

Homespun Harbor News



It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like...



SUMMER! Honestly, talk about weird weather! First we had the Summer That Wasn't, and now we have the have the Fall That Isn't! I have an urge to plant flowers, and if it wasn't for all the dead leaves on my lawn, I might forget it's Autumn. But don't be fooled! Thanksgiving and Christmas ARE right around the corner. Actually, by the time you get this newsletter there will probably be a dusting of snow on the mountains. But if you're like us, you may need a jump start to get in the Holiday mood.



We have just the place to do that! The shop is decked out with samples galore. Tree skirts, table runners, wall hangings, lap quilts, aprons and purses. And to help save time, many are kitted up and ready to go.

Now is the time to start planning our Holidays. Shopping, parties, decorating, baking - and QUILTING!

And once again Homespun Harbor wishes you and your families a



**Very Merry Christmas
And A Happy New Year**





HO HO HO



It's that time of year again! We are having our 45th Annual Christmas Party! (Ok, not 45th, but we've had a bunch of them)

Saturday November 20th

10:00 to 4:00

Christmas Goodies to eat and drink

Hourly Drawings for Special Gifts! Really cool Grab Bag Gifts

Enter to win a \$50.00 Gift Certificate

Samples and Gifts Sale

On Site Scissor Sharpening for the day

Bring canned goods for the Food Bank and get a Fat Quarter FREE

Wear a Santa Hat and get a Fat Quarter FREE

This is a fun way to kick off the Holidays. It's the perfect time to come and sit and visit, to take a deep breath, and prepare for the fast slide into Christmas! Also, our way of saying THANK YOU to the best customers any Quilt Shop could ask for!

Do you "Quilt By Checkbook?"

There are a number of you out there who quilt your own quilts. We can't say how much we admire you! Really, no joke! Sadly, we are not among you. When we started out in Honolulu, our main teacher was Amie. Fabulous quilter, and unbelievable machine quilter. She tried VERY hard to teach me - but alas I was hopeless. I have heard it takes 40 hours of practice and VIOLA! Well, I never put in the 40 hours and never had a VIOLA moment. Until this day I don't know if I don't like it because I am not good at it, or if I am not good at it because I don't like it. Honestly, I think it is a matter of natural ability. Years ago Amie and I went to Houston. We went by the Gammill booth and we both tried our hand. She took off like a bat out of Heck, and I ended up with a huge bunch of knots. Not long after she was one of the first people in Hawai'i to offer long arm quilting! If you are a natural machine quilter - you can skip to Page 4. For the rest of us - read on.



We have three Long Arm Quilters in our area that we have used to quilt our samples. We know there are many more excellent machine quilters out there, but we can only recommend those we have actually used.

The Last Stitch - Anneke Wheaton

Anneke was here in our shop until she could not stop BUYING machines and outgrew her space. She opened her own studio in San Juan Bautista, and has more machines in there than I can count. She also has one that you can learn to operate yourself!

San Juan Bautista (831) 623-4330

The Quiltin' Lady - Bonnie Lee

Bonnie has a very cool piece of equipment that she brings to YOU! It's about the size of an iPad. Let's say you want Ornaments quilted on your Christmas runner. She brings it up on the screen. Then she lays it on the quilt. You can then really get a picture of what the quilting will actually look like, and as she makes the design bigger and smaller, you can decide exactly how large and how dense you want the quilting to be!

Seaside (831) 601-3209

Linda's Quilting - Linda Barbin

Linda is a local Hollisterite, (or is that Hollisterian) and has been quilting San Benito County quilts for many years. Actually her customer base extends a good deal farther than our little county. She is talented, experienced and a really nice lady!

Hollister (831) 637-6645



If you ever find that oil from your machine has leaked onto your quilt try this after you recover from your fainting spell. Get some Cornstarch and gently work it into the spots. Use a very soft toothbrush to remove the Cornstarch. It will soak up the oil and hopefully your work will be saved.

Afraid of marking the top of your quilt for fear the marking lines will set? If you are doing just a general large scale design, mark the back! Quilt it from that side. Just be sure you quilt in a continuous line—meaning don't stop and start on the quilt. It will leave knots on the front. Run off the quilt rather than stopping and backstitching/lock stitching.

Keep masking tape in a Zip Lock bag, It prevents it from drying out. We can't tell you how many times we pulled out the masking tape to discover the glue had turned to dust. This also works well to keep rotary cutters from rusting.

Do you commit the BIG NO NO of NOT always closing your rotary cutter???? If you do, then every time you catch yourself, put \$1.00 in a bucket. After you have trained yourself to always close it, donate the money to a Food Bank, a local school or an animal shelter. If you find the bucket's always full, then maybe use the money to buy additional Accident Insurance.

We recommend using children's coloring books for appliqué designs. If you find some you really like, cut them out and laminate them. They become templates to use over and over. These are also good for quilting designs.

Do you find that when you go to a class there is always something you forgot? Make a list. If you have duplicate stuff (and don't we all) keep them in your "Class Basket". Before you head out the door, check the list and add those items to the basket. Oh, and be sure to put your name on everything. You can reverse check when you get home to make sure you didn't leave anything behind. The sooner you call the Quilt Shop to let them know those snippers are yours the better. We have a Lost and Found box - unfortunately after getting ready for PIQF we can't find the box!

