



Around the **Block**  
QUILT SHOP

## Travel, Explore, Cruise, Quilt!

We are sailing with Princess Cruises on December 29-2020-January 8, 2021!



## All Aboard!

The Princess sale continues through February, but don't wait until the last minute to sign up. The sale includes free premium beverage package, payment of gratuities and free wifi. On board credit will also be offered. This offer will be good through the end of February, but please don't decide last minute because if something goes wrong (weather, shop closed, internet down, phones crash) you may miss out on that deal. Another advantage in signing up early is you get your pick of the choicest state rooms--best locations. **A deposit of only \$100 per person will secure you a room.** Payments can be extended through at least August. For those of you taking the class (see below), the class fee is \$100, which includes kits for our onboard projects, a tote bag class this summer, and a wool needleholder to hold your various needles. Please contact me if you are interested and I will get you in touch with our travel agent. Prices for cabins can be as low as \$1899/person, which includes port taxes.

We board in Ft. Lauderdale with port stops in Falmouth, Jamaica; Cartagena, Columbia; Cristobal, Panama; Puerto Limon, Costa Rica; Grand Cayman Islands. Plus, of course, cruising in and out of the Panama Canal.

Classes: The main project we will work on is a Mola. Molas are reverse appliques, mainly done by the Kuna Indians. I'll bring examples of some of their work and I'll have kits for a small ornament for you. We'll talk about the Kuna culture, their artwork, and their needlework. I will also provide one knitting project, details to come. I will supply the pattern, you just need to bring some scraps of wool yarn. I will also provide one more project, tba, that will memorialize our cruise to Panama.

I need to be perfectly clear about this: My dogs are the best behaved dogs on the planet. I know this because I have been training dogs since my mom let me get my first dog. That means, I got my first dog when I moved out of the house. That's what my mom told me: You can have your own dog when you move out of the house. Which meant all the strays I brought home over the years had to be returned to their original owners. Okay, they weren't really strays, but puppies whose owners were desperate to get rid of the unwanted litter. Either way, I couldn't keep them.

Now, mom's words of wisdom or command, however you want to look at it, didn't apply to her. When I was in 7<sup>th</sup> grade we got a toy poodle, not my idea of a dog. You can't play catch with a toy poodle. You can't run down the block with a toy poodle at your side. Don't get me wrong. I loved Topaz, our champagne colored toy. She was cute. And fat. And small enough that training didn't really apply to her. But she really wasn't mine, even though ostensibly she was because that was what mom said- you've always wanted a dog. Let's get a toy poodle. Translation: We have a friend with a toy poodle, so we can't not have a toy poodle, so I'm getting this toy poodle for you because you've always wanted a dog.

Anyway, Topaz doesn't count. Neither does Tucker, a pup from a litter my aunt had and my brothers took home. I was little then and don't really know how mom got convinced that having a puppy was a good idea. Tucker, unfortunately, had a short life following an encounter with a much larger dog.

Anyway, I got my first dog when I got my first apartment. He was a border collie, he played Frisbee (even competed) and he was well trained. As the years passed, I became a breeder of border collies and Australian Shepherds, I trialed both breeds in herding trials with success, they were whistled trained to go right and left, they followed my commands, ...

"Wait a minute," Becca interrupted, catching her breath after rolling around on the ground laughing. "You're trying to tell everyone that you are a good dog trainer and that all of your dogs are well behaved? That's hilarious."

"Just because you refuse to come when you're called," I began.

"I'm not talking about me. I can decide for myself when I need to listen to you." She back sneezed, which is her version of laughing. "I'm talking about that very first dog you owned. That really smart border collie. Didn't he tear up your apartment when you left him alone while you went to the grocery store? And you weren't supposed to have a dog in the apartment in the first place?"

"He was a pup, he was just learning. And he didn't tear up the apartment, just the yellow piñata shaped like a dog I picked up in New Mexico when I was a kid. I loved that piñata,..."

"Back to the subject of dog training," Becca interrupted. "Didn't you run off the pads of that border collie when you played Frisbee with him in the driveway? And when the vet asked you if you had been running him on concert, you said no? You lied to a vet?"

"Well, I didn't know that could happen. And besides he wanted to play Frisbee."

"Seriously, that's your excuse? It was his fault. Never mind," she continued, forestalling my protestations, "Didn't you try teaching your second border collie to play fetch? You threw him a stick and told him to fetch, which he did, bringing the stick you threw away back to you. And then, you threw it away again and asked him to fetch. Which he did, dropping it at your feet. And when you threw it away again, he just looked at you when you asked him to fetch, but he went to get it anyway. But when he picked up the stick and you asked him to bring it back, he just dropped it, knowing that if he

brought it back like you asked, you'd just throw it away again? Who's smarter now, you the fantastic dog trainer or the border collie who knew better than to keep returning something that you kept throwing away?"

