BROOKLYN QUILTERS GUILD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

June 2021

Volume 28 Issue 10



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**BOM NEWS** 

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Dear Guild Members,

If the Guild wrote history books, this year would definitely be an entire chapter unto it-self— maybe an entire volume! We are so grateful to have such a supportive and active membership, which was never more evident than this past year. Members stepped up to make sure that we were all staying connected as a community, even if we couldn't see each other in person. Family members and neighbors pitched in when a member needed assistance setting up the technology necessary to attend our virtual meetings and workshops. You are all such an inspiration in so many ways!

On a personal note, I want to give a huge THANK YOU to our board. While a few of us are stepping down at the end of this membership year, several of the current board members are staying on. And the new members that have volunteered to fill the vacant positions are dedicated to keeping the Guild moving in the right direction. So thank you to Margaret, Farrah, Michael, Anna, Micki, and Mary for being the best fellow board members a guy could ask for! And thank you, Margaret, Micki, Barbara, Michael, Alice, Leona, Barb, and Serena for volunteering to be our new board for what I know will be a very exciting term! (Though hopefully not quite as exciting as this last one.)

Finally, be on the lookout for some Guild picnics this summer! I hope to see many of you in person over these next few months while we all transition into a new seminormal state of life.

Most sincerely, Andrew Hansen Co-President

# 2020–2021 Brooklyn Quilters Guild

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### MEET THE QUILTER

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# SEW KNOW

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### TIPS N' TOOLS

Alice Braziller

### **COPY EDITOR**

Lyn Hill

### Something to share? The

deadline for submissions for the September 2021 issue of *The Brooklyn Bee* is 9 a.m., Monday, August 2, 2021. Please email to:

texasmcd@hotmail.com.

# The Brooklyn Quilters Guild

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

# **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

# Join Us at Our Meetings

# GUILD MEETINGS on ZOOM

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

NEXT MEETING: June 19, 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

# Fall Quilt Fence Show

Following the amazing success of our first two quilt fence shows, the Guild is planning another show for the fall. The theme will be "Come Together" and the show will be led by Micki Segel and Madi Appell, the fantastic duo responsible for the first two shows, along with a team of energetic volunteers.

So mark your calendars and start working on your "Come Together" challenge quilts. As usual, the quilts should measure  $36 \times 36$  inches and have a label on the back. They will be due on September 25 at the Guild meeting.

The tentative date for the fall show is Saturday, October 23, with a rain date of October 30. For more information, contact Micki Segel, mickisegel@gmail.com, or Madi Appell, nycfash@aol.com.

# Guild YouTube Channel

The Guild has a YouTube channel! Check out our Earth Day quilt show video. We hope to post more content in the future, so be sure to subscribe and spread the word.

<a href="https://youtube.com/channel/UCPWxp4Px7q2UC9h-b2t19Hyg">https://youtube.com/channel/UCPWxp4Px7q2UC9h-b2t19Hyg</a>

# September Guild Meeting

Holy Name Church needs our meeting room on the third Saturday of September, so our next meeting has been moved back a week to Saturday, September 25. This will be our first in-person meeting in more than a year. To accommodate our out-of-town members, it will be a hybrid meeting, featuring a Zoom component. Welcome back!!

# The International Quilt Festival

Quilt Festival Houston is scheduled this year for October 23rd through –25th at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, TX. To learn more about the show and how to enter your quilt, go to <a href="https://www.quilts.com/enter-your-quilt/">https://www.quilts.com/enter-your-quilt/</a>. There are a number of different categories for entries.

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

# Guild Summer Picnic

Our first summer Guild picnic is scheduled for Saturday, June 26, from 11:30 to 4 p.m. in Prospect Park at the Carousel Lawn North, 452 Flatbush Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11225. Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on, a hand sewing project, and your lunch.

We will be celebrating the end of the Guild year and honor our outgoing board members. We hope to see you there!

~ Margaret Marcy Emerson

# **Guild Calendar**

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

# June

June 13, 1 - 4 — Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

**June 19, 11 a.m**. — Guild meeting on Zoom, featuring a trunk show by new members

June 26, 11 – 4:30 — Guild Summer Picnic, Prospect Park, Carousel Lawn North, 452 Flatbush Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11225. Enter at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue. The Q, B and Shuttle trains stop nearby.

