TOP STITCH

Volume 22, Issue 3
Autumn 2019



Back To Sew & New To Go

September feels like a mini New Year to me. Vacations end and school years begin; holidays are around every corner and days are brisker. At the same time our store shelves are getting filled with the latest, most updated products and it's become almost tradition for me to mention a few of those newest favorites here.

Sew Tites: These are one of those things that are so simple and effective, you wonder what took so long.... **Sew Tites** are magnets that work as pins, allowing one to temporarily secure all sorts of elements that are otherwise too thick or stiff or awkward. They come in several sizes for different needs and can be used in almost any craft room. Those with pacemakers will need to avoid (and small kids could swallow) but these are versatile and impressive tools to keep at hand.

Magic Pins: Another improvement on the basic pin, **Magic Pins** have easy to grip, grooved silicone heads that are more comfortable to grab and hold, and also will not melt when touched by a hot iron. The tips are quite sharp and it is especially exciting that they also come in a short length made specifically for applique.

Tula Pink Tools: If you love pink or if you love unicorns, then you're gonna love **Tula Pink** rulers. But you don't have to love either in order to enjoy the brand's flamed metal trimming tools that are based on the precision of surgical equipment. We are anticipating the new **Tula Pink 570QE** and **770QE** machines from **BERNINA** soon; but these are going to be extremely limited in availability; If you need **Tula**, please let us know so you don't miss this opportunity.

BERNINA High Tension Bobbin Case: When using fine bobbin thread (such as a 60 wt) for embroidery and other techniques, this new *gold*-colored case will give you perfect tension in any of the new **4**, **5** or **7** series **BERNINA** machines with jumbo bobbins. A *red* case - on the other hand - allows fat threads to be used for reverse bobbinwork. The new **Big Book of Embroidery** has also arrived loaded with lots of information and creative ideas in easy-to-use spiral bound format.

Believe it or not, that's not all of the new goodies and gadgets we recently got. Now that *you're* getting back into *your* new fall schedule, I hope you'll make some time to pop in for some back to sew shopping.

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Top News

ou will not want to miss the extensive and historical Oregon Quilt Project special exhibit "Stitches and Stories" to be on view in Salem From September 27th til December 23rd.

After years spent traveling the state professionally documenting nearly two thousand quilts for www.QuiltIndex.org, the OQP group has dedicated time to assembling a selection of their most representative and unique finds from the adventure.

Hosted at the beautiful Willamette Heritage Center - the original 1896 Thomas Kay Woolen Mill - and now a Parks Service National Treasure - this is sure to be a day worth driving.

For more info and to confirm exhibit hours, check their site willametteheritage.org

Juan

Page 2 Miscellaneous

In the Works: A Repurposing Life

This summer a confluence of energies came together and we found ourselves building a restorative garden from the junk of a dump zone (...known in some circles as a shed and/or garage). There is no way to describe it that sounds attractive; a leaking water tank is now the potato bed, rusted plumbing bits became a fountain, my wall (to keep out the neighbors' blackberries) is a patchwork of stripped out wood paneling and corrugated steel roofing headed to the landfill. Broken bird boxes and rotting skids are bolted on here and there (some adding support), a rusted wrench hangs a rusted flower basket. And the years of collected (broken) clay pots are now scattered as mulch for xeric beds of succulents. Fittingly I made a chalkboard sign calling it the *Ghost Town Garden*.

For all the ingredients it should be a mess, but just like a quilt made from worn out clothing, this outdoor space seems to bring a smile to anyone that visits, and especially ourselves. There is a history that we have shaped into something pleasing and useful, and which may have been seen as trash, but now has purpose - and even unique beauty.

It started as a way to beat back a hedge of blackberries constantly overcoming our veggie garden. Sick of having my arms stabbed, and while seeing a pile of carpentry materials piling up as trash, I convinced Jonathan to help build the vision I saw that would solve several problems at once. The funniest part was - after lots of grumbling and initial skepticism - once he started to see it come together he was out wandering the neighborhood asking others for more free junk.

We quickly found that the birds love the fountain we cobbled together; so much so we have to fill it twice a day. It looks like we'll have a decent crop of potatoes - our first ever - and we've reclaimed approximately 40 square feet of legroom for ourselves. We still have about another 20 feet of fence line to uncover, but that will have to wait until after harvest season now. While the blackberries still manage to drape runners over the top and find their way through a couple small cracks, a light trim is pretty much all it needs and easy enough to keep up with (...by compare). Some of my plants have failed in the heat, but others are more radiant than I had expected. We'll see what winter does, but I have high hopes for my prickly pears. Gardens - by Nature - are always changing and therefore always a work in progress. Sort of like ourselves, it is a reminder we can all find ways to repurpose our life...or ...we can let it go to seed.

Where you buy your machine has a great deal to do with the long-term happiness with that purchase. You should expect to receive whatever services are included at the store where you paid for them.

When you Buy a BERNINA at TOP 5TITCII the following are ALWAYS included:

- 1. Complete Class Instruction for use of your new machine at no additional cost.
 - 2. Free, unlimited trouble-shooting assistance by phone, e-mail or in-store.
 - 3. Full warranty coverage performed on our premises by a BERNINA specialist.

Plus our exclusive BERNINA BUYERS' BONUS Discounts:

- ▶ 15% off regular priced fabrics, notions, books, machine accessories, embroidery designs, etc.
- ➤ **Discounted*** maintenance & service on purchased machine saves you up to \$110. each time. (*only applicable when our authorized technician was the last to work on the machine)

Your 15% discount is good for one full year after purchase and will be renewed automatically for another 12 months whenever you pay for maintenance on the machine.

These New Owner classes are <u>complimentary with your</u> <u>purchase of a machine from TOP STITCH</u>.

- Taught by master technician, experienced tailor and all around sewing guru, Jonathan Hanken, these classes surpass the information usually provided and greatly enhance your success and enjoyment with BERNINA.
- Choose <u>one</u> of the options listed below for your model, then call, email or come in to **reserve your space** (<u>pre-registration is required</u>). The Embroidery segment can be taken before OR after your basic sewing class.
- If you purchased your machine here (new, demo or USED) you can take your New Owner's Guide classes additional times at no additional charge.

Class Policies:

Space is limited; as a courtesy to others, please inform us immediately if you need to cancel (there may be others on a waiting list)

We will cancel a class three days in advance if we do not have the minimum number of students.

You are expected to put a reservation on your calendar; we do not make reminder calls.

Your BERNINA SEWING MACHINE - \$200.00 (Free with machine purchase)

- Saturday, September 21, 10:00 am 4:00 pm
- Wednesday, October 9 and Thursday, October 10, 1:00 am 4:00 pm (both days)
- Saturday, November 9, 10:00 am 4:00 pm
- Wednesday, December 4 and Thursday, December 5, 10:00 am 1:00 pm (both days)

Your BERNINA EMBROIDERY USAGE - \$100.00 (Free with machine purchase)

- Saturday, September 28, 10:00 am 1:00 pm
- Wednesday, October 16, 1:00 400 pm
- Saturday, November 16, 10:00 am 1:00 pm

Your BERNINA SERGER - \$200.00 (Free with machine purchase)

- Saturday, October 19, 10:00 am 4:00 pm
- Wednesday, November 13 and Thursday, November 14, 10:00 am 1:00 pm (both days)



TOP STITCH

made to create

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Tuesday—Friday 10:00 - 5:00 Saturdays 10:00 - 4:00 CLOSED Sunday & Monday

CLOSED:

Thanksgiving,

November 28

December 22 - 25th

December 29 -

January 1, 2020

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