



Around the Block  
QUILT SHOP

March 1, 2024

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Did you feel it this morning? Could you tell?

It's not quite like a daylight saving time shift of an hour, which is coming up on March 10, it's a shift of a whole day.

Didn't feel it, did you. Weird, huh. Hour shifts just result in more or less sleep, which is noticeable. Day shifts just result in more or less work. Still noticeable, but not in the same way.

So why do we leap? Well, you all know why. Our planet doesn't orbit in a standard 365day/24hour kind of way. It's about 6 hours longer per year. Which is enough that if we didn't add days, and even seconds occasionally, Easter would wind up at Christmas. Eventually. Not in your lifetime, but your grand kids, maybe. And no one wants to hunt Easter Eggs in the snow.

Although, around here, the Easter Egg hunts and the Easter Beer hunts were usually conducted in snow. Great places to hide beer: snow drifts. But those are other stories.

Fortunately, we figured this out long ago. We, being figuratively. Figurative? Whatever, meaning, not me. So we add a day every 4 years to smooth out the calendar. Except we don't do it every 4 years. Do you remember 1900? Probably not. There was no leap year that year. But there was one in 2000.

Calendars in the old days – think Bronze Age, and if you can't think that far back that was 2000-1500 B.C. –were a mix of lunar and solar phases. You harvest when the moon is big and full and it's colder and you plant when the moon is big and full and it's warmer. I won't say it's simple, but how hard is it to grow a tomato? Don't answer that.

Anyway, civilization progresses and a better way of keeping track of days was needed. Enter Julius Caesar. He was dealing with calendar drift calendars that added extra months, not just days, to the year. Think about that for a sec. Today it's March 1. You have plans to go see your family on March 15. And then tomorrow is June 2. You can't plan family reunions, major battles or major invasions with that kind of a system.

Caesar had other problems as well. March 1 might have been February 12 in Britain and June 13 in Egypt. I'm making up those dates, but he ruled a vast empire, over many time zones, and, apparently, many different calendars.

So he came up with a calendar and named it after himself: The Julian calendar. We still use it. Well not all of us any more. Keep reading. It was based upon tracking the earth's orbit around the sun, which was 365.25 days – and he knew that then. It was, after all, 46 B.C. So he came up with the idea of adding extra days every now and then to compensate. Genius. Prior to that, the Romans calculated the year at 355 days, based on the lunar year. Keep reading. You can see how you could never calculate when Easter was, when the calendar shifted by 10 days a year, according to the sun.

Not that they had Easter worries in 46 B.C. Easter didn't show up until 87 years later, depending on your calendar. Although that is also not technically accurate. The first Easter ever recorded dates from the 2<sup>nd</sup> century A.D., or in the 101 years+. But exactly when Easter was to be observed didn't get straightened out until the 8<sup>th</sup> century, or some 600 years later. And then and still, it all depends on who is doing the calculating and what calendar is being used.

So there is an Eastern and Western difference of opinion around this. The dispute is called the Paschal controversies and Passover now gets wrapped up in all of this. Plus the moon. In Asia Minor (think Turkey), on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the first full moon of spring (Nissan), Passover was celebrated. The crucifixion was observed on the same day and then 2 days later, Easter, regardless of the day of the week.

In the West, Easter always happened on a Sunday, the first Sunday after the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the month of Nissan (Jewish calendar, the month of the first full moon of spring). Also, to be clear, today Passover starts on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of Nissan, even though the Torah states it's on the 14<sup>th</sup> day. There's a big explanation for that. But let's not get any more sidetracked than we already are.

Now, you may be wondering, when exactly is spring, as all of this is based around the first full moon in spring. In 325 the Council of Nicaea, which was the Council on all things Christian, decided that spring was officially when the spring equinox occurred, so Easter then fell on the first Sunday after that, thus becoming a revolving date that no one can remember without consulting a calendar.

And the calendar that was used by the Council (or the West) was the Gregorian calendar. The East used approximately the same calculations for dates, but used the Julian calendar, which is 13 days ahead of the Gregorian. And in case you're wondering, the West and the East still celebrate Easter 13 days apart. Maybe more. Maybe less.

And that's because Julius Caesar's calendar still had drift. His calendar had 0.0078 extra days, or 11 minutes and 14 seconds. And it mattered to the tomato growers. I'm making that up, but errors still continued to creep into his calendar and it affected the religious calendars.

