BROOKLYN QUILTERS GUILD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

October 2021

## Volume 29 Issue 2

## VOLUNTEERING

 FOR THE GUILD page 4FABRIC TREASURE BOX
page 5

## MEET THE QUILTER

page 6

## USING ORPHAN PROJECTS: AC COVERS

page 12

Dear Members,
Were you as inspired as I was by our first hybrid Guild meeting and our first in-person meeting in a year and a half? While we expected 50 people to arrive, we had over 70 in person and another 34 on Zoom. Thank you so much to Margaret Marcy Emerson for coordinating all the details to pull off the hybrid meeting. And thank you to so many of you who stepped up to fill all the job vacancies announced by Margaret at our meeting.

And what about the fabulous trunk show by our charter members: Leona Shapiro, Dori Dietz, Marcy Brenner and our first president and founder, Vivian Arzoumanian? That was really inspiring. We look forward to many more trunk shows by our members on different themes throughout the year. Sylvia Hernandez with be showing her amazing quilts at our October meeting. If you have an idea for a trunk show theme, please speak to our vice presidents and program coordinators, Michael Sengstack and Barbara Danzi.

I have seen all the "Come Together" fence show quilts. Prepare yourselves to be inspired once more. It is incredible how each quilter has found his/her own interpretation for this theme. Be sure to tell your friends, family and neighbors about this show, where over 40 uniquely beautiful quilts will be on display. Keep your fingers crossed that the weather cooperates on October 9th; if not, we will hold the show on November 6th. Joy West has jumped in to create beautiful flyers to post on social media and email to friends Let's get the word out.

See you at the show, our next meeting or on Zoom.
Much love to all,
Micki Segel
Co-President

## 2021-2022 Brooklyn Quilters Guild

OFFICERS
Presidents


Margaret Marcy Emerson 917-374-7718 margaret.marcy@gmail.com


Micki Segel 917-596-6055 mickisegel@gmail.com

## Vice Presidents



Barbara Danzi
949-697-1721
barbaradanzi@gmail.com


Michael Sengstack
347-291-5084 mgsengstack@msn.com

## Secretary



Alice Braziller
917-557-0112
alicebraziller@gmail.com
Treasurer


Leona Shapiro
917-478-3835
BQG.treasurer@gmail.com

Membership Chairs


Serena Boyle
516-322-5108
ladyspitz15@gmail.com
bqg.membership@gmail.com


## Barbara Christ

718-208-3758
barbchristny@gmail.com

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Easy as ABC/Kid's Quilts
Jennifer Arzberger
917-685-6712
jennarzberger@optimum.net

## Comfort Quilts

Dori Dietz
718-853-2153
doridietz1@gmail.com
Hole in the Wall
Carol Lieberman
917-439-9549
clieber@verizon.net
Veterans' Quilts
Carol Sullivan
917-495-6315
sulliquilts@aol.com
Labor of Love Quilts
Diane Pryor-Holland
laboroflovequiltproject@gmail.
com
Pillowcases
Annette Wallace
917-647-0770
wallace.netty123@gmail.com

## Block of the Month

Joy West
347-845-0016
jjhwest4@gmail.com
Robin Engelman
917-689-0402
raengelman@gmail.com
Lenni Abel Quilt Fund
Madi Appell
718-434-0647
NYCfash@aol.com

## Heritage Retreats

Carol Lieberman
917-439-9549
clieber@verizon.net
Robin Engelman
917-689-0402
raengelman@gmail.com

Cross Roads Retreats Martha Musgrove
718-745-6759
marf86@hotmail.com
Susan Aronoff
917-9573884
susan.aronoff@gmail.com

## Vendors

Carol Lieberman
917-439-9549
clieber@verizon.net

## BEE BLASTS

Andrew Hansen
Andrew.ve.hansen@gmail.com guild@quiltbrooklyn.org

## WEBSITE

Mary Hawley
718-398-3234
mhawley.brooklyn@gmail.com
Margaret Marcy Emerson
917-374-7718
margaret.marcy@gmail.com

- Something to share? The
- deadline for submissions
- for the November 2021
- issue of The Brooklyn Bee is
- 9 a.m., Monday, October 18,
- 2021. Please email to:
- texasmcd@hotmail.com.

