



THE POLKA DOT PINCUSHION

Volume 6, Issue 1

January - April, 2011

Dear friends,

January 2011

My grandmother always said that the best presents were the little ones. She always wanted me to pay attention to the small things that people did for me, or the seemingly unimportant events that occurred in my life. I loved my Gramma very much and tried to listen to her lessons, but when I was young, it was hard to follow her advice. Recently, I broke my arm and now I appreciate how any small accomplishment can be really important and rewarding, like putting on make-up, socks and pants with only one hand. How easy it used to be and how hard it is now. Chasing your grapefruit across the counter to eat it, opening the twist tie on the loaf of bread, cutting your own meat, combing the hair on both sides of your head are all small things that I took for granted. Accomplishing small projects in sewing can be just as rewarding as conquering the large ones. Tackling a large quilt may be overwhelming and beyond your post holiday budget, but you can do bits at a time, such as a block of the month program. Or, you can choose a monthly mini quilt to adorn a foyer table or small space in a kitchen. We are offering many new projects easily done bit by bit. Take a minute to see what's new.

Three new blocks of the month begin this newsletter. Michael Miller fabrics and Swirly Girl designs have created a lovely queen-sized cottage style quilt in their first offering of **The Clubhouse Quilt**. Each month you will receive the fabric and pattern to create the quilt, plus optional projects to redo a bedroom completely. Another smaller adorable quilt, **Petal Pushers**, uses a gardening theme with red, white and blue fabrics, featuring daisies and polka dots. This quilt is pieced and machine appliquéd. We are also starting a monthly hand embroidery group featuring **Winsome Wreaths** designed by Kathy Schmitz of Moda fabrics. You can do the embroideries in redwork, bluework, color work or go for a more primitive look of black on crackle fabrics. Each month offers an optional project using the original pattern to create pins, table runners, banners and other block settings.

Square It Up is a Polka Dot Pincushion original monthly offering which will have a 12" appliquéd mini quilt which can be displayed on an optional table stand. The stand has interchangeable tops for each month and will feature a scene surrounded by a window. **Hang it Up** is a 6" X 10" design from Pine Mountain Designs. The center of each is simple embroidery embellished with various selections of rick rack, wool, buttons or ribbon. For each of these, you can sign up to be assured of getting a kit, or choose the months that you like. Become a card carrying member of **The Polka Dot Pincushion Club** and have the opportunity to purchase a different pincushion kit each month with surprises and extras along the way.

As always, we have lots of new fabrics in the shop. Valentine fabric from In The Beginning and Moda will arrive soon. A great new flannel lap quilt is quick and easy using the Lil' Twister template, now available in four sizes.

Start that new project for the new year by taking baby steps forward. Any large work is always divisible into smaller easily do-able parts. Or you can pick a small project that will be that gem in a small package. Come in to the shop and let us help you get started; after all, who knows? Isadora might be there!

See you soon, Ronnie, Debbie, Pam, Cathy, Pam, Debbie, Kathleen and Isadora

How To Prepare For Any Class

In order to make your class time at The Polka Dot Pincushion productive and enjoyable, we ask that you use the following checklist to prepare for your instruction.

- Make sure your machine is in good working order, you know how to use it, and you have your owner's manual.
- In addition to the items on the supply list you received at registration, bring basic sewing supplies: needles for hand and machine, scissors, paper and pencil, cutting tools and accessories, thread to match your project, pins, marking tools, rulers and any other items that you use on a regular basis for sewing.
- If your instructor has given you a list of materials to prepare before class, please have those preparations finished so that in-class time can be productive. If you have questions on pre-cutting, please call the shop and someone will assist you. We are here to help.
- Arrive in plenty of time to set up your equipment and be ready when the class begins.

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At The Polka Dot Pincushion, you can:

- Create your own class .
- Have a birthday party for a special friend .
- Get help to finish a project, or let us create a custom design for you.
- Find unique gifts for everyone, wrapped for free.
- Have fun!

Did you know?

Hobbs fusible batting eliminates basting your quilt layers together. After the first washing, the fusible component is gone. It can be used for both machine and hand quilting.

