Club Notes: Obsidian MARCH 2021

Greetings Quilters!

Here in Mid-Missouri, the weather continues to keep us on our toes! We had –23 degree wind chills last week, followed by temps in the mid 60's this week. Kinda getting weather whiplash! People experienced rolling blackouts because the extreme temperatures were exhausting the power grid. How many of you had to shut down your longarms so you wouldn't get caught mid-stitch in a blackout? Now I have buds on my Bradford Pear and Silver Maple trees, and we're seeing a little more "green" in the yard today. It's late February!

Last fall, we had a whole-house humidifier installed. . I got tired of zapping myself on the Statlers and didn't want to fry one of the computers. Worked great. This year, we discovered that we had ice in our attic. During the coldest weather last week, apparently the humidity traveled up through every place there is a break in our ceiling (light fixtures, exhaust fans, etc). It's not an insulation issue. So...what goes up must come down….ice melts! Now I have stains on my living room ceiling….just one more pesky home-owner task to add to the list when it gets warmer (but no quilts were harmed). My quilt room has been warm enough, but Kim reports that her studio was too cold to work in! She has an open stair well in her house, so she has no way to keep the heat downstairs. I suggested once that she hang quilts in the stairwell. I used to hang them in front of the French doors in my studio….before we put in a Pella sliding glass door.

My quilt customers have recovered from the Christmas gift quilts and are now gearing up for graduations and weddings. How about yours?

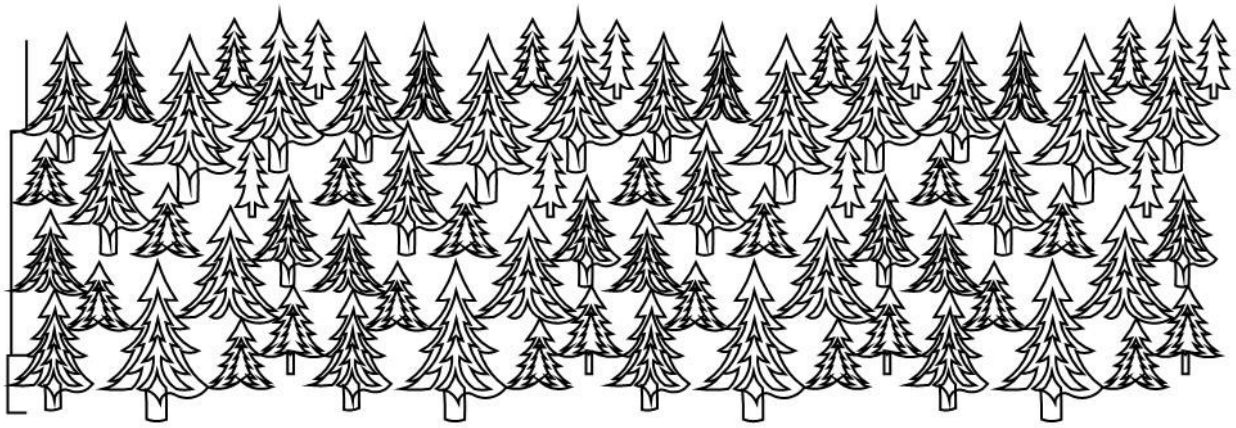
TECHNICAL SUPPORT: For a few years, we've had the ability to log into an internet-connected computer to help customers navigate their way through computer issues, related to SDQS patterns (as well as some basic Windows functions). Until recently, this was kind of an ordeal to get connected, as it required a certain level of computer skill which many simply did not have. I have asked our webmaster to add a button to the home page of our website, on which customers can click to initiate a remote service call. If you request such a service call, we will be able to access your computer (while you sit there and watch what's going on). When we end the service call, we cannot access your computer again, until YOU request another service call. This process will also add an icon to your computer desktop which will let you initiate a service call from your own desktop. We hope you never need this type of assistance, but are happy to offer it to you, should need arise. It also helps if you give me a buzz at the office (573-446-0421) and let me know you're requesting service.

As always, if you get a quilt in your studio and need some special patterns created for it, just send me an email (janet@sweetdreamsquiltstudio.com) and let me know what you're looking to have drawn. Give me as much information as you can! I'll add it to Kim's drawing list and send the new patterns to you via email just as soon as they are ready….at no additional cost to you….all part of the Crown Jewels Club!

Enjoy the patterns! Janet & Kim

The Obsidian March 2021 Archive contains 111 patterns, including 60 panos, a retail value of $1410.00.