The Brooklyn Quilters Guild
P. O. Box 150198

Van Brunt Station
Brooklyn, NY 11215-0198


The Brooklyn Bee

## EDITORS

Susan Aronoff
Debbie Breckenridge Martha McDonald

BEAT REPORTERS
MEET THE QUILTER Margaret Pross
SEW KNOW
Marcie Brenner
tiPs N' TOOLS
Alice Braziller
COPY EDITOR
Lyn Hill

## Our Social Media Links

Facebook BOM Group https://tinyurl.com/ycxzf8fs
Facebook Member-Only Group https://tinyurl.com/ycbwzom9
Monthly Show and Tell https://tinyurl.com/y6xv5wyd Instagram
@Brooklyn_Quilters_Guild

## YouTube

https://youtube.com/channel/
UCPWxp4Px7q2UC9hb2t19Hyg

## Guild Meetings

NEXT MEETING: October 16, 2021, 11 a.m.
Hybrid meeting: In-Person at the Holy Name of Jesus Church and on Zoom.
The church is located at 245 Prospect Park West (enter at Shepherd's Hall in the back, off the parking lot).
A mask and proof of vaccination required for all in-person attendees.
ZOOM MEETING LINK: https://tinyurl.com/y3ekc9ug
SUNDAY BEES: Join us on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, 1-4 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 MEETING RECORDING: Did you miss the September 2021 Guild Meeting? Watch the Zoom version here: RECORDING LINK https://bit.ly/3D2ZWq7 Access Passcode: kw5\$zPH3

## Guild

## Quilt Fence Show

The Guild's third Quilt Fence Show is scheduled for October 9th, with a rain date of November 6th. The theme for this show is Come Together and the show will be held at the same place as the previous two - the fence surrounding Holy Name of Jesus Church. It will run from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Community Quilts

Jenn Arzberger collected 60 ABC quilts at the September meeting! Carol Lieberman reported that the Tuesday Gerritsen Beach group collected $\$ 450$ to donate to ABC quilts in memory of Sarah Vinson.

Carol also noted that 62 quilts and 11 pillowcases/totes (the year's total) have been picked up by the Hole in the Wall camp. For more information about Hole in the Wall quilts, contact Carol at clieber@verizon.net.

Diane Pryor-Holland noted that the Labor of Love quilt group has 60 quilts ready to donate to families of NYC police officers who have passed away due to 9/11-related illnesses. A sewing bee is scheduled for Monday, October 25, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at One Police Plaza, NYC. Vaccinations and masks are required. For reservations and more information, contact Diane at 718-341-0974 or laborofloveproject@ gmail.org. The website is quilts4cops.org. Space is limited, so make your reservation as soon as possible. Completed quilts should be no smaller than $50 \times 50$ inches and no larger than 70x70 inches. There are no color restrictions but NYPD uniform colors are navy blue, black and white.

Annette Wallace is hoping that everyone has finished sewing the pillowcase kits that were handed out at the picnic. She will be collecting them at the October meeting along with any other pillowcase donations you may have. We also have lots of kits available, so please let Annette know if anyone needs them. She will be making another delivery to the Ronald McDonald House in the next few weeks and will need to replenish our stock of pillowcases!

As for Comfort Quilts, the team recently gave three quilts to fire victims in Long Island and is also contributing a number of quilts to the Hole in the Wall Camp.

## Time to Renew Your Membership

Don't wait until the last minute to renew your Guild membership. Let's make the renewal rate 100 percent this year.

Go to https://www.quiltbrooklyn.org/membership for information and send in your completed form and dues now. Only members who are current by the end of October will continue to receive the Bee, have access to the member pages on the Guild website and Facebook page, get links to the virtual meetings and more.

If for any reason you can't afford to renew this year, please contact Barb Christ at BQG.membership@gmail.com or send her a quick note at her address, listed in the Member Directory on the website. All requests are kept confidential. Members have given generously in order to keep everyone connected to our quilting community, so don't be shy!

## Membership Report

As of September 30th 2021, there were 208 members. Eight are returning members and five are new this year. The renewal rate is currently at 59 percent.

## BLOCK OF THE MONTH

The Block of the Month is distributed to members in a separate email. It can also be found on the Guild website in the members section under "BOM" and on our BOM Facebook page.

