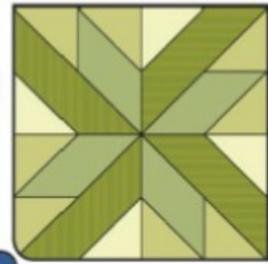


SCRAP CHAT



June

The Newsletter of The Bed-warmer Quilt & Sew

2018

Sew New

Latest Shop Updates

Kids Sewing Camp

Monday – Friday

June 11-15

9-1 each day

Sign up soon spaces are filling fast.

Jelly Roll Rug

Saturday June 23 10-4

All day class

Easy Peasy 3-Yard

Quilt

Saturday June 30 10-4

All day class

S.C.O.G. Quilt-A-Holics

Monday July 2

*We will be closed Wed
July 4th*

Kids Advanced Quilt

Class

Monday – Friday

July 9-13

9-1 each day

Sign up soon spaces are filling fast

Shellie's Stash



We just had the opportunity to pay our respects to those who have come before us and those that have giving their lives in the service of our country. I am always glad for this opportunity. I have the highest gratitude and respect for the men and women who have paved the way for me. For all of the generations that have made choices that allow me to live in a free country, full of opportunities and have embedded within me passions and desires to leave a legacy of my own for the generations that are to come—I am truly grateful.

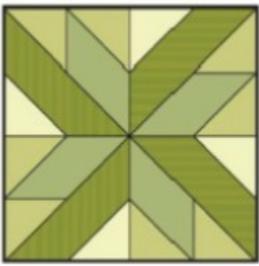
As a way of giving back I am excited to announce we will be hosting the Central Arkansas Chapter of Quilts of Valor, here at the shop. You will be able to come here to sew with others

as we make quilts for those who have served our country in all branches of the military. I have scheduled a day once a month and all are welcome to join us. The kick off day will be on **June 27th** and will then be held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month to follow. We will keep you posted if there are any changes to these dates.

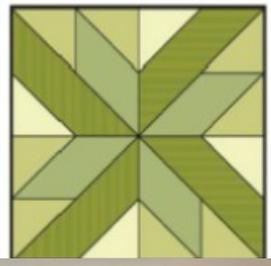
One more way we offer to carry on the traditions of the past, is with our Kid's Summer Sewing Camps. Camp lasts one week Monday – Friday from 9am-1pm and you can choose from either **June 11-15** or **July 23-27**. This is for beginner sewists, 8 to 16. They will make at least one project every day and learn everything about their sewing machine. The sewing machine is theirs to keep at the end of camp. There will also be an Advanced Kid's Camp held **July 9-13**. Monday – Friday 9am-1pm. Kids attending the advanced camp must have already taken a beginning kids camp and have a sewing machine they know how to use. Call soon, spaces fill fast.

These are my favorite classes to teach! I love to watch the kids be creative and find joy in sewing, so they can make this a part of their own legacy.

– Shellie Blake



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Social Circle

In May we were able to host the Hot Springs Village Guild's workshop. It was fun to have our "piece-full clubhouse" full of ladies trying a new technique. They had a guest teacher from Colorado who did a two-day workshop for them and the ladies had a ton of fun and made their own beautiful fabrics.



Snippets

We've all experienced threading a hand-sewing needle and having trouble getting the thread in the eye. So we recut the thread or spit on it to try to get it to go through, and every once in a great while, the thread goes right in without any trouble at all.

This is a real phenomenon.

Did you know?.....One side of the eye actually has a bevel to it that helps the thread to slip right thru the eye while the other side has a blunt cut to it that makes it more difficult to get the thread in. So before you try spitting on it, (by the way, spitting on the thread actually makes the fibers of the thread swell causing it to be even more difficult to thread the eye), just turn the needle over and try from the other side. Soon you will be threading the needle in 2 tries or less. **Voilà!**

Spotlight

Customer Focus

Athena Kelley

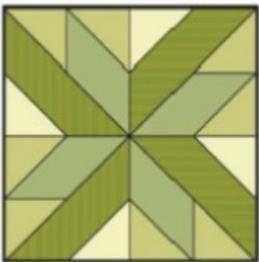
Met Athena Kelley! She is a newcomer to quilting, but not to sewing. Athena was born and raised in Detroit Michigan. She is #4 of 7 children. She has 5 brothers and 1 sister but only 1 brother is still living. She went to school and graduated college in Detroit, studying business. She worked for the state of Michigan as a secretary and then an office manager.

