

The Brooklyn Bee

BROOKLYN QUILTERS GUILD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

December 2020

Volume 28
Issue 4

SMALL QUILT CHALLENGE

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QUILT FENCE UPDATE

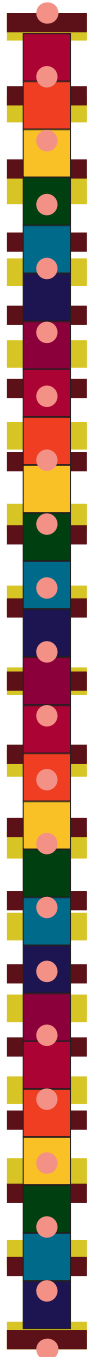
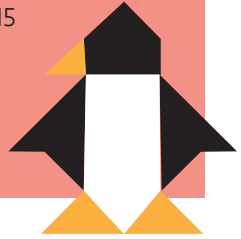
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Dear Guild Members,

The holiday season is upon us, and this is truly a season like no other. Traditions are probably going to have to change for most of us this December. That's not always a bad thing. Change can help us realize how important certain people are in our lives. And just for this year maybe we don't have to stress so much about traveling or cooking for huge parties or making sure all of the guest rooms are clean.

Maybe this is an opportunity to take some time for much needed quiet reflection. Even if we can't all be physically together at the same time, it's important to stay connected with the people we care about. Winter holidays bring light and joy when the nights are long, and that light and joy can still be shared through handwritten cards, care packages of sugary treats, or beautiful handmade presents.

Also, don't forget about your Brooklyn Quilters Guild community! You can always reach out to this beautiful group of creators and artists whenever you feel the need for some human connection. Send one of your fellow quilters a note or join one of our Sunday bees. They are a lovely way to spend a few hours on a Sunday afternoon. At the December 27th Sunday bee, Micki Segel is going to demonstrate the appliqué circle technique she used so beautifully on her rainbow quilt, so you don't want to miss that!

And please join us for our monthly Guild meetings on Zoom. We will have a guest lecturer at our December meeting, who will take us on a virtual tour of the beautiful barn quilts that can be seen throughout the Midwest. If fear of technology is the only thing holding you back, please reach out to any of the board members and we'll do our best to help you.

May we all have a warm and joyous December, however different it may be from our past celebrations. May 2021 bring much brighter prospects for us all.

With warmest regards,
Andrew Hansen Co-President

2020-2021 Brooklyn Quilters Guild

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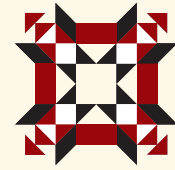
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**To see the BOARD
MINUTES and the
TREASURER'S REPORT
go to the member's
section of our Website.**

Something to share? The deadline for submissions for the January 2021 issue of *The Brooklyn Bee* is 9 a.m., Monday, December 21, 2020. Please email to: texasmc@hotmail.com.



The Brooklyn Bee

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<https://tinyurl.com/y6xv5wyd>

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Join Us at Our Meetings

GUILD MEETINGS on ZOOM

Usually third Saturday of the month, except July and August.

NEXT MEETING: December 19, 2020

ZOOM MEETING LINK:

<https://tinyurl.com/y3ekc9ug>

SUNDAY BEES

We will be hosting our traditional Sunday Bees via Zoom for the time being! Join us on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Zoom link information will be emailed on Sunday morning and can always be accessed on the EVENTS page in the Member section of our website.

Guild News & Notes

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Join the Brooklyn Quilters Guild Earth Day Challenge

Our incredibly creative **Rainbow Quilt Challenge** was a huge success. Thanks to you all! We had almost 50 quilts entered, all made by BQG members. There was an impressive range of interpretations, techniques and styles. We had a great audience turnout on that October Saturday, and the sharing and love continues daily with comments from people around the world who have visited our show virtually on our website or through Facebook.

We are excited to announce that we are doing it again!

Our next challenge is in celebration of **Earth Day**. Let's show some love and respect for our magnificent planet. We think this is a perfect challenge to contemplate and hold near our hearts as we hide away at home this winter and the theme provides many rich and diverse visual possibilities to let our imaginations soar. In the words of member Alice Braziller, it is time to "*Sew Seams and Plant Dreams!*"

The quilts entered will be ready to share with the world close to April 22, 2021 — Earth Day. We would like to know by February if you plan to participate. The quilts will be due by the March 2021 Guild meeting. They will be collected and photographed. If we are not meeting in person by then, we will arrange a way to collect them.

Challenge Requirements

Theme: Earth Day

Size: 36" x 36" square

Completed Entry Form

Attach a hanging sleeve

Attach a sewn label on the back with your name

Due date: March 2021 Guild meeting

The Earth is What We All Have in Common.

