



The Quiltmaker's Shoppe

Arlington WA

September – December 2017

315 N. Olympic Avenue, Arlington, WA 98223 Phone: 360-435-3993 Mon - Fri 10:00-5:30 Sat 10:00-4:00 Sun 11:00-3:00

Check out the Shoppe's website! <http://www.thequiltmakersshoppe.com>



Greetings to all! Here we are heading right up to Fall already! Summer is flying past again and I am definitely looking forward to some rain around here. While the weather people on TV seem very excited that we have broken a record for the longest dry streak I just find it dusty, hot and brown. I want the rain to come and water my yard and wash my car!

SHOPPE TALK

It's been a busy summer at the Shoppe. Lots of customers in from all over doing the Row by Row. Congratulations to Bonnie Fuentes for bringing the winning RxR quilt into the Shoppe. It's a great happy quilt that I enjoy having on display. Her family owns and operates Hazel Blue Acres in Silvana - super good blueberries! If you haven't made a trip out there to get blueberries this summer you should make a plan to do so. Candy without the quilt!

NEW FABRIC AT THE SHOPPE

Two new fall collections have just arrived from Northcott. One is called "Heartland Home" and includes a digital farm scene panel that is lovely. The second is called "Pumpkins for Sale" and has a bright pumpkin stand panel and a fun project using log cabin blocks. The Heartland Home collection also has a project and I'm working on that sample now. More on that later!

There is a wonderful new precut kit from Kimberbell called "Sprinkled With Love". The "official" display quilt is in the Shoppe through August 23rd if you can get in to see it, then it goes off to the next quilt shop on the list. This is really a bright and cheery quilt for any room in your home. The precut shapes add a bit to the price but it's well worth it when you consider the tracing, fusing and cutting time you will save!

Also fairly new is the "Welcome Home" flannel collection from Maywood Studios/Shabby Chic. Great floral prints and coordinates in shades of burgundy, rose, black and green. This collection has a simple lap quilt project that would make a great Christmas gift for someone! Speaking

of gifts, we also just received some fun novelty prints from Timeless Treasures that will make perfect aprons, bags, placemats or throws! Knitting chickens, and knitting and cooking phrases with a humorous twist!

Seasonally, we have "Gingerbread Christmas" fabrics by Meg Hawkey of Crabapple Hill and "Halloweenie" by Robin Kingsley of Bird Brain Designs. There are loads of other new fabrics, Gelato Ombre's from Maywood Studios, batiks and prints from Hoffman and Kaufmann - florals, wildlife, Winnie the Pooh - let's just say that there is a lot to see in this little shop!

Oh! Also, "You Lucky Dog" is the newest flannel applique project from Bonnie Sullivan! Kits, patterns and fabrics all available at the Shoppe!

FABRIC COMING SOON

In September I'm expecting another Shabby Chic collection from Jennifer Bosworth. This collection is called "Heather" and is on flat cotton. Also due to arrive that month is the "Penny Garden" flannel collection from All Thru the Night and Maywood Studios. This one is going to be very popular I think! Who doesn't love the Penny Rugs? "Bunnies by the Bay" has teamed up with Timeless Treasures and that collection will be arriving later in the fall. This is very cute! Also expected in a couple of months is Mountain Wilderness from Northcott and some bits and bolts from Laura Heine and Tula Pink! WHEW!!! That's just for starters!

COMING UP:

Classes resuming in September! Finish It Friday comes back and Krista, Pat, Belinda and Judy are ready to go! Krista has really taken wing with her pattern designs. We get to do "Argyle Lad" and "Champagne & Pearls" this quarter. Both quilts are up at the Shoppe now so come in and check them out. Belinda is doing a Log Cabin in addition to FIF and the Forest Floor BOM, Pat will introduce anyone to the basics of quilting (or come back for a refresher class) and Judy will make you an artist with Free Motion/Thread Painting as well as her Woven class. I may add in a class myself after I see

how my fall schedule shakes out. If so, I'll let you know in one of the Sale emails that go out the first weekend of the month.

