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“My Designs” Workshop

5-day Teaching Workshop

Rancho Cordova, California

Presented by Cindy Needham

February 22-26, 2012 & September 19-23rd, 2012

Due to many requests from past and present students, I am thrilled to be holding my 5-day teaching workshops in Rancho Cordova, CA (just outside of Sacramento).

I love to design the quilting for both traditionally pieced tops as well as wholecloth quilts... to me it is the icing on the cake! Since I do heirloom style quilting my marked quilting lines are important to me. After an amazing workshop with Diane Gaudynski, she taught me how to use minimal lines and to make “My Designs” my own.

I have created this 5-day workshop for the confident beginner up to the experienced free motion quilter. I will provide you with a good foundation on thread choices; how to make good quilting design choices; how to create and design fabulous feathers and my new French paisley designs; and how to create beautiful background designs with minimal marking. Everyone will go home with a beautiful wholecloth sampler quilt that is created during the week. This is a stress-free, inspirational and creative workshop where you will learn how to make quilting designs “Your Own.” Each student will be working at her own skill level, at her own speed and create her own unique piece.

I have earned my reputation for providing excellent workshops with great instruction and handouts. Each day will begin with a morning lecture covering a different subject and you will have the remainder of the afternoon/evening as uninterrupted quilting, designing, shopping and relaxation time.

Each workshop is limited to 25 students. This ensures that each student will have his or her very own table and I will have lots of time to spend with each and every one of you. Extensive handouts are organized in a binder for you as well as other goodies.

Price

The price of the five-day workshop is \$ 450 per retreat. This includes morning snacks, large catered lunch, beverages and desserts. A \$50 deposit is needed to hold your spot and payment in full is required no later than 60 days prior.

If you need to cancel, I will refund your payment if the cancellation is received no later than 60 days prior to the retreat. No refunds will be issued for cancellations after the 60 day period if I am unable to fill your spot.

If this class is canceled by myself 60+ days prior to the class, I will not assume any financial obligation. It is highly recommended that your plane and lodging reservations NOT be made until after the 60-day deadline. A minimum of 15 students must be made before the class is "officially" scheduled.

Location

Sunrise Event Center

11167 Trade Center Drive

Rancho Cordova CA 95670

Website: sunriseeventcenter.com

916-635-2016

I was very impressed with the Sunrise Event Center and am thrilled that my workshops will be held here. We will be in the Horizon Ballroom which gives us plenty of room to work. The only thing it doesn't provide is outside light...so extra sewing lights for our tables will be required!

Food!

Hannibal's Catering will be providing our food each day...mmmmmm... We will have a morning snack of fresh fruit and scones, an afternoon snack of cheese/crackers, etc. and a large catered lunch served at noon each day. My youngest daughter, Emily, will be providing us with her amazing desserts each evening and cookies during the day.

If we have leftovers from lunch I will have some to-go boxes on hand that you are welcome to serve up for your meal in the evening. You can also take these back to your room for a snack later on. Remember that your breakfast and dinner are NOT included in the retreat. There are loads of great restaurants very close by too.

Hotel

Hotel Sierra

11260 Point East Drive

Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Website: www.hotel-sierra.com/ranchocordova

916-638-4141

The Event Center is located less than five minutes away from about five hotels. It is very important to me that my retreaters be well taken care of. When I visited this particular hotel I was so impressed with the facility, the staff and what they are offering, I am encouraging all of my retreaters to stay here...they are thrilled we are coming!

Their hotel rooms are 2-room suites and are beautiful. There is a separate sitting area with a desk, sleeper couch, separate TV, refrigerator and microwave. Their room rates normally run \$99-\$129 but they are discounting for our group down to \$89 for the Standard King Suites and \$99 for the Double Queen Suites. *(Your hotel room is NOT included in the retreat fee).* Grab a friend to share your room!

They offer a made-to-order breakfast FREE OF CHARGE each morning! They also offer a light snack dinner at a minimal charge each evening and Lisa said she may be able to provide some discount coupons for this as well. They have a beautiful lobby, pool and outside sitting area. The grounds and the hotel are very well kept and immaculate. For those retreaters staying here I will have a goodie bag for each of you when you check in! You may make your reservations by clicking on the link on my website or calling them directly. Be sure to let them know that you are with my retreat and your special rate!

