



# The Buzz

## from the Thistle Bee Quilt Shoppe

[www.thistlebeequiltshoppe.com](http://www.thistlebeequiltshoppe.com)  
<http://member.merchantcircle.com/thistlebee>  
919-778-2277

October- December 2009

### Happy Holidays!

Can you believe it, the holiday season is upon us! Wow, where does time go? It seems like we were just celebrating the holidays.



So are you all started on your holiday stitching? This year has seen its share of harder times. Are you planning on making more of your gifts and decorations this year? I hope that you have started if you are.

I know here at the Shoppe we have had more interest in making holiday projects. I think there has been more with Christmas, but that may be that we featured Christmas in July. The little Moda Bake Shop boxes with the two small honeybuns didn't last long. But of course why would they with the cute little stockings that we've all just had to make! I'm glad you all liked Figgy Pudding too. It is a fresh line.

Stop by the Shoppe to see all the fall samples we have waiting for you! I love fall and wish that Thanksgiving wasn't so close to Christmas. I feel like the fall decorations get shortchanged.



Merry Christmas.

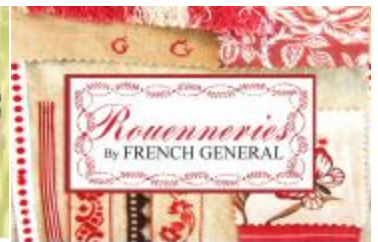
So whichever holiday décor you like I hope you find what you need to get yourself in the spirit! Enjoy the season as we count our blessings and celebrate Christ's birth. Happy Thanksgiving and

### Fabric Lines Scheduled to Come In

Sept.



Oct.



Nov.



Dec.



## Special Closings

We will be closed Wednesday and Thursday, November 25 and 26 for Thanksgiving.

We will be closed December 22-26 for Christmas. Please remind all your family and friends of this fact if they are planning on giving you gift certificates!

## Upcoming Annual Year-end Sales!

We are once again having our After Thanksgiving sale Friday and Saturday, November, 27 and 28.

Our End of Year Inventory Sale is December 8-12.

Don't miss out on these bargains!

## Long Arm Quilting Services Available!

We are happy to announce our new partnership with Log Cabin Quilting by Kris and Roy Maitland! They offer personalized service for your work of art. Call for an appointment; (252-566-5534) to choose the quilt pattern or design and the thread that is right for you and your quilt and instructions on preparing your quilt for machine quilting. If you are already a customer and familiar with their service you may drop off your quilts at the Thistle Bee Quilt Shoppe, 2707-E Royall Ave. Goldsboro, NC, 919-778-2277.



## Have You Ever Wondered?



We have talented ladies right here working in and around our Shoppe. What do you know about them and what they do? Hopefully this will start a series to introduce some of them. This quarter meet Jeannie Horton:

1. Tell about your start into quilting.

I started quilting as something to do while my husband was deployed to Desert Shield. I hated it. The quilt was ugly. The only benefit was the friends I made in the class.(Or so I thought)

2. Who taught you to quilt?

Can't remember her name. She was another wife of a deployed. The greatest lesson I learned from the class: It takes a "village" to create a quilt. My real teacher was my friend Sherry who introduced me to guilds and the "love" of cutting up big pieces of fabric to make small ones!

3. What does your family think about your quilting?

They laugh. Actually, they have become very accepting of my addiction. Now they even ask for certain types of quilts! I knew they had accepted my quirks when they began filling my gift list with quilting supplies.

4. Do you have any pets? Do they quilt with you?

Heidi, my dog is my constant companion. She goes right to her spot by the machines when I say, "Quilt time!" Meena, the indoor cat loves to sleep on the quilts that are framed for quilting.

5. What other hobbies do you have other than quilting?

Are there any others? Serious...music, reading and travel.

6. What were your favorite arts and crafts as a child?

Sewing for my dolls was first. But I have always loved dreaming of what something COULD be, not necessarily what it was supposed to be.

7. Where do you quilt in your home?

Upstairs in my sewing hide-out.

8. What kind of sewing machine do you use? How many do you own?





Which machine? I have a Janome 11000 that is awesome! I use my Janome 1600 pro for a lot of my quilting needs. I travel with my Jem Gold or my Singer Featherweight. And I have a beloved Pfaff 1473 that is a little sick and unusable, but I can't bear to part with!

