

On Pins and Needles... May 2019 Newsletter

We're off and running!

After five years of planning, dreaming, and dreaming some more, High Sewciety Boutique is finally a reality! My husband and I moved from the Chicago area to Bluffton, South Carolina last summer. Since that time I have been busy applying for vendor booths at various quilt shows, conferences and expos. You will find my show schedule later in this newsletter. The response by the show organizers has been tremendous, so I am excited to be scheduled for five shows between May and September 2019.

My "brick and mortar" studio will be located in our house, which is currently under construction. I expect to have the studio open sometime in October (builder, weather, and God willing). Of course I will provide more information on a grand opening in later newsletters.

In the meantime, you can visit my website and shop online at highsewciety.com



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Highlights from the Sea Island Quilters Quilt Show—Beaufort, SC

The Sea Island Quilters hosted their biennial quilt show on May 10th and 11th, and it did not disappoint. The talent exhibited in the 150+ quilts was remarkable. It was also my very first quilt show as a vendor! The show was very well organized and a great show for my first experience as a vendor. I learned so much!! Everyone was so nice and supportive, and the other vendors took me under their wing and helped me tremendously and gave me great advice and help.

The guild put together a great selection of raffle baskets with a huge variety of themes. The baskets were varied and beautiful, and I was thrilled to win one of them!

I also had a prize drawing in my booth for a basket filled with 10 1/2-yard cuts of quilting cotton along with a selection of quilting notions. Rosemary H. was the prize winner, and she was thrilled! What a great phone call that was when I called to let her know she had won!

The following pages feature just a few of the quilts that caught my attention. There were many quilts that deserve mention, but space limitations cause me to pick just a few!

The Sea Island Quilters website can be seen at <https://www.seaislandquilters.com/>.

Did you know?

- Remember, thread size does not mean thread diameter. A 40-weight spun poly will have a higher diameter than a 40-weight filament rayon simply because of the construction.
- The "weight" of a particular type of thread refers to the length of a given weight of thread.
- A thread is labeled 40-weight because one gram is 40 meters long. A thread is labeled 30-weight because 1 gram is 30 meters long. A 30-weight thread is a "heavier" thread, meaning thicker cross section, because a much shorter thread weighs the same as the 40-weight thread.

**Best of Show goes to....
"Lucy Boston's Patchwork of the Crosses"
by Joanne Moss, quilted by Debra Bryant**

This quilt features elongated hexagon blocks that were entirely pieced by hand using English paper piecing. The quilt took a full year to piece. It is stunning!



**"Keep Shooting for the Stars"
Pieced and Quilted by Andrea West**

Several of us stared at this quilt for quite a while. Can you find the blocks? Turns out there aren't any! This quilt was pieced in strips, not blocks. Notice how the stars are not symmetrical, which not only adds interest, but makes it more of a "head scratcher" as to how it was done!



“Eclipse 2017” by Nancy Metzger

Nancy shares: “This is my interpretation of the eclipse in 2017, from a photo taken by my son-in-law. I just kept putting pieces of fabric together to get the look I wanted.”

Love the colors!



“Batiks in Circles” by Cynthia Cassidy

And speaking of gorgeous colors, this one by Cynthia Cassidy shows great use of color and value. I love the gradation! Piecing circles can be a bit challenging too...

“What’s the Point!” by Barbara Rader

Barbara writes, “This crayon quilt was made by a retired kindergarten teacher who still loves school. It was adapted from a pattern in “Quilts and More”, Fall 2014

Fun!!



“Doll World” by Janet Swan

Janet shares: “I found this pattern in the 1980’s book called “Quick Rotary Cut Quilts”. Nothing about it was quick. It took 90 hours and 15 minutes to hand quilt. The last 15 minutes were the hardest.”

Like the crayon quilt, this one is just plain fun, and adorable!



“Garden in Wool” by Ann Davis

I love felted wool applique so this one was sure to catch my eye.

Ann writes, “this is a hand applied quilt that was mostly done while traveling between relatives homes. It was started in 2013, and it was finally finished in 2019. It’s about time!”

