



The Fat Quarterly

CRAFTY FABRICS' NEWSLETTER

Spring, 2020

The cozy quilting store at the Jersey shore.

Visit us on the Web at: www.craftyfabricsquilting.com

Sew, What's New at the Shop?



I hope this newsletter will find all of my customers, friends, and their families safe and healthy from the Coronavirus that has taken over our lives lately. If you're in need of some happy news that will temporarily take your mind off the daily updates, I hope this recap of my *virus-free* quilting cruise in January will help. The only "bug" caught on this ship was the quilting bug!



We left port from Cape Liberty, NJ, January 16, and over the next 11 days made stops at San Juan, Puerto Rico; Philipsburg, St. Marten, St. John, Antigua; Castries, St. Lucia, and Basseterre, St.

Kitts. At St. Kitts we stopped at the Caribella Batik Factory at Romney Manor for one of the trip highlights. At the factory we learned how to make our own batik fabrics. We were handed a fat quarter of white fabric, and allowed to select two stamps for our design. The stamps were handed to us filled with wax, and once the fabric was stamped, it was placed into a vat of blue or orange dye. I chose the blue. After a few minutes the fabric was pulled out dripping and placed into a plastic bag for us to take home. We drip-dried them in the shower to be taken home and boiled on the stove for an hour to remove the wax. Once the wax was gone the new fabric was hung up to dry and then ironed. I boiled mine a few more times to remove more of the wax. A fascinating process



and not at all what I was expecting but it was very interesting!



My friend Nancy and I spent most of our time on the ship and we made good use of it in the conference room, quilting all hours of the day and night! When we weren't sewing we enjoyed the lovely pool. The ship was huge with over 4000 people. We enjoyed great dinners in a group and hit the buffets whenever we were hungry. Big assortment of food which changed every day and the cookies were *great!* We preferred to spend most of our time sewing rather than do any of the other activities. We returned to Cape Liberty on January 27. It was a great trip and a lot of fun!

With any luck this virus will pass quickly and we'll be able to reopen our store and see all your friendly faces again. Not to mention the opportunity for you to come in and see the fabric, touch the fabric, coordinate the fabrics for a new project and buy the fabric! I'm sure with all the masks,



etc. that people are making most stashes will need to be replenished, and I look forward to helping you do that. In the meantime, enjoy these snapshots from my cruise, and stay safe!

