



News
May 2008

A Word from Debora – Enjoy the Moment

At my house, it seems like we're always counting the days...how many days until school is out, how many days until the next birthday, how many days until Saturday...always looking forward to something. We're in such a hurry for the next thing that we sometimes miss the pleasure of the moment. The same thing often applies to my quilting projects. I just want to hurry up and get it done so I can start the next one, so much so that sometimes I don't even bother to finish the one I'm on. I think I've heard a few of you mention a similar problem! This month we're challenging you to finish one of those unfinished projects lurking in your house.

Here's a confession...I haven't finished the last mystery quilt. That is the unfinished project that I plan to complete this month. Better yet, I am challenging myself to enjoy the process, to take pleasure in the moment, to remember the excitement the project brought me when I first started it. Can I challenge you to do the same?

Hope you can stop in and say hello this month. We'd love to see your project, finished or not!

Happy Quilting,
Debora

Don't Forget Mom!

Mother's Day is almost here. We've set up a special area with gift ideas just for mom. Gift certificates make a great gift, too. And if your special someone has a more specific idea in mind, tell them to drop in and set up a wish list. Then you will be sure to give them exactly what they want.

Is Your Quilt Ready to Graduate?

May is an exciting time for so many of our friends due to upcoming graduation from high school and college and the like. Big life changes are on the horizon. Wonderful landmarks to be celebrated. Congratulations due to so many.

And, recently, we have heard so many of our friends express the desire to finish up their quilts, their projects, their "UFO's". So, we thought, why not combine the two ideas and have a little fun. Why not offer a little encouragement and incentive towards getting a quilt or projected completed and celebrated? What a treat that would be for so many!

So here's the "Graduation Day for YOUR Quilt" plan from us fun loving gals at Dragonfly Quilt Shop:

- Between May 1st and May 10th come into the shop (or call or email) and sign the pledge to complete one quilt or project by May 31st.
- Between May 1st and May 30th work really hard to get that project finished.
- On May 31st come into the shop to receive your quilt's diploma and receive a coupon worth 20% off your next shopping day at Dragonfly.

This is a challenging goal for many of us I know! So – OK – if you absolutely need the incentive but absolutely cannot commit to May 31st we will be happy to extend the deadline to June 14th – but no longer than that!!

To support you in your efforts and to create some additional fun we have scheduled all of our popular “Get Your Quilt Finished” classes in May. We have Robin Cook’s Label Class on May 7th; Katharine Ward’s thread workshops on May 9th and 10th; Frances Arnold’s machine quilting classes on May 13th or 15th; Sandy Jordan’s hand quilting class on May 16th; and Sheila Miller’s class on binding your quilt on May 17th. These ladies offer the right expertise to help you move your quilt through the steps of graduating your quilt to the finished line!!

Take a Class Today and Save on a Class Tomorrow

Sign up and take a class in May and we’ll give you a coupon good for \$5 off your next class if you sign up before July 31.



“And, Sew It Goes” Third Clue Available

The third clue in our “And, Sew It Goes” mystery is ready and waiting for you all this month. Bring in your completed pieces from step two so you can see a little more of how this mystery will unveil.

Superior Thread Workshops Next Week

Join us on May 9th and 10th to learn all the latest thread lingo along with the when and how to use all the great threads available today.



There are three opportunities to learn from Katherine:

“Hands On Thread” Class - Friday, May 9th, 12 noon to 5:00pm

\$45 class fee (includes the Superior Threads supply fee)

“Thread Really Makes the Difference!” Lecture - Friday, May 9th, 6 to 8:30pm \$15

“Hands On Thread” Class - Saturday, May 10th, 12 noon to 5:00pm

\$45 class fee (includes the Superior Threads supply fee)

Space in the workshops is limited so please sign up early!!

Welcome Superior Threads

We are very excited to introduce Superior Threads to you this month. In speaking with you over the last several weeks, we were surprised by the wide range of comments about Superior Threads. We heard everything from extreme enthusiasm for the product all the way to folks who had never heard of Superior Threads. Therefore, we thought maybe a word or two about this terrific company would be a great way to introduce them to you.

Superior Threads was started by Bob and Heather Purcell. The company just celebrated its 10 year anniversary. Today they are a company which features over 25 different lines of thread and other related products. Even though the company has grown over the years, Bob and Heather are still at the everyday heart of everything at Superior Threads. They are most known for is three things: extremely high quality of product, a very wide assortment and depth of colors, and – above all – the utmost commitment to quality customer service. A personal note here: in preparing for this event I had several occasions to deal with the folks at Superior – their customer service was indeed vastly “superior” to what we normally experience with other vendors. They are the only thread company to offer a guarantee for their product. Their materials state the following:

"Our Guarantee: Superior Threads is the only thread company that absolutely guarantees every spool of thread we sell. Use it for 30 days. If it doesn't work, we'll buy it back. We also guarantee the best customer service you will ever experience."

