

“Sew Into Fall”

I am excited to update everyone about our upcoming retreat, “Sew Into Fall”. The dates are November 4-7 at the Zermatt in Midway. However, many plan on coming Tuesday afternoon, November 3. We will inform the hotel of your arrival date, but you will be responsible for the cost of Tuesday night, which the hotel will include on your invoice. If you are changing your arrival date, you must let Caisa know **immediately**. Also, the hotel requires that everyone who is staying at the hotel needs to present a credit card (not a debit card).

The retreat fees you have already paid include your hotel nights and lunch and dinner on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Breakfast is on your own, but there is a great bakery and restaurant on the premises and each room has a microwave and small fridge.

Because of Covid, things will be a little different this year. There will not be any classes or demos, just to keep everyone a little more distant. This retreat will be an open sew, do what you want to retreat! Just come and visit with your friends, sew to your heart’s content, or do nothing at all. There will be wipes and hand sanitizer around the room and everyone will get their own little bottle of hand sanitizer.

This retreat is like a lottery, we are all taking a chance on being safe and not contracting any illness. Because of this, we are asking that **no visitors** come to our retreat at any time. This will help with any outside exposure to Covid. And, of course, if you have any symptoms of not feeling good or any recent exposure to Covid, please **do not** come.

Face masks are required in the hotel public areas and on the grounds, but not in the Bernese Center where we will be sewing. So, wearing masks in the Bernese Center is up to you.

On October 2, I met with the Zermatt about our retreat and they told me that the swimming pool, hot tub and fitness center are open for our use, as well as the miniature golf course and the spa. (There is a fee for the spa.) The carousel is not open at this time.

Everyone has been assigned a table pod to sew at. (see attached seating chart) The number of attendees is lower this year than in the past so we are spreading out the pods of sewing tables. We have 82 quilters coming, so you will have room for your little side tables. The chairs provided are non-folding, non-rolling, padded chairs. Some people prefer to bring a pillow or cushion to add height to the chair or even bring their own chair.

There will be cutting mats and ironing boards/irons around the room. You are welcome to have irons at your sewing stations, but prefer that you only bring small, travel style irons. We are paying extra money to have extra power in the room, but we still do not want to have any power outages, nor damages to sewing machines. There will also be water/ice stations around.

Some attendees have severe allergies to different things, so please do not wear any perfume, use perfumed soaps or oils or scented Best Press. We have one who is so super allergic to

pistachios that just the smell of them in a room can send her into anaphylactic shock. So please, do not bring or give anyone pistachios.

Instead of the usual 10 to an **eating table**, we will have 7 or 8 to a table. If you are not comfortable eating with others, you can take your food and move back to your sewing area. About food, it will be a surprise to all of you, but very similar to what we have had in the past. If you listed any allergies to food on your registration form, it has been noted and we will do our best to accommodate your special needs.

Secret Sisters: If you signed up to participate, bring a gift for your special secret sister each day, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Put their name on the gift, but not yours. Each day you will put one of the gifts on the secret sister table, **unwrapped**. Then leave it there until after dinner so that everyone can see what you have done. We all love to get ideas from others. Names will be revealed on Friday evening.

If you want to **listen to music**, please bring your ear buds. What might be great music for you is not for others.

On Wednesday night we are going to give away a lot of fabric from Bonnie Crysdale's stash. My sister, Bonnie, has helped with retreat the last two years and was going to be co-chair again this year. However, she had a ruptured aorta right after Thanksgiving, and left a huge sewing room full of items to donate. Whatever is left over, Carol Hunt agreed to take to the Indian reservation where there is a need for fabric and sewing supplies. If you would like to donate any fabric or sewing items for this cause, please bring them and she will take it all down. (This can include non-quilting fabric.)

We will have tables set up where you can give away **unwanted items** and we will also have tables if you would like to **sell items**. If you are going to sell, you must take care of that yourself. Put your name on the item, how much and what table you are sitting at.

Bring cash or checks if you are interested in purchasing any leftover guild gifts or items people have for sale. The guild does not have any way to do Venmo or credit card sales, although some individuals selling items might have Venmo.

Thursday night will be game night. This year we are simply going to play Bingo and give away lots of prizes. Anyone is welcome to join us, not just those who signed up.

Friday night will be show and tell. No contest, just some great show and tell. Please bring one quilt that you would like to show.

Although Best Press has been one of the gifts for the last few years, it will not be on the gift list this year, so bring your own if that's what you like to use. But, we will have lots of other fun items for all.

Besides the hospitality gifts, **we are going to have 4 drawings** for: a utility wagon, a bolt of white fabric, a big stack of batik fat quarters and a set of Lori Holt circle rulers. You can enter

each contest once, but you can only win once out of the four drawings. Tickets will be available in your welcome packet.

The quilt store in Midway is now closed, (online only) so no quilt stores near the retreat.

Last year, some of you commented that we needed to have more design walls. The guild does not have any design walls, they belong to individuals. If you need one, you will need to bring it.

We would love to have some fall quilts to hang around the room on the black curtains. If you have one that you would like to display, please bring it and we will rotate them each day if necessary. Many people are always wondering who made it, etc., so we have a form to put on your quilt with that info.

We officially start on Wednesday at 10 am, so please be there for the welcome (although the sewing area will be open before that time). We should be finished setting up Tuesday by 3 pm, so those coming on Tuesday are welcome to come after that time. Check in time at the hotel is 3 pm. You are welcome to sew until 2 pm on Saturday. Reminder: sometimes it is hot and sometimes cold in the Bernese Center, and hard to control the temp, so dress in layers.

As of October 2, we are now committed to rooms and food at the Zermatt and so no refunds can be given for any reason.

For those who are new this year, the best parking is on the south side of the Bernese Center (the large building as you enter the driveway to the Zermatt). You can unload on the north side if you would like to, but then you must move your vehicle as soon as you are through unloading. There is also a ramp on the south side and easy to bring in your items.

If you use the services of the valet people, please tip them accordingly as that is their source of income.

Next year will be the 20th anniversary of the Utah Valley Quilt Guild's fall retreat. Hollie Peterson volunteered to take over for next year and we know she will do a great job. She also has a lot of support behind her. Thank you Hollie!

See everyone soon and let's hope that not too many more 2020 events happen in our world in the meantime

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