

# Teachers & Presenters

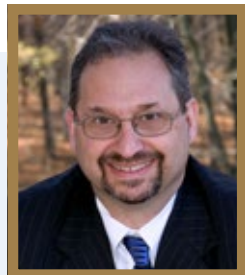


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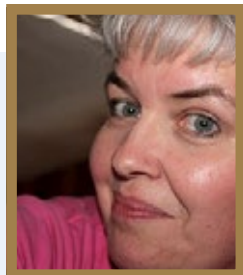
**MIGUEL ALJURE**

Miguel started in the sewing machine business in 1987. He came to Janome in November of 2000 as a technician, and just a year later became a Service Coordinator. He has a great depth of service experience, having taken care of all the sewing machines and sergers Janome currently offers to the market.



**HOWARD ANDERSON**

The entrepreneurial bug bit Howard soon after graduating from high school. In early 1979, he started a central vacuum business; in very short order, it grew to become one of the largest CVS companies on the east coast. In 1985, he opened up his first sewing and vacuum retail store, Stony Brook Sew & Vac, which prospered and expanded to seven locations over the next few years. Presently Howard and his wife Elizabeth operate three thriving and growing retail stores in New Jersey and Delaware. He attributes his success to being one of the first in the industry to use POS to track sales and customer buying habits. This allowed him to more effectively identify and market to his customers. He's created easy, innovative systems to increase sales and keep customers coming back, implementing them with his own employees as well as for other dealers.



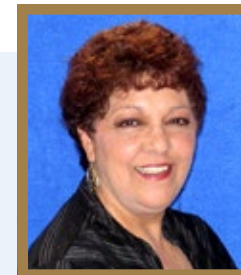
**DEBBIE BATES**

Debbie is the Marketing & Communications Manager for Janome Canada. She has co-authored two books, including the award winning, *Threads: the Basics & Beyond*. She has also written columns for *Quilter's Home* and *A Needle Pulling Thread*, and is an in-demand teacher across North America. Her first new sewing machine was the ground-breaking Janome Memory Craft 8000. Her stitching motto? Sew what you love!



**NANCY BURG**

A popular educator for Janome America, Nancy is one of the lucky few who have been able to turn a sewing hobby into a successful career. In 1977, after enrolling in a sewing class and discovering the fabric she needed was not available locally, she decided to open her own store. She called it Knits n' Bolts and the store carried fabric and machines. Soon, she became a Janome dealer, opening Sewing Concepts. By offering many different classes, Nancy helped her customers get maximum enjoyment and value from their sergers and sewing machines. She loves creating projects to use in classes and demonstrations, and she enjoys working with dealers and consumers as they use their machines and learn new techniques.

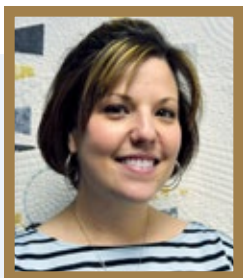


**MADDIE BUSHMAN**

As a bi-lingual international educator, Maddie teaches embroidery for the beginner and intermediate sewist, as well as digitizing, quilting, home décor, crafting, and thanks to her work with Artistic Crystals, she has become well known as the "Queen" of Crystal Parties. She is truly a woman of unending talents. Several of her projects are featured on the internet, and she has been a frequent guest on Kaye's Quilting Friends and Quilt Central TV. Maddie travels extensively from the US to Central America, Europe, Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, and more. She recently spent time in Russia teaching and promoting the benefits of sewing/embroidery machines, Artistic Suite Software, and sergers.



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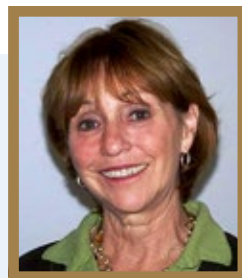
**RORY BYRA**

Rory became Marketing Coordinator for Janome America in 2010. Previously, she spent five years with a publishing company where she handled the layout for two different quilting magazines and assisted in the production of many other craft titles. Her understanding of the quilting industry lends a wealth of knowledge to the advertising materials she handles on a daily basis at Janome. Rory has expert knowledge in various design programs, including Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe InDesign, and Quark Xpress.



