

HAPPY SPRING!

Yes, spring is on its way, though it was being snowed in for four days that gave me pause to do another Update Newsletter for our teachers.

Many thanks to those of you who have contributed. Sharing ideas is always an inspiration.

We are preparing for Puyallup and are very excited that McCall's will be exhibiting for the first time. Even the new president will be attending. I hope you will be there, too!

Remember, all past issues of this newsletter can be read online at:
www.palmerpletsch.com/teachers_newsletter.htm

*Happy Sewing,
Pati Palmer*

See the Puyallup schedule at:
http://www.palmerpletsch.com/patipalmer_schedule.htm

News From Palmer/Pletsch

M6901 NEW Pant Fit Pattern

I like the pattern. I fitted myself in the 16 and the 18W. I measure an 18, but I sometimes use a 16 and let the waist out. Of course I did need to add a bit to the side waist of the 16, but I really liked the way the 18W fitted.

The guide sheet turned out super, but there is always something to complain about. The waist markings need to be eliminated and the words 1" seam allowance need to be added to the top of the front and back to announce the size of the waist seam allowance. I don't get to see the pattern marked for multisize before it gets printed, so I can't catch these things. It will be changed in a future printing. Also, sizes 8-16 have one back dart and 18-24W have two. As you know, darts are arbitrary anyway.



Updated Pant Slides

I have updated and upgraded some of the pant slides and the script. If you want this tool because you are using the slides, send me a request.

A Great Class Idea From Pamela Leggett

I wanted to tell you about the hands-on fitting program I did with the Albany, NY, ASG group. I think it was a really great way to teach hands-on to a large group in one day. I had 20 people.

- I sent them detailed measuring instructions, with a diagram, for the high bust and asked them to bring M6750 in their size with the front and back piece for the sleeveless version cut out.
- I picked a person from the class who had many of the standard adjustments and had everyone follow along, doing the adjustments on their pattern, following the tissue fitting order. This gave them practice making adjustments.
- During the class, I measured each person to make sure she had the correct size. Happily everyone was within a size, usually too large, so they could cut it down later for themselves and have the full pattern (minus the sleeveless version) available to use for themselves.
- At the end I demonstrated how to widen a sleeve and do a princess seam.

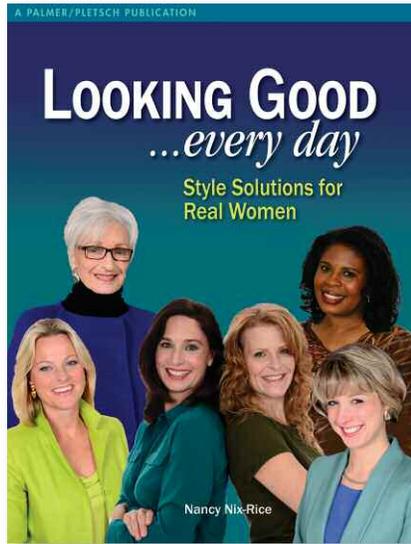


I felt that this accomplished many things. They got to see the tissue fitting done, manipulate the patterns, check measurements, use the book, learn about interfacing. They all seemed to really enjoy the day and I got lots of positive feedback. I would definitely do it again!

I told them to bring in a cardboard cutting board or rotary mat. I made sure with the event coordinator that there was enough table space; they really just need a 24" X 36" space for the blouse.

Looking Good... Every Day

After more than three years working on this book, it is out the door. We will have it for the Puyallup Sew Expo. Nothing like a deadline to get it done! This review got us pretty excited:



“This is a comprehensive, step-by-step volume for any woman who wants to know how to look her best, every day. Nancy Nix-Rice leads readers through the fundamental and essential style principles, from discovery to application to wardrobe maintenance. Readers learn to identify their innate assets and how to accentuate them no matter their lifestyle and budget. By using basic and timeless design concepts, readers (and wardrobe consultants) can make better selections for themselves, use their “ideal style connections” to choose the best from what’s in fashion at the time, and thereby always Look Good, Every Day!”

