



March 15, 2024

Special Quilting Demos!
Special Quilting Sales!
All Day Saturday March 16 10-5
Fabric is on sale: 25% off--only fabric we cut from bolts. No precuts, fat quarters, kits or scrap bags.
Books are 25% off

Free Demos starting at NOON-1 p.m.
How to Make a Fabric Box Demonstration!

Boxes for fabric, boxes for yarn, boxes for taxes (nope, nope, nope), boxes for fruit, boxes for gifts. Boxes for just about everything and you can make them in various sizes. Robin will explain the “how to” parts of making boxes and we’ll have handouts for instructions.

How to Make Scrappy Stars Demonstration!

Barb will demo a cute little Creative Grid Ruler that makes stars. This is a quick sew method and the resulting star is one with skinny, pointy points – like the kite construction in a 54-40 or fight block. No math involved. You just need to know the size of the star you want to make. This is a great little tool to help you use up all those scraps in the scrap bags. Limited supplies of the rules, plus some fabric strips to get you going.

“What is this stuff,” Becca asked, coming in from outside and shaking the snow off her coat.

“I know you’re smarter than that,” I told her. “You’re just being sarcastic.”

“Huh?” Becca said, looking innocently at me.

“We’ve had winter storms in March, and April and May,” I reminded her. “Don’t you remember Winter Storm Xylia that dumped 30+ inches in Cheyenne at this time in 2021?”

“Who remembers that far back,” Becca said. “Besides Covid was still an issue. We were staying inside anyway. What’s another couple of days. And who remembers a storm called Xylia, let alone know how to pronounce it. Why did we ever start naming winter storms, anyway?” she asked.

“All good questions, but that’s not what we’re here to talk about,” I told her.

“Well, we can’t talk about National Pie Day, because that was yesterday,” Becca said. “And I didn’t even get any.”

“It was National Pi day,” I told her. “Pi as in 3.14, you know, March 14?”

“I get that, but the date was 3.14.2024 and pi doesn’t continue like that,” she said. “It’s 3.141592653589793238462643383279502884197, and that’s only to 39 places.”

Don’t ask. Just don’t ask how she can remember stuff like that and not remember the gigantic snow storm 3 years ago.

“It’s a joke,” I told her. “A marketing ploy to give everyone an excuse to eat pie, or pizza pie, or anything round that looks like a pie.”

“Cookies?” she asked hopefully.

“If it’s big enough. It’s hard to slice a cookie into a 3.14 slice. Pi, as you know, is the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter,” I told her, wondering if she’d pick up on the thread. She did.

“It’s called an irrational number because it is not equal to the ratio of any two whole numbers, thus the digits never repeat. The Babylonians put a hexagon inside a circle, measured the perimeter of the hexagon and called it close enough to the measurement of the circle,” she said.

“The Egyptians figured it out, too,” she said, “although why I don’t know. They were into triangles not circles. And Archimedes figured it out, too,” she rushed in as I was about to explain the difference between a triangle and a pyramid, “and he gave us a formula to continue to add decimal points, if that’s what you want to do for the rest of your life. At some point, it’s meaningless, right?”

“Well, the extra decimal points might be meaningless to some, but it makes a great way to kill a computer,” I said. “Do you remember the original Star Trek episode that involved the ghost of Jack the Ripper, which was actually a disembodied irrational alien that hopped in and out of real people, over the centuries, continuing its practice of strangling people.”

“Seriously?” Becca said. “That sounds like a plot trope straight out of Poor Things.”

“No, really. The Jack the Ripper irrational alien finally flees into a computer and is threatening to kill everyone on board the Enterprise. And because a computer is rational and governed by logic, Spock asks the computer to calculate pi, an irrational number, to its final number, which can’t be done.”

“And the computer dies while calculating an irrational number, and kills the irrational alien Jack the Ripper in the process before it can escape,” Becca concluded.

“Yeah, something like that.”

“Poor Things,” Becca grumbled.

“We were a lot younger back then,” I sighed. “Plots like that were cool. We didn’t have talking computers back then.”

“But that’s not what you want to talk about, is it?” Becca asked, wisely.

“Nope. It’s hard when you’re in between two important dates, Pi Day and St Patrick’s Day. What to talk about.”

“And the winner is?” Becca said, trying to move this along.

“What movies to watch on St. Patrick’s Day!” I said.

“Well you already went to the theaters to watch *The Quiet Man*, with John Wayne and Maureen O’Hara,” she said.

“And it was great. But I also looked up others, like *Waking Ned*, a comedy about a man who wins the lottery, but get so excited that he dies.”

“Well, that sounds funny,” Becca said dryly.

“No, no. It’s about how the village tries to figure out a way to collect on the ticket.”

“That’s sounds like a scam,” she pointed out.