## News \& Notes page 2

## Volunteering for the Guild

Many thanks to the members who volunteered for open Guild jobs. Having these volunteers allows us to extend the richness of the Guild's programming.

Thank you to:

- Poppy O'Neil and Sara Goggin, our new Social Media coordinators for the Guild.
- Debbie Safian, our new Community Quilt Coordinator.
- Linda McNeely who has volunteered to be the raffle assistant,
- Richie Doron who has volunteered to be our in-meeting technology assistant, which is vital to making our hybrid meetings work!
- And Carolyn Schwartz, a California member who will be hosting some of the Sunday Bees.

We still have some jobs to be filled. The job descriptions follow:

## Show and Tell Photography

This job includes the following tasks:

- Take digital pictures of all show and tell items at in person meetings.
- Take photo of Show and Tell sign up sheet.
- Send images (including sign up sheet) to the web manager.
The job requires good camera, photo skills that produce sharp images. The images need to be shot well to post on the website and use in social media.


## Small Quilt Challenge Chairs

The once-a-year, small quilt challenge ( $20 \times 20$ inches) is based on a theme chosen by the Small Quilt Challenge chairs. The show is displayed in local libraries, and at our biennial Guild show.
The job includes the following tasks:

- Choosing the show theme
- Preparing registration materials
- Working with the designer to create signage (templates available)
- Creating the brochure (template available)

Mentorship by past chairs is available.

## Sunday Sewing Bee Zoom Host

(Can be done solo or with a friend)
The Bees take place from 1 to 4 p.m. on the second and fourth Sunday afternoons of each month. You can volunteer for one or more Sundays.
The job includes the following tasks:

- Launch the Zoom meeting from the Guild account (or have someone launch for you)
- Let in members from the waiting room.
- Welcome people, make introductions, encourage interaction.
- Close the meeting

If you would like to volunteer or know more about any of these jobs, please email margaret.marcy@gmail.com.
~Margaret Marcy Emerson


Uncommon Threads at the Monmouth Museum (see page 15)

## Opening the Treasure Vault at Tres Rebecas

## BY KIRSTEN FISHER

I have a number of favorite fabrics that I regret not buying more of when I saw them. I was not quite sure what to use them for, but I felt I needed to have them. I also have scraps that someone gave me, or that I found in a box of giveaway fabric at the Brooklyn Quilters Guild meeting.

For the last 10 to 15 years, I have been on the lookout for some of these long sold-out favorite fabrics. One rainy afternoon, just for the fun of $i t$, I tried this: I searched again for one of my favorite fabrics, and bingo! There it was, at Tres Rebecas. I just could not believe my luck.

When I went to the Tres Rebecas website (tresrebecas.com), I found another of my favorite fabrics, Matchstick.


Matchstick from Alexander Henry

I have now found two of my sold-out favorite fabrics at Tres Rebecas.

Tres Rebeca is a Latin themed craft shop in San Antonio, Texas. In addition to Latin-themed craft items, the shop also has a wonderful selection of brightly colored striped and floral fabrics.

After talking with Rebeca Barrera, the owner, I learned that for several years their inventory was packed away and then it was recently put up for sale on their website. This fabric treasure vault has now been re-opened, but don't wait. It could sell out quickly


One of my quilting friends, Robin Strauss, gave me some scraps and I used them to make these two bowls.


Another great fabric, Jumbo Dot, also found at Tres Rebecas I used this for fabric dying.


Here is the white fabric with dots, hand-dyed in different colors. During my search, I also came across Antiquefabric.com where I found the matching white fabric with smaller black dots.


I haven't given up on finding this, my third favorite sold-out fabric. Unfortunately I do not know the name or the manufacturer. If anybody knows where to get this, please let me know. kf7willows@gmail.com.

# Meet the Quilter: Kelly Adelia 

How long have you been a member of the Brooklyn Quilters Guild?<br>I joined the Brooklyn Quilters Guild in May 2021.

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

I found it through online research. I was looking for quilting resources in Brooklyn-shops, classes, groups, etc.

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

I've always been around quilts. My mom has a large collection. Now I have a growing collection too. My favorite quilt in my collection is a 1930s pastel baby corduroy quilt. It's adorable and so sweet! I found it at the Brimfield Flea Market in Brimfield, Massachusetts.