Wendell Berry

~Margaret Marcy Emerson

Community Quilt Update

Easy as ABC Quilts

Jenn Arzberger reported that the community organizations are continuing to accept baby quilt donations, so please continue to make them. She recently received 20 Easy as ABC Quilts from Guild member, Pat Decker. Jenn also reported that there will be an ABC Frenzy in 2021, during which the whole Guild will be asked to work together to finish Easy as ABC Quilts, but she does not know yet if it will be a virtual or an in-person Frenzy. Contact Jenn at jennarzberger@optimum.net if you have quilts completed.

Comfort Quilts

Leona Shapiro reported that the Comfort Quilt team still has a stockpile of tops/backers ready to be quilted, and that they recently received a large donation of flannel fabric to be used for Comfort Quilts. They also have many packets of fabric squares that guild members can use to make more tops (preferred sizes are twin- and full-size bed). Please contact Leona at leshap48@hotmail.com if you are able to quilt any of the tops and/or if you want to pick up packets of fabric squares or flannel.

Veterans Quilts:

Carol Sullivan reported that there are 25 to 30 veterans quilts that have been completed, but that the VA Hospital in Brooklyn is not accepting quilt donations at this time.

Hole-in-the-Wall-Gang:

Carol Lieberman reported that she delivered more than 30 Hole-in-the-Wall-Gang Quilts during a recent trip to Southbury CT.

~Debbie Breckenridge

Sunday Bees

Would you like to host one of our Sunday Bees on Zoom? They are held on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The bees offer a nice, relaxing way to sew with friends. If you can host, please contact Margaret Marcy Emerson, margaret.marcy@gmail.com.



Programming Plans

December

Please join us immediately following our Guild meeting on December 19th for a virtual holiday trip along the American Quilt Trail, brought to us by Suzi Parron. This talk will take us on a journey along the quilt trail, beginning with the very first barn quilt, which stemmed from Donna Sue Groves' wish to honor her mother's quilting art.

The presentation features over 100 stunning photographs of barn quilts, some of which rival cloth quilts in their intricacy. Suzi will share stories of some of the individuals who have painted quilt blocks to honor loved ones and their local culture, along with a few humorous anecdotes.

This presentation is free and open to all members. So, let's take a trip together before the holidays.

If you would like to learn more about Suzi and barn quilts, please click the link below for her website, where you can also see two books she has written on the subject and her inspirational 2021 calendar.

<http://www.barnquiltinfo.com/>

Applique Circle Workshop

At our December 27 Quilting Bee, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Please join me on Sunday, December 27th when I will be teaching our members how to hand applique circles onto squares. The process is simple and very gratifying. Once I started making them, I found I couldn't stop. The result is my "Colored Circles in a COVID Cloud" quilt displayed at our Rainbow Quilt Fence Show.

This is a great project for using up small scraps. You can make your squares any size, but I will demonstrate using 2½- and 3½-inch squares of fabric. You can use two contrasting fabrics or a variety of colors and patterns. You will need the following supplies pictured below: 2½-inch fabric squares, 3½-inch fabric squares, a two-inch circle template with a hole in the middle*, a pencil, scissors with a sharp point, applique pins (small pins — you only really need one), needle and thread. All of your supplies can fit into a plastic sandwich bag that you can carry anywhere.

Note* You can make your own circle template easily by drawing a two-inch circle on card stock, a post card or a cereal box carton or whatever else you can find. Cut out the circle carefully making sure that your edges are smooth. Cut a circle in the middle of the circle (this one doesn't have to be neat) as in the examples above right.

The Circle Applique workshop will take place on Zoom. A Bee Blast that will provide you with a Zoom link for attending this workshop.

Feel free to contact me at mickisegel@gmail.com or 917-596-6055 if you have any questions.

I look forward to seeing you all at the workshop.

~ Micki Segel



Applique class supplies



Completed applique blocks

January

Join us for a two-day applique workshop with award-winning quilt artist Kathy K Wylie on Saturday, January 9, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Saturday, January 30, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

This virtual workshop entitled **Birth Flower Applique** is a combination of recorded video lessons through Zoom, group discussion and Q&A, and independent activity. Kathy will cover fabric selection, three different applique techniques and finishing techniques by hand or machine.

Click here to register and guarantee your spot:

<https://tinyurl.com/y46xscu8>

Access to the videos will be available between sessions for replay and for a limited time after the class, along with a chat room for ongoing questions and discussion.