Extended Width Panos



Pine Tree Pano Sq

Benefits to using Extended Width E2E Patterns:

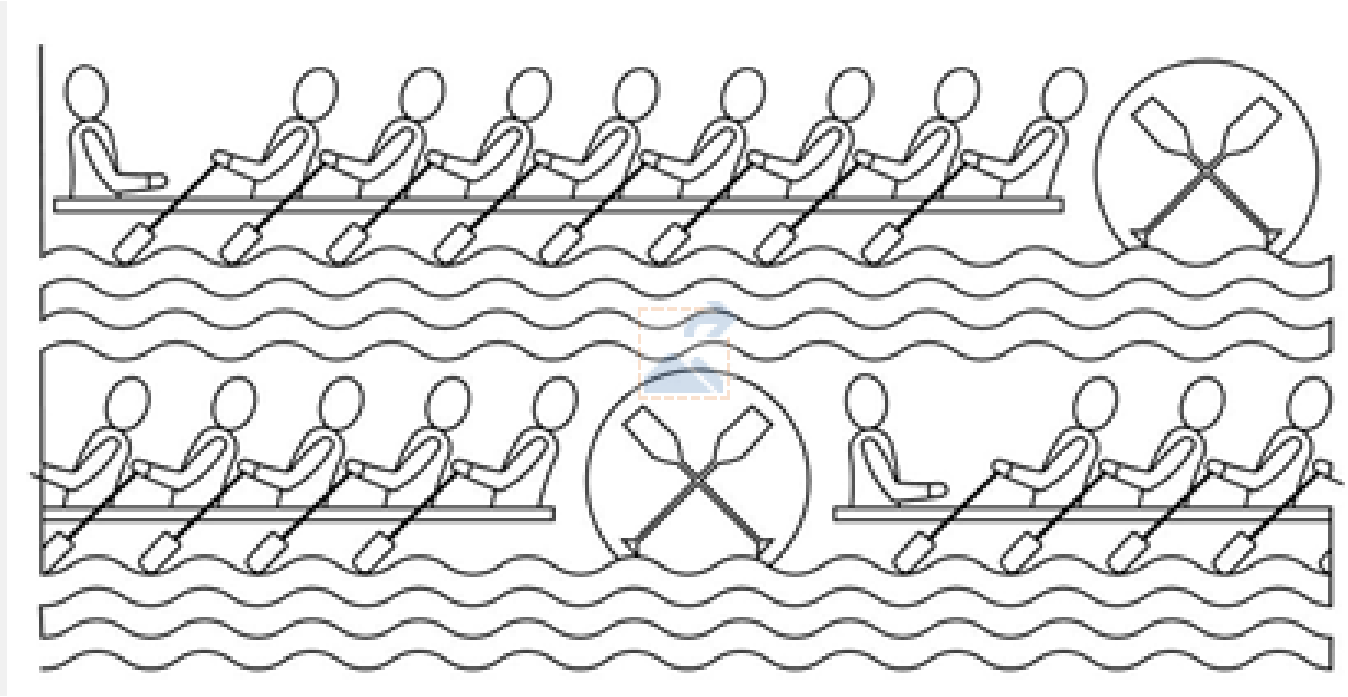
- For simple patterns with small height, an extended width version will quilt several rows without you having to reset to the beginning of each row, freeing you up to tend to other things.
- For alternating patterns, that function is already taken care of, including having the deep interlock eliminated from the sides. This also pertains to patterns with a deep horizontal interlock, even if they are not alternating patterns.
- Sometimes I use an extended with e2e designed for use on a short arm machine, and just enlarge it if my customer wants less dense quilting.

REA Baby Shark
(Raw Edge Applique)

Kim made the REA Baby Shark pattern for Pat Geishirt, who so graciously stitched it out and sent photos to be included in this newsletter.

There are so many ways to quilt the background fabric to give it texture, and just have fun! Bubbles, seaweed, straight lines, curvy lines, or even a simple meander. Then, go back, following the stitch map, and quilt out the text and shark!

