

TOP STITCH

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Welcome Oregon Quilt Project



Surely when people anywhere think of historical quilts the state of Oregon must rank amongst the top. Of course you have your Amish quilts (Pennsylvania Dutch) and your Kansas troubles, your Civil Wars (covering a vast divide) and both your Ohio and Texas stars, but doesn't the Oregon Trail draw visions of wagons filled with lots and lots of quilts?

The spirit of Oregon is that it has no one form. The spirit of Oregon has grown from the courage - and the desperation - that drove people across untold hardships to find peace in the valleys. The spirit of Oregon takes root in a pioneer spirit that ventures to explore, invent, build and create. The spirit of Oregon also belongs to the Indigenous peoples who witnessed the explosion creating Crater Lake and the tidal waves that shaped her shores. The Oregon spirit - our spirit - is always unique, but somehow united; at least that is what interested parties are seeking to explore with The Oregon Quilt Project.

Respected author and quilt historian, Mary Bywater Cross, is working with a team of volunteers traveling across the entire state in a project seeking to document and catalogue the diversity of Oregon quilts from the early 1840's through the present. Their ongoing work is being uploaded into the Quilt Index at Michigan State University Museum which currently boasts over 90,000 freely accessible records by way of their website: www.quiltindex.org.

Soon the group will be traveling to our corner and plan to spend a couple days documenting key specimens from Southern Oregon. I am thrilled and honored to say that three of my art pieces that feature Oregon will be included: Southern Oregon Highlights, Everyday Barns and Family Farms, and the recent Britt ScRhapsody. The quilts of the impactful Daedalus Project at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival (OSF) will also be fully catalogued.

Southern Oregon Historical Society (SOHS) and the Jackson County Genealogical Library (JCGL) are supplying many historical items to be included...as well as the volunteers to assist the core team. Members will be learning how to complete the scholarly documentation so that they can continue to add important works in the future. One way you could help and support them is by *Sponsoring* a quilt. Each entry made to the Index costs \$10. A donation in that amount would help support a quilt from the collection at SOHS.

With very limited hours at SOHS, it seems easiest to collect your donations here at the store. Top Stitch will turn in the funds along with a complete list of Sponsors (cut off is Friday, Oct. 26). You can also donate to the project directly; you'll find information at the site OregonQuiltProject.org. Help support the women (and men) making history piece by piece.

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Top News

Our local outdoor favorite, what I call the *Biggest Little Quilt Show in Oregon*, is set to take place at the Hugo Ladies Schoolhouse (I-5 exit 66 head W.) Friday, Oct. 5 and Sat., Oct. 6 9:00 - 3:00 both days.

It is always a treat to see the many quilts they've packed into the one room schoolhouse, and also partake of the homemade edibles for sale at the back. The group has a lovely hand applique quilt to raffle and a silent auction of small works. All the vendors are outdoors - so we'll hope the smoke will be gone and rain will stay away. Good luck gals!

In the Works: etsy here we come

If you've come in the store lately, you may have noticed I've been clearing out our storage and back room; putting a bunch of things on sale or even setting stuff out for free. You can imagine as we near the end of our 21st year in this same location, things have started to pile up. So though we have no plans of moving, I decided that the only way to get my life back in order was to clean up and organize as if I would be!

The first phase I've billed as my **Five and Dime Sale**. Going through crates of fabric from our fashion buying days, these are remnants or somewhat damaged pieces we've had in storage. Pieces that are under 3 yards are a flat **\$5.00**. Cuts that are 3 - 6 yards are a simple **\$10**. I'm about half way through the cache, so if you think you've seen it all...HA! Anyway, these are mostly rayons and wools, knits and cotton blends, with some silks and linens too. Some unusual pieces would be great for cos-play sewists. Basics are great to use as draft projects. At these prices, you can **AFFORD** to make a mistake! And I put that out there knowing I've taken tags off that were as much as \$49.95 per yard originally. This sale will be **ongoing** as I dig through crates and space opens up on the table; fashionista's don't miss out!