Transportation

For those of you driving, both the Event Center and the Hotel Sierra are easily accessible from Highway 50. For those of you flying, you will fly directly into the Sacramento International Airport. The hotel does NOT provide shuttle service to and from the airport so you will need to contact the Super Shuttle (supershuttle.shuttlefare.com). I've heard that it is about \$38 each way.

For those of you flying in, there will be plenty of us with cars that can take you back and forth from the hotel to the event center and to our local quilt stores so no worries there.

Local Quilt Stores

Tayo's Fabrics

10127 Fair Oaks Blvd.
Fair Oaks, CA
916-967-5479
www.tayosfabrics.com

Sew Fun

150 Natoma Station Drive
#200 Folsom CA
916-353-2700
www.sewfunforall.com

One of the great things about the workshop location is that it is very close to both of the wonderful quilt stores where I teach! They will be VERY involved in my workshops and retreats and promise to have lots of goodies for us!

Sew Fun is also prepared to have Viking machines for rent for those of you flying in! These will also be available for sale after the workshop!

Curriculum

The following gives you an idea of the way the week will unfold for you. Remember that this is YOUR time and you are encouraged to spend it however it pleases you. If you choose not to participate in the morning lecture you may spend that time quietly working on a non-sewing machine related project.

Wednesday...Day One~Threads.

"Nesting" may start at 11 am. Lunch served from 12-1 pm. Dessert at 6 pm.

Welcome during lunch with introductions, store staff, etc.

Threads lecture starting about 1:30-2 pm.

Coffee and beverages will be provided and the classroom will be open until 9 pm.

The event center will be securely locked up behind us.

This will be my Open Thread Bar lecture where you will learn how to use all different types of threads in your machine; how to change your tension both top and bottom; how to choose the correct needle for the type of thread you are using and the fabric you are quilting on. I will also provide my detailed pin and straight basting demonstration. You will spend the remainder of the afternoon/evening playing with provided Superior threads on your beautiful fabric getting everything dialed in to work on your class project.

(If you have already participated in my Open Thread Bar class you are welcome to quietly work on a non-sewing machine project of your choice during the lecture).

Thursday...Day Two~Elements of Design.

Classroom will be open at 7 am...coffee will be on!

Morning snack will be provided.

Lecture from 9 am to 12:00.

Lunch at noon. Dessert at 6 pm.

Coffee and beverages will be provided and the classroom will be open until 9 pm.

The event center will be securely locked up behind us.

I will be teaching you the basic elements of quilting design. Since our class project is based on wholecloth quilting, this will be the primary focus. Everything you will be learning today will be applicable to both wholecloth and pieced quilts. I encourage my students to bring one unquilted, pieced top for group discussion on possible quilting designs. This has become a favorite part of this lecture...very popular! The remainder of the day will be spent laying out and marking the bones of your wholecloth quilt sampler, pin basting and straight basting.

Friday...Day Three~Fabulous Feathers and More!

Classroom will be open at 7 am...coffee will be on!

Morning snack will be provided.

Lecture from 9 am to 12:00.

Lunch at noon. Dessert at 6 pm.

Coffee and beverages will be provided and the classroom will be open until 9 pm.

The event center will be securely locked up behind us.

Feathers are one of the most romantic and best loved quilting designs ever...one of my favorites! I will be teaching you many different ways to quilt feathers and make them your own. No stencils needed...I promise! Several other adaptable beautiful quilting designs will be taught including my French paisleys. You will spend the day marking, designing and quilting the primary designs of your wholecloth class sampler.

Saturday...Day Four~Amazing Backgrounds.

Classroom will be open at 7 am...coffee will be on!

Morning snack will be provided.

Lecture from 9 am to 12:00.

Lunch at noon. Dessert at 6 pm.

Coffee and beverages will be provided and the classroom will be open until 9 pm.

The event center will be locked up securely behind us.

We know how important sunshine and shadow is in our quilting...a beautiful background design makes our primary designs pop and can turn an average quilt into a WOW quilt. I will teach you some beautiful background designs and how to easily design them using simple lines...and make them your own! You will spend the afternoon designing, marking and quilting your background designs and putting the finishing touches on your wholecloth sampler.

Day Five~Wrap Up...Show and Tell.

Classroom will be open at 7 am...coffee will be on!

Morning snack will be provided.

Workshop will conclude at 12 o'clock today.

No lunch is provided...many are leaving early due to flights and long drives.

We will have a casual discussion this morning going over what we've learned, have Show and Tell and share our beautiful wholecloth samplers. You may spend the morning putting final touches on your pieces.