Enter Pope Gregory XIII. He came up with a new way to keep track of time and dates in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century. The 1500s, if you're keeping track. And he did it because of Easter creep. Easter kept getting later and later in the year and he didn't want Easter to bump up against pagan festivals connected to other solar and lunar events, and he wanted to keep Easter in the spring. So he took out 10 days and added more precise leap year adjustments.

You see, the Earth's orbit isn't precisely 365.25 days. And Pope Gregory's team of math experts figured it out and basically decided when there needed to be a leap year: Every 4 years, but not always every 4 years.

And that's how we got Leap Years, although none of this explains why Leap Year occurs in February. And while it makes sense to add the day to the shortest month, it begs the question of why February is the shortest month. Do you really want to know? Okay, take a deep breath, there is another calendar, an earlier one, called the Roman calendar. It had 10 months in it, 6 months of 30 days and 4 months of 31, to account for the 355 days of the lunar (not solar) year.

The Roman King at the time, Numa Pompilius (700 B.C.), was very superstitious and was afraid of even numbers, including those in the calendar. So he rewrote the calendar, giving all months 29 days. He now had 56 extra days (he rounded the math up so he didn't have 55 days). So then he added 2 more months, January and February, but...the sum of any even amount (12 months) of odd numbers (365) will always equal an even number. So superstitious Numa chose to leave February as an even number of days, and he used February to host Roman rituals honoring the dead. See why Julius Caesar needed a new calendar? But regardless of how, February means the shortest month.

All of this results in weird traditions involving Leap Year. Women can ask men to marry them—okay, think 5<sup>th</sup> century when gender roles were different. In 1916 the American Industrial Bank and Trust Co. advertised, “This being Leap Year day, we suggest to every girl that she propose to her father to open a savings account in her name in our own bank.” Even back then, it was all about the marketing.

Being born on a Leap Day is tough in many ways. Birthdays are often hard: Celebrate once every 4 years or just pick a date closest to the time you were born: Feb 28 or March 1. Same thing goes for the various forms you have to fill out, from insurance, to driver's license, and any other systems that rely on a birth date for tracking purposes. Think of it as a Y2K problem, although technology and better algorithms have smoothed away most of these hassles.

And now, aren't you glad Leap Year is over and that it won't occur for another 4 years? Or that you won't have to read about it for another 4 years?

And we do have a fire burning north of town. It's been burning most of the day and it's not out yet. Stay alert.

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**Delta Kappa Gamma**  
*International Society of Women in Education*

## Used Book Sale

March 2&3 and 9&10

*Sat 2nd 8am to 5pm Sun 3rd 9am to 4pm*  
*Sat 9th 8am to 5pm Sun 10th 9am to 2pm*

In the former Big Lots in Cheyenne Plaza  
3741 East Lincolnway  
(Next to Sportsman's Warehouse)

**Please donate used books:  
January 29 through February 26**

**Collection locations:**  
**Sale site (preferred option) hours are:**  
Daily 9am - 1pm  
Thursdays and Sundays 9am to 4pm

Or drop books at  
**Safeway Both Albertson's**  
**Gold's Gym JAX YMCA**

If very large donation (within 10-mile radius),  
or unable to get to a collection location  
call **630-2026, 630-3682** or **632-8867** for  
appointment. (Leave a message.)  
Books must be boxed, - on porch or in garage.

## 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.

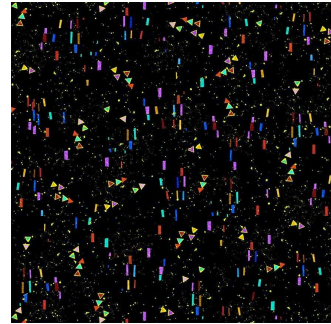
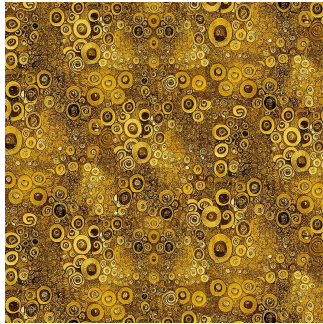
We will take a picture of you and your bag(s) when you buy so we can at least spot a couple of the scrap fabrics in your quilt. Any quilt you make counts, even quilts you make in class. Just be sure to remember which fabrics came out of the scrap bags, in case you're asked.

