

The Brooklyn Bee

BROOKLYN QUILTERS GUILD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

February 2021

Volume 28
Issue 6

**SMALL QUILT
CHALLENGE**

page 3

**LENNI ABEL
WORKSHOP**

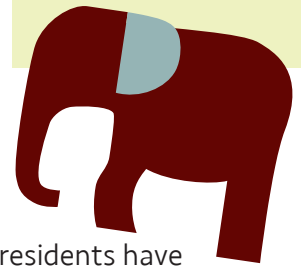
page 4

LONG-ARM PREP

page 7

**BLOCK OF THE
MONTH**

page 16



Dear Guild members,

I hope this issue of the Bee finds you healthy and hopeful. Our co-vice-presidents have been providing some great programming for the Guild and will continue to do so in the coming months. In honor of Black History Month, the St. John's Quilters will be sharing their recent creations during our February meeting.

We also have the annual ABC Frenzy this month, which will necessarily be unlike our past frenzies, but stay tuned to find out how you can participate from the comfort and safety of home. We hope to have another speaker at our March Guild meeting since our December speaker was so successful. For those of you looking to push your skills a bit, we have an exciting improv curves workshop scheduled for April. And of course we hope you've all started planning your quilts for our second fence quilt show in honor of Earth Day.

We also want to encourage all of you to actively engage with your fellow members by volunteering for the Guild. Some opportunities to consider include providing a demonstration of your favorite technique at one of our Sunday sewing bees, joining one of our many committees, or taking a seat on our executive board. The term of our current board is coming to its conclusion, and we will be holding elections at our June meeting as we do every two years. Serving on the Guild executive board has been such an honor and joy, and I truly hope we have members who wish to help continue guiding the Guild forward into this new era in which we find ourselves. If you are interested, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of the board members. Our contact information is on the next page.

Best wishes to all,
Andrew Hansen
Co-president

2020-2021 Brooklyn Quilters Guild

OFFICERS

Presidents

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



Andrew Hansen
646-623-3063
Andrew.ve.hansen@gmail.com



Vice Presidents

Farah Lafontant
718-930-2360
farrah.Lafontant@gmail.com



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



Secretary

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



Treasurer

Anna Fike
917-716-1503
anna.fike@gmail.com
BQG.treasurer@gmail.com



Membership

Mary Hawley
718-398-3234
bqg.membership@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
sullquilt@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

Robin Engelman
917-689-0402
raengelman@gmail.com

Challenge Quilts
Carol Sullivan
917-495-6315
sullquilt@aol.com

Karen Mahoney
386-793-1297
KDZMahoney@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

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

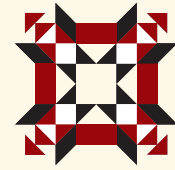
Virtual Vendors
Carol Lieberman
917-439-9549
clieber@verizon.net

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

**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 March 2021 issue of *The Brooklyn Bee* is 9 a.m., Monday, February 22, 2021. Please email to: texasgcd@hotmail.com.



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/ycxz8fs>

Facebook Member-Only Group

<https://tinyurl.com/ycbwzom9>

Monthly Show and Tell

<https://tinyurl.com/y6xv5wyd>

The Brooklyn Quilters Guild

P. O. Box 150198
Van Brunt Station
Brooklyn, NY 11215-0198

Join Us at Our Meetings

GUILD MEETINGS on ZOOM

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

NEXT MEETING: February 20, 2021

ZOOM MEETING LINK:

<https://tinyurl.com/y3ekc9ug>

SUNDAY BEES

We will host 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

3

2021 Quilt Fence Challenge Celebrates Earth Day

Our successful **Rainbow Quilt Challenge** featured almost 50 quilts, 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 love continues with comments from people around the world who have visited our show virtually. It is time to put our creative energies into the next Quilt Fence Challenge, 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 next show is scheduled for Saturday, April 24, 2021, with a rain date of Saturday, May 1, at the same location — the fence around Holy Name Church in Windsor Terrace.

Challenge Requirements

Theme: Our Planet, in Celebration of Earth Day

Size: 36 x 36 inches square

Completed Entry Form

Attach a hanging sleeve

Attach a sewn label on the back with your name

Due date: March 2021 Guild meeting

Questions:

Contact Micki Segel at mickisegel@gmail.com or

Madi Appell at NYCFash@aol.com.

The Earth is What We All Have in Common.

Wendell Berry

~Margaret Marcy Emerson

Sunday Bees

We're always looking for volunteers to host our Sunday sewing bees, which occur every **second and fourth** Sunday of the month on Zoom. Very little technical knowledge is needed, and it's a great way to meet and catch up with your quilting friends. Please contact Margaret Marcy Emerson if you're interested at margaret.marcy@gmail.com.

The February ABC Frenzy

The annual ABC Frenzy will take place directly after the February 20th Guild meeting on Zoom. ABC quilts are made and given to children in need of love and comfort, whether in hospitals, foster care, or shelters.

This year, we plan to use Anita Grossman Solomon's Super Simple Nine Patch pattern. Get your fabrics now so you will be ready to go.

To make three quilts, you will need:

3 one-yard cuts of coordinating children's fabric for the top.

3 yards for the quilt backs.

Batting is supplied by the guild. We have volunteers who will drop batting off to participating Brooklyn members ahead of time.

If you are interested in tying quilts we have some ABC quilts ready for tying with floss.

