

JAN.../FEBRUARY 2017 !!!!!

What are your creative goals for 2017?

~Use only your stash/collection of fabrics, yarn & other art related items?

~Only buy what you need, ~Clear out your space, ~Create a space,

~Learn a new technique?

It seems some of us have the desire to use up what we have collected over the years, and have an un-cluttered working area to do it in.

~Start by sharing your unsewn items with others in your group(s).

~Have a sew in once a month with all your friends. Each one picks a month for their project to be sewn and finished with everyone's help.

~Donate to various groups (4-H, Scouts, Senior Centers,...) in your area.

~Make/donate quilts to homeless shelters, cancer centers, Foster care, etc.

~With so many De-stashing sew-a-longs happening this year, I'm sure you'll find something to help you make a dent, or two, in your collection.

Our Thursday "Projects in Waiting" group is all about finishing those projects that are maturing, marinating, enjoying a time out, waiting for a "Round Tu It".

Sit, stitch, laugh, chat, snack and enjoy the day. Everyone that comes has a project that's been waiting to see be finished. No pressure, just encouragement!

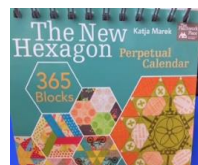
We've been known to knit, crochet, color....

If you are looking to make scrappy (some "fussy cutting" happens also) and want to try a bit of hand stitching; we have ideas in our "English Paper Piecing" section.

Join us on first Saturday's, plus second and fourth Monday's, to find out what EPP is all about. Or, just come and stitch with us. Do you know what a Dodecagon is?

It has been suggested that we start an EPP challenge using the "The New Hexagon" Perpetual Calendar. You would sign up to do specific days of the month or year. For every Hexi block you finish, your name would be put in to "win" the blocks at the end of the challenge.

We could start in June and do a "Summer Solstice" group or keep it simple and do each month, or TBD. Supplies needed would be TNH PC.



A few of our "Chicks" at the Hen House, have taken on the challenge of "A Stitch a Day". We are taking the lead from a Facebook group called "1 Year of Stitches-2017".

It's a fun way to use up thread, ribbon, buttons, yarn, etc., while learning new techniques or just "messin'" with fiber. If you "Journal", this would be a great idea to add to your book(s).

Our hand piecing group "Stitch by Hand" is looking to starting a new project. Stop in on 2nd or 4th Tuesday mornings, 9:30-Noon, to join or check out their progress.

~~~~~Now that we've discussed de-stashing & decluttering.....

~We are offering a Wool Block of the Month. "Hawthorn Ridge" by Jan Patek. Estimated cost is \$25 a month for 7 months. Monthly kits will include Homespun/Cotton background and borders, & wool for the applique. Quilt "finishes" at 50" x 63". Linda W. is working on, we are aiming to start in April/May. Stop in or call to reserve your kit.



### Upcoming Classes...

~ Foundation Paper Piecing

~ Punch Needle

~ Basic Quilt Piecing

~ Collage Art Quilt TBA

~ Hand Piecing

Second & Fourth Tuesdays 9:30 ~ 12:00

Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 1-4 \$30

~Needle Felting

Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> 11-1 \$10

General Machine Maintenance

Groups... that share the day with us...

First Mondays ~ \*Rug Hooking 10-4

First Saturdays,

Second & Fourth Mondays

\*Hexi-holics/English Paper Piecing 10:00 - 4

Second & Fourth Tuesdays

\*Stitch by Hand 9:30-Noon

Last Wednesday of the Month

\*Wednesday Woolies 10:00 - 4

Every Thursday ~

\*Projects in Waiting 10:00 - 6:00

Fourth & Fifth Saturdays

\*Saturday Crankers 10:00 - 5:00

## Up Coming Events

Friday, Saturday & Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>

Michigan Nordic Fire Festival

March 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>

Thornapple River Rippers Quilt Show

Saturday & Sunday March 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>

Across the Square Quilters Quilt Show

Charlotte Public Library

April 27<sup>th</sup> - May 6<sup>th</sup>

Annual Quilters Road Trip "Search for the Stars"

April 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>

Genesee Star Quilter Quilt Show @ Flushing United Methodist

May 6<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> Closed on Sunday 5/7

Tulip Time Quilt Show/Holland Area Arts Council

### Creative opportunity Challenge:

Find the oldest piece(s) of fabric, & old spool(s) of thread.

Cut the fabric into shapes, layer & randomly baste them onto a background.

Take the time to use random stitches on your machine or pick out some embroidery designs to anchor the pieces. Next time we'll work on what to do with your art piece.

Schedule yourself some time to do what you enjoy!

As you take care of others, make sure you take care of yourself!