“It’s funny. Give it a rest. Ones I’ve never seen include *The Field*, a comedy about selling a field to build a factory, *The Van*, about a food truck, the *Intermission* a comedy about a romance break up and a bank robbery, the *Commitments* a comedy about an Irish R&G band, ...”

“Wait a minute, wait a minute,” Becca said. “Don’t the Irish have more than a one word vocabulary? And these are considered comedies?”

“Well, I’ve only seen *Waking Ned*, and I thought that it was funny.”

“What else have you got?”

“*The Young Offenders*, another comedy about kids who steal bikes and go on a road trip to find a missing bale of heroin worth 7 million pounds.”

“Wonderful, heart warming story, I bet,” Becca said.

“All right, let’s try some of the more serious stuff, like *The Wind that Shakes the Barley*, starring Cillian Murphy, the Oscar winner for *Oppenheimer*. It’s a story set during the Irish War of Independence. Or *A Bad Day For the Cut*, a mystery thriller involving the murder of a guy’s mother and the criminal underworld. Or *Veronica Guerin*, a biographical tale of what happened to Guerin, who was an investigative journalist looking into Dublin’s underworld, starring Cate Blanchett.

“And then there are all of the Irish movies that star Brendan Gleeson: *The Secret of Kells* about the Vikings, *The Guard* a comedy thriller that investigates police corruption and also stars Don Cheadle, *The General* about the murder of a violent criminal, *I Went Down* a drama comedy about thugs, crime and working for the syndicate, *The Crying Game*, a mystery thriller that stars Forest Whitaker....”

“Wait a minute. He’s not Irish. Is he?” Becca jumped in.

“Probably not, but it’s an acclaimed movie and it has an IRA plot to it.”

“Okay, go on.”

“How about the Magdalene Sisters. It’s a drama about three teenage girls sent to an asylum in 1964 because 1)one flirted, 2) one was pregnant and unmarried and 3) one was....

“Okay, enough with the darker side of Irish life,” Becca said.

“Oh, we’re not nearly finished,” I said. “There’s Angela’s Ashes about alcohol, depression and starvation; Michael Collins, starring Lian Neeson about the struggle for Irish independence; Bloody Sunday about the events on January 30, 1972; Some Mother’s Son about the 1981 hunger strike at the Maze Prison,....

“Let’s get back to the light hearted Irish comedies. Anything else?”

“Well there’s always Darby O’Gill and the Little People, a fantasy with leprechauns and Sean Connery.”

“Seriously? Sean Connery? James Bond?”

“Well, this was way after his James Bond days. There is also Once, a musical about love in Dublin. The Snapper about a large Catholic family, an unexpected pregnancy and the resulting mayhem that causes. Sing Street, a musical journey about a band, a boy and a girl. Into the West about 2 boys, their alcoholic father and their grandfather who brings home a magical horse named Tir na nOg.”

“Okay, that’s better. And there is always Brigadoon,” Becca said.

“And the ‘remake’ Schmigadoon!” I said. “With Cecily Strong, Keegan-Michael Key, Alan Cumming, Kristin Chenoweth and Martin Short.”

“That’s not Irish,” Becca said.

“Pretend Irish?”

“Nope. But you left out the best of the worst Irish films: The Banshees of Inisherin,” she said.

“Ah, I didn’t forget. You can’t forget that one. You’ve got to be ready for it. It’s not for the faint of heart. They call it a dark comedy and that’s stretching the comedic definition a lot. I won’t be rewatching that one any time soon.”

“So are we going to have corn beef and cabbage, a slice of pi and a movie on Saturday?” Becca asked hopefully.

“Well, maybe not cabbage, but I can swing everything else. Have you a movie pick?”

“Well, you’ve already seen the best one at the theater. So maybe The Van or the Wind that Shakes the Barley. Maybe the Guard. Depends on what you can get.”

“There’s also The Fall, a series starring Gillian Anderson of X-Files fame, that I’ve started and would like to finish, and Father Ted a comedy about 3 Irish priests. I might be able to get those.”

"Maybe Darby O'Gill. You've got Disney and it's hard to say no to Sean Connery. Plus you can knit to it- you won't have to watch the subtitles to figure out what they're saying."

She's got a point. Understanding dog is one thing. Irish needs subtitles.

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.

