

August 21, 2020

Two things first: I finally got a haircut. I didn't want to get arrested. Second, my Little Dorrit books is up for grabs. I'll put it in the little library tonight. I expect it will be gone by Saturday, because I am sure someone wants to read this absolutely fabulous book.

But that's not what I want to talk about. I want to talk about Kraft Macaroni & Cheese. Kraft Mac & Cheese was first introduced under the name Kraft Dinner in 1937. It had dried macaroni noodles and a packet of processed cheese powder. Just like today.

Kraft relies on what's called processed cheese-invented in Switzerland, I think, sometime in the 1900s or 1910s. Processed cheese adds emulsifying salts to stabilize the cheese, giving it a long shelf life. James Kraft didn't invent processed cheese, but he did get a patent in 1916 for his processing method and 20 years later Kraft Mac & Cheese was born.

The timing was impeccable. The Depression, followed closely be WWII, created a need for fast, inexpensive, and, dare I say nutritious food. During WWII milk and dairy products were rationed and because meat products were mainly going overseas to our military boys, women back home had to find cheap meatless meals for the family.

With more women working, easy to make meals were also important. Refrigeration played a part in the popularity of the product. In Canada, for instance, where Kraft Mac & Cheese is considered a food group, many homes did not have refrigerators. By the 1930s, Americans had greater access to refrigerators, but America was still in the Depression, so big ticket items were often a luxury. Thus a product like Kraft Mac & Cheese was perfect: Cheap, with a shelf life of 10 months, and only taking 9 minutes or so to

make. During the war, you could also get two boxes for one ration stamp.

"Okay, what's your point here?" asked Becca. Becca, for those of you new to this newsletter, is my opinionated mini Australian Shepherd. She eats only one thing: dry dog food. And she loves it. Just ask her. Okay, maybe not a good idea.

"I'm hungry. Can we just get on with this lecture?" See what I mean. Opinionated.

"Well," I said responding to her question, "I always find it fascinating the things that my mom's generation lived through. On top of laundry, household chores, the house had to be immaculate, and she worked in a dentist's office, lived with her mother-in-law, 2 little kids (my brothers), and she also had to cook. And she didn't have all the conveniences we have today."

"I get it," Becca said. "Life was tough. Get over it. I'm hungry. What's for dinner?" Sigh.

"What else. Kraft Macaroni & Cheese. It's one of those comfort foods. Plus when you heat up the water for the pasta it adds moisture into the air. A plus in this climate. But sometimes I add tuna to it. You can also add bacon, extra cheese, pepper, hot sauce..."

"Hot sauce?" Becca said. "Yuk."

"Quiet. Where was I, ...ketchup..."

"Seriously?"

"Ketchup goes in everything," I told her. "Chopped up hot dogs, veggies, hamburger, onion, garlic, Ranch Dressing."

"You're kidding," Becca said.

"That's what the list says. I wouldn't do it. Or hamburger with a can of cream of mushroom soup and some extra cheese. Or add a packet of taco seasoning mix, extra cheddar, hamburger and top with tortilla chips, guacamole, tomato, onion and lettuce."

"That sounds good," said Becca. "Yeah, it does actually. Better than adding tuna....Hmmmm."

"Or Buffalo Chicken Mac with chicken, celery, blue cheese and buffalo sauce."

"Do you have to go kill a buffalo to get the sauce," Becca said. "I know someone who might be interested in getting rid of that buffalo who tossed her out of her jeans after she got too close," Becca said.

"No, we don't have to go kill a buffalo. It's just a barbeque sauce."

"Maybe we could do mac & cheese with a silly human sauce, in honor of all people who have gotten too close to buffalo this year." Becca grinned.

"Becca, that's not nice," I admonished. But secretly I agree with her.

Have you seen that most recent video of the woman looking like a rag doll before her jeans ripped and she was longer hooked to the horns?

"So what's for dinner," Becca demanded again.

"Dry dog food. Yum."

WHAT'S NEW!!

We also have new patterns (one using the Steampunk Halloween Owls from Quilting Treasures), books (Buttermilk Basin), wonder clips, bias strip makers, flower head pins, curved safety pins, Zirkel pin cushion, Zootroplois book, Allique sheets, and a variety of new embroidery patterns, including the Owls, various Halloween and Christmas patterns.