I didn't start quilting until the pandemic. I took an online Zoom hand-work class through Atlas Obscura that was taught by Aaron Sanders Head, from Alabama. It was a great class-we learned nine different old-fashioned quilt blocks and also completed a quilt of our own design from start to finish. My favorite quilt techniques, so far, are string piecing and the log cabin block.

Describe how your quilting has evolved and what are your current projects and goals for the future?
II am very new to quilting and I am currently working on my second quilt.


String quilt front


My first quilt was made using string piecing from my collection of vintage ribbons and trims. I also added on vintage patches and beading. In addition, I made over 150 pompoms for the back on the quilt.

The quilt I am working on now is made with mostly vintage scrap fabric I got from the donation bin at the New England Quilt Museum in Lowell, Massachusetts. It's a nine square block pattern and someone cut all these pieces out and never made anything with them! So I am happy to rescue them and give them a happy home and also save myself some tedious cutting! This piece is interesting because the quilt top will be the back of the piece. The front is a "flag" I made (dyed, beaded and sewed vintage patches and a souvenir pennant on fabric.) Right now, I would say, I am interested in the concept of the front and the back of the quilt and making backwards quilts.

I want to figure out a way to be experimental with quilting and mix it with my other work in weaving, crocheting and beading. I'd like to make a hybrid crochet/quilt. I would also like to make some experimental shapes!


String quilt back with pompoms

## What is the most memorable quilt-related experience you would like to share?

In July I went to Berkeley California to BAMFA to see the Rosie Lee Tompkins quilt show. I had read the catalog from cover to cover and gotten chills over those quilts and I knew I had to see that show in person and that it would be life-changing. And it was! I cried as I stood in front of those quilts.

## What is your professional background?

I am a professional artist. I studied painting for my BFA and sculpture for my MFA. I make installations, weavings, "sewn" paintings, objects-all sorts of things. I collect a lot of vintage materials and use them in my work. Everything is really bright, colorful, nostalgic and textural. I have a studio in Bushwick and it was open for two days in September for Bushwick Open Studios this year. My next gallery show will be opening in Hudson, NY, in November.

## How does the Brooklyn Quilters Guild and any other

 quilt groups you belong to, support and/or influence your quilting life?Well, I'm so new, but already I am inspired by everyone's awesome work and commitment to the Guild! I hope to make lots of new friends and swap lots of fabric and patterns!

How has quilting and the Brooklyn Quilters Guild helped you during the pandemic?
I think quilting gave me life during the pandemic. I really needed a new thing to be excited about and look forward to and for me it was quilting. It was great to be in the Guild meetings on Zoom, and to know that everyone was connected and open to sharing and learning.

## ~Margaret Pross



A recent sculpture piece, a beaded sea sponge made by Kelly with quilt pins, beads and sequins


During the Open House celebrating the fifth anniversary of The Max Challenge of Bay Ridge Kathy O'Leary and Lisa Grasso-Benson presented the tshirt quilt that they made for Debra and Gary Mirabella, the Max franchise owners. The quilt was beautifully free-motion long-arm quilted by Joyce Austin.

## Fighting Breast Cancer

Fillmore Cares Inc. is a non-profit charity that raises money to support the fight against breast cancer. In 2008 Pat Reinhardt and some of her colleagues at Fillmore Real Estate began an annual event to raise funds for this newly formed charity. Sadly, Pat lost her life to this disease but the annual event continues and is now called Pat's Pink Party.

This event is usually held at El Caribe in Brooklyn, but Covid forced the event to go pnline in 2020. The annual fundraiser occurs in late October each year. This event attracts over 400 people annually and local businesses and individuals contribute funds and prizes. One hundred percent of the proceeds go to the Maimonides Breast Center in Brooklyn. This past year $\$ 42,000$ was donated to the Center.

I began my involvement in this event by making quilted table runners which were added to various prize baskets by the committee organizers. Beginning in 2021, I began donating throw size quilts instead of runners. If anyone in the Guild is interested in contributing a quilt to this charity, please see me at a meeting or email me at jrae991@hotmail.com.
~Janet Finello

## My First Quilt

## BY ELLEN PICCOLO

Many years ago, while in high school, I was lucky enough to have a great teacher for an unusual class. The class was part of the Art Department and called "Crafts." We learned many crafts that were quite happening. These included jewelry making, stained glass, batiking, macramé and quilt making. The teacher at the time was none other than Madeleine Appell.

