

January 7, 2019

Hello Quilting Friends,

For most of us the Christmas holiday is over and completed for another year. The family parties, gift giving, shopping, and traveling is finally done. Now its back to work or school (poor Ray, I love having him home!). This is a great time for quilters though...more time to sew! However, if you are like me, I have MANY unfinished projects, aka UFO (unfinished objects). Some are safely tucked in plastic grocery bags or large Ziplock bags, while others are in dark boxes and bins. But this is the best time to rediscover those UFO's and begin a new year. A new year of finishing projects for our delight! (Some extraordinary ladies start just one project at a time and don't even think of starting another, three cheers for YOU!) However, most of us, we must have three or four different projects going at one time because we get bored or tired with just one...on to the next. (Gerolyn has probably twenty or more... Ray)(now, honey...really! Gerolyn)

So, to help jump start the new year quilting, I am going to challenge YOU! Now just "how" do you ask? Easy...send me a picture in an email (email the picture of it to me or bring it in to show us) of any UFO, unfinished you are thinking about finishing, and then finish it, finally bring in your finished project to the quilt shop and let us celebrate with you by showing everyone your awesome project on our Facebook site. Yep, very easy! Just send me a picture, finish, and celebrate!

Can you bring in a project or two and show me at the quilt shop before you start? Yes, for sure.

Does it have to be a quilt? Nope, anything! A tote bag, table runner, hand stitching, wool project, etc.

How long do we have to complete our projects? Good question, until Saturday, February 16th (that's six weeks)

Can we finish more than one thing? Oh yes, please work on as many UFO as possible! Your name will be added to our prize drawing. The project (quilt) must be completely finished, not just the top, but finished.

Any prizes? You know I love giving prizes! Yep, three gift certificates to the quilt shop. Hooray!!

Friends, I will share a few (many) of my UFO projects with you on our Facebook page so you can help cheer me on to complete some too. That's what friends are for!! Check them out...starting Sunday evening. (Please encourage her!!! There are too many boxes of UFO stuff in storage. Ray)

Classes and events happening at our quilt shop in January –

Our "Panel Sale" is continuing this week – Monday, January 7 through Saturday, January 12th. All panels are on sale – 25% off all panel, plus all clearance panels are just \$5.75

***Quilt Till You Wilt every Friday from 10am – 5pm or until you wilt.** Come and sew with us and think about bring your UFO to work on! Bring your sewing machine for a day of sewing and building new friendships. This is a free event at Keepsake Quilts.

***Jelly Roll Rug class on Wednesday, January 9th is now full**

but we are offering another class on Thursday evening, January 17th from 6 – 9pm. This is your opportunity to learn how to make a jelly roll rug. These rugs are extremely popular now and here a chance to learn how to make one for yourself. Grab your favorite jelly roll, cotton batting, sewing machine, and learn to make a rug that measures 30" x 44" when finished. This will be a great experience! The cost is \$30 which includes the pattern. Sign up now (989) 317-8700.

***Going Too Pieces Class will be meeting on Thursday, January 10th from 6 – 9 pm and our Saturday class will be held on Saturday morning, January 19th from 10 am – 1pm.** We have the cutest valentine heart for us to work on together, just in time for Valentine's Day. If you enjoyed making the fall pumpkins, you will fall in love with this heart too. Make several hearts to form a cute Valentine's table runner, or whatever you wish. The cost is just \$8 for the pattern and foundation papers. All you need is red or pink fabrics. Call to reserve your spot in this fun paper piecing class. (989) 317-8700.

***Paper Piecing a gorgeous Quiltworx Poinsettia (Judy Niemeyer) with Kathi on Saturday, January 12th from 9:30 am – 4:30 pm.** We have a special opportunity to learn from a certified Judy Niemeyer instructor, Kathi Sweet on Saturday. She will be teaching us the techniques to complete the beautiful paper pieced poinsettia using the Judy Niemeyer method. This is an advanced class. The cost of the class is just \$25. A kit and pattern are available at the quilt shop. Stop by to see the paper pieced poinsettia for yourself and then sign up to attend. (989) 317-8700.

***Beginning Quilting Class will be starting on Monday evening, January 21st through Monday, February 18th from 6 – 9pm.** This is a beginning quilting class that will be a five-week class, meeting once each week. You will be shown how to use a rotary cutter and do easy strip piecing. Some of the blocks you will learn to make are half square triangles, nine patch, flying geese, the pinwheel and several others. We will help you choose your fabrics for this class and by the end of the class you will have completed the top of your new lap size quilt. The cost is \$50 for all instruction, but fabrics are an additional cost and bringing your own sewing machine is a requirement. Dates are January 21st, January 28th, February 4th, February 11th, and February 18th. Space is limited for this class and it can also be a great way to become even more precise with your quilting techniques for some veteran quilters too. It's not too early to sign up now! (989) 317-8700 (If you know of someone who has talked about wanting to learn to quilt, let them know about this opportunity!)

***Do you have a paper piecing project that you haven't finished yet?** Yep, sure do (several really!). Then this is a date that you will want to add to your calendar – Wednesday, January 23rd from 6 – 9 pm. This is a great time to come and sew with us to complete one of your unfinished paper piecing projects. Bring your sewing machine and supplies have fun together. Space is limited, so please sign up early!! No charge for this awesome event – but you MUST call to let me know that you are coming...(989) 317-8700

One, two, three, four...or more UFOs in boxes or bags, it doesn't matter. This is a wonderful time to pull out those favorite ol' projects and begin again fresh. Watch for mine on our Facebook page, don't forget to "like it" to cheer me on! You're the BEST!

Your quilting buddy,
Gerolyn