



November 10, 2023

New Hours for Winter Time (starting Nov 5-May 22)

Monday-Saturday 10-5, closed Sundays unless a class is scheduled. Then we're open 1-5. Check the schedule. Note: Beginning Quilting will be held on Sundays Nov 5 and Nov 12, so we'll be open.

It's funny the things we don't know. Or realize.

For example: Dr. Zhivago. Okay, I bet you didn't think I was going that direction.

Well I'm reading the last book on the book list for this year: A book paired with a movie or tv show: same subject or idea, but not the same plot. Meaning, not a book adapted for a tv or movie. This category was hard. There are plenty of books that fall into the category of – if you liked this book (like Game of Thrones or the Hound of the Baskervilles) then you will like these books, and the suggestions will be for other fantasy epics or murder mysteries. And that's not quite the genre. Then there are books on the same subject, just different perspectives but not all of those books have a movie or tv pairing.

So I stumbled onto one called The Secrets We Kept by Lara Prescott. It's the telling of the writing of the novel Dr. Zhivago and how it got published in the United States. So it's all about spies, the world of Russia and the story of Boris Pasternak, author. It's fascinating and I didn't know any of it.

I went to the movie when it came out in December 1965 or 1966, more likely. I think it was shown at the Dundee Theater in Omaha and I went with my mom & dad. This was unusual. My folks didn't go to many movies. They did theater, but not movies so much. The other thing to know is that I was 12. I had just graduated in the last year or so from watching stuff like Lawrence Welk, Sing Along with Mitch and the various "panel" shows, like What's My Line, to more complex and complicated plot shows like Mission Impossible, Man from U.N.C.L.E and other drama shows. What I'm saying is, following a complex plot line was a little tough.

Enter Dr. Zhivago. I couldn't keep the various women straight. Lara vs Tonya, the wife. Various boyfriends and husbands. Bad guys vs good guys. And multiple names for each character. And I remember whispering to my dad on occasion regarding plot developments, asking, Now what the h...is going on. Because I was 12, I didn't phrase it like that, but you get my drift.

But I was impressed with the movie. I'm not sure I understood it at the time (well I know I didn't). I have since watched it again and while I'm impressed with the scenery I still wonder about its significance. I have tried to read the book, but it is not written like the movie. It's not written in any straight forward manner. It has tons of characters who all go by different names, so much so that an excel spread sheet

might actually be helpful. It's also political and understanding Russian politics is, well, you need a master's degree in Russian history just to begin to figure out all the players.

Anyway, the things I didn't know about Dr. Zhivago are detailed in the book, *The Secrets We Kept*. The book had to be smuggled out of Russia, which was done by an Italian publisher. Then it had to be translated into various languages. And then smuggled into America, and again translated.

This was all done by the CIA (the American smuggling), who recognized the propaganda value of the novel. The CIA published 1,000 copies and 365 were distributed by "spies" dressed as nuns at the Vatican Pavilion at the 1958 Brussels World's Fair. If you read between those lines, that means that women (disguised as nuns) were intricately involved in the espionage work to get this book published and in the hands of readers all over the world. Or at least 1,000 English speaking ones.

I mean, who knew?

And that explains a few things. Like why my dad was interested in the movie. Cold War, Russia, Stalin, WWII, WWI. Many of the things he lived through (note: the book takes place mainly around the WWI time period). He was probably aware of the controversy of the book being published outside of Russia, which was highly embarrassing to the powers that were. Newspapers would have recorded the warnings and threats that Pasternak endured from the Russian government, especially after he received the Nobel Prize for literature, which he had to decline, because even then, authors and writers were known to just disappear.

I mean, who knew? I was 12. I didn't know any of that. And it wasn't until I read *The Secrets We Kept*, and then looked up stuff on the internet as a fact check: did that really happen? Because the book, after all, is a fictional account of what happened. Just fascinating.

And all against our current backdrop of whether Putin is alive or dead. So pretty timely, I'd say.

I just may have to read Dr. Zhivago. Maybe it will go on next year's book list under the category original book that inspired the book paired with a movie or tv show: same subject or idea, but not the same plot.