Send an email to ABC Chair Jennifer Arzberger at jennarzberger@optimum.net if you plan to participate, if you will need batting, and if you have quilts or quilt tops ready for pick-up.

We will have a few door prizes to make the event even more fun! We hope you will join us.

<https://tinyurl.com/y4xmp5zq>

News & Notes page 2

Registration is Open:

Lenni Abel Workshop: Circles & Curves with Maria Shell

This year our Lenni Abel program will be a two-day workshop: *Circle & Curve Sampler* featuring Maria Shell from Tales of a Stitcher. This will be a complete discussion of all the ways you can improvisationally piece a circle and/or curve in fabric. Students will leave with a collection of circle and curve quilt blocks — great for a sampler. (The quilt pictured is an example from the workshop.)

Dates:

Sunday, April 11th and Sunday, April 18th, 1 – 4p.m.

Maria Shell workshops typically cost between \$100 and \$140 but for the two-day workshop the price will be \$40.00 exclusively for Brooklyn Quilters Guild Members thanks to the generous support of the Lenni Abel fund.

You can register and pay for the workshop through the Eventbrite link below. Registration is limited to 30 people and we expect it to fill up quickly, so register now to secure your spot.

Eventbrite link: <https://tinyurl.com/y5qt8nsd>

Once the workshop sells out we will be gathering a waitlist on a first come first served basis so make sure to add your name in case a spot opens up closer to the event.

Please contact: Madi Appell at nycfash@aol.com or Barbara Danzi at barbaradanzi@gmail.com for more information on the workshop. You can reach out to Michael Sengstack at mgsengstack@msn.com if you encounter any problems during registration.

We look forward to learning and being inspired together.



Guild Calendar

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

February

February 14, 1 p.m. — Kirsten Fisher will demonstrate how to print on cloth at the Sunday Bee.

February 20, 11 a.m. — February meeting on Zoom, followed by virtual ABC Frenzy.

In honor of Black History Month, the Show and Tell for the February Guild meeting will be focused on African American quilts

Also — This is the deadline to let the Guild know if you plan to enter the Quilt Fence Show.

February 22 — Deadline to submit articles for the March Bee.

March

March 20, 11 a.m. — March meeting on Zoom and deadline to submit an Earth Day Challenge Quilt for the Quilt Fence Show.

March 22 — Deadline to submit articles for the April Bee.

April

April 11 & 18, 1 p.m. — Lenni Abel Workshop (two parts) featuring Maria Schell. Limited to 30 people. .

April 17 — Guild meeting on Zoom.

April 24 — Quilt Fence Show (Rain date is May 1) featuring Earth Day Challenge Quilts. For information, contact Micki Segel, at mickisegel@gmail.com or Madi Appell at NYCFash@aol.com.

The second and fourth Sundays of every month — Sunday bees on Zoom, from 1-4 p.m. Links will be sent in the Bee Blasts.

My First Quilt

BY TRUDI ROACH

5

I learned to sew as a child, and can't remember a time when I didn't have some craft project in my hands. My grandmother taught me to knit and sew. And I also had traditional home economics classes throughout my grade school years.

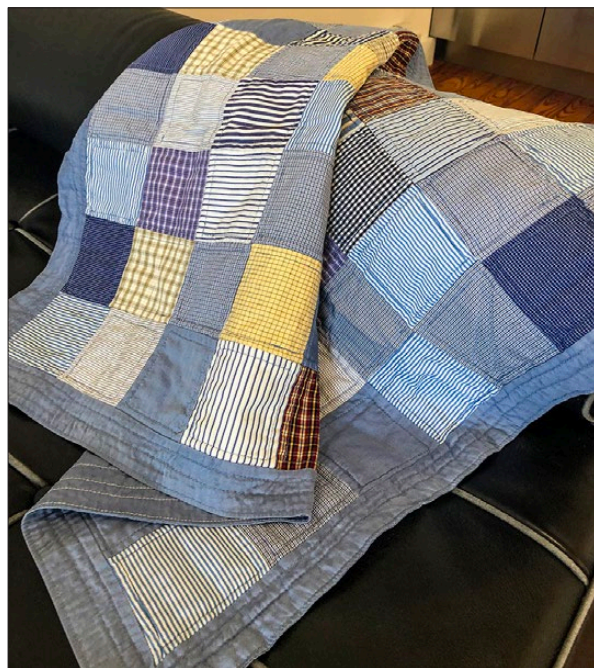
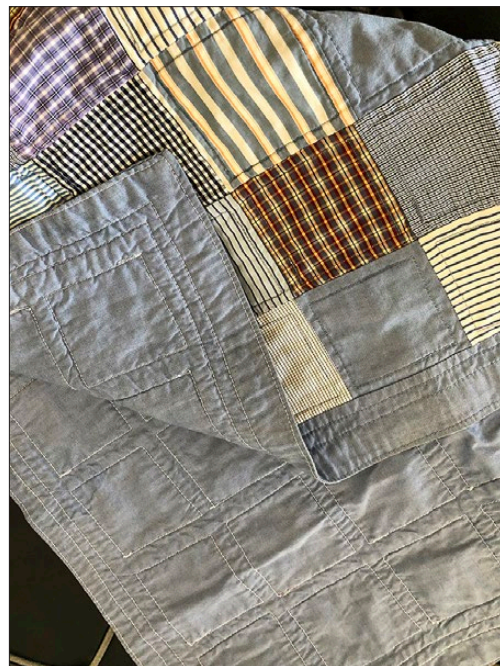
My first quilt was actually a paid commission that I undertook during my first year of college. Like many college students, I was pretty broke but very resourceful. Studying fashion put me right in the middle of lots of other creative kids. But there were plenty of other students from different majors who weren't as creative. I thought it would be a fun idea to sell quilts.

