



# Quilters' Line

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## *Greetings!*

We have lots and lots to tell you about! You can read all about the new fabric lines arriving, and there are exciting new notions in the store to complement your sewing and quilting needs.

The *Creativ* Festival returns to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre Oct 22-24. The advance tickets are in the store now, and look for us during the show.

## *Manitoulin Island Retreat Oct 4-5-6-7*

Last chance to sign up for our Manitoulin Retreat. Give us a call for details. We will be making beautiful Bali batik bags which will wow your friends or make a special gift if you can bear to give it away.

Gray is the new black (everybody gets to be the new black sooner or later) and we are stocking all the hues and tints of grays as fast as we can find them, since so many of you are liking them without perhaps realizing it. It just seems right, suddenly, and combines well with taupes, plums, reds, and chocolates, to name just a few.

The world has gone apron mad! Thanks to a strong revival interest in the late 50's/early 1960's, everything that was in the household mid-century is collectible. (I admit to being somewhat smitten by the bug myself.) Television shows such as *Mad Men* are credited with turning the apron into the 'must have' accessory, so keep that in mind as you peruse the fabric choices showcased in this newsletter. They are actually not a bad idea - especially if they have big pockets! The aprons don't have to be made from retro fabrics, but look to Amy Butler for chic examples of that style.

Half aprons for entertaining; full ones for around the house - we sewers have the advantage once again because we have the skills to make our own from the abundant fabric choices available to us. Don't have the skills yet? Consider taking one of our ½ day apron classes.

## *Hobo Quilt*

This new project is right up our alley, so to speak, as it deals with history; in this case a quilt of the secret language hobos used to communicate while they rode the rails and criss-crossed the continent during the Great Depression. While the ladies stayed home sewing clothing and quilts from feed sacks, their menfolk were travelling thousands of miles looking for work, often depending on the very same good housewives for sustenance. Riding the rails was dangerous, the 'jungles' where they congregated were dangerous, and the railroad security enforcers were often dangerous. The men needed to communicate all of this to each other and did so by scratching rudimentary signs on trees, telephone poles, and fence posts. These signs have been stylized into quilt blocks in a new book, and we have collected homespun fabrics to make the sampler quilt showcasing all 60 blocks. The book is good value as it contains over 20 patterns for various quilts and runners, as well as for the wall or bed-sized sampler quilt, and it is filled with photos and reminiscences from the men who rode the rails. It is gripping reading....and the book is worth the price for that part of it alone.

We have made up kits of the wall-sized sampler quilt - it could also be a topper for a single bed. Each block finishes at 6" so it is not the daunting task it may appear to be, and working with the homespuns give it an authentic look suitable for boy's quilts and historic ones alike. The nature of these soft plaids and checks defy matching the lines - just remember - hobos couldn't be that fussy so neither should you! We will run a series of classes as well (see page 8), and further homespun bolts

are available in the store for you to make any of the other projects in the book. There are a couple of good train quilts for the young lads.

Another exciting nostalgia project comes from *American Jane* entitled **Punctuation** and features feedsack-style fabrics to make an outstanding alphabet quilt. The main feature is a panel with a series of 26 sweet postcard scenes, each depicting something from A to Z, that you cut apart and border with other fabrics from the collection. The kit comes in a cute collectible lunch tin that will make a handsome, handled sewing box if you don't give it away with the quilt! We will also have selected bolts, 5" squares and Fat ¼'s of the entire run, and the prints will work in very well with your existing feedsack collections. Due late September, and a class to make it in November. See page 7.

## **Fabrics**

For a change, there are actually some good runs on the market this fall which are suitable for men of all ages, from little boys to grandfathers. We expect some bolts depicting a full range of construction machinery and vehicles that will delight the young ones. For the older males, we have a lovely woodsy quilt in greens, beiges and browns featuring deer and other woodland creatures. Entitled *Into The Woods*, it has broad masculine lines and therefore will be easy to make as a gift for a father, son, husband, brother, nephew, etc. See page 8 for class details.

