

# The Brooklyn Bee

BROOKLYN QUILTERS GUILD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

January 2020

Volume 27  
Issue 5

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January 18

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## December Charity Quilt Update

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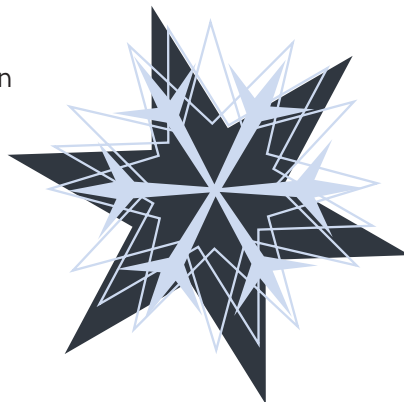
Happy New Year, quilters!!

Not only is it a new year but also a new decade! So exciting! I hope you all enjoyed your holiday festivities with loved ones and have had a chance for some well-deserved relaxation because guess what? It's time to ramp up for our upcoming quilt show in March!! Woo-hoo!!

Margaret and I can't wait to see the rainbow-themed quilts everyone has created for the Maya Angelou-inspired Presidents' Challenge. We know some of you have not had time to fully complete your Presidents' Challenge quilts for the upcoming January meeting deadline, but we still need a firm count of quilts that will be displayed so that our planning committee can make decisions about the show layout. We can offer you more time if you do the following. Send in a progress picture of your quilt by the January meeting and commit to finishing it by our February meeting. You can email your progress picture to either Margaret or me. Our email addresses can be found on the following page.

The beginning of a new year is traditionally a time to reflect and make some resolutions. My hope is that we all resolve to continue making our beautiful creations, filling them with our passion and joy, honoring our own processes, and blocking out those negative voices in our heads that keep us from growing. We are all incredible artists, and the Guild is the perfect community to support and nurture our maker spirits. I know I'm looking forward to a very exciting new year!

Most sincerely,  
Andrew Hansen  
Co-president



# 2019-2020 Brooklyn Quilters Guild

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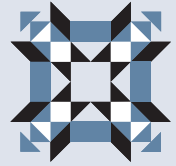
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Something to share?  
The deadline for submissions  
for the February 2020 issue of  
*The Brooklyn Bee* is 9 a.m.,  
Monday, January 20, 2020.

Please email them to:  
[texasmcd@hotmail.com](mailto:texasmcd@hotmail.com).



# The Brooklyn Bee

## EDITORS

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Debbie Breckenridge

Martha McDonald

## BEAT REPORTERS

### AREA QUILT SHOWS

Martha Musgrove

### BLOCK OF THE MONTH

Madi Appell, Kathy Clarke  
& Margaret Marcy Emerson

## MEET THE QUILTER

Margaret Pross

## SEW KNOW

Marcie Brenner

## TIPS N' TOOLS

Alice Braziller

## COPY EDITORS

Lyn Hill

Mara Lurie

# Join Us at Our Monthly Meetings

## GUILD MEETINGS

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

**NEXT MEETING: JANUARY 18, 2020**

### Holy Name of Jesus Church, Shepherd's Hall

245 Prospect Park West (entrance to Shepherd's Hall in back,  
off the parking lot).

Business Meeting: 9:45 a.m. Members welcome.

General Meeting: 11:00 a.m. Members: free; guest fee: \$5.

### Transportation:

Bus: B68 to last stop at Prospect Park West.

From Park Slope: B67 and B69, to Prospect Park West & 20th St.

From Red Hook: B61 via 9th St. to Prospect Park West.

Subway: F train to 15th Street/Prospect Park.

Parking available.

## SUNDAY BEES

Second and fourth Sundays of the month, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Bring  
your sewing machine and lunch and spend the day.

**Featuring Scrap Workshops led by Donna Rae.**

### Marien-Heim Senior Center

4520 Fourth Avenue at 46th Street, Sunset Park, Brooklyn.

For more info, call Madonna Connor at 718-748-6512.

# DATES AND DEADLINES

## Quilt Show Meeting

The next show meeting will be held on January 12th at 2:00 p.m. at the Marien-Heim Senior Center, 4520 Fourth Ave., Brooklyn. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information, contact Sylvia Hernandez at [sylvia@brooklynquiltgirl.com](mailto:sylvia@brooklynquiltgirl.com), or Farrah LaFontant at [farrah.lafontant@gmail.com](mailto:farrah.lafontant@gmail.com).

## ABC Frenzy in February

**O**UR ANNUAL ABC FRENZY WILL be held after the February meeting. Come and join the fun and help us make more charity quilts!

