

The Brooklyn Bee

BROOKLYN QUILTERS GUILD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

April 2021

Volume 28
Issue 8

MEET THE QUILTER

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PHOTOS ON FABRIC

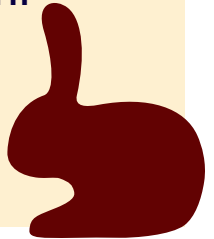
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BLOCK OF THE MONTH

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Dear Guild Members,

I don't know about you, but the month of April is filling me with hope this year. The weather is improving bit by bit. The sunshine is lasting longer each day. Vaccines seem to be working! I'm really looking forward to meeting my friends in the park and sitting on my picnic quilt.

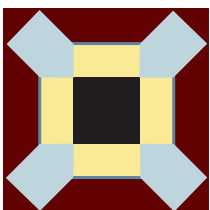
And of course, I hope to actually see many of you at our upcoming Earth Day Fence Quilt Show. I have been privileged to see all of the photos the participants have sent in, and I can assure you that this show is going to be spectacular. It will be yet another brilliant showcase of the breadth and depth of talent our Guild offers to the community.

Thank you to everyone who is participating, and a huge thank you in advance to all of our volunteers. Of course, the show wouldn't be possible without the amazing team behind the scenes, spearheaded by Micki Segel and Madi Appell, along with Alice Braziller, Joyce Crupi, Ellen Piccolo, Margaret Marcy Emerson and Martha McDonald. They are putting so much time and energy into this exhibit that will bring so much joy into all of our lives. THANK YOU!

So, yes, I am finally allowing myself to hope that life is moving forward and getting better which, honestly, I haven't allowed myself to do since the pandemic began. It's a beautiful feeling, and I hope you will join me in welcoming this new day.

Most sincerely,

Andrew Hansen
Co-President



2020-2021 Brooklyn Quilters Guild

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

Something to share? The deadline for submissions for the May 2021 issue of *The Brooklyn Bee* is 9 a.m., Monday, April 19, 2021. Please email to: texasmc@hotmail.com.



The Brooklyn Bee

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Our Social Media Links

Facebook BOM Group

<https://tinyurl.com/ycxfz8fs>

Facebook Member-Only Group

<https://tinyurl.com/ycbwzom9>

Monthly Show and Tell

<https://tinyurl.com/y6xv5wyd>

Instagram

[@Brooklyn_Quilters_Guild](https://www.instagram.com/Brooklyn_Quilters_Guild)

The Brooklyn Quilters Guild

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Join Us at Our Meetings

GUILD MEETINGS on ZOOM

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

NEXT MEETING: April 17, 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

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Quilt Fence Show Set for April 24!

Our Guild's second Quilt Fence Show is scheduled for Saturday, April 24, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a rain date of May 8, so it's time to finish your quilts. To date, about 50 quilts have been registered.

The theme for the show is Earth Day, and our show coordinates with the actual Earth Day which falls on April 22. The Quilt Fence Show is even listed on the official Earth Day site, earthday.org.

The quilts should be delivered to Micki Segel, 135 Prospect Park Southwest, on Saturday, April 3, between 1 and 3 p.m. If you are unable to drop off your quilt at that time please contact Madi Appell at nycfash@aol.com to make other arrangements.

To volunteer to help with the show, contact Alice Braziller, albraz@nyc.rr.com, or go to this link: https://doodle.com/poll/46rzqtc8tkarsqzf?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link. If you have already volunteered, you will hear from Alice soon.

For more information, go to the Challenges section of the Guild's website or contact Micki Segel at mickisegel@gmail.com or Madi Appell at nycfash@aol.com.

Also, please help to promote the show by "sharing" on your social media accounts the show graphic created by Margaret Marcy Emerson. It can be shared directly from the Guild Facebook page, or the graphic can be downloaded from the Guild website.

Raffle Winner

The name tag raffle winner at the March meeting was Susan Sato. Congratulations Susan!

Earth Day Grab 'N Go

Recycle we must! At our April 24th Earth Day Quilt Fence Show, we're setting up some tables in the lot behind our meeting place at the Church. It'll be just like our BQG share table at our historic meetings (remember them?).

We'll be setting up at 10:30 a.m. and all are welcome to drop off bags of fabric scraps, quilting books and magazines and sewing supplies you no longer love. Please, no loose fabric scraps. If you see something you want, grab it and go!

We plan on sticking around until 2:00 p.m., so there's time for you to drop off your goodies until then. .

Contact Pat Decker at patleedecker@gmail.com for more information.

~ Pat Decker

Food Pantry

Susan Sato has organized a collection for the Food Pantry in the church parking lot during our Quilt Fence Show. Please bring items that do not require refrigeration.

Using Hashtags

When posting on social media about our upcoming Quilt Fence Show, it's a good idea to add hashtags. Here is the one that Margaret Marcy put on the promotion: [#brooklynquiltsfenceshow](https://twitter.com/brooklynquiltsfenceshow). You can add more. Just use your imagination and keep adding them.

Membership Report

Five people have joined our guild since our last meeting. Please welcome Richie Doron, Sara Goggin, Marandi Hostetter, Maureen O'Neill and Louisa Spampinato! The member count is now at 190.

~ Mary Hawley, Membership Chair

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Quilting Geeks Seeking Technology Geek:

As we look forward to the possibility of a return to in-person meetings during our 2021-2022 season, the Guild would like to investigate ways to facilitate virtual attendance and support an elevated group education experience for our remote members. The Guild is seeking a volunteer or a recommendation for someone who can provide advice and technical expertise on equipment and set-up. We would prefer equipment that is portable and can adapt to different users and devices. If you have knowledge in this area or have a friend that you could recommend for consultation please contact your Programming Chairs: Michael at mgsengstack@msn.com or Farrah at Farrah.lafontant@gmail.com.