3 *Sisters* just don't quit - their next 2 lines are both coming to the store. **Luna Notta** features night-time shades of radiant reds, luminous blacks, and pearly grays, with an exquisite mixture of patterns and florals. We have a goodly selection of these bolts arriving, along with 5" squares and layer cakes, and a limited number of Fat ¼'s of the entire line. If you have ever liked these designers, you will love this collection, due to arrive in late October. The other run is entitled **Park Avenue**, in which chocolates, creams and deep, warm reds predominate and this will be in the store late August. Both runs are good apron candidates.

Fans of *Kansas Troubles* fabrics will be pleased with the newest line **Summer's End**, with their trademark of small, dark and rich floral motifs - perfect for those late fall and winter quilts - on the bed and on the wall. These fabrics will arrive at the end of September.

For baby, we will have the *Lily & Will* collection, with little bunnies and dainty damask patterns in the freshest mint greens, delicate milk chocolates and luscious

creams. Many layette items and crib quilts will leap to mind with this very sweet offering.

**Tonga Treats** are Robert Kaufman batiks, packaged up in the now-standard 2½" strips, and have a slight twist: this time you get 2 strips of each pattern, for a total of 40 strips. This concept will allow you to make your quilts somewhat less scrappy, in controlled colour families, and is a good addition to the jelly roll-type family, so you can continue to experiment with all those patterns available. These same batiks will also be available in 10" square collections, which many of you love for their versatility, and we will have selected bolts as well.

All the sumptuous autumn prints are in stock - bronzes, golds, greens and reds, in a variety of leaf patterns as well as fruit and flower designs. The runs are accompanied with sophisticated companion pieces, making this one of the nicest autumn collections we've seen in a while. Fall prints always make fine table items: placemats and runners to give as gifts, or to mark the season in your own home. Did we mention aprons?

All the Christmas fabrics will have arrived by the time you read this. Many of you have already commented how rich this year's offerings truly are. Christmas is always a good time to indulge yourself in the metallic finishes on fabrics and this year is no exception. There are birds, ornaments, boughs, and berries, all shimmering with gold or silver highlights.

In the non-metallic category, we have the follow up to the wildy popular Figgy Pudding of last year, entitled **Fruitcake**. This is sure to please and we suggest you shop early for the best selection on this run. This year there is a nostalgia feel to the Christmas *Moda* collections we have ordered - old fashioned postcards, and rural scenes from days gone by, with sleigh rides and children skating and frolicking on frozen ponds, etc. Many of these fabrics are in reds, warm beiges, and the new grays - come in and see how you like them!

We also have an interesting Advent calendar this year, for you to make as a gift, or for yourself, if you don't already have one. We'll run a half day class to help you make it - you'll learn some tricks for easy sewing of all those little pocket pleats. See page 6.

We are also collecting large scale prints for the Fractured technique, and the Stack 'n Whack style quilts. Many of these bold prints are from heritage collections, and work beautifully as borders and backs for the Civil War quilts.

**Kaffe Fassett** has some new knock-out prints in stock, many in deep colours to suit the time of year. **Amy**

**Butler** is also following up her *Love* collection with one entitled *Soul Blossoms*, and to my eye it has elements of William Morris - these are coming into the store as soon as they arrive in the country - expected in early to mid Fall. Definitely apron material! Speaking of William Morris.....

### ***New William Morris Fabrics***

Yes! A brand new line arrives at the end of November from Barbara Brackman. *A Morris Tapestry* uses authentic Morris wallpaper and tapestry designs for this run in colourways of mauves, cobalts, grays, browns, golds, and soft aquas. We are not fooling around with picking and choosing from this line....we simply ordered the entire collection! If you look at the run on the Moda site, we can take your pre-orders so you will not miss out. We will have more information about this fabric in the Winter newsletter.

### **Notions**

We have lots of interesting new notions to tell you about, all scattered about the store in their own little sections. Please ask about them if you don't see them.