But I'd really only seen store-bought quilts. I didn't have any experience with handmade quilts at all. So, needless to say, I was in over my head. Thinking back, I can't say that the quilt was a success. But at the time it was a hit with the recipient. It was slightly mad, a navy blue ground with tonal blue and white clouds! It's probably good that there are no pictures to mark the occasion but I do laugh when I think about it now. And think about how much I've learned all these years later.

I continued to sew my own clothes but didn't quilt again for many years. I became an avid knitter, with an unabridged 20-year collection of Vogue Knitting magazines in my archive.

I made my second quilt almost 20 years after the first one. It was a baby stroller-sized quilt for my first son. At the time, I was working for a men's dress shirt manufacturer. I crafted the quilt from luxurious high-quality cotton shirt fabrics that I'd gathered from the sample room. I still have it now, tucked away for potential grandkids.

Joining the Brooklyn Quilters Guild expanded my view of quilting, as well as of the quilting community. I learned about the impact of quilting, not just in the making, but in sharing and donating! ❖



YANKEE QUILTER

5 Klarides Village Drive
Seymour, CT, 06483
(203) 888-9196

www.yankeequilter.com

 Husqvarna

VIKING®

Quiltcon 2021 Features Guild Member's Quilt

BY BARBARA DANZI

My quilt, Diversity, was accepted into the Quiltcon 2021 show. Quiltcon is the annual show for The Modern Quilt Guild, and modern quilters from all over the world attend. I'm an independent member of the MQG because there is no local NYC chapter.

I made the quilt a few years ago in a week-long Nancy Crow workshop at the Hudson River Valley Art Workshops in Greenville, NY. Nancy Crow is a master quilter who exhibits in museums (currently exhibiting at the International Quilt Museum in Nebraska) and teaches around the world. Many of today's quilting teachers have studied with Nancy Crow. Her work is known for her use of solids and large scale improvisational design.

My quilt is based on one of the first workshop exercises, which required the quilter to work with repeating a figure (I picked a wedge) and change the lightness/darkness of the figure and the background throughout the quilt. These are 1 1/2-inch finished squares, so the whole quilt is only 15 x 15 inches.

Each year Quiltcon has a challenge category sponsored by American Patchwork & Quilting and this year the challenge was to make a modern quilt with wedges! So when I noticed that category about a week before entries were due, I finished up this little quilt, took some photos and submitted it.

I've attended Quiltcon every year since 2015 and the 2020 show was one of the last big events before we shut down for Covid-19. This year Quiltcon will be completely online, so people will be able to view the quilts in the show without traveling. Visit <https://www.quiltcon.com> February 18-22, 2021 to see the quilts. I believe there is a small \$10 ticket price.



Lessons learned from this:

1. Take workshops. I've learned so much and refined my own personal quilting style by taking a lot of quilting workshops.
2. Finish what you've started. My quilt sat as a work in progress for almost two years until I finished it up to enter it. Now I'm able to hang it on my wall instead of leaving it in a pile.
3. Enter shows. Show off your work for others to see so they can be inspired to take up quilting or deepen their own quilting experience. If a show has a jurying process, just consider the entry fee a donation to the organization and take your chances. I had no idea this would be accepted and was pleasantly surprised.

Links:

Hudson Valley Art Workshops:

<https://tinyurl.com/y3vok4b7>

Nancy Crow: www.nancycrow.com

The Modern Quilt Guild:

<https://www.themodernquiltguild.com>

Quiltcon: <https://www.quiltcon.com>

International Quilt Museum in Lincoln, Nebraska:

<https://tinyurl.com/y2tz3vgv>



Long Arm of the Law: How to Avoid a Quilting Ticket

PREPPING YOUR QUILT FOR THE LONG ARMER

BY JOYCE AUSTIN

7

Using a long armer is a process, but once you know the basics, the rest is easy. This article will focus on the basics. Keep it handy for when you are in doubt about what your long armer needs.

For the quilt top:

Do your best to keep things flat and square. This begins with the very first seam. Ease things into place, but do not “stretch to fit”. It could make your blocks puff like a bra cup.

Do be sure there are no holes! Holes most often occur when making long seams while joining rows, or putting on borders and sashings. If the long arm machine’s hopping foot snags on a hole, it could damage the machine, your quilt, or both. The best way to avoid holes on long seams is to pin regularly. Don’t leave pins behind; ironically, pins can cause machine and quilt damage too.

Do inspect for and remove loose threads on the top. These can wrap around the hopping foot, causing harm to the quilt or the machine. If you have a lot of light background

fabric, dark threads can show through, so you may want to check the back of the quilt as well.

Do press the quilt top, measure it, and fold it neatly to fit in the bag you will transport it in. I do suggest using a plastic bag to keep your quilt dry and clean. Provide the approximate size to the long armer when you talk to her about the quilt.

Don’t layer the quilt batting and back all together, fold each separately. Once folded, you can wrap the quilt and backing around the batting to keep wrinkles to a minimum. Do put your name and contact info on a tag pinned to the quilt, your name on the bag is also a good idea.

For the quilt back:

Do be certain that your back is larger than your quilt top by four inches all around. This allows for pinning the top and bottom, clamping down the sides, and room to check tension.

