

Newsletters in February 2013

Thread embellishments for fun.

February 20, 2013

Greetings everyone.

Cruising with 65 quilters was a blast. We lost two people from the Boston area whose planes did not get out due to the big storm. I felt so bad for them. Thank heavens we were on Holland America and not the "Stinky Ship". Our trip was perfect. Well, except for the part about Valentines Day.

When I was a teenager I had a beloved horse named Blaze. When I realized that Valentines Day occurred during this trip, I signed up for a shore excursion riding horses on the beach. *You know those romantic photos of couples riding thru the surf? That could be us, I thought.* It was all truly wonderful until they told us the finale would be swimming with the 400 pound beasts in the open ocean. The saddles came off and we loaded back up onto a saddle blanket. The guide instructed us to mount up and hold on with our legs. My 16 year old leg muscles up and went about 50 years ago! Desperately holding on to the little strap, I tried to squeeze my legs together as a big wave carried us in. The water had such force that it grabbed my leg and popped my hip way out at an angle that it has not seen for many many years. I bravely managed to stay on but limped my way painfully back to the boat. *The only action my husband saw on Valentines day was me whining and limping.* **Note to self.** You are not young as you used to be!

My workshops were built around my Color Me Tropical pattern.



The palm fronds are made out of thread; **off the quilt on a sandwich of tulle with Water Dissolvable Solvy Stabilizer between.** *I demonstrate the technique on both of my DVD's.* At Road to California I taught a workshop about making lots of things just out of thread with this method. One of my brilliant students made a Sea Fan out of thread in class. *(I wish I could give you credit by name. Write to me and you will be in the next newsletter).* Her's turned out so beautifully that I thought I would make one to add to my coral reef bottom block.

Trick: Print whatever picture you want to copy onto Paper Dissolvable Solvy. The 8.5 x 11 sheets will fit right into your home printer. Place the printed sheet with picture inside a sandwich (top and bottom) of tulle. Using your free motion foot and 40 weight thread just free motion over the picture. Use a straight stitch and go back and forth until you have a nice thread buildup over the pattern. Cut away as much of the tulle as you can. Give the little embellishment a bath and let it dry. Couch on quilt top by machine or hand. Here's a link to buy the paper you need to print on.

www.amazon.com/Sulky-Soluble-Stabilizer-Paper-Solvy-/dp/B000WMAMZE/ref=sr_1_fkmr0_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1361398917&sr=8-1-fkmr0&keywords=paper+dissolvable+solvy



It's a great way to make anything you can trace. My paints work to over-dye most light-colored threads too, if you want to add highlights and shadows. See web store.

Coming Workshops

This spring I will be teaching for lots of different quilts around the country.

Summer workshops include; Minnesota Quilt show June 12th -15. Several workshops.

Register at: www.mnquilt.org/ to register for workshops

Colorado quilt council in June, 20 and 22nd. <http://www.coloradoquiltcouncil> TBA

Pacific West Quilt Show in Tacoma. August the 22nd. I will be teaching a Dynamic Design for Every Quilt Style Workshop. This is one of the most important and exciting classes I teach. I am passionate about helping people discover what visually appeals to them, so that they can include that in their own work.

<http://www.apwq.org/quiltshow>

Audubon Christmas Quilt Update. Very Important information if you have this pattern.

Hello everyone who bought the Audubon Christmas pattern from me.

AQS has alerted us that 4 of the measurements for the finished blocks were misprinted. Please use this finished completion diagram for your measurements for each finished block. These are the 4 blocks that are misprinted. Blue jays, Owls, Chickadee and Quail. Do not cut those without looking at this new diagram. I wanted to pass this critical information on to all the people who bought from me. AQS has added an Important information alert to their web site. If you know anyone else who is doing this pattern please forward this information to them too.

My AQS editor is very sorry and they are correcting it on the second printing.

[Click here for the correct measurements diagram for all blocks.](#)

FREE video. On my web site your will find a free video with tips for quilting the Audubon quilt. Hope you like it and it helps.

Life is full of opportunities, misadventures, mistakes and gifts. Making my quilts helps keep me sane and manage the stress that comes to all of us. That and puppies at play. Hugs to all. Take care of yourselves!

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