June 27, 1 - 4 — Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

# September

**September 12** — Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

**September 25, 11 a.m.** — Guild meeting, hybrid inperson and Zoom, Holy Name of Jesus Church, Shepherd's Hall. Meeting moved from the third Saturday of the month to the 25th. Come Together challenge quilts are due.

**September 16** — Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

### October

**Saturday, October 23, 11 - 4 a.m.** — Tentative date for the Fall Quilt Fence show. Rain date Saturday, October 30.

# Time to Renew Your Guild Membership

BECOMING A MEMBER OF OUR GUILD PROVIDES opportunities to meet fellow quilters, make friends, get inspired, share your work, and so much more. Go to our website, www.quiltbrooklyn.org, to download the membership form or you can get it at the September meeting.

# Member benefits include opportunities to:

- Attend 10 monthly meetings each year (September to June). The meetings feature Show and Tell sessions, a monthly raffle, Block of the Month challenges, and a vendor table. Some meetings include workshops or trunk shows.
- Participate in twice-monthly Sunday Sewing Bees.
- Show your work at Guild meeting Show and Tell ses-
- Take part in our Guild-sponsored workshops, classes and special events.
- Participate in Block of the Month challenges, with detailed instructions each month, and a chance to win the month's blocks.
- Join in our many Guild-sponsored charitable quilting projects.
- Receive 10 issues of our monthly newsletter, The Brooklyn Bee (September to June) providing Guild news, notices of shows and exhibitions, and other articles of interest to quilters.
- Receive weekly Bee Blasts with timely information about quilting events and news.
- Participate in quilt retreats.
- Show your quilts in Guild-sponsored quilt shows.
- Take advantage of our Grab and Go: free swaps and free fabric, book and notions table.
- Take advantage of discounts at many local quilt shops.

# Ballot The Brooklyn Quilters Guild FIFCTIONS

**Proposed Slate of Officers** 2021-2022

### **Co-Presidents:**

☐ Margaret Marcy Emerson/Micki Segel

# **Co-Vice Presidents:**

☐ Barbara Danzi/Michael Sengstack

# Secretary:

☐ Alice Braziller

### Treasurer:

☐ Leona Shapiro

# **Co-Membership Secretaries:**

☐ Serena Boyles / Barbara Christ

Electronic voting will occur at the June Guild meeting on ZOOM on Sat June 19, 2021. If you are unable to attend the June 19 meeting, please print this ballot, mark your vote by placing an "X" next to the nominees' name and mail the completed ballot by June 12.

Ballots should be mailed to:

The Brooklyn Quilters Guild PO Box 150198, Van Brunt Station Brooklyn NY 11215-0198

# **BOSTON MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS**

# TO FEATURE SYLVIA HERNANDEZ QUILTS

The Museum of Fine Arts in Boston has recently purchased two of Sylvia Hernandez's quilts for their permanent collection. They will be featured in two upcoming exhibits.

The first exhibit, *Fabric of a Nation: American Quilt Stories*, will feature Sylvia's quilt, "How Many More?". It measures 52x71 inches and was first shown at the Guild's show at In-

#NEVER AGAIN COURLIVES
OURLIVES

Sylvia showed How Many More? (bottom right) along with another quilt at our Guild show in 2018.



The Padilla family is from Sylvia's husband's side of the family. "They are a wonderful family and always treated me as their own. I made a few of these for the family," she says.

dustry City in 2018. "The focus on this exhibit," says Sylvia, "is to show how storytelling has emerged in quilts."

Sylvia is in good company. Other notable quilters in this exhibit include author, historian and artist Carolyn L. Mazloomi, Bisa Butler and historic folk artist and quilter Harriet Powers. This exhibit will run from October 10, 2021 through January 17, 2022.

The second quilt that the museum purchased is Los Abuelos Padilla/The Padilla Grandparents. It measures 18x21 inches and will be used in a later exhibit on families from the Caribbean.

Sylvia says she was surprised when the museum contacted her by email and originally thought that they just wanted to borrow the quilts. Then she realized that they wanted to purchase them for their permanent collection. The curator from the museum, Jessica Swope, will be coming to her home studio in Brooklyn to interview her for background on the work and the artist herself. �



This quilt was made in response to the Parkland and other school shootings.