[Long Arm of the Law continued on page 8](#)



Joyce's long-arm quilting machine

Do remember that “eight is great”. Take the length and width of your quilt and add eight inches or so. Then there will be about four inches on each side.

Don't bother taking the selvedge edges off of the top and bottom of the back; they make a great place for us to pin the quilt to the leaders, and yes, they count in the size of your back. Do be certain that there are no selvedges in any seams on the back, or on the sides of the back.

If you seam your quilt back, do set your stitch length as small as you can stand. I use a setting of setting of 1.8 or 2 on my machine. This gives a stitch length of about 12 per inch. I like to see a seam that is ½-inch or so wide, and pressed open. Other long armers have told me they prefer a seam that is pressed over. In either case, a ½-inch seam will twist less than a ¼-inch seam.

Do try to plan your seam to be horizontal, it minimizes bulk for the long armer. Your quilt back should be square. If you have any questions about how to do this, let your long armer know, or watch this space next month for backing tips.

For the batting:

It should be at least as big as the backing, bigger is OK. Many long arm quilters keep batting in stock, it may save you time and money to get it directly from them.

Thread:

Generally long-arm quilters keep thread in for your quilts. If you are thinking of supplying a particular thread, do check with them first. If they can't use that exact thread, they may be able to match the color in a brand that works well on their machine.

Do remember to talk with your quilter! Tell her who the quilt is for, and how it will be used. Let her know if you like things lightly quilted, quilted to death, or somewhere in between. It helps to know if you like your quilting to pop, or blend in. If you have questions about batting choices, she will have a ton of information for you.

One final thought: Do remember that everyone has been sewing, your long arm quilter has probably never been busier. Together, you and your long armer will be able to get that quilt done, it just might take a while. ❖

UPCOMING RETREAT DATES

Heritage in Connecticut

April 23–25 (extra days 4/21, 22) — Full, with a waiting list.

July 23–25 (extra days 7/21, 22)

October 22–24 (extra days 10/20, 21)

If interested in attending, please contact Carol Lieberman at clieber@verizon.net or 917-439-9549.

Cross Roads in New Jersey

March 3–8 — Full, with a waiting list.

For more information, contact

MarthaMusgrove, marf86@hotmail.com, 718-745-6759 or

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

Community Quilt Update

Leona Shapiro sent out a big THANK YOU to all of the machine quilters in the Guild who have quilted the **Comfort Quilts**. She is planning to drop off a number of quilts to Hour Children and Ruth's Refuge. Meanwhile, **Hole in the Wall Quilts** are being collected by Carol Lieberman. She plans to deliver them during the April retreat in Connecticut. **Veterans' Quilts** cannot be delivered to the Brooklyn Veterans' Hospital at the moment because of the pandemic but Carol Sullivan has found a Veterans' Hospice in Sullivan county that welcomes the quilts. Drop off your Veterans quilts to her at any time

Raffle Winner

The name tag raffle winner at the January meeting was Pat Decker. Her prize will be sent to her in the mail. Congratulations Pat!

SEW SMART Tips N' Tools

Hello all,

I hope you got as much out of last Saturday's Guild meeting as I did. In our little break-out session, we took turns showing each other current projects we are working on. I was impressed by the beautiful blocks Lesley Pollard's is making, using half square triangles.

Her secret? Triangles On a Roll! The paper grid is a pattern for sewing and cutting and enables you to make as many or as few units as you need. One \$10.98 roll of paper can produce 800 half square triangles that finish at 1 1/2 inch, but at Itssewemma.com (a tool in itself), rolls come in sizes from 1-inch finished squares to 6.5-inch squares. Lesley loves the quick and accurate blocks she can make using this method. The proof is in the attached photo of one of her recent blocks.

And while we're on a roll, a handy way to have all your sewing notions that come on a roll nearby is to use a paper towel holder. See the attached photo of how I store freezer paper.

Are you off to a good start in 2021? Hope some of these tips and tools make your sewing life a little more fun in the new year.

My best,

Alice Braziller
alicebraziller@gmail.com.



Membership Report

Please welcome our newest member, Shannon Reed, who joined the guild in January. She is a former Brooklynite who attended our December meeting as a guest. We now have 181 members

~ Mary Hawley, Membership Chair

NOW CARRYING DOLL CLOTHING SUPPLIES



SEW BEARY SPECIAL
718-951-3973
1025 EAST 28 STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11210
sewbeary@aol.com
A SHOPPE FOR QUILTERS

"Where I'm always happy to show you how to do it easier, faster and more fun way."

Cotton Fabrics, Books, Rotary Tools & Templates
Digital Longarm Quilting Services
Sewing & Quilting Classes Available

Guild Discount Honored
Open by Appointment

Marcie Brenner, Owner
Master Certified Sewing Educator



Easy Piecing

www.easypiecing.com
open by appointment only

New Aboriginal
Fabrics, Sashiko
& Boro Supplies,
Japanese, Silk &
Shweshwe Fabric,
Embroidery Kits

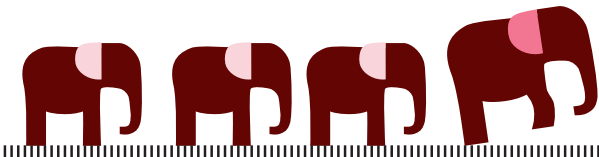
easypiecing@gmail.com

Gladys Watson's Barn Quilt

This barn quilt, called Sankofa, measures 48 x 48 inches and will be hung on Gladys Watson's home in Maryland. She started the project in March 2019. "It is a collaboration between Martha Dillard from New Castle, VA, and myself," she says. "I contacted Martha after seeing an article in a magazine where she was featured as a Barn Quilt artist. My request was to do a non-traditional barn quilt using this design and colors, to be placed on my house in Maryland. She was delighted to do something different and welcomed the idea. Martha did an outstanding job."



