

June & July class schedule is out! See below. July and August are almost done, as is the fall schedule. We are still making sure dates are correct.



June 2, 2023

This is something straight out of science fiction: It may be possible to move planets into orbit around one sun. So I know you're asking, why would you want to do that?

Actually, I don't really know. But a couple of guys decided to see what would happen if they put 24 planets into the same orbit around one sun. Two planets are actually paired with each other to form what's called a "horseshoe orbit."

So first you need to understand what a horseshoe orbit is. This is when two "planets" orbit the same "object," like a planet or a sun, and they are on orbital paths that are not far apart. What happens is after so many orbits around, they switch places, the near one moves farther away and the farther away one moves in closer.

Two moons of Saturn actually do this. One moon is 31 miles closer to Saturn, but technically on the same orbital path as the other, one in the left lane and one in the right lane, so to speak. Every four years or so, the closer in moon passes the moon in the "right" lane, and the gravitational nudge that occurs bumps the outer moon to the inner path. And four years later, they swap positions again.

It's called a horseshoe orbit because if you were on one of the moons, it looks like the other moon is approaching, and then it does a U-turn and appears to be going back the other way. It doesn't; it just looks like that. I know. If I saw this on Star Trek, I wouldn't believe it either.

But University of Bordeaux astronomer Sean Raymond wanted to see what would happen if they tried to put up to 24 planets around a sun. And they discovered (after lots & lots of math) that the planets could orbit the sun this way for billions of years, even after the sun died out.

All right, you say. Interesting thought problem but does it have any practical use. Well, apparently, yes. First of all, by building the computer model to see if such a thing would work, they got a better understanding of what to look for, out there in the vast universe. And, yup, that means they are looking for aliens.

They admit that this phenomenon could exist naturally. But they are more interested in the folks that might create such a cluster. Since they have never found a horseshoe system with planets, they speculate that if they did, it's likely that aliens would have built it.

"Wait a minute, wait a minute," said Becca coming in from outside. It was about to rain and she'd just gotten back from a spa appointment and didn't want her newly fluffed coat to get wet. Becca, for all of you new comers to this post, is my narcissistic mini Australian Shepherd. She has a beautiful red coat. Just ask her. I was surprised that she hadn't joined the conversation earlier. She likes stories about alien stuff.

"Are you telling me that you can move as many planets as you want around a central sun?" she asked. "Even Darth Vader couldn't do that."

"You're mixing your movie franchises, Becca. And I didn't say we could do that. This Raymond guy says that if you find a cluster of planets around a sun, aliens did it."

"I bet that would cost a pretty penny," Becca said. "Even Musk couldn't afford a job like that."

"I think if the aliens had that kind of technology, cost is not a question," I said dryly. "Raymond thinks that if you have that technology, it might be a good idea to install other planets around your sun. Apparently, nothing bad will happen if you do, and think of all the places you could put people."

"That gives new meaning to long distance traveling," she said, "like flying to New Zealand."

"Oh they'd be beaming people back and forth or going to light speed to get there," I said.

"And now you're mixing your movie franchises," Becca smirked.

"That's all right. I've been watching the Marvel movies again, this time in time order, not release order. Thor doesn't use ships, beaming or light speed. He just invokes his hammer."

"Speaking of Marvel movies," Becca said, "do you want to tell them about the Captain America movie where he tries to sneak onto a Nazi conclave to rescue 1,000 prisoners and he's carrying his fake red, white & blue just shoot me shield on his back?"

"No," I said. "Although I will say I had more issues with that scene than I did when scientist Schmidt peeled off his face to reveal the red skull underneath. I mean, in context, that was appropriate."

"Or how about the young boy in the series Sweet Tooth," I continued, "who lives from age a couple of months to 9 years old, or so, growing up in a remote area of Yellowstone, with access to nothing...."

"Yeah," Becca interrupted, "where did he get all of the clothes he needed as he grew up. I mean, they couldn't, and didn't, just walk to the local store."

"Yeah, and where did all the geese come from? I have lots of questions that I know I'm not supposed to be asking."

