

The logo for Northern Lights Retreat is an oval shape with a dark blue background. Inside the oval, there are vertical streaks of lighter blue and white, resembling aurora borealis. The text "Northern Lights Retreat" is written in a light blue, cursive font across the center of the oval.

Northern Lights Retreat

Retreat Information 2024

April 17-20, 2024

The Lodge at Whitefish Lake
1380 Wisconsin Avenue
Whitefish, Montana 59937

Our Mission Statement

Our mission in hosting the Northern Lights Educational Retreat is to empower the Gammill® Statler® owner to use their machine and software with confidence

The Northern Lights Educational Retreat is not a Gammill® affiliated event

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Northern Lights Educational Retreat, Whitefish Montana

Thank you for your consideration of the Northern Lights Educational Retreat. This is our fifth year to offer this outstanding educational conference. We continually strive to make our event the very best educational opportunity available, implementing many of the great suggestions offered by our attendees; what a pay off! Our desire to bring you the very best continues to drive our event, we take your feedback seriously. We will continue to refine the event to improve your education experience!

Joining me in 2024, will be Mickie Sienko, aka The Needling Gnome. Check out our bios included on subsequent pages of this booklet. There will be something for everyone! Our class offerings this year are varied and designed to help increase your skills and knowledge of Statler® and CreativeStudio®. Class descriptions will be listed as we are closer to the event and are subject to change, if a decision is made that another class might better suit the needs of attendees.

We are planning evening activities designed to build connections between attendees. Many of our attendees have made friendships that will last a lifetime. I am excited to see that many of you have continued to reach out beyond the conference sharing information, as well as success stories, in your own quilting journeys.

The Lodge at Whitefish Lake is a luxury resort hotel located on the shores of Whitefish Lake, with fabulous conference areas, luxurious guest rooms and exceptional staff. Breakfast and lunch will be catered by the resort. Dinners will be part of our break-out sessions. This year we will be providing transportation to downtown Whitefish for our dine-around sessions in order to enjoy some of the wonderful local cuisine. If you wish to pamper yourself, the resort offers spa services including therapeutic massage, waxing, and custom facials. The facilities are first class! The setting spectacular! Truly reflective of the beautiful Northwest!

Whitefish is located just 45 miles from the west entrance to Glacier National Park, the resort has generously offered us extended discounts on room rates, pre & post event based on availability. This is your chance to see some of the most beautiful landscape in our country.

I hope to see you in Whitefish, Montana, April of 2024
Debbie Tribble
Dreamweaver Quilting

What's Included?

Statler® CreativeStudio® Classes

Wednesday April 17th through Saturday April 20th, 2024

All classes and meals during the retreat, a customized swag bag, and numerous door prizes. All attendees are eligible to win our Grand Prize.

Bonus Class on Wednesday afternoon is open to all registered attendees.

Welcome Reception on Wednesday Evening

We begin Wednesday afternoon with our bonus class, followed by a welcome reception and meal. Thursday and Friday we have full day class sessions. Thursday evening we have an after dinner scavenger hunt planned for you. Friday nights activity is top secret! Saturday morning will include breakfast and our final class offerings, dismissing at 11:30am. Altogether this adds up to around 20 hours of class time, accompanied by additional interactive learning opportunities, great meals and wonderful company. My experience is that Statler® owners are some of the nicest people you will ever meet.

This year we have a special challenge for you. Many of you participated in our after event wholecloth class. Are you ready to put those ideas to use? The challenge for 2024 is to create a 20' x 20" wholecloth quilt for display throughout our event.

Secret ballot voting by your classmates will determine the winners. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards will be presented.

All this for \$645.00.

Take advantage of our special offer. Early Bird pricing \$595.00.

See the registration form for details.

Retreat Schedule

Wednesday April 17, 2024 afternoon

3:15-3:45	Registration
3:45	Class room doors open
4:00- 6:00	Bonus Class open to all registered attendees
6:15- 8:00	Welcome Reception with light meal, onsite

Thursday April 18th, 2024

7:00- 7:45 am	Breakfast provided, onsite
8:00- 9:45am	Session 1
9:45-10:00am	Break
10:00-11:45am	Session 2
12:15- 1:00pm	Lunch provided, onsite
1:15- 2:45pm	Session 3
2:45- 3:00pm	Break
3:00- 4:30pm	Session 4
4:30- 5:45pm	Session 5
5:45- 8:00pm	Dinner (Dine around)+Scavenger Hunt