My first quilt was created in that class.
Because of that class I have developed a love for quilting. I would quilt on and off for many years, creating mostly utilitarian quilts, my focus being on painting. All the while I had a full time job as an art teacher for the NYCDOE, and then at Queens College. In 2016, I took a class with Nancy Crow. That changed everything. Since that class my focus has changed to design, using collage and drawing and then piecing it into a quilt.


Although this is not Ellen's first quilt, it is a beautiful example of her work. "Moving Along" (80 x 46 inches, quilted by Sylvia Hernandez)

## Guild Calendar

See the Bee and Bee Blasts for more information on these events.

## October

October 9, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.- Quilt Fence Show. Fence behind Holy Name of Jesus Church, 245 Prospect Park West, Brooklyn

October 10, 1-4 p.m. - Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

October 16, 11 a.m. - Guild meeting, hybrid inperson and Zoom. Holy Name of Jesus Church. Proof of vaccination and masks are required to attend the in-person meeting. Featuring a trunk show by Sylvia Hernandez.

October 24 1-4 p.m. - Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

## November

November 6 - Rain date for Quilt Fence Show.
November 14 - Sunday sewing bee on Zoom
November 20 - Guild meeting, hybrid in-person and Zoom. Holy Name of Jesus Church. Proof of vaccination and masks are required to attend the in-person meeting.



Madi Appell won the block of the month raffle at the September meeting. She took home a batch of beautiful pineapple blocks. The pineapple was selected because it signifies "welcome." The block for next month is a pumpkin. If you are worried about the irregular sizes of this year's BOMs, Joy West and Robin Engelman showed a variety of small filler blocks, patterns for which are available on the Guild's website.

# SEW SMART <br> Tips N' Tools 

Hello Dear Quilters,

Happy fall season to us all! Isn't it grand to enjoy these lovely temperate days and to find inspiration in the warm, rich colors that surround us in the natural world at this time of year? In addition to being inspired by nature, I was introduced to a book and a website that got my quilting juices flowing and I want to share them with you.

The first is the book Artful Improv by Cindy Grisdela,
 which was given to me by Sharon Calandra, a Guild member who has made some gorgeous improv quilts that I admire. The book explores the basics of improvisational quilting: color recipes, using negative spaces, simple principles of design, quilting suggestions, etc.

In a most useful section, "Building Blocks Of Improv Design," the author shows

us how to create angled stripes, improv circles, curved stripes and inset strips and in a later section, how to put them all together to make truly one of a kind quilts. If you're feeling overwhelmed by the freedom of improvisational quilting but want to get started anyway and need a little guidance, this is the book for you.

For more traditional quilts, I've discovered a free youtube site with fresh, easy ways to make more conventional blocks. At teresadownunder.com, you will find links to Teresa's zippy, easy to follow tutorials with instructions for making dozens of blocks, including Hunter's Star, Exploding Pineapple, Birds In the Air, French Braids, etc. Her shortcuts are very short (all of them under five minutes), and she demonstrates using time lapse, with no verbal instructions, although she does post cutting directions on the screen. A warning: these videos are highly addictive. Your dishes are guaranteed to pile up even higher in the sink.

But do get outdoors to enjoy the fresh air. And don't forget to send me any tips or tools that have recently inspired you.

My best,
Alice Braziller
917-557-0112
alicebraziller@gmail.com

With Grisdela's cutting instructions, you make six at a time, all of them a little different.

## Name Tag Raffle Winner

A new member, Poppy O’Neill, was the name tag raffle winner at the September meeting. Congratulations and welcome to the Guild!

Please check website for current
in-store shopping hours

## COTHAM QUILTS

Fabric, batting, patterns, tools, BOM programs

Longarm quilting services
BERNINA and bernette sewing machine sales \& service

Order online for shipping or pickup gothamquilts.com


Gotham Quilts 40 W 37th St New York, NY 10018 212-220-3958 gothamquilts.com



## 2021 RETREATS

Cross Roads in New Jersey

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 the website, www.crossroadsretreat.com.