10



Please check website for current in-store shopping hours



GOTHAM 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



Year-Long Quilting

There are many different ways to tackle a quilt project but one that is drawing a bit of attention these days is the year-long project. A few of our members have already embarked on these projects and find that they help them keep motivated, and they learn a few new techniques along the way.

Jenn Arzberger has recently completed a **Murder Mystery** quilt where every block solves a piece of the puzzle. "It had lots of new techniques," she says. "It was the first time I did appliqué and paper piecing." The fee for the 12-month project is \$99. Each month, members receive a pdf quilt block pattern, including templates and instructions, in their email. Membership also includes a private Facebook group and access to a private, password-protected "classroom" site where chapters, patterns and instructions are archived.

Jenn points out that there are other benefits. "Everyone gets one chance a year to guess the murderer." She says, "if you are correct your name gets put in a special raffle for the end of the year prize basket. If you guess the killer in May, for example, your name is put in the raffle seven times. They have a few other raffles as well but it's different from year to year."

The website, <https://murdermysteryquilt.com/>, includes a long list of member benefits. Registration for the next year closes soon, so don't tarry if you are interested.

Andrew Hansen recommends the **Craftsy 2012 Block of the Month** with Amy Gibson. "It's a free class on [craftsy.com](https://www.craftsy.com)," he says. "You will learn many piecing techniques including half-square triangles, quarter-square triangles, flying geese, Dresden wheels, curved piecing, English paper piecing, appliqué, and foundation paper piecing. I took this class when I was ready to make the second quilt I ever made. Once I finished, I felt like I had a very solid foundation for any type of future quilt project I had in mind. This is a perfect class for beginning quilters."

For more information, go to <https://www.craftsy.com/class/craftsy-block-of-the-month-2012/>

"As a bonus, I learned how to free-motion quilt by taking the companion class by Leah Day," says Andrew. "This class is not free, but it was a great introduction to free-motion quilting. I followed her instructions with the sampler quilt I made in Amy Gibson's class."

More details can be found at: <https://www.craftsy.com/class/free-motion-quilting-a-sampler/>

Meanwhile, Farrah Lafontant is working on an **Amish with a Twist II: The Classics by Nancy Rink Designs**. The \$30 fee takes a workshop approach with patterns and instructions in a booklet. Six installments offer 11 skill-building blocks. It uses 29 Centennial Solids to create contemporary designs inspired by Amish designs.

"I learned about this project on Instagram," says Farrah, "and learned that a small online community is connected as a result of it. I find that sense of community encouraging. I also appreciate the structure of this project, which is designed as a block-of-the-month style project; this somehow makes it feel more manageable. Lastly as new quilter, I liked that it had a skill building component."

For more information, go to <https://nancyrinkdesigns.com/shop/quilt-patterns/amish-with-a-twist-ii-the-classics-1-detail>.

While searching the web, Micki Segel discovered that **Connecting Threads** is also offering a year-long month-by-month program. For a fee of \$35/month, the Lexington Block of the Month project sends members a packet of materials and instructions each month, starting in February, 2021. The blocks were designed by Kristin Gassaway. Each pattern is different, so the final quilt will be a sampler featuring Connecting Threads' Grand Versailles fabric collection. Similar to the murder mystery quilt, all participants have access to a special Facebook group where they can connect with other Block of the Month quilters and share progress along the way. For more information, go to <https://tinyurl.com/yyltnyz7>.

~ Martha McDonald



Jenn Arzberger's Mystery Quilt

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/y4ltehgy>

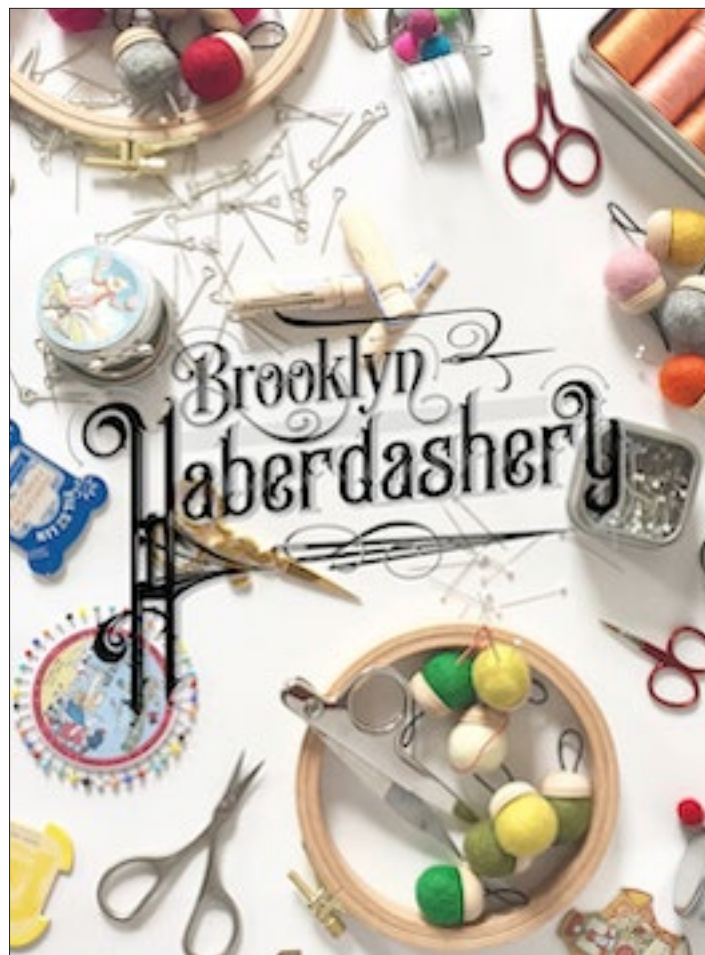
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, reopened Aug. 29, 1000 Fifth Ave., New York, NY. More than 1500 videos are also available for viewing art works and past exhibits. Collections from The Costume Institute have a material vibe that may interest quilters. *Art for the Community: The Met's Circulating Textile 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>