This workshop is normally \$50/person, but through the support of the Guild we are able to offer it to members for only \$20, plus the cost of the Birth Flower Pattern of your choice. This pattern will be available as a PDF download or a mail-order printed pattern (please allow at least one week for delivery).

Click the link below to learn more about Kathy K Wylie and browse the available Birth Flower patterns available at:

<https://kathykwylie.com/product-category/birth-flowers/>

For more information, contact:

Michael Sengstack, mgsengstack@msn.com, or
Farrah Lafontant, farrah.lafontant@gmail.com.

Our Quilt Fence Went Viral!

BY MARTHA MCDONALD

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As many of you may know, the Guild's Quilt Fence show in October was a big hit. A steady stream of viewers strolled by and were thrilled by the talent and upbeat message. The theme of Maya Angelou's quote, "Be a rainbow in someone's cloud," seemed to strike a chord.

The show was the brainchild of Micki Segel, Alice Braziller, Susannah Laskaris and Margaret Marcy. When Prospect Park turned the show down, Madi Appell drove around until she found an appropriate fence. It turned out to be the fence surrounding Holy Name of Jesus Church, where we gather when we have in-person meetings. Then Madi and

Micki took it from there. See the November Bee for more details.

What was really amazing is that the show went viral. Margaret Marcy took a video showing all of the quilts and naming the quilters and posted it on the Guild's Facebook page. As of this writing, the video had reached more than 367,000 viewers, and there were almost 58,000 engagements, 232 comments and 2,700 shares!!!

Comments came from all over the US and from abroad. Here are just a few of them:



From Wisconsin:

Thank you, thank you, what a feast for the eyes and a treat for my soul. Loved, loved, loved it.

From Lake Luzerne, NY:

Love Love Loved your unique idea of an outdoor fence show. We have had to cancel our quilt show also and are hoping for this pandemic to be over so we can move forward. We have been doing ZOOM meetings and Sew Ins. Absolutely beautiful quilts ladies.

Thank you all for sharing this — so many beautiful and creative quilts! Greetings from the **Azalea City Art Quilters in Mobile, AL.**

From Nebraska:

What a delightful quilt show, much needed these days!

From Scotland:

Thank you for posting and sharing this wonderful show. Perfect way to start a dreich grey day in Glasgow. One of our members of **The Glasgow Gathering of Quilters** shared, and I'm following to share round my world too.

From Australia:

Thank you for walking us through this beautifully coloured quilt show.

Thank you for sharing. watched from **Germany!**

Events of Note

A video glimpse of a solo show by **Nancy Crow**, at Nebraska International Quilt Museum is available through **March 7, 2021**. <https://tinyurl.com/y4ltehqy>

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, reopened Aug.

29, 1000 Fifth Ave., New York, NY. More than 1500 videos are also available for viewing art works and past exhibits. Collections from The Costume Institute have a material vibe that may interest quilters. Art for the Community: The Met's Circulating Textile Exhibits 1930-1940. Is on display from **October 31, to June 13**. The exhibit showcases European textiles, ranging from Italian Renaissance velvet to French 18th-century printed cotton.

Information at <https://www.metmuseum.org>

Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival Online, February 24, 2012

- Feb. 27, 2021. The festival is hosted by Quiltfest — Mancuso Show. For more information, go to <https://tinyurl.com/y6jbtqq3>

Lancaster Quilt Show, June 2-5, 2021, at the Doubletree Willow Valley Resort, 2400 Willow Street Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602. More than 40 vendors, plus classes, demonstrations and an Antique Quilt Show. Free admission, free parking.

www.thelancasterquiltshow.com



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Many, many thanks to Margaret Marcy and Larry Sapadin who created beautiful videos of the show. Margaret's video is on the Guild's page on Facebook (see more comments here) and Larry's video is available on our website, quiltbrooklyn.org.



Celebrating the Holidays Differently This Year

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Who are we kidding? The year 2020 is not going to have the same Chanukah, Christmas, Kwanza or New Years celebrations we've had in past non-pandemic years. So, if you are wondering what some of your fellow Guild members are doing to celebrate this year, read on.

Valerie Turer:

My plans for my solo 2020 Christmas: a very small table-top live tree, with a string of white lights, tiny red origami cranes and popcorn garlands. A crochet angel for the top. I plan to start making my Christmas fruitcake the day after Zoom-giving!

Joyce Austin:

Everyone has been mourning the loss of a "normal" holiday season. I have come to realize that there is no normal when it comes to the holidays. Each season has had its joys and sorrows, and this one is no different. This was an especially hard year, as we lost my Dad in February due to his dementia, and my Mom lost her 12-year battle with Alzheimer's in May when coronavirus swept through her nursing facility. I am looking forward to a quiet holiday season with my DH; I am pretty sure I would not be up for any kind of gathering. But a new tradition was born, I got



Joyce Austin's flock of turkeys

a flock of chocolate turkeys to share with those we will miss. We will socially distance and plop them on the porches of the folks we miss most. Makes me smile just thinking of it.