We carry Hobbs Fusible at
The Polka Dot Pincushion

Quilts, Wall Hangings and Other Fun Projects

- Invisible Machine Appliqué**—Learn the Kim Diehl technique of invisible machine appliqué. Use a pattern of your choice or select a simple graphic to learn how to appliqué designs on finished pieces or quilt blocks. Great embellishment for gifts. **Advanced beginner**
One two hour class - January 29, 10:30–12:30 or February 10, 5:30-7:30 \$19
- Melinda Doll**—Learn to make this precious Civil War doll for yourself or the little girl in your life. Doll and one dress are made from pre-printed panels. No doll-making experience necessary. Panel purchase required. **All levels**
Two 2-1/2 hour classes - January 28 & February 4, 10:30-1:00 \$39
- Design Your Own Quilt**—Did you find EQ7 in your stocking from Santa? EQ 7 can help you to create your own quilt designs. We will use quilt blocks loaded in EQ, as well as, custom-made blocks. Bring your laptop loaded with EQ7 and join us to design your own quilt. **All levels**
Two 2 hour classes - February 7 & 14, 1:00-3:00 or One 4 hour class - March 26, 11:00-3:00 \$35
- Texture Magic Sampler Class**—Have you heard about Texture Magic? This fabulous interfacing can create amazing textures just using your regular sewing machine stitches, including ruffles. We will play with Texture Magic and charm squares and then give you some ideas for using them. **All levels**
Two 2 hour classes - February 16 & 23, 10:30-12:30 or April 13 & 20, 10:30-12:30 \$35
- Dresden Plate The Easy Way**—Learn the fastest, easiest, dresden plate ever. Machine sew the petals together and then learn to hand applique it to a background. You can finish as a pillow, table runner or quilt - your choice. We will do one block in class. **All levels**
One 2-1/2 hour class—February 26, 10:30-1:00 or March 2, 10:30-1:00 \$25
- Partly Cloudy Poncho** —Let it rain! Let it rain! Let it rain! Use your favorite laminated fabric to create a fabulous fully-lined hooded poncho with large front pockets and snap or button closure options. This adorable pattern is one size fits most. Pattern purchase required. **All levels**
Two 2-1/2 hour classes—March 14 & 28, 1:00–3:30 or March 31 & April 7, 5:30-8:00 \$39
- The Alien Doll**—Come and enjoy creating an alien doll for that special little one. This class will teach you the basics of doll making and allow you to apply these principles to other dolls. Pattern purchase required. **All levels**
Two 2 hour classes—March 15 & 22, 1:00-3:00 \$35
- Raspberry Ripple**—This handbag is a great “everyday” bag. It’s fun pleating style gives it added flair. Your fabric choices make it an original. Pattern purchase required. **All levels**
Two 2-1/2 hour classes—March 16 & 30, 10:30–1:00 or April 1 & 8, 10:30-1:00 \$39
- Sock Critter**—Bring your unmatched socks (the ones the dryer didn’t eat) to this class and we will turn them into critters: Hammie the Hamster, Ice Pick the Penguin, or Nippy the Mouse. Book purchase required. **All levels**
Two 2-1/2 hour classes—March 17 & 24, 3:30 - 5:30 \$39
- Pointless Stars**—Learn a simple stack and whack technique that makes stars look easy. Adorable in seasonal fabrics. Four fat quarters will make 4 blocks. **All levels**
One 2 hour class—April 9, 1:30-3:30 or April 14, 4:00-6:00 \$19
- 13 Days of Halloween Block of the Month**—This is an original pattern developed by The Polka Dot Pincushion. Each month has a Halloween icon displayed made from various fabrics including “glow in the dark”. This is a twelve month program that will include all fabrics for the top, binding, pat terns and embellishments. Finished size is approximately 56” X 46”. **Price: \$22/month**
Tuesday Sessions: Jan 25, Feb 22, Mar 29, Apr 26; 10:30
Thursday Sessions: Jan 27, Feb 24, Mar 31, Apr 28; 6:30
- Clubhouse Quilt**—Michael Miller Fabrics and Swirly Girl Designs have developed a beautiful quilt as a Block of the Month. This twelve month program includes all fabrics for the top and binding, patterns and help sessions. Additional fabric will be available for backing. There are also optional coordinating projects to create a complete look with pillow shams, dresser scarves, dust ruffles, lap quilts and throw pillows. Make this pale blue and citron green queen sized quilt (92” x 108”) and be a member of the Clubhouse. Join in the fun activities each month such as winning door prizes, collecting Clubhouse Cash to use in an in-store auction and seeing demos and other activities each month. The sample will be in the store soon. **Price: \$ 23/month plus a one time registration fee of \$15 returned with completion of the program.**
Tuesday Sessions: March 15, April 12; 10:30
Thursday Sessions: March 17, April 14; 6:30
- Petal Pushers**—Join this block of the month, beginning in April, and make an adorable pieced and machine appliquéd small quilt or wall hanging. This happy quilt features blocks with birdhouses, watering cans and baskets, a flag, a bike, and birds and bees. Springy tones of red, white, yellow and pale blue are accented with daisies, polka dots and basket weave fabric. The finished size of 42” x 54” makes a great lap quilt, small throw or accent for a garden porch or wicker settee. Extra borders could be added for a larger size. The kits include all fabrics for the top and binding, patterns and help sessions. This is a 12 month program. **Price: \$ 19/month plus a one time registration fee of \$15 returned with completion of the program.**
Tuesday Sessions: April 5; 10:30
Saturday Sessions: April 9; 10:30