**LOUIS CARNEY**

His study of tailoring, design and visual merchandising dates back to his prep school days, and it was just shortly after college when Louis began his career in the sewing machine industry, working with stores in Chicago and New York City. His personal client list includes celebrities, fashion icons, and Broadway musicals; and his projects have been featured in numerous publications. Teaching is now a favorite part of his life, affording him the gift of travel. Louis has taught in all 50 states, Mexico and lectured in London. With his special attention to detail, congenial class atmosphere and beautiful samples, his classes always fill to capacity. His experience ranges from embroidery software to sergers and coverstitch machine to his newest love: creating detailed elements with long-arm quilting.



**MARY CAROLLO**

Janome America has counted on Mary as an Educational Coordinator for over 15 years. Her more than 30 years in the sewing industry have included a custom bridal business and her own retail sewing machine and fabric store, as well as her current position teaching sewing techniques across the country. Mary has developed everything from hands-on classes to dealer development and training seminars. She expertly demonstrates how to use today's technology and precision accessories, including the popular Digitizer MBX and Artistic software programs, to transform simple projects into works of art. Her projects highlight sewing machine features with a simple approach for every skill level, and the fabulous results make her an in-demand presenter online, in magazines and on television.



**SUSAN CLARK**

Active in the home sewing industry since 1985, Susan has taught sewing, garment construction, quilting, embroidery and embroidery software from coast to coast. She's been not only a teacher of consumers, but also a trainer for dealers and their employees. Her broad knowledge of the many different machine types makes her classes extremely interesting. Since Susan has been fully trained to teach all types of sewing/embroidery software, she can relate to nearly any question regarding any product. Currently, Susan works with RNK Distributing as a certified Jenny Haskins Instructor, teaching and selling stabilizers and beautiful embroidery through her samples, demonstrations and hands-on classes.

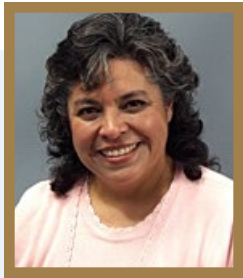


**RACHAEL CLARKSON**

Rachael is an ardent patchwork quilt maker who lives in Brisbane, Australia. She works for Janome Australia where she is responsible for the staff in Queensland. Her mum taught her to sew, so she never learned to cook! Patchworking and stitching on a daily basis with zealous dedication, Rachael enjoys experimenting. At times, she has been said to be slightly unconventional and wacky when playing with fabric and thread. She likes those times in particular! Her current weapon of choice is the Horizon Memory Craft 8900 QCP.

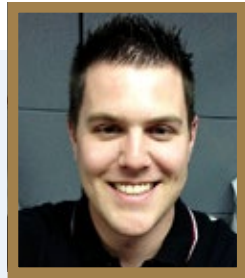


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**VERONICA COX**

An experienced educator for Janome America with more than 40 years of sewing experience, Veronica is also the owner of Bear Thread Designs and has traveled extensively, teaching her “Fast, Fun Fusible Appliqué” classes, which feature The Appliqué Pressing Sheet. Veronica has demonstrated her technique at shows, quilt shops, cruises, guild meetings and on television; it has also been a featured technique on America Quilts in three different series. She has taught on several quilting cruises, been featured on half a dozen television shows for quilters, and seen her work appear in numerous publications.



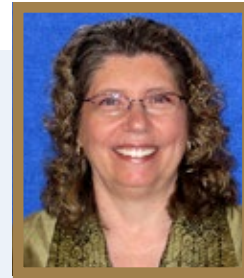
**PATRICK FAVRE**

As Merchandising Sales Supervisor at Janome America since 2011, Patrick is the go-to expert for parts, notions and accessories. He has over 10 years of direct experience in sewing and craft, and a love of the industry that extends back even farther.