“But you’re now way off topic,” Becca reminded me. “You were talking about horseshoe planetary orbits and the aliens who can create them.”

“Oh, right,” I said. “This Raymond thinks that they may be able to spot them, based on the planetary movements created by the horseshoe orbits. He said it may take 10 years or so, but now that they know what to look for....”

“They might find aliens!” Becca said.

“Yup.”

Jean Heller is a traveler and quilt enthusiast. She retired recently and decided to visit all sorts of places and check out quilt stores along the way. She has a web site called North American Shop Hop, where she posts her stories about her journeys. She came to Around the Block a month or so ago, took pictures, asked about the shop and then posted her review on her website. Check it out! Thanks, Jean!

<https://nashophop.com/2023/05/08/around-the-block-quilt-shop-cheyenne-wyoming/?unapproved=2042&moderation-hash=99b9413429885f2303bb51eb6cda7cd0#comment-2042>

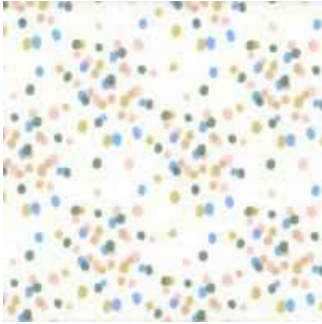
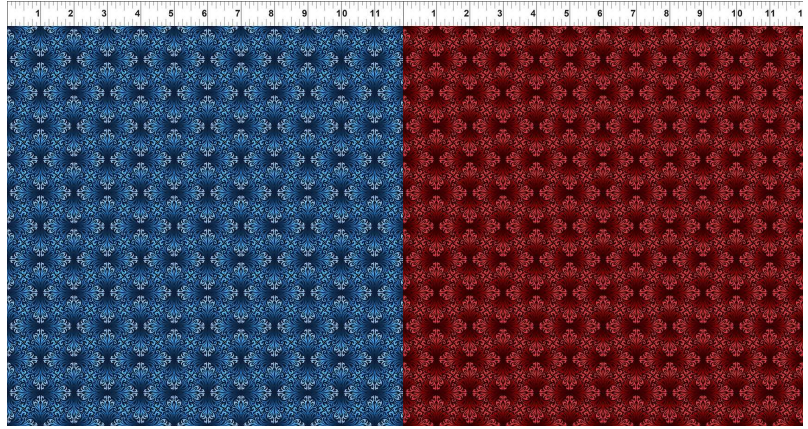
What's New

Bucking Horse & Rider fabric is in! I won't put in pics because you know what it looks like, I hope. 3 bolts of small BH&Rs and 4 bolts of large. Not that many bolts, so if you're looking to do projects sometime in the future, get it now because it won't come back until next May.



From In the Beginning

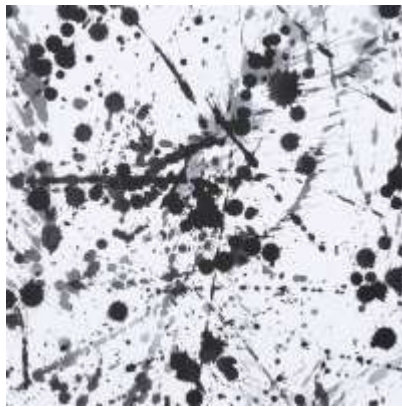




From Dear Stella (NOTE The Hedgehogs) & Oasis (the horses)

Plus we got whites in from P & B. I won't put thumbnails in, because they will just look white.





Alexander Henry



From Riley Blake





From Michael Miller
The two florals are overwide, and
the bundle is actually 2 1/2" wide
strips in Fairy Frost--the bundle
just shows the colors better





From Riley Blake



A	For Alice, bright as new, Made so by Sappho, too.	
B	For Bess, who's so brave, Who's so brave as Sappho.	
C	For Cassie, Cassie, Cassie, Sappho's the only one to love.	
D	For Dora, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
E	For Eddy, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
F	For Fannie, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
G	For Gertie, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
H	For Helen, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
I	For Ida, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
J	For Julia, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
K	For Kate, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
L	For Lillian, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
M	For Mary, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
N	For Nellie, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
O	For Olive, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
P	For Pauline, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
Q	For Queenie, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
R	For Rose, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
S	For Susan, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
T	For Tilly, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
U	For Ursula, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
V	For Virginia, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	
W	For Wanda, who's so new, Sappho's the only one to love.	