January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Closed
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Class Preview Day 11-3
9 <i>Pick up</i> Hang It Up (February)	10	11 Americana Modern BOM 10:30	12	13 Americana Modern BOM 6:30	14 Vintage Notions Club 1-2:30	15
16 <i>Pick up</i> Pincushion	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 <i>Pick up</i> Square It Up (February)	24 Hobo Quilt 1:00 31 Dear Jane Group	25 13 Days of Halloween BOM 10:30	26 Beginning Machine Quilting (1) 10:30-1:00	27 13 Days of Halloween BOM 6:30	28 Melinda Doll (1) 10:30-1:00	29 Invisible Machine Applique 10:30-12:30

February 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Melinda Doll (2) 10:30-1:00	5
6	7 Design Your Own Quilt (1) 1:00-3:00	8 Learn to Quilt I (1) 1:00-3:30	9 Beginning Machine Quilting (2) 10:30-1:00	10 Invisible Machine Applique 5:30-7:30	11	12
13 <i>Pick up</i> Hang It Up (March)	14 Design Your Own Quilt (2) 1:00-3:00	15 Learn to Quilt I (2) 1:00-3:30	16 Texture Magic Sampler Class (1) 10:30-12:30	17	18 Winsome Wreaths Embroidery 11:30 Vintage Notions Club 1-2:30	19
20 <i>Pick up</i> Pincushion	21 Hobo Quilt 1:00	22 Learn to Quilt I (3) 1:00-3:30 13 Days of Halloween BOM 10:30	23 Texture Magic Sampler Class (2) 10:30-12:30	24 13 Days of Halloween BOM 6:30	25 Free Motion Quilting (1) 1:00-3:30	26 Dresden Plate The Easy Way 10:30-1:00
27 <i>Pick up</i> Square It Up (March)	28 Dear Jane Group					

March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Learn to Quilt I (4) 1:00-3:30	2 Dresden Plate The Easy Way 10:30-1:00	3	4 Lake Farmpark Free Motion Quilting (2) 1:00-3:30	5 Lake Farmpark
6 Lake Farmpark	7	8 Learn to Quilt I (5) 1:00-3:30	9	10	11	12
13 <i>Pick up</i> Hang It Up (April)	14 Partly Cloudy Poncho (1) 1:00-3:30	15 Clubhouse Quilt 10:30 The Alien Doll (1) 1:00-3:00	16 Raspberry Ripple (1) 10:30-1:00	17 Sock Critter (1) 3:30-5:30 Clubhouse Quilt 6:30	18 Winsome Wreaths Embroidery 11:30 Vintage Notions Club 1-2:30	19 Learn to Quilt I Workshop (1&2) 10:30-2:30
20 <i>Pick up</i> Pincushion	21 Hobo Quilt 1:00	22 The Alien Doll (2) 1:00-3:00	23 Machine Applique Workshop 10:30-2:30	24 Sock Critter (2) 3:30-5:30	25	26 Design Your Own Quilt 11:00-3:00
27 <i>Pick up</i> Square It Up (April)	28 Dear Jane Group Partly Cloudy Poncho (2) 1:00-3:30	29 Learn to Quilt II (1) 1:00-3:30 13 Days of Halloween BOM 10:30	30 Raspberry Ripple (2) 10:30-1:00 Learn to Paper Piece (1) 1:30-3:30	31 Partly Cloudy Poncho (1) 5:30-8:00 13 Days of Halloween BOM 6:30		