Those cool little leather thingies that come with good scissors are great for protecting those shears. Sadly, they seem to get lost within days of the purchase. For the small embroidery types, cover the pointy ends with knitting needle covers.

Use leftover fabric pieces for gift tags. Stick double sided fusible web onto a piece of heavy card stock. Place your fabric on top and iron. Cut to the desired size. We often use this technique for the tags we use on our kits.

Places To Go - Quilt Shops To See

While most of us don't participate in Quilting Bees any longer we do enjoy the camaraderie of getting together with other quilters. And we bet those ladies sitting around that table would have LOVED to go on a Shop Hop! Or walk into a hall with HUNDREDS of quilts on display.



We're participating in a few this coming year.

We start off with Pajaro Valley Quilt Association.

February 26 & 27, 2011. Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds Watsonville

The next month is the March Madness Shop Hop.

March 3 through 6 and March 10 through 13. 23 shops.

Then on to the Seven Sisters Quilt Show

April 30 & May 1 2011. Alex Madonna Expo Center San Luis Obispo

Back in time for Shop Hop by the Bay

June 22 through 26. 13 Shops

Start again in the Fall with Pacheco Pass Quilt Show

Not sure of the exact dates yet. But it will be September in Los Banos

And our Grand Finale is the PIQF show

October 13 through 16 2011. Santa Clara Convention Center

Classes!

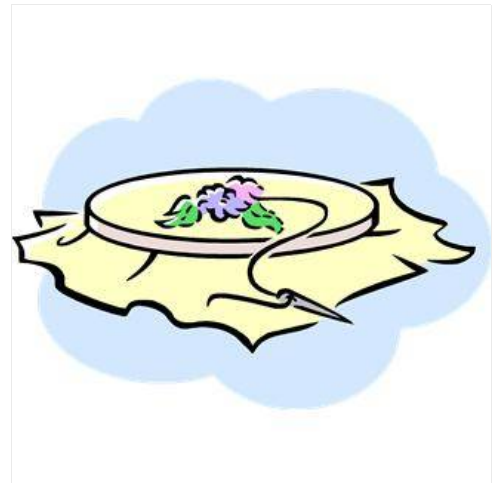
We have a new class schedule through the middle of December. These are geared toward Holiday gifts and home decorations. Check the website for last minute additions.

Bags, Totes, Runners, Toppers and Tree Skirts. Projects that are fun to make and give away, but also fun to make and give to YOURSELF!

Quilt Labels - Just for You!

Quilt labels are important. They define the time, the place and the reason for that quilt. A birth, a marriage, a graduation or a simple statement of love. No matter where that quilt goes, no matter how many times it may be handed down - the label gives that quilt life.

For those of you who have had the pleasure of meeting Tammy in our shop, you know how terrific she is. Not only terrific, but VERY talented! She is now offering a service creating Machine Embroidered Quilt Labels just for you! Some small, some big - all perfect.



Plus, they are truly affordable! You can get a sheet of 6 for \$3.00. They are 2 1/2" by 1". Wording like "Made With Love" "Created By" etc. Mix and match. Any color you like. You choose.

How about a 3" by 3 3/4" that says "A quilt sewn together with utmost care, quilted with love is a treasure to share"

Or a large 6" by 4" with a design you pick!

Of course if you want something custom, designed just for you, she can make that happen

Come by and take a look at some samples. Order them on the spot, or make an appointment with Tammy

Christmas Runner/Topper Challenge

Here is a way to force yourself to make that Christmas Table Runner and possibly a little extra spending money at the same time.

Our Christmas Table Runner Challenge is on!

Kits available November 11th.

All the fabric in the kit must be used at least once in the top.
No additional fabric can be added. (except for binding and backing)

The Runner can be any size you like

All entries must be turned in by December 4

Entries will be on display December 7 through 11.

Winners will be announced at the end of business December 11.

First Prize - \$75.00 Gift Certificate

2nd Prize - \$50.00 Gift Certificate

3rd Prize - \$25.00 Gift Certificate



Sunday Sew Day December 5th



Mark your calendars. Sunday December 5th we are having a Sew Day. We will be making Aprons and Pillowcases for Emmaus House. Aprons for Moms and Girls, Pillowcases for Toddlers, Kids and Teens. Homespun Harbor will supply the fabric.

We think a Potluck would be fun. Homespun will supply drinks, snacks and a Main Dish. (Note to self - Costco run)

These are always fun. And it's a wonderful way to put our talents to good use. It brings a bright spot to the Moms and kids who are going through a rough time.

One Day Sale - November 26th

It's the day after Thanksgiving. Guests are gone (whew), dishes are done (mostly) and you are surfing the Food Channels for 28 Great Ways to use Leftover Turkey. Forget it - other than a sandwich there ARE NO great ways to use leftover turkey! Instead - head over to Homespun Harbor for a One Day Sale! All Halloween, Fall and Christmas fabric will be on sale at 25% off!! We will also be offering 25% off on selected kits!

So, put down the clicker, close the fridge and join us for this special Holiday Sale!

Friday November 26th 10:00 to 5:00