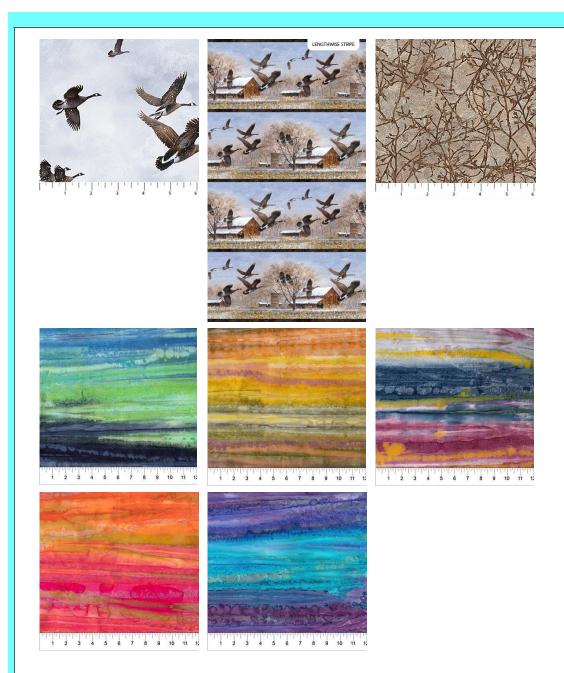
More patterns and notions, including the Warm Hands wool felt ornaments.

From Northcott:









From Henry Glass and Benartex





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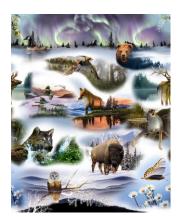




From Hoffman, Michael Miller

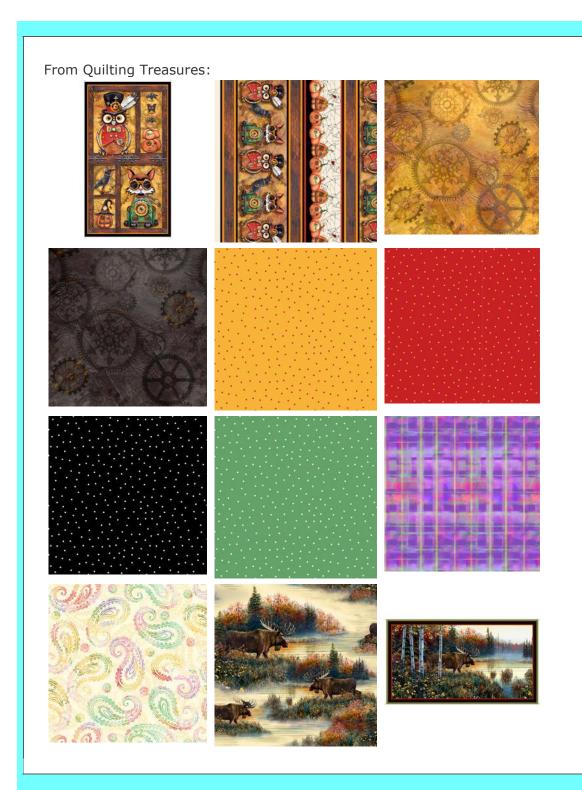


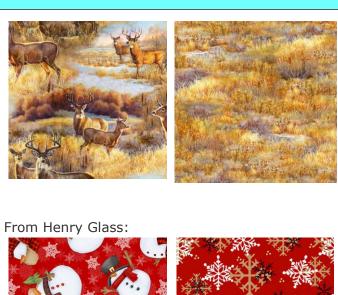




From Robert Kaufman:

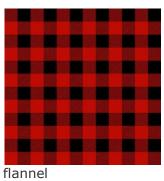








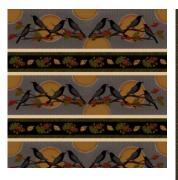








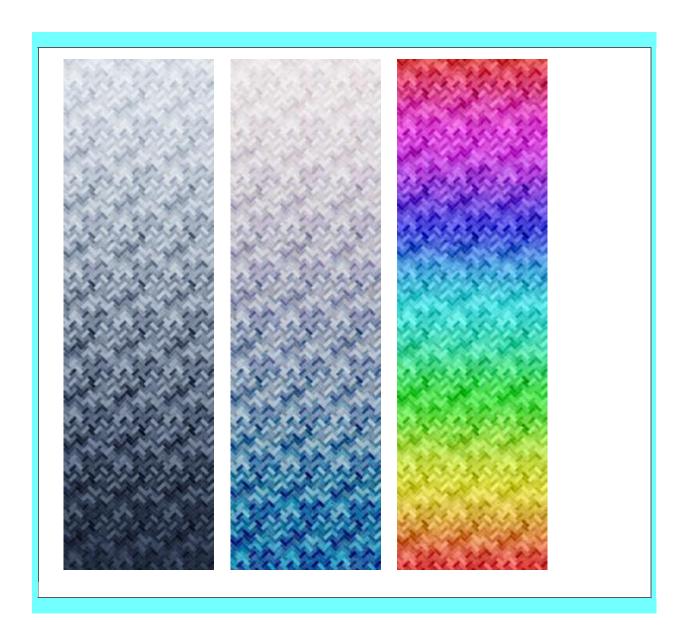


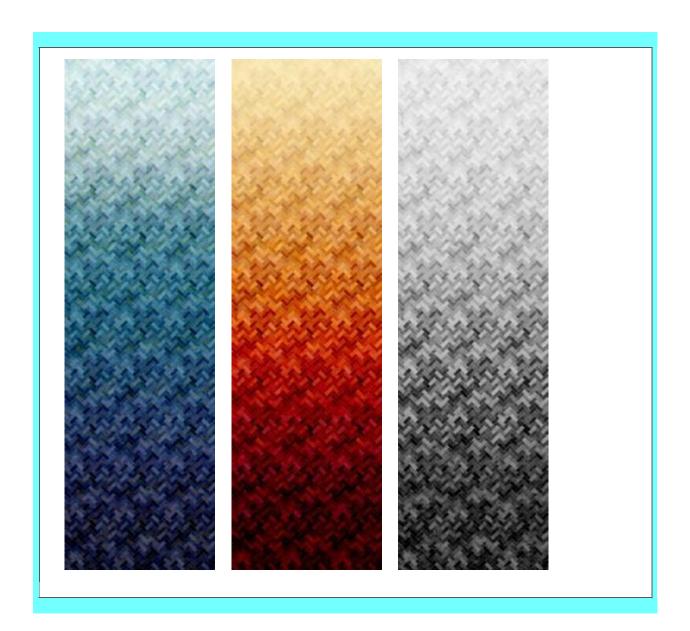






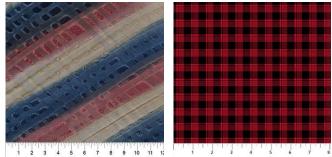
From Hoffman:







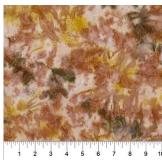
From Northcott:

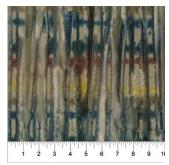


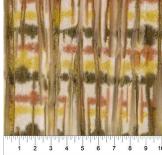


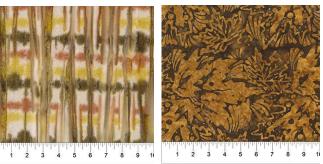












From Moda:



36" X 54"



54" x 65"

Northcott:



AUGUST 2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thursday	Fri	Saturday
						BOM 10:30 There Be Dragons 1-5
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Embroidery Club 10-noon
Closed	Magic Triangle Quilt, 11-3 Full Moon	Hand work Club 2-4	Knit Pickers' Club 3-7			Embroidery Club 10-noon Magic Triangle Quilt, 11-3
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Closed		Hand work Club 2-4				A Study in Subtle 11-3
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Closed		Hand work Club 2-4	Knit Pickers' Club 3-7			Zootropolis 11-3
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Closed		Hand work Club 2-4				There be Dragons Here 1-5
30	31					
Closed		Color of the month: blacks				

SEPTEMBER 2	020
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day Full Moon	2	3	4	BOM 10:30 Zootropolis 1-5
Closed	7 Labor Day	Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	9 Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	10	11	Embroidery Club 10-noon Christmas Club 1-4
Beginning Quilting 1- 4	14	Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	16	17	18	Funky Hearts Noon- 5
Beginning Quilting 1-	21	Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	24	25	Elizabeth Hartman quilts Noon-5
Beginning Quilting 1- 4	28	Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	30	Color of the month: orange		

OCTOBER 2020									
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Friday	Sat			
				1	2	3			
	Color of the month: green				Full Moon	BOM 10:30 Steampunk Halloween 1- 5			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
Closed		Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	Knit Pickers' Club 3-7			Embroidery Club 10-noon Christmas Club 1-4			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17			
Beginning Quilting 1- 4	Strip Stacks, noon-5 Columbus Day	Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day				Paper Pieced Christmas Tree Noon-5			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24			