Madeleine Appell:

My goal for Hannukah is the have my family over on a Sunday afternoon and have everyone sitting out on our back deck. I plan to serve desserts only, with hot chocolate! I will provide lots of lap quilts to keep everyone warm and toasty!!!

Debbie Breckenridge:

Rather than travel to visit my family for the holidays, I'll stay in Brooklyn, and put up a small tree in my apartment this year. I'm making folded fabric star ornaments to mail to the people I'll only get to see on Zoom. I bought the star buttons shown in the photo from Gotham Quilts. The directions for making these ornaments can be found at Tutorial: <http://www.felicityquilts.com/2014/11/tutorial-folded-fabric-star-ornaments.html>



Kirsten Fisher: It will be a different holiday season. Normally on the holidays, we have 20 to 24 people. The first course is always gravlaks with a mustard dill sauce. Because gravlaks is a Scandinavian dish which needs to be prepared in a very special way, I did a Zoom with several of our usual guests and together we made the gravlaks. Kenneth, my husband, who does all of the other cooking, spent hours getting all of the usual dinner recipes together and emailed out. So, we will all get together on Zoom at 5 p.m. and have our chat, then gravlaks and then our separate dinners. For Christmas, my son, daughter and son-in-law will come over and we will sit far apart at our dining table which will be stretched out to nine feet. We will also keep the terrace door open and have two fans going. And of course, we wear masks except for when we are eating. And I will admit, I will be happy that I don't have to prepare dishes for a four-course meal for 24 people.

Anna Fike: As for gifts, I am working on a few small quilts and will make a few masks from some beautiful floral velvets that I forgot I had. Otherwise, we have agreed to keep gifts small. Our new house in Pennsylvania is our gift to all of us.

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

Meanwhile, last December I won the evergreen tree BOM blocks and originally planned to make a Christmas quilt from them. However, our house in Pennsylvania is surrounded by evergreen trees, many of which are blue spruce, so I decided to aim for something less seasonal and have added a lot more blue to the mix of trees. I also gave each one a trunk and still need to add some more borders. Thanks to everyone who made a tree.



Evergreen quilt in progress by Anna Fike

Barb Christ:

As our family can't be together for the holidays, I made table runners for each of our households. We are hoping to cook the same meal, set a virtual table, and enjoy each other's company while Zooming on New Year's Day. The pattern for the table runner is available on the Guild's website at <https://www.quiltbrooklyn.org/member-extras>.



Barb Christ's table runner

SEW SMART Tips N' Tools

Hello fellow quilters,

I hope you are all staying well and using the colder weather as an opportunity to be home even more and QUILT AWAY!!!

Do you make holiday cookies? While I don't bake, I have a quilting friend who uses her cookie cutters as appliqué templates. She says they are sturdy, and the shapes are endless. Holiday cookie cutters make great templates for holiday quilts, table runners and gifts. A nine-piece set by Color Brand includes a snowman, a reindeer, a gingerbread man, a snowflake, etc. It is on Amazon for \$14.

And while we are on the subject of the holidays, I decided to buy myself an early gift: a top of the line Rowenta iron. You can imagine my disappointment when, after a week, the plate was full of gunk after I used fusible interfacing for a bag project. I searched the internet for iron cleaning tips and discovered that wiping your hot iron on a dryer sheet with the scratchy side up will do the trick. My beloved iron looks like new! I used the Meyers Clean Day Dryer Sheets in Geranium because they fill my sewing space with divine scents. They are pricier than regular dryer sheets, but worth the sensual pleasure.

May your days be filled with sensual pleasures! Happy Holidays!

Alice Braziller, 917-557-0112



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BOOK REVIEW

Patches of Stars

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Patches of Stars

Edyta Sitar

Paperback, 128 pages, \$29.99

Sitar Family Traditions LLC, Laundry Basket Quilts, 2019

Many Guild members are familiar with quilts designed by Edyta Sitar, owner of Laundry Basket Quilts. Her quilt patterns are typically based on traditional quilt blocks that are put together into unexpected combinations, often enhanced with appliqué. Her latest book, *Patches of Stars*,



has much in common with the 14 books that preceded it. They all have beautiful photographs of stunning quilts, along with clear instructions and diagrams describing how to make the full-size quilts designed by Edyta.