**ALBA FEKETE**

Alba Fekete joined Janome America in April of 2007 as an In House Educator. Alba has been published in many magazines such as, Sew News, Designs in Machine Embroidery, Creative Machine Embroidery, Vogue Pattern Magazine and trade magazines. She has run her own sewing Business from her home and as part of her business she has designed and sewn garments as well as home decorator sewing of all kinds.



**NANCY FIEDLER**

Nancy joined the Janome Education department in 2004 and remains a top Janome Educational Coordinator. Her teaching spans over 25 years, during which time she has been a regular contributor to Janome Digest, Janome.com, a number of sewing and embroidery magazines, and six sewing books published by House of White Birches. Nancy is also the editor of Creative Sewing Techniques by Machine and More Creative Sewing Techniques by Machine published by AQS. She specializes in embellishment techniques, utilizing the features and accessories unique to Janome sewing machines, embroidery machines, software, and sergers.



**SAM FUNG**

Prior to joining Janome America as an Educator, Sam had his own custom sewing business in Texas where he designed and created wedding gowns, bridesmaid dresses, home décor, and more. While there, some of Sam’s special occasion creations even appeared in the opening numbers of the Miss Texas Pageant. Whether teaching adults or children, his passion for and love of sewing is apparent.



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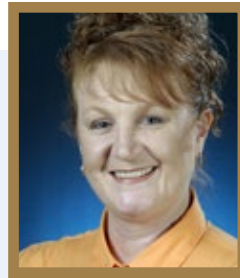
**MARILYN GATZ**

Since 1975, Marilyn's love of fabric and art has inspired her. She began with her own home-based business, creating custom wearable art, bridal ensembles, and high-end clothing and tailoring. She then worked as the manager of a multi-line sewing machine store, taught classes, and has given seminars and workshops in almost all fifty states as an educator for Sew Better Seminars, Sulky of America, Hoop Sisters and Janome. With the advent of home digitizing programs, she found a new avenue, expanding into custom embroidery design. And, never one to sit still, she returned to school and earned a certificate in fashion design in order to expand her knowledge of couture sewing.



**GAZMEND GJYZEZI**

As Service and Warehouse Manager for Janome America, each year Gazmend travels to Tokyo and Taiwan to be factory trained and certified on the newest machine models. He is the team leader for developing service DVDs on several recent models. Gaz began his sewing career more than 25 years ago in Europe and joined Janome America in 1993. He is one of Janome's most sought-after experts for on-the-spot answers to the toughest service questions.



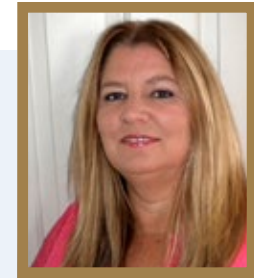
**KYM GOLDUP-GRAHAM**

Kym, together with Ann Duncan, own The Sewing Revolution Pty Ltd. She is passionate and enthusiastic about her craft and loves to share the secrets she and Ann have learned over the years - especially concerning their specialty: the perfect placement of embroidery and appliqué. Kym is an international teacher and author, as well as an inventor of rulers and sewing related products. She travels extensively to teach, both in Australia and overseas, including Thailand, New Zealand and the US. Kym and Ann wrote the book, Infinity Quilt, which has been very successful and has just been reprinted. Recently, they became ruler designers for Creative Grid USA. Their work speaks for itself and is of an exceptional and original quality. Kym also writes a column for a magazine on machine embroidery.



**VALORA HAMMOND**

Valora's love of sewing began as a child, and since then, she's done a wide array of things in her chosen field, from working in a fabric store to making costumes for state shows. Valora began doing custom sewing in high school, expanding from her own circle of friends to creating garments for contests, stage and special occasions. She graduated from Colorado State University with a major in secondary teaching and a minor in apparel production, which makes her a well-rounded and enthusiastic teacher. She excels at showing Janome customers all the amazing things their machines can do for them, knowing the happier they are with their machines, the more they will want to sew. Valora has contributed numerous articles to Janome Digest and Creative Sewing Techniques by Machine among others.



