

January 12, 2024

"So are you lonely?" Becca asked me.

"How can I be lonely?" I told her. "I live with you. And a cat. And another dog."

"The cat doesn't count," Becca said. "And Cassidy is blind, deaf and doesn't smell much anymore. She only knows you're around when you trip over her." Becca, for those of you new to the post, is my mini Australian shepherd. She watches out for herself, so her concern for me isn't touching. It's suspicious.

"Well, you count, don't you?" I asked her.

"You're talking to a dog," Becca reminded me. She had a point.

"No, I am not lonely," I told her. "Why the sudden interest in my mental health?"

"Well, you live by yourself," she said, as though it was obvious.

"And I love it," I told her. "I'm a basic introvert, which has taken me some 50 years to figure out. But it explains my likes and dislikes, my habits, and patterns of activity."

"Patterns of activity?" Becca snorted. "You sound like a research paper or a technical journal."

"Okay. I mean I've joined a few clubs over the years, like reading, dog and quilting. I sing in various choirs. I've been a volunteer for over the years. I get out & about without resorting to drinking in bars to find company. Not that there's anything wrong with that."

"Well, Britain appointed a Minister of Loneliness about 4 years ago," Becca said, "to help their citizens combat loneliness during the pandemic and have kept it up." Ah, this explains it. She's been listening to NPR recently. It had a broadcast relating to loneliness in America and what communities could do to help their neighbors.

"That's right, Becca. Britain has been funding local communities that help people connect with others through projects and activities. And, as only the British can do, they have a new service that people can use when they're feeling lonely. They can simply message 07902 922 908 on the app to access information and resources from various organizations."

"Wait a minute," Becca interrupted. "Someone who's lonely has to remember an 11 digit number to call? Why not make it easy and just dial 'lonelyheart' or some other acronym that's easier to remember?"

"Like I said, British. We tend to do things like 1-800-Cookies or 1-800 Flowers, or..."

"1-800-Lawyers," Becca chimed in.

"Yup," I said. "But at least Britain is really focusing on the problem and investing money and effort into helping local communities. Our Surgeon General put out an advisory back in May, suggesting that about half of American adults experience loneliness, which can result in serious health issues. Much of the blame is placed on social media, which has taken the place of in person social interaction over the last couple of decades."

"Well, is he suggesting we throw money at the problem?" Becca asked.

"Not exactly. The report suggested doing 6 things:

1. Strengthening social infrastructure, which includes things like parks and libraries as well as public programs.

2. Enacting pro-connection public policies at every level of government, including things like accessible public transportation or paid family leave.

- 3. Mobilizing the health sector to address the medical needs that stem from loneliness.
- 4. Reforming digital environments to "critically evaluate our relationship with technology."
- 5. Deepening our knowledge through more robust research into the issue.
- 6. Cultivating a culture of connection.

"Okay, that's not much better than "Message 07902 922 908 if you need help," Becca said.

"It does require a little translation," I agreed. "But I suspect it just means that we know what we should probably be doing, but not how to go about it."

"So what are you going to do about it?" she asked. "I don't see you going around, knocking on doors, asking if somebody's lonely and do they want a complete stranger to come into their house just to talk."

"Yeah, that could be dangerous out here. It's interesting that some of the solutions are definitely geared to more urban locales, where you tend to live on top of each other. Like Japan, which also has an extreme loneliness issue, and it is one of the most densely populated countries in the world. Japan also appointed a 'loneliness' minister, following Britain's lead. But doing something about the problem requires understanding why it exists in the first place."

"Well, in some ways it doesn't matter why it exists; it matters more what you can do about it." She's got a point. She usually does. "So what are you going to do about it," Becca insisted.

"Well, fortunately, I own a quilt store," I told her. "Activities are one of the things that helps cut through the isolation. If you are a stay at home person, for any reason, taking a quilting class plops you right in the middle of social interaction. I've seen people meet in a class and then take it on the go, going to lunch, going on a road trip to another quilt store, meeting at the Botanical Gardens to sew or knit, going to each other's houses to sew."

"But how do you talk someone who is lonely to take a class?" Becca asked. Another good point.