Maybe I'll just make it: Read a Russian author. Less confusing that way.

Christmas (OR Not) Mystery 2023

Large 88" X 105"
Double 70" X 88"

Fabric Requirements

Small Quilt 12 assorted fat quarters. Suggestions for colors: 6 Greens and 6 Reds. Use both patterned fabrics and tone on tones prints. Choose a mix of value: light, medium and dark. Make sure the light prints are darker than your background.

Background: 2 ½ yards

Inner Border: ¾ yard (a little more than you need)

Outer border, cut straight of grain: 2 ¼ yard

Back: 5 ¼ yard (it is the same as the smaller quilt, vertical seam)

Binding: ¾ yard



Large Quilt 20 assorted fat quarters. Suggestions for colors: 10 Greens and 10 Reds. Use both patterned fabrics and tone on tones prints. Choose a mix of value: light, medium and dark. Make sure the light prints are darker than your background.

Background: 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards

Inner Border: $\frac{3}{4}$ yard (a little more than you need)

Outer border, cut straight of grain: 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ yard

Back: 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ yard (it is the same as the smaller quilt, horizontal seam)

Binding: $\frac{3}{4}$ yard

Other color choices:

This quilt works well in two colors, blue & yellow, pink & gray, purple and blue, etc. Make sure that you choose 6 & 6 (blue and yellow) or 10 and 10 (pink and gray). And then vary the value (lights-darks) and the prints (small-large, various prints from florals, dots, stripes, plaids, tone on tones, novelties, etc). Be sure to mix some tone on tone (not busy) prints into the mix. Keep the background light (I don't advise using a dark background). You can use a patterned background as long as it's not too busy. You can also use a light yellow or a light green, for example, as long as the fat quarter choices stand out against the background.

Choosing borders: Your border choices can be picked after the inside of the quilt is finished. Or, you can choose your borders first (as we usually do) and then pick your fat quarters based on the colors in the border.

Step One:

From each fat quarter cut 2 strips **5" X 21"**. Subcut into 5" X 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles. You need 4 from each fat. Keep these together. Then cut 2 strips 2" X 21". You need 24 (40).

From Background:

Cut 12 (20) strips 5" X 42". Subcut into 96 (160) 5" X 5" squares.

Cut 13 (20) strips 2" X 41". Subcut into 2" X 21" segments.

Next week: Sewing!

Step two:

1. Take 4 5" X 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles from your colors and sew a 5" square, on the diagonal, on one end. Pretend you are sewing half of a flying goose. Trim and square to 5" X 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Make 12 (20) sets. Set aside, keeping the sets together. (See (left hand side) pic below)

2. Sew a background 2" X 21" strip to a color 2" X 21" strip to a 2" X 21" background strip. Make 10 (16) panels. (L + D + L) Set aside. Next, sew a color 2" X 21" strip to a background 2" X 21" strip to a color 2" X 21" strip. (D + L + D) (D = dark; L = light)

The panels should measure 5" wide after you have sewn the 3 strips together. Make 10 (16). Set aside. NOTE: you should have some extra color strips left. If you want more color choices for Step 3, make extra panels. You will have to cut some additional background 2" strips.

3. Cut the panels into 2" segments. These should measure 2" X 5". Keep the LDL segments in one bag and the DLD segments in a separate bag.

4. Sew the segments into a 9-patch (see pic below). Square to 5" X 5". Don't worry about color placement, just make things random. It will be fine.

Step 3:

Now sew a background 5" square to a nine patch. Then sew the half flying geese to that unit. See picture for placement. Make 4 of each color set. It will be helpful if you keep the 4 units of the same color of the half flying geese unit together. Remember you made 4 half flying geese units using the same color (Step two: #1) Meaning, you will now have 12 (20) sets of this unit (or 36 (80) units).



Your copy should address 3 key questions: Who am I writing for? (Audience) Why should they care? (Benefit) What do I want them to do here? (Call-to-Action)

Create a great offer by adding words like "free" "personalized" "complimentary" or "customized." A sense of urgency often helps readers take an action, so think about inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining"!