**LUANN HARTLEY**

LuAnn has been around the sewing industry for over 30 years and has a unique knowledge of fabric behavior. While she enjoys quilting, she is a fabric embellisher at heart and often combines machine embroidery, heirloom sewing, quilting and garment construction with stunning results. LuAnn's projects are amazing examples of how to get the most from your sewing/embroidery machine and accessories. LuAnn joined Janome in 2008 as an Educational Coordinator. Prior to that she was a store owner. She has also taught popular classes at AQS Quilting events.

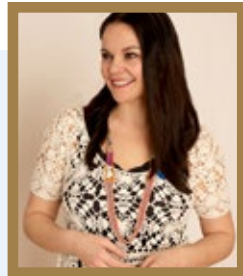


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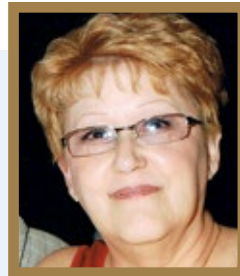
**ANN HEIN**

From her first junior high project (a pull on, elastic waist skirt), Ann never stopped sewing. That first project progressed to prom gowns, costumes, even a jacket for the guy who would become her husband! Throughout the years, Ann has done a little bit of everything: dolls, flags, wind socks, window seat covers, children's clothes, embroidery of all kinds, digitized designs and quilting. Quilting and embroidery remain her favorites, and she loves to experiment and try new things. Working with Janome America was a long time dream of Ann's, and she is thrilled to represent the company and share her passion for sewing and knowledge of sewing, software, digitizing, and crystal designs.



**ANNA MARIA HORNER**

To many, the Anna Maria brand means color and inspiration for crafts, sewing and needlework, plus amazing books and friendly tutorials. Since 2006, her ever-growing library of fabrics has delighted creative souls around the globe as they used the wonderful collections to create garments, quilts, home décor and more. Though Anna Maria has sewn on a Janome machine for most of her career, her relationship with Janome became more official in 2011, when she became a spokesperson and began designing projects and video content, as well as doing in-store events.



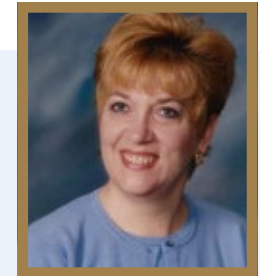
**CAROL MCKINNEY**

Although a hairdresser by profession, Carol has always loved to sew. Self-taught, she perfected her skills by making clothing for herself and her family, from men's suits to heirloom dresses to wedding gowns. In 1990, she began designing and marketing wearable art vest patterns and teaching classes on appliqué cut-work construction. In 1997 she won first prize in the Sulky Challenge and had projects featured in two Sulky concepts books. Shirley Adams featured Carol's Cherokee Nations vest on her program. The book *Serger Art* by Diane Bossom features two of her Peek-a-Boo Pleats garments, and she was credited in *Threads Magazine* for her machine embroidery lace technique. She had numerous projects featured in *Janome Digest*, and taught at the Janome Institute three times before being hired as an Educational Coordinator in 2004.



**LINDA MCGEHEE**

Designer, Linda McGehee has a diverse sewing background with 50 years experience from garments to handbags, piecing to heirloom, surface manipulation to combining a variety of methods into a sampler of various techniques. Linda has traveled the globe demonstrating and lecturing and is much sought after at trade and machine conventions, consumer shows, guilds, shops, and television. She was awarded Teacher of the Year at the American Sewing Expo 2006. Linda is also the owner of Ghee's mail-order sewing and notions company, well-known for beautiful handbag patterns. And, she is a successful author with KP Publications of several books on sewing, including the award winning, *Texture with Textiles*, as well as numerous articles in top sewing and quilting publications.