QuiltCon, February 18-22, 2021, Virtual. Presented by the Modern Quilt Guild, Approximately 600 modern quilts are on view, including 400 juried from MQG members from around the world, plus lectures, panels, tours and on-demand workshops. For more information, quiltcon.com.

Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival, February 24-27, 2021. Virtual. 32nd annual show sponsored by Mancuso Show Management includes competition quilts, online vendors, workshops and lectures. For more information, quiltfest.com.

The National Quilt Museum, January 15 - April 6, 2021. Exhibit featuring the 191 winners of the 2021 School Block Challenge, a competition sponsored by Moda Fabrics United Notions. The 16 x 16-inch blocks were made by 210 students from around the country. Quiltmuseum.org/SBC; [#schoolblockchallenge](https://twitter.com/schoolblockchallenge)



12



A pod of Wally and Wanda Whale blocks are swimming, via the US mail, over to Mary Hawley's home. She was the winner of the January Block of the Month. Congratulations Mary!

New Year's Resolution

In 2018 I read a memoir by chef Marcus Samuelsson who said his cooking philosophy was chasing flavors. As a quilter, I thought chasing color would be a good philosophy. In 2019 when we were choosing resolutions, I chose to skip the resolution and named 2020 the year of WOW. That was either on target or way off.

For 2021, Pat Sloan (ilovetoquilt.org) has chosen the word DO for this year and listed what she's got to DO, not just try. A Facebook friend has challenged followers to choose a word for the year beginning with the letter of our first name. Mine would be ABLE. ABLE to make it through the pandemic. ABLE to get to a better normal than we had before. ABLE to do better.

ABLE to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

~ Anna Foss

Circle Sewing Bee

13

What could be better than learning a new skill with a group of Guild members on a cozy Sunday afternoon?

A few Sundays ago, we were treated to a fun and very appealing "circles workshop" led by Micki Segel. It was so well-prepared and professional! I particularly loved the slide show of quilts with the circle motif. The slides gave us all oodles of ideas as to how to incorporate circles in our quilts. The demo, using an overhead camera and detailed step-by-step instructions, gave everyone the tools to be a great success in sewing perfect fabric circles.

One of the best aspects of the afternoon was the camaraderie that we all had as we sewed, chatted and shared our adorable circles!

So here's a thought for all the members reading this article: Think of a technique you have mastered and consider leading a Zoom Sunday workshop for all of us. If you are interested, just contact Michael Sengstack (mgsengstack@msn.com) or Farrah Lafontant (farrah.lafontant@gmail.com) and they will try to schedule you on a Sunday of your choice.

~ Madi Appell



One pink circle.



Blue circles on a curtain.

Valerie Turer made three projects!



Madi Appell's mug rugs



Barbara Danzi's work in progress. She's planning to make them into a pillow.



Tree of life with bird and animal circles.

Sew Know: Technique Sampler Block 5

BY MARCIE BRENNER, MCSE

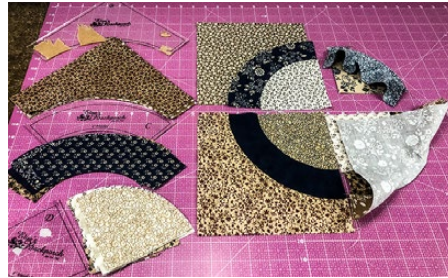
THIS MONTH WE WILL be exploring blocks with curves: the Drunkard's Path with two pieces or three pieces. The two-piece block uses a 7-inch template and the three-piece block uses an 8-inch template. If you are making this block for the technique sampler quilt described in this season's "Sew Know" columns, use a 3-inch, two-piece template and the layout is 4 x 4. I couldn't find my 3-inch Drunkard's Path template at the time of writing this column.

A. Cutting Strips: Measure the template straight edge and cut strips to that length. For the three piece set, measure from point to point on the longest side of the arc shape and cut strip width. Alternate the template placement when cutting to conserve fabric.



B. Crease mark the center of each piece to be sewn to aid in matching.

C. With concave (inside curve) on top of convex curve (outside curve), match and pin at beginning edge, the midpoint and the end.



D. Stitch at 1/4 inch, gently guiding the upper fabric around the lower fabric, keeping the edges even. The top piece has a lot of give to it as the outer edge is bias. Only be concerned that the seam line is smooth; the rest of the block will be ruffled, but will press flat.

