



Around the Block  
QUILT SHOP

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**March 11, 2016**

Becca wanted to know if I was writing about her this week.

"You haven't talked about me in your column," she implored, with those worried eyes and a please, please, please kind of whine.

"Well, you haven't done anything lately that I can write about." Which is true: no climbing out of the front yard, no digging under fences, no breaking slats on gates. But I don't want to remind her about that because she might get ideas.

"Well, I avoided the skunk the other night," she said smugly, glancing at Cassidy. Ah, that was the faint whiff of essence of skunk I smelled the other night. Cassidy always gets skunked because she'll go right up to the skunk to play with it. Becca worries too much and just stands back and barks.

But Becca didn't want to talk about front yard escapades. She wanted to talk politics. She's tired of all the idiots participating in this year's presidential race. Her words, not mine. I actually don't know how she gets her information because I don't watch the news at night and Becca doesn't know how to manipulate my iPad. At least I don't think she does.

But this week she said she wanted to set her teeth into all of the candidates, especially after she learned that a guy got punched in the face at a Trump rally. It's her herding instincts that are coming out and she wants to herd all of them in a small circle by nipping at their heels. If they can punch, she can nip. I pointed out that the candidates aren't sheep that you can corral in a pen. She wasn't too sure about that and countered that wouldn't it be better if they were all locked up at night and just let out to graze occasionally during the day? She had a point, but I told her politics didn't work that way and I really didn't want to talk about it.

She then wanted to know all about the nudist colony in France, whose mayor wants the nudists to be clothed in town. She said that she doesn't put on clothes when she goes to town. I pointed out that she doesn't "go to town" and besides, she wears a fur coat. A very luxurious one, I might add, that Cruella de Vil would love to turn into a .... well, some smallish neck cowl, maybe. And, in any event, lots of dogs wear coats, I told her, especially during the winter. Some dogs even wear boots. She thought that was hilarious, until I showed her a quilting book all about making clothes for dogs. I could see her mind

spinning the possibilities and then she promptly got that worried look.

"Don't worry," I told her. "I'm not making you galoshes." Besides, I told her, daylight savings time is coming up.

"Does that mean we are saving daylight by taking it away," Becca asked.

"No, that means we get an extra hour of daylight time during the summer," I said. Becca puzzled over that for a minute.

"So we keep the sun up an hour longer? Even Einstein couldn't have figured out how to do that." She must be reading my newsletters. I don't know where she gets this.

"No, it just means we adjust the clocks so that while we're awake, we have more usable daylight time." She pondered this for a minute, then said, "So when we go outside in the morning and it's daylight, and then when we come in at night and it's dark, we've had an extra hour of daylight?"

Clearly, she didn't get the concept.

"Not exactly," I said. "We just get more time in the sun in the evening hours." But Becca wasn't listening.

"So what you're saying is that we're outside for an hour longer. So dinner is an hour late? How do the neighbor's roosters adjust? Do they crow the dawn in an hour later? What idiot thought this up?" she demanded. "Trump? Bernie?"

"A New Zealander," I said, "back in 1895. He wanted more daylight time after work to collect bugs."

Becca thought that was funny. "No really, who thought it up?"

"I'm serious. Most people think it was Benjamin Franklin, but it was an entomologist named George Hudson. He wanted to save 2 hours of daylight. And then in 1905 a golfer in London thought it would be better if he could play golf later in the evening."

"So your brother had something to do with it. He golfs." Like I said, I don't know how she knows this stuff.

"My brother's not that old," I told her. "And he doesn't live in London. But it was Canada in 1910 or 11 that first implemented daylight savings time."

Becca perked up at that. "You mean that place where we're moving to after the election?"

"We're not moving to Canada," I said firmly.

"So you've booked us a seat on the rocket ship to Mars, then," she said, and got that worried look on her face again.

"What's the problem," I asked.

"In space, no one can hear you bark."

I have got to limit her access to television.

## **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 1<sup>st</sup>; \$50 2<sup>nd</sup>; \$25 3<sup>rd</sup>. 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!!**

We have 3 rolls of batting: Quilter's Dream Cotton in request (lightest) & select (a little heavier) lofts, 100% cotton. We also have a roll of Dream Orient which is a blend of silk, bamboo & cotton--very nice.

