



The Buzz

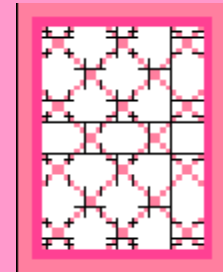
from the Thistle Bee Quilt Shoppe

www.thistlebeequiltshoppe.com
919-778-2277

October-December 2006

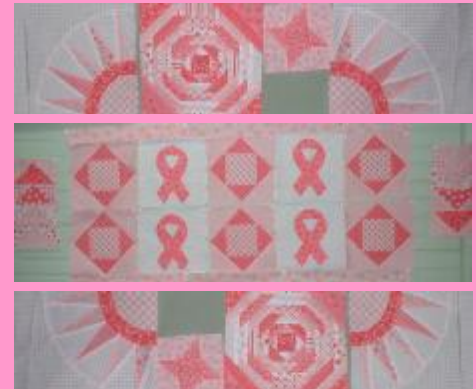


Shop block
and quilt
for
Quiltpink



We are excited to be participating in Quiltpink. This has been a great time to combine our love for quilting with the fight against breast cancer. We offered technique classes where the teachers donated their time to teach a technique and you donated your quilt block to one of the shop's Quiltpink quilts. For every block you donated you were able to enter your name in a drawing for a gift. We also offered a shop block you could buy to make and donate to the second shop quilt (See above block and drawing of finished quilt).

The finished quilts will be sent to *American Patchwork & Quilting* magazine and they will auction the quilts online, starting in May 2007, to raise money for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer foundation. For more information see www.quiltpink.com. We thank everyone who took part in making our two shop quilts a reality. Nationwide, September 30th is Quiltpink Day. We are planning to sew together all the donated quilt blocks into the two quilts on that day. If you are interested in helping with this step of the process please stop in at the shop and sign up for a time that you would be able to stitch.



If you would like to help quilt or bind one of the shop's quilts please come into the shop and sign up for the job of your choice. We hope to have photos of the two quilts in time for next quarter's newsletter. Please do not forget to join in on the online auction of the quilts starting May 2007 to raise money for breast cancer research. We would appreciate it if you would spread the word to all your friends about the auction.

Shoppe's Stray Cat

A stray cat adopted us here at the shop. She is a gray cat that looks about the color of the lint you clean out of your sewing machine so I named her Lint. When she arrived at the shop it looked like she was starving so we started feeding her and you know what happens when you feed a stray cat. Not only does it become yours, but also they tend to be female and get pregnant. She did and had a litter of five kittens. We were fortunate enough to find homes for three of the five kittens and have added the last two to our family of cats at home. Lint is no longer able to have kittens so she just makes sure that we arrive at work on time and feed her. She is not in the shop so you don't have to worry about any allergies.



Quilt Sampler Available Here

Are you tired of running all over Goldsboro trying to obtain your copy of *Quilt Sampler*? I got tired of running from one store to another trying to get my copy only ending up obtaining it a day or two after it was suppose to come out. This September the shoppe will have a limited number of the fall/winter copies. Stop in September 19th to pick up your copy!

Inclement Weather

In case of bad weather please call the shop before you come to see if we are here. We would not want you to put yourself in danger.

Clearance Rack

Don't forget to look at our new clearance rack near the classroom. You will find the fabric discounted 30%, a great place to find deals. We have both cotton and flannel available at the moment. This is a wonderful way to get the backing fabric for your quilt. If you get a 4-yard or greater cut off a bolt in the clearance rack you will increase your discount to 40%!

Thanksgiving

Traditionally we pause to count our blessings during the Thanksgiving season. There is so much to be thankful for. God has been so good to me it is hard to know where to begin. One problem with counting your blessings is that one tends to forget some of the things they are most thankful for.

I am thankful for all the innumerable things that God has blessed me with. My family has been such a help with the shoppe. My husband for his support in every way imaginable, without him there would be no shoppe. My oldest son who keeps the website up and running plus the computer support he gives me. Of course Elisabeth who tirelessly works here in the shoppe, when she isn't dancing.... Yes, she is back for all of you who have been missing her smiling face when you

come in for a visit! To my other two children who give encouragement and help when needed.

The shoppe would not be here without customers. I am thankful to all you who regularly walk through the door and give encouragement to me.