### ***Ric-Rac***

Everything that goes around comes around, and this is so true with the old fashioned ric-rac. Today's generation of this trim comes in vibrant colours and wider widths - perfect for decorating quilts, aprons, purses, totes, clothing....you can even sew it on pillowcase-style quilts so that when these items are turned right-side out, the zippy little zags run around the outside edges - too cute! When applying ric-rac, simply sew it down the middle with matching thread. Sold by the metre, it is economical for you to play with.

### ***Zippers***

After years and years of saying '*Sorry, we don't sell zippers*'....we now have a selection of 36 shades of 14" zippers, spanning the entire colour wheel. These zippers feature a sew-in end, so you can cut them down to fit exactly the size you need, or sew two together with the zipper heads facing each other, if you need a longer length for pillows and shams, etc. Great for purses, I can guarantee we will have the perfect colour to match your every fabric choice.

### ***Buttons***

We are expecting a shipment any day now of glorious, massive, beautifully coloured buttons to sew onto purses as a decorative accessory, for big chunky sweaters, and for whatever you can think of. You will want to own some of these, and may even make a purse or tote just to show off the fabulous button!

### ***Shopping Bags***

Sturdy and roomy, with a zippered top, this quilter's tote will resist water on those rainy and snowy days we all know are coming. It would make a great beach bag as well. You can choose from 3 quilt designs, and let the world know you are a quilter or that you love quilts. At only \$8.99, it is a good (and green) alternative to wrapping paper for a Christmas present.

We also expect some good shopping totes from another company featuring wood block style oriental prints, in two different designs.

### ***2011 AQS Diary and Piecemakers Calendar***

Both these items are very collectable, and I know some of you give these as gifts to the same people every year, so please make your purchases early in case there is a shortage right at Christmas time. We also have quilt calendars from other companies to round out your selection.

### ***Ontario Quilt Shop Map***

For quilters who have everything, give your Secret Sister, your friends and relatives a handy fan-fold map featuring most of the quilt shops in Ontario (and remember, of course, to get one for yourself). At only \$5.00 each, you can afford to be generous. This is a limited edition: when they are gone, they are all gone, and they should serve you well for many years and help plan all those fun road trips to quilt shops that lots of you love to take.

### ***New Permanent Black Marking Pens***

For some reason these have been hard to find lately, but we have a new supplier and a good stock of fine, permanent black marking pens for signing and dating your quilts, or use it to add little touches to your work.



## 14th Annual Open House & Sale

*Fri Sept. 18 & Sat. Sept. 19  
10 - 5 pm*

***Come in and see the new classes, the new lines of fabric including Christmas, and all the new notions, while enjoying a store-wide Sale!***

### CLASSES

Here are the Autumn classes, grouped by category:

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We try to include something for everyone and are always open to suggestions for new classes or ways to improve existing ones. Please take a moment to review the guidelines:

**Class fees are not refundable if we cannot find a replacement for you.** A full refund is given if the class is cancelled.

**To hold your place, class fees are due at registration.** If you cannot come in, please call us and we will be happy to make arrangements with you on the phone with a credit card, or you can mail payment, remembering that **HST is applicable to class fees.** Please check the descriptions of the classes to see whether you need to purchase or prepare anything beforehand. We do not call and reconfirm classes - we will only call if the class is cancelled.

**We ask that materials for the class be purchased from Quilters' Line.** We thank you for your understanding of this policy; without it, we couldn't bring you the variety of classes that we strive to do. **We also ask you to freshly iron all fabrics before the class to save time once you arrive.**

You may rent a sewing machine for \$5.00 plus HST for in-class work. Please reserve the machine when you register for class. You supply the thread.

We have a fridge and a microwave should you care to bring your lunch, or there are several eateries within walking distance. If you go to **Susan's Deli** down the street, they will provide you with a complimentary beverage with your meal (ask us for a coupon). We are happy to provide tea and coffee throughout the day.

