



Around the Block
QUILT SHOP

January 8, 2016

Wyomingites are obsessed with weather. Mainly snowy weather. We don't get much else that's exciting. Kinda like Nebraska & football. Don't worry. I'm from Nebraska, so I can joke about it.

But back to the weather: As proof of our obsession, all you need to do is look at the electronic interstate signs. A couple of weeks ago on a Sunday around 5 p.m., the north bound sign was warning about snow arriving at 2 a.m. On Tuesday. Now by my count, that was at least 30 hours away. And while I know our state is big, you can get across it in under 8 hours. You can almost cross the entire U.S. in under 30 hours. I think I can safely say that if you were going somewhere in Wyoming, you'd get there before the storm hit. You might even get back.

And on that same Sunday, quilters came in to stock up on supplies. Just in case they got stranded for a day. I did too, just in case the snow decided to get here on Monday. Instead of Tuesday, as the interstate signs warned.

And at the grocery store other people, most likely non quilters, were buying more practical things, like milk, even if they don't drink it. We've talked about that before. Next time you're in the grocery store before a major snow event--like this weekend--look in everyone's baskets. You'll find milk. It's kinda scary. I think we're genetically wired to buy milk before major weather events hit.

I also think quilters worry about more important things: Do I have enough fabric & thread for my snow day projects? As the saying in Norway goes, "Husarbeid er for de some ikke kan strike." In other words, "Housework is for those who can't knit." Or you could say, a clean house is a sign that a quilter doesn't live here. Or, milk in the fridge is a sign that a quilter doesn't live here. At least during a snow storm.

But back to the interstate signs. Our sign writers have a definite sense of humor. My favorite is "Winter's coming. Got chains?" The mash up of Game of Thrones and the milk commercials. Over Christmas this year, the signs channeled Star Wars, which was appropriate since the new movie premiered on the 18th. One sign said, "Don't join the dark side. Buckle up." Another said, "The force is with you. Buckle up."

Sometimes I think I'm the only one that reads these signs. Or, to put it another way, I'm the only one that CAN read these signs. I watch enough sci fi to know that aliens and the government sometimes target individuals with signs that no one else can read. The character in the movie thinks he's going crazy, because no one else is getting the message. Doo-doo doo-doo, doo-doo doo-doo. (Twilight Zone)

WHAT'S NEW!!

From Blank:



From Moda: charms & jelly rolls:



From Kaufman:



From Alexander Henry:



From Free Spirit:



From Maywood:



And from Checker:

Thread Heaven, scissors, thread, rulers, books, patterns, class supplies, Best Press, matts & cutters & blades, needles, thimbles--if you were waiting on an order, it probably is here. Give me a call.

January Classes & Special Events

Hand Embroidery Club Sat. January 9, 10-noon FREE Kathy Sconce
(Club normally meets the 2nd Sat. of each month from 10-noon)

This year we're still doing birds-state birds. We will have between 40-50 birds (some states use the same bird) for you to stitch. Various setting for turning the birds into a quilt will be provided. Color suggestions for the birds will also be offered. As a bonus, you will get the state outlines, state flowers, and other patterns to compliment the birds. You can join anytime.

Turning Panels into Quilts Sat. January 9, 1:30-4 \$20 Barb Boyer

We like panels, but we don't know what to do with them. Bring your favorite panel to class and you will learn various ways to turn the panel into a quilt-using free patterns, retail patterns and patterns you make yourself. We'll discuss design, math and colors. Panels make quick, easy & beautiful quilts.

English Paper Piecing 1st & 3rd Mondays starting Jan. 11, 2-4 Barb Boyer \$20

English paper piecing dates back to the early 1800s. It is a hand sewing method that uses paper templates to help sew complex angles together, like hexagons. Any number of different designs can be made, including Grandmother's Flower Garden. Several patterns will be available, including traditional Flower Garden and the Downton Abbey free pattern.

Beginning Quilting Wed. starting Jan. 13, 6-9 OR Sun. Jan. 17, 1-4 8 weeks
\$65 Barb Boyer

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.

T-Shirt Quilt Thur. January 14 & 21, 1:30-4 \$20 Barb Boyer

T-shirt quilts make great graduation presents, and January is the perfect time to get started-if you want it done by May. You will need 10-20 t-shirts-you can use more than 20, depending on size. Each t-shirt quilt is designed specifically around your t-shirts-don't worry, I do the math.

Knit Pickers' Club Thurs. January 14, 6-8:30 Carol Moler

Every second Thursday, we're getting together to practice our knitting. The Club is open to all skill levels. We want to share what we've learned, find new patterns, and simply just sit and knit.

Stack & Whack Sat. Jan 16, 10:30-5 \$20 Barb Boyer

There are some quilts that everyone needs to do-at least once.