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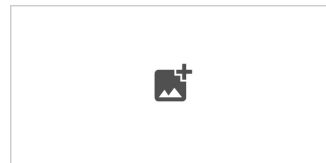
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## New Fabric

Lots of notions from Checker. Rulers, mats, blades, cutters, wool, patterns, chalk markers, purse hardware.

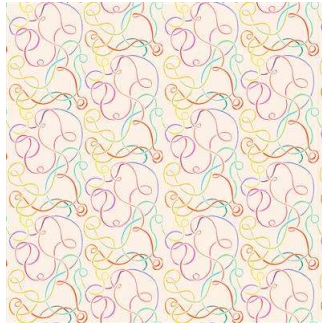


From Timeless Treasures



From Riley Blake

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From Clothworks

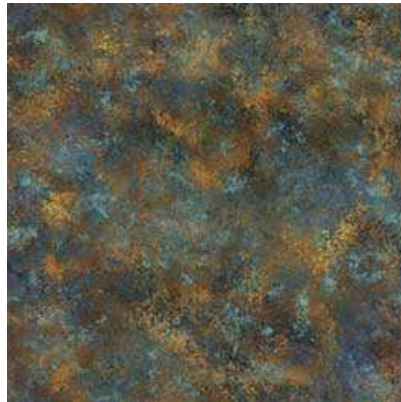


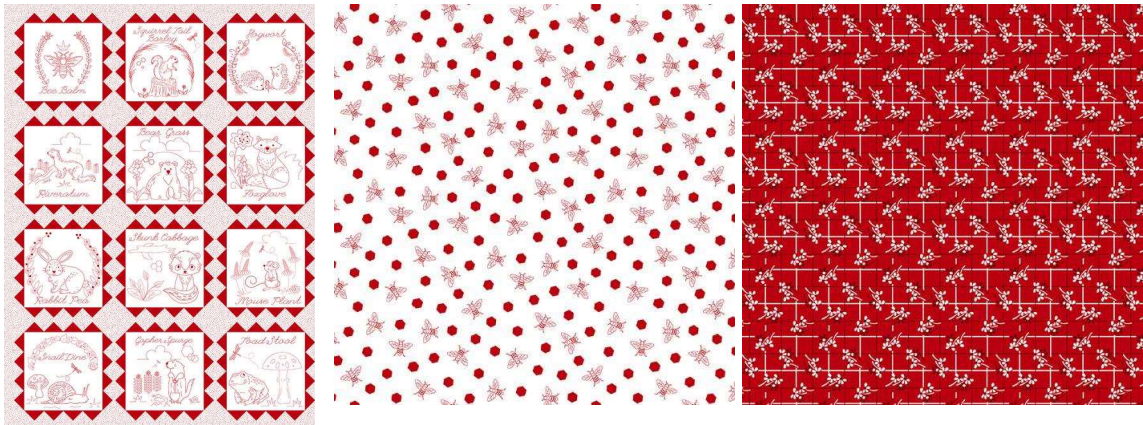
From Hoffman





From Quilting treasures

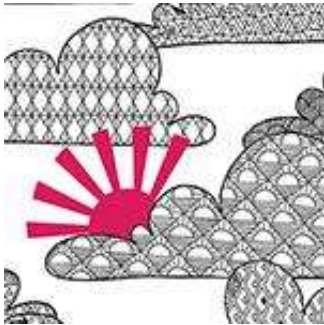




From Studio E



Windham overwide



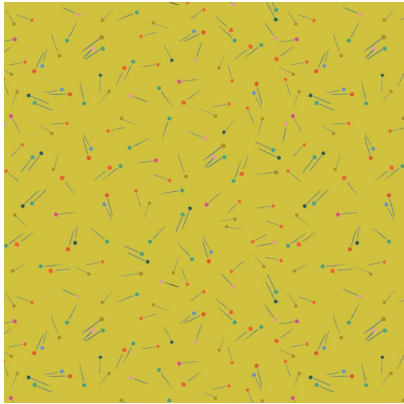
overwide



overwide

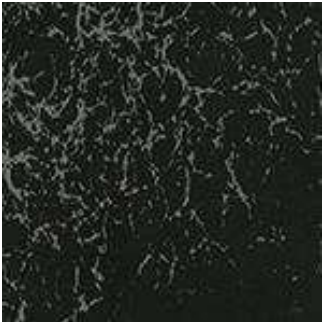






Dashwood

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Windham





Hoffman





Batiks from Anthology

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The Ghastlies from AH



From Clothworks



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



From Timeless Treasures: 2 1/2" Strips



From Timeless Treasures: 10" Squares



From Marcus Bros



In the Beginning





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## Class Notes

### Disappearing 9- patch & Disappearing Triangles Classes

Fabric requirements: Disappearing 9-patch: 53: X 66" (66" X 80" (80" X 8")