Tariffs will effect sewing enthusiasts

Tariff Increase Information

As of May 10th, 2019 the USA has increased tariffs on many Chinese imports from the current 10% to 25%

This increase affects all silk fabrics, many other fabrics, and other items. It will also apply to fabrics imported from China to make clothing here in the US, or yarn imported to make fabrics here in the US, which will ultimately increase the cost of garments made from these fabrics. It will take awhile longer for those types of increases to take effect.

Any shipments exported to the USA after May 10th, 2019 will be subject to the additional 15% tax.

Current stock will not be affected, and there is always a chance a new deal will be reached that will change this, but barring that, fabric and some other prices will start increasing as those shipments are stocked.

This is information only, so that you can plan your purchases accordingly. We are not being political, and are just stating the facts. We are not international trade experts. We don't know what the long term costs / benefits of these tariffs will be. We just want to inform you of significant changes in the marketplace, so you can better prepare for your planned projects.

While I was at quilt market I asked several of the manufacturers how they thought they would be affected by the tariff changes. Some said that they didn't think they would be because their fabrics are being manufactured in South Korea or Japan. Others shrugged their shoulders and weren't as confident. I think it is pretty safe to say that fabrics sold at the big box stores will be affected.



Some Items Recently Added to the Website

Sale!

I was able to purchase a selection of patterns by The Sewing Workshop at a discount. I have passed that discount onto my customers! The following patterns have been discounted by 20%. Regularly \$22.95, the price will be \$18.40 while supplies last.

- Berwick St. Tunic (Just Released!)
- Cottage Shirt
- Odette & Ivy Tops
- Siena & Cortona Shirts
- Stafford Jean Jacket

Just Released!



Upcoming Shows: Come visit my vendor booth at the following shows!

What?	When?	Where?
Landrum Quilt Show	June 13-15, 2019	Landrum Middle School 104 Redland Road Landrum, SC 29356
American Sewing Guild National Conference Greater Boston Area	August 1-4, 2019	DoubleTree by Hilton Boston North Shore 50 Ferncroft Rd. Danvers, MA
Quiltfest, Jacksonville, FL	September 19-21, 2019	Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center 1000 Water Street Jacksonville, FL
AQS QuiltWeek, Charleston, SC	September 25-27, 2019	Charleston Area Convention Cen- ter 5000 Coliseum Drive North Charleston, SC



In our next issue: Spring Quilt Market 2019

As I write this newsletter, I am on my way to Kansas City, Missouri for the 2019 Spring Quilt Market. I am looking forward to seeing all the latest in fabric designs and patterns for quilting and garment sewing. I will also be taking classes and seeing lots of demos of new products. I may even see a sewing celebrity or two! I'm sure my head will be spinning with all the great stuff that I will see. I will share pictures and information on some of the new and exciting things I see at Quilt Market in the next issue!

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Tip of the Month

Need a seam-allowance guide? Use rubber bands for a temporary marker. Just remember to carefully measure the placement of the rubber band. Lower your needle, and with your seam gauge or a ruler measure from the needle to the rubber band edge to check the placement and adjust as needed.



High Sewciety Boutique

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We are a brand new store located in the Old Town area of Bluffton, South Carolina, which sits between Hilton Head Island, South Carolina and Savannah, Georgia.

Our goals are simple:

- 1.) Promote sewing as an art and life skill.
- 2.) Encourage and help each guest in their creative pursuits, no matter how far along they are in that journey.
- 3.) Inspire creativity.
- 4.) Provide quality products, education, and advise while keeping the crafts affordable.
- 5.) Provide opportunities to use our talents to help others in the community.

We're on the Web!
Highsewciety.com



One of my favorite recipies....



Dill Pickle Dip

- 1 pkg cream cheese 8 oz, softened to room temperature
- 1-1 1/2 cups chopped dill pickles
- 1/4 cup finely chopped sweet onion
- 2-4 T. pickle juice (use less for thicker dip, more for thinner dip)
- 1 t. dried dill weed
- 1/2 t. salt
- Ground pepper to taste

Use a wooden spoon to press into the cream cheese then stir until smooth. Stir in all of the remaining ingredients until evenly distributed. Transfer to a serving dish and cover with plastic wrap. Refrigerate for at least an hour before serving.

Store tightly covered in the refrigerator for up to a week.

For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the LORD endureth for ever. Praise ye the LORD. Psalms 117:2