Patches of Stars includes 17 easy- to advanced-level quilts with full-size pattern pieces in a separate insert. The variety of projects in this book include four-pointed, six-pointed and eight-pointed stars created by using blocks such as log cabin, pinwheel and various traditional star blocks.

One of the things I like about this book in particular, is that it has a gallery of 18 antique quilts that inspired Edyta's designs. One of the most complex designs in the book is based on an 1846 antique quilt that Edyta saw in the Grand Rapids Public Museum. Her painstaking re-creation of the components of this masterpiece is quite impressive. (NOTE: This is the quilt shown on the front cover of the book.)

Another great aspect of this book is the placement of tips throughout the various projects.

- An example of one of Edyta's tips is a discussion of when to finger-press to avoid stretching the fabric and when to press with an iron. This is a practical suggestion that I have retained from this book and subsequently applied to other projects.
- Another tip in the book pertains to fabric selection for a specific project. It is a great reminder of the importance of relative value: "Color is relative to its surroundings. The colors that are positioned next to a certain piece of fabric will influence whether it appears light or dark."
- Throughout the book, Edyta is clear on when to use half-square triangles and when to use quarter-square triangles to manage fabric bias when piecing the blocks.

I also liked the way that the step-by-step instructions for each project are illustrated. The illustrations clearly show how to piece the blocks (including "Y" seams for many blocks), as well as how to put the blocks together to assemble the whole quilt. All projects include photographs of the project at various stages of completion as well as the end result. So you always know where you are within the project and what the project is supposed to look like at that point.

Patches of Stars is a great addition to any quilter's library, whether you like detailed instructions for specific projects, or just beautiful photographs of stunning quilts.

~Debbie Breckenridge

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Cross Roads Quilt Retreat, in the Time of Covid

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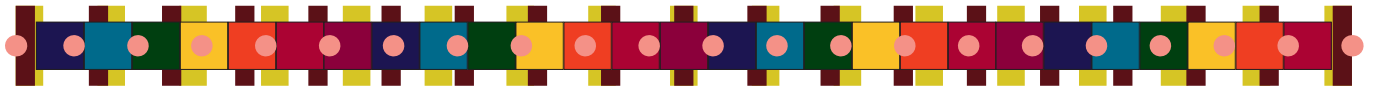
We picked November 2020 dates in early January 2020, thinking that after the election — however it went — we would all want, and welcome, a quilt retreat. At that time, there was no Covid-19 pandemic on the horizon in this country. How rapidly things changed! Not only did quilters shy away from all travel and any form of congregating, but the Cross Roads Camp and Retreat Center had to make major changes in their operations.

We still could have full and exclusive use of the Great Hall and a large conference room for our sewing. However, we had only eight bedrooms, and were subject to minimum and maximum numbers (eight and 13) of participants. Meals from Chef Esteban were still delicious and abundant.

(Veterans of this retreat missed the bountiful salad bar, which was a victim of Covid — as are restaurant buffets everywhere.)

Ultimately, ten happy quilters from our Guild gathered at Cross Roads in New Jersey from November 8th through 13th and shared a lovely time sewing and creating together, while social distancing and wearing masks whenever we went out, or chatted close with others, or in the dining hall. We had plenty of room to spread out with our machines and projects — a full eight-foot-long table each. Most people had a private room to boot! Five nights and six days, with 14 meals cooked by someone else: What luxury!

~Martha Musgrove



Cross Roads Quilting Retreats 2021

We have two retreats planned for early 2021 as follows:

January 10 – 15: A six-day, five-night retreat from Sunday to Friday. We will have eight bedrooms available for singles or doubles. Cost: single \$382, double per person \$342. Includes 14 meals.

March 3 – 7: A four-night retreat from Wednesday to Sunday. We will have eight bedrooms available for singles or doubles. Cost: single \$361, double per person \$321. Includes 11 meals.

At this time, it is our intention to require that all attendees have a negative result from a COVID test taken within a week of the retreat.

Cross Roads is a camp and retreat facility located in Port Murray, NJ, one and a half hours from Brooklyn. Information about Cross Roads can be found on their website www.crossroadsretreat.com. Photos of the Christ Center where we will be staying can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/yxkzznva>

Meals will be served cafeteria style and there will be no salad bar, as we have had in the past. Masks will be required and our seats will be spread out enough to allow for distancing. In the Great Hall where we will be sewing, we will each be allotted our own eight-foot table, also allowing for distancing.

As always, this is a privately organized event and is not sponsored by the Guild.

If you are interested in either retreat and able to make a commitment, please send a deposit of \$125 to Martha Musgrove and email her to let her know your check is in the mail. Reservations will be honored in the order of checks received. Attendance for a shorter period than the full retreat is available at a reduced rate, if room is available. Some who were there in November have already paid their deposits for these upcoming retreats. If you have any questions, please contact us.