"Well..."

"Well, dogs like to fetch? Right. Ever wondered why I don't fetch," she snickered.

"You're too short."

"Yeah, right. So what about the dogs that tripped you up and dislocated your knee. Wasn't that the first knee surgery you had? No, wait, they just strapped you up after that one. It was the 15 pound puppy that dislocated it a few years later that resulted in your first knee surgery. You tried to pass off the accident as skiing related, but you don't lie that well. Nobody believed the skiing story. They believed the puppy story. Even though you're such a good dog trainer."

"Okay, enough. Just because you aren't well behaved, doesn't mean I haven't had good dogs." Becca raised her eyebrows. "Okay, well trained. Look at Cassidy. She's well trained."

"She's just not smart enough not to ignore you."

"Wait a minute..." But Becca was out the door, leaving me wondering how she learned to correctly use a double negative in a sentence. Oh, yeah, she was reading the first part of this story. That's how we got into this discussion in the first place.....

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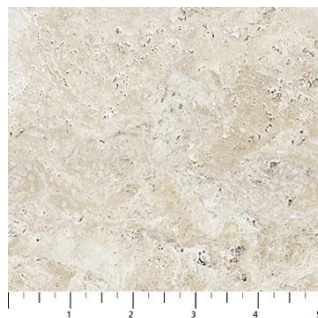
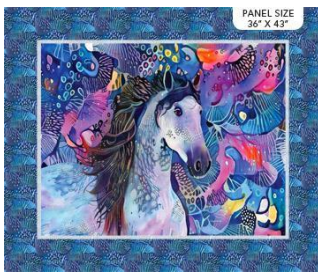
## It's time to think about Shop Hop!

Our theme for this year's challenge is flashback to the 1960s. Beatles, peace signs, hippies, tie dye, long hair, rock & roll, being hip or being square. Make your own project around a 1960s theme, using a commercial pattern or one of your own creation. Wall hangings, totes or other interpretations of a 60s theme no larger than 60" X 60" will be accepted. Projects will hang at the Springtime in the Rockies Shop Hop at the Ranch, April 17 & 18. **Gift Basket Prizes awarded: \$250 1<sup>st</sup>; \$200 2<sup>nd</sup>; \$150 3<sup>rd</sup> as picked by Viewer's Choice.** To participate, fill out an entry form and submit it to a participating quilt store with your project by April 13.

I will have the forms available later--or just ask me to print you one. For now, it's time to start thinking of what project you want to do! The prizes are big this year!

## WHAT'S NEW!!

From Northcott:



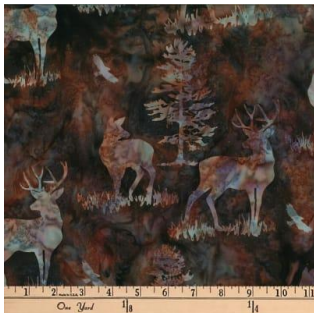
From Robert Kaufman:

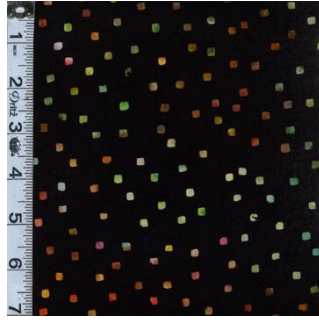
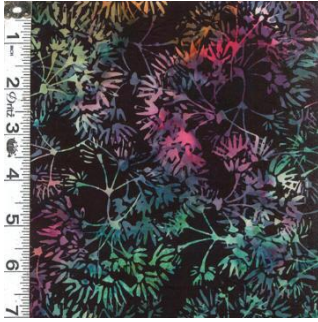






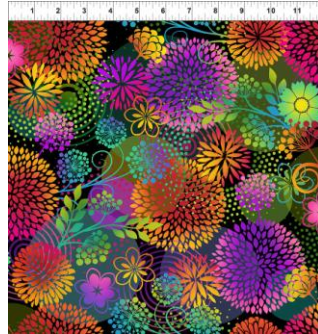
From Hoffman:



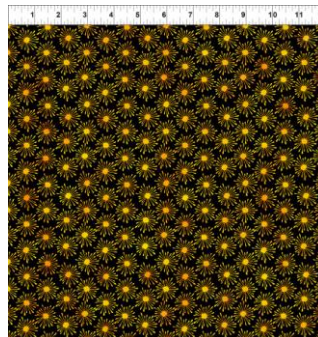
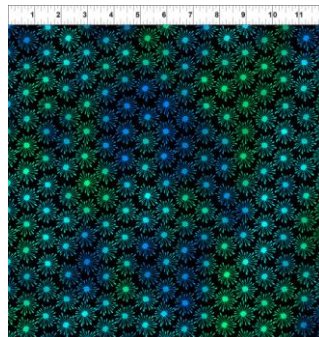
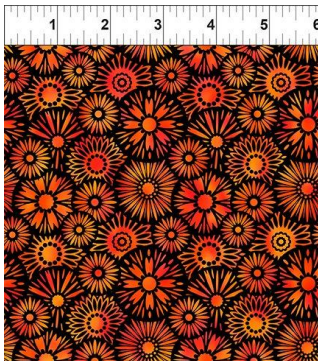
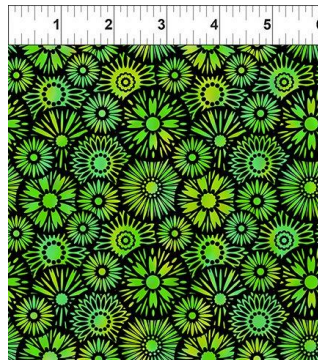


And a couple more that I couldn't grab pictures for.

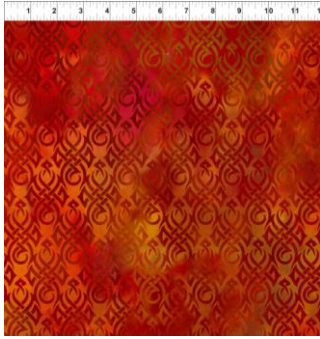
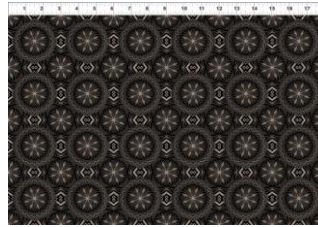
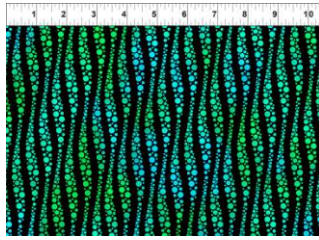
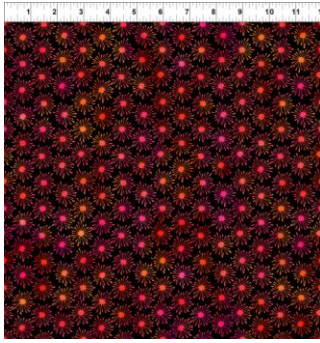
From In the Beginning: (We will have kits)



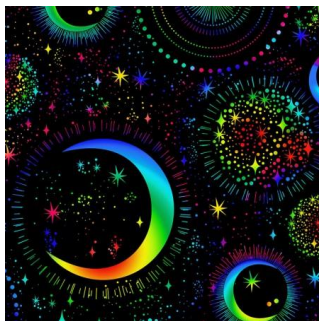
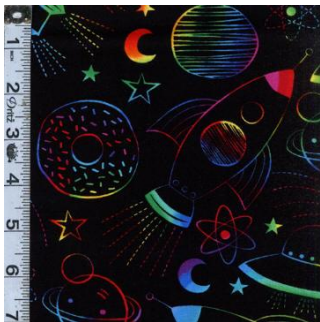
pattern--we are making kits







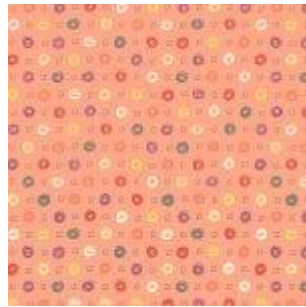
From Timeless:



From Windham:

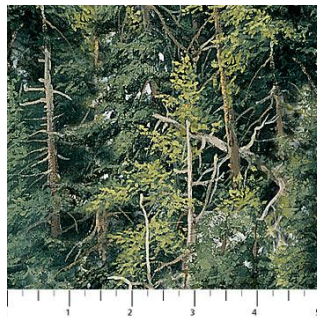
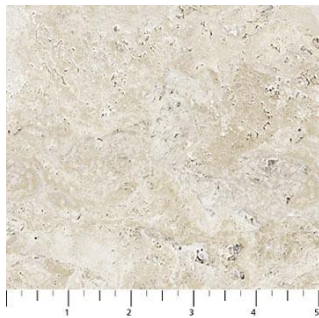
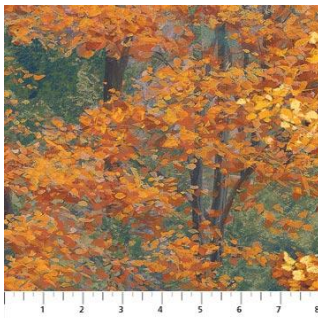


overwide



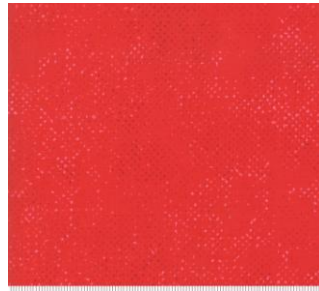
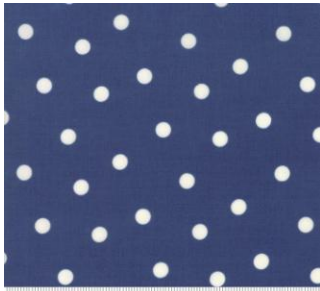
From Northcott:





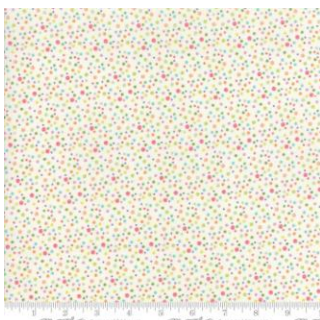
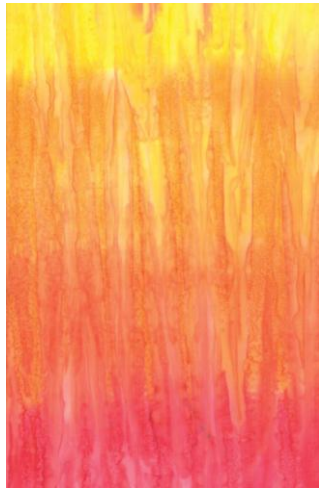
From Moda:





pattern

From Moda:



5" squares of wool

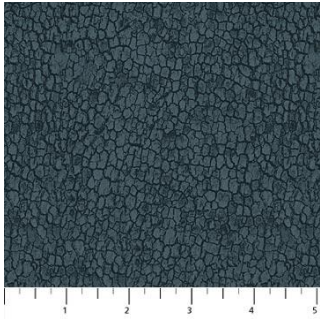




5" squares of wool

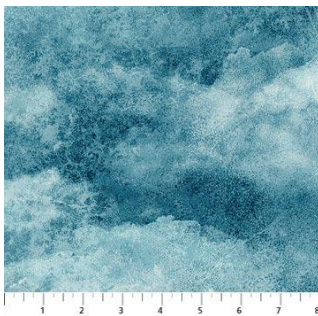
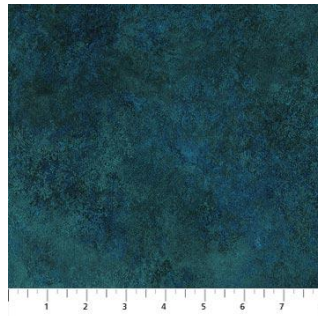
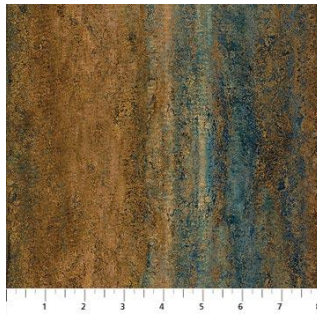
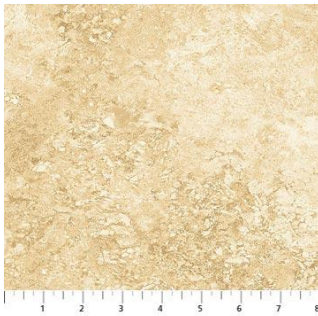
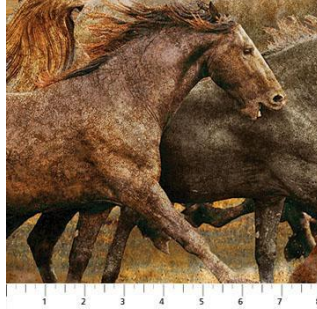
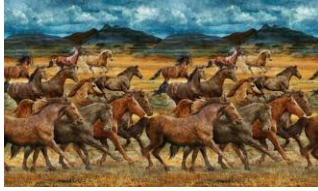
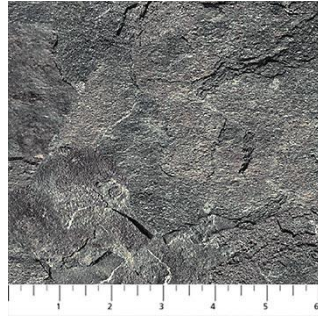
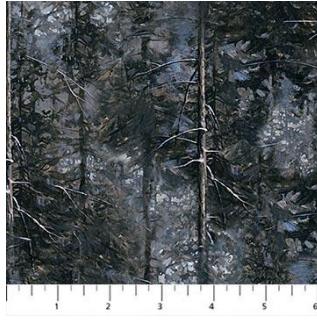