"I've seen one quilter reach out to a friend, or a relative, and talk them into taking a class together. And it's not just paying for classes. We have free classes for hand sewers, embroiderers, knitters, crocheters. I love it when we have lots of people in class, laughing and sewing. It's a bright part of my day."

"I thought you said you were an introvert," Becca said.

"And then I go home where I just have you to keep me company," I said. "I love it. But it is hard to reach out to people, sometimes. I rely on people to want to have that community interaction. My dad taught me about staying in contact. After my mom died, he could have sat at home, reading books and watching football. But I think he knew the danger of becoming isolated. Instead, he had breakfast with the 'boys' (other businessmen he knew) several days a week, he went to plays, he joined bus trips sponsored by some local nuns to go places, he cruised, he had lunch with various friends, and he worked until he was 85. He didn't do much business, but it was a place to go."

"In other words, he had activities," Becca said.

"Yup. Number 1 on our Surgeon General's list is strengthening social infrastructure. He suggests things like parks and libraries and other public programs, but it also includes supporting local businesses from activity places like mine to restaurants. And community activities like Master Gardening programs, volunteering at places like Youth Alternatives, singing in a community choir like Capital Chorale, taking classes at LCCC or the city, joining a gym or taking classes from a personal trainer (like Mary's Fitness) learning new activities like fly fishing or fly tying..."

"Or quilting or knitting," Becca interrupted.

"That's right, Becca. But it does take some effort on your part."

"And it helps to have a friend to go with you," she said. And she's right again.

So if you're still making your New Year's Resolutions, maybe think about learning something new this year and take a friend with you.

2024 Calendar!

I'll be adding the making Your Own Journal class again on April 25.

Decoupage Kits are now ready. We have kitted four, and can make up 2 more, if needed. Kits are \$140. Class is on Feb. 17. Kits are held back for class members for now.

Spring 2024 Challenge

Buy a scrap bag (or more than one), make a quilt (top is sufficient), and bring the top to the store by JUNE 1--come to the Free block of the Month to show it, if you want. Your name will go into a drawing for a \$100 gift certificate! For each scrap bag you buy, you can enter another quilt. 3 bags, 3 quilts. 1 bag, only 1 quilt. You can also mix and match the bags, so you can buy multiple bags, swap the fabrics back & forth and make as many quilts as you buy bags. Minimum size on the quilts is 50" X 60". You can add any other fabrics to the mix as you like, but you must use some of the scraps from the bag in your quilt.

We will take a picture of you and your bag(s) when you buy so we can at least spot a couple of the scrap fabrics in your quilt. Any quilt you make counts, even quilts you make in class. Just be sure to remember which fabrics came out of the scrap bags, in case you're asked.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------------|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--------|--|
| | 1 New Year's Day CLOSED | 2 Hand work Club 2-5 | 3 Long Arm class 10:30 | 4 Long Arm Rental Day | 5 | 6 BOM 10:30 <u>Wild Flower</u> Quilt 1-5 |
| 7 CLOSED | 8 | 9 Hand work Club 2-5 | 10 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5 | 11 Long Arm Rental Day | 12 |] 3 Embroidery Club 10-noon Machine Binding 1-4 |
| 14 CLOSED | 15 M L King Day Let's Make Flying Geese! 10:30-4 | 16 Hand work Club 2-5 | 17 Long Arm class 10:30 | 18 Long Arm Rental Day | 19 | 20 Strip Quilts 10:30-4 |
| 21 Closed | 22 | 23 Hand work Club 2-5 | 24 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5 | 25 Long Arm Rental Day Full Moon | 26 | 27 Stack & Whack Quilt 10:30-4 |
| 28 Closed | 29 | 30 Hand work Club 2-5 | 31 | | | Color of the month: Purple |

| | | FEB | RUARY 2 | 024 | | |
|------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------|---|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | | | | l Long Arm Rental Day | 2 | BOM 10:30 Travel Duffe Bag 1-4 |
| 4 Beginning Quilt 1-4 | 5 | 6 Hand work Club 2-5 | 7 Long Arm class 10:30 | 8 Long Arm Rental Day | 9 |) (Embroidery Club 10-noon Tula Pink Butterfly Quilt 1-4 |
| Beginning Quilt 1-4 | 12 | 13 Hand work Club 2-5 | 14 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5 | 15 Long Arm Rental Day | 16 | Decoupage Quilt from In the Beginning 10:30 4 |
| 28 Beginning Quilt 1-4 | 19 Presidents' Day Jelly Roll Basic quilt 10:30-3 | 20 Hand work Club 2-5 | 21 Long Arm class 10:30 | 22 Long Arm Rental Day | 23 | 24 Travel Duffe Bag 10:30-4 Full Moon |
| 25 Beginning Quilt 1-4 | 26 | 27 Hand work Club 2-5 | 28 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5 | 29 Long Arm Rental Day | | Color of the Month: red |