Need: 5" squares 48 (80)(100); 'sashing' 1 yard of dark (1 1/2 yard) (2 yds); center (contrast color) 1/2 yd (3/4) (3/4). You can precut everything into 5" squares. You need 48 (80)(100) 5" squares of the dark and 12 (20)(25) squares of the contrast color.

Disappearing Triangles: 40 5: squares of print fabrics & 40 7" squares of various tone on tone fabrics that coordinate with the 5" squares. Also, 1/2 yard of white or background; 1/4 yard black or a contrasting dark fabric. Cut the white and black fabric into 5" squares. Need 24 white squares and 10 black squares.

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## MARCH 2024

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

## APRIL 2024

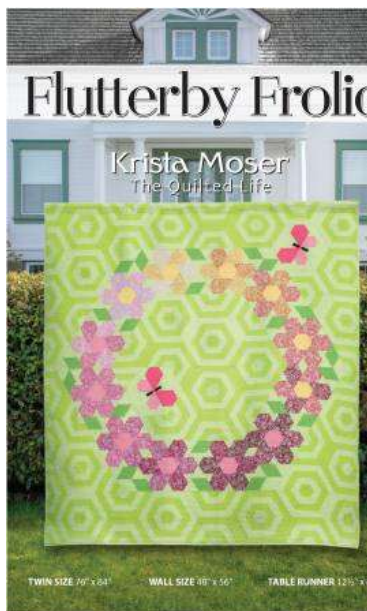
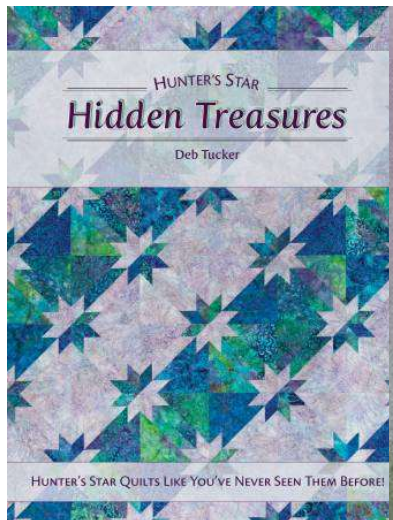
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Hand work Club 2-5	<b>3</b> Long Arm class 10:30	<b>4</b> Long Arm Rental Day	<b>5</b>	6 BOM 10:30 Machine Binding 1-4
7 CLOSED	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Hand work Club 2-5	<b>10</b> Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	<b>11</b> Long Arm Rental Day	<b>12</b>	13 Embroidery Club 10-noon Disappearing Triangle Quilt 1-5
14 CLOSED	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Hand work Club 2-5	<b>17</b> Long Arm class 10:30	<b>18</b> Long Arm Rental Day	<b>19</b>	20 Alligator Alley Quilt 10:30-4
21 CLOSED	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Hand work Club 2-5 Full Moon	<b>24</b> Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	<b>25</b> Long Arm Rental Day	<b>26</b>	27 Big Foot Quilt 10:30-4
28 CLOSED	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Hand work Club 2-5				Color of the month: yellow



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

1-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





Please look on the calendars above for times and dates.

### 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** 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, which are sheep! From Crabapple Hill

**Knit Pickers' Club** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

## 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 paw 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 Feet 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.

### **Krista 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.

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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 2-5, 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.

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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). 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays 2-5.

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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.

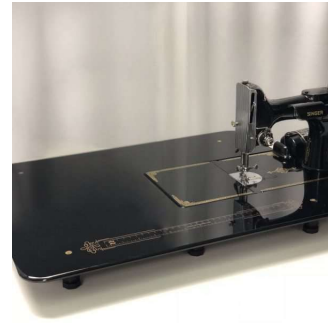
Full Moon Days: January 25; February 24; March 25; April 23; May 23

#### 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**



## 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 needleup/down. It also has an adjustable brightness LED work light. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.

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



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