Martha Musgrove, 637 90th St, Brooklyn, NY 11228, marf86@hotmail.com, 718-745-6759.

Trudy Reeves, trudyreeves@yahoo.com, 718-415-2955.



These are just a few of the foxy blocks that will be mailed to Karen Mahoney, winner of the November Block of the Month. Congratulations Karen!

Membership Report

Welcome New Members

Please welcome our very newest members: Kim Foster, Victoria Garcia, Genevieve Milliken, Robert Reed, Helen McBride Richter, and Amanda Ruden! It's not so unusual for our members to not actually be living in Brooklyn, but two of our newest members are further away than usual: Helen lives in Philly and Amanda lives in Albuquerque, NM.

And welcome back to returning members Fulvia Forbes, Joyce Forbes, Diane Neary, Susie Dippel and Arlene Jones. They have come back after a one or more year's absence. We're so happy to be able to reconnect again.

The updated membership directory will be posted in the members-only section of the website in December. As of November 24, we have 173 members.

~ Mary Hawley, Membership Chair



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Sew Know: Technique Sampler Block 3

BY MARCIE BRENNER, MCSE

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THIS MONTH WE WILL be focusing on quarter square triangles, highlighting three different techniques. You will need a 6 1/2-inch square ruler or Companion Angle/Flying Geese Ruler or a Mega Whirlwind Whiz.

Technique 1: Good for making several half squares and for making many different color combinations. If you are making multiples of the same color combinations there are faster techniques that can be used.

A. The formula for quarter square triangles from squares is the finished size plus 1 1/4 inch. In this case, for a 4-inch finished square, it would be 5 1/4 inches, but if your sewing isn't spot on, then round up to 5 1/2 inches and sliver trim to size after stitching.

B. For two quarter squares cut 5 1/2-inch squares from fabrics A and B.

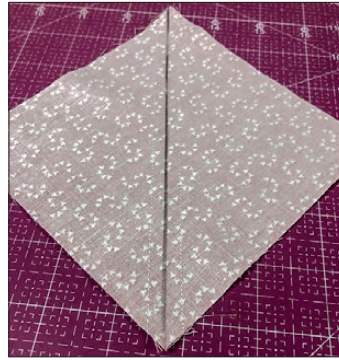
C. Draw a diagonal line on the lightest fabric and stitch 1/4 inch from the line on both sides. Cut on the line to separate the two half squares. Press seam to the darker fabric or open.

D. Align the squares with the colors opposite the under square colors and the diagonal seam matching. Draw a diagonal line across the diagonal seam from corner to corner. Stitch 1/4 inch from each side. Cut and press to one side or open.

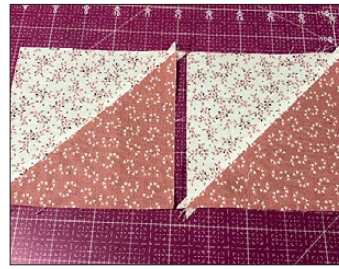
Technique 1



First cut two squares of fabric to start technique 1.



With the squares right side together, mark the diagonal and sew a 1/4-inch seam on either side of the line.



Cut on the diagonal line and press open.

Technique 2: Good for making multiples of the same or different color combinations.

A. Using a Companion Angle or Flying Geese Ruler, cut strips from your fabrics. The width is found on the template, since we are making 4-inch finished blocks the strips would be 2 1/2 inches.

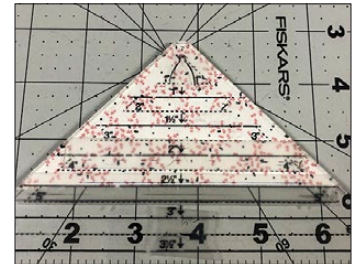
B. Cut 2 1/2-inch strips from fabrics A and B and pair right sides together for cutting. Place ruler on strip aligning the blunt upper edge with the cut edge and the 2 1/2 inch line with the lower edge. Cut along the edges; this is when a rotating mat or smaller mat on top of your large cutting mat is helpful, as you should not move your fabric. Flip your template and continue cutting.

C. Stitch 1/4 inch along the same short

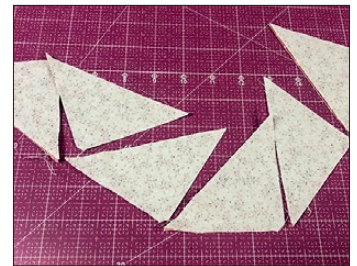
edge for all pieces. Press the seam to the dark side or open.