# My First Quilt

### BY ANNETTE WALLACE

6

I started sewing more than 30 years ago when my daughters were young. Mostly Halloween costumes, curtains and simple projects. My mom was a seamstress in her younger days and my dad worked as a pattern cutter in the garment district, so I guess it was in my blood.

I bought myself a very small Singer sewing machine that came inside a sewing basket, at Costco. It may have been small, but it worked just fine.

In the early Fall of 1998, my niece announced that she was pregnant and when she was just three months along, her

husband, who was a New York City firefighter, was killed in a fire. I needed to do something special for her and her new baby. I decided I was going to make my first quilt. My friend and neighbor who happened to be a math genius helped me figure out how to make the Shoo Fly pattern blocks.

Sewing and quilting a crib sized quilt on my little Singer was a bit of a challenge, but it worked! I decided to take things a step further and made a bumper, dust ruffle and pillows for the crib. My niece still has it and hopes to someday pass it on to her grandchild.

After I finished my quilt, I had caught the quilting bug. I purchased a Bernina 1008, which I still use today, and I was invited to join a small quilting group

in Brooklyn. I was very intimidated and a little hesitant at first, but it was the best thing I ever did. I remember my first meeting like it was yesterday. As the years went by, I became more comfortable and this group of ladies became some of my closest friends who have taught me everything I know. Even through this pandemic we continue to

meet every Wednesday morning through Zoom, minus the bagels!

Through the years many quilts have been made for more babies (including two grandchildren), weddings, college, healing and memories. I have broadened my horizons and have learned to knit, crochet and embroider. Being creative has helped me through the tough times in life and I hope that will continue.

My grandniece will be 22 in July and will be graduating from college. Even though her quilt was the first quilt I made,

> it certainly wasn't the last! Time is flying and I am so thrilled that I have a hobby that has brought me and others so much happiness and wonderful friendships during these past 20-plus years. ❖









# THE GAME QUILT

### BY LYN S. HILL

Nine years ago I saw a pattern for a game quilt at a quilt show and thought it would be fun to make it and play games with my grandson, Leo, then six years old. Leo was enthusiastic about the project but it was not a priority for me and the quilt, made entirely from fabrics in my stash, was not completed until a few years later. By that time, Leo had moved on to electronic games and had lost interest in the game quilt. I put it away, along with the box of game pieces and markers that I'd made from bottle caps, buttons and empty spools, thinking that maybe, someday, one of his younger brothers might like to play with it.

During the last year, I've had the great good luck of having both my daughter and my son move to homes within walking distance of my house. We formed a quasi-pod last fall and now get together frequently. Their children — all boys, ranging in age from three to 14 years, have become very close, despite the age disparity. Two of the cousins, Wolf, age eight, and James, age five, have been spending every Tuesday afternoon at my house. The two enjoy getting "treats" from Grandma, watching TV that's not allowed at home, and playing with toys and board games left over from their parents' childhoods. Although both are highly techno-savvy and into elaborate video games, none of that is available at Grandma's house.

A couple of months ago, while doing some pandemic decluttering, I found the game quilt, which I'd long forgotten. I decided to see whether Wolf and James might be interested in playing some of the games on it. To my delight, the boys were very excited and



The game quilt



James' spool tower



Wolf and James building spool towers

wanted to learn and play all of the games on the quilt. Since then, they nearly always ask if they can play with the game quilt and spend some of the afternoon playing "the ring game" (a version of Sorry), checkers, tic tac toe, or mancala.

One day, before putting away the game pieces made from old spools, I noticed that the boys were building a tower with them. "If you want to play with spools, I've got lots more for you," I said. The boys enthusiastically asked me to get them. Whenever I use up a spool of thread, I save the spool in a box — after all you never know what use an empty spool might have in the future. So I took out two boxes, filled with dozens of spools and gave them to Wolf and James. And these two veterans of legos and other highly sophisticated construction toys now regularly enjoy playing with old empty spools. So much for video games! �

# Membership Report

Please welcome our newest members, Kelly Adelia and Renee McCarthy, who have joined since the beginning of May. We now have 195 members.