Dominique Isbecque, AICI, CIP, Executive Director of Image Resource Center of NY LLC; Co-founder of Association of Image Consultants International (AICI); Facilitator of the Certificate Program in Image Consulting at FIT (Fashion Institute of Technology)

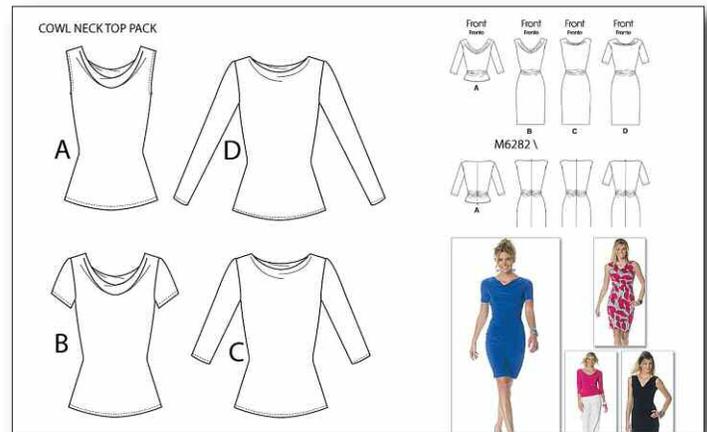


Knit Book

Our next focus is on completing the book *Knits For Real People, Fitting and Sewing Fashion Knits* by Sue Neall and Pati Palmer. I am doing a knit seminar at Fabric Depot this week and it is sold out at 60 people. Then I do the same seminar at Puyallup. Again, nothing like a deadline to make things happen. My focus for the rest of this month is on knits, including sewing samples for photography.

New Patterns For Knits

Coming in April are two designs focusing on fit. One is a cowl top. Everyone has loved the shirred cowl top and dress, but many have made it the simple way suggested by Marta. Lynn Raasch suggested that I just make a top pattern without the shirring, lining, zipper etc. McCall’s agreed and the new pattern is McCall’s 6963. It will have the same two necklines as M6282, but be looser throughout the body.



The other is a “fashion” tee with a V-neck for Marta and a round neck for me. The guidesheet is very thorough, focusing on fitting a tee.



NEWS FROM YOU!

FROM IVONNE GUTIERREZ, CSI, CAGUAS, PUERTO RICO

Hi Pati,

I know it is late to say this, but Happy Christmas and Happy New Year. Best wishes for this year to all of you.

Today I had my first fit demonstration (free of charge) towards a class that has been scheduled for March 18th. Present were six persons, three of them signing up immediately after the demonstration. It really helps to explain the importance and give them some information of what to expect and how they will be working.

To my surprise, outside the classroom there were people trying to catch up, and as they were late they didn't come in.

Although I have to make a brief manual in Spanish, I have ordered books to sell to them. Also, I ordered patterns from McCall's.

The slides that you gave us also were helpful. They said, "these are real people." One of my sons took this photo of me explaining an image from the workshop.



I also presented some photos of the owner of the store in a shell, explaining what she needed and in her altered pattern. (She is almost 40DD.)

FROM CATHERINE AZZONE, CSI, PENNSYLVANIA

I hope that 2014 finds you, Paul, and Melissa all doing well.

John and I moved to south central Pennsylvania in mid-November. We bought a house even though our NY house is still on the market. John wanted to move while he is still working and we just wanted to be closer to our daughters and granddaughters sooner rather than later.

Forgive me if I already told you this, in all the moving and the holidays and holiday travel, I have forgotten what I have said, and done. There is a very nice sewing dealer/fabric store about 20 minutes from our new home. They offer classes. Each teacher is a private contractor so you offer what you want and the store does the advertising and offers the space and takes no cut of the class proceeds.

So, I am trying my hand at teaching again. It will be interesting doing it in a non-school format.

I really am excited to be teaching. As much as I loved NY and our home there, I know I was beginning to stagnate. I was doing lots of volunteer work and social activities but the mental challenge that teaching brings was something I know I was missing. Best to everyone, Catherine



Janice Aston's booth in Calgary. Go Janice! With mom Meryl Wynn at left.

P.S. Melissa clearly is doing very well. Nice job!! You have reason to be proud of her and of your successful parenting.

