



Threads 'N Treasures Quilt Shop, Inc.

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Winter 2009 Newsletter

The sounds of winter are all around on a quiet dusky-dark snowy eve as the snow falls and the wind whips it into swirly white funnels before dropping it gently to the ground. The sounds of snow plows travelling busily along the roads scraping with all their might; the sound of a crackling fire as another log is added to the burning embers; the snow glistening on the window sill as the lamp light shines brightly across the pane. One Winter sound comes to mind and that is the whistling of the tea kettle sitting atop the pot belly stove as it sends a warning that the water is boiling and ready for your cup of tea or hot cocoa-this is a sound I heard over 50 years ago, and in my mind the sound goes on.

For the definite "stay indoor days", what better comfort food to go along with the falling snow, hot tea, coffee or cocoa than this easy (not too sweet) Apple Coffee Cake? I will be baking and serving this in the shop for the next couple of days. If you bake it, let me know how you like it.

EASY COFFEE CAKE

Topping: **1/4** cup brown sugar

2 Tbsp pancake/baking mix

2 Tsp Cinnamon

2 Tbsp. cold butter

Cake: **2** C. pancake/baking mix

2 Tbsp. Sugar

1 Egg

2/3 Cup Water or Milk

1 Cup Apples,

finely chopped

Heat oven to 400 degrees. Grease round 9" pan or 8" square pan. Mix topping ingredients until crumbly-don't cream the mixture. Set aside.

Beat well baking mix, sugar, egg, and water (or milk). Stir in apple. Spread batter in pan, adding topping. Bake 20-25 minutes testing with a toothpick that comes out clean! How easy is this? Another good way to make the family think you were slaving over a hot stove all day instead of sewing up another project. The cinnamon smells will get them. Ymmmm!

I have a website now: WWW.threadsntreasures.com

As we move into the new year, I am looking for new ideas and suggestions from my friends (you) as to how I can add some spice to your shopping pleasure (other than feeding you cinnamon in the coffee cake). Have you ever been in a store (any kind) and thought "If this were my store, I would"? Well, I need your ideas. If I use your ideas(s) this year, I will reward the winner(s) with a store coupon. So, as you are packing away the Christmas stockings, don your thinking cap and email, snail mail or drop off your written suggestions. No limit to the number of coupons you can win-just remember, in order to win, I have to use your idea or suggestion. This will be a year long pull on your brain cells and creativity. **QUILTERS, START YOUR ENGINES!**

Have you seen the Oopsie Daisy pattern from Darlene Zimmerman? A good use of the 30's prints (whether you like them or not). A store sample is in process and patterns are in the shop. Would look good in batiks or scraps.

Am thinking about sending snail mail newsletters to those of you without email access. To cover the cost of postage, printing and collating, I will offer the newsletter for a pre-payment of \$4 a year. You will receive approximately six mailings a year. If you're interested, send a check or money order and indicate "Newsletter" on your correspondence.

Times are tough for small business owners especially those of us who must compete with internet sales and the big chain stores, plus overhead costs of a building and utilities. Therefore, I humbly beg for your business – never said I was proud. With rising costs of credit card processing I appreciate those who use check or cash. I can order in anything you see anywhere (well, almost anything-won't do stoves and

refrigerators). Fabrics, threads, notions, patterns, scrap booking supplies, crochet, yarn, etc. We would love to be your One Stop Shopping Center.

MYSTERY QUILT. Last January I urged everyone to use from their stash-some listened, some didn't. This year, I'm hosting a five-session Mystery Class for using your stash (or not). Pattern copies, instruction, etc will be \$25 total paid in advance. So, if you want in, send a check or money order for \$25 mark it "Mystery Class." For those of you who don't know or remember, we love to eat at Threads 'N Treasures. After the 5th session, we will have a reunion for show 'n tell. There will be a nice mystery prize awarded for one winner at the reunion as well. There is no advance picture or sample. You will need your sewing machine, rotary cutter, mat, ruler, along with a box, sack or pick up loaded with your scraps, lots and lots of scraps. In each of the first four sessions you will make a different block and various numbers of the block. In the fifth session, you will get assembly instructions. The completed quilt is 90" x 90". For a fee the Mystery Class can be mailed.

