FabShop News contents

December 2016 Volume 20 Number 115



From Fall Quilt Market

Kelley R. Davey shares fresh concepts from some of the very best displays at this year's Market and explains how you might apply them in your shop.

14 FabShop Dinner Recap

FabShop says another thank you to its premier dinner sponsors and showcases some of the many prize winners.

16 Selling Sewing Machines Pot of Gold or Peck of Trouble?

Before you consider becoming a sewing machine dealer, analyze these requirements in detail—to avoid a peck of trouble as you pursue that pot of gold.

20 Row by Row Junior

Row by Row Experience will be taking the kids along for summer 2017 as it rolls out Row by Row Junior for children ages 6 to 14.

26 Christmas 2017

'Tis the season ... to think ahead to next Christmas! Take a look at seasonal fabric designs and patterns to come, and start planning for spring shipping.

Pantone Color of the Year Be inspired. Pantone recently released its Color of the Year for 2017. It's called "Greenery," and it's a gorgeous shade of green.

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6 PROMOTIONAL CALENDAR IDEAS

Use these calendars as a springboard for planning themed events and classes in your shop.

19 ON OUR COVER

Michael Miller Fabrics

What Is Luxe? Super soft, easy to sew, and 108" of bliss on a bolt. Hint: Look for the coral thread.

24 PROFITABLE PROMOTIONS

5th Saturday Bag Sale

Here's a promotion that runs on its own after you give it wings. Donelle McAdams provides the specifics.

32 on display

Merchandising Markdowns

Markdowns are a way of life in a retail shop. But there's more to moving them out the door than merely reducing the price.

38 OPTIMIZING OPERATIONS

Physical Inventory Isn't Just for the IRS

The data to be mined from taking a physical inventory is useful for more than tax reporting. Julie Karasek explains how it helps in developing a better buying strategy.

40 THE RUBBER BAND

Stretch Toward Greater Success

Let Sandy Pirdy be your guide as you take stock of business challenges and figure out strategies for stretching and growing in 2017.

44 THE EXPERIENCE!

A New Experience, Another Perspective

In this first installment in her new column, Karen Montgomery writes about taking a class at Quilt Market for the first time and what she learned about "the experience."

46 THE CLASSROOM COACH

10 Commandments for Shop Teachers

Pepper Cory spells out 10 guidelines to help teachers ensure that they and their classes will be successful.

48 SELLING SOCIAL

Engaging Your Customers Through Facebook

What makes Facebook and other social media different from our tried-and-true advertising of old? Engagement with customers in real time.

 $49\,$ FABSHOP MEMBER BENEFITS UPDATES

Make sure you are up-to-date with the latest member benefits. Have you joined the discussion? Connect to the shopowner-only private forums for members only on Facebook.

 $51\,$ ADVERTISERS RESOURCE GUIDE

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