In 1980, a friend of hers talked her into going to a Valentines dance. While there she was asked to dance by a man named Frank. He then asked if he could talk with her, and

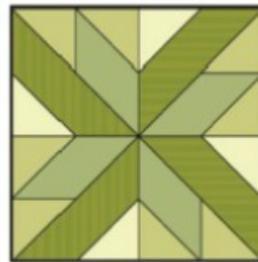
they haven't stopped talking to each other.

They were married in 1985 and just celebrated their 33rd anniversary in May. He was working at Detroit Diesel, but he was born and raised just outside of Dumas Arkansas. He had moved to Michigan after living in Indianapolis. After they both retired from their jobs they decided to move to his home state. Three years ago they moved to Dumas and then moved to Benton.

Athena had grown up with a mom, grandma and great grandma that were all seamstresses. When she was in high school and wanted new clothes her mom would take her to the fabric store. She was taught to sew at a very young age. After she moved out



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on her own she decided to only use sewing for mending. She took up crocheting and enjoyed that for many years until her problems with carpal tunnel got so severe she had to give it up. When Athena moved to Benton, she decided she wanted a new hobby and her niece mentioned quilting. Athena came to our 3-yard quilt class and made her very first quilt. She did amazing and made all of it herself-- piecing,

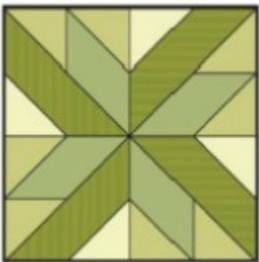
machine quilting and binding, in just a couple of days. This quilt turned out beautiful and she has already picked out her next two quilts and made a bionic gear bag.

Athena also loves to cook and travel. She and Frank mostly travel to visit family. Frank has 13 siblings, 6 of which are still living. His oldest sister will be 105 this year. Athena has 8 nieces and

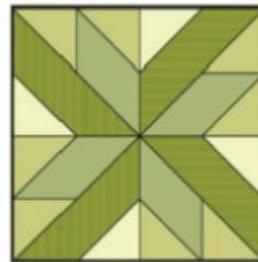
nephews, whom she is very close to and claims one niece as her own (daughter). She has one son in Texas and has 4 grown grandchildren. She loves to play games and talk with her family. She talks to her brother every day.

Athena is very outgoing and enjoys meeting new people. Her friendly personality draws you right in and you'll become fast friends.





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Story Corner

The Healing Quilt

Part 3 of 3

Written by Darren Blake

It had been several weeks since Sarah Potter had last made her way into The Bed-warmer. Of course, she had called Shellie on several occasions to keep her updated on Lilly's progress. It was her long absence from the shop that made her visit such a delight as Sarah walked through the entry way to the familiar and pleasant tinkling of the bells hanging from the front door. The shop was bustling as usual and there was a class being held in the classroom next door, but Sarah was in no hurry and was prepared to wait however long it took for customers to dwindle to the point she could provide Shellie the latest details on her daughter's recovery. When Shellie finally developed a few free moments, she gave her friend a hug while they stood at the cutting table to talk.

"I wanted to let you know," Sarah began, "that Lilly seems to be on the path to full recovery. The bone marrow transplant went just about

perfectly and everything seems to be on track. Lilly is starting to gain back some weight and her color is pretty much back to normal. She's still weak, but every day it seems like her strength is growing. Thank you so much for all you've done."