| MARCH 2024 | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------|---|--|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | | |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 | | |
| | | | | | | BOM 10:30 | | |
| | | | | | | Tula Pink Butterfly Quilt 1-5 | | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | | |
| Beginning Ouilt 1-4 | | Hand work Club 2-5 | Long Arm class 10:30 | Long Arm Rental Day | | Embroidery Club 10-noon | | |
| Quint 1 | | 200000 | | | | Disappearing 9- patch 10:30-4 | | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | | |
| Beginning Quilt 1-4 | | Hand work Club 2-5 | Knit Pickers' Club 2-5 | Long Arm Rental Day | | National Quilt Day—Demos at noon Strip Quilts 10:30-4 | | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | | |
| Beginning Quilt 1-4 | | Hand work Club 2-5 | Long Arm class 10:30 | Long Arm Rental Day | | Hunter Star Quilt 10:30-4 | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |
| Beginning Quilt 1-4 | Full Moon | Hand work Club 2-5 | Knit Pickers' Club 2-5 | Long Arm Rental Day | Good Friday | Scrappy Bear Paw 10:30-4 | | |
| 31 | | | | | ~ | | | |
| Easter Sunday | | | | | | Color of the | | |
| CLOSED | | | | | | month: green | | |

| APRIL 2024 | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--------|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------|--|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | |
| | 1 | 2 Hand work Club 2-5 | 3 Long Arm class 10:30 | 4 Long Arm Rental Day | 5 | EOM 10:30 Machine Binding 1-4 | |
| 7 CLOSED | 8 | 9 Hand work Club 2-5 | 10 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5 | 11 Long Arm Rental Day | 12 | Embroidery Club 10-noon Disappearing Triangle Quilt 1-5 | |
| 14 CLOSED | 15 | 16 Hand work Club 2-5 | 17 Long Arm class 10:30 | 18 Long Arm Rental Day | 19 | 20 Alligator Alley Quilt 10:30-4 | |
| 21 closed | 22 | 23 Hand work Club 2-5 Full Moon | 24 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5 | 25 Long Arm Rental Day | 26 | 27 Big Foot Quilt 10:30-4 | |
| 28 closed | 29 | 30 Hand work Club 2-5 | | | | Color of the month: yellow | |

| MAY 2024 | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|---|--|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | | |
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | |
| | | | Long Arm class 10:30 | Long Arm Rental Day | | BOM 10:30 T-shirt Quilt Part 1 1-5 | | |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | | |
| CLOSED | | Hand work Club 2-5 | Knit Pickers' Club 2-5 | Long Arm Rental Day | | Embroidery Club 10-noon T-shirt Quilt Part II 1-5 | | |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | | |
| CLOSED | | Hand work Club 2-5 | Long Arm class 10:30 | Long Arm Rental Day | | Strip Quilts 10:30-4 | | |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | | |
| CLOSED | [²] (Ctrl) ▼ | Hand work Club 2-5 | Knit Pickers' Club 2-5 | Long Arm Rental Day Full Moon | | Kirista Moser Weekend: Flutterby Frolic: Krista Moser Quilt 10:30-4 | | |
| 26 Krista Moser weekend 1-5 | 27 Krista Moser weekend 10:30-5 | 28 | 29 | 30 Long Arm Rental Day | 31 | Color of the month whites | | |

