



# The Quilter's Shoppe

Arlington WA  
January – March 2019

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>



Happy New Year Everyone! 2019 is looking to be a great time to be a quilter in the Pacific Northwest! Have you checked out the Shop Hop fabrics yet? In the Beginning and Clothworks have done a bang-up job with the designs. I'm sure there will be some very clever block patterns well worth traveling the length of the State to pick up. I just wish I had a clue what mine will look like. Maybe it's the holiday hangover but my creativity well seems to have run dry.

## FABRIC COMING SOON

I spent several days in December looking at page after page and pile after pile of new fabric choices. It's fun and exhausting - and then I promptly forget what I've ordered. Luckily this time they left me a few pictures so I can share some of what to look for in the coming months.

Hoffman continues to wow with their digital "Call of the Wild" collection. New panels featuring horses, polar bears and cows will all be joining the wolves, owls, elk, black bear, grizzly bear and eagles here at the shop. The huge dahlia digital print will be arriving in new colors this quarter as will selected fabrics from the McKenna Ryan Painted Forest batik collection. Maywood has an adorable kid's collection called "Love Is" that should easily cover both genders of babies and toddlers and a fun camping print by Kris Lammers called "Cozy Cabin". The cabin print should be arriving soon and the kid's fabric is expected in March. Also coming from Maywood, scheduled to ship in February, is the latest Crabapple Hill fabric collection, "Back Porch Celebration". Fireworks, recipe cards, stars and bars - all printed in vibrant, rich colors. To compliment the fabrics CH has a new 11-part embroidery pattern. And, there is also a panel if you aren't up for the handwork.

From Northcott I've ordered the Solstice panel and fabrics to make 2 gorgeous projects featuring a digital print of the actual Stonehenge, this should arrive in February.

Finally, (for now), I've ordered a couple of large collections from In the Beginning. "Garden of Dreams" should start arriving in March and there are some great projects to make with these luscious fabrics - you can check it out on their website, [www.inthebeginningfabrics.com](http://www.inthebeginningfabrics.com). And, while you're there, look at the pattern book for "A Poinsettia Winter". This is going to be our abbreviated Block of the Month for 2019. It's a beautiful, clean looking and elegant throw quilt that should suit any home. The fabric is supposed to ship in May but that isn't a certainty so I'm not announcing a start date yet. We will have a signup sheet at the shop so if you're interested please let us get your name and contact info.

## SHOPPE TALK:

Speaking of the Block of the Month - that was a hard choice this year. I know some of you have been waiting to see what we are offering. There are a lot of options but, based on your feedback we were looking for something smaller than a king size, little to no applique, no special template or ruler requirements, etc., etc. It's also important that the fabric company promises to stock the fabric line throughout the project. This BOM is a 4 or 5 month project and finishes at 74" square - not a huge investment in fabrics or time but a nice way to spend a few months of 2019! Belinda is picking up the slack by scheduling a couple of classes on the Saturdays she would usually be supervising the BOM so if you are lonely for the monthly group check those out!

In other news, have you worked with cork yet? If you make wallets or handbags or other clever crafty items you should give it a try! It's fun to work with and adds a bit of something different to your projects. I have 2 brands in stock, the new collection from Gypsy Quilter has just arrived and includes some metallic blends. Pretty cool stuff!

## GET WITH IT!

There are some great classes this quarter, Sondra's Sashiko class is the perfect way to socialize and learn or improve your needle and thread skills! Belinda will be teaching the Jelly Roll Rug - you definitely need to learn to make your own throw rugs on your sewing machine and, what a great way to use those strip packs you've been collecting for years! Pat's back with Intro to Quilting, the best way possible to learn or refresh your skills and Cathryn continues with the very popular Machine Quilting basics classes. In addition, we have a mini quilt class and an easy method to make the cat's cradle block and whip up a quick quilt!

The New Year is a great time to learn something new or improve on what you know. Our teachers are ready, willing and able to get you inspired and on to great sewing!

## GADGET GIRL:

I'm still enamored with the Folded Corner ruler from Creative Grids - I use it for all of my bindings and look for ways to use it in every project I work on. I'm also a huge fan of the Seam Align Glue and Ironing pen from Acorn and I've just discovered a spray called "Flatter" that works for larger pieces to make those seams lay down flat! Then there are the misting spray bottles and the wool pressing mats. Ah, I'm such a gadget freak! It's a good thing most of my gadgets are small or I'd be taking over more rooms in the house for my own exclusive use. Best thing about these particular gadgets for me is I've had most of them for a few months now and I use them over and over. I know that if one gets lost I will find it under one of the most recent fabrics or patterns I've used - not stuck in a bag with a project I started months ago and haven't yet finished.

## CRANKY OLD WOMAN RAMBLINGS

Not so much crankiness this month, maybe it's the remaining holiday cheer, maybe the remaining holiday exhaustion - but I'm pretty mellow at the moment. Give it a month and it'll be back I'm sure!

In the meantime, I will share a couple tales from my life that might give you a smile or at least elicit some empathy.

