

Blue Moon Sale!

We will be very, very careful.....

Halloween doesn't get full moons very often regardless of what you see in the movies. The last one was in 2001 and the next won't be until 2039.



And this is a blue moon -- second full moon of the month, another rare occurrence.

So we will celebrate, but we won't pass out candy, have cookies or punch.

For Toad Toters, bring your bag and you will get 25% off your entire purchase. (Don't ask. I still don't have additional bags, I bought t-shirts instead this year.) So that means.....

For mask makers who either got or bought a t-shirt (and we still have some left), you will also get 25% off your purchase. You must wear your t-shirt to get your 25% off.

For everyone else, you can get 15% off entire purchase.

Ground rules: Everyone must wear a mask (the cloth mask or a PPE); and it must be worn over your nose. Please try to wear a regular mask and not a bandana or pulled up neck cowl. Other costumes are welcome but not essential to the sale.

If I get too many people in the store at once, I'll try to keep everyone spaced apart and may limit the number in the store at any one time. We will work together on this to keep us all safe.



October 23, 2020

I've always said NASA needs better staff writers. Maybe I am a frustrated science writer who didn't stay with the science program in school, opting for political science and journalism, instead. Maybe if I had stayed with the program I would be writing for NASA rather than about NASA. But that's a lot of years and space missions ago. And because I don't write for NASA, I can pick on them a little bit, just because it's fun.

This week, NASA is reassuring the world that the refrigerator sized asteroid that is hurtling toward earth is expected to only "buzz cut" the earth the day before the election. If that's not clear, it said that the chances of the asteroid hitting the earth is not any higher than someone on earth dying of covid. Now that's reassuring, given the mounting death toll in the United States alone.

I can think of better analogies, mainly because the percentages suggest that death from covid can be as high as on second thought, there are too many numbers floating around for comfort sake. Let's just say on the scale of dying from covid vs the flu, you're more likely to die from covid. And from getting hit, and presumably dying, by this refrigerator sized asteroid to dying from the flu, the flu is more likely to get you. But probably only if you are over 65. And frankly, the asteroid won't care how old you are. But I'm over 65. So maybe I'll worry just a little bit.

But see what I mean? Horrible analogies. It's like Ron's aversion to spiders in the Harry Potter movies: Why can't we chase after the butterflies, he complains once, as they are ready to head out, following spiders that will eventually lead them to a walk-in freezer sized arachnid. Why can't we compare getting hit by the asteroid to a butterfly? Maybe a giant butterfly. Or a giant moth. Mothman....giant moth Mothragodzilla....giant rabbits, which reminds me.

Back to Halloween movies, I watched the Night of the Lepus, about an infestation of mutated rabbits, as big as, well not refrigerator killing asteroids, actually bigger, like houses or tanks. The movie was adapted from a book, called The Year of the Angry Rabbit. I am not kidding. I caught the end of this unbelievable spectacle, mainly because I couldn't figure out how a rabbit could be made to look vicious. Spoiler alert: They don't. But they do kill and they do get killed. They even spook and stampede a herd of cows. I don't recommend this movie.

What were we talking about before I got diverted...oh, yeah, killer refrigerator-sized asteroids right before the election. Actually, if it does actually hit somewhere, isolated, away from civilization, it might be a nice distraction for the events that will come the next day.

But that's not what I want to talk about, or at least not all I want to talk about.

Did you hear that at least seven people have been charged with trafficking in flying squirrels, worth 1 million dollars? I don't know about you, but I can't imagine a worse pet. I bet that's not what you thought I was going to say.

When I first heard the story, my thoughts weren't about how expensive these squirrels were or how difficult it might be to catch them, or where they lived, or any normal question. I wondered what anyone would do with them, other than eat them, I guess. Maybe giant-rabbits-turned-carnivorous attack flying squirrels, leaping up on their giant hind legs, paws snatching the squirrels as they float from tree to tree. Just imagine....

Where was I?

Oh, the trafficking charge. Apparently this ring poaches by trapping the squirrels in Florida, and then selling them under false pretenses to South Korea pet dealers, saying they were captive born. Which brings up the original premise, why would anyone keep as a pet a flying squirrel, let alone breed it? I mean really, how do you take this animal out for a walk in the evening? Like a balloon on a string? A tethered kite?

Becca came bounding in from the yard with a leash in her mouth. Becca, for those of you who don't know, is my bossy mini Australian Shepherd who knows a little too much for her own good.

"Come on, now. Time for your meds and for your walk. Walkies, walkies, walkies," she told me. I obediently put on my coat, because it is now cold outside, and we went for a stroll around the pasture.

P.S. Note from Becca: "She's been watching too many Halloween movies this month. Coupled with the debates, smoky air, playing too much Plants vs Zombies, wearing a mask all day. Probably starved for oxygen. It's sad, really."

