piecing

11:00	Around the Block	English Paper Piecing
12:00	Juke Box Quilting	Laser Cut Applique
1:00	Quilter's Stash	Strippy Stars Ruler
2:00	The Sewing Circle	Felting by Sewing Machine
3:00	Fig Leaf	Scan & Cut
4:00	Country Crafts	Yo-Yo Pin Cushion - Make & Take

Saturday/April 9

10:00	Harriet's Treadle Arts	Felted Needle Case - Make & Take
11:00	Fig Leaf	Scan & Cut
12:00	Quilter's Dream	MartiMichell's Rulers
1:00	Around the Block	Pineapple Quilts
2:00	The Sewing Circle	Felting by Sewing Machine
3:00	OPEN	

WHAT'S NEW!!

From Moda:



From Henry Glass: Pet Rescue



From Alexander Henry--next round of Ghostlies!



April Classes and Special Events

Block of the Month Sat. April 2 10:30-11:15 FREE Barb Boyer

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 red, white & blue quilt-patriotic theme, if you like.

Ornament Club 1st Sat of the month, 1:30-3:30 Free, if you buy that month's kit

Each month we will feature a different pieced ornament. Some of the ornaments can be used as gift tags & gift card holders. You can pick & choose which ornaments you want to make-each ornament will be displayed prior to class. You can make the March ornament & skip the April ornament, for example. Kits are limited, though, so if you are interested in a particular kit, be sure to sign up for that month & let me know.

Monthly Minis First Saturday of the Month, Jan-Dec. 4-6 \$10 for the year (plus patterns or kits)

This year we are doing various table runners/ door banners/small wall hanging celebrating each month. Some of the quilts are long & skinny, some square, some round. Most of the quilts will be kitted.

English Paper Piecing 1st & 3rd Mondays ongoing

SHOP HOP AT THE RANCH APRIL 8 & 9 9-5

Knit Pickers' Club Thur. April 14, 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 9, 10-noon FREE Kathy Sconce

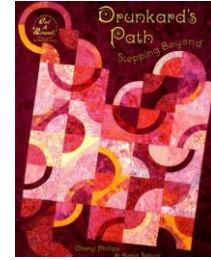
(Club normally meets the 2nd Sat. of each month from 10-noon)

This year we're still 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.

Lace Houses, block of the month Sat. April 9 1-3 Kathy Sconce ongoing.

Drunkard's Path April 16 10:30-4 \$20 Jo Sunderman

Drunkard's Path is another curved pieced quilt. This quilt uses Elisa's Backporch templates, which make for an easy cut and easy sew. The curves are gentle and easy to sew. Lots of patterns exist for putting the blocks together and the class will discuss how to make sure your seams line up, if you want to make the classic circle quilt.



Postponed to June: Machine Applied Binding \$20 Barb Boyer

This style of binding uses cording to help keep the binding straight & true. Bring a small quilt, your binding and your sewing machine-check the supply list to make sure you have the right tools (cording, the correct foot, binding cut at the correct width). Putting binding on by machine cuts your time more than in half-and by using cording, you can have a perfectly applied binding with no messy "oops" where your stitching just didn't quite catch the binding on the back side.

Postponed to June: Mastering Curves & Free Motion Quilting Barb Boyer \$50

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.

Postponed to May 28: LOTP: Churn Dash Sat. May 28, 10:30-5 \$20 Barb Boyer

We are highlighting Little House of the Prairie fabrics this Spring, and this is our 4th quilt. This is a perfect quilt for scraps. This quilt uses the Churn Dash block and a modified Hold in the Barn Door block for the center of the quilt-which is on point. The Flowers collection from Little House makes this a perfect old fashioned looking quilt-and Mary was tall enough to actually use the churn, so she was able to help her mother churn the butter.

Postponed to May: Pillow Case Party Sun. 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!

Bertie's Year & Companions last Friday of the month, 1-4 \$20, free if you buy the kit

Bertie's Year & Purfectly Pieced are small wall hangings, (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. The patterns are by Bonnie Sullivan, and you can do any of the series-she has a spring, summer, fall & winter Bertie's, plus the original, and plus the cats. You choose. Class is ongoing-because we need the time to get the embellishing done!

Friday Nighters Fri. April 29 5:30-? \$10 Barb Boyer

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.

Postpone to May: S.O.S. Quilts Cascading Strips , 10:30-5 \$20 Barb Boyer

Save Our Scraps! Quilts! On the 5th Saturday of the month (when it occurs-the next one is in April) we will make a scrappy quilt. This quilt is called Cascading Strips and it works with 2 ½" precuts plus a background. The pattern is free and instructions for the extra border will be given in class.

April 2016						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Color of the month: Yellow					1 Open Sew1-4	2 BOM 10:30-11:30 Ornament Club 1:30-3:30 Monthly Minis 4-6
3 CLOSED	4 English Paper Piecing 2-4	5	6	7	8 Shop Hop	9 Shop Hop Embroidery Club 10-noon Lace Houses 1-3
10 CONCERT	11	12	13	14 Knit Pickers' Club 6-8:30	15 Open Sew1-4	16 Drunkard's Path 10:30-4
17	18	19	20	21	22 Full Moon	23

24	25	26	27	28	29 Bertie's Year 1-4 Friday Nighters 5:30 -?	30 S.O.S.Quilts 10:30-5
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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 24; February 22; March 23; April 22 , May 21.

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, May neutrals .

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

Happy quilting!