



Around the Block
QUILT SHOP

April 5, 2019

Under the category of miscellaneous but interesting stuff comes paint by number. I hope everyone has done one paint by number picture. It's kind of a rite of passage, I think.

When I was a kid, I was fascinated by the wonderful boxes of beautiful looking paintings. The Brandeis Department store in downtown Omaha had a bunch of kits on the 10th floor - the toy and craft floor. It was my favorite floor, except for the book area near the basement. I drooled over those paintings and I knew that I could do it. I may have originally started with something that was small, especially made for kids. But then I found one big one with two horses running towards the front of the painting, being chased by a large storm and I couldn't pass it up.

I painted the picture at a neighbor's house and gave it to my mom for Christmas. I knew exactly where to hang it: over the mantle which was over the fire place. We had some landscape painting currently hanging in one of those big gilded fancy antique frames-I think the frame was worth more than the original painting. And to be truthful, I never knew what happened to the old painting. I presumed at the time it was just some copy of something mom had around. I didn't really like it and wanted to see my horses in the frame instead. Thinking back on that painting, I hope it was just a print of something and not some masterpiece worth millions.

My "art" hung over the fireplace until we sold the house after my dad died. I brought the painting, frame and all, to Cheyenne, where it currently sits on the floor in the spare bedroom. I haven't decided whether to hang it or not.

And that's the problem with paint by number art. It really isn't art. It tends to be a bit embarrassing to talk about or admit that you ever did one. I once

painted a picture on black velvet of a sailing ship for my brother when I was in junior high school. I suspect it had a bit of a "dogs playing poker painted on black velvet" feel to it. But I thought it was cool at the time. But I suspect most people, meaning adults, don't hang such stuff on their walls.

But, and the reason for this post, the artist who created paint by number pictures died this week. His name was Dan Robbins. So a little tribute is in order.

Robbins worked at the Palmer Paint Company in Detroit in the 1940s. He had heard that Leonardo de Vinci used numbered backgrounds for his students to learn how to paint. (Other stories attribute painting by numbers to Michelangelo.) Regardless of whether the story is true, Robbins decided it was a good idea and by 1955 the Palmer Paint Company was selling 20 million paint by number kits a year.

While the craze has worn off, paint by number kits still exist. The Smithsonian held an exhibit of these paintings in 2001 at the Museum of American History. There is also a Paint by Number Museum in Massachusetts that houses more than 6,000 pieces of art. When the space craft Voyager sent pictures of Mars back to earth in the 1960s, employees used a form of "paint by number" to hand color the pictures of Mars. In 2011, Dan Robbins developed a 60th anniversary set to commemorate 9/11, depicting the Twin Towers against the Manhattan skyline. Moda even designs some fabric lines around the paint by number concept. So I think this art form deserves a little respect.

I went on line to see if paint by number kits were still being sold. Places like Hobby Lobby and other craft stores sell a few kits, mostly cute kittens, houses with flowers and seascapes. The best and most interesting kits, though, come from paintbynumbersadults.com. Other sites that have similar kinds of paintings and prices include originalpaintbynumbers.com and addictedpaintbynumbers.com.

I was never one to really get into adult coloring books, although I like coloring, and it's fun and restful. But coloring just to color seems like just an exercise. And you can't do a lot with the pictures you color.

Paint by number pictures, on the other hand, have all the stress relieving benefits of coloring. Plus you can hang them on your wall in beautiful gilded antique frames. What could be better!



**Springtime in the Rockies Shop
Hop!
April 19-20
The Ranch, First National Bank
Building, Loveland, CO**

Our theme for this year's quilt show is

Camping! Roasting marshmallows, boating on the lake, catching fish, pitching a tent, sleeping under the stars. Design your own project or use a commercial pattern. Wall hangings, totes or other interpretations of a camping theme no larger than 60" X 60" will be accepted and must be turned in by April 8. Projects will hang at the Springtime in the Rockies Shop Hop at the Ranch, April 19 & 20. Gift Basket Prizes awarded: \$75 1st; \$50 2nd;

\$25 3rd.

A few rules: Projects must be made by entrant and made within the last 12 months.

2019 Shop Hop Demonstrations List

Friday - April 19

10:00 Lickety Stitch Our Top Ten Favorite Notions

11:00 Juke Box Quilting Mastering Accuracy

12:00 Fig Leaf Versatile Nine-Patch

1:00 Maggie's Sewing Color - Make It Work For You!

