



News
April 2007

A Word from the Owner – In Retrospect

Now that the shop is a big three months old, I can start confessing some of my opening day jitters. I knew that I had done plenty of shopping to bring you a good variety of high quality fabric. However, the closer it came to opening day, the more I worried about not having enough since so much of it had yet to arrive. There were a good number of empty shelves and around 350 bolts on hand during opening week. It's fun to look back at some of those pictures to see just how far we've come in such a short time. Now I'm facing the opposite problem. Every shelf is full. There are bolts lined up on the floor, and more fabric is on the way. It's a good problem to have. The staff and I are working on some creative ways to keep the new stuff coming in without letting the shop get too crowded. Hopefully, you will benefit from our efforts.

Thank you for all you do to support the shop. I appreciate every phone call, every email, and every visit. Your comments and suggestions are invaluable in helping us continue to develop a shop that provides you with the best products and best service. You deserve nothing less.

Happy quilting,
Debora

Spring Cleaning Sale – Buy five yards, get five yards free

Yes, it's time to do some spring cleaning. You can help us clear off some shelves to make room for new fabric. For one whole week, starting Tuesday, April 17 and ending Saturday, April 21, buy five yards of fabric and get five yards free. This is not limited to a small section of fabric set aside in the back, but applies to EVERY bolt of fabric on the sales floor. This is for yardage cuts only, with a minimum cut of one yard. This sale cannot be combined with other discounts.



Quilted in Clay Jewelry

I am very excited to share with you a line of jewelry from Quilted in Clay. This is beautiful, intricately detailed polymer clay jewelry that is available in both brooch pins and earrings. They are very reasonably priced, with no piece being more than \$20. Dragonfly Quilt Shop is the only shop in the state of Georgia where you can find this jewelry. It is beautiful, it is unique, and it is the perfect gift for any quilter or quilt admirer.



Gone Wild



Could I interest you in a Chilean Fire Ant? Or, how about a Margarita Manatee? No, no, the shop has not been converted into an exotic pet store. We're talking about chocolate, seriously delicious chocolate made by Graffiti Zoo. A Chilean Fire Ant is "cinnamon white chocolate with a hot chili bite" and a Margarita Manatee is "a layer of silky white chocolate with a sparkle of lime". There are fourteen possibilities and they are all as interesting and delicious as the Chilean Fire Ant and the Margarita Manatee. I was drawn to this product by the Island Dragonfly flavor. Each package contains just under one ounce of chocolate, which is the perfect size for enjoying the flavor without jeopardizing the waist line. We have bundled each variety with four complementary fat quarters inspired by the brightly colored packaging. These are a great way to double treat yourself, as well as making a unique gift for upcoming occasions such as Mother's Day. Fabric and chocolate, the perfect combination.

Pacific Rim Quilts are Here

Pictures never do a quilt justice and that certainly applies to the Pacific Rim Quilts that we have hanging in the shop for the month of April. They are gorgeous. We have Dragonflies in Flight, Bird of Paradise, Candlelight, and the Penguin Family. There are fifteen different designs to choose from. All Pacific Rim Quilt patterns are 20% off during this trunk show. The quilts go home on April 28 so please stop in and enjoy them while they are here.



Mother's Day Gift Ideas



Mother's Day will be here before you know it. Here are some gift ideas for all those quilting moms:

- a yummy chocolate and fat quarter bundle
- a tape measure with personality
- a selection of fat quarters in her favorite color
- a new book to provide inspiration
- a quilt kit from our Peas & Carrots collection
- a rotating rotary cutting mat
- the latest issue of Quilter's Home magazine
- a Quilted in Clay brooch pin
- nameplates to identify her quilting books
- quilt-inspired note cards
- a gift certificate
- a Dragonfly Quilt Shop coffee mug
- a mini-iron that is great to take to quilt classes

This is just a sampling of the great things we have to offer. If you think you might be receiving a special gift on your special day, keep in mind that we will be happy to keep a wish list for you. That way you'll be sure to get just what you want as well as making shopping a breeze for your loved ones.

Trade a Book Event

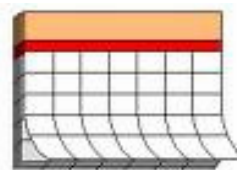


If you own more than a few quilt books, this event is for you. On Friday, April 13, and Saturday, April 14, bring in one of your gently used quilt books and trade it for a 25% discount off any new book. The books that you trade in will be donated to the Big Springs Quilt Guild to help build up their guild library. What an easy way to get a new book at a great price!

Classes

It's another great month of classes at Dragonfly Quilt Shop. Here's a brief list of the offerings. Please look for all the details in the Our Classes and Our Calendar sections of our website.