Any material you review about Superior Threads will probably contain an endorsement from any number of quilting professionals. Among those featured artists are: Alex Anderson, Libby Lehman, Caryl Bryer Fallert, Hollis Chatelain, Sue Nickels, Ricky Tims, and many others. To quote Sue Nickels: "When teaching machine quilting, I tell my students the most important decision they will make is what thread to use. King Tut (a specific Superior product) will give quilters who are looking for cotton thread a perfect product to achieve that traditional look with a unique touch! This is a wonderful combination - a great quality product and a great company to work with."

If you are unfamiliar with Superior Threads or just want to know a little more, we encourage you to visit their website www.superiorthreads.com.

A visit to their site will demonstrate their commitment. They offer an ongoing newsletter which is both fun (Bob's jokes) and informative (Mother Superior's Advice column). They offer a thread selection guide which also helps with needle and tension questions. And, of course, it showcases a full color selection of their threads.

Big Springs Quilt Guild Charity Event

The Big Springs Quilt Guild will be meeting at the shop on Saturday, May 3 for a “Quilt-A-Thon” for charity. The guild newsletter says “Round up all of those scraps and UFO's and turn them into charity quilts. Bring sewing machine, basic sewing supplies, and rotary mat and cutter.” This event is open to everyone and is a great way to get to know the gals in the guild. The Big Springs Quilt Guild meets the first Saturday of each month. Contact Catherine Hart (706)769-1779 for more details about the charity event or the Big Springs Guild.

A Great Quilt From Happy Hour Gives Back

A great group of women came together on Thursday, April 17 and worked together to make an awesome quilt in support of Alzheimer's research. Thank you to everyone who participated. We had all of the blocks put together in less than two hours. The top is almost complete. We'll keep you posted on this quilt's progress and let you know how you can purchase tickets for a chance to take this beauty home.

Buck Day Is Thursday, May 15

If you have bucks, you'll want to mark your calendar for Thursday, May 15. Both Clothesline Club and Attitudes Club members should have accumulated quite a few of these little treasures. We'll also have a few special sale surprises for club members to enjoy on Buck Day. See you then!

Club Updates

Clothesline Club

The May meeting of the Clothesline Club will be the last meeting of this club at Dragonfly Quilt Shop. The year has certainly gone by quickly and it's hard to believe that May will be our 11th time together. We are making plans to have this meeting be a little something extra for all who attend so please join us if you can.



Darlene Zimmerman's pattern for May is her "Fancy Pillowcase" pattern. They would make a perfect gift for Mom's, grads and babies.

I have so enjoyed this year of Clothesline get togethers and getting to know its members. I am sad to see it coming to an end but I am hopeful that our new club will be even better with more opportunities to share and learn and have fun together. See you on Saturday the 17th or Tuesday the 20th at our regular meeting times. Until then, Deb H.

Attitudes Club

The Attitudes Club is going to "Be Respectful" in April. Our mini-project for the month is fabric flowers. Your free pattern is called "Ladybugs 3". We'll be meeting on Thursday, May 8 or Saturday, May 10 at 10am. You can join this club anytime and enjoy the fun with a little bit of "attitude" this year.

Happy Hour Club



The Happy Hour Club will make the quilt Satisfaction by Maple Island Quilts on May 8 from 4-8pm. We'll have a mini-lesson and demonstration at 5:30 to show you how to work with curved pieces. The pattern for our June 5 Happy Hour meeting is called "Show Off". Sign up a week before class, leave your fabric with us, and we'll cut it for you.



Longarm Quilter Sheila Miller On-Site

Sheila Miller will be at the shop on Saturday, May 17 to meet with you about having your pieced tops quilted. Call the shop if you are interested in scheduling an appointment with her, or drop by to talk with her. She will be available from 10am until 1pm.

Classes, Classes, and More Classes

The How and Why of Labeling Your Quilt – Wednesday, May 7, 10-noon OR Thursday, June 12, 5:30-7:30pm – \$15

You've finally finished that quilt. You're proud of your accomplishment. Now it's time for you to "sign" your work of art. In this class we'll discuss what information can or should be included on a quilt label. Why should a label be attached anyway? Does it have to be sentimental and "flowery"? We'll explore many different ways to make a label, including embroidery, preprinted labels and computer programs – among others. And one more thing...does the label have to be on the back of the quilt? Let's talk about it!

Superior Thread Workshop "Hands On Thread"

See details in previous article. Friday, May 9, noon-5pm OR Saturday, May 10, noon-5pm - \$45

Superior Thread Lecture "Thread Really Makes a Difference!"