2:00 Quilter's Stash Teeny Tiny Collage

3:00 Quilter's Dream New Twister Ruler

4:00 Sewing Circle Quick & Easy Projects Using Quilting Techniques

Saturday - April 20

10:00 Around the Block Krista Moser Patterns Using Creative Grid 60 Degree Diamond Ruler

11:00 Quilter's Stash Teeny Tiny Collage

12:00 Fig Leaf Turn About Patchwork

1:00 Stitches Improv Piecing

2:00 Country Crafts It's the Berries! - Strawberry Wool Applique

Needlecase - A Make & Take

STONEHENGE CONTEST!

Northcott fabrics is holding a quilt challenge to celebrate 10 years of their fabric line, Stonehenge. This challenge runs from March 15-Sept 30.

Our block is done!



The block is 12" finished and the kit is \$5.

Participating stores will design and kit a block. Your challenge is to use at least 12 blocks & make a quilt, no size limit on the final quilt. The Grand Prize winner will get a 9-day trip for two to England to visit Stonehenge. Separately, there is a second contest involving the Stonehenge panel that is local to each participating store. Deadline for making a quilt with the panel is November 30. Each store will choose a winning quilt, and submit the winner to Northcott. Northcott will then choose 10 winners and will award each winner \$100. See me for more details.

WHAT'S NEW!!

From In the Beginning:

Diaphanous Fabric is cut for everyone in the FanFaire and Mystic Garden classes. Please, please please, please come & pick up your fabrics.

From P&B:



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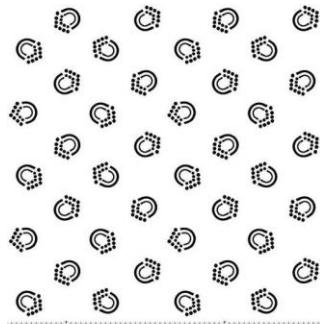
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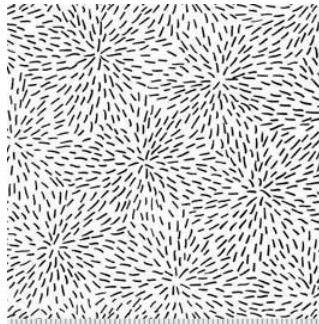
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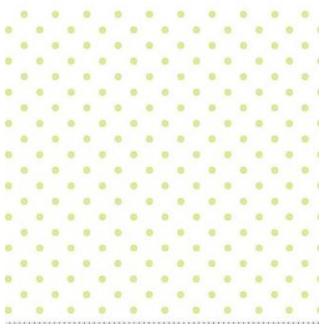
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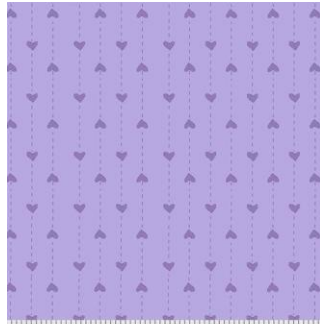
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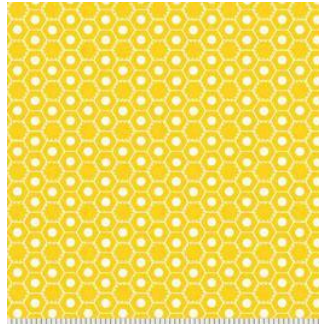
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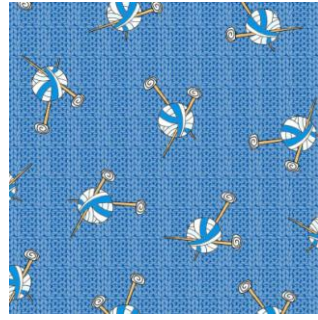
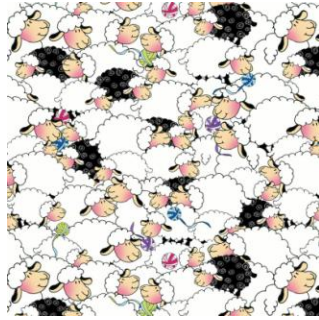