### Bears....

#### **Beginner Bear Making**

We will make a 12" bear from high quality synthetic fur, fully jointed, and with glass eyes. These bears are not intended for very young children, but are "collector" bears. We will make our first bear by hand during two classes one week apart. There will be some sewing required at home between the two sessions.

*Caution: Bearmaking is addictive.*

Wed. Nov. 10 & 17.....10:00 - 3:30

\$25.00 class fee, plus kit (\$25.00)

*Chrissie Nash*

# Skill-Builders....

## Basic Quiltmaking

For those wishing to delve into quilting, this series of classes will introduce you to rotary cutting, simple 9-patch piecing, and hand applique. We will also construct borders, and apply straight grain binding. We recommend you also consider taking our ½ day class in either hand or machine quilting (or both!) and these classes are scheduled to co-incide with this project. 4 half-day sessions. *Please select fabrics in advance.*

Mon. mornings:  
Oct. 18, 25, Nov. 1 & 15  
..... 9:30 - 12:30

\$60.00 class fee, plus materials. *Trudi Wiley*

## Hand Quilting

In this half-day class, Trudi will show you how to baste a quilt and execute the quilting stitch. We will work on sample blocks using different battings, so you can discover which type you prefer. Your kit also includes various sized quilting needles, and thread in your choice of colour.

Mon. Nov. 8..... 9:30 - 12:30

\$15.00 class fee, plus kit (\$15.00) *Trudi Wiley*

## Basic Machine Quilting

You will learn about the stitches and the threads in this half day class, working on samples provided in a kit. We will work with different battings, so you can get a feel for what works best in your machine. Learn to think outside the box with your feed dogs up in this innovative primer, plus master the basics of free-motion stippling.

*Special feet required; please enquire.*

Fri. Nov. 5.....9:30 - 12:30

\$15.00 class fee, plus kit (\$15.00) *Chrissie Nash*

## Advanced Hand Applique: Baltimore Block

Trudi will show you several techniques to make a lovely one-block mini quilt suitable as a wall hanging or cushion cover. She will instruct you how to execute several components, including flowers, berries, vines and leaves. All hand work.

Mon. Nov. 22..... 9:30 - 3 :30

\$25.00 class fee, plus kit. *Trudi Wiley*

## Saturday Sewing Academy...

*Carol Singleton has developed a Saturday morning program to suit sewers of all levels. We'll make 2 styles of aprons, a messenger bag, and simple but effective 2-colour placemats. Sign up for individual classes, or save money by taking all four classes. This is excellent for teens as well, to give them a good basis in both sewing and simple quilting. All classes are 9:30 - 12:30 on Saturday mornings. \$15.00 per class, or \***take all 4 consecutive classes, prepaid for \$50.00.** There will be 2 repeating sessions - one in October (no class Thanksgiving Saturday), and again in November.*

## Half-Apron

Cocktails, anyone? Half-aprons are for entertaining, and with the big pockets, also good for little clean-up jobs. Why not look down at something pretty? Features a gathered waistband, ric-rac trim, and nicely finished ties, all in 2 co-ordinated fabrics. We have oodles of kits, or select your own fabrics and trims. *Please select fabrics in advance.*

Saturday morning, 9:30 - 12:30

Session I... Oct. 2

Session II... Nov. 6

.....\$15. class fee\*, plus materials

## Barrister (Full) Apron

These bibbed aprons are for working...be it canning, cooking, or the regular routines of dusting and cleaning. Again, these aprons have deep pockets and a contrasting

fabric for trim, pockets and ties. Carol has some good tips for inserting the neck and side ties so that all the seams lie neat and flat.

