



December 3, 2021

Finish Your Quilt Sale is Back! Last Month!

First Saturday of the Month Backing, Binding and Batting is on sale at 20%. The catch? You have to have a finished quilt top **AND** you have to bring that top in for show & tell. It must be completely ready for the next step: Quilting!

We have wool batting, 80/20 from Winline and Quilter's Dream, 100% cotton white from Quilter's Dream batting in the select flavor, Dream Orient (silk, bamboo & cotton) and 100% cotton natural from Quilter's Dream in the request flavor. So lots to choose from.

It is Space News time! Which means it is a good time to pick on NASA. Now, I use NASA as a generic term – the info might be from a variety of geeky space sites.

The lead sentence stated: “Giant space rocks continue to threaten the planet as yet another large asteroid is headed towards the Earth this month.” Comforting, right? Then later, the article said: “No other asteroid that size has come that close to Earth since the first passing, and none are expected to until sometime in 2028.” First off, let me note that the word is “toward” not “towards.” They are scientists, after all, although the writer should know better.

The critical part of the last sentence, though, is “none are expected to until sometime in 2028.” But that doesn’t mean giant asteroids won’t pass by between now and 2028. It just means that an asteroid of the size of 2018 AH won’t brush by. Asteroid 2018 AH (named because it was first discovered in 2018 – a critical point I’ll get to in a minute) is about the size of the Washington Monument. So no other asteroid that size will be by soon.

And it also means, we can only expect the ones we know about. The dimness of 2018 AH

made it almost impossible for scientists to spot it until it was upon us, which begs the question, how many other dim asteroids are lurking about? Scientists couch their language in vague terms, probably thinking it keeps us calmer. One day I would just like them to say, “It won’t hit earth,” rather than “it probably won’t hit earth.” If they have to hedge their bets what aren’t they telling us and can they sleep at night?

Now the other asteroid that is coming by this month isn’t the same size as 2018 AH. It isn’t the size of the Washington Monument; it’s about the size of the Eiffel Tower. Now, you tell me: Is the Eiffel Tower smaller or larger than the Washington Monument? And are we measuring in girth? Height? Weight? Actually, the Eiffel Tower is bigger than the Washington Monument, or at least taller, but the science geeks are confident that no other asteroid the size of the Washington Monument will be by until 2028. Bigger ones, definitely yes. The other comforting news about the Eiffel Tower asteroid is that it, in the words of the science geeks, “should steer far enough away to not cause any damage.” The operative word here is “should.” And how far is far enough away not to cause damage? I just don’t know.

Now I actually don’t believe either of these asteroids will hit earth. But not because of what the scientists are maybe saying, maybe not saying. My reason is that I watch enough sci fi movies and in those movies the government would be mobilizing big time if an asteroid impact more powerful than a nuke were to hit.

Oh wait. Didn’t the government already mobilize against asteroids? In November, NASA launched a spacecraft called DART (Double Asteroid Redirection Test –cute, huh?) to test if it could knock a space rock (not the size of the Eiffel Tower (1024 feet high) or the Washington Monument (555 feet high), although the rock they’re aiming at is 525 feet wide and the Tower is 410 wide and the Monument is 55 feet wide) off its course. We won’t know the results until September and DART will live stream all the action. I’ll keep you posted so you can watch.

What DART is supposed to do is knock a smaller asteroid Dimorphos off its orbit of a larger asteroid called Didymos. The crash will slow down Dimorphos by about 73 seconds to 10 minutes, causing it to orbit closer to Didymos, which will probably piss off both asteroids. Right now neither are in danger of approaching earth. Note the operative words here, my operative words: Right now.

Now if all of this seems familiar, well it is. Bruce Willis did a movie about asteroid-killing called Armageddon. Spoiler alert: It worked, after a fashion. But it involved an asteroid the size of Texas, which is bigger than the Eiffel Tower, in case you’re wondering, and it required a nuclear bomb. That asteroid, BTW, had only been discovered less than a month before destruction. Kinda like the Leonard Comet. (Keep reading)

Now these large asteroids aren’t the only ones in the night sky. California has a great site listing all the things in the night sky you can spot, at theskylive.com For example, tonight there are 13 comets and asteroids visible to either the naked eye or small telescope. Presumably none of these are on a collision course – but they can all be seen fairly easily from earth, and not just from California.