From Michael Miller

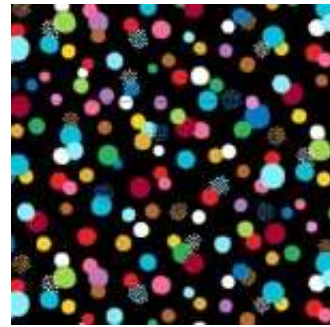




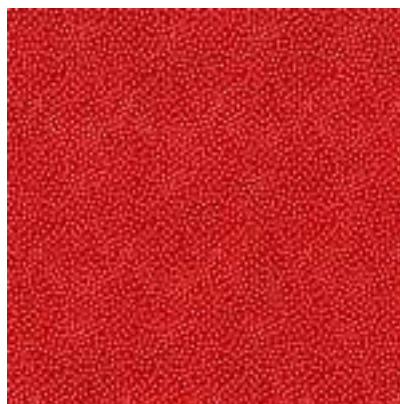
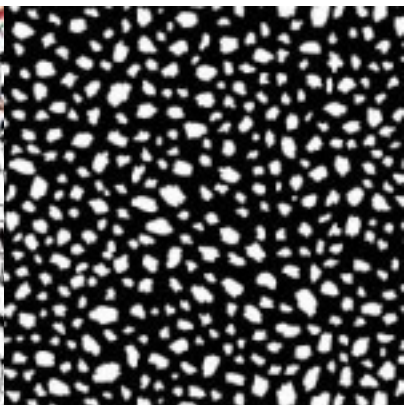
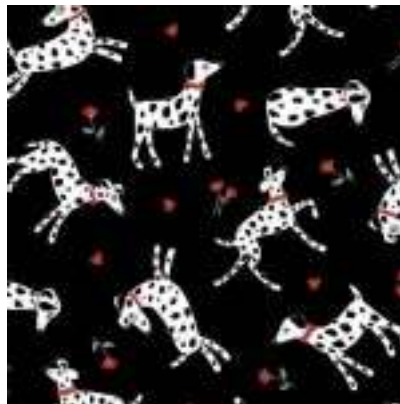
From Windham







From Michael Miller





From Kennard & Kennard



PANEL SIZE APROX 24" x 44"



Spring Newsletter

Class Pictures of some of the quilts: Storm at Sea (High Tide); Shakespeare in the park; Two Scoops, Prism; Happy Stripes (Striper); San Marcos, English paper piecing bag (one of several options); Exploding Hearts.



Y

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 Starry Skies. Challenge #1 is to use at least 25 different fabrics in the quilt – should be easy. Challenge #2 is to choose backgrounds for the blocks that aren't the typical cream/white neutrals that we generally use. Instead, we will mix it up a bit, using both traditional backgrounds for some blocks, and then choosing "colors" in both light and dark fabrics for other blocks.

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 is Garden Belles. Each block features a lady in vintage costume, in the garden, or similar outdoor setting. These are old fashioned ladies in dresses, which offer all sorts of stitchery creativity.

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.

June Classes

Beginning Quilting 8 weeks \$65 Barb Boyer Starting Sun June 4

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.

Laura Heine collage quilts Sat June 17 10:30-4 Jean Korber \$40

Create your own.....cat? scarecrow, owl, elephant, sloth. Choose any one of Heine's patterns, bring a pile of fun fabrics (flowers, feathers, various designs) and learn how to create your own collage quilt, using fusible fabric pieces. If you can operate a pair of scissors and an iron, you can do this quilt!