Checker order is in with notions, rulers, needles, patterns, purse hardware (magnets), & thread. Not everything is in yet--still have patterns & applique pressing sheets yet to come.

From P & B"

9 Whisper Whites--doesn't do much good to show them because they are hard to see. White on white.

From Hoffman:





From Michael Miller:



From Free Spirit:



From Moda:



Great Pumpkin Pattern has arrived!



## March Classes and Special Events

**Hand Embroidery Club** Sat. Mar 12, 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. Mar 12 1-3 Kathy Sconce ongoing.

**Wrapsody Purse** Sat. Mar 12 4-6 Sue Frerich ongoing

**Back Basting** Wed. Mar 16 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!

**Beginning Machine Quilting** Wed. Mar 16 6-8:30 \$25 Sue Frerich

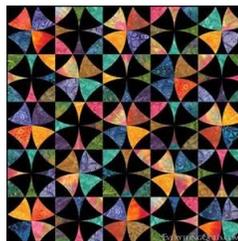
Be prepared to quilt! You will practice your quilting skills on various samples, using both your walking foot and darning foot. Batting, threads, needles and patterns will be discussed. Who knows? By the time you leave you may even be able to write/quilt your name!

**NATIONAL QUILT DAY! MARCH 19**

**STAY TUNED FOR SPECIALS TO CELEBRATE THE DAY!**

**Wheel of Mystery** Sat. Mar 19 10:30-5 \$20 Sue Frerich

Curved piecing is all the rage right now. This traditional quilt, sometimes called Winding Ways, uses plastic templates for easy rotary cutting. Learn how to sew the gentle curves to create this beautiful quilt, & it can be made from your scraps!



**Beginning Machine Applique** Wed. Mar 23 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.

**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. Mar 25 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.

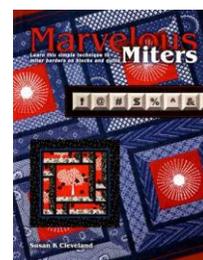
**LOTP: Flying Geese** Sat. Mar 26, 10:30-5 \$20 Barb Boyer

We are highlighting Little House of the Prairie fabrics this Spring, and this is our third quilt. This is a perfect quilt for scraps. We will use the No Math Flying Geese Ruler which makes 4 blocks at a time-and let's you choose from 12 different sizes. And because it is "Flying Geese" there are few tricks to getting the blocks to come out just right. You will be an expert in this method by end of day.



**Attic Window Quilt** Wed. Mar. 30, 6-8:30 \$20 Barb Boyer

Learn the basics of Y-seam construction in this Attic Window quilt. We will work with 2 scenic panels to create a wall hanging that will look like you are seeing through a window-appropriate, right? We will also talk about mitered borders (because it is the same technique). We will use Susan Cleveland's Marvelous Miters book because her method is the best & most accurate that I've ever used for attic window construction.



## March 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Color of the month: Green</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Spoon Quilting 1-3  Beginning Quilt 6-8:30	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Open Sew1-4	<b>5</b> BOM 10:30-11:30  Ornament Club 1:30-3:30  Monthly Minis 4-6
<b>6</b> CLOSED	<b>7</b> English Paper Piecing 2-4	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Embroidery Club 10-noon  Lace Houses 1-3  Wrapsody Purse 4-6
<b>13</b> Beginning Quilt 1-4	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Back Basting Applique 1-3  Beginning Machine Quilting 6-9	<b>17</b> Knit Pickers' Club 6-8:30	<b>18</b> Open Sew1-4	<b>19</b> Wheel of Mystery 10:30-5 National Quilt Day
<b>20</b> Beginning Quilt 1-4	<b>21</b> English Paper Piecing 2-4	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Beginning Machine Applique 6-9 Full Moon	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Bertie's Year 1-4 Friday Nighters 5:30 -?	<b>26</b> LOTP Flying Geese 10:30-5

27 CLOSED	28	29	30 Attic Window quilt 6-8:30	31		

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
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.

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**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 .

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