"Becca! Quit bothering the readers and get out here. Bring my hat."

Cruise News

Refunds checks.....will get here. The travel agent said to expect a 4-8 week wait, with emphasis on the 8 week. I don't know when that time period starts, either this week? or two weeks ago when we were told about the refunds. I'll keep you posted. We might get a nice Christmas

bonus, maybe right before Christmas.....

Schedule Change

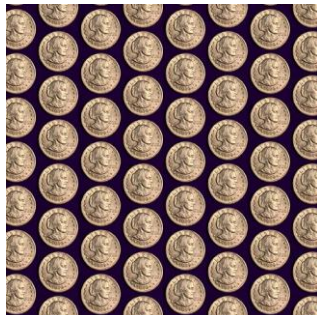
1. Sat. Nov. 14 1-5 -- Introduction to Wool Ornaments Barb Boyer
I will teach the easiest way to make wool ornaments using fusible web. The appliques will be tacked down with floss, pearl cotton, or wool thread, and embellished as much as you like. I will show various embroidery stitches to use, and we even have some Christmas buttons for added decorations. You can use any pattern or book for your ornaments.
2. Sat. October 31, noon-5. Christmas table runner -- of course this is a star pattern and Sue's tablerunner is hanging by the register. Get a jump on your Christmas projects and join us for some Halloween fun.
3. Paper pieced Christmas Tree--offered on a different date: Sat. Nov. 7, noon-5.
4. Sat Dec. 5, the "Let's Do Christmas!" we'll be making a BQ quilt and we have several examples in the shop, including one with golden retriever puppies.

We have also added to our Christmas display--coasters, a stuffed pillow and some really nice linen towels ready for embroidery or applique.

WHAT'S NEW!!

We have batting! Quilter's Dream (I think it's the 80/20 roll), a wool roll, plus bags of King Size batts (4 of them), and from Winline a 6 ounce all cotton batting--a little fluffier than regular all cotton bat, and a 50/50 bamboo/cotton bat.

From Benartex (and more from this line should be coming)

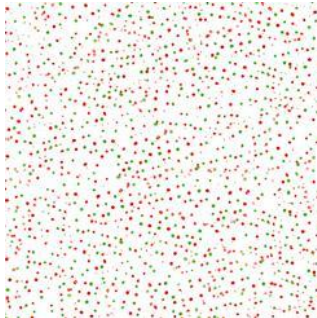




From Studio E

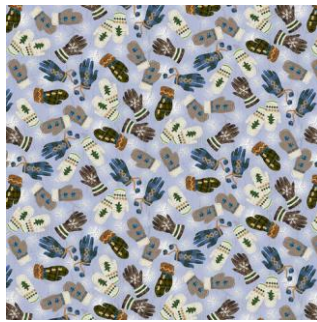


From Quilting Treasures:





From Henry Glass:



These 3 are flannels

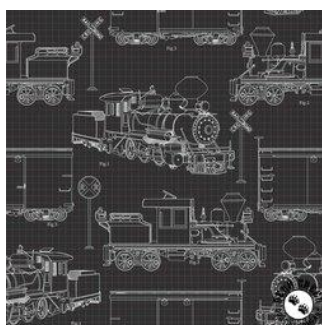
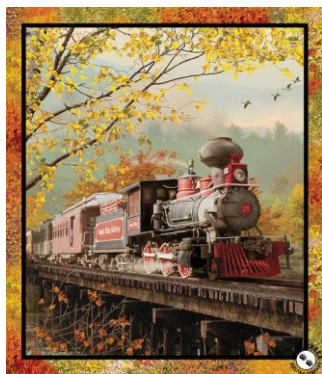
From Alexander Henry:



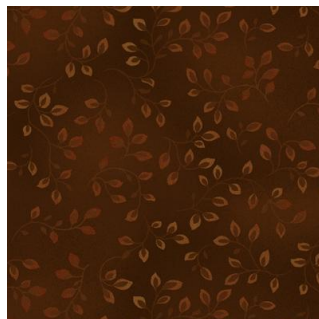
We're making a
tablerunner with this
fabric! We had 1
kit....just sold. But we
do have more books!