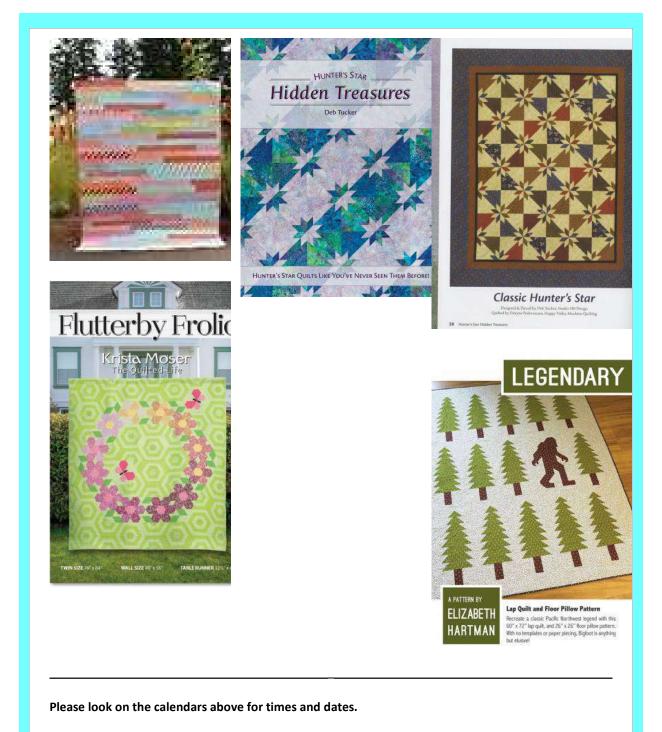
l-r Alligator Alley; Decoupage; Wildflower; Stack n' Whack; Travel Duffle; Butterfly; Jelly Roll Race Quilt; Disappearing 9-Patch; Disappearing Triangles; Flutterby; Hunter's Star; Big Foot



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







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 ... come in January and find out! 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, which are sheep! From Crabapple Hill

Knit Pickers' Club 2nd and 4th Wed of each month, 2-5 Carol Moler

Come join our Knit Pickers= Club. We knit 2 days a month every second and fourth Wednesday, from 2-5. The Club is open to all skill levels and, despite the name, includes crocheters as well. 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. We can even help you get started—teach you the basics.

Hand Sewing Club every Tuesday afternoon 2-5

This club is open to everyone. Bring your hand sewing (embroidery, binding, knitting, crochet, etc) and sit & stitch.

January classes

Machine Binding Sat Jan 13 1-4 \$45 Jean Korber

This is hands on class. You will need a small project (10" to 40", table runner, small wall hanging, place mat, etc) that is quilted and ready for binding. In class Jean will show you how to cut your binding, press it, and stitch it down (DO NOT CUT YOUR BINDING IN ADVANCE), how to stitch it down & miter the corners and then how to apply decorative stitches to the edge. In class you will cut your binding, stitch it to your project, miter your corners and then stitch it down by machine on the other side, using decorative stitches.

Let's Make Flying Geese! Mon Jan 15, 10:30-4 \$30 Barb Boyer

We'll work with the Creative Grid flying goose ruler to make all of the flying geese quickly. You can choose your size. I have several patterns that are flying geese friendly, to help you decide which size goose to make. Or, make several different sizes and create your own design. The class is intended to teach you how to use the ruler and how to square up your geese. You can make up to 200 geese in just a few hours! Yes you can!

Let's Strip! Quilts Sat Jan 20; March 16; May 18; July 20; Sept 21 and Nov 16 10:30-4 or 5 Jean Korber and Barb Boyer \$130

6 quilts, 1 book, every other month, 1 price for all 6 classes. (or \$35/class if you pick & choose). We did this last year, using one book and fat quarters, and the quilts were amazing. So we're trying it again, this time using 2 ½" strips. Each class will employ different techniques, and we sometimes change things up a little. We want you to learn something new in each class. The book is Striking Strip Quilts by Kate Henderson. You'll have to find the book on line, as it is no longer being published. If you have trouble finding it, let me know. January's quilt is called Summer Holiday; March is Tulip Patch; May is Day Dream; July is Twinkle Twinkle; September is By the Sea Shore; and November is Heading Home (which uses a lot of flying geese so if you want a jump start on the quilt, come to the Let's Make flying Geese class on Jan 15).

Stack n' Whack Jan 27 10:30-4 \$45 Barb Boyer

Stack n' Whack quilts are similar to one block wonder panel quilts, except they don't use a panel and you need 8 repeats, not 6. We will make the traditional quilt, which uses half square triangles to form kaleidoscope patterns. Half of your fabric will be used for the blocks and the other half will be used for the borders. These quilts look great when you use novelty fabrics with an 18-24" repeat.