**AMY MEEK**

Amy has traveled throughout the US and Mexico, demonstrating and educating consumers and dealers on Janome sewing machines, sergers and software. She has taught everything from basic sewing to garment construction to pattern making. Her clear, concise and friendly approach to teaching works at every level, from children and adult beginner sewists to advanced students in a university setting. Amy has also developed a unique program as a paraprofessional therapist, teaching sewing and quilting as a skill set for adults with chronic mental illness and traumatic brain injury. Sharing her love of sewing, along with her vast knowledge of machines and accessories, is the reason Amy loves her job.

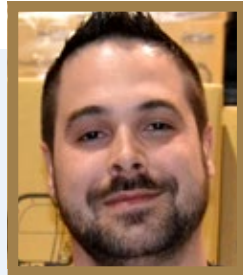


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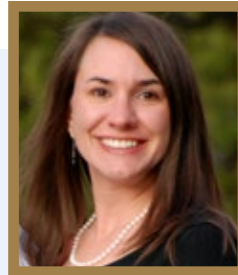
**TERRY MINGEE**

A freelance educator for Janome America, Terry has been sewing since age six, creating garments, quilts and home décor items. He has over ten years of experience working with a Janome-only dealer close to his home, and has long been an enthusiastic Janome owner, with extensive experience across the entire line of machines and accessories. Terry has a wonderful depth of experience in Janome Computer Programs, going as far back as the Scan n Sew for the MC8000 and continuing to the advanced techniques of the Digitizer MB Programs.



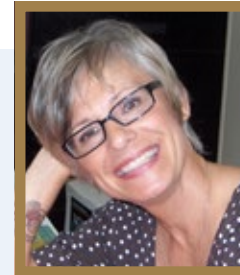
**BOBBY MINUGH**

Bobby started in the Janome America warehouse, working there for over a year before advancing to a position as a service technician. In just over two years, he has gained extensive knowledge about both sewing machine repairs and maintenance as well as all the available parts and accessories.



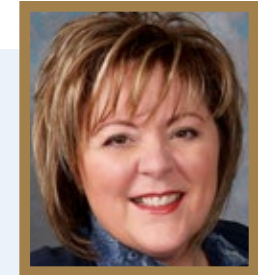
**ALISON NEWMAN**

Alison Newman is the Marketing and Education Manager for Janome America. She has worked for Janome since 2006. Alison is the co-author of the sewing instruction book, Thread and Bobbin, and has published many sewing projects and articles in various online and print publications, including Sew4Home.com.



**LINDA PIDZAMECKY**

An Educational Consultant for Janome Canada for almost 10 years, Linda works at Janome Canada's head office. From there, she visits dealer stores, conducting consumer seminars, events and staff training on everything Janome. Linda graduated with a degree in Fashion Design and spent several years at Vogue and Butterick, then at Domcord Belding, creating samples and projects. Linda's passion is garment sewing from bridal gowns to resort wear.



**CELINE ROSS**

Celine Ross is an Educator for Janome Canada who loves to share her knowledge across Canada as well as all the other destinations she visits in the world. Celine writes the French version of the Janome Canada blog. A graduate of Ecole Supérieure des Arts et Metiers in Montreal, she is very experienced in fashion design. Celine opened her own sewing school in 1982, and has used Janome machines and products exclusively since the founding. Her first classroom was equipped with the Memory 7! She has a large and successful monthly embroidery club as well as a popular software club. Her teachers and students love to personalize their creations with embroidery and embellish them with the Silhouette Cameo and Artistic Crystals.



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**SEAN ROYLANCE**

President and Director of Development for Like Sew Websites, Sean has a degree in Computer Science from BYU and over eleven years of experience in internet marketing. To date, Sean has worked with over 1,000 stores to help them improve their online presence and performance.