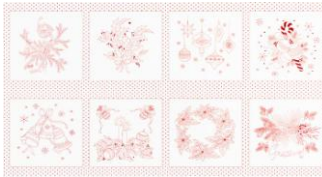
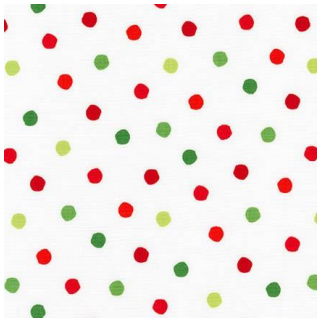
From 3 Wishes:



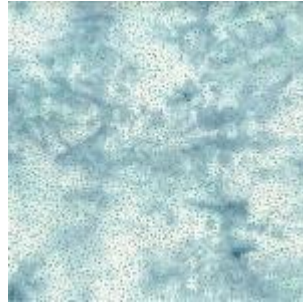
From Henry Glass and Windham:



From Robert Kaufman:



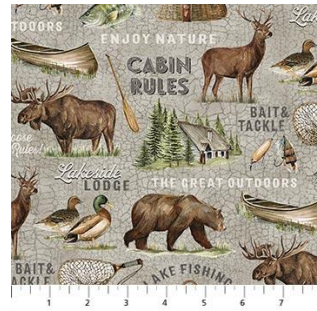
From Hoffman:



From Northcott:

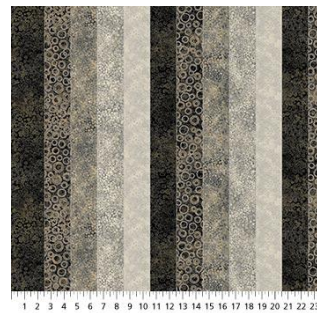
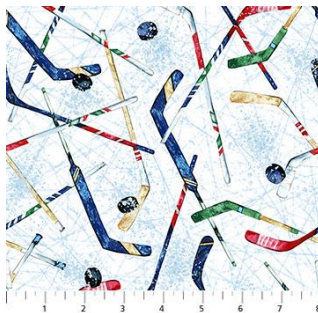
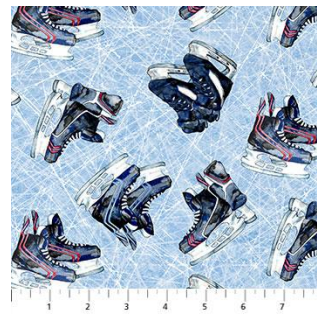
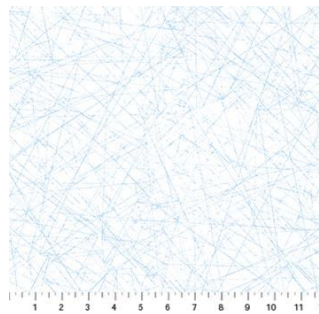


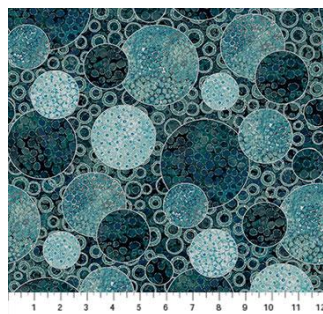
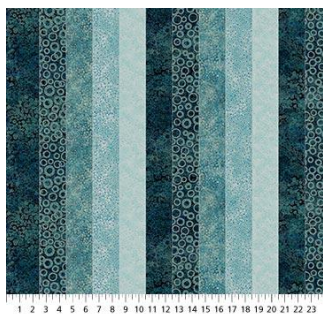
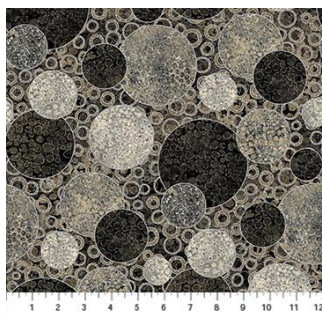
flannel



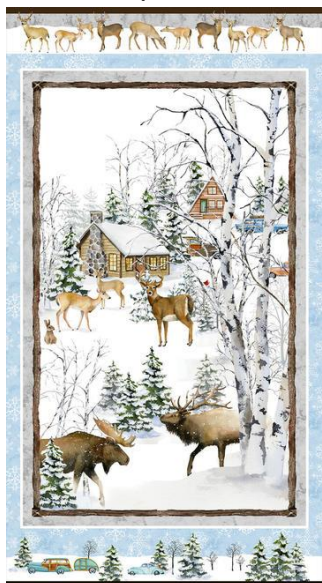
flannel

flannel





From Henry Glass:



From Alexander Henry:



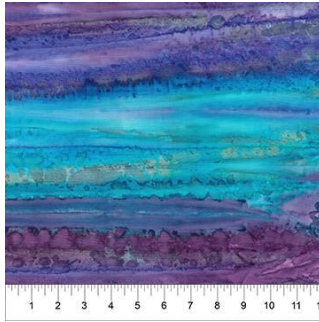
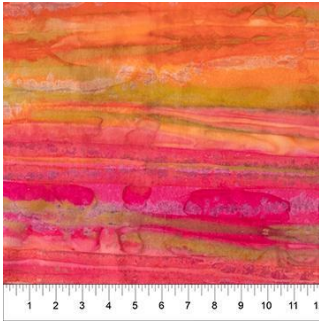
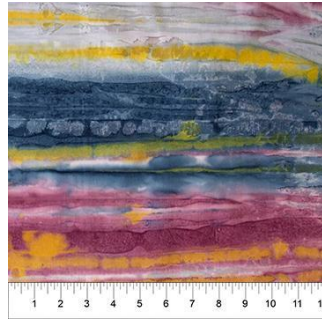
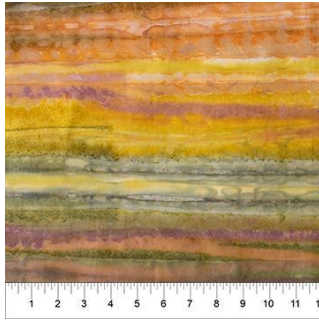
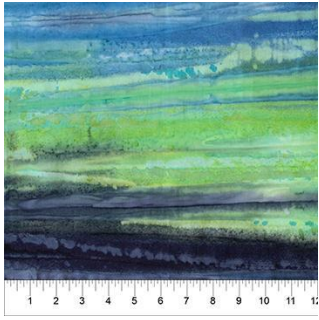


From Northcott:

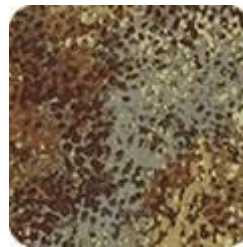
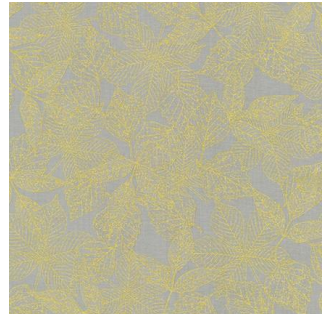


We've got a cute quilt made up with these pups.





From Robert Kaufman:



OCTOBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Friday	Sat
	Color of the month: green			1	2 Full Moon	3 BOM 10:30
4 Closed	5	6	7	8	9	10 Embroidery Club 10-noon Christmas Club 1-4
11 Beginning Quilting 1-4	12 String Quilt Columbus Day	13 Hand work Club 2-4	14	15	16	17 Paper Pieced Christmas Tree Noon-5
18 Beginning Quilting 1-4	19	20 Hand work Club 2-4	21 Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	22	23	24 Strip Stacks, Noon-5
25 Beginning Quilting 1-4	26	27 Hand work Club 2-4	28	29 Long Arm Rental Day	30	31 Christmas Star table runner Noon-5 Halloween Full Moon

NOVEMBER 2020

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

DECEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Friday	Sat
	Color of the month: red	1 Hand work Club 2-4	2	3 Long Arm Rental Day	4	5 BOM 10:30 Let's Do Christmas! BQ Quilt 1-5
6 Closed	7	8 Hand work Club 2-4	9 Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	10 Long Arm Rental Day	11	12 Embroidery Club 10-noon Christmas Club 1-4
13	14	15 Hand work Club 2-4	16	17 Long Arm Rental Day	18	19
20	21	22 Hand work Club 2-4	23 Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	24	25 Christmas Closed	26
27	28	29	30 Full Moon	31		

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 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. 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' 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 of 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.

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.

October Classes

Strip Stacks Quilt, Oct 24, noon-5 Sue Frerich \$30

We've done this quilt before, but it's so popular, we put it back on the schedule. It takes 2 1/2" strips (and we have an accucut dye that will cut 2 1/2" strips, if you don't want to use precuts). And since I'm always thinking Christmas gifts, this quilt would be wonderful in reds & greens, just in time for the holidays.



Halloween! Sat Oct 31, noon-5 Sue Frerich

Sat. October 31, noon-5. Christmas table runner -- of course this is a star pattern and Sue's tablerunner is hanging by the register. Get a jump on your Christmas projects and join us for some Halloween fun.

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 Barb Boyer \$25

You'll learn how to accurately cut your bindings, whether bias, cross or straight. And 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'll 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.



Paper Piece Christmas Tree Sat Nov. 7 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.



Wool Ornaments Sat Nov. 14, Noon-5 \$30 Barb Boyer

Choose any wool ornaments patterns, picks some wools for your projects, and come learn you to make easy Christmas ornaments. I'll teach you easy ways to assemble the wool, easy embellishing stitches (you can go simple or crazy with your stitches), and we'll talk about turning your old wool sweaters into "ugly" sweater ornaments. It's fun!

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.

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 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 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.

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 10-5
Sunday 1-5
Closed first Sunday of month (and some holidays)**

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