

Stitchin' News

What's in store at Always In Stitches

1808 E. Conner St., Noblesville, IN

www.AlwaysInStitches1.com

Dec. 20, 2011

We wish you joy, health and happiness

There's no time like Christmas to say how much we appreciate everyone who visits Always In Stitches. Our entire staff hopes your home is filled with the joy of family and friends and that you're blessed in the new year.



Special holiday hours set, more evening hours coming

We're going home early and coming in late to enjoy the holidays with our families. The store will be open from 10-1 on Christmas Eve, noon-5 on Dec. 26 and 10-3 on New Year's Eve. Starting Jan. 1, we'll be open from 10-8 every Tuesday and Thursday.

And the winner is . . .

Four shoppers received some nice prizes in December simply by signing up to be on our email list. They were Janet Estes, Sharon Smith, Anita Richardson and Liz Zentz..

As the grand prize winner in the Thangles Quilts of Valor Challenge, Paula Jurgonski took home an AccuCut Go! Baby Fabric Cutter; Debbie Lange won a Jem sewing machine in the drawing. Altogether, 10 beautiful quilts were made for troops serving our country.

Recipe for a Home

½ cup friendship

1 cup thoughtfulness

Mix with a pinch of powdered tenderness. Beat very lightly in a bowl of loyalty along with 1 cup of faith. Add 1 cup of hope and 1 cup of charity. Be sure to add gaiety that sings and the ability to laugh at little things. Moisten with sudden tears of heartfelt sympathy. Bake in a good-natured pan. Serve repeatedly. (Reprinted with permission from "9 Patch Reunion" from Atkinson Designs.)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2** Get Janome tips, techniques from a pro
- 2** Customer Appreciation Day coming
- 3** Tips for sewing jersey knits
- 4** Learn something new

Janome educator to share techniques

If you own a Janome machine or are thinking about getting one, you'll want to take some very special, free, 2-hour classes in January.

Janome educator Nancy Fiedler will share ideas about using the digitizer; embroidering, sewing and quilting; and working with accessories. There's even an opportunity to pick her brain.

Nancy specializes in embellishment techniques using Janome sewing machines, embroidery machines, and sergers. She's a regular contributor to Janome Digest magazine and Janome online, and has written for Creative Machine Embroidery and other magazines. She publishes her patterns under the Just Fiddlin' Around label.

Pre-registration is required for each class:

- **Digitizer How To**, 10:30-12:30 Jan. 16. Take this class if you have digitizer software or are considering expanding your embroidery capabilities.
- **Digitizer Stitch Out**, 1:30-3:30 Jan. 16. See what you designed in the morning class and how it sews. Learn the versatility this software brings to any embroidery machine.
- **Ask Nancy**, 10:30-noon Jan. 17. Nancy will answer your questions about Janome machines.
- **12000 Embroidery**, 1:30-3:30 Jan. 17. Learn the tricks and tips to using the newest embroidery machine for home décor, garments and quilting.
- **12000 Sewing**, 5:30-7:30 Jan. 17. See how a sewing machine can make projects the "sew easy" way.
- **12000 Quilting**, 10:30-12:30 Jan. 18. Discover how Janome machines make finishing quick and convenient.
- **Be an Accessory**, 1:30-3:30 Jan. 18. Ever wonder what all those feet do? Learn how to make accessories work for you.



Last-minute ideas, reminders

Gift certificates save you money

Always In Stitches wants to make gift-shopping easier on your debit card. Until Christmas, we are giving a 10 percent discount on gift certificates. They can be used just like cash for anything in the store starting Dec. 26, and they won't expire until Dec. 31, 2012. Ask any sales specialist to get one – or a dozen.

Cash in your Loyalty discount

Time is running out on the Customer Loyalty program to make way for the new discount program. If you've accumulated your 10 percent discount in the current program, spend it no later than Dec. 31. Beginning Jan. 1, you'll get a \$25 gift certificate that doesn't expire and can be used on any merchandise in the store each time you accumulate \$250 in purchases.

New year, new skill

Why don't you learn to felt?

Friday the 13th won't be unlucky for those who want to learn some basics of felting. Virginia Green will teach how to make felted flowers for caps, hats, bags and more from 1-2 p.m. Jan. 13. This class is \$10, which includes supplies.

We love our customers; special day shows how much

We've planned some fun activities and treats to thank you for your business. Customer Appreciation Day festivities – 11:30-1:30 Jan. 12 – feature giveaways, several new demo stations, take-and-make goodies and a home-cooked lunch on us. Reservations are needed; \$10 will reserve your spot.

SnapSetter Tool makes adding snaps simple

You'll be attaching snaps in a snap with the SnapSetter Tool. "It's really easy to use," said Aly Bray, our online marketing specialist, who tried it recently while making a poncho.

The tool is three pieces and works in layers. The back of the snap is placed on one piece, then the fabric(s) goes on top of it. The next piece of the SnapSetter Tool is placed atop the fabric, and the front of the snap goes on that. The final piece of the tool lays over the snap, and then a hammer is used to pound the snap pieces into the fabric. The poncho's three layers – laminate, interfacing and flannel – required a little extra strength when it came to hammering, Aly said.

See the SnapSetter Tool display or ask for a demonstration in the store.