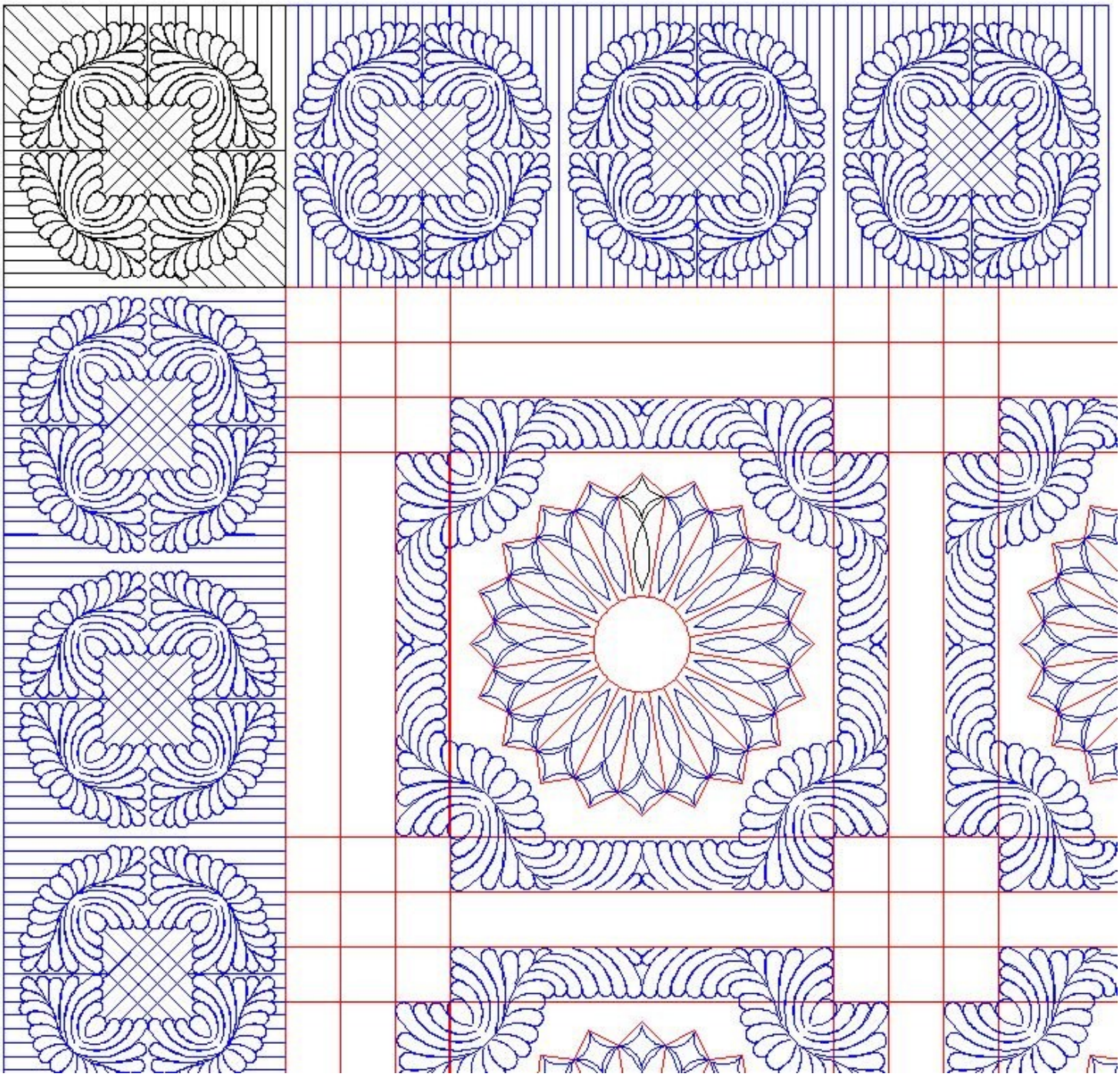
Extended Width Panos



Long Boat Pano 001

(This would make a great whole cloth quilt for a Team Rowing enthusiast)

Feather Bloom Patterns



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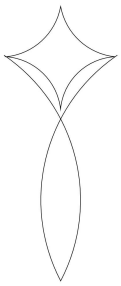
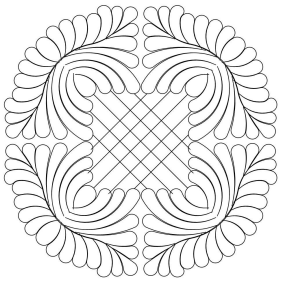
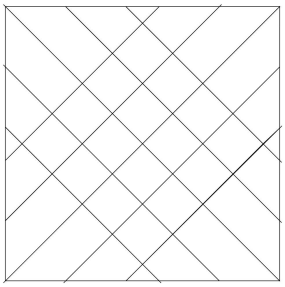
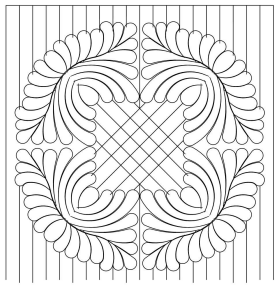
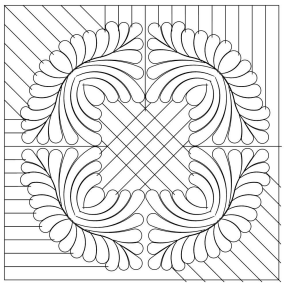
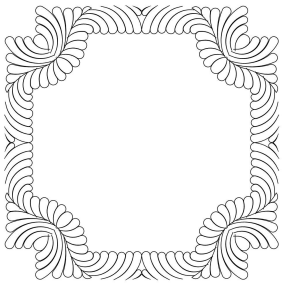