The next retreat is scheduled for November 5th to November 10th. Thursday, November 4th is available as an additional day, although meals will not be provided unless we have a group of at least 8 people. Currently, the retreat is full although there is a waiting list.
For more information, contact:
Martha Musgrove (marf86@hotmail.com) or Susan Aronoff (susan.aronoff@gmail.com).

## Heritage in Connecticut

The Heritage Hotel is a Spa and Conference Center in Southbury, CT, about one hour and 45 minutes from Brooklyn. For more information, go to:

## https://www.heritagesouthbury.com

The next retreat is scheduled for October 22nd to October 24th. Wednesday, October 20th and Thursday, October 21st are available as additional days. We have switched the Sunday lunch to Friday lunch. Breakfast breakouts remain the same. If interested, please contact Carol Lieberman, 917-439-9549, or email: clieber@verizon.net.

More detailed information on the retreats can be found on the Guild's website at https://www.quiltbrooklyn.org/retreats.


# Air Conditioner Covers: A Way to Use Orphan Projects 

## BY LYN HILL

Maybe you tried a new quilting technique and decided that it was just not your thing. Or you took a class and produced a small sampler, too large for a placemat but not big enough for a table topper. Or maybe there are a few leftover blocks from a completed quilt (or one that will never be completed) that are just too nice to make into pot holders. If you're like me, you may have a stash that includes several of these orphan projects. I found a way to use several of my orphans.

Now that summer has ended, if you have window air conditioners, and you want to keep them from letting cool air in during the winter months, you have options. Of course, you can remove them from the window and reinstall them again next year. But that takes muscle and storage space, so many of us choose to just cover our air conditioners. Quilted air conditioner covers are readily and inexpensively available from most hardware or houseware stores and they do the job, but they are not attractive. Usually they come in a dull beige, chosen, I suppose, to be as unobtrusive as possible.

I took several orphan projects and sewed them directly onto the store-bought covers. Now, instead of letting my air conditioners hide behind their covers, I've chosen to make them decorative focal points. Here are the results:


The accordion insulation on either side of this air conditioner in a hall bedroom was compromised so I expanded my cover on both sides. This cover came from a collection of small house and tree blocks that were meant to become a baby quilt but never made it that far.


I tried an applique/embroidery pattern from a quilting magazine. I think it was meant as a small wall hanging. I doubled the size and now I have flowers in my bedroom window all winter!


An even more fanciful winter flower arrangement resulted from a sampler that I'd completed in a "primitive appliqué" class. I'm happy to have it in my sewing room.


I once thought I wanted to make a watercolor quilt. I soon learned that I wasn't very good at watercolor design and that I didn't enjoy the process as much as I'd expected. But the trial run became my front parlor's air conditioner cover.


## TEXTILE RECYCLING

Textile recycling is slowly coming back. Here's a list from Grow NYC of some sites accepting clean clothing, paired shoes, linens, handbags, belts, and other reusable textiles.
https://www.grownyc.org/clothing

## Brooklyn:

Carroll Gardens Greenmarket, Sundays, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Smith between 1st \& 2nd Place

Grand Army Plaza Green Market, Saturdays, 9 a.m.12:30 p.m., under the GAP Arch

Ft. Greene Greenmarket, Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Myrtle Ave \& Washington Park

McCarren Park Greenmarket, Saturdays, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Union Ave and Driggs

## Manhattan:

Tompkins Square Greenmarket, Sundays 9 a.m.-1 p.m. E 7th St \& Ave A

## Big Reuse https://www.bigreuse.org

Big Reuse in Brooklyn accepts almost everything from clothing to appliances. Check out their website for details

Quilting Green is a new Guild initiative. Eleven of us met for the first meeting this month on Zoom, batting around different ideas. We plan to have Fabscrap (a recycling and reuse service) make a presentation in the next couple of month. We will also create a resource page devoted to green options on the website.

All are welcome to participate, share ideas, thoughts or practices. We'll hold our next meeting towards the end of October and will provide information about the date, time and Zoom link in a forthcoming Bee Blast.

## Street Seen



Here's one ingenious solution for reusing plasticized shopping bags that have proliferated in recent years, seen and photographed by Guild member Mary Hawley. Sewing machine or patio/lawn furniture covers anyone?

# Sew Know: Connecting the Blocks 

1n 1990, Mary Ellen Hopkins published a book, Connector Blocks. She explained that they were to "separate main design blocks, open up the design, and connect the design blocks together," and "the open space created by these blocks may be used for accentuating the overall design." The idea; blocks and settings, has been a mainstay in quilting, but she gave them a function and a name.