Jenn Arzberger notes that fabric and backing donations are welcome, as are sewing machines, irons, ironing boards, extension cords, rulers, mats and cutters. Be sure to label your items so they don't get accidentally misplaced. Batting will be available if anyone wishes to make tops ahead of time and finish them at the frenzy. In addition to sewing areas, there will also be areas where people can tie quilts. "Orphan blocks are also welcome," Jenn adds. "We can add some borders and finish them off."

At last year's Frenzy (2019), we finished 82 quilts and in 2018, Guild members completed 67 quilts at the Frenzy. Let's see if we can beat those numbers!

For more information, contact Jenn at [Jennarzberger@optimum.net](mailto:Jennarzberger@optimum.net)



## Show Deadlines

The Presidents' Challenge Quilts are due and will be collected at the January meeting. However, since many of you have requested more time, we can extend the deadline to February if you: 1.) send in a progress picture of your quilt to us by the January meeting and 2.) commit to finishing it by our February meeting. Requirements can be found on our website in the member section: [www.quiltbrooklyn.org/challenges](http://www.quiltbrooklyn.org/challenges). For more information or to submit your photo, email: Margaret Marcy Emerson, [margaret.marcy@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.marcy@gmail.com), or Andrew Hansen, [andrew.ve.hansen@gmail.com](mailto:andrew.ve.hansen@gmail.com).

**Silent Auction Quilts** — Due at the February meeting. No larger than 30 x 30 in. Be sure to include a label and hanging sleeve. For more information, contact-Kate Haller, [katehaller@gmail.com](mailto:katehaller@gmail.com), or Micki Segel, [mickisegel@gmail.com](mailto:mickisegel@gmail.com).

**Filler for Tote Bags** — Due at the February meeting. Value of the contents should be approximately \$25 and include something that you have made. For information, call Karen Mahoney at 718-945-1629 and leave a message or email at [kdmahoney@gmail.com](mailto:kdzmahoney@gmail.com).

# My First Quilt

BY JOSETTE PIACENTI

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My first quilt was made in 1982. I am not ashamed to say I have been quilting that long, even though my skills are not so great! I had always wanted to make a quilt after seeing them on television. I don't even think I had ever seen one in person! (Maybe in a museum.) I just thought they were so cool and historic, and I loved the fact that there was so much variation, just with simple shapes like triangles, squares and rectangles. I truly think I may have been a quilter somewhere in the Midwest in a past life.

When I started I had no sewing machine. There was very little all-cotton fabric around. You HAD to use cotton-poly if you wanted any pattern at all or ALL polyester, (ugh) and the prints you could get were mostly little calico flowers and gingham. There were also very few books available. I found a book at the library called *Let's Make a Patchwork Quilt*. I took it out and followed the directions. I was alone

in this project; I didn't know anyone who had made a quilt. I had hated sewing in junior high school, and I had no interest in making clothes.

What I was interested in, and still am, is the combination of many fabrics into a useful, pretty quilt. I remember deliberating about which pattern in the book to make and what colors to choose. I decided on a blue Ohio Star block. But, I couldn't help adding some red and pink.

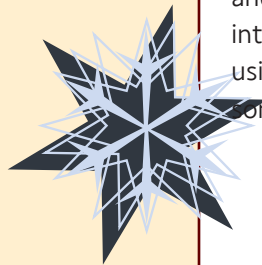
That quilt was hand cut and pieced. I put dark blue sashing between each block. There were 16 blocks, each one different. I remember buying a giant piece of thick batting from a store on 86th Street in Bensonhurst. I don't remember quilting it, but I did, with regular thread, since I had no knowledge of quilting thread. I have not been able to find a picture of that quilt though I once had one. I hung it on the living room wall of my first apartment.

I was thrilled with the first seam, let alone the first block! I knew if I could hand-piece one seam, anyone could produce creative, unique things! I was quite taken with the finished quilt, and so were my landlords downstairs when I showed the wife of the couple what I had made.

Honestly, my quilting hasn't changed all that much. I am still not a great technician. Quilters that have started after me are way more advanced in the quilting world. I still prefer simple blocks. The proliferation of gorgeous fabric and books have influenced my quilting. I am still mostly interested in the endless variety of geometric patterns and using wonderful colors to express myself, and to make something I love and that others appreciate. ❖

## NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS Welcome to all.

Wendy Aibel-Weiss  
Niamh Aspell  
Liz Bauer  
Barbara Bedick  
Sharon Calandra  
Deborah Coleman  
Aileen Holland  
Gurusurya K. Khalsa  
Elisabeth Kilduff  
Iris Lugo-Cruz  
Theresa V. Morris  
Shelley Raffle  
Carolyn O. Schwartz  
Alison Skar  
Aggie Smith  
Lois Strasberg  
Annette Wallace  
Pam Williams



## RAFFLE TICKETS

Be sure to pick up your packet of raffle tickets, and turn them in as soon as possible. They can be turned in at the show, but earlier is better.