I was in Safeway over the holiday season and I came around a corner and there was a large floor display of snack crackers with a backboard that said "ENTERTAINING CRACKERS". I stopped and was imagining different ways a cracker could entertain when a young man in a Safeway vest asked if he could help me. I replied, "Do they dance? Sing? How do they entertain?". He looked at me with that expression a 20 something year old gets on their face when speaking to

an assumed half senile gray-haired woman and, in all seriousness, said, "I think it means that you use the crackers FOR entertaining." I said, "Hmmm.... Well. That makes more sense then." HA! I wonder if he went into the back rolling his eyes and shaking his head at the sad state of my mental affairs. Maybe he told the story to his coworkers as an example of the dim wittedness of holiday shoppers! I hope he did. I kind of love the idea of being the lunatic holiday shopper tale.

While we are talking about the state of my mental affairs, here's my latest "joy of quilting" story. I finally finished the piecing on the "Snow Parade" embroidered quilt from Crabapple Hill. I believe I've been working on it for 2 years now. The embroidery went fairly quick but then I stuck it in one of those project boxes while I decided on the fabrics for the star blocks.

This fall I dug it out and determined that I would get it done. In December I brought home more Christmas fabric and, once I decided on the fabrics, it went together very quickly. I pressed and starched it all neat, stay stitched around the outside edges and folded it to bring into the Shoppe and choose a backing. On the Sunday after Christmas I pinned it up on the display wall in the classroom, only to discover that I had sewn both the top and bottom rows to the top of the quilt. Since these rows are actually the borders to the embroidered pieces it was blindingly obvious. Elena stopped in and did the "reverse sewing" for me and I sewed it together correctly on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Next I found a backing. The quilt is 67" square. The pattern calls for 4  $\frac{1}{4}$  yards of backing fabric which gave me a chunk of fabric 40" wide by 153" long. (you're going to need to follow some math here for a minute). To get the correct backing size I need to cut the 4  $\frac{1}{4}$  yd piece in half, then I will have 2 - 76  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 40" pieces that simply need to be sewn together on the long side to get me a piece that is large enough for the quilt, about 76" x 80". I cut it in half, trimmed the selvages, pressed it, pinned the edges together and sewed the seam. I open it up and I have sewn on the line I just cut. In other words, I now have a piece of fabric that is 40" x 152". I mumble a few insults at myself and decide I will just go ahead and sew the correct seam before I tear out the incorrect one. Line up my edges, stick in a few pins for stability and sew. Take it off the machine and to the ironing board and realize that I have now made a lovely fabric tube by sewing the other short end together. I have 2 layers of fabric sewn together at both ends and it's now 40" x 75". At this point my muttering to myself is getting decidedly hostile so I decide to shut off the sewing machine for the day. I will give it one more try tonight - I figure if I don't pull out the 2 seams I've already sewn it should be a fairly simple thing to do, just run a seam down the 3<sup>rd</sup> side then remove the stitches from both ends. Should be simple.

Lots of things in life should be simple but I sure do manage to complicate them up!

On that note I'm setting my resolution for 2019. Simplify, simplify, simplify! (and if you are laughing as you read that you are laughing WITH me, not AT me)

Deb

#### **COMING UP:**

##### **QA Quilt Show**

Evergreen State Fair Grounds, Monroe  
March 15-17

##### **The Everett Quilt Show**

Edward D Hansen Conference Center, Everett  
April 26-27

##### **Mukilteo Garden Quilt Tour**

Mukilteo, WA  
July 20- 21

##### **WESTERN WASHINGTON QUILT SHOP HOP**

June 21-29

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

### **WINTER CLASSES**

#### **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)

#### **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  
1<sup>st</sup> 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  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays (1:00 - 9:00)

#### **JELLY ROLL RUG - Belinda Murray**

Ok, admit it, you have some beautiful jelly rolls just sitting there begging to be used. Come join us in making one of the new jelly roll oval rugs. It's Fun, pretty Fast and it's Functional.

Fee: \$35  
Sat, Feb 9 (11:00 - 3:00)

#### **SASHIKO - Sondra Shaw**

Sandra's Sashiko class is requested frequently. It is a Japanese decorative hand stitching/ quilting art that uses long, simple geometric stitch patterns on a solid color fabric. Like a whole cloth quilt, the design is all in the stitching. Sign up and learn the basics of this trending art form.

Fee: \$25 + supplies  
Fri, Feb 15 (10:30 - 1:30)

#### **THE BASICS OF MACHINE QLTG - Cathryn Scott**

Here is the class for the quilter that wants 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 is a monthly class on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, Jan 17, Feb 21, Tues, Mar 12  
(10:30 - 2:30)

### **INTRODUCTORY QUILTING** - Pat Mitchell

Beginning Quilting is a fun class to learn or refresh your knowledge of the basic skills of quilting. You will make three blocks in class and three as homework. In the last three classes you will learn sashing, borders, simple quilting, and binding. If you do all the homework, you will have a finished quilt top by the end of the class.

Fee: \$70.00 plus fabric/tools

Thurs, Feb 14, 28, Mar 14, 21, 28, Apr 11

(11:00 - 2:00) Bring a sack lunch.

### **CAT'S CRADLE BLOCK QUILT** - Belinda Murray

I love the look of this block but hate making them the traditional way with lots of triangles. Join us in making them an easy way (with no triangles) using the new ruler from Creative Grids.

Fee: \$35

Sat, Mar 9 (11:00 - 3:00)

### **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

Fri, Mar 15 (10:30 - 3:00) w/lunch break