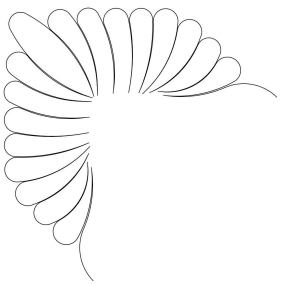


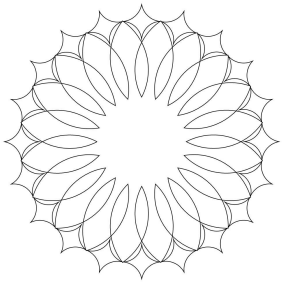






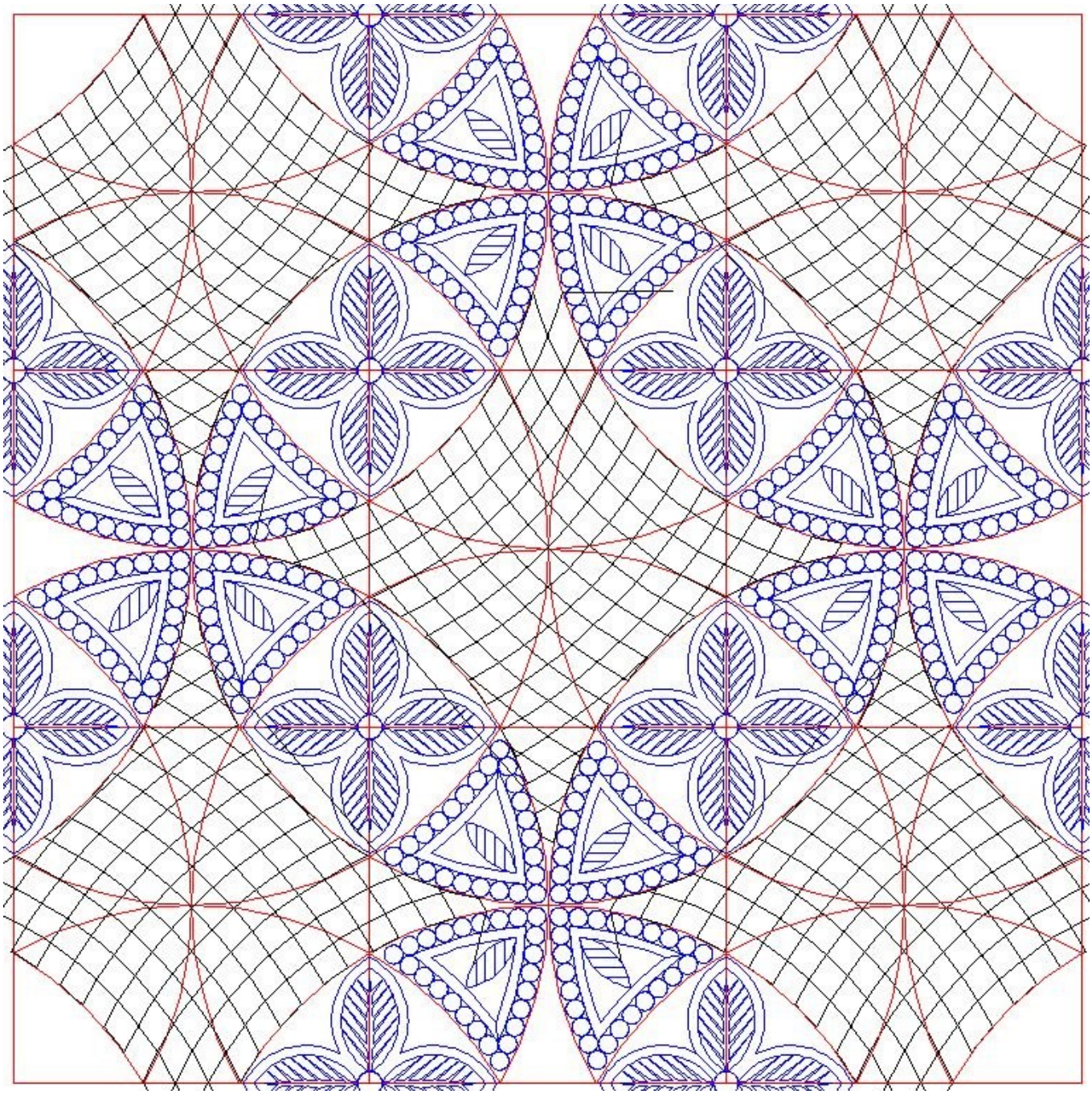






The Feather Bloom patterns were created for Carol Duque. Here are photos of how she used them!