# Meet the Quilter: Michelle Kucker

## How long have you been a member of the Brooklyn Quilt Guild?

I joined the Guild in 2003.

## How did you find out about the Brooklyn Quilters' Guild?

Guild member Alice Walsh invited me to the Guild Quilt Show at Bishop Ford H.S. That was my first experience with quilts and my introduction to the idea of a guild.

## How and when did you get interested in quilting?

I have always loved fabric! To this day, I prefer wearing a striking scarf to a necklace. When I was a child, my father sewed our clothing and trips to the Lower East Side to purchase fabric were always happy outings. Leftover scraps were plentiful. When an article of clothing outlived its usefulness I often kept it for love of the fabric. And because I learned to sew at an early age I often purchased yardage with future projects in mind, apparently a quilter's habit, and had a stash before I knew the meaning of the word! At the Bishop Ford Show I was inspired by so much creativity and skill, and as one exhibitor mentioned taking 10 years to complete her piece, I realized that I had everything one needs to quilt, as well as a quilter's inclinations.

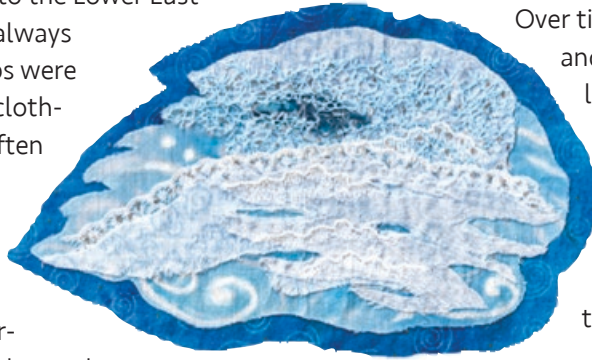
## Describe how your quilting has evolved and what are your current projects and goals for the future?

I started by designing my own patterns from my paintings and my photographs. My quilts are always related to nature and are meant to be hung. Some of them, made from tiny scraps, are quite abstract and made without patterns. I never lost interest in leftovers and continue to contribute to group quilts based on using them.

Over time, I progressed into larger wall quilts and more complicated techniques, using layered tulle to create shadings and transparencies. Current pieces are smaller, related to the beach, and are developed with small pieces that I stitch by hand. Slow-stitching is very meditative and I enjoy the process so much more than machine work.

Currently, I focus on my favorite embroidery stitch, the French Knot, and I love to invent my own marks with thread. Challenges are opportunities to try new ideas and experiment, and I have used them to explore fabric painting, broderie perse, layering of tulle, and plastic. Going forward I might become more involved with 3D texture through fabric manipulation.

~ Margaret Pross



## BOOK REVIEW

# Inspiration and Technique

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*Quilting Masterclass: Inspirations and Techniques from the Experts*

By Katherine Guerrier

Hardcover 150+ pages \$34.95

Martingale & Company, That Patchwork Place, 2000

**I**N THE WEEKS BETWEEN GUILD meeting Show and Tells, do you sometimes need a bit of visual quilt inspiration? *Quilting Masterclass* may be one book that provides that stimulation, both visually and in the words of the quilters highlighted within.

This book is not a pattern book or a how-to book. It is not a book of projects for you to duplicate. This is a colorful book of inspiration and technique. It has wonderful, full-page photographs of each quilt discussed, including photo details of the quilt. It also has photos of the quilter's inspiration — including old quilts, landscape photos, museum objects and family heirlooms.

The book is divided into five sections. They are: Tradition and Beyond; Illusion: Two Dimensions into Three; Pictorial and Story; Contemporary Abstract; Textured and Embellished. In each section, several expert quilters share their ideas on the techniques used in one of their quilts.

For example, in the traditional section, there is a quilt that illustrates transparency, another that shows reverse appliqué and another that combines African and American fabrics with Sashiko stitching. These are all techniques that have whole books written about them. Those books — and YouTube videos — are available for in-depth learning, should you choose to use that technique. However, this book gives an overview of many styles in one volume for the moment you are thinking of challenging yourself to try something new on your next quilt.

Some quilts are given four pages, some only two pages, but each begins with a quote from the quiltermaker. This quote sometimes tells you



about their training and background, the classes they have taken, about working in a series, about why they made the quilt, and about their challenges and discoveries as they made it.

Marta Amundson has made a series of quilts focused on “endangered animals and the need

for responsible actions on the part of humans to preserve and nurture the habitat.” She also says, “You gain true knowledge of art through making it.”

Another quilter, Caroline Wilkinson, writes, “The main motivation for making this quilt was a challenge to recycle a bag of exotic fabrics. I feel very conscious of our throw-away society... I wanted it to revive the old values of thrift and economy...”