You can bring a sack lunch or snacks. Have fun ladies, it's meant to be a laid back fun time. We will meet from 11 to 3 on Saturday, January 31; Saturday, February 21; Saturday, March 28; Saturday, April 25; Saturday, May 30; and Saturday, June 27, which will be the reunion (party time) from 11 to 2.

APPLIQUE: I've heard some say they want to learn hand appliqué. We have a teacher for beginning and advanced classes. Date and time to be determined based on response.

YOUR SPECIAL CLASS. If you have 4-5 friends who would like to learn a process, we will do a special class for you. Call or email.

FREE MOTION MACHINE QUILTING. Sunday, February 1 from 2-4 or Wednesday, February 18 from 12-2. Cost: \$10 plus kit.

FAT TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24. Buy a baker's dozen of pre-cut fat quarters for \$12. Get here early to take advantage of the sale.

BLOCK A MONTH. We will be making a 12-block Sampler. The class is \$4.50 a month. You can use your stash, or buy from mine. This is a class

where you will learn to make specific blocks using cutting and sewing instructions specific for each block. You can make an entire quilt using one block and also, at the end of the year, have a 12 block sampler quilt. Based on your response we will start with easy and progress to more challenging processes. No precutting or sewing-this will be a hands on class. If you feel you don't have anything to learn, enroll anyway and enjoy the camaraderie of others in the group for \$4.50 a month.

LOG CABIN CLASS. Spend two hours of your time using a few precut fabrics to see if you like the process which you can repeat at home to make your project as large as you wish. Date and time to be determined based on response.

BASKET CRAZIES. Come learn the Buggy Barn "Basket Crazies" quilt process. What a "get out the box" process this will be. February 10 or February 15 from 10:30 to 2:30. Cost: \$20 plus pattern and supplies.

ORIENTAL PROJECTS. I know many of you have been collecting oriental prints and keep wondering how to cut them up to get the best use of them. You can choose one of several different projects. The class samples are on display in the shop. Gorgeous!!

OGI Class. February 7 and February 28 from Noon to 4 each day.
Cost: \$40 plus pattern and supplies.

HOSHI Class. March 7 and March 14 from Noon to 4 each day.
Cost: \$40 plus pattern and supplies.

JACKET CLASS to come.

BEGINNING QUILTING CLASS. Choose a project and you will be guided through from beginning to end using a 6 hour session that is divided into 2 hour segments. You can attend class when your schedule allows and as you complete your homework. No stress, just a nice completed project learning the recommended processes for a show quality quilt.

LOTS OF NEW FABRICS COMING. Stop by and check them out. I Love Lucy is here, some Brown Bear, Kaffe Fassett. We also will have

different size jelly rolls, Charm packs and layer cakes with coordinating fabrics.

ACCU-CUT SYSTEM. You can make an appointment to use our Accu-Cut system. Accurately cut strips and lots of different shapes quickly.

BELLEVILLE AREA MUSEUM quilt show is coming in March. The annual show will be March 3 through March 31 at the Museum in downtown Belleville. Need to support your quilting habit? The Museum allows the show and sale of quilted items for a small fee. Additionally, I will be placing quilts in some predetermined stores and shops (the few remaining) in town. Any one interested in hosting a demonstration will be welcomed. Any volunteers to help with the show activities? Beat the winter blahs and we will get together for some pre planning. Are you game? I'm contacting a certified quilt appraiser to appraise quilts during the event also. Quilts will be accepted for display from February 10 through February 13. They will be hung on February 20 and 21. For more information Call 734-697-1944.

I won't say good-bye, just so long for now. Stay well and I hope to see you soon.

Kay Atkins
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