SKW Country Chic Patterns
(Sew Kind of Wonderful)



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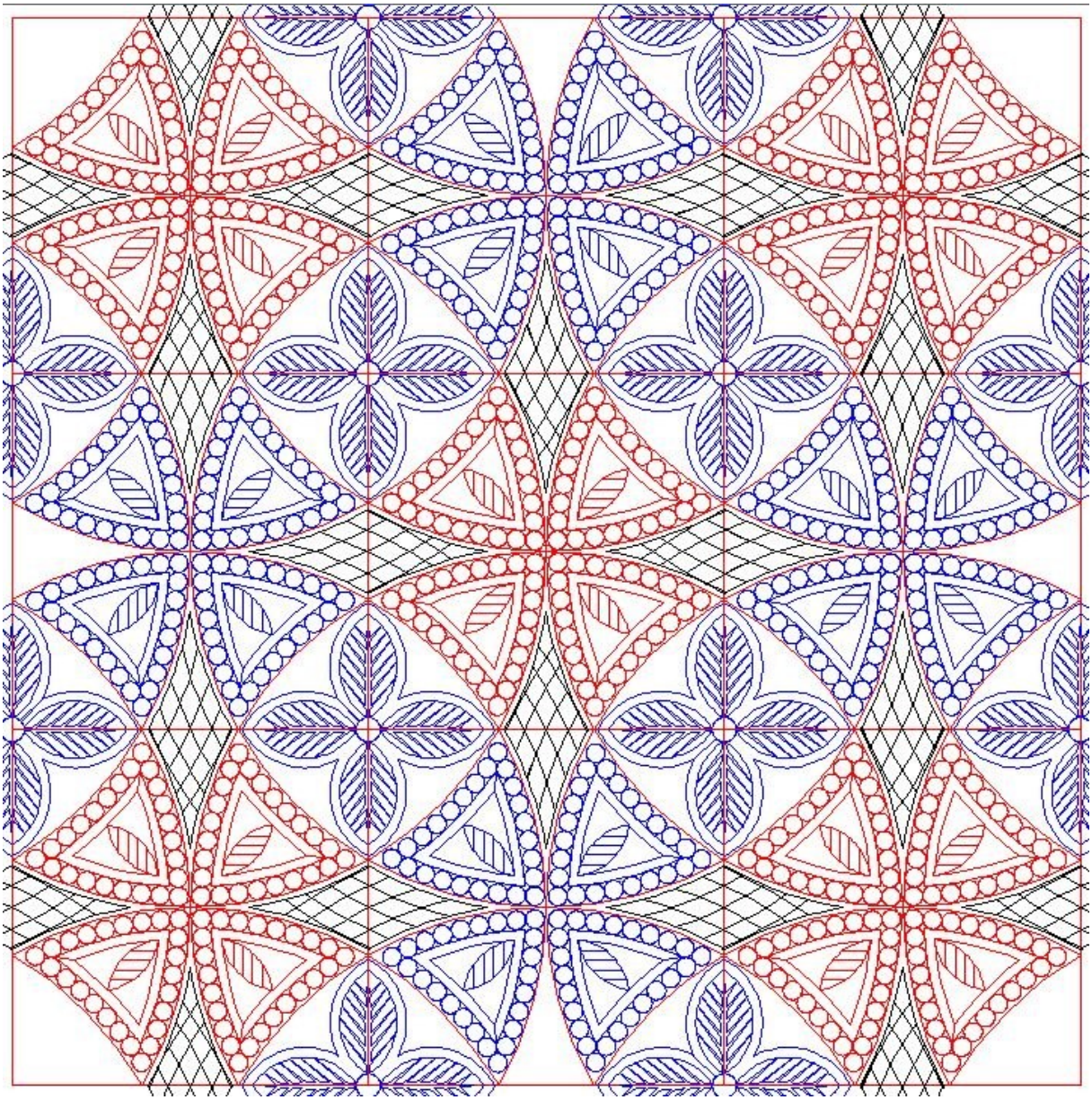
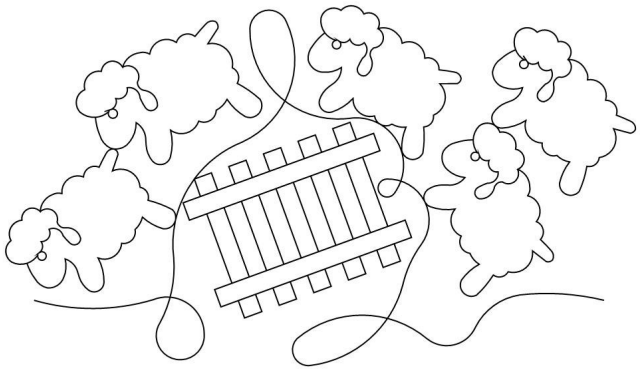
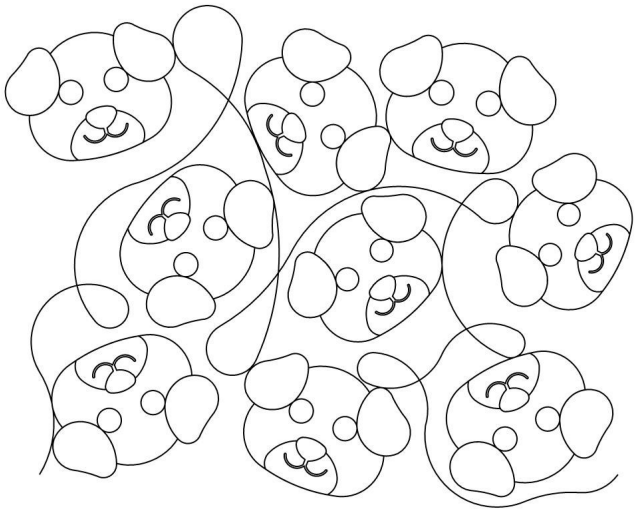
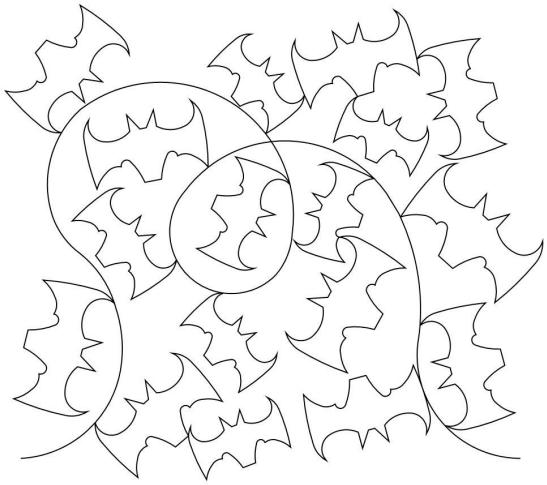