The author then goes on to write in more detail about the development of the overall design, the technique used, the inspiration, the fabrics, the variations in blocks used. She gives tips on how to design original quilts in all five of those categories.

I believe the diverse styles highlighted in this book will appeal to our membership because we are stimulated by the challenge of trying something we’ve not done before.

I will leave you with one last quote from Valerie Hearder, who writes, “I enjoy the fact that the art of quilting is evolving — quilters continue to invent new techniques and break rules in the creation of unique work — and that I am part of that exciting evolution.”

Let’s begin the new decade by challenging ourselves (and encouraging each other) to try a new technique in 2020!!

~ Christine Janove





## Southbury Retreats

Mark your calendars and oil your sewing machines. Here's the schedule of upcoming retreats in Southbury, CT. For more information, and to reserve your place, contact Carol Lieberman at [clieber@verizon.net](mailto:clieber@verizon.net) or Robin Engelman at [raengelman@gmail.com](mailto:raengelman@gmail.com).

2020

**Friday, April 24–Sunday, April 26**, with Thursday, April 23 as the extra day.

**Friday, July 24–Sunday, July 26**, with Thursday, July 23 as the extra day.

**Friday, October 30–Sunday, November 1**, with Thursday, October 29 as the extra day.

# upcoming RETREATS

## Quilting Camp at Cross Roads

**February 26–March 1, 2020** — A four-night weekend retreat. Check-in will be 2 p.m. on Wednesday, February 26; check-out will be 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 1. The cost will be \$321 per person for a shared room and \$361 for single occupancy. The rate for 3 nights and 9 meals will be \$263 per person for a shared room and \$303 for single occupancy.

**June 3–7, 2020** — A four-night weekend retreat. Check-in will be 2 p.m. on Wednesday, June 3; check-out will be 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 7. The cost will be \$321 per person for a shared room and \$361 for single occupancy, including four nights and 11 meals. The rate for 3 nights and 9 meals will be \$263 per person for a shared room and \$303 for single occupancy.

Trudy Reeves, [trudyreeves@yahoo.com](mailto:trudyreeves@yahoo.com), 718-415-2955;  
Martha Musgrove, [marf86@hotmail.com](mailto:marf86@hotmail.com), 718-745-6759.



Derun, son of proud parents Harsimran Singh and Sinem Buber Singh, enjoys his quilt made by Margaret Pross of the Brooklyn Quilters Guild.

## Bingo Winners

Guild members played a rousing game of quilting bingo after the December meeting. The bingo cards asked us to fill in the names of members who fulfilled certain requirements. For example, one block asked for the name of a member who had no UFOs; others asked for the name of people who had tattoos, who had lived abroad, who hated math, who spoke a foreign language, who had a Facebook page, etc.

The first two members to complete the entire card and win the big prizes (a bundle of fat quarters) were Stephanie Borden and Robin Strauss. Many others filled out a row or column and took home smaller prizes: gift bags filled by Farrah Lafontant and her family. Thank you to Farrah and Michael Sengstack for organizing the fun.

# JANUARY 2020 BOM

# BOW TIE

Happy New Year 2020! We are starting the year with a symbol of formality. The Bow Tie is a type of necktie made using a common shoelace knot, also called the bow knot. It represents creativity, a willingness to be different and an embrace of style. It's not just for nerds or science guys! ~Madi Appell and Kathy Clarke, Co-chairs

## Fabrics:

**COLOR FABRICS:** Should be brightly assorted fabrics.

**WHITE:** Plain white or white-on-white. Make sure your white has no other colors in it.

## Cutting:

### COLOR FABRICS:

- Four (4) 2 1/2" squares from one fabric of your choice.
- Eighteen (18) 2 1/2" squares from multiple fabrics.

### WHITE FABRIC:

- Two (2) 6 1/2" squares.

## Sewing Directions:



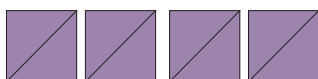
### STEP 1:

#### NINE-PATCH BLOCKS

1. Separate the eighteen (18) 2 1/2" squares from multiple fabrics into two sets of nine.
2. Arrange nine 2 1/2" squares in three rows of three blocks.
3. Sew the top, middle and bottom rows. Then sew all three segments together to make a Nine-Patch block.
4. Repeat with the second set of nine 2 1/2" squares.

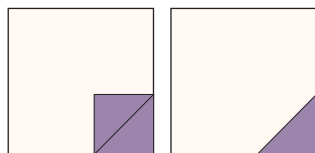
5. You'll have two Nine-Patch blocks.

### STEP 2:



Draw a diagonal line on wrong side of the (4) 2 1/2" squares of the same fabric.

### STEP 3:



1. Take one 2 1/2" square and place on any corner of a white 6 1/2" square with right sides facing each other.
2. Sew together on the line. Press open and cut away excess fabric 1/4" from the drawn line.
3. Repeat on the second white square.