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Beginning Quilting 1- 4		Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	Knit Pickers' Club 3-7			String Quilt Noon-5
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Beginning Quilting 1- 4		Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day				Halloween Full Moon

NOVEMBER 2020									
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Friday	Sat			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
Closed		Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day				BOM 10:30 Precut for Christmas 1-5			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
Beginning Quilting 1-4		Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	Knit Pickers' Club 3-7 Veterans Day			Embroidery Club 10-noon Christmas Club 1-4			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21			
Beginning Quilting 1-4		Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day				Christmas Tree (not paper pieced) Noon-5			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
Binding 1- 4		Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	Thanksgiving Day Closed	Black Friday Sale	Shop Small Business Sale			
29	30								

Shop		Color of	<u> </u>	1	
Small Business Sale	Full Moon	the month:			

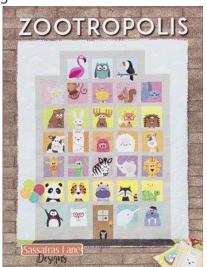
DECEMBER 2020									
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Friday	Sat			
		1	2	3	4	5			
	Color of the month: red	Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day				BOM 10:30 Let's Do Christmas! 1-5			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
Closed		Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	Knit Pickers' Club 3-7			Embroidery Club 10-noon Christmas Club 1-4			
13	14	Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm Rental Day	16	17	18	19			
20	21	Hand work Club 2-4 Long Arm	Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	24	25 Christmas Closed	26			
27	28	Rental Day 29	30 Full Moon	31					

August Classes

Let There Be Dragons Quilt Sat Aug 29-5 \$25 Barb Boyer In the Beginning has created this marvelous dragon fabric: in orange & flame colors, or cool blues & purples. The dragons are in a panel and there is a coordinating border stripe. The blocks are easy and the panel makes this quilt go together quickly. You will also learn how to miter the borders-a new skill to add to your toolbox!

Zootroplolis August 22 11-3 Sue Frerich \$35

You've seen her quilt. You want to make one, too! Zootropolois is a skyscraper of animals, each to its own window. You can use a simple fusible process for raw edge applique for the animals, or you can use a special product that allows you to turn under all of your edges so it looks like you've hand appliqued everything in place. The fun part of the quilt - well there are a lot of fun parts: choosing the fabrics for each animal, adding embellishments to your animals, and then choosing fun quilting patterns for each block. This class will have follow up class(es) in the fall.



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 is to use polka dot fabric in each block. The quilt will be whimsical, and will lend itself to bright colors, stripes, stars, and dots. To start you off we will give you a fat quarter that you must use in your blocks use (at least in some of them). But...if you don=t like the fat quarter or dots, you can choose any color scheme you like.

Hand Embroidery Club2nd 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. We are still doing the 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. We are also looking at new patterns, for those you do not want to do the Alphabet quilt or who have finished those blocks.

Knit Pickers' Club2nd 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 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 projectBmeaning 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 projectBafghan, scarf, bag, etc.

Other Classes

TBA Our schedule is limited this fall because of the pandemic. Face masks will be required in class and space will be limited. Classes will not run through lunch, so no eating (snacking & water okay, but no lunching). Bathrooms may or may not be available, but there are facilities within walking distance.

Other classes that I hope to schedule include Hand Quilting, Hand Applique, teaching long arm quilting, pillow case class, a quilt using our new ombres, machine quilting, machine applique, and machine applied binding. So stay tuned as we continue to tweak the schedule.

Christmas Club

Starting in September and running through November, from 1-4 on the second Saturday of the month, we will have a Christmas Club class. In each class we will have a different project, designed to teach you new skills (I hope). The projects will range from small to large: Credit Card holders, embroidered towels, wall hanging, laser cut stained glass, wool ornaments, table runner, and one quilt. We are still working on what projects and in what order. The fee for the class (all 3 sessions) will be \$50. Kit fees will be extra, but several of the projects will have free patterns and you will be able to use scraps, as well. Stay tuned for more details.

September classes

Beginning Quilting 8 weeks \$65 Barb Boyer Starting Sun Jan 19 or Thur Jan 16.

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.

