

# TOP STITCH

Volume 12, Issue 2

Spring/Summer 2009

## Bare Bottom Quilts

You're thinking about those cute little baby pictures, aren't you?

I think it's just an awfully cute name that a friend of mine has given to her (stacks) of quilt tops. What resonates most is that this truly is a better definition of those un-quilted tops; their supposed to be quilts when they grow up.

She's made the commitment to help them along by purchasing the new **BERNINA** quilt frame - which was designed to accommodate ANY brand machine. Because of space, she's set it up at the 5 foot length, but it comes with all the hardware to set up at 10 feet for those that can. She's also added the laser tracking light which allows her to trace any pattern instead of free-braining it.

The Quilt CAD software program that's available lets you design your quilt in its entirety on screen using pre-made patterns, or you can design your own. Print out the design on paper and use this to trace with the laser light. Of course this program can be used to design your layouts for any kind of quilting - hand, machine in cabinet, or machine on frame.

If you truly want to feel confident, there is a template set available that uses a stylus which runs in pre-made tracks. You can alter the spacing by moving the stylus along its grooved holder. The templates have 2 sides; 8 patterns in all.

Some of the special features of the **BERNINA** quilt frame - besides its sleek look - is excellent wobble-free control with the smoothness and accuracy of a professional system. This is obtained by eight extra-large bearings mounted in a unique angled position. The ratcheted take-up rail system gives you precise increments of control while advancing the fabric. And the leader clothes (which Velcro onto the poles) have pre-printed grid-lines to help you load the quilt straight. Completely adjustable height, a useful storage shelf and the ability to work from either side all make this an unsurpassed home-usage frame.

My room doesn't allow for a frame so I just got my brand new **Koala** cabinets with an extra large opening to hold my **Bernina 830** (New Generation). These are truly the finest sewing cabinets I've ever seen, and the super great news is that they're now being made in the USA.

Now I just need to make some new tops....



### Inside this issue:

New Owner Classes	3
Quilt/BSR Class	2
Foot-Steps	2
Announcements	4

### Top Tips

- We have a store proverb: "No deadline, No commitment". Notice how you'll manage to find a way to get that wedding quilt or baby blanket or even most of the Christmas presents done on time - but you still haven't finished a quilt you started 5 years ago? The problem isn't inspiration, the problem is not having a deadline. Put some goal dates on your calendar - and try to plan them with an incentive to make them stick. When you have a deadline (like this newsletter) you are more likely to make the commitment.

# FOOT-STEPS

## #83 THE CIRCULAR SEWING ATTACHMENT

Remember "Spira-graph"? Making all sorts of cool designs by turning a colored pen inside a tiny hole inside a set of cogged templates?? Or possibly you remember watching your kids having a blast playing with this pre-computer toy. Whatever the case, most of us were fascinated by the types of designs that would surprisingly appear. Working with the Circular Sewing Attachment is akin to that play-time.

Basically this is a tool you can use to make perfect circles; so even if you don't want to get funky you can use it with a simple straight stitch in order to make quick cathedral windows and the like. You could also use it as a way to mark and baste circles that you are going to turn under and appliqué. But when you start playing with some of your decorative stitches that's when the fun really begins.

If you're working on regular weight cottons it will be best to use a stabilizer on the back, preferably with a built-in adhesive. Put an embroidery thread in the top and a suitable bobbin-weight thread in the bobbin. The attachment secures to the machine bed with a single screw and you can use any of the feet appropriate for the type of work to be done (embroidery feet such as #6, #20 or #39 would be best for decorative stitches). Press the fabric onto the very sharp pin that sticks up, choose a fancy stitch and GO. It is really that simple.

You can alter the size of the circles or make concentric circles by sliding the pin along the notched rail (it will click when in place). Try playing with overlapping circles by lifting the fabric off the pin and re-positioning it in a different spot. (There is a rubber cover to place on the pin so you don't bleed all over your project :-)

For some it will seem un-nerving if the last stitch pattern does not end completely when it meets the starting stitch. Here are some tips for that inevitability. First - on scrap fabric - try the stitch you want at different notches and see which ones work best. Second, consider using a stitch that has a shorter 'repeat' or decrease/increase the length until it fits correctly. Another option is to work semicircles off the edge of the fabric so joining never really comes into play. And, there always is the option of using a decorative embellishment such as a button or beads to hide any joins you're not happy with.