The other cool thing to see tonight is another thing that gives me pause about the scientific

geeks who affirmatively state that no other asteroid the size of 2018 AH will approach until 2028. And that's the newly discovered Comet Leonard. The operative word here is: Newly discovered. This sucker will be close enough to view by binoculars tonight. But not close enough to hit. And they didn't know about it until last September, I think (see I'm figuring out how to be vague, too).

But you have to get up early in the morning, 5.a.m., and look north east. The guy saying this is in California, so you can probably back up that time by an hour. (Probably) But if you miss it, you can try again on Dec, 17 and look to the southwest over by Venus in the evening. For a couple of hours. I assume that means sometime after dark. Maybe.

Sew Steady Products

I am a dealer in the Sew Steady Products. The Sew Steady tables offer an expanded work area around your machine, flush to the machine arm. Advantages of this table include a large surface that is flush to your machine, giving you plenty of space to lay your blocks flat before stitching.

If your only "prep" surface is the tiny arm that only gives you about 1-2 inches before your fabric hits the needle, the Sew Steady Table is for you! Do I sound like an advertisement? What I can tell you is that when I teach classes and students are sewing long strips together, it is often hard for them to manage those strips when the only flat surface is the 1-2" surface right in front of the needle. The Sew Steady table (and it's portable!) offers up to 8 inches of a flat surface.

Also, the Sew Steady products can include a "grid glider" which is a slick (it's both slick and slick, if you get my meaning) surface that you adhere to the table and it helps your fabrics glide smoothly toward the needle. It also provides a "grid" with ¼" lines and a center line (for flying geese constructions) and other measuring lines. So helpful.

In addition, the Sew Steady Products include quilting rulers that can be used for machine quilting. With the large flat table, ruler use becomes easy (with a little practice).

I will eventually put some pictures of the products in the newsletter, but for now take a look at the sewsteady.com for the wide variety of products. And the pics below.

Each table is built according to the specs of your machine, which means the tables are custom ordered. You decide which table (size, extras) you want, you let me know your specs (I will work with you to get the right measurements), I'll place your order and in app. 3 weeks (it's custom made remember) you will have your table!

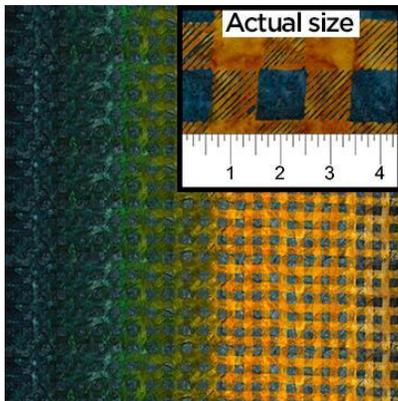
If you've never seen a Sew Steady table, come to the shop and see the table I have attached to my Bernina. It's wonderful!



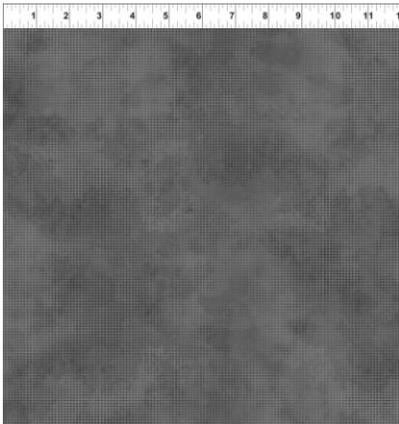
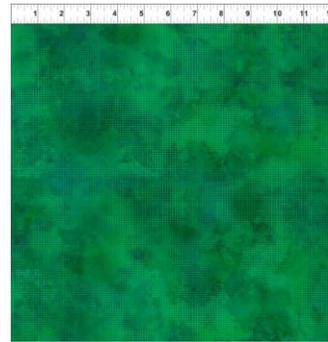
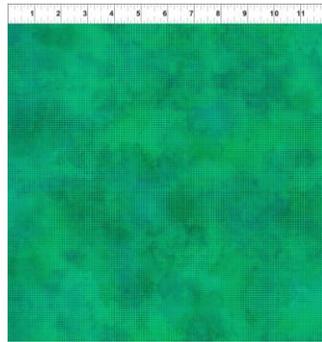
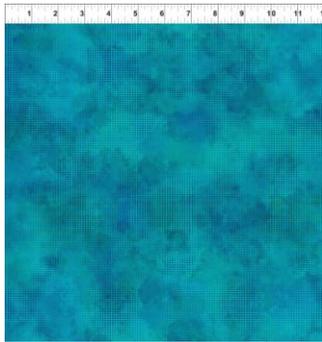
New Hours for winter. During Standard Time (Nov. 7 thru March 13), I will have new closing hours. M-S 10-5. Sundays will be closed unless I have a class scheduled. Hours for those Sundays are 1-5. Check the schedule to see if a class is being held.