What's New

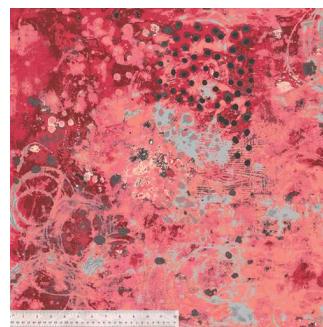
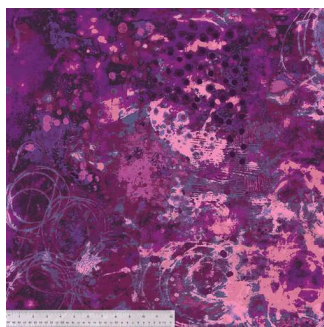
Two new quilts from In the Beginning fabrics will be coming in December and March. On both, I will be taking down payments for preordering the kits. I will have approximate pricing in a couple of weeks (freight plays a part in pricing, and that's all over the map these days). If you are interested, let me know. The number of kits are limited to 6, right now.



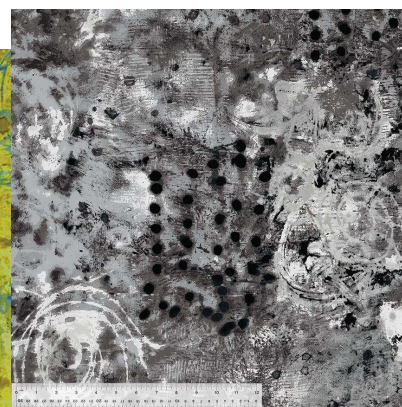
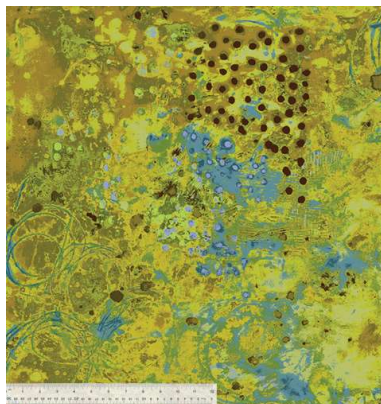
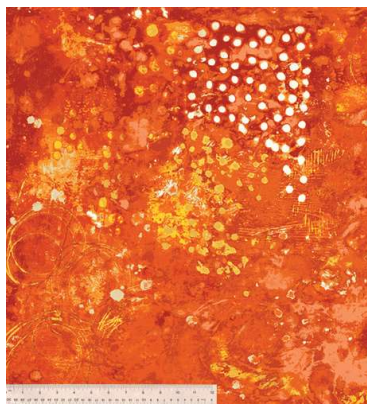
Decoupage, a simple and stunning quilt done with lots of black and white.
87" X 104