Bring out your inner child and spiral your way to creative expression!

### Class Policies:

Space is extremely limited; as a courtesy to others, please inform us immediately if you need to cancel.

◆  
We will cancel a class three days in advance if we do not have the minimum number of students enrolled.

◆  
You are expected to put a reservation on your calendar; we do not make reminder calls.

◆  
Previous purchasers are welcome to take their New Owner's Guide classes a second time at no additional charge.

## Quilting with

## Bernina & BSR

Develop your skills and confidence with straight line and free-motion quilting. Work with the walking foot and quilting feet, including the famous BSR (not required). Learn how to decide on threads and needles for different effects.

**Fee: \$15.** (plus basic supplies)  
*Top Stitch Purchasers of BSR machines are entitled to a special price of \$7.50 Choose one:*

Wed., May 20, 2:00 - 5:00

Sat., July 25, 10:00 - 1:00

Thurs., August 6, 2:00 - 5:00

These classes are complimentary with purchase of a machine from TOP STITCH. Choose one of the options listed below for your model(s) then call or come in to reserve your space (pre-registration required.)

\*Bernina of America values new owner guide classes at \$50. per hour

### Activa & Aurora Guide Classes

- Saturday, April 25, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Wednesday, May 13 and Thursday, May 14, 2:00 - 5:00 pm (both days)
- Saturday, June 13, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Wednesday, July 15 and Thursday, July 16, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm (both days)
- Wednesday, August 19 and Thursday, August 20, 2:00 - 5:00 pm (both days)

### Aurora Embroidery (additional classes for embroidery with Aurora machines)

- Saturday, May 16, 2:00 - 5:00 pm
- Wednesday, July 22 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

### Artista Guide Classes AND NEW 8 Series Classes (for 830 / 820 machines)

#### Sewing Machine Features:


- Saturday, May 2, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Wednesday, June 3 and Thursday, June 4, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm (both days)
- Saturday, August 15, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

#### Embroidery Usage:

- Saturday, May 16, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
- Wednesday, July 29, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
- Saturday, August 22, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

### Serger Guide Classes (for all new Bernina serger models)

- Saturday, June 6, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Wednesday, August 12 and Thursday, August 13, 2:00 - 5:00 pm (both days)

 Make sure we have your current e-dress and remember to add us to your allowed list in order to get periodic updates and advance notification of sales - including offers that will only be advertised by e-mail.

# TOP STITCH



## BERNINA<sup>+</sup>

1596 Biddle Rd.  
Medford, OR 97504

Monday - Saturday 10: - 6:

**SUMMER HOURS:**  
(May 30 - August 29)

Monday - Friday 10: - 6:  
Saturdays 10: - 4:

**CLOSED:**

June 21 - 30

July 4th

August 31 - September 7

When you buy a Bernina at

Top Stitch,

it's not just a box —

It's an Experience.

608-7722

Toll free 888-608-7722

topstitch@qwestoffice.net

# 20% OFF

## ALL QUILT BATTINGS

With coupon  
April 4 - April 30, 2009  
(pre-pay orders allowed)

# 25% OFF

## PAINTSTIKS, Patterns & Accessories from Cedar Canyon

With coupon  
May 1 - May 16, 2009

When you Buy a Bernina at **TOP STITCH**  
the following services are *Always* included:

1. Complete Class Instruction for use of your machine.
2. Free, unlimited trouble-shooting assistance
3. Full warranty coverage performed on our premises.

**Plus** our **exclusive BBB** Discounts \*

- ▶ **15% off** regular priced fabrics, notions, books, accessories, emb. designs, etc.
- ▶ **Discounted** maintenance & service on that machine.

- BBB discounts are good for one full year after purchase **and** are renewed automatically for another 12 months when you pay for a cleaning on the machine purchased.

# 25% OFF

## ALL Paper-Pieced Patterns

Coupon good thru 4/30/2009