From Northcott:



From Northcott:





## **SIGN UP FOR LONG ARM QUILTING CLASSES TODAY!**

**Classes are on Wednesdays and some Saturdays: 10:30-1:30; 2:30-5:30, or 6-8:30. Check the calendar for dates. Only 4 to a class.**

**Rentals have started for those who have taken the class. Tuesdays and Fridays, and a couple of Saturday and Sunday rentals. Check the**

calendar for rentals. Generally, there are 2 rentals times per day:  
10:30-2 and 2:30-6. \$25/hr or \$85 for 3 1/2 hours. \$50 minimum. Plus  
\$5/bobbin for thread. Most quilts (double and smaller), even for  
beginners, will take about 2 1/2-3 hours. We will discuss what you plan  
to do on your quilt and will help you estimate how long it will take.

**Class descriptions follow the calendar, so keep scrolling.  
Classes are listed alphabetically, by month.**

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# JANUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b>  New Year's Day Closed	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  Long Arm Rental Day	<b>4</b>  BOM 10:30
<b>5</b>  Closed	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	<b>8</b>  Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  Long Arm Rental Day Full Moon	<b>11</b>  Embroidery Club 10-noon  Embroidery Club 10-noon How to Use Strips: Zig Zag noon-6
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	<b>15</b>  Hand Quilting 10-noon	<b>16</b>  Beginning Quilt 6-9	<b>17</b>  Long Arm Rental Day	<b>18</b>  BJ Designs 10:30-5
<b>19</b>  Beginning Quilt 1-4	<b>20</b>  How to Use Strips: Jelly Roll Race 10:30-4 ML King Day	<b>21</b>  Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	<b>22</b>  Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	<b>23</b>  Beginning Quilt 6-9	<b>24</b>  Long Arm Rental Day	<b>25</b>  Working with Rulers: No Math Flying Geese 10:30-4
<b>26</b>  Beginning Quilt 1-4	<b>27</b>  English  English Paper Piecing: Dresden Plate 2-4	<b>28</b>  Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  Beginning Quilt 6-9	<b>31</b>  Long Arm Rental Day	<b>1</b>  Color of the month: Purple



# FEBRUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 BOM 10:30  BOM 10:30 Working with Rulers: Drunkard's Path 1-6
2	3  Color of the month: red	4	5	6	7	8 Embroidery Club 10-noon  Embroidery Club 10-noon How to Use Strips: Strip Stacks noon-6
Closed		Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	Beginning Quilt 6-9	Long Arm Rental Day	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Bermuda Sunset 10:30-5
Beginning Quilt 1-4 Full Moon		Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	Wool Ornaments 10-1	Beginning Quilt 6-9	Long Arm Rental Day Valentine's Day	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Working with Rulers: Circular Motion 10:30-4
Beginning Quilt 1-4	T-Shirt Quilt 10:30-4 Presidents' Day	Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	Back Basting Applique 10-noon Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	Beginning Quilt 6-9	Long Arm Rental Day	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 Working with Rulers: Summer Swag 10:30- 5
Beginning Quilt 1-4	English Paper Piecing: Dresden Plate 2-4	Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day		Beginning Quilt 6-9	Long Arm Rental Day	

Please look on the calendars above for times and dates.

## Ongoing Classes & Clubs

**AccuCut Rental most Thursdays 1-4 check calendar or call to be sure**

\$10/30 minutes

We have an industrial size AccuCut cutter with several dies: strips, squares, triangles, rectangles. Sign up for time of the AccuCutter to change your stash into usable strips, squares, rectangles and triangles. We will rent to machine in ½ hour intervals (you can get a lot cut in ½ hour). Be sure to check which dies we have before you come in.

**Block of the Month** First Sat of month 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 the challenge is to use polka dot fabric in each block. The quilt will be whimsical, and will lend itself to bright colors, stripes, stars, and dots. To start you off we will give you a fat quarter that you must use in your blocks (at least in some of them). But...if you don't like the fat quarter or dots, you can choose any color scheme you like.

**Dresden Plate, English Paper Piecing** last Monday of each month, 2-4 Barb Boyer \$20 (one time fee)

We will teach the basics of English Paper Piecing, the simple & easy way to hand piece. 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. Any number of different designs can be made, including **Dresden Plate** this is the pattern we're doing this year.

**Hand Embroidery Club** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of the month, 10-noon FREE Kathy Sconce

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. You can work on your own projects or you can join the project we are doing. We are still doing the Gardner's Alphabet Quilt Block of the Month by Crabapple Hill. We will explore a variety of embroidery stitches for each block each block (2 letters per month), plus we will learn how to color with regular crayons to enhance the blocks. 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. We are also looking at new patterns, for those you do not want to do the Alphabet quilt or who have finished those blocks.