April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Raspberry Ripple (1) 10:30-1:00	2 Machine Applique Workshop 10:30-2:30
3	4	5 Petal Pushers 10:30 Learn to Quilt II (2) 1:00-3:30	6 Learn to Paper Piece (2) 1:30-3:30	7 Partly Cloudy Poncho (2) 5:30-8:00	8 Raspberry Ripple (2) 10:30-1:00	9 Petal Pushers 10:30 Pointless Stars 1:30-3:30
10 <i>Pick up</i> Hang It Up (May)	11	12 Clubhouse Quilt 10:30 Learn to Quilt II (3) 1:00-3:30	13 Texture Magic Sampler Class (1) 10:30-12:30	14 Pointless Stars 4:00-6:00 Clubhouse Quilt 6:30	15 Winsome Wreaths Embroidery 11:30 Vintage Notions Club 1-2:30	16 Learn to Quilt I Workshop (3&4) 10:30-2:30
17 <i>Pick up</i> Pincushion	18 Hobo Quilt 1:00	19 Learn to Quilt II (4) 1:00-3:30	20 Texture Magic Sampler Class (2) 10:30-12:30	21	22	23 Shop Hop
24 <i>Pick up</i> Square It Up (May)	25 Shop Hop Dear Jane Group	26 Shop Hop Learn to Quilt II (5) 1:00-3:30 13 Days of Halloween BOM 10:30	27 Shop Hop	28 Shop Hop 13 Days of Halloween BOM 6:30	29 Shop Hop	30 Shop Hop

Class Offerings

January - April 2011

How to...

Beginning Machine Quilting-Learn the basics of machine quilting and finish up those small projects. This class covers the fundamentals to get you started and then moves on to the fun of quilting. You will practice stitch in the ditch, echo quilting, stippling and some simple continuous line motifs.

Two 2½ hour classes - Jan 26 & Feb 9, 10:30-1:00 \$39

Machine Appliqué Workshop-A workshop to jump start your machine appliqué projects. In this hands-on class, you will learn many techniques and the different effects created with thread and machine stitches. With this background you can choose templates, freezer paper, fusible or another method that suits your pattern and the stitching that makes your piece really shine.

One 4 hour class- Mar 23 or Apr 2, 10:30-2:30 \$35

Learn to Free Motion Quilt - This is the class to move you beyond stitch in the ditch quilting and open up the world of free motion quilting. We cover the fundamentals of machine quilting and head off to the freedom of stippling and filler motifs to the beauty of feathers and more. You will have the confidence and practical knowledge to finish up those quilt tops and wall hangings.

Two 2½ hour classes - Feb 25 & Mar 4, 1:00-3:30 \$39

Learn to Paper Piece-Learn the basics of paper or foundation piecing by practicing on small blocks that can be used in a larger project or together as a small quilt. Use the teacup and tea pot foundation papers that are included with this course to make a delightful small wall hanging or table topper.

Two 2 hour classes - Mar 30 & Apr 6, 1:30-3:30 \$35

Learn to Quilt I -This class will teach the beginner all of the basics of quilting, including fabric selection, rotary cutting, sewing consistent seam allowances, backing, binding and quilting the finished top. The lap quilt uses the split rail block and can be a lap quilt or baby quilt.

Five 2½ hour classes-February 8 to March 8, 1:00-3:30 or 3 Saturday classes-March 19 & April 16, 10:30-2:30 and May 21, 10:30-1:00 \$109

Learn to Quilt II -This class will create a sampler quilt of 12 different blocks using triangles and other geometric shapes. You will also learn sashing and cornerstones.

Five 2½ hour classes - March 29 to April 26, 1:00-3:30 \$109

Specialty Clubs and Groups

Vintage Notions Group-The Vintage Notions group will continue into the new year. The focus will again be on the book but you will also receive many additional handouts from us and ideas to use in our modern homes. Bring your ideas for group activities and we love to see show and tell, either that you have created, or a treasure from the past. We will meet once a month for tea, companionship and sharing. A minimal charge will be made for refreshments.

Meetings: Jan 14, Feb 18, Mar 18, Apr 15: 1:00 - 2:30

Dear Jane Club-We have gotten the Dear Jane Bug! If you have one started, want to start one or just want to see what it's all about, join us in our Dear Jane Quilt Club which meets the last Monday of each month. Membership is \$6 a month. At each monthly meeting, members will receive 15% discount on fabrics and supplies to be used in that quilt only. The club hopes to provide motivation, support, and encouragement to complete your individual quilt.

Meetings: Jan 31, Feb 28, Mar 28, Apr 25 \$6/month

Winsome Wreath Group-Join the Winsome Wreaths group and stitch some adorable wreaths featuring motifs for each month. Each pattern has a full color reverse illustration suitable for framing. Designed by Kathy Schmitz from Moda, these 5-6" embroideries can be done in redwork, bluework, or primitive fabrics with blackwork. You can choose your colorway. Each month you can also purchase an optional kit using that month's design. Some kits are a pin, a valentine, a Victorian cone and others. Finished wreaths can be put in a wall hanging, quilt, banners, table runners or pillows. If you love embroidery, join us on the third Friday of the month. A one time registration fee of \$10 will be charged the first month and returned with completion of the program.

