



March 22, 2024

First, some errata and other things.

Firehouse Subs is not where I placed it. The sub shop at Freddy's is Jersey Mike's, not Firehouse Subs. Clearly, I didn't know where I was going in that parking lot.

And Sean Connery wasn't Bond when he made Darby O'Gill. I watched it Saturday night and wondered why he looked so young. It was his first film released in 1959. I had been looking at rerelease dates in the '80s. He also sings, or not, in the movie. Apparently, his voice was dubbed for the movie, but if you get The Music of Disney: A Legacy of Song video, there is the demo of him singing. The only thing I'll say about the movie is that I got a little tired of all the forced laughter generated by various characters. Of the other Irish films, I wouldn't recommend Father Ted. The applied laugh track is annoying.

So those mistakes are all Becca's fault, you know. You just can't trust her.

So now that Pi Day and St. Pat's Day is over, we can focus on other important things, like the Devil Comet, sometimes also called the Millennium Falcon Comet (from Star Wars) because its shape looks a little like the iconic cruiser or a snowball with two tails or horns.

This comet is a once in our lifetime occurrence, as it won't be around for another 71 years or so. Best viewing will be in late March, and it should be visible during the total solar eclipse in April, if you're in that path.

The comet is big, about the size of Mt. Everest. I love the way scientists measure the size of these space things (meteors, comets, etc.) for the elucidation of the nonscientific. It's as big as the Tower of Pisa, or Eiffel Tower or Mt. Everest, or a truck, or The Empire State Building, or the planet. Halley's Comet, by way of reference, is half the size of Mt. Everest. I applaud the scientists who are trying to give us a clue without being overly dramatic, like calling something from space a planet killer.

This comet is not planet killing, despite being big. It's also not scheduled to hit us. It's just big enough to be able to see it without binoculars. The "horns" associated with this comet get created when stuff in the comet explodes. The comet is in the class called cryovolcanic: As the comet gets closer to the sun, it warms up; pressure builds inside and then the nitrogen and carbon monoxide gasses explode, which shatter parts of the outer shell, which is comprised of ice. The ice and gasses then trail the head of the comet, which will look like a dirty snowball flying through the night sky. Thus, a comet that looks like the Millennium Falcon. And these "horns" have been growing

since October 31. Think about that. A comet deep in cold space, not that close to the sun yet, is heating up anyway and exploding. I find that amazing.

To find this comet, look west and maybe slightly north after nightfall. It comes out of the constellation Pegasus, kind of a big square identified by 4 fairly bright stars. The comet will glow red and green and have a blue tail. To really see the colors, use binoculars. From there it travels to Aries, basically heading north and east. You might be able to see it this week, but it will definitely be visible through the end of March. It will get harder to see as it approaches the sun. When it comes back around, it will be visible in early June, but a bit harder to see.

If you do see it, please report in and describe where to look. These things get a little hard to spot if you don't know where you're looking.

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.

Notes for Scrappy Bear Paw

Yardage:

Background: 2 ½" yards

Setting triangles and alternate blocks: 3 yards

Inner border and sashings: 2 ½" yards

Border: 2 ½ yards

Scraps of blue approximately 3 yards

Scraps for "paws" (log cabins) approximately 3 yards

Backing: Using every inch possible and having a forgiving machine quilter: 6 yards

Otherwise 9 yards

Batting: 3 yards

Pre cutting: "Claws" = 8 background and 8 colors for 1 block at 3" X 3".

Logs: cut your strips at 1½" X whatever length you have. If you can cut on the straight of the grain, that would be best.