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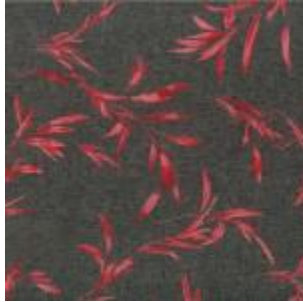
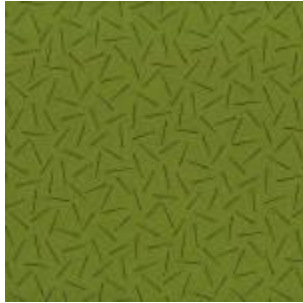
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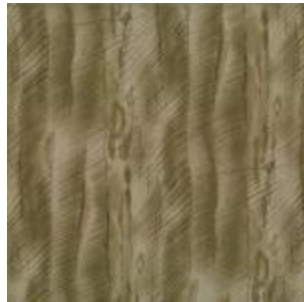
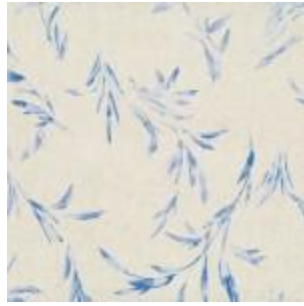
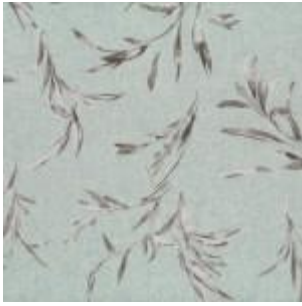


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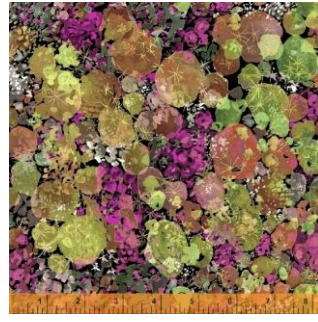
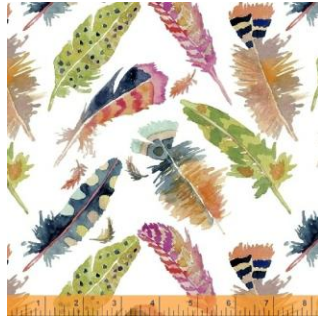


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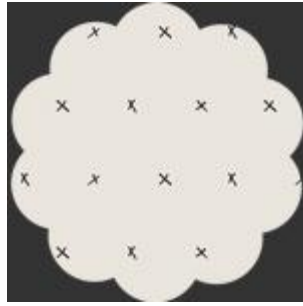
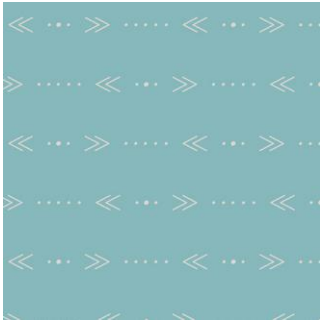
Cork!





From AGF:





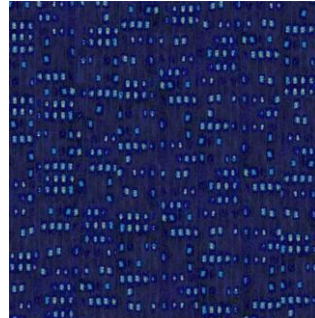
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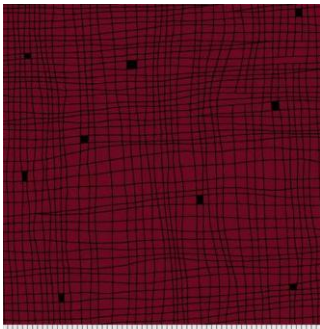
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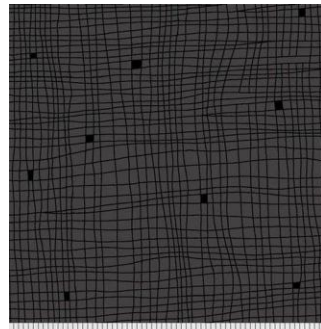
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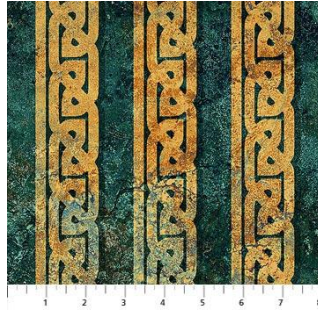
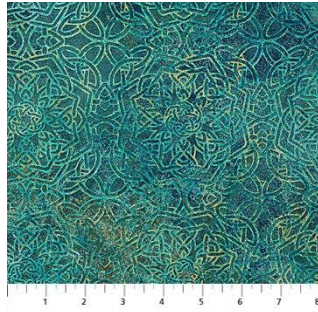
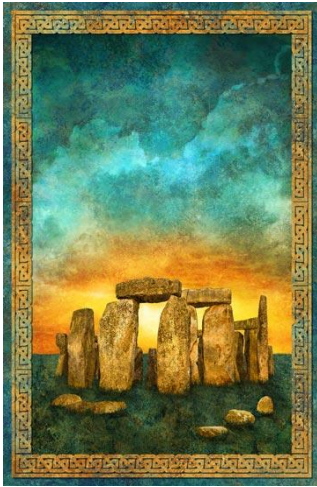
From Paintbrush:



On these fabrics, I only have the yellow on the bolt. The other 2 are examples of other fabrics that are in the 18 fat quarter bundle.

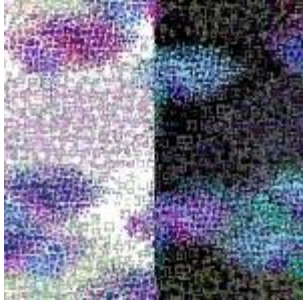
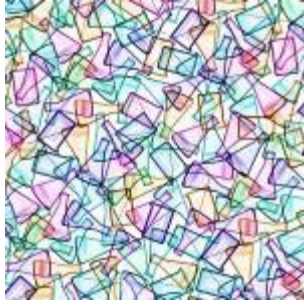
From Timeless Treasures:

From Northcott:



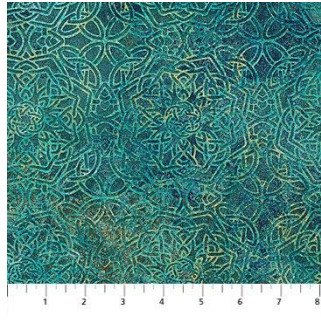
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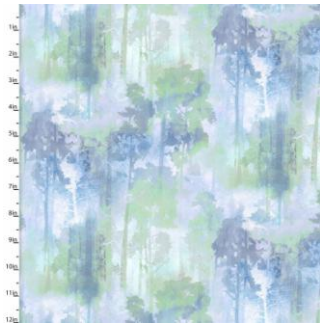
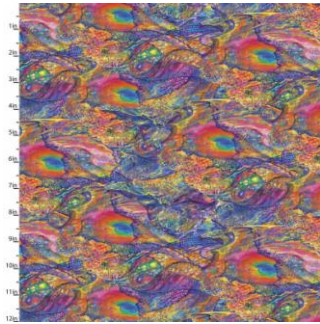
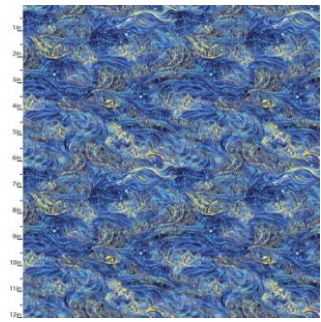
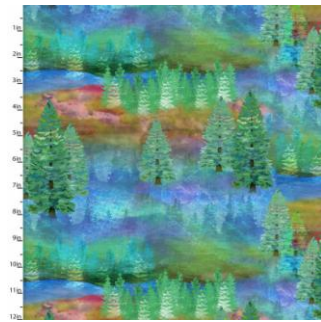


From Timeless:





From 3 Wishes:



**SIGN UP FOR LONG ARM
QUILTING CLASSES TODAY!**

Classes are on Wednesdays and some Saturdays: 10:30-1:30; 2:30-5:30, or 6-8:30. Check the calendar for dates. Only 4 to a class.

Rentals have started for those who have taken the class. Tuesdays and Fridays, and a couple of Saturday and Sunday rentals. Check the calendar for rentals. Generally, there are 2 rentals times per day: 10:30-2 and 2:30-6. \$25/hr or \$85 for 3 1/2 hours. \$50 minimum. Plus \$5/bobbin for thread. Most quilts (double and smaller), even for beginners, will take about 2 1/2-3 hours. We will discuss what you plan to do on your quilt and will help you estimate how long it will take.

Class descriptions follow the calendar, so keep scrolling. Classes are listed alphabetically.