**Knit Pickers' Club** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wed of each month, 3-7 Carol Moler

We are changing up the Knit Pickers' Club. We're going to knit 2 days a month every second and fourth Wednesday, and we'll start earlier in the day at 3. For those you who work, we'll still be knitting >till 7. 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. We work on some felting projects, fingerless mittens, mittens, and socks. And we're experimenting with group projects meaning we will demonstrate a particular project (fingerless mitts, cables, stranded work, charts) and then everyone does the same pattern. Each month (or so) we will switch to a new project.

**Long Arm Quilting Classes Wednesdays from 10:30-1:30, 2:30-5:30 Barb Boyer \$30**

(check calendar for specific times & dates)

In this class you will learn all about the Nolting long arm quilting machines: loading, threading, quilting. I will demonstrate how to load and thread, set stitch length, change tension, wind and load bobbins. Then I will load a practice quilt onto the machine and show how to do hand guided quilting. Each student will be given at least 15-20 minutes of practice time. (Each class is limited to 4 students). You will be able to do free hand quilting plus you can practice following a pantograph. Any quilter who wants to rent to machines must take this class first, regardless of whether you have experience on a long arm machine. This class is not designed to teach you everything there is to know about long arm quilting. It's just a start.

## January classes

### **Beginning Quilting 8 weeks \$65 Barb Boyer Starting Sun Jan 19 or Thur Jan 16.**

This comprehensive 8-week course will introduce to you almost everything you need to know about piecing a quilt top. Along the way you will learn about color, batting, thread, machines and various techniques to give you the skills to make almost any quilt.

### **Hand Quilting Wed Jan 15, 10-noon Sandra Freeburg \$30**

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.

## February Classes

### **Bermuda Sunset Sat Feb 15, 10:30-5 10:30-5 \$25 Sue Frerich**

It may look like it's just squares and half square triangles -- and it is. But the true joy of this quilt is in its colors. Learn color placement from Sue to achieve a beautiful cascading sunset colored quilt! You can use subtle morning colors to turn your quilt into a Bermuda Sunrise, or working with deep yellows, oranges & reds for a sunset version.



### **Circular Motion Sat Feb 22, 10:30-4 Sue Frerich \$25 (The third of our "working with rulers" class)**

This quilt uses a 2 Peaks in 1 Triangle ruler, and it creates a triangle in a square block, which when placed with other blocks form a circular pattern. The ruler is very versatile, allowing you to create a number of different triangle blocks in a variety of sizes.

### **Drunkard's Path Quilt Sat Feb 1, 1-6 \$25 Barb Boyer**



**(The second of our "working with rulers" class)**

Drunkard's Path is a classic pattern, offering many design/setting choices. Back Porch Designs makes great, easy to use plastic templates that create easy to sew by machine curves. You can choose between the traditional set or a "rainbow" set that employs an additional curved piece.



**Hand Applique/Back Basting Wed Feb 19, 10-noon Sandra Freeburg \$30**

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!

**Strip Stacks Sat. Feb 8, noon-6 \$25 Sue Frerich (The third of our precut quilt series)**

Use 2 ½" precut strips (or cut your own using our AccuCutter-must be done prior to class) and yardage for background to create a quilt, colorful quilt. This is an easy beginner quilt, but you do need to know how to use a rotary cutter and it will give you a lot of practice with your quarter inch seam. But it's not just for beginners-if you need to make a graduation quilt and want a day to get away and just sew, this is the perfect class for you.



**Summer Swag Quilt Sat. Feb 29 10:30-5 \$25 Jean Korber (Another of our "working with rulers" series + 2 ½" pre cut strips)**

This quilt is another Krista Moser quilt, no template piecing. If you did FanFaire, you can use the same ruler. And it uses precut 2 ½" strips! The pattern shows you how to combine strip piecing with diamond star cuts to create a magical three dimensional effect. The pieces are large and uncomplicated, which means in no time you will have a wonderful "summertime" quilt.



**T-Shirt Quilt Mon Feb 17 10:30-4 \$25 Barb Boyer**

T-shirt quilts are popular and easy to make - but with a little coaching from Barb it will make that graduation gift a snap to make. She will also help you design the quilt (especially helpful when you have different sized t-shirts), choose sashing colors if needed, and pick borders to make your quilt unique.

**Wool Ornaments Wed Feb 12 10-1 \$25 Barb Boyer**

Each month we will make a different wool ornament. Not all ornaments will be displayed prior to class. Some will be kitted, others you will need to buy supplies. Lessons learned will include how to use fusible web with wool, whip or tack stitches, blanket stitch, and various other embroidery stitches.