### STEP 4:

1. Take one 2 1/2" square and place on any corner of a Nine-Patch block with right sides facing each other.
2. Sew together on the line. Press the colored square open then cut away excess fabric 1/4" from the drawn line.
3. Repeat on second Nine-Patch block.



### STEP 5.

#### CONSTRUCT THE BLOCK

1. Sew the four blocks together so the four Center Knot fabrics are in the center.

2. Trim the final block to 12 1/2" x 12 1/2".

*Don't forget to write your name in one of the seams on the back of block.*





# Upcoming Quilt and Textile Shows, January 2020

COMPILED BY MARTHA MUSGROVE

**The Gold Standard of Textile and Fiber Art, Feb. 5–23**, Westbeth Gallery, 55 Bethune St., NYC. Presented by the Westbeth Gallery and the Textile Study Group of New York. Hours are Wednesday–Sunday, 1–6. Opening is Feb. 5, 6–8 p.m. For information: Harriet Cherry Cheney, [hscheney@optonline.net](mailto:hscheney@optonline.net) or [westbeth.org](http://westbeth.org).

**QuiltCon 2020, Feb 20–23**, Austin, Tex. Approximately 600 modern quilts on view, plus four days of workshops and lectures led by leading designers and quilters. Admission is \$12/day or \$42 for a 4-day pass. For more information: Modern Quilt Guild, [themodernquiltguild.com](http://themodernquiltguild.com).

**AQS Quilt Week Show in Daytona, Feb. 26–29**, Daytona Beach, Fla. Four days of quilt show with vendors, classes, special exhibits in the American Quilters' Society mode. Full info at [www.quiltweek.com](http://www.quiltweek.com).

**Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival, Feb. 27–March 1**, Hampton, Va. Now in its 31st year, this show is touted as the largest quilt show on the Eastern Seaboard. It is vast: more than 150 vendors; more than 30 special exhibits of quilts in addition to the main exhibits; a full schedule of classes, lectures, demonstrations. All info can be found at: [quiltfest.com](http://quiltfest.com) — the Website of Mancuso shows.

**Brooklyn Quilts! March 21–22**, Industry City, Brooklyn, NY. Sponsored by the Brooklyn Quilters Guild. More than 200 quilts on view, plus demonstrations, raffle quilt, vendors, children's games and more. Admission is \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door, children under 12 are free. Information: [quiltbrooklyn.org](http://quiltbrooklyn.org).

**AQS Quilt Week Show in Lancaster, March 25–28**, downtown Lancaster, Pa. Registration for classes is now open. Also, membership—new or renewal—in American Quilters Society is on special for \$20 a year and you get a \$20 gift certificate for any AQS merchandise. Info: [quiltweek.com](http://quiltweek.com) and click on Lancaster.

**The Lancaster Quilt Show, March 25–28**, Lancaster, Pa. This is a large merchant mall of quilt vendors, not affiliated with AQS but held to coincide with the big AQS quilt show, which is a few miles away. This is at The DoubleTree Willow Valley Resort, 2400 Willow Street Pike, Lancaster, Pa. 17602. Free admission and parking. Info: [thelancasterquiltshow.com](http://thelancasterquiltshow.com).

## CRAFT IN AMERICA

PBS's Craft in America features a segment on quilting. You can stream it at <https://www.thirteen.org/schedule/?program=23513&all=1>.

## AT THE NEW MoMA

### The Museum of Modern Art,

11 West 53rd St., Manhattan. Admission: \$25 adults; \$18 seniors 65+; students \$14; children 16 and younger free. Hours: 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m. seven days a week.

Info: [moma.org](http://moma.org)

**Taking a Thread for a Walk**, Floor 3, 3 North: The Philip Johnson galleries. The emergence of modern art challenged the widespread marginalization of weaving as "women's work." Textiles became newly visible as a creative discipline, interwoven with architecture, drawing, industrial design, and sculpture. This exhibition takes a thread for a walk among ancient textile traditions, early-20th-century design reform movements, and industrial materials and production methods. Featuring adventurous combinations of natural and synthetic fibers and spatially dynamic pieces that mark the emergence of a more sculptural approach to textile art beginning in the 1960s, this show highlights the fluid expressivity of the medium.

## AT THE MET FIFTH AVENUE

1000 Fifth Ave. at 82nd St., New York City

Admission: pay what you want for NYS residents

Info: <https://www.metmuseum.org>

**Frank Lloyd Wright: The Taliesin Line, 1955–60, through April 5, 2020**. The eminent architect launched the first commercial venture of his career in 1955, designing a line of affordable home products with designs for fabric and wallpaper based on his architectural style and inspired by specific buildings. The original line was produced by F. Schumacher and Co. and presented in a sample book, of which only 100 were printed. The exhibit in Gallery 599 presents the book and nine examples of the fabric it introduced.