Elizabeth Hartman Quilts \$30 Sept 26 noon-5 Sue Frerich

You can do any of the designs from Elizabeth Hartman. Sue will show you the 45 degree flip technique, and give you lots of ways and hints for keeping organized. The Beehive Quilt was made with a precut stack of 10" squares, plus backgrounds. Floyd and Lola, or Frank and Emma or Fred & Ethyl, (the llamas) were made with scraps, llama colored fabric (both right and wrong sides) and a background. We have many patterns, so just choose your favorite.

Funky Hearts Sat Set. 19 Noon - 5 Barb Boyer \$25 **(Another of our precut quilt series)**

This quilt uses 2 ½" strips plus yardage to make the oversized hearts. Our choice for fabrics is the new line from Alexander Henry: Ghastlies Fall In Love-as only the Ghastly characters can. This is a quick quilt to sew and if you still need a graduation present, you should be able to get the top done in no time.



October Classes

Paper Piece Christmas Tree Sat Sept 17 noon-5 Sue Frerich \$30

Sue taught this quilt last season and it was a hit! You can choose to make your tree using traditional green colors, black and white, or mix it up with a Northern Lights look. The pieces are big so the quilt is finished quickly. It's a perfect accessory for a door or wall hanging for Christmas.



Steampunk Halloween Sat Oct. 3, noon-5 \$25 Barb Boyer

This is a panel quilt, made with additional blocks. We will use the Flying Goose No Math ruler to make the geese (or you can do it the way the pattern does, with traditional squares & rectangles). Once you get the geese done, it's a snap and you'll have it ready for Halloween!

String Quilt, Oct 12, noon-5 Sue Frerich \$30

This is a no pattern quilt (meaning, you will get pattern instructions in class). String quilts are made from



strips of fabric, various sizes, widths, colors. You "string" the fabrics together to make a piece of fabric, and then cut your piece from your "string." This is a wonderful way to use up your scraps and is a technique used by our grandmothers long ago to make quilts from whatever they had on hand.

November Classes

Beginning Machine Applique TBA \$30 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 Machine Quilting TBA 1-4 \$30 Sue Frerich

Be prepared to quilt! You will practice your quilting skills on various samples, using both your walking foot and darning foot. Batting, threads, needles and patterns will be discussed. Who knows? By the time you leave you may even be able to write/quilt your name!

Binding Sun Nov 22, 1-4 1-4 Barb Boyer \$25

You'll learn how to accurately cut you bindings, whether bias, cross or straightBand when to use which one. You'll learn how to cut, then sew, join (so easy) and hand stitch part. Bindings so easy peasy you=II wonder why you were ever nervous about putting on the binding.

Christmas Tree Wall Hanging Nov. 21, noon-5 \$30 Sue Frerich or Barb Boyer

This cute quilt uses a fun batik collection that includes plaids, stripes and sheep! The pattern comes with its own ruler and the hardest part is deciding what fabric to go where.

PreCut for Christmas Sat Nov. 7, Noon-5 \$30 Sue Frerich

Using 10"squares, you can make this happy Bow Tie quilt. If you don't want to use Christmas fabrics, you can use any 10" square package (usually 40 squares) plus a background. Easy to make, and whether it's for Christmas or a

Christmas present, it will be finished in time for the holidays.



December Classes

Let's Do Christmas! Sat Dec. 5, 1-5 \$25 Barb Boyer TBA

Other Classes

TBA Our schedule is limited this fall because of the pandemic. Face masks will be required in class and space will be limited. Classes will not run through lunch, so no eating (snacking & water okay, but no lunching). Bathrooms may or may not be available, but there are facilities within walking distance.

Other classes that I hope to schedule include Hand Quilting, Hand Applique, teaching long arm quilting, pillow case class, machine quilting, machine applique, and machine applied binding. So stay tuned as we continue to tweak the schedule.

HAND EMBROIDERY CLUBBFREE!

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 ClubBFREE!

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 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). We are discussing trying to do a group projectBmeaning 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 projectBafghan, scarf, bag, etc.

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: September 1, October 2 & 31 (we'll do something special for this Blue Moon), November 30, December 30

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

September orange; October green, November flannels, December red.

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 progra

mmable 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.

Normal Shop Hours: Monday-Saturday 10-6 Sunday 1-5 Closed first Sunday of month (and some holidays)

Covid-19 Hours M-S 10-5. Closed Sundays

Color of the Month and Full Moon Schedule

Since I don't have classes posted, I forgot that I also didn't post the full moon and color of the month schedule.

Full Moon: June 5 (today, but we will observe it tomorrow as well); July 6, August 3 and September 1.

Colors: June blue; July Christmas; August black; September orange.

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