I am thankful for the response to the Quiltpink project that we have undertaken. The teachers' response and support has been wonderful as well as your response. We will get the goal of the two quilts completed. Hopefully you will see the results in the next issue of the newsletter. Do not forget that once the quilts have left the shoppe you still have a chance to win one in the online auction in May 2007. Check www.quiltpink.com for details.

God's providence was shown to us in July when a storm blew through here about an hour before closing. I did think I was going to lose the building to the winds, but it remained on its foundation and the huge old oak tree that was snapped in two fell the opposite direction from the shoppe. Only the mailboxes were damaged. It could have been much worse. I was very thankful after that storm not only for the shoppe, but the safety of the other shops and the traffic that had been traveling down Royall Ave. at the time. As I left the shoppe that evening we had the Goldsboro Police directing traffic around the downed tree.

A big thanks goes out to the willing teachers that have been teaching here. Thank you for introducing people to the love of quilting and encouraging quilters to try new techniques and volunteering your time for Quiltpink technique classes. And what are teachers without willing students? Thanks to you for making our classes a success.



Holiday Closings

The shoppe will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday, Wednesday and Thursday, November 22nd and 23rd.



Gift Certificates available!

Christmas Wish List



Wishing upon a star may make for a cute song, but it will not help you get the quilting supplies you want. Come in to the shop and fill out your wish list, then send your friends here to see what you really want this Christmas!

Christmas Ideas

Are you trying to come up with ideas for Christmas presents for quilters?



Some popular items among quilters that would make good stocking stuffers are: AURIfil thread. This thread is popular with everyone who has tried it whether for piecing, hand appliqué, quilting or embroidery. We carry two sizes, the smaller is available in more colors.

The Cutting Edge Strips remain a best seller. I tend to resist new products, but finally with rave reviews I gave in and purchased a package only to find that I too have come to depend on this helpful tool. These orange repositionable strips adhere to the bottom of your ruler to mark your cutting line. Your fabric butts up to the strip and you never find that you have cut your strips to the wrong size!

The Pop Top Carry All Case has been a great gift. This helps us keep those little tools all in one safe spot.

All of us know that we have to do some “unsewing” now and again. The most popular seam ripper that we carry is the High Quality Clover seam ripper. This one has a better sized handle and is all around better in quality.

Do you know a hand quilter, but are not sure what needle they would prefer. The most popular needle here is the John James Big Eye size 10 followed by the John James size 8 and then the normal size 10. Do not forget the Thread Heaven to go along with the needles!

Looking for some popular marking tools? The Ultimate Marking Pencil takes top honor for marking the quilt top followed by Clover’s White Water Soluble marker. For permanent marking the black Pigma marker is the most popular.

For paper piecing fans try the Add a Quarter rulers.

Another gadget that I resisted even after rave reviews (you would think I would learn) is the desktop needle threader. This little tool will even thread floss through straw needles! It is so easy on your eyes.

If you are looking for larger gifts: The most sought after gift is the Olfa Rotating 12 inch mat.

The wooden signs with quilt related sayings have been popular and this year we are carrying “shaker” box sets to organize your sewing and quilting supplies.

The ever popular Turning Twenty and Turning Twenty Again book and a twenty piece fat quarter bundle is a product that many quilters like.

Come in and take a look around at all we have to offer, from quilter’s coasters, to vintage sewing tools and of course books, patterns, fat quarters, and fabric.



I hope that you have a wonderful Christmas.

Looking for Quilters in Wilson

If you live in Wilson and would like to find a quilting buddy come in and visit the shoppe, we know someone you may like to meet!

Tips

- To keep your strip piecing strips from waving at you sew each set in the opposite direction from the last strip sewn. This will distribute the tension evenly in both directions so you do not get the warps and waves.
- A tip from one of our teachers, use spray sizing on your fabric after laundering as this will make your fabric easier to handle
- Another teacher’s tip. Tired of ruining your ironing board cover? Use some freezer paper. Tear off a piece the size to cover a section of your cover, place shiny side down and run your heated iron over it. This is great especially when using adhesives, you do not have to worry about them ruining the cover.
- Use sharps when machine piecing your quilt tops. They work better on cotton fabric than other needles.