~ Mary Hawley, Membership Chair

# Quilt Labels: Why Not Credit the Quilter?

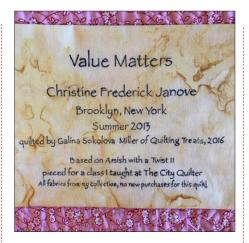
BY MARY HAWLEY

While I was a white glove volunteer at our fence show, I turned to the back of several quilts while explaining techniques to our viewers. I was surprised that none of those guilt labels mentioned a second person who did the quilting. I have since found out that fewer than a quarter of our quilts were quilted by someone other than the quilt maker so that was no surprise, but it did get me thinking, "Do we as a general practice include a line item on our guilt labels for that other person who did the quilting?" If your quilt will be in a show, you credit the quilter on the application, so why not on the label?

And then I wondered if not getting credit on a quilt label actually bothered long-arm quilters. So, I called up a couple of our members, Joyce Austin and Merrie Handfinger, to find out if this was a big deal for them. It turned out that neither of them thought this was important unless, of course, a quilt is in a show. Basically, they felt that most quilt recipients wouldn't understand the distinction between the quilt maker and a quilter so it wasn't important to make that distinction on the label.

While talking to Joyce, I was imagining my quilts being found years from now in a flea market and she said that she would love discovering a quilt and learning that it was created as a collaboration between a quilt maker and a quilter.

I, myself, being a very literal-minded person have always credited the longarm quilter on my labels. And those







are the ones I can bear to give away. I actually had to get my niece to take a picture of the label on a quilt I gave her so I could include an example here.

But I knew who to call for other examples. I was pretty sure Christine Janove's quilt labels included the quilter's name when applicable and she did not disappoint. Chris has done a lot of teaching and this is part of her practice; and she had strong opinions about what should be there and many examples. At a minimum: the maker's name, the completion date and the place where the quilt was made should be included.

The quilt label tells the story of the quilt. When you look at the examples she shared, you can learn a lot. I wished I had done more of that on some of mine.

For more information about how to make quilt labels and what information to include, check out these wonderful articles in past issues of the Bee:

- 2016. Every Quilt Deserves to Be Signed. By Gurusurya Kaur Khalsa
- June 2019. Quilt Labels Tips from Members

# Name Tag Raffle Winner

Congratulations to Trudy Reeves. She was the winner of the name tag raffle at the May meeting. A nice prize is heading your way.

# SEW SMART

# Tips N' Tools

Hello friends,

I recently bought a new 35 x 23-inch mat to replace my old, warped one. Rather than abandoning my devoted, old mat to a landfill, I researched ideas for repurposing it. I read on the internet some great ideas for using old mats as tops for fish cleaning tables (not my thing!), computer mouse pads, shelf liners, mats for under plants and even turning them into checker boards. But for sewing purposes, here are interesting tips I am trying:

 Cut out a six-inch square from a section of your old mat that is in good shape. Put this small square on top of your new cutting mat to more easily maneuver small pieces.



 For a more elaborate swiveling set up, buy a wooden Lazy Susan (usually 12-inch round). From the old cutting mat cut out a circle the same size of the Lazy Susan. Glue onto the Lazy Susan with a thin but strong glue, especially around the outer edges. Now you have a rotating cutting mat to accurately cut those small quilt pieces. On Amazon, prices for wooden Lazy Susans begin at \$12. This would make a great gift for a sewing buddy.

- Make fabric covered coasters. Cut your old mat into four-inch squares. Cut out a 9 x 4 1/2-inch piece from a jazzy fabric. Make an envelope by stitching three sides. Insert the 4-inch old mat piece, fold in the top and top stitch across. Voila!
  - So simple and you have another perfect gift!
- Cut out pieces of the old mat to use as sturdy bottoms for bags and purses.

Are you sewing green these days? If you have ideas for repurposing any of your old tools or notions, please send them my way. Let's contribute to a healthier earth.

Happy spring.

Alice 917-557-0112

alicebraziller@gmail.com



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# **Cross Roads in New Jersey**

The next retreat is scheduled for November 7th through Friday, November 12th. For more information, contact: Martha Musgrove (marf86@hotmail.com) or Susan Aronoff (susan.aronoff@gmail.com).