April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Friday	Sat
	1 -	2 Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	3 Long Arm Quilt classes 10:30-1:30; 2:30-5:30; OR 6-9	4 Beginning Machine Quilting 1-4 OR 6-9	5 Long Arm Rental Day	6 BOM 10:30 Cat's Play 12-4 Monthly Mini 4-6
7 Closed	8	9 Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	10 Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	11 Live Each Season Wool Applique Wall hanging Spring 1-4	12 Open sew 3-7 Long Arm Rental Day	13 Embroidery Club 10-noon Potluck II 1-5
14 Fantasy Forest 1-4	15	16 Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	17	18	19 SHOP HOP Good Friday	20 SHOP HOP
21 Closed Easter	22	23 Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	24 Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	25 Beginning Paper Piecing 1-4 OR 6-9	26 Open sew 3-7 Long Arm Rental Day	27 Cat's Play 10:30-1:30 Mystic Garden 2-6
28 Fantasy Forest 1-4	29 Grandma's Flower Garden English Paper Piecing & Hand Piecing 1-4	30 Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day				Color of the month: yellow

May 2019

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1 Long Arm Quilt classes 10:30-1:30; 2:30-5:30; OR 6-9	2 Beginning Machine Applique 1-4 OR 6-9	3 Binding 1-4 Long Arm Rental Day	4 BOM 10:30 Long Arm Rental 12-4 Monthly Mini 4-6
5 Closed	6	7 Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	8 Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	9 Live Each Season Wool Applique Wall hanging Summer 1-4	10 Open sew 3-7 Long Arm Rental Day	11 Embroidery Club 10-noon Potluck II 1-5
12 Mother's Day	13	14 Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	15	16 Project Day: Needle Case #3 1-5	17 Long Arm Rental Day	18 Fan Faire 10:30-5
19	20	21 Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	22 Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	23 Project Day: Needle Case #3 1-5	24 Open sew 3-7 Long Arm Rental Day	25 Mystic Garden Retreat 10:30-6
26 Mystic Garden Retreat 1-5	27 Mystic Garden Retreat 10:30-6 Memorial Day	28 Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	29	30 Project Day: Needle Case #3 1-5	31 Long Arm Rental Day	Color of the month: whites

Spring Classes

Beginning Machine Applique Thurs May 2, 1-4 OR 6-9 \$25 Barb Boyer

So many quilts use applique these days. Learn the ins and outs of machine applique, from points to curves. We will practice the button hole/blanket stitch, satin stitch, and you can also play around with your decorative stitches. Threads, fusibles and stabilizers will be discussed.

Beginning Paper Piecing, Thur April 25, 1-4 or 6-9 Sue Frerich \$20

Learn the basic of paper/foundation piecing. This is a technique class where you will learn how to cut, sew & trim - all the essential steps for successful paper piecing. If you are not sure about stepping into a big paper piecing project and just want to learn the basics, this is the class for you.

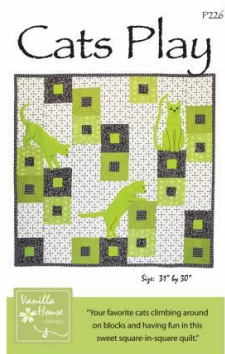
Binding May 3, 1-4 Barb Boyer \$20

This is an extended binding class. You will learn how to cut bias & cross grain bindings, how to sew it on including mitering the corners and joining the ends, & how to hand stitch the final side. Then in class, you will attach a binding to your own quilt. You will need to have a small project quilted & ready for binding.

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 we're making a black & Y white + one color quilt. The challenge, if you choose to accept it, is work within the black & white palette (plus one color placed where ever you like). For the color choice, we are drawing paint chip cards, covered in newspaper so you can't see what color you're getting. But...if you don't like the color you've drawn you can 1) swap with a neighbor, or 2) draw a new color. And if you just can't bring yourself to work in neon green and no one will swap with you, you can just choose your own color.

April 6 & 27, 10:30-1:30 Sue

This is a small wall hanging, teach a particular machine applique first class you will learn how to It's easy and you will get a lot done second class, you should have your the class will concentrate on the applique technique. This is a turned edge method for machine applique, which results in a finished, not a raw edge, applique.