February Classes

Beginning Quilting 8 weeks \$65 Barb Boyer Starting Sun Feb 4

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.

Travel Duffel Bag Sat Feb 3, 1-4 AND Sat Feb 24 10:30-4 \$50 Jean Korber

This is a bag you can slip over the handles of your roll along luggage. Perfect for traveling, perfect for traveling to class with your sewing machine on a roll along cart. The class has 2 parts: first preparing your fabric and figuring out the pattern—Jean will tell you what parts need to be constructed before you put the bag together. The second class will be assembling the bag, adding pockets, learning to put in zippers. She's also made a few modifications, of course, and she'll explain how to do all of that.

Tula Pink's Butterfly Quilt Sat Feb 10 and Sat Mar 2 1:00-4 Cindy Hamann \$45

The pattern is essentially a sampler quilt made of many different traditional quilt blocks arranged into a giant butterfly centered on a graphic chevron body. The new revised pattern has been updated and expanded to include a complete fabric guide to replicate the cover quilt. This is a great patchwork technique builder incorporating strips, triangles and curves to create a dynamic quilt top.

Decoupage, an In the Beginning Quilt Sat Feb 17 10:30-4 Barb Boyer \$40

This is another kitted quilt class. The quilt is structured with a large square panel in the middle, black and white squares in the corner triangles and a large 10" border strip. The black and white design enhances the brightly colored flowers for which In the Beginning Fabrics are known. The class will teach you how to square the inside panel, add pieced corners to the panel and then how to miter the outer border.

Let's Roll for President's Day! Mon Feb 19 10:30-4 \$40

A classic "Jelly Roll" (race) quilt, although we won't race and you can use any 2 ½" strip collection you like, including cutting your own (we have the AccuCutter dies for 2 ½" strips). If you've never done the "race" quilt, it's fun, quick and surprisingly stunning. You will need 42-48 strips (no more) for the class. We will also introduce some other "blocks" to add into your quilt to make it even more fun and unique.

March Classes

Tula Pink's Butterfly Quilt Sat Feb 10 and Sat Mar 2 1:00-4 Cindy Hamann \$45 ongoing

Disappearing 9-Patch Sat Mar 9 1-4 \$35

An oldie but a goodie! This quilt uses 5" squares (the more squares you have, the bigger the quilt, your choice). The basic concept is to make 9-patches, cut them apart & sew them back together to make a unique design. If you need a quick quilt for a graduation present, this quilt is perfect.

Let's Strip! Quilts Sat March 16; May 18; July 20; Sept 21 and Nov 16 10:30-4 or 5 Jean Korber and Barb Boyer \$130

March's quilt is Tulip Patch. You will need 25 assorted green strips for stems and 25 assorted strips for the tulips, plus background (and borders, if you want them). This quilt teaches different ways to use the 45 degree flip method for making flying geese-styled blocks.

Hunter Star Sat Mar 23 10:30-4 \$40 Barb Boyer

The classic Hunter Star quilt is made simple by using Deb Tucker's Rapid Fire Star ruler. The book, Hidden Treasures, has all sorts of ideas for settings and color choices for your Hunter Star. The quilt is simple and elegant and is one of those classic quilts you need to make.

Scrappy Bear Paw Sat Mar 30 10:30-4 \$40 Barb Boyer

Another classic pattern is the Bear's Paw. This pattern was one of the first quilts I really wanted to make. 40 years later, mine is done—the top at least. In class we will talk about various ways to set the Bear's Paw and you'll also get the "Wyoming Bear's Paw" block, which is a bear's par inside a bear's paw. Very cool.

NATIONAL QUILT DAY SATURDAY MARCH 16 DEMOS AT NOON

We will have a special sale for National Quilt Day and I'll be demonstrating how to make mitered borders the easy way. The only way. We may have some other demos and activities going on, TBA.