My next step has been to dig through the piles and piles of sample quilts, bags, table runners, aprons, bowls, vests, jackets, skirts, etc., etc...that we have assembled to display in the store over the years. I've been sorting them into keep (for now), or **sell**. I've always tried to price my work fairly, but that includes giving myself a *wage*, which means sometimes people snub their nose. I know the cost of the ingredients, what the time took to put into it, and the *value* of that craftsmanship. For that reason I think I'll be able to find a broader audience on line (don't we all?). So I've decided to set up an etsy shop where I can put them out there in the vast universe of craft enthusiasts.

But you know the computer thing is far from my favorite, and I swear there is a cyber-gremlin that haunts my every move, so I'm not quite sure of my launch party yet. However, I do know when I'm having my **Launch PREVIEW Party**. Sort of like a Trunk Show, I'm going to present some of the best pieces and talk about **How They Were Made**. Some of you may consider it a re-cap of **BERNINA Club** as I'll be focusing on the special sewing techniques that make the item unique. You'll also have first dibs on making a purchase should you wish to. I'm going to price them at what I intend to post on the web, but give **locals a 15% discount** because I won't have to deal with shipping. If you sign up for the Event, you will also receive a \$5 voucher towards any of these etsy items.

WHEN: Thursday, September 13, 1:00 - 4:00 / WHERE: Top Stitch / COST: \$15 / HOW: Call or come in to reserve

Can't make it? **Etsy items will be out for ALL to see and shop during normal store hours September 14 - 19**

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

1. Complete Class Instruction for use of your new machine at no additional cost.
2. Free, unlimited trouble-shooting assistance by phone, e-mail or in-store.
3. Full warranty coverage performed on our premises by a BERNINA specialist.

Plus our exclusive BERNINA BUYERS' BONUS Discounts:

- ▶ **15% off** regular priced fabrics, notions, books, machine accessories, embroidery designs, etc.
- ▶ **Discounted*** maintenance & service on purchased machine saves you up to \$110. each time.
(*only applicable when our authorized technician was the last to work on the machine)

Your 15% discount is good for one full year after purchase and will be renewed automatically for another 12 months whenever you pay for maintenance on the machine.

These New Owner classes are complimentary with your purchase of a machine from TOP STITCH.

- Taught by master technician, experienced tailor and all around sewing guru, Jonathan Hanken, these classes surpass the information usually provided and greatly enhance your success and enjoyment with **BERNINA**.
- Choose one of the options listed below for your model, then call, email or come in to **reserve your space** (pre-registration is required). The Embroidery segment can be taken before OR after your basic sewing class.
- If you **purchased your machine here** (new, demo or USED) you can take your New Owner's Guide classes additional times at **no additional charge**.

Class Policies:

Space is limited; as a courtesy to others, please inform us immediately if you need to cancel (there may be others on a waiting list)

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

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

Your BERNINA SEWING MACHINE - \$200.00 (*Free with machine purchase*)

- Saturday, September 22, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Wednesday, October 10 and Thursday, October 11, 1:00 - 4:00 pm (both days)
- Saturday, October 27, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Wednesday, November 14 and Thursday, November 15, 10:00 - 1:00 pm (both days)
- Saturday, December 1, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Tuesday, December 11 and Wednesday, December 12, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm (both days)

Your BERNINA EMBROIDERY USAGE - \$100.00 (*Free with machine purchase*)

- Wednesday, September 26, 1:00 - 4:00 pm
- Saturday, October 20, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
- Saturday, November 17, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
- Tuesday, December 4, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Your BERNINA SERGER - \$200.00 (*Free with machine purchase*)

- Saturday, September 29, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Tuesday, October 23 and Wednesday, October 24, 1:00 - 4:00 pm (both days)
- Saturday, November 3, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

TOP STITCH BERNINA⁺

made to create



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Monday—Friday 10:00 - 5:00
Saturdays 10:00 - 4:00

CLOSED

Friday, Nov. 9 &
Saturday, Nov. 10

Thanksgiving Day,
November 22

December 24 &
December 25

December 31 &
January 1, 2019

On Going Five & Dime SALE

Rayons, Wools, Linens,
Silks, Cottons, Blends

Pieces up to 3 yards \$5.00
Cuts 3 - 6 yards \$10.00

New additions until gone!

Etsy Trunk Show Preview Party

Thursday,
September 13

1:00 - 4:00

\$15.00

(includes \$5. voucher
towards purchase;
see article on page 2
for more info)