Cat's Play Sat

Frerich \$20 designed to technique. In the make the block. in class. By the quilt finished and

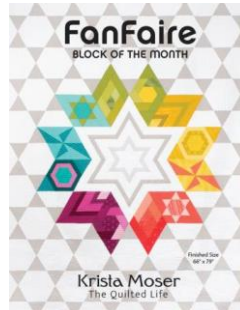
Fancy Forest, an Elizabeth Hartman quilt Sun April 14 & 28, 1-4 Sue Frerich \$25

This is a delightful sampler quilt featuring animal blocks: Fancy Fox, Hazel Hedgehog, Bunny, Thistle, Francis Firefly and Allie Owl. This fat quarter friendly project is sewn with simple straight and diagonal seams with no templates or paper piecing. Just so you know, the Diaphanous fabrics line from In the Beginning would be a great choice for some of the animals. You can make the quilt in

baby, wall hanging or bed size.

FanFaire Sat May 18, June 15, July Korber \$25

Krista Moser quilt, no template FanFaire, is a 4-month block of the block is made twice totaling twelve block teaches you a new way to use Grids 60 Degree Diamond Ruler, Krista Moser. Cut a combination of triangles, hexagons, parallelograms and trapezoids to create this fun quilt, and all with one ruler! This quilt goes together fast and is oh so striking!



20 10:30-5 Jean

This quilt is a piecing month. Each block. Every the Creative designed by diamonds,

Grandmother's Flower Garden, English

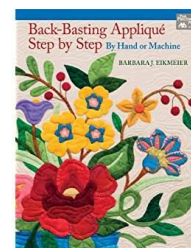
Paper Piecing last Monday of each month, 2-4 Barb Boyer \$20 (one time fee)

We will teach the basics of English Paper Piecing, the simple & easy way to hand piece. 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-this is the pattern we're doing this year. We will also show how to hand piece the traditional way, also, if you are interested.



Hand Applique/Back Basting TBA Sandra Freeburg Feb 13, 10-noon \$25 or call for other dates

Back basting is a template free method of needle turn applique. No slippery freezer paper or chalked lines on top that never seem to get turned under quite right. This method is especially great for traveling, because your pieces will be basted onto your background -- no need for pins to get in the way. This class is great for beginners and all levels of appliquers. Don't let hand



applique frustrate you. It's really easy and relaxing!

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. This year we are following a purchased pattern called Gardner's Alphabet Quilt Block of the Month by Crabapple Hill. We will explore a variety of embroidery stitches for each block each block (2 letters per month), plus we will learn how to color with regular crayons to enhance the blocks. 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.



Hand Quilting Jan. 16, 10-noon Sandra Freeburg \$25 Watch the calendar or call for other dates

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.

Knit Pickers' Club 2nd and 4th Wed of each month, 3-7 Carol Moler
We are changing up the Knit Pickers' Club. We're going to knit 2 days a month every second and fourth Wednesday, and we'll start earlier in the day at 3. For those you who work, we'll still be knitting 'till 7. 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. We work on some felting projects, fingerless mittens, mittens, and socks. And we are working on a group project-meaning everyone does the same pattern. Each month we will learn a different pattern, make it into a square and eventually put all the squares into one project-afghan, scarf, bag, etc.

Live Each Season Wool Applique Thurs: Jan 10, Feb 7, Mar 7, April 11, May 9 (& rest of year) 1-4 Barb Boyer \$20

This wool wall hanging has 4 rows: Spring, Summer, Fall & Winter. We will start with the Winter Row in January. We will take 2 months per row, and we'll take July & August off. You will learn wool applique, various embroider stitches, and how to add fun embellishments to your wall hanging.



Long Arm Quilting Classes Wednesdays from 10:30-1:30, 2:30-5:30 or 6-8:30 Barb Boyer \$30 (check calendar for specific times & dates)

In this class you will learn all about the Nolting long arm quilting machines: loading, threading, quilting. I'll demonstrate how to load and thread, set stitch length, change tension, wind and load bobbins. Then I will load a practice quilt onto the machine and show how to do hand guided quilting. Each student will be given at least 15-20 minutes of practice time. (Each class is limited to 4 students). You will be able to do free hand quilting plus you can practice following a pantograph. Any quilter who wants to rent to machines must take this class first, regardless of whether you have experience on a long arm machine. This class is not designed to teach you everything there is to know about long arm quilting-it's just a start.