E. Press the seam away from the center of the block, removing any overlapping fabric. The block should lie flat.



Drunkard's Path blocks are very versatile and can be used in a range of designs from traditional to modern patterns. All types of fabrics from reproduction fabrics to batiks can be used. Strips can be pieced together and then cut with the templates to add another dimension. Blocks can be grouped into units and then separated from each other with sashing for another look.



Drunkard's Path



- Full Service Quilt Shop
- 4,500 Bolts of Fabric
- Quilting Cotton, Batiks, Apparel Fabrics
- Pre-cuts, Kits, Patterns, Notions
- Longarm Quilting
- Embroidery On Site
- Bernina Classroom and Machines
- Handi Quilter Sales / Service
- **New Fabric Arrives Weekly!**

Cotton Candy Fabrics

457 Federal Road | Brookfield, CT | (203) 885-0792
 Open 24/7 at cottoncandyfabrics.com

Retreats
 Classroom
 available
 for rent

Hours
 M 9-5, T 9-5,
 W 9-5, Th 9-7,
 F 9-5, S 9-5,
 Sun 10-4

Order by
3pm for
Same Day
Shipping



LOVE IS IN THE MAKING



Materials, Classes and Machines for the Inspired Maker

Store Hours : Mon – Fri 12 – 7, Sat 12 – 6, Sun 12 – 5

128 Union Street, Brooklyn, New York 11231 • www.brooklyngeneral.com





BROOKLYN
QUILTERS
GUILD

FEBRUARY 2021 BOM

EISHA ELEPHANT

The Elephant Festival in Jaipur India is celebrated in the beginning of March. Take a look on-line at the beautifully painted elephants to find some inspiration and have your elephant ready for the parade! ~Robin Engleman & Joy West

Fabrics & Cutting - Number the cut pieces with pins or stickers for easy reference.

Elephant Body Contrast to background

- 1 8.5" w x 7.5" h
- 2 Cut two: 2.5" w x 4" h
- 3 4.5" w x 5.5" h
- 4 1.5" w x 5.5" h
- 5 Cut 2: 1.5" squares (on only one of the squares, draw a diagonal line from one corner across)

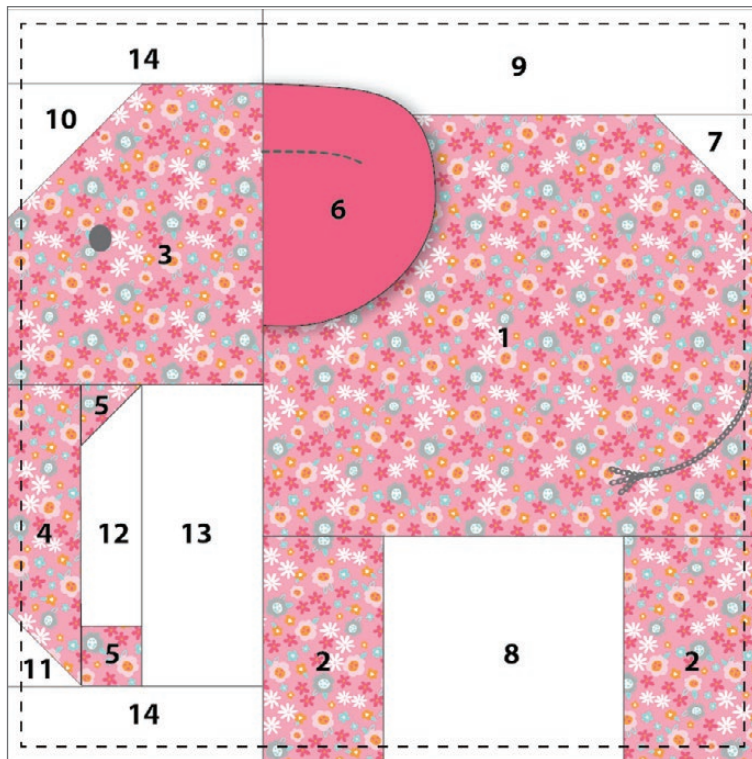
Elephant Ear Coordinating with body

- 6 Cut two: 3.5" w x 4.5" h (Trace the ear shape, following instructions with template, page 2)

Background Contrast to Elephant

- 7 2" square (Draw a diagonal line.)
- 8 4.5" w x 4" h
- 9 8.5" w x 2" h
- 10 2.5" square (Draw a diagonal line.)
- 11 1.5" square (Draw a diagonal line.)
- 12 1.5" w x 4.5" h
- 13 2.5" w x 5.5" h
- 14 Cut two: 4.5" w x 1.5" h

Piecing Chart



Sewing instructions

All seam allowances are 1/4".

STEP 1: Elephant Body & Legs

- Place elephant body piece #1 horizontally, face-up. Pin background #7 to the top right hand corner. Stitch along the diagonal line, trim away the corner to 1/4" seam allowance and press the seam towards the elephant body. (fig. 1)
- Sew the legs, #2, to each side of background #8. Press the seams towards the legs. (fig. 2)
- To complete this half of the block, sew the leg section to the bottom of the body and the #9 background piece to the top of the body. Press the seams towards the main body.



(fig. 1)



(fig. 2)

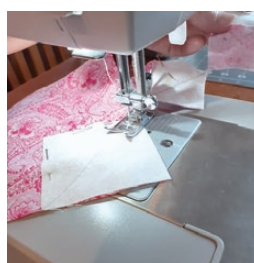
STEP 2: Head & Trunk

A time saving trick: Prepare several pieces to sew at the same time in a chain without stopping to cut the thread in between them until you have sewn them all.

