



The Quiltmaker's Shoppe

Arlington WA

April - June 2018

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

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



Greetings to all!

Hello, hello hello!!! How is everyone? Good?

Good! I'm late with this newsletter and have a lot to get to so let's get started.

SHOPPE TALK: We have some exciting new things coming up for you! The biggest struggle many quilters have is what to do now that your top is pieced. How to do the quilting without a long arm machine or a budget to pay a professional for every quilt you do. We may have come up with a way to help you through this! For years Judy Irish has been teaching a quarterly class on Free Motion Quilting and she does an awesome job teaching the art and mixing in thread painting and giving you confidence to try different things and stretch your skills. This is a great class and we will continue to put it on our schedule. But, now we are going to add an option for those of you that want to begin at the beginning and learn the "bones" and more traditional methods of quilting including information on marking, with or without stencils, in the ditch or outline, echo quilting, ruler work, invisible threads and other thread choices. This will be a great opportunity for those that aren't quite ready to "free-wheel" and need some one on one assistance to build your confidence. The idea is to make this a monthly class and you can start as a beginner with a small sample project and work your way up to quilting something larger. Take as many classes as you need and learn the techniques that make a finished quilt stand out! We promise patience and support.

And, Sondra Shaw is stretching out from teaching the Sashiko skills to teaching how to do miniatures! This is the class for the quilter that complains of a lack of wall space! These quilts will fit anywhere and they look great. Other great classes are on the schedule as well, there is sure to be something that strikes your fancy.

NEW FABRIC AT THE SHOPPE:

Gorgeous digital panels from Hoffman have just arrived along with the limited edition, licensed UW & WSU batiks. Also new digital tulips, pansies and prints that will spice up any project you are working on. The entire Gustav Klimt collection from Robert Kaufman along with Claude Monet panels and coordinates, Van Gogh, it's like an art gallery! Which is no surprise to many of us - quilting is definitely art - but it's delightful to see how beautifully a different form of art can be translated to fabric. A new collection just in from Maywood Studios called "Greenery", with beautiful floral, leaf, vine and paisley prints on greens, grays, blacks and whites. Fuchsia & Hummingbird prints from Clothworks and more.

FABRIC COMING SOON:

What's coming? A new Singer Featherweight fabric and digital Renoir prints from Robert Kaufman, a new batik collection from In the Beginning Fabrics and... Wait for it ... CHRISTMAS FABRIC! Yep. It's going to be here soon so get ready to see that!

And, let's not forget the Shop Hop Fabric. I love the 2018 fabrics. Umbrellas, clouds, rain... sounds like home to me! We are taking preorders now.

STORE HOURS:

We are back to longer days and warmer temps now so there isn't a need for winter hours. But, I am now experimenting with our regular hours. Unfortunately none of us that work here is getting any younger, nor are we reducing our "outside" commitments! Between Quilt Guild and Quilt group meetings, Grandkids, church functions and just life in general the 4 pm close does make life a little simpler for all of us. I know there are a few of you that work and miss the longer hours but in looking back over the last few years it has been rare to have customers in before 11 or after 4. Because of classes I will be keeping the 10 am open but I am going to try closing at 4:30 M-F. Saturday and Sunday will stay the same. Let me know if this is a problem for you. As I

mentioned this is an experiment so if it doesn't work I will try again. Store hours are always on the voicemail if you are thinking of coming down and want to make sure we're open. I have even been known to let customers in after hours when needed!

COMING UP:

ALL IN STITCHES QUILT SHOW

"Reflections of a Quilter"

April 27 - 28

Edward D. Hansen Conference Center Angel of the Winds Arena (formerly Comcast/Xfinity Arena), Everett

CAMA BEACH "QUILTS ON THE BEACH" SHOW

Saturday, July 28th,

Cama Beach State Park

WESTERN WASHINGTON SHOP HOP

June 23 - July 1

<http://www.washingtonquiltshophop.com>

ROW BY ROW EXPERIENCE

June 21st - Sept. 4th

<https://rowbyrowexperience.com>

CRANKY OLD WOMAN RAMBLINGS:

(Yes, I know that abbreviates into C.O.W. As my friend Cathy would say, "own it".) *As I turn 60 I am allowed to rant and rave about things that irritate or confuse me about the "modern" world - you know, the way your parents did when you were young and you would roll your eyes and think, "Oh good grief - here we go again."*

1. The cutter strip on the foil and cling wrap boxes aren't sharp enough to give me a clean cut on the box contents but are sharp enough to almost cut the tip off of my finger?

2. What fashion genius had the bright idea of a drawstring waist instead of elastic on pajama bottoms and sweat pants? I am a big fan of wide, soft and stretchy elastic waist bands - (not the stiff hard elastic that feels like a tourniquet) - but these ties?

If I don't double knot the tie they just undo themselves and fall down. If I do double knot it takes patience and the ability to be a bit of a contortionist to get them off! Then, when I wash the pants this

happens: if I leave the strings separate and just tie a large knot at the end of each my washing machine manages to undo the knots and I have to sit down and fish around in the waistband to pull out one or both ends. OR, if I tie the two strings together my washing machine TIGHTENS the knot and I have to sit down with a fork or crochet hook and pick it apart before I can get the dang things on!