*Please select fabrics in advance.*

Saturday morning, 9:30 - 12:30

Session I... Oct. 16

Session II... Nov. 13

.....\$15. class fee\*, plus materials

## **2-Colour Placemats**

With diagonal corners for an appealing designer look, there are so many beautiful Fall and Christmas selections that will make these placemats very elegant. There are also literally hundreds of other combinations available to suit your every whim. These placemats are pillow-case style, eliminating the need for a separate binding, so they are easy to make for a pro or beginner. *Please select fabrics in advance.*

Saturday morning, 9:30 - 12:30

Session I... Oct. 23

Session II... Nov. 20

.....\$15. class fee\*, plus materials

## **Messenger Bag**

This style of hand bag has increasingly become a favourite, and we can tweak the instructions so you can make this large or small. Our new selection of designer buttons will finish it off beautifully. Again, this will be a great gift, and the season for giving will be fast approaching. *Please select fabrics in advance.*

Saturday morning, 9:30 - 12:30

Session I... Oct. 30

Session II... Nov. 27

.....\$15. class fee\*, plus materials

\* or 4 consecutive prepaid classes for \$50.00

*Carol Singleton*

# **Wall & Table Quilts...**

## **Fall Maple Leaf Runner**

This runner features 3 big maple leaves running vertically down the length, floating on a background

and finished with optional prairie points. The method is stitch-and-flip, so there are no nasty triangles to make, and the prairie points do give it a nicely finished look. If you have never made this edging variation before, it is a good introduction to the technique, and eliminates the need for a binding. ½ Day class.

*Please select fabrics in advance.*

Sat. Sept. 25.....9:30 - 12:30

\$15.00 class fee, plus pattern & materials

*Carol Singleton*

## **Chevron Braid Table Runner**

A kissing cousin of the log cabin block, chevron strips form a braided look to this table runner that can suit any season, or perhaps match your tableware. Trudi has developed a quilt-as-you-go technique to make this runner sew up very fast, so when the top is done, it's all done! Autumn or Christmas fabrics are perfect for this time of year.

*Please select fabrics in advance*

Mon. Sept. 27..... 9:30 - 3:30

\$25.00 class fee, plus materials

*Trudi Wiley*

## **Christmas Cardinals**

So-named because our sample uses a beautiful winter cardinal print - any of the lovely Christmas prints will be effectively show-cased in this clever runner which finishes 14" x 40". This is one of the most popular runner classes we offer, and we are offering it early to ensure you the best selection of seasonal fabrics.

*Please select fabrics in advance.*

Thurs. Sept. 30.....9:30 - 12:30

\$15.00 class fee, plus booklet & materials

*Carol Singleton*

## **Advent Calendar**

Not all of us know how to put the little pleated pockets onto the calendar base, so this half day class will show you the tips and techniques to make the pockets strong

and sturdy to hold the gifts. We will also speed up the process by fusing the batt and backing and sewing through all three layers at once and we'll complete it with a hanging sleeve. You should leave the class with the calendar ready to hang up when you get home.

Thurs. Oct. 14.....10:00 - 1:00

\$15.00 class fee, plus kit. *Carol Singleton*

### **Circular Tree Skirt**

Approx. 36" in diameter, this striking tree skirt is easy enough to make once Audrey shows you how to use the amazing 10 degree wedge ruler. In spite of being circular, the cutting and piecing is all straight lines and the finished product is very handsome! Five Christmas fabrics of sophisticated or playful flavour is all it takes. *Please select fabrics in advance.*

Tues. Oct. 19..... 10:00 - 4:00

\$25.00 class fee, plus materials *Audrey Morrow*

### **Fractured Block**

This is a new technique sweeping the quilting world - cut straight grain sections of the same repeat from a fabric, stagger the cuts, and sew them back together to make new, exciting designs that pull the eye into the fabric. We do not cut on the diagonal, so it's a breeze to make this stunning quilt. Perfect for large scale Christmas prints, oriental prints, Fassetts, or any bold design.

*Please select fabrics in advance*

Wed. Nov 3.....10:00 - 4:00

\$25.00 class fee, & materials. *Audrey Morrow*

### **Happy Holidays Table Topper**

This cute and festive octagonal table topper uses a clever construction method of turning simple rectangles into triangles with no anxiety about the points. It will

look equally as good using novelty fabrics for your coffee table on movie night, for instance, and it can also be made easily into a full-sized tree skirt!