**In Pursuit of Fashion: The Sandy Schreier Collection, Nov. 27–May 17, 2020**. The Costume Institute's fall 2019 exhibition features gifts from a collector who over 50+ years amassed a collection of 20th-century French and American couture and ready-to-wear clothes, not as a wardrobe but in appreciation of this art form. If your invitation to The Met Gala gets lost in the mail, you can still come see the show on these dates. Galleries 980–981.

# Sew Know: Stalking the Elusive ¼-Inch Seam Allowance

BY MARCIE BRENNER, MCSE

**F**OR MANY QUILTERS, achieving a consistent, perfect ¼-inch seam allowance is a challenge. First, why is it important? To have the pieces in a block stitch together easily and each block be the same size, makes the top construction accurate, without puckering or pulling, seams matching. The more pieces in each block, the more important it is to maintain a ¼-inch seam.

Some patterns call for a scant ¼-inch seam. That's 1-2 fabric threads less than a full ¼-inch seam. The sewn seam can take up seam width as can pressing. It is helpful to construct one block to ensure that it is meeting the unfinished size before doing all of them. If the quilt consists of many different blocks, test each one.

Each quilter has his/her favorite method of stitching a ¼-inch seam. Some mark their seams to have a guide. There are special ¼-inch machine feet designed to aid the quilter, one has an edge that is ¼-inch from the needle and another has an extension to help guide the fabric as it is stitched. Others use seam guides, magnetic on mechanical machines, plastic cling or adhesive-backed cardboard guides on computerized ones.

There is another specialty foot that allows the seam width to be adjusted. It has different height plates so it can accommodate various fabric thicknesses, from flat to stitching a quilt sandwich. I like to use the position-needle feature on my machine and adjust it to use the edge of the foot as the guide. Test several to find one that meets your needs, and practice. I have my students use paper while exploring the different options.

If your machine eats your fabric as you start, stitch midway from a scrap onto the block fabric. As one gets to the end of a seam there is a tendency to swerve as we lose the fabric under the foot. Use a stiletto to help guide it.

Take a good look at award-winning quilts; it's not just the color and pattern choices, it's the workmanship, the execution of the quilt. A beautifully done simple quilt is better than a complex one with mismatched seams, puckering and pleats. And before I'm criticized, please note I've judged several sewing/needlework competitions for the NYC Department of Education, Bureau of Home Economics. ❖



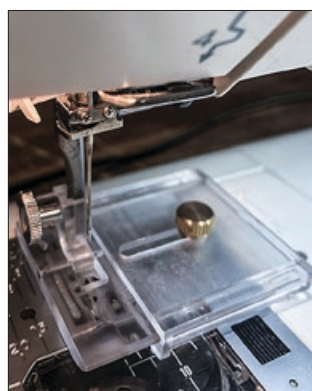
This foot has 1/4" edge.



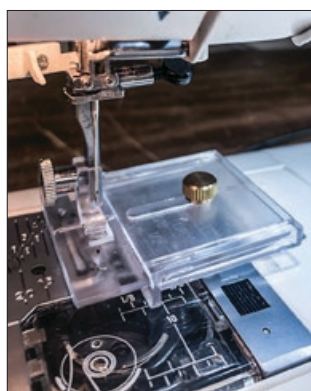
This foot has an extension.



Magnetic guide



This has a low plate for fabric piecing.



This has a higher plate for a stitching sandwich.

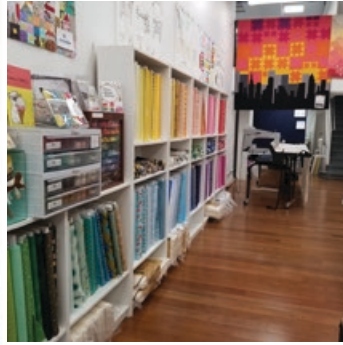


Needle adjusted to use foot edge as guide.