Also I have added Machine Quilting on your domestic machine on Thursday Nov 18 from 1-4, and Machine Applied Binding on Saturday Dec. 18, 1-4.

What's New



Northcott



In the Beginning

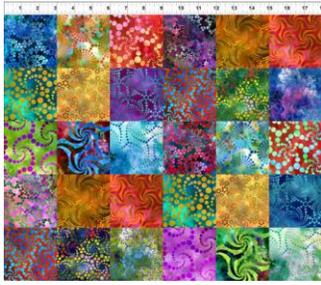


There is more Hoffman fabrics, but the website wouldn't let me download the images for some reason. The fabrics are used in this quilt, and we have kits!

Light as a Feather Quilt Kit



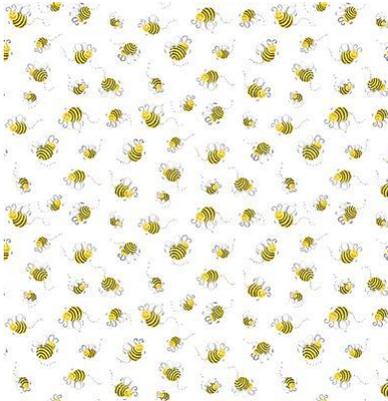
From Hoffman



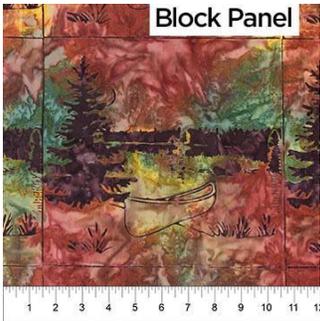
In the Beginning



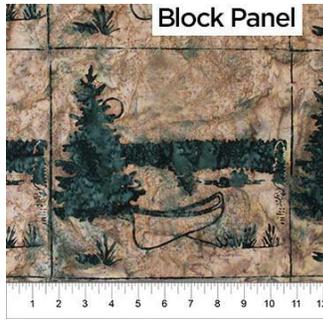
From Cotton+Steele



From Clothworks



Block Panel

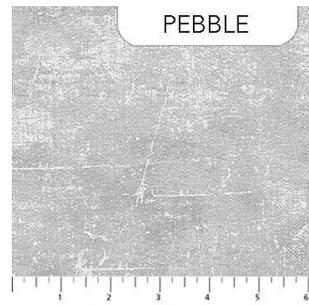
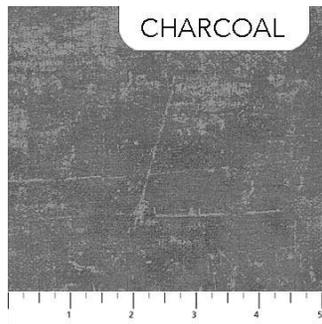
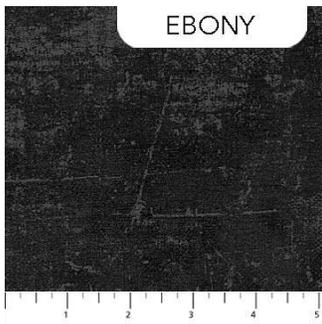
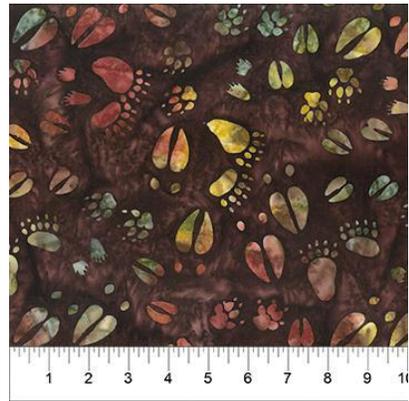
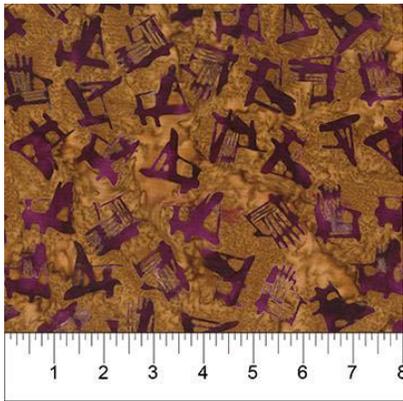