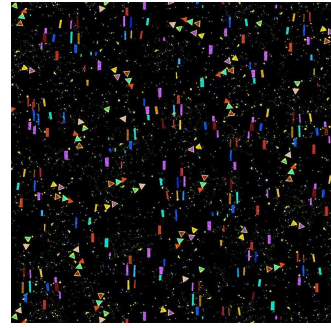
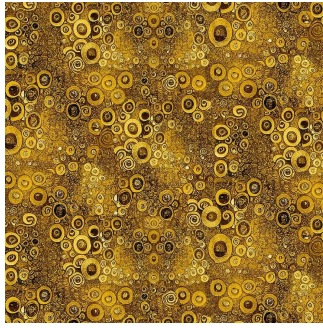
We will take a picture of you and your bag(s) when you buy so we can at least spot a couple of the scrap fabrics in your quilt. Any quilt you make counts, even quilts you make in class. Just be sure to remember which fabrics came out of the scrap bags, in case you're asked.

New Fabric

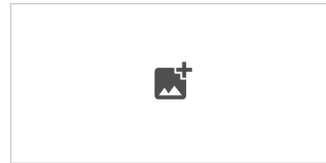
Lots of notions from Checker. Rulers, matts, blades, cutters, wool, patterns, chalk markers, purse hardware.



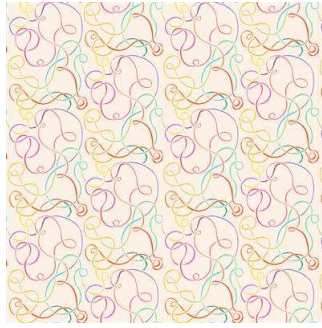
From Hoffman



From Timeless Treasures



From Riley Blake



From Clothworks



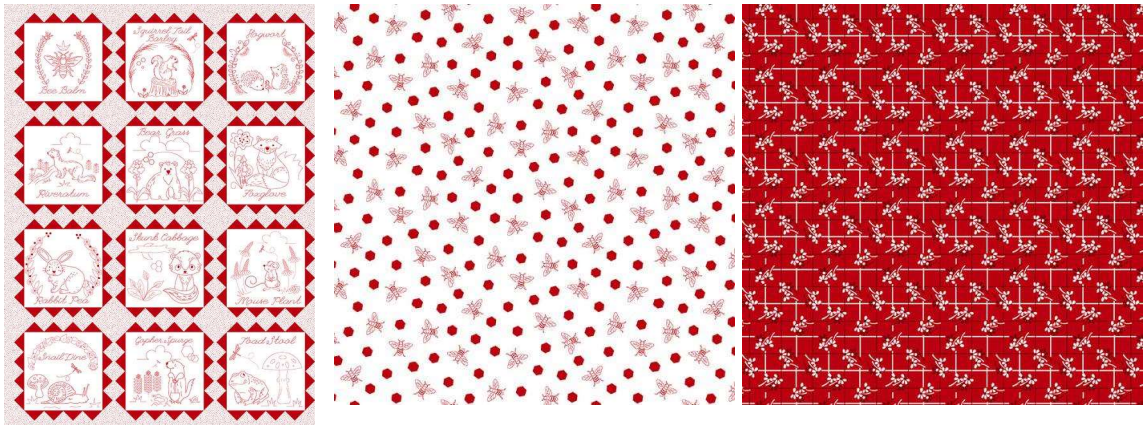
From Hoffman





From Quilting treasures

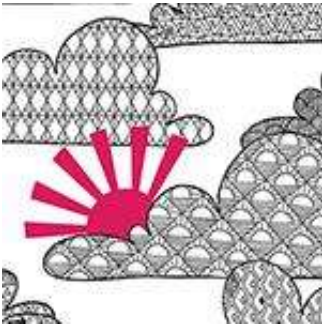




From Studio E



Windham overwide

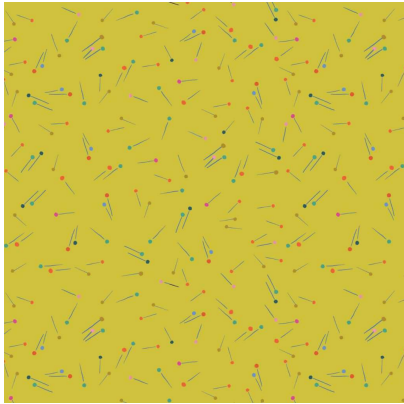


overwide

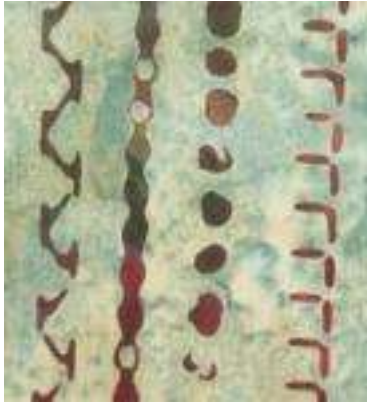


overwide





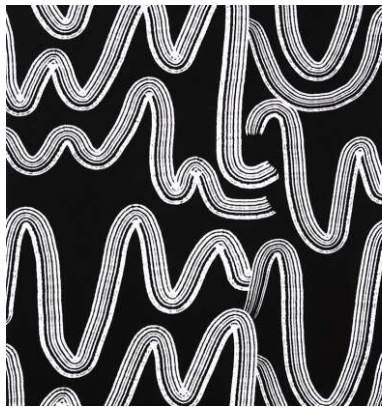
Dashwood





Batiks from Anthology





The Ghostlies 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

Class Notes

Disappearing 9- patch & Disappearing Triangles Classes

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.