GADGET TIME

If you talk to 10 quilters you will get at least 4 opinions on the best needle, the best thread, the best ruler - and so on. I have definite preferences - and it is usually for anything that makes my quilting easier and more accurate! The trick is to find what works best for you. Recently I've brought in the O'lipfa ruler after watching it used by Tina M. in a class. This is a great ruler for those who struggle to keep the longer rulers from sliding when cutting straight strips. It "locks" to the edge of your mat and holds in place while you cut. It's not for everyone or for every cut but if keeping a long ruler straight is a challenge for you this could make a big difference!

STORIES FROM A QUILT SAMPLE MAKER

As I mentioned above, I'm working on a sample quilt now for the "Heartland Home" collection. It uses a purchased pattern written by Carla Klop. The fabric arrived and Belinda was kitting it up and I called her to talk about something and she asked me if I had read this pattern - which I hadn't. She said it had a different way of making half and quarter square triangles. So, next day I was at the Shoppe and I opened a pattern and looked at the method. I have to admit that it intimidated me thoroughly! I know that there is nothing new under the sun in the quilting world but this was a completely new thing to me. My first thought was to rewrite the pattern using methods that I know will work for me, which is to oversize the blocks a bit and then use the Bloc-Loc rulers to trim them and get the perfect size. But.... One of the first rules of making sample quilts is to FOLLOW THE PATTERN!! How can I sell a kit with a pattern that I'm not willing to follow? How do I know that there really is enough fabric - not too much but enough to allow a mistake or two? How do I know that this new method isn't the greatest thing since County Fair Scones? So, ok. I'm doing it the way the pattern is written and I admit that it is a challenge. It relies very heavily on accuracy in my cutting, sewing and pressing and, while my quilts are usually pretty close to accurate I don't think I'll ever win an award for best quarter inch seam! While I work on the sample I'm keeping the kits behind the counter. I respect anyone that can come up with a new method for simplifying my sewing and, according to the website www.kitsbykarla.com this is a simple and fast way to make the blocks. And, I'm pushing myself a bit to learn

something new which is always a good thing! However, as with most of the samples I make, if I find that this particular method is a struggle for me I will insert some alternate directions using the old tried and true techniques because from talking to you over the years I've learned that some of you struggle with the same issues I have and also appreciate the "trim it down" approach to perfection!

It is important to make samples whenever we can here. For one thing you like to see what it looks like done up! But, just as important is checking the pattern. No pattern writer is perfect! Errors can happen and it is really frustrating to be in the middle of a quilt project and discover that when the pattern said $2\frac{3}{4}$ " it REALLY meant $2\frac{1}{2}$ " on those 10 strips you cut earlier. Especially if the fabric has sold out!

I do (mostly) enjoy sewing the samples and I like to be able to answer your questions about methods and techniques. I have been told over the last few years that you appreciate seeing the projects done up and you also appreciate that the errors were found before you started to sew. While it isn't always possible to get a sample done for every project we do try! It is part of the service and a benefit you receive when you shop at your local Quilt Shop as opposed to hopping on the internet for your fabric shopping. We try to make it real for you and we try to make it easy! We listen to what you want to see and what you want to do and whenever we can we try to help you see and do just that!

So, come in the Shoppe and look around at the samples when you get a minute. There are a lot of hours hanging on these walls! Maybe you'll get challenged like I am with a new technique! Maybe you'll see a pattern made up that will spark a chord for some fabric you have in your stash! Maybe you'll just enjoy the pretty fabrics - either way we welcome you and invite you to stop by. Deb

SUPER WEEKEND Watch your e-mail for the great deals the first Weekend of every month!

FALL CLASSES

OPEN EMBROIDERY - Cathy Callan

This class is just becoming more fun every month! Cathy has so many ideas for us! Of course, she is ready, willing and able every month to help you with your embroidery project, whether you are a beginner or learned at Grandma's knee and just want to advance or brush up your skills. She has also started bringing us

along into the world of wool applique and fancy stitching to make some really fun stuff! So, come join! Bring in something you are working on or stop into the Shoppe and pick up a brand new pattern and floss. It is a great way to spend a few hours a month with friends.