## March Classes

### **Beginning Machine Applique Thurs March 26 1-4 \$30 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.

### **Beginning Machine Quilting Thurs March 19, 1-4 \$30 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!

### **Design Challenge: Using 2 ½" Strips Sat March 21, 10:30-4 \$25 Sue Frerich (Another of our precut quilt series)**

Sue will teach you the basic block. The challenge is how to set your blocks together. For those of you who have the EQ program on a laptop computer, you can bring your computer to class and Barb will help you design the block in the program and show you how rearrange blocks in the quilt. For those of you who do not have the program, there will be some limited time for students to work on Barb's computer to design your quilt.

### **Hand Piecing Dresden Plates Wed March 18 10-noon \$30 Sandra Freeburg**

Everyone who quilts needs to learn to hand piece. Sometimes we need to have small portable projects to take with us in the car, to doctor appointments, and sometimes, just for relaxing stress free quilting. Learn to hand piece with traditional methods. There are many patterns that are so difficult to piece by machine, but are beautiful when done by hand. This spring, in keeping with our "Dresden Plate" theme, Sandra will teach hand piecing using the Dresden Plate pattern.



### **Mini Dresden Plates Sat March 28, 10:30-41 \$25 Barb Boyer (Another of our "working with rulers" class)**

This class will teach you how to use a small and a mini Dresden Plate template to make little Dresden Plate blocks. You can choose how you want to use your little Dresden Plates: Big quilt, wall hanging, tea towel, tote bag. We will have suggestions to help you decide, or you can simply chose a project from the book. Book and templates are required.



### **Wool Ornaments Wed Mar 25 10-1 \$25 Barb Boyer**

Each month we will make a different wool ornament. Not all ornaments will be displayed prior to class. Some will be kitted, others you will need to buy supplies. Lessons learned will include how to use fusible web with wool, whip or tack stitches, blanket stitch, and various other embroidery stitches.



### **Wyoming Bear's Paw Sat March 7 & 14 1-6 \$25 Barb Boyer**

This iconic block is an over sized regular Bear's Paw block, with miniature bear's paw blocks in the "paws" of the big block. Lessons learned in class will include working in miniature and making half square triangles using the bias strip piecing method. You can make your blocks two toned or scrappy.

## **April Classes**

### **Beginning Machine Applique Sun April 26, 1-4 \$30 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.

### **Beginning Machine Quilting Sun April 19, 1-4 \$30 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!

### **Binding Thur April 9 1-4 Barb Boyer \$25**

You'll learn how to accurately cut your bindings, whether bias, cross or straightBand when to use which one. You'll learn how to cut, then sew, join (so easy) and hand stitch it down. Bindings so easy peasy you=ll wonder why you were ever nervous about putting on the binding.

### **It's Not too Early for Halloween Quilt Sat April 25 10-2 \$25 Barb Boyer**

This cute quilt is an embroidered Halloween Quilt from Buttermilk Basin. The first class will get you started on your embroidery. I'll show you the basic stitch (outline or stem stitch), satin stitch, chain stitch and French knot. We'll discuss tracing options, floss colors and background colors. Then, this summer when your embroidery work is finished, we will get together for the final part: setting the quilt. I will have an alternate way to set your blocks, so you will a different option from the pattern.



### **Let There Be Dragons Quilt Sat April 11 1-6 \$25 Barb Boyer**

In the Beginning has created this marvelous dragon fabric: in orange & flame colors, or cool blues & purples. The dragons are in a panel and there is a coordinating border stripe. The blocks are easy and the panel makes this quilt go together quickly. You will also learn how to miter the borders-a new skill to add to



your toolbox!

**Running Wild Sat April 4, 1-6 \$25 Barb Boyer (Another of our "working with rulers" class)**

This quilt is a combination kaleidoscope and panel, using Northcott's Wild Horses fabrics. This cascading colored quilt can be made just with the kaleidoscope blocks, or, just like the sampler, you can insert parts of the Running Horses panel in random places. This block uses a Creative Grid specialty ruler to cut the wedges for the kaleidoscope blocks.

**Wool Ornaments Wed April 22 10-1 \$25 Barb Boyer**

Each month we will make a different wool ornament. Not all ornaments will be displayed prior to class. Some will be kitted, others you will need to buy supplies. Lessons learned will include how to use fusible web with wool, whip or tack stitches, blanket stitch, and various other embroidery stitches.



## May Classes

**A Study in Subtle Sat May 16, 10:30-5 \$30 Sue Frerich**

This sample quilt uses taupes and other subtle colorations to create light and medium/dark blocks. The block is simple, but small, and there are tricks to getting everything to line up. You can also make this quilt in any combination of fabrics, so it is perfect for scraps.