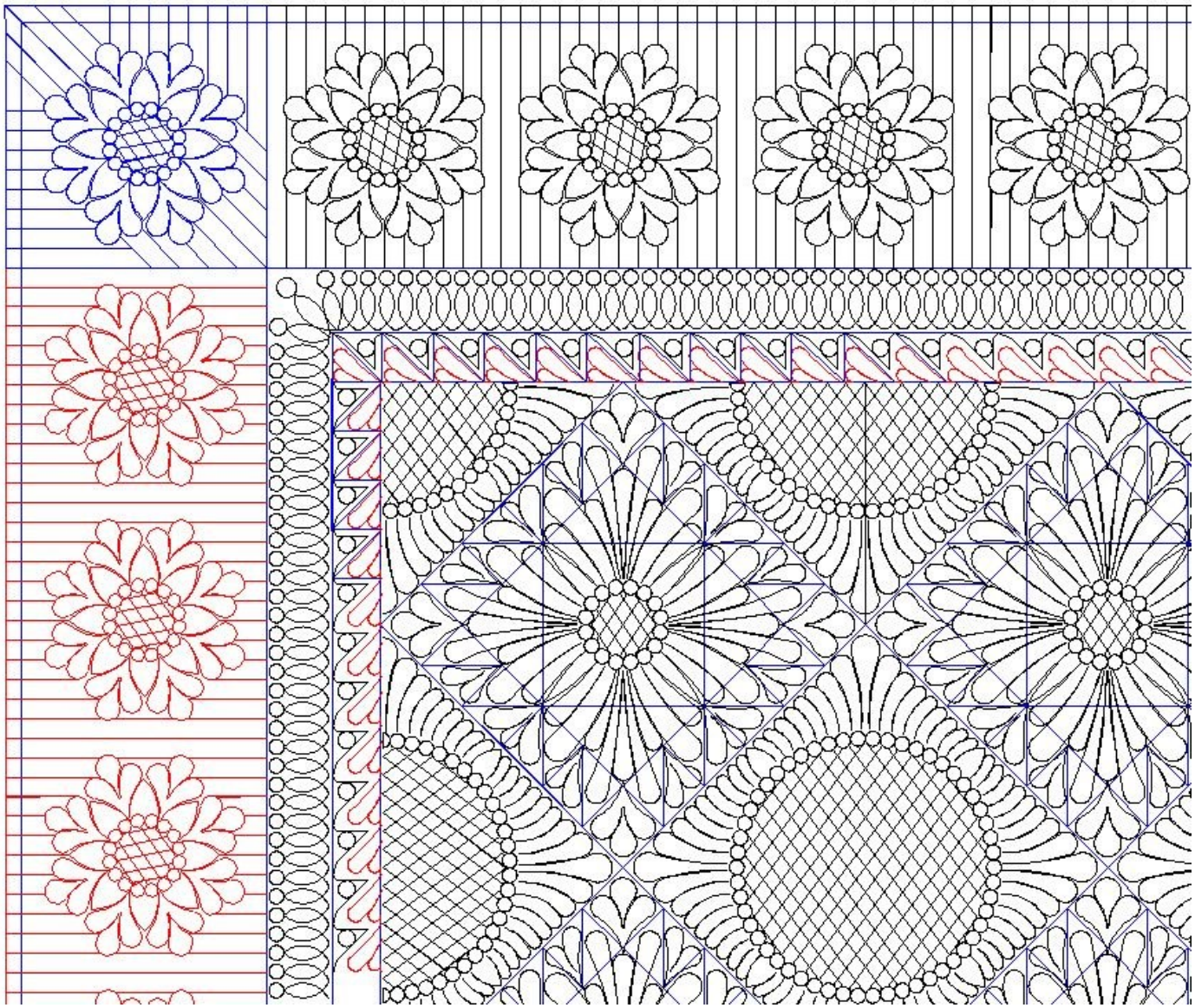
Kid Quilt Patterns



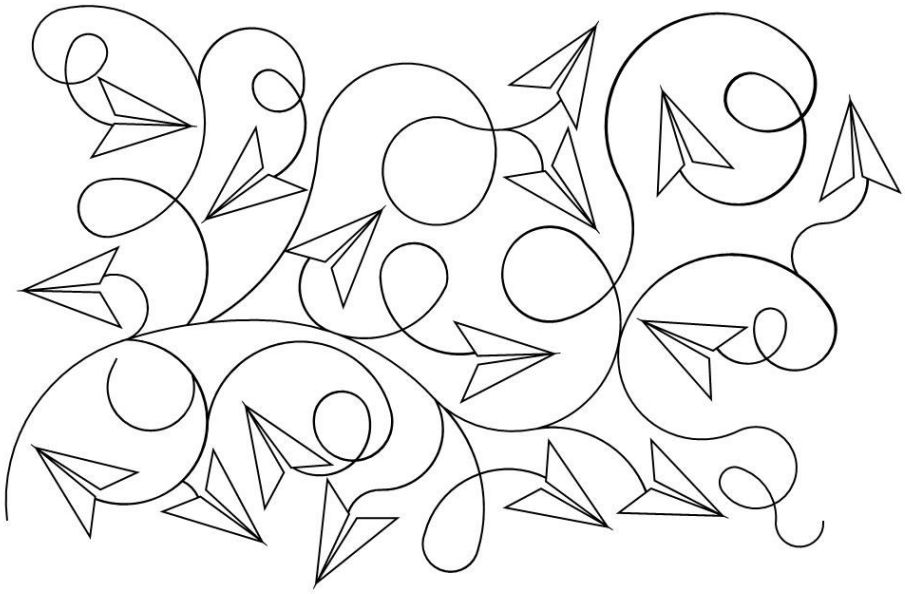




Kings Cross Patterns

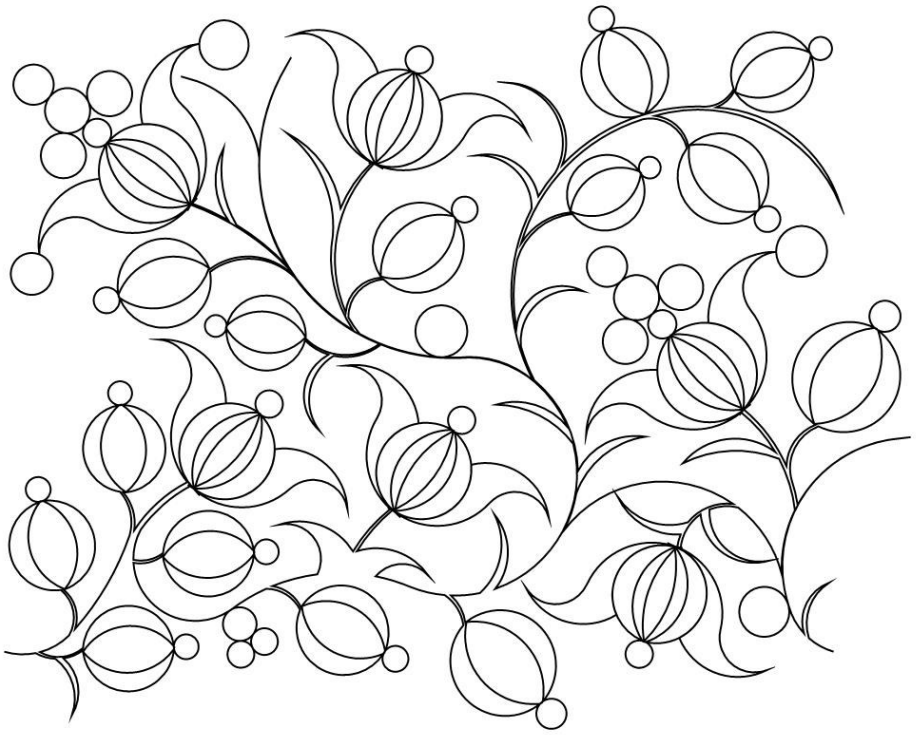


My Favorite E2E Patterns this Month



Paper Airplane Pano 001

Modern Pom Pano 002



The Name Panos...sigh!

—I do my level best to talk my quilting customers OUT of stitching name panos on their quilts. Why? Because I think they almost always detract from the quilt itself AND you can't read the names from the backside of the quilt. My personal quilting philosophy is to "do no harm" which means not quilting elaborate designs on a quilt just because I have a computer guided longarm which allows me to do so. Just because you CAN does not mean you SHOULD.

—Regardless, name panos are popular, especially around Christmas and Graduation seasons. Consequently, this archive contains more name panos than I would like. Most of them you will never have a use for, so just cull them out and forget about them. That's what I do...they don't make it onto my Statlers. If you need one, you can always ask me to send it to you again.

—Almost every single name pano started out life as a "normal" pattern, to which we were requested to add a name. The original "normal" pattern is probably NOT included in the current archive, as it was created at some time in the past. That's one reason why CJC members get a 20% discount on all online pattern purchases.