- Place the head piece #3 vertically and pin #10 to the upper left corner, the diagonal line across the corner. Place the trunk #4 vertically and pin #11 to the bottom so the triangle will position at the left corner (see placement chart) Place Background #12 vertically and pin #5 to the top left corner.
- Sew the three pieces one after the other on the diagonal lines leaving at least a 1/4" between each piece. Cut them apart, trim each corner to 1/4" and press toward the elephant fabric.



(fig. 3)



Stitch one after the other, clip apart, and trim 1/4" from the seams.



BROOKLYN
QUILTERS
GUILD

FEBRUARY 2021 BOM

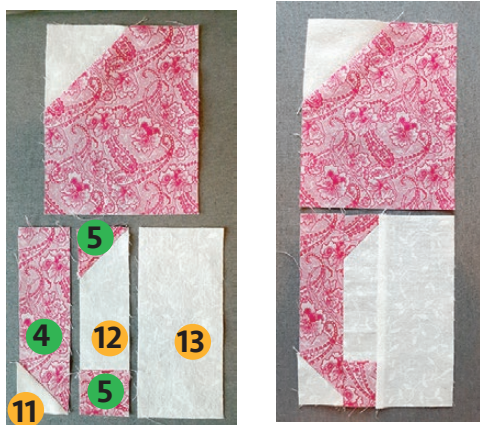
EISHA ELEPHANT

Eisha is a female Hindu name meaning "attractive, desire".

17

(continued from page one)

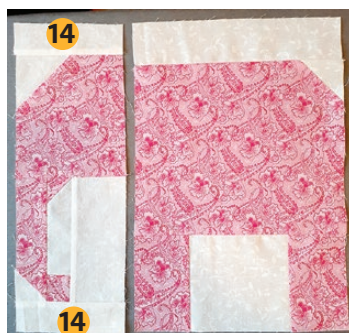
- Sew the other #5 piece to the opposite end of #12 and press.
- Complete the trunk by sewing together the #12 group to the right side of the trunk #4 (ref chart.) Sew background #13 to the right side of the completed trunk.
- Sew the completed trunk section to the bottom of the head. Sew one #14 background to the top of the head and the other to the bottom edge below the trunk.



Do NOT sew the head to the body until you have completed the 3D EAR (see next page.)

STEP 3: Ear

Stitch and turn out the 3D ear as instructed. If you wish to add embroidery or an edge stitch, do so before final assembly.



STEP 4:

Final Assembly

- Pin the ear to the top of the head, just below the head seam, and baste 1/8" from the edge so the basting stitch won't show when finished.
- Stitch all layers of the head and the body of the elephant together.
- Press the seam towards the head so that the ear flops towards the body.
- A stitch across part of the middle of the ear looks decorative and keeps the ear in place.

Embroider an eye and tail to finish!



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! For details, email: margaret.marcy@gmail.com

The finished block should measure about 12.5" inches square. (12" block with 1/4" seam allowance all the way around.)





BROOKLYN
QUILTERS
GUILD

FEBRUARY 2021 BOM

EISHA ELEPHANT

STITCH-N-TURN APPLIQUE EAR

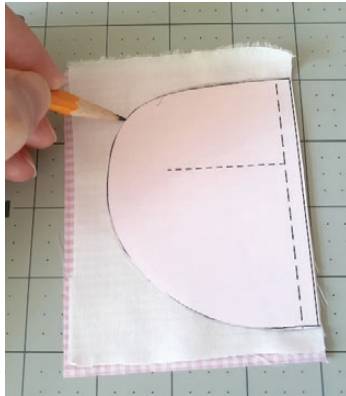
3D applique details are a popular trend now in children's clothing. Such fun for a baby quilt!

third of three pages



Make a 3D ear that flaps!

Put the two pieces of fabric for the ear facing together. The piece that you want visible should be on top. If your fabric is very thin or see-through add a layer of interfacing or white fabric on top of that.



Using the template, trace the stitch line onto the top layer, matching up the straight edge of the template to the straight edge of the ear. (A 1/4" seam allowance is already added to the straight edge. The ear is a mirror image of what it will be when finished, because it is inside out.)



Stitch the layers together on the tracing line. Trim to 1/4" seam allowance. To decrease the bulk trim one of the edges to 1/8".



When you turn the shape inside out the seam allowance will pucker and not lie straight. To prevent this cut small triangles into the seam allowance. Be careful not to cut all the way into the seam! Turn the ear out. Use your fingers or a tool to push the seam out to a perfect curve and press with an iron.

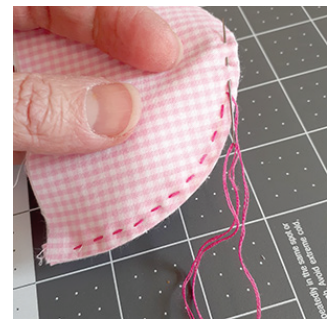


As a decorative option you can top stitch along the edge by hand or machine, or add embroidery to the edge or the center of the ear.



Choose fun fabrics to add texture such as corduroy or fleece when constructing a baby quilt. Just make sure that what ever you add to an item for a baby is securely stitched.

Enjoy!



Template (cut 2)

two layers of fabric, face together
trace on back side of fabric