Friday April 19th, 2024

7:00- 8:00am	Breakfast provided, onsite
8:00- 9:45am	Session 6
9:45-10:00am	Break
10:00-11:45am	Session 7
12:15- 1:00pm	Lunch provided, onsite
1:15- 2:30pm	Session 8
2:45- 3:00pm	Break
3:00- 4:30pm	Session 9
4:30- 5:45pm	Session 10
5:45-9:15pm	Dinner (Dine around)+ Special Event

Saturday, April 20, 2024

7:00- 8:00am	Breakfast provided, onsite
8:00- 9:30am	Session 11
9:45-11:00am	Session 12
11:00-11:30am	Wrap Up

Mickie Sienko

West Virginia

The Needling Gnome



Mickie Sienko loves Longarm quilting! Originally from New Jersey, she now divides her time between Florida and West Virginia. She's been quilting/sewing for over 22 years. After renting a Statler in 2010, was instantly hooked on longarm quilting. She worked towards retirement with the intention of starting her own longarm business. Purchasing her longarm in 2014, she then taught herself and opened The Needling Gnome for quilting services. Mickie finds she 'learns something new' from each completed quilt and always uses designs to compliment the quilts piecing . . .in essence her quilting brings the quilt to life.

Mickie lives life to the fullest! Besides quilting, she divides her time between scrapbooking, photography and motorcycling! Yes, she rides her own Harley and put 15,000 miles on between May thru October 31st 2022.... between 2 bikes. How many miles will she ride that new Harley in 2023?

Debbie Tribble

Eureka, Montana

DreamWeaver Quilting



Debbie Tribble is a professional longarm quilter currently residing in Eureka, Montana. Teaching machine piecing and quilting techniques since the early 90's her enthusiasm and passion for quilting are contagious. She purchased her Gammill Statler Stitcher® in March 2005 and quilts for herself and clients on a daily basis. An award winning quilter with attention to detail, she delights in helping other quilters reach their potential. Debbie taught at the 2010, 2012, 2015 and 2017 Sugar Conferences, 2015 Northwest International Gammill and Statler Retreat in Portland Oregon as well as the 2017 and 2018 Gammill Quilting Cruises. In 2018 she established the Northern Lights Retreat, an educational event for Statler Stitcher® users. Debbie's work has been published in magazines and trade publications.

A Certified Statler Instructor she provides training around the country, as well as in her private studio located in beautiful Northwest Montana.

Getting Here

The Lodge at Whitefish is a destination resort. It is easy to reach from just about anywhere. With our unique geographical location we anticipate participants from all over.

By Road

20 minutes northwest of Glacier Park International Airport (FCA)

30 minutes west of Glacier National Park

1 hours south of Canada via Port of Roosville, BC.

2.5 hours north of US Interstate 90 and Missoula, Montana

By Air

Whitefish is one of the most accessible mountain towns in North America. Glacier Park International Airport (FCA) is only 11 miles from town with direct, year-round flights on major airlines from Seattle, Salt Lake City, Minneapolis, Denver and Las Vegas, and seasonal direct flights from Chicago, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Oakland, Dallas and Portland.

By Rail

Amtrak's Empire Builder stops in downtown Whitefish, connecting Seattle and Portland to the west with Minneapolis and Chicago to the east.

The Lodge at Whitefish Lake provides transportation for guests traveling via Whitefish Amtrak depot and the Glacier Park International Airport. Please schedule with the front desk at least 24-hours in advance for timely service. Contact guest services at 406.863.4000 to reserve.

About the Lodge



The Lodge at Whitefish Lake is inspired by the grand lodges of the past, with all the conveniences of the present, The Lodge brings a sense of leisure and grace to the Montana travel experience. Surrounded by mountains with the pristine waters of Whitefish Lake at our back door, and all the amenities of a full-service resort hotel, The Lodge provides the perfect location for your next visit to Whitefish and northwest Montana.

With outstanding service and deluxe accommodations, you will be able to enjoy all that Whitefish and northwest Montana have to offer. The Lodge is only minutes from downtown Whitefish, ten minutes from the ski slopes of the Whitefish Mountain Resort and less than a 45-minute drive to the scenic wonders of Glacier National Park.



Accommodations

We have special group rates and a limited number of rooms held by contract for our retreat. Use Group ID **NLR2024** Group Password **Whitefish** when booking. The resort is allowing reservations 3 days *prior or post* event to be booked at this reduced rate, *based on availability*. Reservations requesting pre or post stay must be booked by phone 406 863-4000. This is a popular resort, if you are interested in extending your stay please book early so you won't be disappointed.