Sashings between paws: Cut 4 at 1 ½" X 6 ½" (background)

Corner posts: cut 4 at 2 ½" X 2 ½" (background)

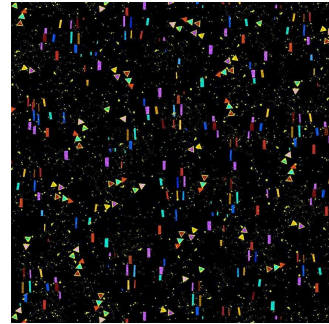
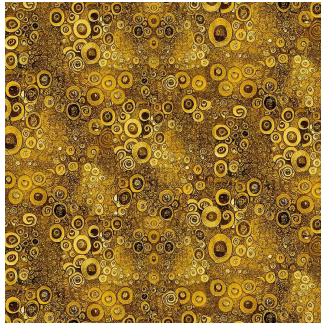
Center post: cut 1 at 1 ½" X 1 ½". (color)

New Fabric

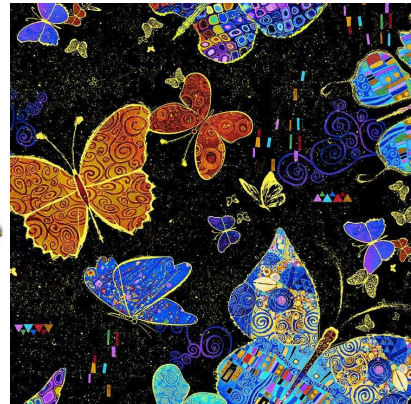
Lots of notions from Checker. Rulers, mats, blades, cutters, wool, patterns, chalk markers, purse hardware.

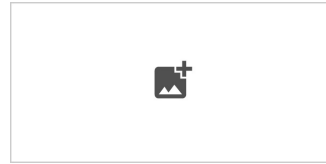


From Hoffman

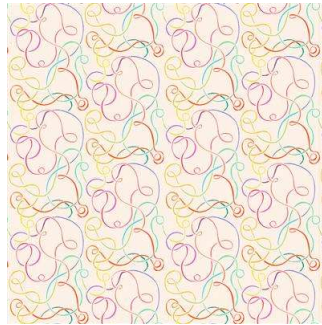


From Timeless Treasures





From Riley Blake



From Clothworks

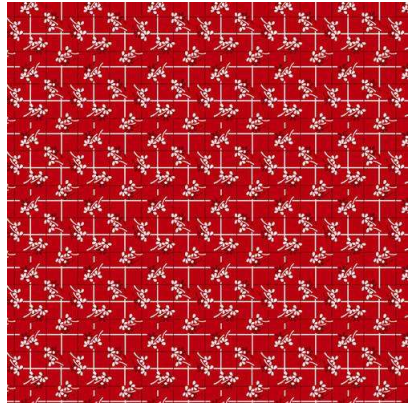
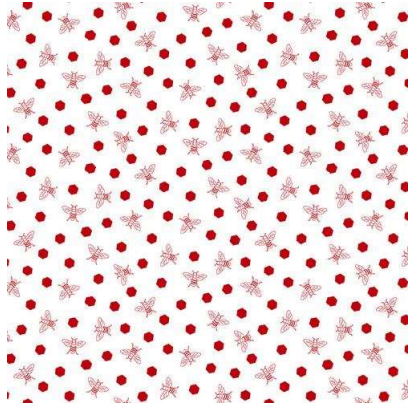
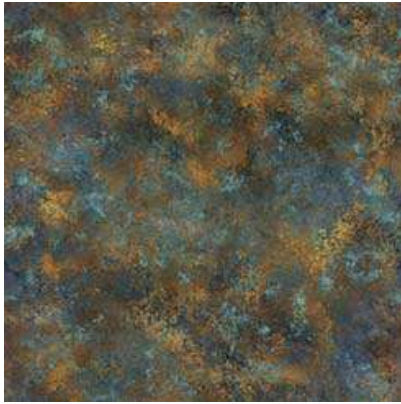




