



Around the  Block  
QUILT SHOP

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**May 13, 2016**

We mark our life with rites of passage. These tend to be important milestones and events that focus on endings and beginnings. I bring this up because several friends are graduating from school in the next few days and weeks and their lives will be altered by the passage from school to ... well let's just say, no school, even if temporarily. And because as I was driving around town today, I saw a car with the message blazoned on the back window in big purple letters: NO MOM. NO RULES. And I thought, yeah, right, it doesn't really work that way.

But I can vividly remember the feelings I experienced upon graduating high school. I was in downtown Omaha, supposed to be going back to class after graduation rehearsal, and I realized - what can they do to me if I don't go back today? I was the commencement speaker. I was bright enough to realize that the teachers wouldn't kick me out of school, because they'd be up a creek without a speaker. And I thought to myself, this is what adulthood must feel like. No schedule. I can do what I want, when I want. I'm free!

Contain yourselves, don't laugh too hard. It gets better.

Within months I headed off to college and the next important rite of passage moment happened. My parents left. NO MOM. NO RULES. I went swimming at the pool with new friends at 8 in the evening - and I didn't have to tell anyone where I was going.

This was FREEDOM, capital letters and all. Now, don't get all teary eyed on me. I had dorm hours and had to be back in the dorm, checked in, by midnight. So my freedom did come with a leash. I think it's a little what Becca feels like when she climbs over or digs under the fence, only to find her "tether" Cassidy, still inside the fence. A brief shining moment of "I'm free," followed by, "Now what do I do?"

As I have gotten older, this feeling of freedom becomes much more elusive, because....of course, I have to adhere to a schedule. But the first time I rode a horse out in a pasture, all by myself with no fences to worry about or trainer beside me, going where I wanted to (or where my horse wanted to) was uplifting. Same thing happened when I jumped my first fence while riding-although that felt a lot like flying, which is a bit different. And the other time I experienced this feeling of freedom was - don't laugh - when I went to the grocery store in the morning. When you do something at a time when you are supposed to be doing something else - like working - you feel like you've escaped. These days, though, when I go to the grocery store in the morning, I feel like I'm supposed to be there: People who shop in the morning are different from those who shop at 5:30 at night. They're called old people. And I'm now one of them. Okay--older might be a better PC word. Don't send letters.

So to all you grads, happy graduation. Happy freedom day. Happy NO MOM, NO RULES day. This rite of passage marks your passage from one group to another, representing a significant change in your society or life. The anthropology term is *rite de passage*,

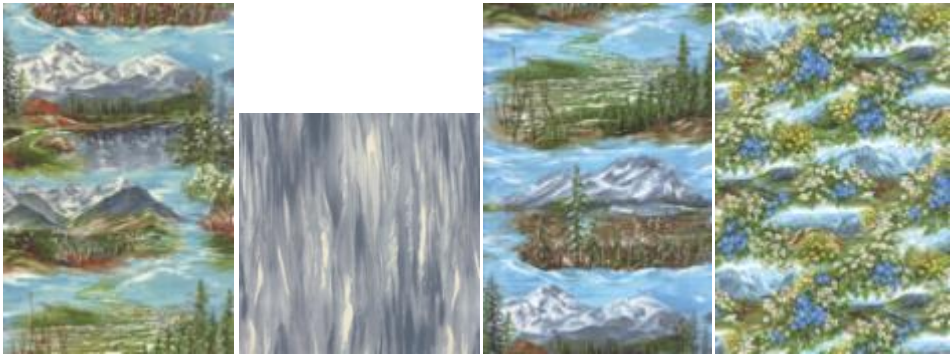
coined in 1909 by a French ethnographer Arnold van Gennep (yeah, I had to look it up, too. It means the study of people & cultures). We celebrate these rites of passage for lots of psychological reasons, as I'm sure you can guess. In the old days boys became men when they quit wearing short pants. Girls became women when they were debuted at a ball.

Today rites of passage are not as dramatic, thus allowing children to ease into adulthood: earning enough allowance to buy something without mom (for me, my first Monkees album on vinyl, which I carefully carried home on the bus, hoping the winter cold wouldn't break it before I got home--give me a break, I was 11); the giving by a parent to a child his first house key; being allowed to stay at home alone; getting the keys to the car; dating without a chaperone; leaving home before age 30. Just kidding. Kids come back home when they're 30--that's a whole 'nother kind of rite of passage.

But the most dramatic, and perhaps the most important, milestone, is graduation. Enjoy your feeling of freedom.

## WHAT'S NEW!!

From Moda:



From Camelot Cottons:



(fleece)

From Elizabeth Studios:



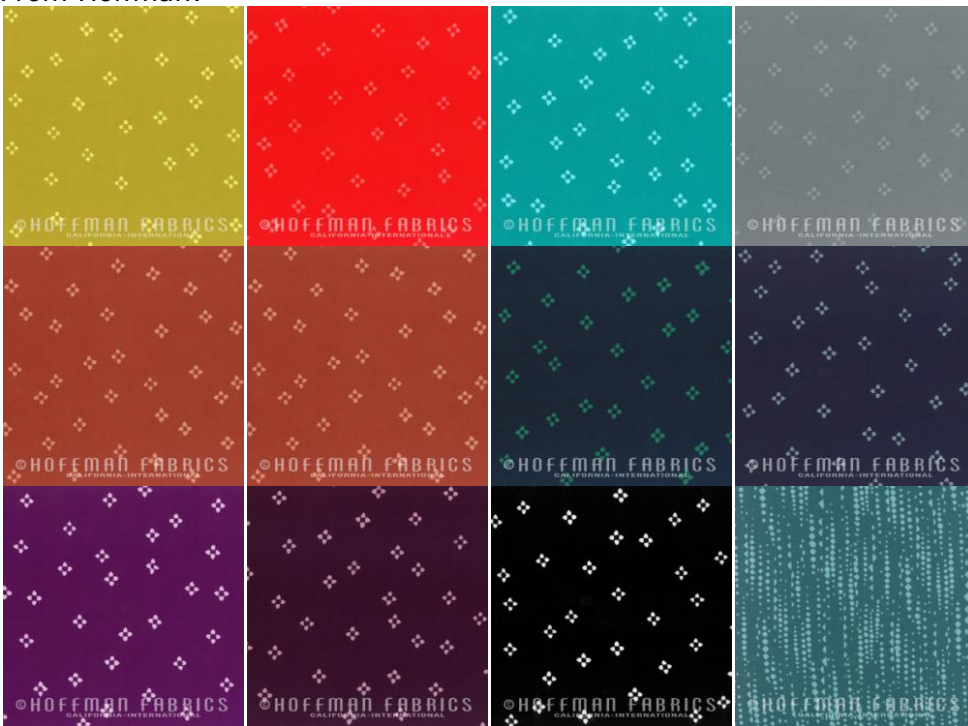
From Troy:



From Maywood (and one other neutral from this line)



From Hoffman:



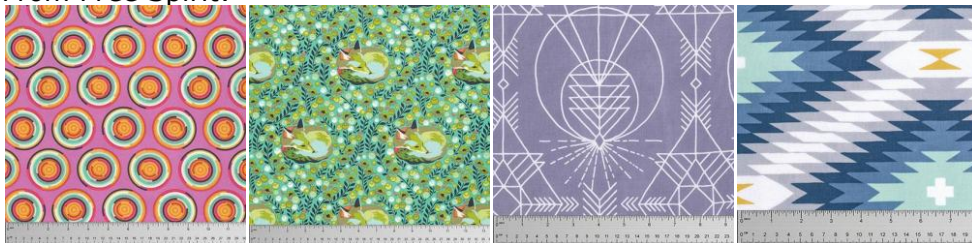




From Moda:



From Free Spirit:

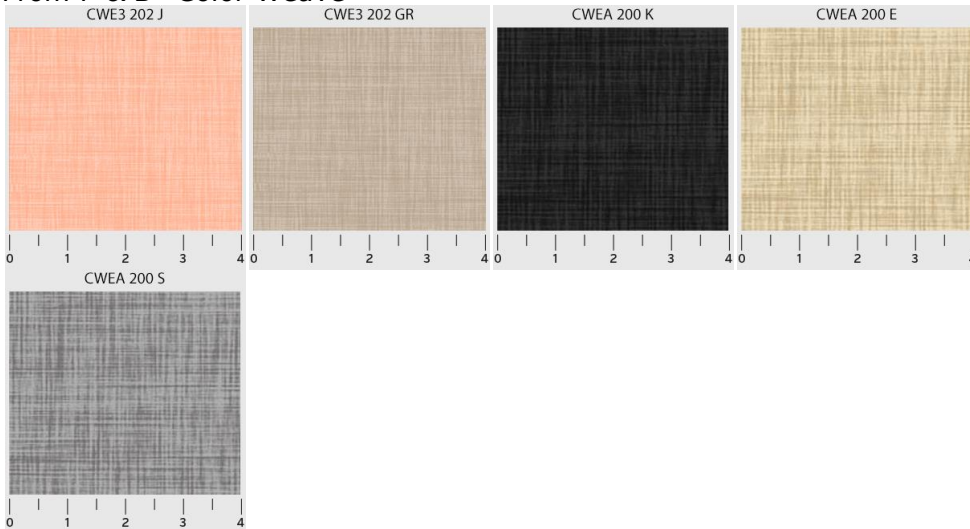




From Alexander Henry--the rest of the Ghostlies



From P & B--Color Weave



The May schedule is constantly changing, and I apologize for that. I rearranged things from April to May because of my vacation, but then forgot about Spring Market dates. So I think I'm back on track now.

## May Classes & Special Events

**English Paper Piecing** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays ongoing

**Hand Embroidery Club** Sat. May 14, 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. May 14 1-3 Kathy Sconce ongoing.

**Changed to Sat. June 18 Christmas Row Quilt** 3rd Sat of the month,

Sat. June 18, 1-4 \$20 Barb Boyer

Each row uses a different pieced block. There are log cabins, stockings, wreaths, ornaments, snowmen, trees, houses, bells, and stars. Each month we will piece a different row. There are 7 rows (2 rows use multiple blocks), plus a pieced border. You should be able to have the quilt done by Christmas!

**Postponed to May 29: Pillow Case Party** Sun. FREE 1-4

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. May 27 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.

**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.

## May 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 CLOSED	2	3	4	5	6 Open Sew1-4	7 BOM 10:30-11:30  <b>Ornament Club 1: 30-4</b>  <b>Monthly Minis 4-6</b>
8 Mother's Day	9	10	11 Knit Pickers' Club 6-8:30	12	13	14 Embroidery Club 10-noon  <b>Lace Houses 1-3</b>
15	16 English Paper Piecing 2-4	17	18	19	20 Open Sew1-4	21 <b>Full Moon</b>
22	23	24	25	26	27 Bertie's Year 1-4 <b>Friday Nighters 5:30 -?</b>	28 LOTP: Churn Dash: 10:30-4
29 Pillow Case party 1-4	30 Memorial Day	31	<b>Color of the month: Neutrals- whites/beiges</b>			



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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.

Happy quilting!

Sincerely,

Barbara Boyer  
Around the Block  
307-433-9555