9. What inspires you creatively? Anything.....

10. Whose quilts inspire you? Why? No one in particular. Certain quilts appeal to me at various times.

11. What is your favorite part of the quilting process? I love taking a piece of fabric and cutting it apart. Different sizes, shapes...oh, be still my heart!

12. Do you hand piece any of your work? Are you kidding?

13. How many quilt projects do you have in progress now? Three that I know of...several other tops ready to go.

14. How many UFO's do you have? See above.

15. Have you ever abandoned an UFO? Oh yes! Several. There comes a point when I just now that a certain project just isn't gonna be.

16. Has quilting taught you any lessons of life? Please share.

This was the topic of my Master's Thesis. Way too many pages to give you here. Basically, My entire life is like each quilt top that I make. There are many colors, textures and patterns that have made me who I am. But, there is one connecting thread that winds it's way through my top, securing the layers and making me who I am...that is God.

17. What project are you working on right now? Quilting a "souvenir" from Las Vegas. It is a wild table runner that I am quilting with metallic thread.

18. Has quilting ever helped you through a time of struggle or heartache? Can you share?

I find that when I am really stressed out it is imperative that I find my sewing machine and quilt. There is something about the repetitive actions, the hum of the machine and the tactile senses that centers me and calms me down.

19. Do you belong to a guild or quilt group?

The Cotton Club Quilters of Goldsboro. But, I also am active in a couple of on-line groups.

20. Do you plan out your quilt before you begin or do you start with an idea and let it develop on its own?

Both. The way I start depends on what end result I want. Sometimes, I have to have a real feel for how much fabric, how to lay out the quilt or what it is supposed to look like. Usually, I prefer to let it grow. I love to just simply....go for it. It is an exercise in trust, in myself. It is also freeing, unrestrained and creative.

21. How has your quilting changed over the years?

My projects are getting bigger! I started with table runners and now...who knows?!? I find that I am also less inclined to go with my own comfort level, particularly in fabrics.

22. What's your favorite color scheme in a quilt? I prefer soft blues and browns or the rich jewel tones or purples and gold's. But, that can change depending on my mood (or what I pull from my stash!)

23. Do you collect certain types of fabrics, quilting tools, gadgets, or supplies?

I am most definitely a gadget girl. New and novel, it calls my name!

24. What is your favorite brand of fabric? Do you have a favorite fabric designer? Do you ever hand dye your fabric?

Moda...Marbles. Does that say something about my state of mind...Am I trying to find my marbles?

25. Do you have a favorite quote or motto? "Act Justly, Love Goodness and walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8)

26. Have you ever entered a quilt show? How was that experience?

No, but I have entered machine embroidery and heirloom sewing shows. The experience was frightening! Never thought that I'd be "as good" as anyone else. In the end, I learned a whole lot from listening to the judges as they gave their input into the design, style and technique of sewing.





27. Is your best friend a quilter?

No, but he's definitely a support for the habit!

28. Do you have any tips or advice for beginners? What do you wish you would have known when you started quilting?

The one thing that I tell all my beginning students: "If you like it, it is perfect!"

29. Tell about your quilting business (teaching, longarm quilting, book, pattern design- whichever applies). What inspired it?

I love to inspire others to find their inner heart, therefore I teach. I love to push the limits, therefore I write patterns. I find that in creating something that I can share I really am sharing part of myself with others.

30. Do you have any suggestions for quilters who are trying to fit more quilting time into their day?

I cannot find time to do anything. I can, however, create moments that allow me time to do what generates me...that is quilting. I generate

## Egg Money Quilt Block of the Month!

We only have one spot left in our block of the month program. We are using Eleanor Burns book *Egg Money Quilts*.



You will have missed only one quarter, three blocks. These techniques are so easy that you still will be able to make a beautiful quilt. Check the class schedule for details!

## Sneak Peak At Next Quarter!



We hope to be starting a new block of the month program! Next quarter's newsletter will have the details as we are busy trying to get them all worked out now.

We would

also like to offer English Paper piecing and are wondering if any of you are interested in learning this technique. This is a hand method where you place fabric on a paper piece that is the size of your finished piece, the fabric having the added seam allowance.

You then baste down the fabric on the paper piece and then sew the pieces together by hand. The paper is taken out afterwards. If you are interested we have a sign up sheet at the Shoppe!



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Don't Forget!

We have gift certificates available and the ability to have a wish list right here in the computer for you! All you need to do is tell your loved ones and friends! Of course you will need to make your wish list too!