Make Your Own Grocery Bag Sat June 3, 1-4 Barb Boyer free with purchase of fabric

As you know, we no longer provide bags of any kind for your purchases. So what better than to make your own cloth bag that's reusable and shaped like a regular plastic bag that you get at the grocery store! These are easy to do. You can add elastic if you want to roll them up. They work great at the grocery store because they are sturdier and can hold more stuff without fear of breaking. You will be able to make several bags, or at least get several cut and at least one sewn during class.

Quilt #6, Organized Chaos: Fat Quarter Favorite Quilts Sat June 24 10:30-4 Jean Korber \$35 (or \$120 for all 6 quilts)

The last quilt is called Organized Chaos. You can work with 22 fat quarters or 11 half yard cuts for a little less chaos. Jean has a great way to keep the chaos organized as you put the interlocking looking blocks together.

Shakespeare in the Park Sat June 10 1-5 \$35 Barb Boyer

This quilt is made up of stars and Snail's Trail blocks. The pattern is an old time favorite from the legendary Judy Martin. It is a classic quilt, one of those on the bucket list of "to do" quilts. This is the second session of the class. We will work on the second block that makes this quilt. If you already paid for the class in May, this is part 2 (no extra charge, of course). But if you missed the first class, you can catch up in the final class, as we will go over all the parts that make up this quilt.

July Classes

Fun Ways to Use Your Panels: A strategy and Design Class Sat July 1, 1-5 \$35 Barb Boyer

Bring your panel(s) and some graph paper and we will strategize how to design a quilt around your panel. We will work with my EQilt program for help designing extra blocks, choosing settings, and getting the math right.

Machine Binding Sat July 8 1-5 \$40 Jean Korber

This is hands on class. You will need a small project (10" to 40", table runner, small wall nagging, 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.

Elizabeth Hartman Quilts, your choice Sat July 29 10:30-5 Barb Boyer 10:30-4

E.H. Quilts are made using a 45 degree flip & sew method. The trick is in the organization & keeping track where you are in the piecing. These make great kid quilts, wall hangings, ones with all the animals—bed quilts. You can start by making one animal from the quilt, and build out from [there](#).

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 2-5, 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).

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 6; February 4 (observed); March 7; April 6; May 5; June 4

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, June blue

June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				Long Arm Rental Day		BOM 10:30 Full moon Make Your Own Grocery Bag 1-4 <u>Free</u> , with fabric purchase
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Beginning Quilting 1-4 Shop Is now open 1-5!		Hand work Club 2-5	Long Arm class 10:30	Long Arm Rental Day		Embroidery Club 10-noon Shakespeare in the Park 1-5 \$35
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Beginning Quilting 1-4 Shop Is now open 1-5!		Hand work Club 2-5	Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	Long Arm Rental Day		Laura Heine <u>\$40 10:30-4</u>

18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Beginning Quilting 1-4 Dads' Day Shop Is now open 1-		Hand work Club 2-5	Long Arm class 10:30	Long Arm Rental Day		6 fat quarter quilts: Quilt #6 10:30-4 \$35
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Beginning Quilting 1-4 Shop Is now open 1- 5!		Hand work Club 2-5	Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	Long Arm Rental Day		Color of the month: blue

July 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 BOM 10:30 Fun Ways to use your panels: A strategy & design class 1-5 <u>\$35</u>
2 Beginning Quilting 1-4 Shop Is now open 1- 5!	3 Full moon	4 CLOSED	5 Long Arm class 10:30	6 Long Arm Rental Day	7	8 Embroidery Club 10- noon Machine Binding 1-5 \$40
9 Shop Is now open 1- 5!	10	11 Hand work Club 2-5	12 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	13 Long Arm Rental Day	14	15
16 Shop Is now open 1- 5!	17	18 Hand work Club 2-5	19	20 Long Arm Rental Day	21	22

23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Shop Is now open 1- 5!		Hand work Club 2-5	Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	Long Arm Rental Day		Elizabeth Hartman Quilts: Your choice 10:30-4
30	31					Color of the month: Christmas
Shop Is now open 1- 5!						



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 7-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
Around the Block
307-433-9555

www.aroundtheblockquilts.com