—From time to time we poll our Crown Jewels Club members and ask them if they'd like us to delete all those name panos from the arcoption. As Crown Jewels Club members, you pay the $50.00 monthly fee and get EVERYTHING Kim draws….including the name panos, and apparently, you want them all.hive so you don't have to cull them out. Very few people (much to my surprise) voted for that

Statler Owners Upgrading to Creative Studio 7.2 *(please read)*

After you have downloaded and installed your Creative Studio 7.2 software, please do the following as a workaround to a CS software bug:

-Make sure you have actually extracted your patterns from the zip file before attempting to import them.
-When you import the patterns, make sure you type in or select from the drop down box the encryption code which matches the code shown at the end of your pattern names.
-For some unknown reason, it may appear that not all of your patterns successfully imported. Shut down CS 7.2 and try again.
--If some of your patterns show as GOLD instead of light yellow, reboot CS 7.2 and check them again.
--Before importing your PVM into CS 7.2, double check that the patterns IN PVM have the same controller number or red key number as your machine currently displays. IF NOT, don't import them and contact Sweet Dreams Quilt Studio.

Also, there is a instructional pdf document available on the Sweet Dreams Quilt Studio web site to assist you with importing encrypted patterns into CS 7.1. You'll save yourself some headaches if you read it before you import your patterns.

https://www.sweetdreamsquiltstudio.com/files/docs/Importing encrypted pattern using CS7.pdf

ProStitcher Owners *(please read)*