Meetings: Feb 18, Mar 18, Apr 15: 11:30 Kit and pattern: \$7

Polka Dot Pincushion Club-Come each month to the shop and pick up a kit for that month's pincushion. Each month there will be a limited amount of kits and the price will vary depending on the size and materials used in that month's kit. When you sign up to be a member of the club, you will receive a punch card. Each month when you purchase a kit, your card will be punched. Prizes will be awarded at various levels of completed punches.

Pincushion kits will be available for pick up the weeks of January 16, February 20, March 20, and April 17

New! New! New!

Hang It Up

Make this monthly mini quilt (6" x 10") to display on a small tabletop hanger. The center of each has a small embroidered picture surrounded by complementary fabrics and embellishments. \$13/month plus a one time registration fee of \$10 returned with completion of the program.

Available for pick up the weeks of January 9, February 13, March 13, and April 10

Square It Up

This mini quilt (12" square) will also have a monthly theme seen through a window. These squares are originals to our shop and can be displayed on a 12" X 14" table top hanger with changeable motifs for the top. The squares could also be used to make a wall hanging or quilt displaying all the months. \$15/month plus a one time registration fee of \$10 returned with completion of the program.

Available for pick up the weeks of January 23, February 27, March 27, and April 24

If you register for either of these programs as a block of the month, you will receive a 10% discount for each month and the assurance that your kit will match the sample, or you can take a chance and pick up only the kits that you prefer. Kits include all fabrics, embellishments and pattern. Hangers are not included in the monthly price but will be available for purchase.

THE POLKA DOT PINCUSHION

4131 W. Streetsboro Road
Richfield, Ohio 44286

Phone: 330.659.0233
www.pdpincushion.com

Hours:

Monday 12 - 5
Tuesday, Wednesday,
Friday 10 - 5
Thursday 10 - 8
Saturday 10 - 4

Become a fan of The Polka
Dot Pincushion on Facebook!

Upcoming Events

- 20th Annual Quilts 2011, Lake Metroparks Farmpark Quilt Show, February 11 - March 23, Kirtland, Ohio
- Lake Farmpark Vendor's Weekend, March 4 - March 6, Kirtland, Ohio
- 2011 Original Sewing & Quilt Expo, March 24-26, IX Center, Cleveland, Ohio
- Quilters' Fling Shop Hop, April 23 - May 7, 13 shops. Pick up a passport in any store.
- NQA 42nd Annual Quilt Show, June 16-18, Columbus, Ohio

Return Policy

No returns on books, magazines, patterns, kits, blocks of the month or fabric. Other products that remain in an unused, unopened condition in original packaging can be returned for a store credit within a 30 day period from the time of purchase. Gift and consignment items can be returned for a store credit within a 30 day period from the time of purchase. Reduced items are final sale.

Block of the Month Guidelines

Blocks of the Month will have a registration fee attached to the first month's price. This fee will be deducted from the last month's price when the final block is purchased and the program is completed. Pick up for any given month is based on the date of the Newsletter calendar. Participants will have a two month grace period after the completion of the program. i.e. If the program ends, July 15, you have until September 15, to purchase any or all remaining blocks. After that time, the registration fee will not be refunded.

After the two month grace period, fabrics used in the program may be put on the floor for public sale. Therefore, fabrics may be substituted in blocks picked up after the two month grace period.

If a participant begins the program after the initial starting month, they will have a two month grace period after the completion of the program to purchase remaining blocks and fabrics.

When you sign up for a Block of the Month, we have made a commitment to you to have the blocks and fabrics ready for you as promised and in a timely manner. In addition, you have made the commitment to us that you will finish the program as promised and in a timely manner.

Class Registration and Cancellation Policies

If the Revere School System cancels classes due to weather, classes at The Polka Dot Pincushion will be postponed to a new time. If the shop cancels a class, a full refund will be given. In order to register for a class, come to the store or call. Payment must be made in full at the time of registration by check, cash or credit card. Frequent Buyer Points are not awarded for class tuition, but a registered student will receive a 15% discount on items purchased for a particular class. When you register, you will receive a supply list for that particular class, stating supplies needed and what precutting (if any) is required.

If you need to cancel your spot in a class, you need to give the store a three day notice of your cancellation. You will then receive a store credit to take another class. If you do not attend the class, or do not give adequate notice that you need to cancel, you forfeit your class fee.

Kits are available for most classes. Kits are not discounted or part of the Frequent Buyer Program. Notice is given with each class offering if you need to purchase a pattern or if it is included with the class. Kits for the Block of the Month are not discounted.