Block Panel

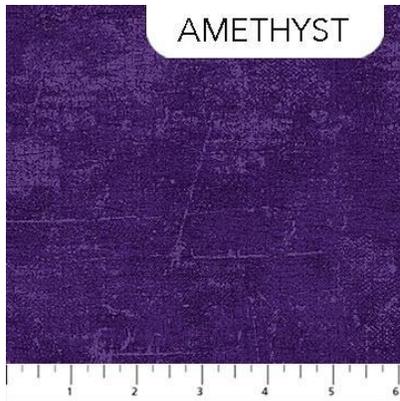
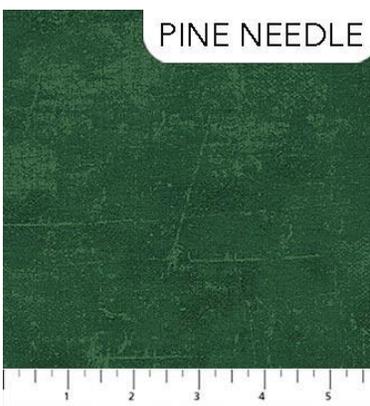


Border Print, Lengthwise Stripe

From Banyon Batiks

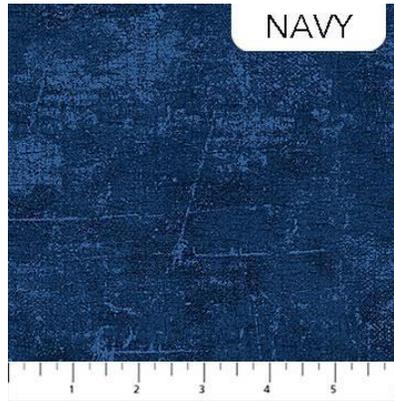


From Northcott





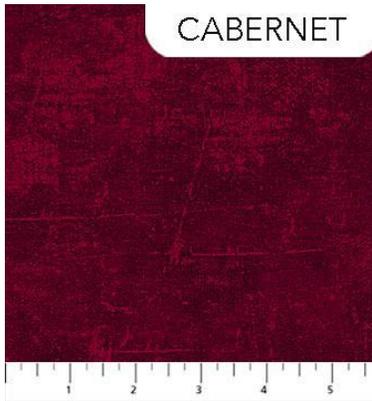
BLUE JEANS



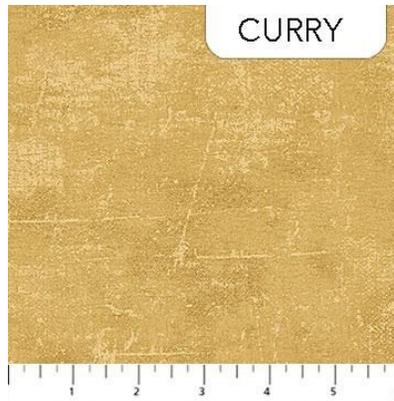
NAVY



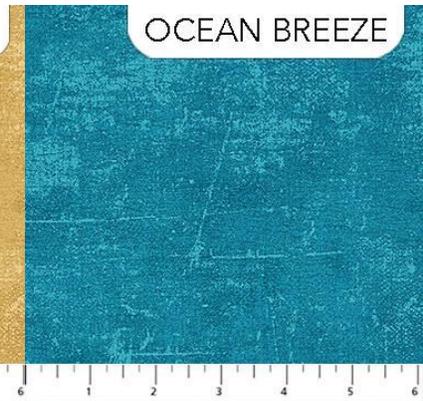
PEACOCK



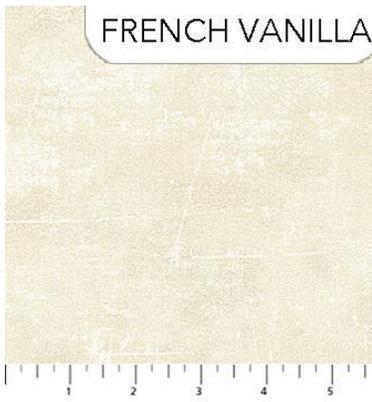
CABERNET



CURRY



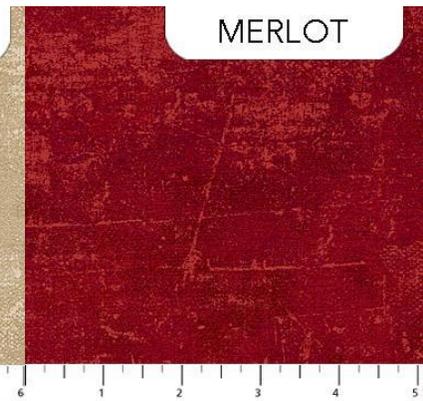
OCEAN BREEZE



FRENCH VANILLA



CAFE AU LAIT



MERLOT

COFFEE BEAN



RJR





From Riley Blake:



Continued Store Policies

Masks will be required for entering and shopping in the store, even if you are vaccinated. This policy is subject to change, depending on whether the pandemic gets

under control. We have been allowing vaccinated persons to come into the store without masks this summer, but because of break through covid cases, it is becoming clear that the recent variants are getting stronger than our vaccines. If you do not have a mask with you, and wish to shop I will sell you a mask that you can then just keep in the car. Or if you know what you want you can tell/call me and we can do a "curbside" business like we did last year.

Class policies for the Fall Semester

I welcome anyone who has been vaccinated to attend classes. If you have not been fully vaccinated, for any reason, I ask that you choose not to attend classes this fall. Perhaps by spring, if the pandemic comes under control, I will change this policy. Classes that are small in number, you will be able to choose whether you wear a mask or not. Larger classes, like block of the month, masks will be required. I will be masked regardless of class size.

Note the changes to the December schedule. No technique class on Thursday, moved the Penguin paper pieced class to Dec 16, added the machine binding class on the 18th, and am closed on all Sundays.

If you are interested in the Gift Bag/Penguin paper pieced class, please let me know. If you are coming to the Machine Binding Class. you will need a small, already quilted project plus fabric for binding. The small project can be anything and it's best if it's about 30" X 30", not much bigger or smaller. It can be rectangular; doesn't have to be square. Please don't cut the binding before class. I will demonstrate cutting the binding and sewing it on. Then you will cut your binding and sew it onto your project.