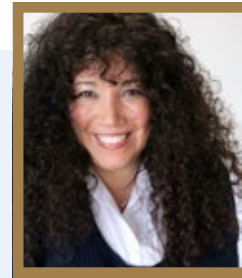
**ELAINE SHEPHERD**

Elaine has created original designs in fabric for wearable art, accessories, embroidery, quilts and performance wear for dancers, skaters and theater. She holds a BFA in apparel design from Pratt Institute and an MA in Teaching in Humanities, putting these skills to work as a teacher of college level courses in New York and Texas, including textiles, apparel design, pattern making, manufacturing, and costume history. Elaine has produced RTW garment lines, couture pieces, costumes and home accessories. Her enthusiasm for working with color, texture and unusual materials has led her to explore a plethora of fabrication and embellishments for her pieces. For design inspiration, she turns to everything from the constant change of seasonal colors to dance, music and contemporary lifestyles, combining these with today's innovative sewing and software technology.



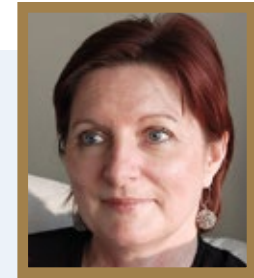
**GREG STAVROS**

A Service Technician for Janome America since 2007, Greg also worked in a family-owned sewing and quilting store for over fourteen years where he gained experience in sewing machine repair. Using his specialized training in machine maintenance, Greg will be teaching several service classes and assisting in others.



**ANGIE STEVESON**

The founder of Lunch Box Quilts, Angie creates appliqué quilt patterns designed specifically for home embroidery sewing machines. She has received awards for her unique quilt designs both locally and nationally. Articles and projects featuring her designs have appeared in magazines such as Creative Machine Embroidery and Quilting and Embroidery. Angie travels nationally teaching Lunch Box Quilts workshops.



**LIZ THOMPSON**

With many years of sewing industry experience, Liz is passionate about all forms of sewing, especially quilting and garment construction. For the past thirteen years, she has been traveling and teaching across North America and is currently the Janome and Elna Educator for Western Canada. Liz has also become an enthusiastic sewing blogger, having great fun sharing her regular blog posts on the janomelife and elnalife blogs.



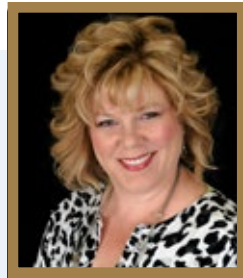


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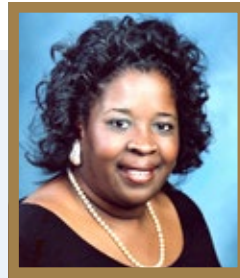
**DEBORAH WHITTRED**

Deborah joined Janome Australia in 1987 in the Brisbane, Queensland State Office. Starting as receptionist, her role within the company evolved over the years, moving from Office Administrator to Sales Educator. In 2007, she became Queensland Sales Manager, and in January 2012 relocated to the Melbourne Head Office in the role of National Education Manager. Deborah has taught many Janome hands-on workshops in Australia as well as Thailand and America. Sewing has always been a part of her life. Her grandmother introduced her to hand embroidery at just eight years old, then in secondary school came pattern drafting and machine sewing. Her first sewing machine was a Janome and she's not varied from that point forward.



**HOPE YODER**

Hope is an author, designer, and sewing instructor who specializes in fine machine sewing and loves to incorporate traditional techniques and machine embroidery into romantic clothing and accessories. She has written two books, Embellished Heirloom Treasures and Victorian Dreams Heirloom Shirt, and has created a new series of machine embroidery CDs called Heirloom Embellishments, which features heirloom techniques re-created in an embroidery hoop. Hope travels the country teaching hands-on workshops that show attendees how to "Romance their Wardrobe" by using her special techniques. She is also a teacher at Martha Pullen's School of Art Fashion in Huntsville, Alabama.



**KAREN ZIMMERMAN**

Sewing, creating and designing is a passion for Karen. It all began when Karen hit 5'8" tall at just 12 years old - back when there wasn't any such thing as a tall girls department. Her sewing for functionality soon blossomed more than she could ever imagine. Her wonderful skills have given her the opportunity to develop a line of children's clothing, create clerical garments and altar paraments, and to design for the "classic woman." Karen spent many years as a Sales Manager and Trainer, blending the two things she most enjoys: educating and sewing.