From Hoffman



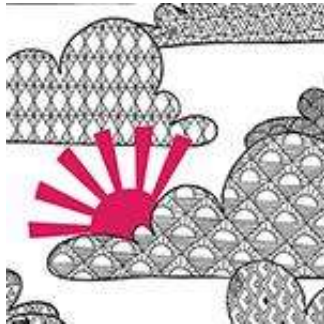
From Quilting treasures



From Studio E



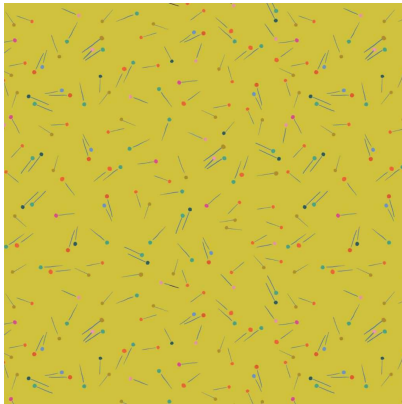
Windham overwide



overwide



overwide

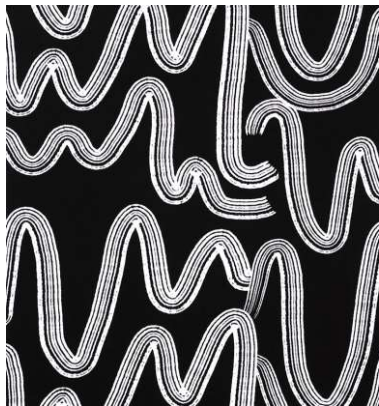


Dashwood





Batiks from Anthology



The 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

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

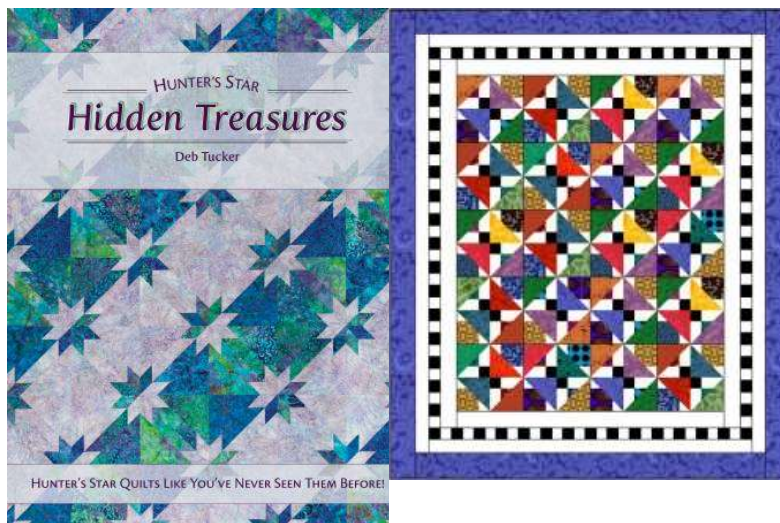
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 BOM 10:30 Tula Pink Butterfly Quilt 1-5
3 Beginning Quilt 1-4	4	5 Hand work Club 2-5	6 Long Arm class 10:30	7 Long Arm Rental Day	8	9 Embroidery Club 10-noon Disappearing 9- patch 10:30-4
10 Beginning Quilt 1-4	11	12 Hand work Club 2-5	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

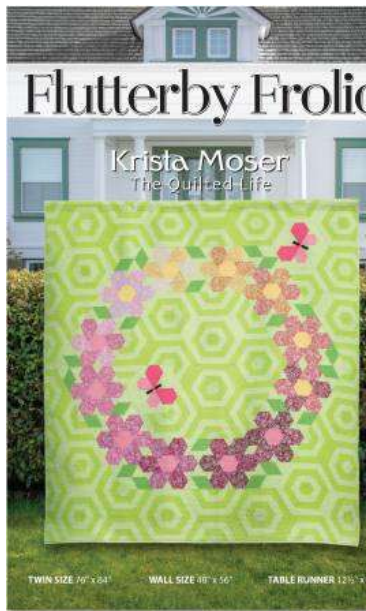
APRIL 2024

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

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.

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 CLUBFREE!

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 ClubFREE!

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 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
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