Stack & Whack is one of those quilts. You take beautiful fabric, cut it into identical pieces, and sew it back together in a kaleidoscope pattern. We will work with the 8 repeat, classic, pattern.

Mitten Quilt Mon. January 18 10:30-5 \$20 Barb Boyer

This cute pattern has 4 interlocking mittens-so you can't lose your mittens! You can use Christmas fabric, "winter fabric," or, my favorite, flannel! Great for couch quilt for those cold winter nights.

Hand Quilting Wed. Jan. 20, 1-3 \$25 Sandra Freeburg

Hand quilting is an art that should not be lost. By the end of Sandra's class you will be hand quilting with confidence. Everyone has at least one special quilt that calls out for hand quilting. And there is nothing better than the feel of a hand quilted quilt. Do yourself a favor and learn this art that connects us to our past -- our mothers, grandmothers and great grandmothers.

LOTP: Nine Patch Sat. Jan 23, 10:30-5

We are highlighting Little House of the Prairie fabrics this Spring, and the first quilt for this year is the traditional double 9-patch. The sample is shown using, mainly, the Walnut Grove fabrics. A fat quarter bundle plus the alternate block (the plain block) will make this quilt. The 9-patch quilt is one of 2 quilts mentioned in the Little House series, so this is a perfect quilt to highlight the new collection from Andover.

Spoon Quilting Wed. Jan 27 1-3 \$25 Sandra Freeburg

No more sore fingers! Learn to Spoon Quilt, with a special spoon quilting tool. This tool helps you keep your stitches tiny and even without pricking your finger. Need to have basic quilting skills (rocking motion quilting).

Bertie's Year & Companions last Friday of the month, 1-4 \$20, free if you buy the kit

Bertie's Year & Purfectly Pieced are small wall hangings, (or you can make each block into a mini quilt for display each month). Bertie is done in flannels and wool (kit only includes flannel). Bertie (the bird) and friends (squirrel, pumpkins) are appliqued with crazy quilt embroidery embellishments. The patterns are by Bonnie Sullivan, and you can do any of the series-she has a spring, summer, fall & winter Bertie's, plus the original, and plus the cats. You choose. Class is ongoing-because we need the time to get the embellishing done!

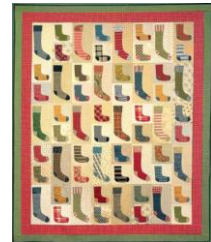


Friday Nighters Fri. January 29 5:30-? \$10 Barb Boyer

This class will help you get organized for Christmas 2015 -- or just help you get things done. You give me a list of your "to dos" or unfinished projects you want to finish and then each month I check off what you've completed. Trust me. If you need incentive to stay on track, this is it. You can bring your sewing machine or do hand work.

S.O.S. Quilts Lost Socks 5th Sat. of the month, Jan 30, 10:30-5 \$20 Barb Boyer

Save Our Scraps! Quilts! On the 5th Saturday of the month (when it occurs-the next one is in April) we will make a scrappy quilt. The first quilt is called Lost Socks. Each sock (40 little ones, 20 big ones) is different-because they are all lost socks, the ones lost in the dryer. You can combine scraps of fun fabrics for the socks, combined with cuffs (big socks) heels & toes. Flannels, brushed cottons and regular cottons can all go into the same quilt. Future S.O.S. Quilts will use precuts and strips.



January 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 CLOSED	2 BOM 10:30-11:30 Monthly Minis 4-6
3 CLOSED	4	5	6	7	8	9 Embroidery Club 10-noon Turning Panels into Quilts 1:30-4
10	11 English Paper Piecing 2-4	12	13 Beginning Quilt 6-8:30	14 T-Shirt Class 10:30-4 Knit Pickers' Club 6-8:30	15 Open Sew 1-4	16 Stack & Whack 10:30-4
17 Beginning Quilt 1-4	18 Mitten quilt 10:30-5 ML King Day	19	20 Hand quilting 1-3 Beginning Quilt 6-8:30	21 T-Shirt class, cont. 10:30-4	22	23 LOTP: Nine Patch 10:30-5
24 Beginning Quilt 1-4 Full Moon	25 English Paper Piecing 2-4	26	27 Spoon Quilting 1-3 Beginning Quilt 6-8:30	28	29 Bertie's Year 1-4 Friday Nighters 5:30 -?	30 S.O.S. Quilts 10:30-5 Color of the month: purple

31 Beginning Quilt 1-4						
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HAND EMBROIDERY CLUB

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. We provide free vintage patterns, and this year we will have free patterns of girls with hats, that you can embroider, embellish and color. Each month Kathy Sconce shows us a new stitch to try, plus, she guides us through thread choices, how to knot, fabrics to use, and tracing techniques.

Knit Pickin' Club

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).

Toad Toters

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 24; February 22; March 23; April 22 , May 21.

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 neutrals .

Join the fun and come feel the difference of quality fabrics.