- Binding is NOT a Four-Letter Word with Sheila Miller
April 10 from 10-1 or April 14 from 10-1
- Colorwash Landscape Quilt with Catherine Hart
Four two hour sessions on Wednesdays starting April 11 at 10:00
- Photographs: Out of the Album and on to the Quilt with Frances Arnold
April 21 from 10-noon
- Sling Bag with Ruhanna Neal
April 26 from 6-9 or April 28 from 10-1
- The Three Ts of Quilting: Techniques, Terms, and Tools with Shary Karlin
May 3 from 6-9pm
- Air Applique Basics with Sarah Hubbard
May 5 from 1-5



By Appointment Shop Hours

For all of you working girls out there, I understand how difficult it can be to get to the shop with all of your other scheduled responsibilities. We are pleased to offer you our By Appointment service. If you call the shop and let us know you will be here a little after five, we will be happy to stay open a while longer for you. Early morning hours, later evening hours, Monday hours, whatever hours work best for your schedule, we will be here for you. We can't promise we'll be here for spur of the moment requests, but if you give us a day or two advance notice, we guarantee that we will have the shop open just for you. You work hard and you deserve to indulge in a visit to the shop. Let us help.

Speaking of the Shop Hours

I'd like to hear from you regarding our hours. Are there additional hours you would like us to add to our schedule? Would you like us to open a little earlier, stay open a little later, or be open on Sunday or Monday? If you have a preference, I'd love to hear it. Our current hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10-5. Thank you for your input.



Customer Corner

Come and join us on Wednesday afternoons! It's a free-for-all quilting session from 2:00-5:00. We kick off our shoes (literally!) and work on our present quilting projects. I am about to finish a baby quilt top. Bring your own machine. Rulers and mats are provided for cutting, along with irons for your pressing needs. There's lots of free advice too. We have a good time!

- Contributed by Mary Barnhart, customer and regular attendee at Sit 'N Sew



Buyer for a Day Fabric

For those of you who attended the Be a Fabric Buyer for a Day class, some of the bolts have started to arrive. I have six on the floor so far, and each one has a special tag hanging from it so everyone will know that the fabric was selected by you. Look for them next time you're in the shop. I'll keep you posted as more arrive.

Alzheimer's Art Quilt Initiative

My father-in-law is one of more than five million Americans who suffer from Alzheimer's disease. Please visit the Alzheimer's Art Quilt Initiative to learn how you can support Alzheimer's research. It is an on-line auction of small art quilts, many created in honor of Alzheimer's sufferers and those who care for them. It is great that quilt making can do so much for so many. (<http://www.amisimms.com/alartquin.html>)

Pre-washing – The Results

Thanks to everyone who responded to last month's question, "Do You Pre-wash?" For most of us, we were taught that fabric must be pre-washed before use. It's just something we do without question. There are a variety of tricks you use to prevent the wad of knotted up fabric that likes to form in the washer. Some quilters use lingerie bags to keep their fabric neat and untangled during washing. Some of you even zig-zag stitch on the cut edges to prevent raveling and knotting.



Carol Doak's book, Your First Quilt Book (or it should be!) has some good information about pre-washing. She says, "...there are really two schools of thought among quilters about whether to pre-wash fabric. Generally, those who hand piece and hand quilt prefer to wash their fabric before using it...to soften it for the hand-quilting process. However, many who machine piece and machine quilt prefer not to pre-wash. Some like the stiffer quality of the unwashed fabric during the machine-piecing process, while others want the slight bit of shrinkage to occur after the project is quilted so the fabric puffs slightly around machine quilting." As with almost every other aspect of quilting, it's nice to know there are several options and ideas for preparing fabric.



Congratulations – You Could be Next

Congratulations to Sarah Hubbard for being the winner of our March gift drawing for a \$25 gift certificate. Our gift for April is one free pass to the class of your choice. You are eligible for the drawing if you are on our mailing list and have not previously won one of our monthly gifts.

Start a New Project Day

Start a New Project Day will be an on-going event for the first open shop day of each month. For May, it will be held on Tuesday, May 1. If you choose a new book or pattern and purchase the fabric and supplies for a project to go with them, you can enjoy a 20% discount off your total purchase. Join us to begin something new, something fresh, and something inspirational.



Dates to Remember for April

To summarize the shop activities for April:

Trade A Book Event – April 13-14

Spring Cleaning Sale – April 17-21

Start A Project Day – May 1

Pacific Rim Quilt Trunk Show – here until April 28

And classes, lots of classes...please check our website regularly to get the latest class schedule and information.



1260 Mars Hill Road, Suite 103
Watkinsville, GA 30677
(706)769-0070
(706)769-0071 fax
info@dragonflyquiltshop.com
www.dragonflyquiltshop.com