Fee: \$10

1st Thursday of the Month (10:30 - 12:30)

FINISH IT FRIDAY - Belinda Murray

Have projects you'd like to finish up (or start)? Need a little help figuring it out? Like to sew with other quilters? Just want to sew away from the laundry, the dishes, the phone, the pets, the kids and grandkids? Join us! It will be a fun time out. Space is limited, so sign up early as it will fill fast.

Fee: \$15

2nd & 4th Fridays (1:00 - 9:00)

FOREST FLOOR - Belinda Murray

Another beautiful Block of the Month from Wing and a Prayer Designs using Timeless Treasures Batiks! The 2017 Tonga Forest Floor collection is a palette of light to dark autumn hues. The Forest Floor quilt is a twist on tradition featuring twelve, 12" blocks for monthly handout nestled in a log cabin setting. Both novice and skilled quilters will enjoy piecing this luscious Forest Floor quilt. The large stamped batik leaves let the fabric do the work for you enhancing the Forest Floor theme. An easy pieced border frames the quilt interior showing off the beautiful blend of all the colors replacing a standard border. Pillow and runner [bonus projects](#) using large leaves.

2nd Saturday of the Month (10:30 - 1:00)

APPLIQUÉ ONLY - No Teacher

It's always more fun working on projects with friends. Bring your unfinished appliqué project or start a new one!

Fee: \$15 per year

3rd Wednesday of the Month (10:00 - 1:00)

ARGYLE LAD - Krista Moser

Looking for a good guy quilt? This was designed for those guys in mind...you know, the ones who want a quilt, but don't want anything girly. Made with the classic argyle plaid design, this quilt has a timeless look to it. You could of course make it in any fabric (I think Seahawks colors would be amazing!). Come take a class and learn how to piece diamonds accurately and how to do sashing on the diagonal (easier than people think). The bulk of this quilt is strip pieced so we will get quite a bit done in class!

Fee: \$35 + pattern

Sat, Sept 16th (10:30 - 3:30)

INTRODUCTORY QUILTING - Pat Mitchell

In September, Pat will introduce a new round of quilters to the world of half square triangles, flying geese, sashing, borders, quilting and binding! Or, to refresh the skills of anyone wanting to get some basics back in hand. You learn a LOT in this class and are ready to take on almost any pattern once you've mastered these basic skills. Please come and join her for a fun and enlightening experience! It will be well worth the time!

Fee: \$70.00 plus fabric/tools

Thursdays, Sept 28, Oct 12,19,26, Nov 9,16 (11:00 - 2:00)

LOG CABIN BLOCKS - Belinda Murray

Fast, accurate and fun. We will be using strips and the new Log Cabin BloCLoc Rulers to make blocks that can be used in many ways to make table runners, quilts or other projects. Pattern provided but Ruler is required.

Fee: \$35 + ruler

Fri, Oct 20 (10:30-3:30)

FREE MOTION QUILTING - Judy Irish

Learn to sandwich and quilt all those quilt tops you have stashed away! Judy's free motion class is just the place! She will encourage you to dump fear and intimidation and simply have fun breathing and quilting! This class continues to fill fast; sign up today to secure your place.

Fee: \$35

Sat, Oct 21 (10:30 - 3:00)

CHAMPAGNE & PEARLS - Krista Moser

Looking for a great quilt to learn new skills? Something that looks complicated but is so easy you won't believe it?! This quilt has the beauty of tradition, but could be changed up with holiday colors or maybe even patriotic! It's a star with a hidden gem in the background detail. You will learn some fool proof piecing techniques you'll be sure to use on any future quilting project.

Fee: \$35 + pattern

Sat, Oct 28th (10:30 - 3:30)

CHRISTMAS COLLAGE-WOVEN QUILT - Judy Irish

Create a fun collage with a simple one piece or woven background...add some snowmen, trees, Santa's or subject of your choice. These small wall hangings are fast and easy to make and great gifts for the holidays!

Fee: \$35

Sat, Nov 18th (10:30 - 3:30)