Plastic cling guide





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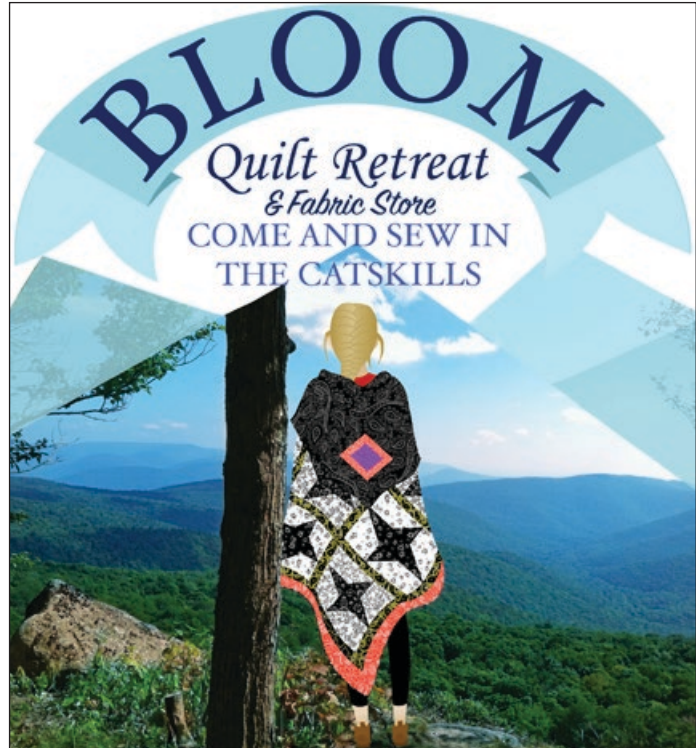
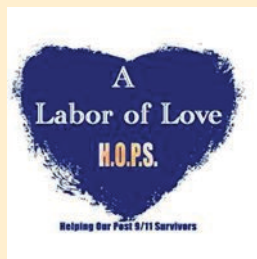
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## HOPS

The next Helping Our Post-911 Survivors (HOPS) quilting bee at Police Headquarters is scheduled for Monday, March 23, right after our show. The Brooklyn Quilters' Guild is always well represented. For more information, contact Diane Pryor-Holland at [klothkeeper@hotmail.com](mailto:klothkeeper@hotmail.com).



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# Minutes of the Executive Board

## Brooklyn Quilters Guild — December 21, 2019

12

### Attendees

Margaret Marcy Emerson, Anna Fike, Michael Sengstack, Farrah Lafontant, Micki Segel, Mary Hawley

Absent: Andrew Hansen

Additional Attendee: Sylvia Hernandez

The meeting was called to order.

### Reading and Approval of Minutes

Minutes approved unanimously.

### Treasurer's Report

Anna reports that a \$2,500 anonymous donation has been made to the Guild by a member. We need to provide a letter that the donor can use for tax purposes. The donor leaves it to the board how to spend the money. Anna will make a report to membership. Membership dues monthly income has gone down since almost everyone has paid for the current year. Mary Hawley reports that there are about 20 people who have let their membership lapse. PayPal is up and running and we have received our PayPal reader. When using PayPal, we want to be sure that the person who pays designates what the money is for. We have yet to pay the deposit on the venue.

### Programming

Bingo game is ready today for the social part of meeting, after show and tell. Farrah made up goody bags for prizes.

Michael has been in touch with a potential speaker who may come to our January meeting to talk about caring for and pricing quilts. The presentation would be one hour. The vice presidents are looking into a special speaker for the lecture sponsored by the Lenni Abel fund. Michael will coordinate with Madi Appell.

There remains concern about integrating new members. Mary has made a successful effort to reach out to new members. Last year Marie Towle had a small sewing day at her house and invited new and old members to participate. We discussed duplicating this effort. We are working on a new member packet. A new member is going to design it. Mary is compiling the list of new members. Sylvia suggests using Marien-Heim for the purpose of bringing people together. We would have to be sure that members will be there. Margaret suggests having mini workshops at Marien-Heim. Farrah suggests having a new member orientation at Marien-Heim.

### Show Update

Sylvia has been communicating with Adrian from Industry City, who says that we do not have to pay the deposit yet. Sylvia is sure that we will have the contract by January. She will work on securing the contract over the next two weeks. Susan Sato needs it to provide insurance for the vendors.

Trudi Roach is doing a great job with registering the quilts.

Raffle tickets have been stuffed into envelopes.

Sylvia is working on getting bracelets. She is thinking of supplying vests for volunteers. We discuss sashes or aprons. She will also work on this during break. The next show meeting is on January 12th, 2:00 p.m. at Marien-Heim.

Farrah has worked on the Eventbrite page. It can go live today. Eventbrite is for admission tickets only right now. Margaret will ask Lyn Hill to work on friendly text. Mary will talk with Trudy Reeves about specifics.

There will be no marketing merchandise, such as T-shirts and tote bags, for the show.

Ellen Piccolo is going away and needs all the photos of all of the quilts for the show before she leaves.

### Technology Report

Our Square Space account is about to come up for renewal. The legacy account limits the number of pages on our website. We are currently spending \$96 per year. To go past the legacy account the cost would be \$216 a year. The board agrees to pay the increase. Log in security is around \$5.00 a month. Margaret will talk to them about eliminating that charge.

### New Business

No new business was identified.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45.