December 2021



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wed | Thur | Fri | Saturday |
|--------------|--------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--------------|---|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 BOM 10:30 Wool Club 4:30-6 |
| 5 CLOSED | 6 | 7 Hand work Club 2-4 | 8 Knit Pickers' Club 2- 4 | 9 | 10 | 11 Embroidery Club 10-noon |
| 12 CLOSED | 13 | 14 Hand work Club 2-4 | 15 | 16 Paper Pieced Penguin gift bag 1-5 | 17 | 18 Full moon Machine Pieced Binding 1-4 |
| 19 CLOSED | 20 | 21 Hand work Club 2-4 | 22 Knit Pickers' Club 2- | 23 | 24 CLOSED | 25 Christmas CLOSED |
| 26 CLOSED | 27 | 28 Hand work Club 2-4 | 29 | 30 Toad Toter Sale | 31 SALE | CLOSED Color of the month: red |
| CLOSED | | | | | | |



Ongoing Clubs

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 will be houses and seasons. Each row will have houses, trees and other "neighborhood" objects. Each house will have a place for a pieced block. Each "row" will be a season: Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. We'll also have a quilt store, school, "village" shops, church, outhouse, dog house, barn – as many as I can squeeze in!

Hand Embroidery Club 2nd 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 doing Crabapple Hill's Snow Days. This is an embroidered and pieced block. So we will help you through the piecing, tracing and embroidery.

Knit Pickers' Club 2nd and 4th Wed of each month, 2-5 Carol Moler (**NOTE: time is 2-5, not 4 as calendar shows**)

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 2 and go to 5. 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 may work on some felting projects, fingerless mittens, mittens, and socks.

Hand Sewing Club every Tuesday afternoon 2-4

This club is open to everyone. Bring your hand sewing (embroidery, binding, knitting, crochet, etc) and sit & stitch. During covid, we sit 6 feet apart and wear our masks, but at least we can share our projects, get a little stitching done and just enjoy the companionship.