One of the most basic examples is a Nine Patch Block with the Snowball connector block. They are the same finished size, with the triangles in the corners of the Snowball matching the end squares in the Nine Patch. With careful color placement, stars and pathways can be created. The Twist Around Block with the Snowball Block creates interlocking circles and the space inside the Snowball can have a focal fabric.


Nine Patch and Snowball

Another interesting combination is the Nine Patch Star Variation combined with the Double Corner Square in a Square connector block. The Square in a Square block is the same size as the stitched Nine Patch. Then an additional square the size of the individual Nine Patch blocks is stitched diagonally to each corner, and the excess is trimmed.

Connector blocks can be used as a setting for sampler quilts. We usually think of strips of fabric, maybe even with cornerstones, as a way to separate the different blocks. But, we can add another consistent block in between each sampler block to open up the design and create movement. Irish Chain blocks can be a great for opening up a quilt as are Log Cabin blocks.

Next time you are planning a quilt, think outside the box and add connector blocks!


Twist Around and Nine Patch


Nine Patch Variation


Sampler Blocks and Single Irish Chain


Single Irish Chain

## Events of Note

## The Monmouth Museum. Uncommon Threads, August 21 - November 7, 2021. 765 Newman Springs Rd., Lincroft, NJ 07738, on the campus of Brookdale Community College. Eight Guild members are showing modern quilts. <br> Information at monmouthmuseum.org

Ties That Bind, September 12 - October 17, 2021. Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition. 481 Van Brunt St, Brooklyn, NY 11231. A number of Guild members will be showing at this fiber show that was curated by Stacy C. Hollander, former Deputy Director for Curatorial Affairs, Chief Curator, and Director of Exhibitions at the American Folk Art Museum. Hours are Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, 1-6 p.m. For more information, visit www.bwac.org.

Yarn Bomb, October 1-31, On the playground fence at 4th Avenue and 4th St., Brooklyn. Using yarn, crochet hooks and knitting needles, an ad hoc group of over 50 fiber artists has created an amazing array of pieces. The exhibit includes a 9-foot wide sun floating over a garden of fantasy flowers and birds, 10-foot diameter recycling symbol made of granny squares, the Gowanus Canal with canoe, a coral reef, a forest on fire, and more!

Boston Museum of Fine Arts. Fabric of a Nation: American Quilt Stories. October 10, 2021 - January 17, 2022. 465 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA, 02115. A selection of contemporary and historic quilts presents voices from multiple perspectives. Featuring quilters including Sylvia Hernandez, Bisa Butler, Carolyn Mazloomi and Harriet Powers. Information at mfa.org


Work by Guild member Ruth Marchese (right) at the Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition show

Plenty of 20s, Free Outdoor Quilt Show, Saturday, October 23, 11 a.m.- 3 p.m. Sponsored by the Evening Star Quilters Guild, at the Mineola Middle School, 200 Emory Road, Mineola, NY 11501, in the parking lot on the Garfield Ave. side. A variety of $20 \times 20$-inch quilts celebrating the guild's 20th anniversary will be shown and there will also be a silent auction. For more information, www.eveningstarquilters.org

Quilt Festival Houston, October 28 - 31, 2021. George R. Brown Convention Center, 1001 Avenida de las Americas, Houston, TX 77010. The preview night is October 27 and classes and events begin October 25. https://www.quilts.com/quilt-festival/quilt-festival-houston/.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, October 31 - June 13, 1000 Fifth Ave., New York, NY. Art for the Community: The Met's Circulating Textile Exhibits 1930-1940 showcases European textiles, ranging from Italian Renaissance velvet to French 18th-century printed cotton. Information at https://www.metmuseum.org

Quilt Week, November 30 - December 4, 2021. Daytona Beach, FL. American Quilter's Society. Member opening. November 16. General Opening, November 30, 2021, Wednesday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Email: shows@americanquilter.com.

Quilt Week, December 29, 2021 - January 1, 2022. Branson, MO. American Quilter's Society. Member opening December 14. General Opening, December 28, 2021. Wednesday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Email: shows@ americanquilter.com.


At the Monmouth Museum opening