Viking Lodge Rooms
available in King or Queen rooms

Group Rate \$125.00

The Viking Lodge offers classic hotel-style accommodations with fireplace, flat-panel HDTV, mini-fridge, microwave and our signature four-piece bathroom.

Connected to Main Lodge via Sky Bridge
Home to Viking Falls Pool & Hot Tub,
Fitness Center, Viking Falls Grill & Bar
Adjacent Viking Creek Wetland Preserve

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Main Lodge

Queen Studio Suite

rate \$165

also available in King

600 square feet

Sitting area, wet bar, balcony or patio

Lodge Studio Suites offer approximately 600 square feet and are available with one king or two queen custom beds created by Spring Air. These studio suites are complete with gas fireplace with sitting area, balcony with bistro seating, functional desk, and a wet bar with coffee maker, sink, microwave, and European cooler. These rooms also feature our signature four-piece bathroom with double vanity sinks, soaking tub, and walk in slate tile shower.

What you need to know

About the Meals

All meals listed will be provided and are included in your retreat fees.

The Lodge at Whitefish will be preparing most of our meals. We will however have a few dining out options it is important you let us know of any special dietary restrictions. Inform us of any dietary restrictions on your registration form.

What to Bring

Laptops are allowed and encouraged in our classrooms. You may wish to review or explore CreativeStudio® in your free time as well. Pen and paper for any notes you'd like to take. We encourage you to bring a quilt top(s) that you would like quilting suggestions for. We have a special time dedicated for just that. We also have a show and share time scheduled and would love to see your creations, kind of a mini quilt show! Cameras are allowed in the classroom, however if you are using your cell phone camera, we ask that you place it in silent mode. If you are flying in to the event you may wish to take photos of your quilt rather than travel with it. Please send photos to me at debbie@dreamweaverquilting.com

What not to Bring

Cell phones must be on silent mode during class. If you like to travel with your pets, please check with the hotel when making your reservations or check on the boarding facilities in the area. Pets are not allowed at the resort. Thank you for your understanding.

Weather

The amount of rain/snow in April is normal with an average of 1.5in. The average maximum daytime temperature lies around 54.5°F. So what to wear in April? Plan on layering your clothes. Some days or part of the day it will be nice and warm and some moments it can be a bit chilly. Bring a rain jacket just in case since it may rain a few days during this period. Also bring some warm clothes. Because the air is quite dry here, a water bottle is a good idea. Bring a hat and sunscreen for protection from the sun, any time of year. Consider sticking around for a few days to enjoy the fresh mountain air! Folks come from all over the globe to visit Glacier National Park and the surrounding area.

Get Acquainted

People often like to have a chance to meet one another before the actual retreat. For those of you who would like to do this, please join the Northern Lights Retreat Facebook group to meet and converse with your fellow participants!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NorthernLightsRetreat/>

This will also provide participants with a place to ask questions, in case there's something we have not covered in this booklet for you. Of course, you can always email or call us too!

Area Quilt Shops and Beyond

<p><u>Glacier Quilts</u></p> <p>125 Hutton Ranch Road Kalispell, Montana 59901 (406) 257-6966</p>	<p><u>Quilt Kits to Go</u></p> <p>903A Wisconsin Ave Whitefish, MT 59937 (406) 863-9773</p>
<p><u>The Quilt Gallery</u></p> <p>84 Frontage Park Kalispell, MT 59901 Phone: 406-257-5799</p>	<p><u>en route from the west</u></p> <p><u>A Little Comfort Quilt Shop</u> 7189 Main Street Bonners Ferry, ID 83805 (208)267-9200</p>
<p>Local Foodie Favorites</p> <p>Lula's 300 2nd St E, Whitefish, MT 59937</p>	<p><u>en route from the east</u></p> <p><u>The Cotton Patch</u> 38 E. Front Street Drummond, MT 59832 (406)288-3154</p>
<p>The Buffalo Cafe 514 E. 3rd Street Whitefish, MT 59937</p>	<p><u>Birdseye Mercantile</u> 105 Main Street West Avon, MT 59713 (406) 492-7091</p>
<p>Sweet Peaks Ice Cream 49 1/2 3rd Street Whitefish, MT 59937</p>	<p><u>Quilters Corner</u> 401 Main Street Deer Lodge, MT 59722 (406)846-3096</p>