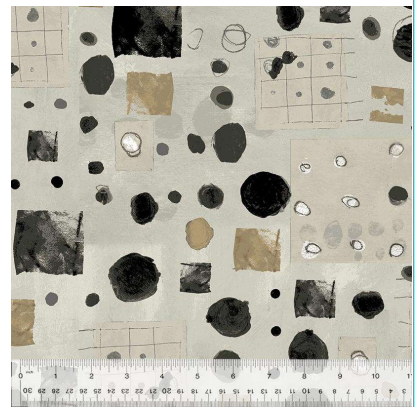
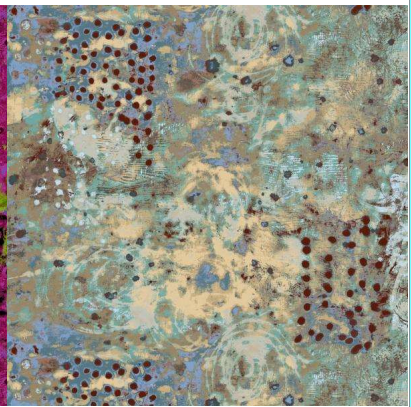
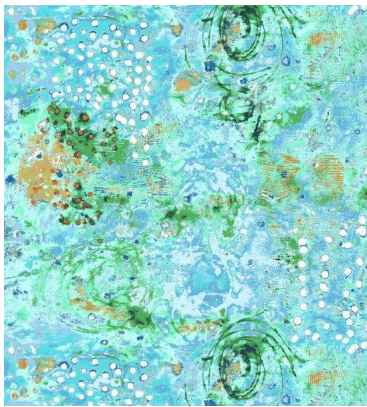
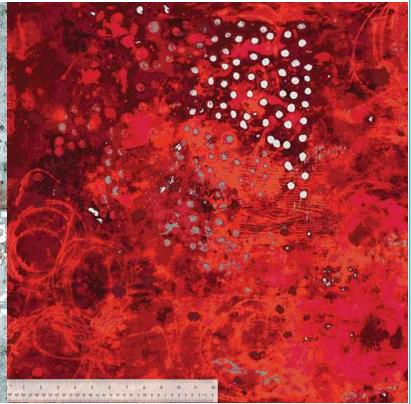
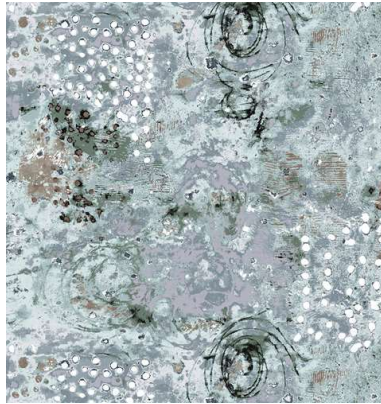
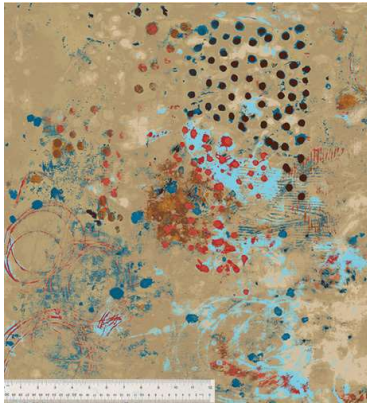


Sew Spring: We will do this as a class, starting in April or May. It will be taught as a "block(s) of the month," over a several month period, going into summer.
85" X 97"



From Windham. Spotted Graffiti





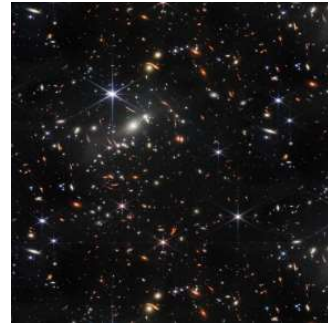
wideback



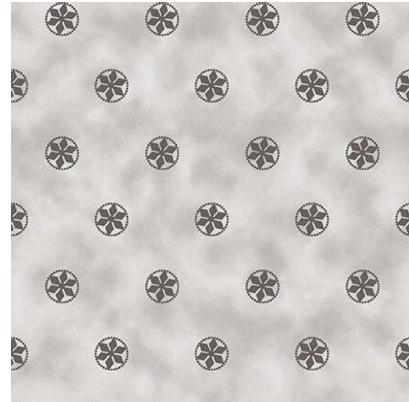
From In the Beginning: These are 13" squares representing each state & its bird and wildflower, and fruits, butterflies, insects, gems



From Kennard & Kennard



From RJR



From Henry Glass

From Timeless Treasures

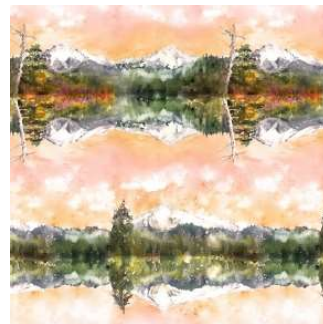




From Alexander Henry



We got in 9 new batiks, but I can't grab the thumbnails to show you, other than the 10" square pack.