D. Stitch two half squares together, 1/4 inch along the long edge, press to one side or open.

Technique 2



Technique 2 uses a Companion Angle to mark the triangles.



Stitch pieces together along the same short edge for all pieces.

Technique 3: Great for making multiples of same color combinations and also different colors. It helps to stabilize the fabric while stitching on the bias and provides a line to stitch on, thereby increasing accuracy.

A. When using a Mega Whirlwind Whiz cut two 5 1/2-inch squares for a 4-inch finished square for each block.

B. Place squares together, right sides together. Place Whirlwind Whiz on lighter side, aligning solid lines on square corners, adjusting as necessary for a perfect fit. Trace the stitching

Sew Know continued on page 14

lines as indicated. (Hint: always keep the same fabrics on top to prevent the same colors touching in a block.)

C. Stitch on the marked lines, criss-crossing the square. Cut across on both diagonals, corner to corner. Press to the dark side or open.

D. Pair two half squares and stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ inch along the long edge. Press to one side or open.

Now the fun begins! You can lay out the pieces to create the block. There are many variations, depending on the number of colors and their placement. Just changing the color positions will give the blocks a whole different look.



Clown's Choice

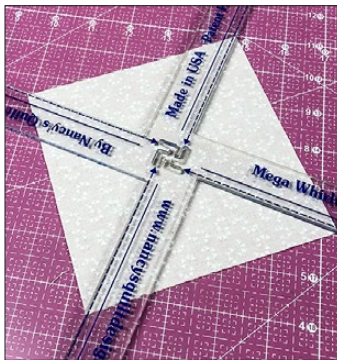


Ohio Star



Stellie

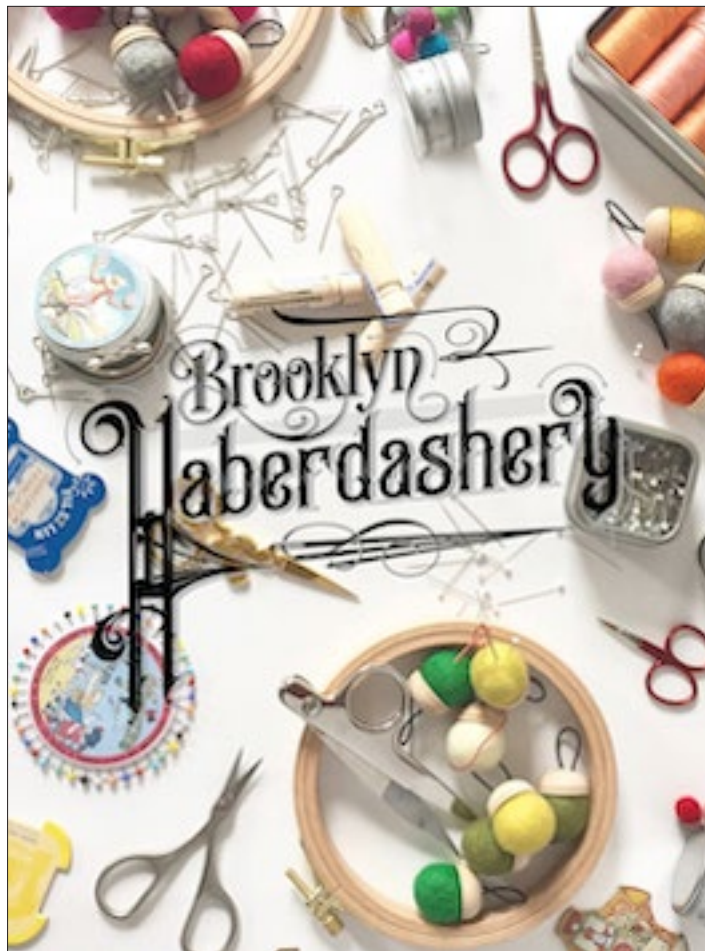
Technique 3



Technique 3 calls for a Whirlwind Whiz template to mark the triangles.



The finished block, no matter which technique you use.