MORE CLASS NOTES

T-Shirt Class

I'm keeping the first class on May 4, but I am going to repeat the first class on May 11 and then hold the second class on June 1, from 1-5. I had some of my own scheduling concerns that I've fixed, so I can keep the May 4 date. But for those of you who couldn't make the May 4 class, I will repeat it on May 11. For everyone who can come on May 4, you have options: Come May 4 & June 1, come May 11 & June 1, or come all three days. LOL. Just talk to me and we can figure it out.

MARCH 2024

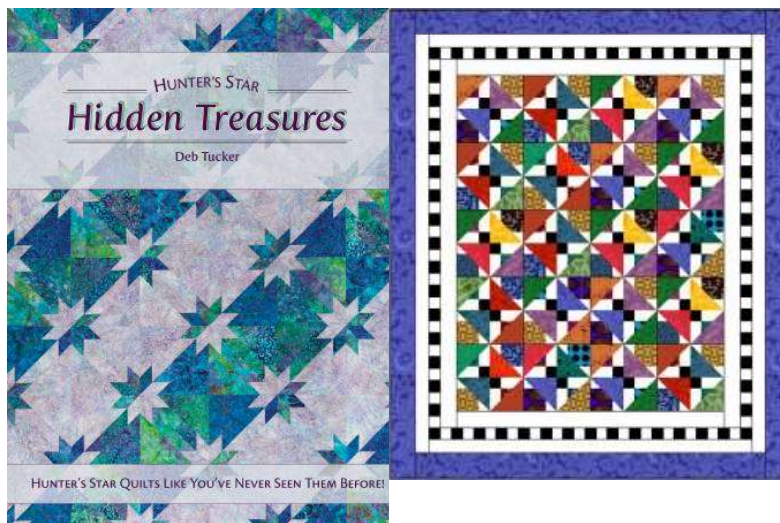
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 BOM 10:30 Tula Pink Butterfly Quilt 1-5
3 Beginning Quilt 1-4	4	5 Hand work Club 2-5	6 Long Arm class 10:30	7 Long Arm Rental Day	8	9 Embroidery Club 10-noon Disappearing 9- patch 10:30-4
10 Beginning Quilt 1-4	11	12 Hand work Club 2-5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

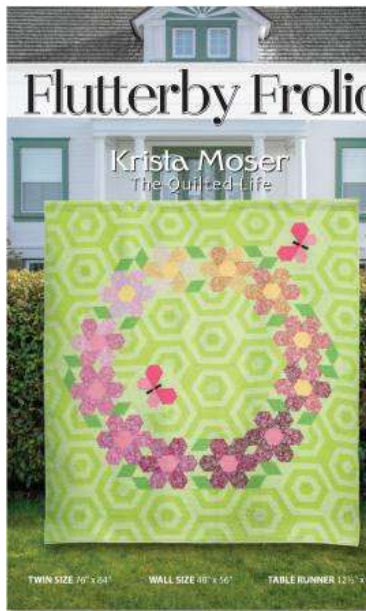
APRIL 2024

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	6 BOM 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	13 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 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	21 Hand work Club 2-5	22 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	23 Long Arm Rental Day Full Moon	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

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





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 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.

March Classes

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.

Krita Moser Flutterby Sat May 25 Jean Korber Saturday class only \$45

CHANGE ABOUT THE RETREAT. I AM OUT OF TOWN THAT WEEKEND, SO WE ARE NOT HAVING THE RETREAT. WE WILL TRY TO THIS AGAIN OVER ANOTHER LONG WEEKEND WHEN I AM IN TOWN.

Jean will teach the quilt Flutterby by Krista Moser. This is a newer pattern by her and uses the same ruler, a 60 degree diamond ruler, that has become her signature ruler. If you have not done one of Moser's quilts, they are great, easy and will teach you how to handle bias. You will also meet other students who are familiar with these patterns and love them.

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.

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.

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.

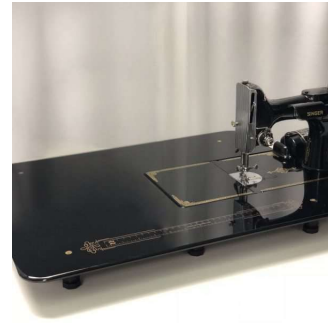
Full Moon Days: January 25; February 24; March 25; April 23; May 23

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



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.

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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