3. I guess the package designers for the microwave meals in a box must deserve some entertainment at their job but, putting the directions on the bottom of the box it cooks in borders on the sadistic. "Pull back corner of box to vent. Cook at 50% power for 3 minutes. Remove cover and stir, cook an additional 3 minutes at 100% power." Maybe it's expected that I will be able to remember something for 3 minutes? (I can't). So, here I am, standing in front of the microwave holding the box over my head trying to read the tiny little print telling me what I'm supposed to do next- without dumping the hot contents on top of my head. How hard would it be to print the directions on the top in big letters?

So, while I've always been able to find humor in daily life -even a dark humor at times - what I'm struggling to come to terms with is the realization that I am actually the punch line to many of the jokes! And yes. The jokes continue into the quilting sphere! I sensed the presence of a jokester just a couple of weeks ago when I trimmed 96 half square triangles to a perfect $2\frac{1}{4}$ " square only to realize that I'd messed up and they should all have been $2\frac{1}{2}$ ". I couldn't even blame it on a poorly written pattern - it was very clear that it was $2\frac{1}{2}$ " and I did keep thinking that I was trimming a lot of fabric from each HST..... Ah well. At least I have 96 perfect $2\frac{1}{4}$ " HST's to use in something really cool someday. Maybe I'll make a "mistaken cuts and sizes" scrappy quilt? It could probably be a King size already with what I have in that mistake basket. Before I go I want to make clear that I'm not a complete Luddite! I love the seat heaters in my car! A traveling heating pad. Even better in the summer are air-conditioned seats! Bloc Loc rulers, fun geometric 3D looking quilt patterns and, of course, digitally printed fabric, just to name a few of the best new things in the world! So see! I'm not always such a C.O.W. (wink)

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

SPRING 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: \$5

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)

TRANQUILITY BOM - Belinda Murray

Beginning **April 14th** we will be doing another beautiful Block of the Month from Wing and a Prayer Designs using Timeless Treasures fabrics. The 2018 BOM Tranquility features 15 printed cotton fabrics. The palette ranges from aqua to deep sea blues, a foundation of sandy creams and beiges with a coral accent. Finished size: 106" square.

Fee: \$260 or \$65 per qtr

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)

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

Fri, April 20th (10:30 - 3:00)

INTRODUCTORY QUILTING - Pat Mitchell

Beginning April 26, Pat has agreed to do an evening class making it possible for those who want to learn how to quilt but are unable to take a day class. Learn how to sew half square triangles, flying geese, sashing, borders, quilting and binding! You already sew but your quilt skills are rusty? Let Pat help refresh those skills. 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, Apr 26, May 3, 10, 24, 31, June 7
(6:00 - 9:00 pm)

LONE STAR - Judy Irish

This quilt is actually for all levels, and much easier to make than it looks. You will learn the Y seam in attaching the background pieces. It is one of Judy's smaller versions and uses less fabric. Sign up today and get ready to learn a new technique.

Fee: \$35

Fri, May 4th (10:30-3:00)

THE BASICS OF MACHINE QLTG - Cathryn Scott

Not to be confused with our Free Motion Class this is for the quilter that needs help, advice and support for basic quilting techniques including In the Ditch, Echo Quilting, marking your quilt, perfecting your stitch length and tension, using transparent thread, choosing your design and more! This class will begin in May and after June it will be a monthly class on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Beginners will work on fat quarter sized samples, intermediate and beyond can bring projects with pre approval that are completed and ready to quilt to get advice and assistance. Bring your questions, ideas and machine and attend as many sessions as you need. Cathryn is a wonderfully patient teacher with a wealth of knowledge on machine quilting. You will build your confidence as you learn to quilt your quilts on your own home machine!

Fee: \$30

Thurs, May 17 (10:30 - 2:30)

TWO FABRIC BARGELLO - Belinda Murray

Bargello quilts are fun to make. These lap size projects are quick and easy and not a lot of matching. Using only two fabrics it makes your choices fast and fun. Choose an ombre or length of grain stripe and a pretty or jazzy print for the insert and you are ready to go. Come join us and have fun with Bargello!

Fee: \$35 + pattern

Fri, May 18th (10:30 - 3:30)

AZTEC DIAMONDS - Krista Moser

How about a quick cheerful table runner to brighten your home? Simple piecing and playful colors give this table runner visual impact. Entirely strip pieced, you will use a triangle ruler to cut your final pieces.

Fee: \$35 + pattern

Sat, May 26th (10:30 - 3:00)

INTRODUCING MINIATURE QUILTING

- Sondra Shaw

Join me in learning the basics of making a miniature quilt! We'll review fundamental considerations that make a successful "mini" quilt. Then we'll move onto a class project that will provide you a gentle "hands on" experience in constructing your own miniature quilt.

Fee: \$35 w/lunch break

Thurs, May 31st (10:30 - 3:00)

SCRAPPING CHRISTMAS - Belinda Murray

Have lots of Christmas prints? Been wondering what to do with them? Want to make a project in time for the holiday? Bring a variety of light and dark Christmas prints 10" squares or yardage. Some to keep and some to share. We will be swapping to get more variety in our project. There are a number of blocks that this technique will allow you to make so the sky's the limit! Join us for a fun afternoon—that might include Christmas cookies!

Fee: \$35

Sun, June 10th (11:00 - 3:00)