Machine Applied Binding Mon April 8, 1-4 \$20 Jean Korber

Jean will teach 2 different machine applied bindings. One style uses cording to help keep the binding straight & true. The other uses a flange, for a two-toned binding. Putting binding on by machine cuts your time more than in half-and by using cording, you can have a perfectly applied binding with no messy "oops" where your stitching just didn't quite catch the binding on the back side. And, you will have time to cut and attach one of these bindings on your own quilt, so bring a small quilt that is ready for binding to class, so you will get some hands on practice.

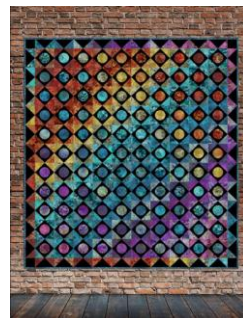
Monthly Minis First Saturday of the Month, 4-6

This year we are going to do several different wall hangings. These will be kitted with all of the necessary fabrics and patterns. We will work on the same wall hanging for 2-3 months. You can choose to do one or all of them (I think I have 4 scheduled). In class we will learn various machine applique techniques to use on the blocks and some of the kits come with embellishments, so we will discuss how to add the embellishments to the quilts. First quilt: Change of plans: first quilt are hummingbirds. Second quilt will be Snowmen! (we will do the snowmen in **April**)



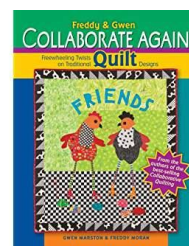
Mystic Garden Sat. April 27, 2-6, then a quilt retreat weekend at the shop, May 25-26, 10:30-6. Barb Boyer \$30.

This quilt uses the In the Beginning Diaphanous fabrics (most of them). This is a color wash styled quilt, with appliqued circles. I will teach a different turned edge applique method, suitable for blind hem stitch. The tough part of the class is not the piecing or the applique: it's keeping the fabrics in the right order. Thus, the retreat, so you don't have to take down your fabrics in between classes.



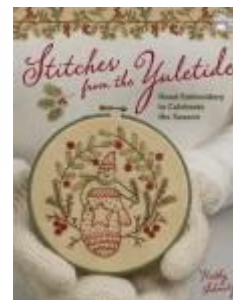
Potluck II Second Saturday of the Month, 1-5 Ginger Newman \$20

This is a free form, with some structure, class. It involves scraps, color, free form techniques, make it work anyway you want, and liberated thinking. I've never had so much fun and we want everyone to try this style and join the fun. This spring we are adding a twist: We are going to "collaborate" on a different block each month, selection chosen at random out of a hat. The challenge is make at least one block that you can 1) use into your quilt, 2) trade with a class member or 3) save it in your parts department for later. We will teach the blocks from Gwen Marston Collaborative Quilting book.



Project Day: Jan 24, Feb. 21, Mar 21, May 23 & 30, 1-5 Barb Boyer \$20/per class

On Project Day for Spring, we are doing needle cases. The first project case in wool, with a cat (or other choice) (no picture of this case) appliqued on top. This project will be kitted with the wool and embroidery threads - everything you need to make the needle case. The second needle case is from a pattern by Sue Spargo. This needle case will not be kitted, but we have plenty of wools for you to choose. This needle case is very colorful and we want you to choose your favorite colors for making the case. We will teach the stitches and we'll have in stock Sue Spargo's Creative Stitchery book. The last needlecase project is out of the Stitches from the Yuletide by Kathy Schmitz. This is a two session class: one session for the needlework and one to make the bag. We will add a session if needed. This needlecase will not be kitted either.



is a little needle applique of your

Spoon Quilting Wed. Mar 13, 10-noon. \$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).

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.



Nolting also has a commercial machine 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.

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 2-4, 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 awhile. 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). We are discussing trying to

do a group project-meaning everyone does the same pattern. Each month we will learn a different pattern, make it into a square and eventually put all the squares into one project-afghan, scarf, bag, etc. 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 3-7.

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.

Monthly Mini Club FREE!

First Saturday of the Month from 4-6.

This year we are going to do several different wall hangings. These will be kitted with all of the necessary fabrics and patterns. We will work on the same wall hanging for 2-3 months. You can choose to do one or all of them (I think I have 4 scheduled). In class we will learn various machine applique techniques to use on the blocks and some of the kits come with embellishments, so we will discuss how to add the embellishments to the quilts.

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 20 , February 19 , March 20, April 19, May 18.

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 red; February purple; March green; April yellow; May white.

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