### Respectfully submitted.

Micki Segel, Secretary

### Treasurer's Report

Monthly Income/Expenses (\$)	11-14-19 to 12-18-19
<b>Income</b>	
Membership Dues	460.00
Meeting Raffle (50/50)	121.00
Meeting Raffle (items)	190.00
Hospitality	99.88
Vendors	150.00
PayPal (test)	0.02
Show Booth Rental Fees	4000.00
Show Raffle Tickets	160.00
Interest on Lenni Abel and Reserve Fund	.26
Donation	2500.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>7681.16</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Meeting Setup	40.00
Hospitality	45.63
Printing — Bee	139.83
Telephone	55.64
Quilt Show Printing	712.15
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>993.25</b>
<b>Net Loss</b>	<b>6687.91</b>

### ACCOUNT BALANCES

Cash And Bank Accounts (\$)	12/18/2019
Checking	13259.90
Savings: Quilt Shows	26079.75
Savings: Lenni Abel Fund	2726.51
Savings: Scholarship Fund 5101	97.00
Petty Cash	178.25
Credit Card	0
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>42341.41</b>

## Membership Report

113 members signed in

4 guests

3 new members; 2 of them are returning after one or more years absence.

### Raffle Tickets:

We were also trying to get folks to take their prepared raffle ticket envelopes. I know we didn't get all of the attendees to pair up with their tickets; there was so much going on. At least Margaret took home fewer boxes than she brought. The remaining envelopes will be back at the January meeting for pick-up.

Members have started to return their sold raffle ticket stubs. I'll work with Katie Mahoney in early January to tally up the count and get the funds to Anna before the January meeting.

## DECEMBER BLOCK OF THE MONTH



Congratulations to Anna Fike who won 23 Evergreen Tree blocks at the December meeting.



## Sunday Bees

Don't forget our Sunday bees. They are held on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at the Marien-Heim Senior Center, 4520 Fourth Ave., Brooklyn. The hours are 11 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Bring your machines or hand work. There are large round tables and lots of room for quilters.

## SEW SMART Tips N' Tools

Hello All and Happy New Year!

Here are two tips to make your quilting life a little easier in the year ahead.

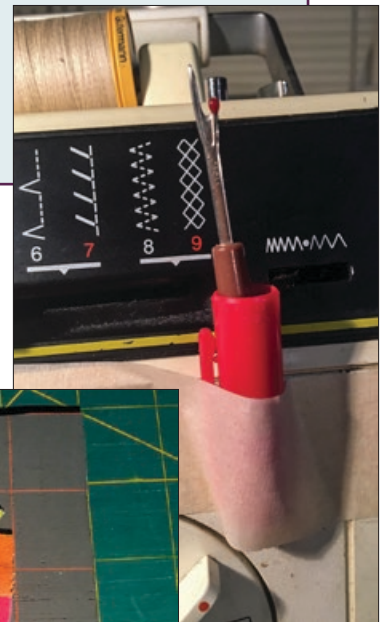
I am forever hunting for my seam rippers. Where can they possibly go? Not under the pile of fabrics, not on the floor, not on the ironing board. So I found a solution in an old edition of *American Patchwork*. I taped the cap of a ballpoint pen, open end up, onto the front of my sewing machine. It is a time and money saver. For larger rippers, use the cap of a sharpie or a marker.

I have a large new cutting mat in my sewing area. I cut a 5-inch square from the old one and keep it nearby to square off small blocks without moving the fabric. It swivels nicely on the larger mat. Another time and money saver.

Remember, if you see something, say something and let me know.

Happy New Year!

Alice Braziller





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## MEMBER PAGES JUST FOR YOU!

Have you logged into the member section of our website? It's full of helpful information for you. There you can find the *Bee* newsletter archive, the BOM directions, a member directory, retreat info, show information, current Guild challenges and rules, show and tell archives, board meeting minutes, and more. Plus, there is a page with quick links to tutorials that show how to sew on bindings, add hanging sleeves, and other helpful info.

When logging in use your full email address (the one on file with the Guild) and this password: BQG1993 (Note: If you have changed or have an older password, keep using it.) If you have any trouble logging in, send an email to:

[brooklynquiltswebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:brooklynquiltswebmaster@gmail.com)

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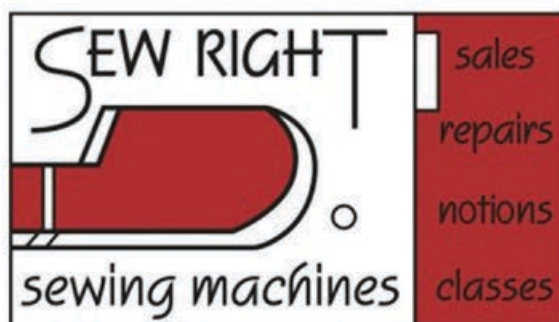


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# The Brooklyn Bee

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