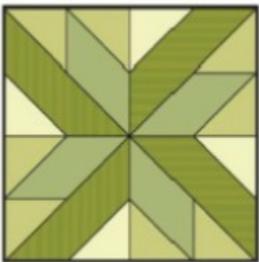
Shellie patted her friend on the hand. "Oh, I don't think I did much. You know, it was your family and really it was Lilly who did all the hard work."

"Yes, but without your healing quilt, who can say where we'd be today? If I had to point to a time where everything began to turn around and get better, it was the day I gave Lilly your quilt."

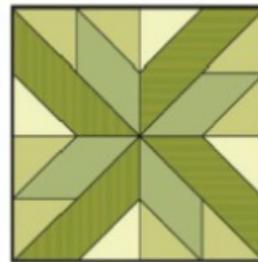
Shellie smiled in response. "I'm glad I was able to contribute that much."

Sarah stayed and talked with Shellie almost until closing time, once again making time between

customers coming in and out, giving all of the details of Lilly's healing process. She told Shellie that another thing that had worked in their favor was the promise that Lilly could attend next summer's Kid's Camp again, only next time in the more advanced projects. Finally, Sarah promised to bring Lilly in for a visit once she was totally up to strength. "Oh, and one more thing you might be interested in," Sarah said right before leaving the shop, "Lilly made several friends while in the Cancer Institute. There was a little boy about her age suffering from acute lymphoblastic leukemia, the same family of leukemia that Lilly had. He didn't seem to be responding to treatment and had become very discouraged. Right before Lilly was discharged following the bone marrow transplant, she visited him and gave him the gift of her healing quilt. I don't know if it will work for him the same way it worked for her, but at least she gave him hope."



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As Sarah walked out of The Bed-warmer Quilt and Sew, Mary Ann Karber who had been teaching in the classroom strolled quietly up beside Shellie at the cutting table. “I couldn’t help overhear some of your conversation,” she began. “Did she say something about a healing quilt? What’s the story there?”

Shellie continued to look out the front windows as her eyes followed Sarah getting into her car. “Did you know I used to be in the medical industry?” Shellie asked.

“I didn’t know that. A nurse?”

“No. I worked in radiology and ultrasound. For a while I worked at a university hospital. Used to see all kinds of patients come through there. One thing I noticed was that as soon as a patient lost hope and the fight to survive, they usually died pretty quick. Especially children. If one of them lost hope, they usually went downhill fast.”

“So where does a healing quilt come in?”

Shellie finally turned her eyes from the front windows to Mary Ann. “That customer who just left...her name is Sarah. She’s a good friend and her daughter Lilly attended last year’s Kid’s Camp. Lilly was on the verge of death with leukemia and was losing all hope to recover. So, when Sarah came in one day to the shop, I gave her a healing quilt to give to Lilly. Seems like it worked really well. Lilly’s pretty much healed now.”

“I didn’t know there was such a thing as a healing quilt.”

Shellie chuckled. “Oh, there’s not.” Shellie pursed her lips for a moment as if to consider her next words. “What I’m about to tell you, you must never tell another soul. I wouldn’t want to risk it ever getting back to Lilly.”

Mary Ann nodded, clearly intrigued. “I’ll never say a thing.”

“I told you what happens when a child loses hope. Sarah and I cooked up a little white lie to help Lilly hold on to her hope of recovery. I gave Sarah a healing quilt that had been in my family for generations. Whenever anybody needed to be healed of sickness or injury, all they had to do was sleep under that quilt and before they knew it, they’d be feeling better. Once Lilly slept with that quilt, she had enough hope to keep going until she healed and felt better. Turns out that it worked so well, she re-gifted her own gift of hope to another child.”

“Really? You gave away an heirloom quilt just like that?”

“Heirloom?” Shellie looked at Mary Ann and flashed a beaming smile. “Oh no. I actually made that quilt about six months ago. The quilt isn’t an heirloom and it certainly doesn’t have any magic. The magic came from inside a little girl who only had to believe.”

The End

Read Part 1 of a new story in next month’s Newsletter

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• 17270 Interstate 30 Suite 9, Benton AR

• (501) 860-6176