RESPONSE FROM PATI — Wow! Congrats. I will share in the next teacher newsletter. I loved your quote about volunteering vs. teaching! And wow! A store that gets it. You can quote me on that!! Pati

FROM PARKER-HUGHES, CSI, NEW BERN, NC

Hi Pati,

I taught 2 ladies Fit today. They each fitted the Basic Bodice and a fashion blouse pattern. Then one fitted a second blouse and one fitted the skirt. They were ecstatic about what they learned and how much they were able to do. I was, too. Take Care, Claudia

FROM KARLIE LEBATIQUE, CSI, TORRINGTON, CT

The good news is that I have been super busy all summer and now into the fall. I am getting so much better at fit. The best part is seeing the expression on the students' faces once we get the tissue to fit. They're all so skeptical at first, but then they're sold. I am slowly building a base of returning students who continue to come on a regular basis to build their

confidence. We have way too much fun here. I have a regular Wednesday night group of ladies who have a blast.

Love the Fall 2013 newsletter. I print those out and refer to them all the time. Great resource. And I especially love Melissa's red dress in the McCall's holiday issue. You must be so proud.

FROM RENEE DOVER, CSI, ACWORTH, GA

Dear Pati,

I am so sorry I haven't responded to your email sooner and that I am so late in handing in my points to go with my renewal. They are attached with some pictures of work I have done. I used the Palmer/Pletsch fitting method for all of them.

I have been very busy sewing and teaching. I just started teaching basic sewing at the elementary school for the Reach for the Stars program for children who are in the after-school program. It is very challenging since I have 15 girls (3rd-5th graders) in my 2-hour class. I also have to 2 regular clients taking private sewing/fit lessons. I just finished sewing 2 pairs of pants for a client. I did a pant fitting on her in tissue and two fittings with two different types of fabric. She was a very tough fit. She was pear-shaped and had a very flat derriere. I need to ask her for a picture of the finished pants to send you.

I hope you are doing well! I saw some of the new pattern designs that Melissa has out. They look great! I would love to come out to Portland again sometime.

PAM KYAK, CSI, BRANDON, FL

FROM PATI — I love Pam's business card. After coming to Portland for years, Pam has decided to teach sewing! Congrats! You will be great with students.



Renee's Custom Designs

SEWING & FIT CLASSES OFFERED

BASIC SEWING CLASSES: Learn to use a sewing machine, read pattern, fit, cut & sew basic pull on pant & also learn to embellish fabric. Show off your new garment in a Fashion Show after the last class. *8 week session 2hrs each week*
Offered as private or group class

ADVANCED BASIC SEWING CLASSES: Learn to fit, cut & sew a basic button front top and learn to sew zippers, fasteners & bindings. Show off your new garment in a Fashion Show after the last class.

Prerequisite: my Basic Sewing Class or must know how to use your sewing machine and know how to sew seams and hems and casings. *8 week session 2hrs each week*
Offered as private or group class.

PALMER/PLETSCH TOP/BLOUSE/JACKET FIT CLASSES: Are you having trouble making commercial top/jacket/dress patterns fit your body? This class will help you want to sew for yourself again. I will teach you the Palmer/Pletsch system to fit and alter the pattern tissue paper to fit your body, cut finished pattern in fabric and pin fit fabric.

Classes offered: 1 hour Seminar, 3 hour Seminar/Demonstration, 2 day Workshop for Basic Bodice/top/jacket Fit (no princess seams), 2 day Workshop for Princess Seam tops/jackets, & private classes available

PALMER/PLETSCH PANT FIT CLASSES: Are you having trouble making commercial pant patterns fit your body? This class will help you want to sew for yourself again. I will teach you the Palmer/Pletsch system to fit and alter the pattern tissue paper to fit your body, cut finished pattern in fabric and pin fit fabric and sew pant with Palmer/Pletsch sewing techniques.

Classes offered: 1 hour Seminar, 3 hour Seminar/Demonstration, 2 day Workshop for basic fitted pant, 2 day Workshop for trouser pant & private classes available

Instructor: Renee Dover has over 25 years sewing experience, 11 years of Fashion Industry experience as a production patternmaker, a college degree in Fashion Design, a college degree in Patternmaking from FIT in NYC, college teaching experience, certified Palmer/Pletsch Fit and sewing instructor, Trained Sewing Instructor Certificate and a Ladies Tailoring Certificate.



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FROM COLLEEN BAERG, CSI, CAMPBELL RIVER, BC

I just thought I would share my new website and business card with you. I have had two women in the studio for the past three weeks and they are booking more time in January. One of them is so excited about mending several clothing items, and patching her boy's jeans. It's not what I would want to spend money on, but she seems to be enjoying it!

Have a wonderful Christmas season,
Colleen Baerg, www.sewingbythesea.ca