More detailed information on the retreats can be found on the Guild's website at

https://www.quiltbrooklyn.org/retreats.



# **Heritage in Connecticut**

There's still room at the next retreat taking place, from Tuesday, July 20th through Sunday, July 25th. A fall retreat is scheduled for Tuesday, October 19 through Sunday, October 24. For more information, contact Carol Lieberman (clieber@verizon.net).

# **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.









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# **Sew Know:** TECHNIQUE: APPLIQUE; SAMPLER BLOCK 6

# BY MARCIE BRENNER, MCSE

HERE IS A TECHNIQUE that many quilters are hesitant to pursue, yet the results can add a whole new dimension to one's quilting repertoire. Appliqué can be done by hand or machine and can range from very simple to breathtakingly intricate. Piecing and appliqué can be combined within a block or in an entire quilt.

Clean-edge machine appliqué allows for the edge to be turned under, with no raw edge. Fusible or washout stabilizers (like Solvy) can be used. Prepare your fabric by drawing the template on the wrong

6 1/2 inches

side of the fabric; this is the stitching line.

If you are using an iron-on stabilizer, face the adhesive side toward the right side of the fabric. Also place a washout stabilizer, on the right side of the fabric. Stitch on the line; trim close, about 1/8 inch. (I use pinking shears when curves are involved.) Slash the stabilizer, trim it and turn the piece right side out; using a point turner to push seams right to the edge.

Position your pieces on your background. If using a fusible, you can adhere the pieces in place. The advantage of using Solvy is that it can be washed out, leaving no bulkiness, after stitching in place. Stitch the clean finished edge with matching, contrasting or invisible thread. You can use a straight, narrow zigzag, blind hem or decorative stitch to secure the appliqué to the block.

Using invisible thread with a narrow zigzag stitch or blind stitch will leave people wondering "how did you, do that?"

Learning how to do clean edge appliqué will open up many pattern possibilities, such as Robbing Peter to Pay Paul, Dresden Plate (just face the outer edge, after the plate is pieced) and Sunbonnet Sue.

To make the Robbing Peter to Pay Paul block you will need the melon template provided and two 6 ½-inch squares in each of two different colors; four squares in total.

Trace the melon templates onto the wrong side of additional same fabrics, for a total of four each.



Prepare and stitch out following the instructions above.

Cut each melon in half vertically, point to point.

Arrange the melons' cut edge along square edges, using opposite colors.

Stitch the melons in place to assemble the block.



Trace, stitch, trim



Turn, divide, stitch

# **Events of Note**

**Art Quilt Elements 2020**. **Available until July 9, 2021**. 48 winning quilts selected out of 700 for this online exhibition featuring Guild member Susan Byrnes. See the quilts and meet the artists at **www.artquiltelements.com**.

**Textile Study Group of NY. Spring 2021 Gallery.** Online at <a href="https://www.tsgny.org/gallery-30-spring-2021">https://www.tsgny.org/gallery-30-spring-2021</a>.

**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.

Wisconsin Museum of Quilts & Fiber Arts. Wisconsin Quilts: Stories in the Stitches, April 29 – August 29, 2021. Thirty quilts celebrating the 10th anniversary of WMQFA and 20th anniversary of Stories in the Stitches, a book based on documentation of quilts in Wisconsin. <a href="https://www.wiquiltmuseum.com/current-exhibits">https://www.wiquiltmuseum.com/current-exhibits</a>

Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia), Freedom Rising: I am the Story, January 28 – September 19, 2021. 2400 Third Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN. Exhibit featuring fabric artist L'Merchie Frazier, is part of Textile Center and Women of Color Quilters Network's We are the Story initiative. https://new.artsmia.org.

**Boston Museum of Fine Art.** *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.

The winner of the May block of the month, the Spring Peeper, was Shelley Girshick. Congratulations Shelley! Look for these frog blocks to arrive in the mail soon.

**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. <a href="https://www.quilts.com/quilt-festival-houston/">https://www.quilts.com/quilt-festival-houston/</a>.

**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 <a href="https://www.metmuseum.org">https://www.metmuseum.org</a>

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

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