*Please select fabrics in advance.*

Thurs. Nov. 11.....9:30 - 12:30

\$15.00 class fee, plus pattern and materials *Carol Singleton*

### **Punctuation**

This is a fun quilt that will have you knowing your P's and Q's, as well as the rest of the alphabet! If you like the nostalgic 30's look, you will love this quilt and text-themed fabrics are very fashionable at the moment. A good learning quilt for the youngsters, as well as a sweet addition to your vintage-style collection. The lunch pail is a nice little bonus! \*Please register early as we expect the kits to sell out.

Tues. Nov. 16.....10:00 - 4:00

\$25.00 class fee, plus kit (\$69.00) *Chrissie Nash*

### **Stack 'n Whack Table Runner**

The results of this one-patch technique are always fascinating. Audrey will lead you through the accurate cutting required and once you've made one block, you can't wait to see the results of the second block, and so on....before you know it, it's done! You can make this into a bed quilt as well, just let us know. The cutting and sewing method is identical.

*Please select fabrics in advance.*

Tues. Nov. 23.....10:00 - 4:00

\$25.00 class fee, plus materials *Audrey Morrow*

## **Bed & Lap Quilts...**

### **Floating Squares**

This is a good choice for a three colour quilt such as our sample, or you can opt to make a scrappy look as

pictured on the cover of the pattern. The fabrics are showcased in 18" blocks, making construction go really fast, and it features an off-centre 12" square with an interesting offset lattice. Orientals, batiks, and big florals will all look great in this quilt. Can easily be made into a queen.

*Please select fabrics in advance*

Fri. Sept. 24.....10:00 - 4:00

\$25.00 class fee, plus pattern & materials.

*Chrissie Nash*

### **Hobo Quilt**

This sampler uses all 60 blocks, so we are having a series of five half day classes to boost you along the rails. The quilt is very unique and historic, and a little bit funky, too, with all its plaids, checks and stripes, predominantly in dark colours. We have developed some alternative methods to several of the blocks, making them even easier to construct, and at only 6", they will sew up quite quickly!

Alternate Friday mornings:

Oct. 1, 15, 29, Nov. 12 & 26

.....9:30 - 12:30

\$55.00 class fee, plus kit

*Chrissie Nash*

### **Into the Woods**

This is a good, quick quilt that you can make as a Christmas present for this year! Big blocks, but nicely proportioned, and with a Nature appeal for the menfolk, featuring deer and hares in soft greens and browns. With a flannel back, it will make an excellent lap quilt for the Man of the House.

Tues. Oct. 26.....10:00 - 4:00

\$25.00 class fee, plus kit

*Chrissie Nash*

### **Dancing Christmas Quilt**

Carol has combined two colours for a lovely lap quilt for the Christmas season. Basically a one-patch and four-patch design, it's diagonal pattern makes the fabrics dance throughout the quilt. Add a zippy contrasting inner border and repeat one of the 2 colours for a final border, and the quilt top is complete! Of course any other fabric combination you may prefer is perfectly fine.

*Please select fabrics in advance.*

Tues. Nov. 9.....10:00 - 4:00

\$25.00 class fee, plus materials

*Carol Singleton*

### **'Athena's Puzzle' Log Cabin (Easy)**

The classic log cabin block is the construction method, but the special placement of two colours per block makes up the Greek Key design. Set on point, this updated Cabin variation will add nicely to your collection and as long as each block has contrast, you can have a controlled look or a scrappy one. An excellent exercise for beginners, but intriguing enough for the seasoned quilter. It would make a spectacular Christmas quilt.

*Please select fabrics in advance.*

Mon. Nov. 29.....9:30 - 3:30

\$25.00 class fee, plus pattern & materials

*Trudi Wiley*

### **Finish-It-Class**

We are happy to help you with anything you have started in any of our classes during this session but may not have gotten all the class work finished - the class is free but please register so we have a space reserved for you.

Thurs. Dec. 2.....10:00 - 3:00

FREE, but please pre-register

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