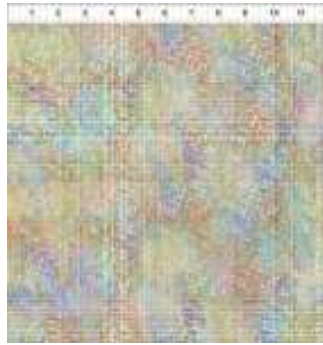


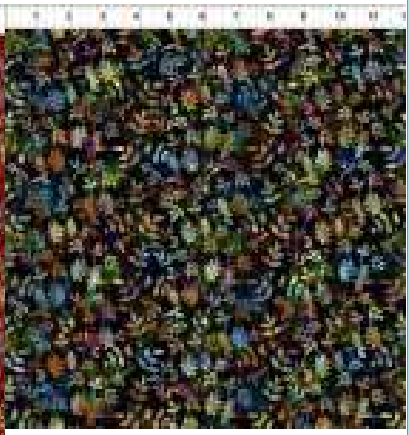


From RJR

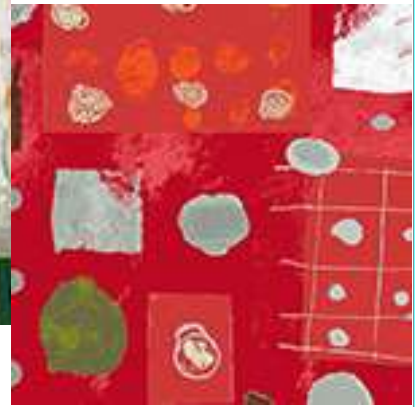
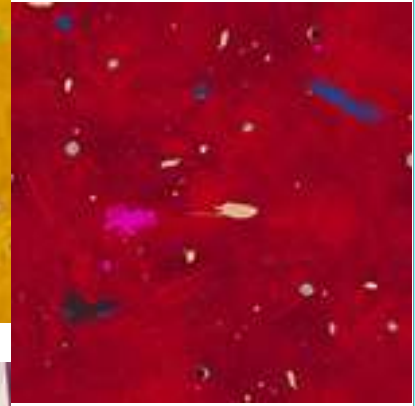
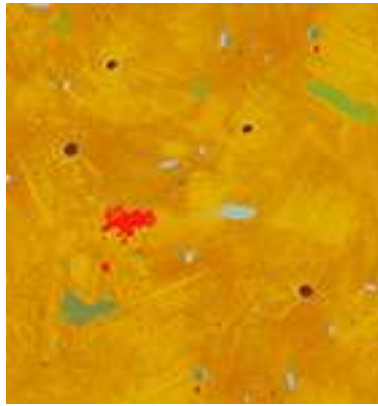


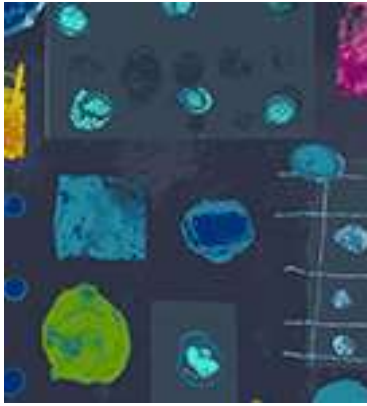
From In the Beginning: Once we get this kitted, the fabric will be available for sale. **Kits will be cut next week.**





From Windham



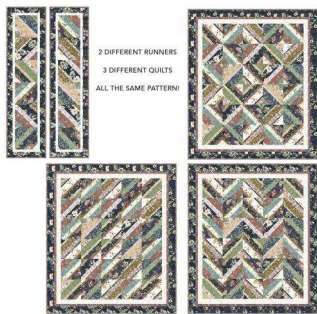


From P & B



From Windham

Fall Newsletter



It's hard to grab pics of everything. I don't have pics of the Trip Around the World, Chit Chat, one of the Happy Haunting. But samples are in

the store. From upper left:
Wildflower Path, Lone Star,
Applique Tree, Happy
Haunting, Bargello, tree skirt.

November Classes

Bargello Saturday Nov 21 10-4 \$40 Jean Korber

Bargello is a form of strip piecing, similar to Trip Around the World, but the panels you make are sliced into different widths, creating a cascading effect of colors.

Fat Quarter Class Quilts Show and Tell Sat Nov 25 11-noon (or longer as needed)

To everyone from this spring's Fat Quarter class: Bring your completed quilts or quilt tops to the shop for a show and tell on shop Small Business Saturday! To everyone else: Come see the quilts and learn what we are going to do in the spring!