DO NOT use the ProStitcher Beta software! Make sure you are running the vs ending 5706. Life will be much easier for you if you're running the current software.

Created by Sweet Dreams Quilt Studio, Quilter's LightBox© software was designed to easily:

- Import photos of your quilt and/or quilt blocks.
- Import photos of quilt block pattern pictures.
- Preview quilting patterns superimposed over the quilt photos.
- Enlarge, reduce, copy, rotate, increase or decrease line widths, and adjust thread colors.
- Print pictures of the quilt/block with the patterns, and a list of the quilting pattern pictures used.
- Create a .zip file with all of the pictures for ease in emailing to quilt customers.
- Freehand feature, for those times when you want to doodle on your own!
- And now you can fade out the quilt image behind your pattern layout to better view the patterns.

The software includes over 9000 quilting pattern pictures and free monthly updates for quilting pattern pictures. The software is available for purchase online with immediate download, and also comes with a backup version on the DVD, along with the library of pattern pictures, delivered via USPS Priority Mail. DVD is shipped within 1 business day of order date. **Don't forget to download your free pattern pictures updates!!**

Now available at no cost to you. Log into your profile on the Sweet Dreams Quilt Studio website and download the software. If you want the DVD (which contains the software AND the 1st 9000 Sweet Dreams Quilt Studio images) there is a small shipping fee.