

## Lone Star Quiltworks May 2010 Shop Talk



We had a wonderful 5<sup>th</sup> year anniversary sale! Thanks to all of you who participated. The winner of our huge basket was **Laura P** from Caldwell. Laura picked up the basket on Tuesday and was obviously thrilled to be the winner.

While spring cleaning the shop we found two **Big Boards** hiding in the corner. Several of you have asked if we are still carrying this product. No, we made a decision not to as they are very difficult to order. So, our loss can be your gain. The first two people to contact the store can have these boards at our original sale price of **\$129.99**. This includes the board, the board cover, and the ½” thick insulated pad. For those of you wondering what I am talking about **Big Boards** extend your ironing surface. You place them on top of your original ironing board and it extends the size to 22” X 60”. Don’t wait; these will go **FAST**.

I want to tell you about our May special that we are soooo excited about. We are participating in **American Patchwork and Quilting’s One Million Pillowcase Challenge**. I am certain many of you have seen the advertisements in quilt related magazines. The goal for this challenge is to provide pillowcases to groups in need, ie: nursing homes, women and children’s shelters, oncology units, etc.



For the month of May we would like our customers to participate in this program. Your incentive is that we will have our pillowcase kits on sale **Buy One, Get One Free**. What we are asking you to do is purchase the one pillowcase for yourself and make the free kit for donation. We will provide our LSQW free pattern for you at checkout. You can read about this challenge at

<http://www.allpeoplequilt.com/millionpillowcases/index.html>

There is a list of selected donation groups, FAQ, and participating shops at this location. You may log into this site and list your name, date, and donation charity after making your pillowcase. I would like to leave it up to each of you individually where you choose to donate, however, if you would prefer to bring the pillowcase to the shop that is fine, too. I think this is just the coolest idea and hope you will jump on the bandwagon with us!

Two issues of great importance to me with this challenge are that the donations stay local, and if you choose to use any of the free online patterns you may discover a new technique you like. There are several patterns available that include prairie points, patchwork, and even an hourglass braid. How sweet that you can learn something new and benefit someone else all at the same time.

I wanted to let you know that we have two new longarm quilters that we are now carrying business cards for. One is **MiChal H.** She lives in Bryan and is looking for business! MiChal's phone number is 979 820 6260. The other lady is **Jane K.** Jane has pieced and quilted many samples for our shop. Jane does live in Temple, however Priority Mail works well for her to receive tops and costs very little. Jane's phone number is 254 985 2315. Both of these ladies are looking for work, so as I always say, get those tops out of the closet and onto your beds!

Are you looking for some **Minkee**? We have four colors marked at 50% off on the closeout rack. Two are great Christmas colors if you are thinking about presents already. **BTW**, we **ARE** receiving **2010 Christmas** fabric already at the shop!

Several of you have seen our **Batik Wrap** bag and bowl done by **Jimmie H.** She will be teaching a class in this technique on Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 10AM, or Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at 10AM. Cost for this class will be \$35.00. Please call the shop at 979 595 1072 if you are interested.

**JoAnn W** has knitted two shop samples in yarn, a cute drawstring bag, and a scarf with holes in it. She is willing to teach either as another summer schedule add-on. Stop by to see the samples at the shop. Cost will be \$20 per class with a two person minimum required. Find a friend and learn something **NEW!**

Speaking of yarn we received new shipments from **Plymouth, Berroco, and Fiesta** with way too many yarns to list. There are some gorgeous, gorgeous colors in nice summer-weight yarns in these groupings. One other yarn of note is a soft alpaca in a chunky weight. Knits up fast ladies!

Can't find that right hand needle to sew with? Come in and check out our sampler packs from **Foxglove**. They are only \$1.99 and come in Basting, Quilting, Straw, and Redwork packs. The basting needle pack contains the longest needle I have ever seen!



I wanted to pass on a website that I check out weekly to you. I am really not sure how I discovered this site. I think I was looking for photography tips. Anyway, the link is <http://thepioneerwoman.com/>. Ree Drummond is the owner of the website. She describes herself as a pioneer woman living with the Marlboro man. There is some fantastic high resolution photography shown, great recipes galore, and just all kinds of stuff. Check out her recipe for cooking brisket. Everything she discusses has super pictures to accompany the text. Lots of gardening tips, too. I just really love this site! Can you tell?

As usual we always have new patterns, notions, and books in the shop. I did want to touch on our hand dyed wool and hand dyed cotton velveteen pieces we have just added.

We are beginning to see more of a trend in the industry of combining textures in quilting, knitting, and wearables. We have added patterns and books by **Sue Spargo** that as an example may use a 100% cotton background fabric, with small pieces of wool or velveteen appliquéd onto this background. As the year progresses we will add some silks that can be used this way also. The hand dyed colors of these pieces are beautiful. They are all cut in small sizes so you can try a few colors without breaking the bank! Drop by and check these pretty items out. Make yourself something small like a needle case to test the waters.

Well, I had better get back to work. You know writing this newsletter doesn't really seem like work to me. Hope you have a great weekend. Enjoy some of the sunshine while it isn't too hot. Watch for our BabyLock sewing and serger machines to be arriving soon!.....**Terry**