**Binding Sun May 31 1-4 Barb Boyer \$25**

You'll learn how to accurately cut you bindings, whether bias, cross or straightBand when to use which one. You'll learn how to cut, the sew, then join (so easy) and hand stitch it down. Bindings so easy peasy you=ll wonder why you were ever nervous about putting on the binding.

**Credit Card Holders Sat May 9 3-6 \$25 Barb Boyer**

Make a fast,easy credit card holder that is lined with that special stuff that prevents hackers from stealing your info. Two fat quarters will make several card holders, or you could use a fat quarter and our cork fabric, to make an extra special card holder.

**Heart's Desire Sat May 2 1-6 Barb Boyer \$25 (Another of our precut quilt series)**

This quilt uses 2 ½" strips plus yardage to make the oversized hearts. Our choice for fabrics is the new line from Alexander Henry: Ghastlies Fall In Love-as only the Ghastly characters can. This is a quick quilt to sew and if you still need a graduation present, you should be able to get the top done in no time.

**Intro to Sashiko Sat May 9, 1-3 \$25 Kathy Sconce**

Sashiko is a form of decorative reinforcement stitching from Japan. Traditional Sashiko embroidery used white thread on a blue background, but today's sashiko uses many colors of thread, including variegated, and a variety of different colored backgrounds. The main stitch is a type of running stitch and the patterns are often geometric. Learn the basic stitch in the intro class and make a small wall hanging, tea towel, or quilt.

**Machine Applied Binding Thur May TBA \$30**

Jean will show you several ways to cut and apply binding, completely by machine. Then if you bring a small project, that is already quilted and ready for binding, you

can use Jean's techniques and tricks to apply the binding to your project. You probably won't finish your binding, but you will get hands on experience so you can take what you've learned & finish at home.

**Pillow Case Party Sun. May 17 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!

**Wool Ornaments Wed May 13 10-1 \$25 Barb Boyer**

Each month we will make a different wool ornament. Not all ornaments will be displayed prior to class. Some will be kitted, others you will need to buy supplies. Lessons learned will include how to use fusible web with wool, whip or tack stitches, blanket stitch, and various other embroidery stitches.



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**CLUBS**

**HAND EMBROIDERY CLUB FREE!**

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. You can work on your own projects or you can join the project we are doing.

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**Hand Work Club FREE!**

Every Tuesday afternoon from 2-4, join us to just sit & hand stitch, crochet, bind, or knit group. Bring what you're working on, sit up at the table in front by the window and work on your projects for awhile. You can get advice & suggestions from your fellow quilters and share your experiences about your projects.

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**Knit Pickers' Club FREE!**

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). We are discussing trying to do a group project meaning everyone does the same pattern. Each month we will learn a different pattern, make it into a square and eventually put all the squares into one project a Afghan, scarf, bag, etc.

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**Block of the Month Club FREE!**

First Saturday of the Month, 10:30-11:15. Join at any time. You get a free fat quarter if you come to class with the previous month's completed block.

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**Toad Toters Club**

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 10, February 9, March 9, April 8, May 7

#### 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 whites.

## Nolting Longarm Machines

Nolting has 5 main machines, each with different reaches: from 17" to 30" depending on the machine. They are sold with or without a frame, but after I saw & helped set up one of the steel frames this week, I recommend buying the frame. All machines, except for the Standard-- the most economical machine-- have a stitch regulator. I recommend a stitch regulator. All machines can be equipped with a computer and there are a couple of different ones to choose from. In addition, you can get an extended table base so that you can use rulers, you can get larger bobbins on some of the models and on the frames you can get hydraulic lifts to raise and lower the tables. In the coming weeks, I will print out more information on each model.

The best entry level machine is the Fun Quilter. It comes in 17", 20" & 23" reach. It comes with the Intellistitch Equalizer stitch regulator, standard speed control, needle up/down, and fixed handles in the front & rear. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.



The Pro Machine has the Intellistitch Turbo stitch regulator, single stitch option, standard speed control, needle up/down and customizable handles in the front & rear. The Pro Machine comes in 20", 24" and 30" reach with 10-12" of inside height. There are easy dials on the front to set stitch length and other options. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.



The NV Machine is the newest in the fleet of Nolting machines. This machine has a touch screen with progra



mmable stitch regulation. You can stitch in 4 different stitch modes plus single stitch and needleup/down. It also has an adjustable brightness LED work light. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.



Nolting also has a commercial machine with the Intellistitch Equalizer stitch regulator, standard speed control, needle up/down, and fixed handles in the front & rear. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.

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#### Color of the Month

December Christmas, January purple, February red, March green, April yellow, May white

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](http://www.aroundtheblockquilts.com)