See details in previous article. Friday, May 9, 6-8:30pm - \$15

Basic Machine Quilting – morning session, Tuesdays, May 13 and 20, 10-noon OR evening session, Thursdays, May 15 and 22, 5:30-7:30pm - \$40

If you have always wanted to try machine quilting but weren't sure how to get started, this is the class for you. You will learn how to set up your machine correctly, how to machine quilt with a walking foot, and how to free motion machine quilt.

Hand Quilting – Fridays, May 16 and 23 – 10-noon - \$35

This technique is known by many names...thread play and thread embellishment just to name a couple. The best thing about this class is that you do NOT need to know how to do free motion quilting or sewing to take the class. You will learn how to create trees, leaves, or angels using this technique. Each piece can then be appliquéd to a quilt or used on its own as a tree ornament. You will enjoy thread "doodling" in this class.

Binding is not a Four Letter Word – Saturday, May 17 – 2-5pm - \$25

This hands-on class will discuss the steps of determining how much binding is needed for a project, how to cut and make binding, how to attach binding properly including connecting the ends of the binding, and how to hand-finish the binding. You'll pick up many helpful tips including creating perfectly square corners and what quilt show judges look for in bindings. This class is for EVERYONE - if you've never made a binding, or if you want to pick up a few pointers on improving your binding skills.

The Three Ts of Quilting: Techniques, Terms, and Tools – Thursday, May 29 – 2-5pm - \$20

If you are new to quilting, this is the place to start. We will talk about the process of quilting from start to finish and will try out some of the tools just for fun. This is the first in a series of classes for beginners.

Classes coming in June –

- Mystery Quilt Class, “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner?” – Saturday, June 7
- Making T-Shirt Quilts – Tuesday, June 10
- The How and Why of Labeling Your Quilt – Thursday, June 12
- Fused Landscape Quilt – Thursdays, June 19 and 26
- Value Study Lecture – Tuesday, June 24
- String Piecing – Saturday, June 21

Earn Some Yummy Yards



You need some “Yummy Yards” and we’re going to give them to you. Our yummy yards program lets you earn one yard of fabric for every \$100 in accumulated purchases you make. The computer keeps up with all of the counting so you don’t have to. When you’ve reached \$100, a special message will print on your receipt. We’ll remind you that you’ve earned a yard of fabric, and we’ll especially remind you to save that receipt. You don’t need to save all your receipts, but the ones with the special message is what you’ll need to show us when you are ready to take home your “Yummy Yard”.

Extended Thursday Hours

Don’t forget our extended Thursday hours. It has been nice to see many of you who couldn’t easily stop in any other time. We’re open until 7pm every Thursday.

Congratulations – You Could be Next



Congratulations to Linda Winters for being the winner of our April gift drawing for ten fat quarters from Nancy Halvorsen’s Love Is fabric collection. Our gift for May is a panel and five fat quarters from Moda’s Red, White, and Bold fabric collection. You are eligible for the drawing if you are on our mailing list and have not previously won one of our monthly gifts. If you don’t pick up your gift within 30 days of winning, it will be offered again in a future month.

Dates to Remember for May

Every Wednesday – Sit n Sew from 2-5pm

Every Wednesday – Damsellies 10-11am

Every Thursday – open until 7pm

May 1-31 – Pick up Mystery Quilt Clue #3

May 3 – Big Springs Quilt Guild Charity Day – 10-5pm

May 7 – The How and Why of Labeling Your Quilt

May 8 – Attitudes Club – 10am

May 8 – Happy Hour Club – 4pm

May 9 – Hands On Thread – Superior Threads Workshop – 12-5pm

May 9 – Thread Really Makes a Difference – Superior Threads Lecture – 6-8:30pm

May 10 – Attitudes Club – 10am

May 10 – Hands On Thread – Superior Threads Workshop – 12-5pm

May 13 – Machine Quilting, morning session I – 10-12pm

May 15 – Machine Quilting, evening session I – 5:30-7:30pm

May 16 – Hand Quilting session 1 – 10-12pm
May 17 – Clothesline Club – 10am
May 17 – Binding is not a Four Letter Word – 2-5pm
May 20 – Clothesline Club – 1pm or 6pm
May 20 – Machine Quilting, morning session 2 – 10-12pm
May 22 – Machine Quilting, evening session 2 – 5:30-7:30
May 23 – Hand Quilting session 2 – 10-12pm
May 29 – The Three T's of Quilting – Techniques, Terms, and Tools – 2-5pm



1260 Mars Hill Road, Suite 103
Watkinsville, GA 30677
(706)769-0070
(706)769-0071 fax
info@dragonflyquiltshop.com
www.dragonflyquiltshop.com
Tues–Sat 10-5, until 7 on Thurs