Your response overwhelming to Medicine Bottles for FAME

Time and again our customers amaze and touch our hearts. In about a year, you have donated more than 1,000 empty pill bottles that have been sent to numerous countries through the Fellowship of Associates of Medical Evangelism. Thanks, and keep filling the box, which is in the center of the store, near the TV.

Same name, new website

There's lots of great stuff on our new website; it's like having a quilt store on your laptop or Smart Phone. It's still at AlwaysInStitches1.com, but that's where similarities end. Make it your homepage so you can check class schedules, special events, what's new, and our sewing machines. Learn more about our staff. (Who was a dance teacher in the '70s?) Sign up for our email list. More content is coming. Tell us what you'd like to see.



Become our fan on Facebook

Sew with Grandma Ginger

If your grandma didn't teach you how to sew, learn from ours. Grandma Ginger offers private, individual lessons that are great for any age of beginner, adults and students as young as 10. Lessons in basic sewing, binding technique or beginning sewing are 2 ½ hours long for \$30. Call the store, (317) 776-4227, to schedule your lessons, and then get sewing.

Tips for sewing jersey knits

You don't have to own a serger to sew with jersey knits, says professional quilter, author, fabric and pattern designer Valori Wells. She also offers these tips:

- Always wash jersey knit before sewing. Use cold water and tumble dry on low. If you have more than 1 yard of fabric, sew the ends together to avoid tangles in the washer and dryer.
- Pin seams before sewing.
- Always use a 70 or 80 ball-point needle and sharp pins.
- Use polyester thread to reduce the chance of seams popping when wearing. The best option is cotton thread.
- Lengthen your stitch from 2.5 to 3 or 4 stitches per inch or use the narrowest zigzag that your machine will do (.5). This will keep the seams from tipping when trying on and help with wavy seams.
- When hemming, turn your edge up only once and use a long stitch.
- For a crisp hem, cut a piece of fusible knit interfacing two times as wide as your hem allowance. Iron on wrong side, then fold, stitch and hem.
- Always follow the pattern instructions.

Get in on these specials

END OF MONTH EVENT, DEC. 29 : BUY 3 SKEINS OF YARN, GET A FOURTH SKEIN FREE. ALL CLEARANCE ITEMS WILL BE 50 PERCENT OFF ORIGINAL RETAIL. CHRISTMAS FABRIC WILL BE ON CLEARANCE.

YARNISTA CLUB: FREE MEMBERSHIP CARD AT OUR FRONT REGISTER. BUY 20 REGULARLY PRICED SKEINS OF YARN TO EARN A \$20 GIFT CERTIFICATE TOWARD YOUR NEXT PURCHASE OF YARN.

Develop skills in an AIS class

PENNY KNITS

Times and days vary

\$10 per 2-hour session

All knitters are invited to learn or improve knitting skills. See the calendar for scheduled days or call to schedule a private 1-hour lesson for \$10. Simple "fix-it" questions may be answered before or after classes and all day Friday.

UNIVERSITY OF AIS

2-2:30 Dec. 21 and Jan. 18

Registered participants attend monthly classes, receive great instruction and free gifts.

TINK-ERS BEGINNING KNITTING GROUP

4-7:30 Jan. 5

\$10 plus supplies

Learn how to knit with other knitters. Open to experienced knitters, too, Thrifty Knitters club meets for 30 minutes during this class.

GUMBALLS QUILT CLASS

10:30-3:30 Jan. 7

\$50 plus supplies, which must be purchased by Jan. 6

This special design by Deb Luttrell for a 60-by-72 quilt is like eating candy – you just can't stop. Make one basic block with your favorite batik color group. Bring your lunch. Instructor: Ruth Middleton.

FELTED FLOWER

1-2 Jan. 13

Free, pre-registration required

Beginners will learn the many ways wool may be used to create fun flowers for caps, hats, bags and more. Instructor: Virginia Green

CLASSES WITH JANOME EDUCATOR

Jan. 16-18

\$10, including supplies

Seven classes to help you learn about machines, software and accessories from Nancy Fiedler. See details, page 2.

LET'S DO LUNCH TRUNK SHOW

Jan. 16-Feb. 15

Share in one of life's simple pleasures from Atkinson Designs. These tote bags and table runners are beginner-friendly projects using fat quarters, charm squares or fabric strips.

KNIT IN

5-9 Jan. 20 and 10-3:30 Jan. 21

Reservations being taken now

Enjoy uninterrupted knitting in our comfy shop. Door prizes, discounts and fun fellowship. We appreciate you using our products when participating in this event.

BEGINNING QUILTING CLASS

10:30-12:30 Jan. 21 and Feb. 4

\$40 plus supplies

Learn quilting basics while making a small wall hanging. Some homework between sessions. Instructor: Ruth Middleton

KNITTING BOM

2:30-3 Jan. 28

\$10 per month, plus yarn

You need only one skein of yarn per month to complete an afghan by Christmas 2012. Select your own yarn; Cascade 220 is recommended. Instructor: Penny Little

Coming later in 2012

Watch for more details in future newsletters about each of these projects and events

NEW BOMS

CIVIL WAR JOURNALS

Mid-2012

BUS TRIPS

INTERNATIONAL QUILT FESTIVAL

April 14

Cincinnati

43RD ANNUAL NQA QUILT SHOW

June 15

Columbus, Ohio

