



Stitchin' & Fishin' Airstream Rally

Sponsored by the North Texas Airstream Community (NTAC) and ACI Region 9

Be part of the first ever Airstream Rally in Region 9 gathering quilters and fisherpersons (of all levels)!

April is a wonderful time of year to visit the area around the North Texas Airstream Community (NTAC). The Bluebonnets and Indian Paintbrush decorate our highways, the weather is mild, the fishing auspicious, and the "All Texas Shop Hop" is going on!

Quilters will be able to visit a couple of the stores participating in the Shop Hop, as well as be able to set up their stations in a devoted rally space with an adjoining kitchen and bathrooms down the hall. We've tried to think of everything so that you can just focus on packing up your trailer, your sewing machine, and your favorite sewing necessities. We provide the tables, ironing boards/irons, some project supplies, information sessions, and most meals.

The "fisherpersons" among you will enjoy a fully guided fishing trip on Lake Whitney on Monday, April 22nd. Lake Whitney is widely known for its fantastic striped bass fishing, and we will be fishing the best time of year for catching stripers. Although personal fishing is open any day of the event, the solar lunar tables indicate that Monday, April 22nd will be a four-star day for fishing at Lake Whitney! The trip will include all rods, tackle, fully rigged striper boats and guides. Participants will only need to bring snacks, drinks and of course a Texas Fishing License. We will plan to leave NTAC around 6 AM, board the boats at 7 AM, and fish until noon. Our catch will be cleaned and packaged for us. The day will be culminated with a fish fry in the NTAC pavilion (fryers, oil, and sides provided).

Stitchin' Schedule

Friday, April 19th

5:30 PM Welcome Potluck

6:30 PM Distribute project kits and quilt square reveal

7:30 PM Browse the NTAC Stash Swap, set up your sewing space and sew as long as you like!

Saturday, April 20th

8:30 AM Kolaches and Coffee Bar

9:00 Field trip to the Heritage Quilt Barn in Elm Mott (about 20 minutes south)—10% discount on all regularly priced merchandise

Lunch on your own (Waco Waffle and Café Heritage are close by)

1:00 PM Featherweight Maintenance*(at NTAC)—this 3-hour class will teach you how to service your machine

OR

1:00 PM Got Scraps?* This 3–4-hour hands-on class at Heritage Quilt Barn teaches a novel way to use your scraps (as small as 2 ½" squares) and quilt as you go (also known as Less Than Traditional and Little Nine in the Window)

4:00 PM Curious about the NTAC way of life? Tour a few properties to see how our members live!

6:00 PM Famous Brandon Burger Brigade

7:30 PM Sew, visit, play games, whatever makes you smile

Sunday, April 21st

9:00 AM Men in the Kitchin'! Breakfast

10:00 AM Visit Loretta's Stitch N Stuff—25% discount

Lunch on your own

1:00 PM Surprise Project—all supplies included

4:00 PM Catered Dinner

5:00 PM The famous NTAC Ice Cream Social

6:30 PM Pajama Party Sip, Snack, & Sew

Monday, April 22nd

9:00 AM Tacos and burritos

10:00 AM Hands-on class teaching foundation paper piecing with a project your Airstream will love!*

12:00 PM Sandwich Bar

6:00 PM Fish Fry and Awards

8:00 PM Pack-up your sewing space

***Supplies**

Featherweight Maintenance Class (NTAC Rally Room):

Featherweight Sewing Machine with foot controller/power cord
All feet, attachments, and accessories such as screwdrivers (if you have them)
Thread (2 colors)
Empty bobbins (2 if you have them)
New universal needles
Large old towels (2)
Microfiber towel
Scissors
Lamp/flashlight
Apron/safety goggles (optional)
Gloves (optional)
Manual (if you have it)
Post-its or paper for notes (optional)

Got Scraps? Quilting Class (Heritage Quilt Barn)

1. Scraps of your choice (bring from home, shop in the NTAC stash swap, or use your 10% discount at the Heritage Quilt Barn). You will need ½ yd each of a light fabric and a dark fabric for the backing, and 16 different fabrics cut in 5" squares for the front to complete the four squares. You will end up with a finished small project perfect for a cup mat, small placemat, or maybe you'll keep going after you leave and end up with a full quilt!
2. Your machine (if inconvenient for you to bring they do have a limited number of Bernina basic machines you can use)
3. Thread to match fabric
4. Off the Wall Quilt Less Than Traditional Tools: can purchase at Heritage Quilt Barn or online at <https://www.offthewallquilt.com/collections/less-than-traditional/products/ltt-extra-small-kit-with-tools> (finished circles are sized small = 8", medium = 10", and large = 13"; prices online are the same as Heritage Quilt Barn but you would not have the 10% discount online)
5. Basic sewing supplies (scissors, rotary cutter, etc.)