ONGOING CLASSES

Techniques Thursdays Sept 9, Oct 14, Dec 9, 2-3 \$10 Barb Boyer

Dec 9: Tips on how to square up any block, including flying geese, by just using basic Creative Grid Rulers. You don't need specialty rulers to square up your blocks! Learn to use what you already own.

Wool Club Sat Oct 2 4:30-6 \$35 Barb Boyer Ongoing, each 1st Sat of the month

Each month we will do a small seasonal, associated to the month, mini wool hanging. We have a collection of 12 different patterns, and if you buy the entire collection you will get a wooden plaque for displaying each mini every month. We will start on November's mini to make sure you get it done before November gets here. So we will stay only one month ahead, giving you incentive to get each mini done. The patterns are not kitted, but we have plenty of wool for sale and we also have some extra bits & pieces for some of the small parts that the shop will contribute to the cause.

NOTE: Pictures of the quilts are in the Fall Newsletter Class description newsletter. I will begin to incorporate them into this newsletter, but I will wait until next week.

November Classes

Pumpkin Patch wall hanging/throw Sat Nov 6 (1-4) & 13 (1-5) \$35 Barb Boyer

This cute quilt is made using the "Buggy Barn" technique, now called the One Sister technique. Fabrics are stacked, slashed, & re sewn, mixing the fabric so that each block uses the same fabric but in different positions: Pumpkin, star, background, stem. The challenge in this particular quilt is to group your colors into big and little pumpkins. Which is why we are allowing two sessions for this quilt, just in case.

Trip Around the World Thursday (Veterans' Day) Nov 11 10:30-6 \$35 Barb Boyer

This stripped quilt is made with In The Beginning precut strips. We have 4 kits only. But You can make this quilt with your own fabrics, cut into 2 1/2" strips. The class is one day only, but that's all you'll need to understand how to sew the panels and put the quilt together. Finish it up quickly and you'll have a beautiful quilt for a Christmas gift.

Krista Moser's Bespoke Stars Sat Nov 20 \$35 Jean Korber

Krista has done it again, designing a compelling new quilt using the Creative Grids 60 degree triangle ruler. If you have not done one of her quilts, sign up early, because she has quite a following who love the quilts and love the class. This quilt is colorful, with white stars centered in the middle of colorful spokes. It's a wonderful first quilt if you have never used the 60 degree triangle ruler.

Pillow Case Party Sun Nov 21 1-4 FREE

Learn a special way to make a "hot dog" or "burrito" pillowcase. I have some quick cutting techniques that will make the pillowcase easy to stitch. All you need for class is fabric for your pillowcase and your machine.

December Classes

Paper Pieced Penguin gift bag Sat Dec 11 1-5 \$35 Barb Boyer

This is a basic paper pieced penguin that goes on the front of a basic bag pattern. But if you've never done paper piecing this is a perfect way to get started. The book has other patterns that you can choose, so if you don't like penguins, you could substitute Santa. This is the cutest gift bag for the holidays and the greatest part! It's reusable!

Ongoing Classes & Clubs

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 will be houses and seasons. Each row will have houses, trees and other "neighborhood" objects. Each house will have a place for a pieced block. Each "row" will be a season: Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. We'll also have a quilt store, school, "village" shops, church, outhouse, dog house, barn - as many as I can squeeze in!

Hand Embroidery Club 2nd Sat. of the month, 10-noon FREE Kathy Sconce

Note: January class will be held on the third Saturday

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CLUBS

HAND EMBROIDERY CLUB FREE!

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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 a while. You can get advice & suggestions from your fellow quilters and share your experiences about your projects.

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 Bafghan, scarf, bag, etc.

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.

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: June 24, July 23, August 27

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:

November -- flannels; December -- red

Nolting Quilting Machines



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 programmable stitch regulation. You can stitch in 4 different stitch modes plus single stitch and needle up/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.

**Normal Shop Hours:
Monday-Saturday 10-6
Sunday 1-5**

**Closed first Sunday of month (and some holidays)
New Hours for Standard Time (starting Nov 7-March 13)**

**Monday-Saturday 10-5, closed Sundays unless a class is scheduled. Then we're open 1-5.
Check the schedule.**

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