April Classes

Machine Binding Sat April 6 1-4 \$45 Jean Korber

This is hands on class. You will need a small project (10" to 40", table runner, small wall hanging, place mat, etc) that is quilted and ready for binding. In class Jean will show you how to cut your binding, press it, and stitch it down (DO NOT CUT YOUR BINDING IN ADVANCE), how to stitch it down & miter the corners and then how to apply decorative stitches to the edge. In class you will cut your binding, stitch it to your project, miter your corners and then stitch it down by machine on the other side, using decorative stitches.

Disappearing Triangle Quilt Sat April 13 1-4 \$35 Barb Boyer

This quilt is similar to the Disappearing 9-patch, but it takes the concept to a new level. This is another of the 9-patch, cut apart & put back together quilt, but it adds a triangle feature, that when made with bright colors is spectacular!

Alligator Alley Sat April 20 10:30-4 \$40 Jean Korber

This simple triangle quilt can be cut and sewn in a day. Okay, maybe not a day, but it is easy and yet looks complicated. We have some very cool fabric that we are holding back for class members—if you are interested in using this fabric, let me know IMMEDIATELY! We have limited quantities and we're only selling it to class members. But the cool thing about this quilt, is you can use any fun fabric you like and you'll get a gorgeous quilt.

Big Foot Quilt—Yeti by any other name Sat April 27 10:30-4 \$45 Jean Korber

This is an Elizabeth Hartman quilt. With luck, we will have some more Big Foot fabric in the store by class time, but right now we have some great background fabrics that will make your trees and Big Foot look like they are in the middle of a forest. Of all the Elizabeth Hartman quilts, this is one of the easiest. And if you want more Big Feets Big Foots? in your quilt, you can add extra. You can also make them all different colors, because, after all, they are magical.

May Classes

T-Shirt Quilt Sat May 4 & 11 1-4 \$45 Barb Boyer

So you've got all these t-shirts and want to turn them into a quilt? It's easy, but you need the right tools. The class is taught in 2 parts: First, preparing your t-shirts, and second, designing your top—which is where I come in, because I can help with all of the math that might be involved.

Let's Strip! Quilts Sat May 18; July 20; Sept 21 and Nov 16 10:30-4 or 5 Jean Korber and Barb Boyer \$130

May's quilt is Daydream, which is essentially a form of a spiderweb quilt. The blocks are made from triangles cut from strip set panels. By making more stripped panels you can make the quilt as big as you like. This is a great way to use up scraps, even ones that aren't 42" wide.

Krita Moser weekend, with a Flutterby Focus! Sat-Mon May 25-27 Jean Korber and Barb Boyer Saturday class only \$45, full weekend \$125

This is an all things Krista Moser weekend. Saturday, Jean will teach the quilt Flutterby. Then you can leave your machines and come back Sunday afternoon (and we can talk about this, if you want to come earlier) and Monday for all or part day sewing. Jean will be here for select times if you need to ask her specific questions about any Krista Moser quilt you are working on. Otherwise, treat the weekend like a retreat, where you get to sew all day, at a quilt store (with handy products available) and excellent support for all your questions. We don't offer many retreat weekends, so take advantage of this holiday opportunity.

CLUBS

HAND EMBROIDERY CLUBBFREE!

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.

Hand Work ClubBFREE!

Every Tuesday afternoon from 2-5, 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). 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 2-5.

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: January 25; February 24; March 25; April 23; May 23

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

New Fabric



From Clothworks





These are 2 1/2" strips and 10" squares



Strips





From Timeless Treasures: 10" Squares



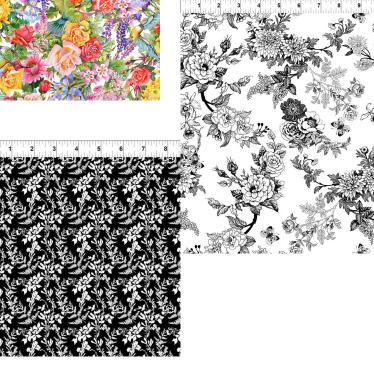
From Marcus Bros



In the Beginning









From Windham the mutli-colored tumbnail is a fat quarter bundle

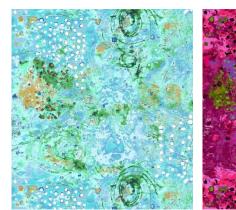
















wideback



From Kennard & Kennard







From RJR







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 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.

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



Around the Block | 453 Vandehie Suite 120, Cheyenne, WY 82009

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