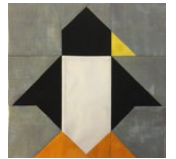




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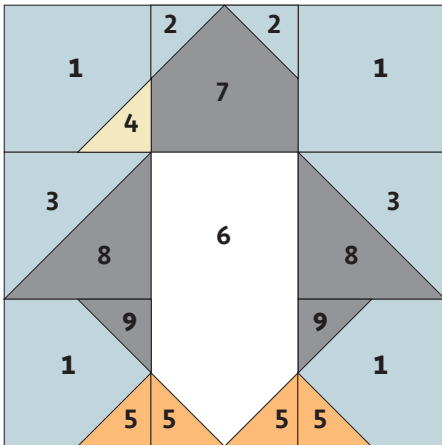
CHILLIN' WILLIS



Brrrr! Perhaps some of you remember Chilly Willy®, the penguin who could not get warm, from your childhood. This is his un-trademarked, Brooklyn cousin Chillin' Willis. Make yourself a cuppa something warm, find your fleece sweater and pull out your winter fabrics because this little fella is nothing but KOOL. ~Robin Engleman & Joy West

Fabrics & Cutting

Follow the numbered guide for cutting and placement



Background: Any light color fabric to match

• well with the black and white penguin

1 cut 4 - 4 1/2" squares

2 cut 2 - 2 1/2" squares (draw diagonal line)

3 cut 1 - 5 1/2" square (draw diagonal line)

Beak: yellow / gold

4 cut 1 - 2 1/2" square (draw diagonal line)

Feet: orange

5 cut 4 - 2 1/2" squares (draw diagonal line)

Belly: white

6 cut 1 - 4 1/2" by 8 1/2"

Body: black or very dark

7 cut 1 - 4 1/2" square

8 cut 1 - 5 1/2" square

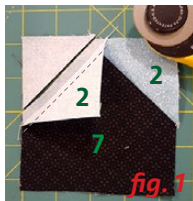
9 cut 2 - 2 1/2" squares (draw diagonal line)

Sewing instructions

All seam allowances are 1/4".

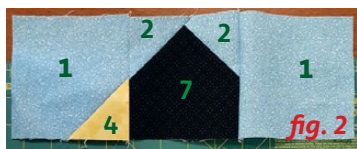
HEAD & BEAK:

• Sew the # 2 background squares on the diagonal lines to piece # 7. Trim the edge and press open the first one toward the background before sewing the second. (fig. 1)



• Sew the beak, # 4, to one corner of one of the background squares, # 1, stitching along the diagonal line. Trim and press toward the beak so the seam will nest with the head seam.

• Sew the beak block to one side of the head.

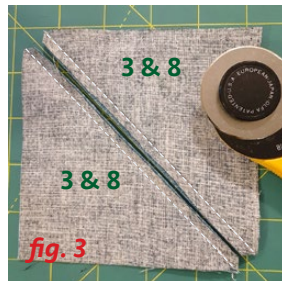


Sew a solid #1 background piece to the

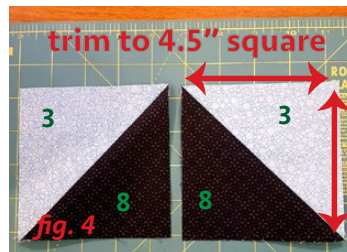
Sewing instructions (Cont.)

WINGS:

• Make two half square triangles (HST) from background # 3 and body # 8. Match the right sides together, and instead of stitching on the line, sew 1/4" on each side of the line. (fig. 3)



• Cut on the line and press both to the dark fabric. Trim both to 4 1/2" HSTs (fig. 4)



HST- half square triangles

BELLY:

• Sew two of the feet pieces, # 5, along the diagonal lines to the bottom of the white belly, # 6. As with the head block, trim and press open the first one toward the feet before sewing the second.



Finished block should measure 12 1/2" inch square. (12" block with 1/4" seam allowance all the way around.)



Sewing instructions (Cont.)

REMAINING BODY/FEET:

• For the last two background 4 1/2" squares sew the two penguin body pieces #9 on the diagonal lines, trim and press to the dark body pieces.

• Sew the feet # 5 on the diagonal lines (fig. 6), trim and



press to the background. This will let the seams nest when sewing them to the center belly. Make sure you note the placement of the feet - they are mirror images, not in the same positions.

ASSEMBLY:

• Sew each wing block to a body/ foot block as per the diagram. (Be sure to have first trimmed the wing blocks to 4 1/2".)

• Sew these to each side of the belly. Pay particular attention to matching the points for the feet.

• Sew the head/beak blocks to the body blocks. Press and trim to 12 1/2" square.

Post your block to our Facebook page!



Join our BQG Block of the Month Group (<https://tinyurl.com/y99wbfgy>) where you

can share your block and enter the on-line lottery to win this month's collection of blocks!

To enter the drawing, post your completed BOM by 10 am before our Guild Meeting, the third Saturday of the month. Each completed block gives you a chance to win. A name will be pulled live during the meeting. Everyone will privately mail their block/s to the winner.

Please post your block even if you wish to keep it! Just note that it is not for the contest.

Not on Facebook? You can still participate! Email margaret.marcy@gmail.com for details.