Descriptions

For more information and a list of participating stores, visit www.alltexasshophop.com . The Heritage Quilt Barn and Loretta's Stitch and Stuff are both participating and are listed in the Central Region section of the state. The Shop Hop Magazine includes six patterns, three bonus patterns online, along with articles on prominent stores, retreats, and quilt artists. Each store will have their own square (free of charge) and there are special prizes/awards for those who visit an entire region(s) or the entire state.

Saturday afternoon you will have to make the difficult choice between two intriguing options:

At NTAC, we will have a Certified Featherweight Tech, Angel Herring, deliver a 3-hour hands-on class on maintaining and servicing your own machine. Your paid registration includes a beginner cleaning kit, and Angel will have maintenance supplies, vintage feet and novelty items on hand for you to purchase. You will develop the skills to clean, oil, and grease the proper locations to keep your machine running in tip top shape. You will also learn some tricks to sewing with your machine and gain confidence in using it on a regular basis. You will practice these new skills until you are comfortable enough to start piecing a quilt top or your next sewing adventure. At the end, if time permits, we will review the accessories/feet that came with your machine as well. Angel is a professional educator with a master's degree in Digital Learning and certifications by Microsoft, Apple, and Featherweight.

The Homestead Craft Village is known all over the state for craftsmanship, serenity, good food, and unique shopping. You will spend Saturday morning exploring and shopping throughout the community, having lunch at one of the wholesome eateries if you like, then winding up at the Heritage Quilt Barn, one of the most beautiful quilt stores in our state (our quilters will receive a 10% discount on all regular priced merchandise). If you are not participating in the Featherweight Maintenance Class, you will attend the 1:00 PM class at the Barn, learning the "Less Than Traditional" way of quilting as you piece. Although this class will focus on the Got Scraps? pattern, the method yields a number of looks depending upon the fabrics you choose and the way you organize them. If you want a sneak preview, check out "Got Scraps?" and Quilter's Clapper Tutorial" by Cindy Owen on You Tube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qh_tIGuRW_o

The Sunday afternoon Stitchin' project is a surprise! But we promise you will be delighted with your finished project. Outside of your sewing supplies, we provide all supplies for the project.

Valerie from Loretta's Stitch and Stuff will teach foundation paper-piecing with quilting tips in an all-day class Monday. You can bring fabric that matches your home or trailer décor, choose from the NTAC Stash Swap, or purchase from Loretta's store when we visit Sunday morning. Please bring thread to match your own fabric if you are particular about thread color. We think you will be able to finish the project on Monday.

Fishin' Schedule

Friday, April 19th

5:30 PM Welcome Potluck

6:30 PM Fish Stories in the Pavillion

Saturday, April 20th

8:30 AM Tacos and burritos

9:00 AM Field Trip to Homestead Heritage Blacksmithing and Woodworking Shops

6:00 PM Famous Brandon Burger Brigade

7:30 PM More fish stories, play games, whatever makes you smile

Sunday, April 21st

9:00 AM Men in the Kitchin' Breakfast

10:00 AM NTAC Shop Talk and Demonstrations with George Beckwith and Jim Courtney

4:00 PM Catered Dinner

5:00 PM The famous NTAC Ice Cream Social

Monday, April 22nd

6:00 AM Guided fishing on Lake Whitney (Breakfast and coffee to go; box lunch)

6:00 PM Fish Fry and Awards

Fishin' Supplies and Descriptions

You really do not need to bring any fishing supplies unless you have special rods, tackle, and equipment that you would prefer to use. Please remember hats and sunscreen—April in Texas is often sunny!

Homestead Heritage is a self-sustaining agrarian and craft community just south of Hillsboro by about 20 minutes. David Brandon will be leading this tour of the community, and you will be able to spend as much time as you want to explore their metal working, woodworking, and craft buildings, taking in demonstrations by the craftsmen in residence.

George Beckwith and Jim Courtney are accomplished craftsmen that we are lucky enough to have here at the North Texas Airstream Community. Tour George's state of the art workshop, learn about his choices of equipment, and watch as he shows off his skills. Jim Courtney is skilled at using his scroll saw to create art treasured by our community. Watch as he demonstrates how he creates his puzzle gifts.

Our fishing guides have fully equipped boats seating six fisherpersons. We will meet them at Lake Whitney around 6:30 and plan to fish until noon. The guides will clean and pack your fish (if you want). You can either freeze them for later or contribute them toward the evening's fish fry.