

Newsletters in January 2015

[Kathys newsletter /Jan. 2015](#)

January 22, 2015

Greetings for the New Year:

Its kinda scary how fast life goes by when you get older. Thank you Feathered Princess and Freindship Knot guilds in Florida for inviting me this month. Lots of wonderful new quilting friends. Teaching for you all made treating the kids and grands to a Disney Lodge affordable. We have family memories that will warm my heart forever.

After visiting Pooh, Eeyore, and Tiger, our kindergartener explained to me that Eeyore was not real. "I saw Velcro on his back.... but Pooh is real Oma. He didn't have any Velcro." *Growing up faster than a blink of an eye. I'm sure this is an indication that she will be awesome at sewing.*



Ophelia: is the winning name from last month's contest. It was so hard to choose. She is one fancy octopus, and I needed a fancy name for her.

Esmerelda - slightly 'witchy', definitely 'tricky', fascinatingly elegant and totally unusual. *If she wasn't so pink this one was way up there.*

Athena - Goddess of wisdom, arts and crafts. *Wonderful but a lot of pressure to live up to and she definately has a michevious side.*

Molly - for her phyllum, mollusca. *Super creative but I really liked the O names.*

Octavia was submitted 28 times.

Irene Quednow from Alaska won the new book; Color Play by Joen Wolfrom. That was so much fun. Let's do it again!!

Sucker Contest - The first person who emails me the closest guess to how many suckers Ophelia has... will win this AQS planning calendar for 2015.



Those suckers seemed like such a good idea for her first leg. Bad, bad idea since she has EIGHT.

Tip of the month. Sequin pins are 1/2" pins, perfect for hand or machine applique. I love getting an entire block or section ready to watch Downton Abbey or board a plane. They are small enough not to get in the way of my needle or keep catching on my thread. Pinning perpendicular to the turned under edge, holds your applique piece nice and flat. No other basting needed. These sea grass leaves were turned with Appliquick stabilizer and pinned to the background block fabric with these little pins.



Available on Amazon or often found at vendors with lots of notions.

http://www.amazon.com/Dritz-350-Piece-Sequin-Lills-2-Inch/dp/B005571LKQ/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1421970834&sr=8-1&keywords=1%2F2+inch+sequin+pins

Ribbons and things. AQS and Road to California both called. How amazing is that? 1st for my "Dancing Cranes" at AQS. Viewers Choice for "Jingle Bells". "High Country Colors" won 3rd at Road. I actually made a pattern for my "Dancing Cranes". (You may use it in shows even with monetary awards.) Giving me credit for the pattern is all I ask.



[Click here for link to the pattern.](#) This is a large pattern 35 x 42, designed to accommodate all of the details in these amazingly beautiful birds. The pattern is for the mating pair of cranes only. You are free to create the background scene of your choice.

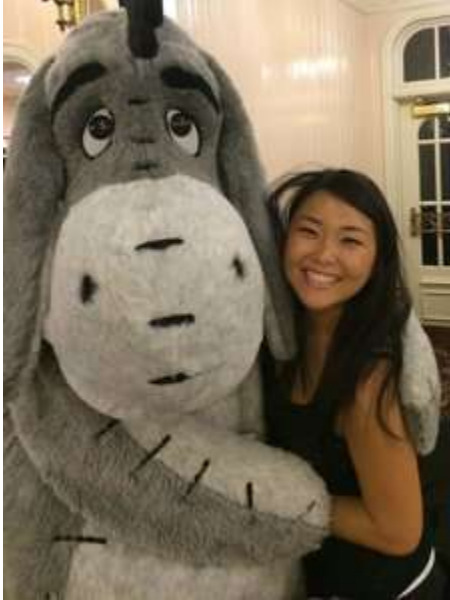
Big, Huge, Still can't believe it: News. Bob, from Superior Threads, called me after Christmas. He wanted to purchase two of my quilts for Heather. I was speechless! They bought Jingle Bells and the sea cave quilt called Natural Wonders. Both quilts were made with Superior Threads. It would be impossible to find a better home for my beloved quilts than Heather and Bob. Thank you a thousand times.

We have a wholesale account with Superior Threads because I carry Kimona Silk for hand applique and Bottom line for machine applique and quilting in my on line store.

<http://www.kathymcneilquilts.com/shop/applique-tools/>

My Bernina loves not filling up with lint and I love the ease and beauty of these threads. Kimona silk is 100# and Bottom Line is 60#. Silk thread just disappears and your hand stitches won't show. Bottom Line is polyester. I use it top and bobbin for free motion quilting when I don't want a really apparent thread line.

Lastly a big apology to my youngest daughter. The "unmarried daughter". Boy did I hear about that. "What, Mom? Were you born in the Victorian era? Her identity is the un-married daughter? How about the 28 year old who is working on her MBA while she is still working full time! How about the one with a flair for fashion design and a loyal and kind heart?.....And that was all from her older sister before I got the call from "the unmarried one". *I just meant the one without kids. Sorry Mei Li.*



Take care everyone. I wish you health and happiness all year.

hugs Kathy

www.kathymcneilquilts.com

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