Pot Luck Sat Sept 9, Oct 14, Nov 11 \$45 Barb Boyer On going

December Classes

Cathedral Window Ornament Dec 2 1-4 \$25 \$30 Barb Boyer

The Cathedral Window quilt block is a traditional quilt block made with a folded construction technique resulting in a dimensional block. While the block is not complicated, it requires a little time and a little patience. Consequently, we will teach the block as an ornament: You only have to make one and then you can decide if you want to make an entire quilt. These are spectacular quilts, meant to mimic the stained glass windows in churches.

Wildflower Paths Saturday Dec 9 1-5 \$30 Barb Boyer

This quilt may look hard, but it's the fabric that makes the stripes! So there is no piecing to make the individual blocks. This is another free pattern. If you need a quick Christmas gift, this would be it.

Attic Window Sat Dec 16 10:30-4 Barb Boyer \$40

This quilt is another Jason Yenter showcase quilt! I've called it Attic Window, because the main block is the traditional attic window block. We will use the Marvelous Miters method of making the block (easiest way to make accurate attic window blocks), and then I'll show you an easy way to make the circles so you will have no raw edges. The circles will then be appliqued using invisible thread (if you want to) and a blind hem stitch on your machine.

November 2023

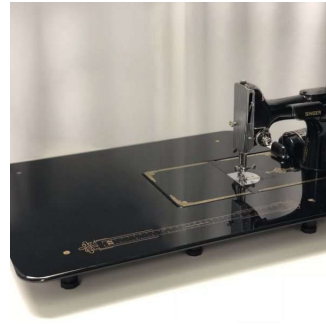
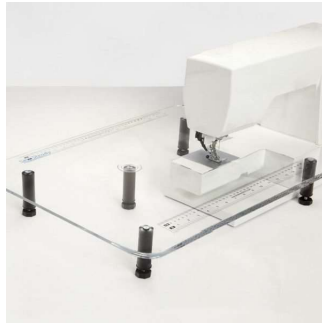
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Long Arm class 10:30	2 Long Arm Rental Day	3	4 BOM 10:30 Finish your quilt sale: 20% off backings, bindings and <u>battings</u> Tree Skirt 1-4 <u>\$30</u>
5 Beginning Quilting 1- 4 \$65	6	7 Hand work Club 2-5	8 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	9 Long Arm Rental Day	10	11 Embroidery Club 10-noon Potluck
12 CLOSED	13	14 Hand work Club 2-5	15 Long Arm class 10:30	16 Long Arm Rental Day	17	18 Bargello 10:30-4 <u>\$40</u>

19	20	21	22	23	24	25
CLOSED		Hand work Club 2-5	Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	CLOSED Thanksgiving	Black Friday Sale	Shop Small Business Sale TBA Show & Tell Fat Quarter Class Quilts 11-noon
26	27	28	29	30		
CLOSED	Full moon	Hand work Club 2-5	Long Arm class 10:30	Long Arm Rental Day		Color of the month: Flowers

December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
Color of the month: red						BOM 10:30 Finish your quilt sale: 20% off backings, bindings and <u>battings</u> Cathedral Window Ornament 1-4 <u>\$25</u>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
CLOSED		Hand work Club 2-5	Long Arm class 10:30	Long Arm Rental Day Long Arm Rental Day		Embroidery Club 10-noon Wildflower Path 1-5 <u>\$30</u>

10 CLOSED	11	12 Hand work Club 2-5	13 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	14 Long Arm Rental Day	15	16 Attic Window 10-4 <u>\$40</u>
17 CLOSED	18	19 Hand work Club 2-5	20 Long Arm class 10:30	21 Long Arm Rental Day	22	23
24 CLOSED	25 CLOSED	26 Hand work Club 2-5 Full moon	27 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	28	29 Customer Appreciation Pre Sale for Toad toters 10-5	30 Customer Appreciation <u>Sale 10-3</u>
31 CLOSED						



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.

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

Closed first Sunday of month (and some holidays)

New Hours for Winter Time (starting Nov 5-May 22)

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



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