We want as many members as possible to feel comfortable participating. Your support is greatly appreciated and will help us keep that sense of creative community.

Community Quilt Update: ABC Frenzy

Jenn Arzberger reports that this year's February ABC Frenzy was a great success. As of the March 20th, 119 quilts had been collected, and a few more are on the way. Two prizes were awarded. The one for the most quilts submitted goes to Pat Decker who made 12 ABC quilts. The names of others who submitted quilts went into a drawing and the winner was Maureen Galli.

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.

Sewing Machines Needed

Mark Grashow, husband of long-time Guild member, Sheri Saltzberg, who died earlier this year, is collecting used sewing machines to donate to a sewing school cooperative in Sierra Leone. For more information, please email: Mark at mars475@aol.com. See the March Bee for more information.

Guild Calendar

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

April

April 11, 1 – 4 p.m. — Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

April 11 & 18, 1 – 4 p.m. — Lenni Abel Workshop featuring Maria Shell

April 17, 11 a.m. — Guild meeting on Zoom.

April 19 — Deadline to submit articles for the May Bee.

April 24, 11 – 4 p.m. — Quilt Fence Show (Rain date, May 8) featuring Earth Day Challenge Quilts. For information, contact Micki Segel, at mickisegel@gmail.com or Madi Appell at NYCFash@aol.com.

April 25, 1 – 4 p.m. — Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

May

May 9, 1 – 4 p.m. — Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

May 15, 11 a.m. — Guild meeting on Zoom

May 23, 1 – 4 p.m. — Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

Meet the Quilter: Anna M. Smiarowska

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

I signed up for the Guild in December 2020, a little Christmas gift for myself.

How did you find out about the Brooklyn Quilters Guild?

My friend, Jenn Arzberger, has been a member for a while. I attended the big quilt show a few years ago with her and the rainbow quilt fence show as well. I loved looking at all the fabulous work by the members.

How and when did you get interested in quilting?

Quilting is my pandemic hobby and as I practiced, I felt like I was ready to join a community that shared my hobby and through which I could learn more and improve. I only got my sewing machine in May of 2020 (a Singer Fashion Mate 3342) and have been slowly teaching myself through YouTube videos, a few books, and lots and lots of random text messages to Jen!

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

I am not sure that my quilting has evolved yet as I feel like I am just really learning my way. The few projects that I have made so far have all been Quilt-As-You-Go-ish. I use a lot of precuts (like jelly rolls and charm packs) and assemble different types of blocks straight onto the batting.

Then I tap into my "fancy stitches" on my Singer to quilt the block. I find this method much less daunting and each block gets me closer to being finished. I really like this method because it is very forgiving and lets me play around with different blocks without the added pressure of perfect cuts etc. In



Some of the quilts I finished last year. The teal one was my first and it was originally only supposed to be the log cabin blocks but then I realized I didn't have enough. So I made the disappearing nine-patch and the hidden-wells blocks from some leftover jelly roll strips. I learned SO MUCH making this quilt. It was supposed to be a cover for our couch but ended up being just a smidge too short!

my projects I have just mixed different types of blocks and put something organic together as a finished piece. However, I would like to follow a full pattern and complete a quilt this year like that.

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

This is not related to American quilting but here it goes. This is from when I was little (about five or six years old) and we still lived in Poland and we would stay with my grandmother on her farm. Towards the end of the summer, she would make us homemade down pillows and quilts. I remember watching all the work that it took but I also remember how cozy and warm those were in the super cold winters. It is just sweet to remember how much joy something handmade and from the heart can bring.

What is your professional background?

I am a learning and development professional and I work in a government contracts setting (mostly in call centers). I help write and deliver new hire training and professional skill development materials for employees.

How does the Brooklyn Quilters Guild and any other quilt groups you belong to, support and/or influence your quilting life?

I know that I am new to the Guild but it has been a pure joy! Just being able to get some time aside and chat with and get to know a great group of folks that share this hobby is wonderful.

~Margaret Pross

Photos on Fabric:

Recap of 2/14 How-to Presentation

BY DEBBIE BRECKENRIDGE

If you missed Kirsten Fisher's webinar on the do's and don'ts of printing photos on fabric, here is a recap:

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Two popular ways of printing photos on fabric are:

a Using pre-treated 8 ½ by 11-inch fabric sheets. (These can be purchased in packs of 5–10 from quilting and crafting stores. But if you are going to do a lot of photos, it can get expensive. The other disadvantage of this approach is that you are limited to white fabric.)

b Using your own high-thread-count cotton by treating it, ironing it to freezer paper and then printing on it on an ink-jet printer. This technique requires more steps, but it allows you to experiment with different fabric prints to create interesting visual effects for your photos.

Kirsten presented a how-to for technique B.

In addition to the photo that you want to print, you'll need the supplies listed here. Then, just follow the 12 steps described below.

Supplies

- Ink-jet printer
- High-thread-count cotton (or silk)
- "Bubble Jet Set 2000" and "Bubble Jet Rinse" (by cjenkinscompany.com)
- Freezer paper
- Rotary cutter and mat
- Iron and ironing surface

1 Do not use muslin or any thin cotton fabric that you can see through when you hold it up to the light. Instead, choose a high-thread-count quilting cotton (for example, most batiks have a high thread count).

2 Pre-wash the fabric and cut it to be larger than the paper used in your ink-jet printer. So if you are planning to use your 8 ½ by 11 inch paper tray, cut your fabric to be about 9 ½ by 12 inches.

Follow the directions on the "Bubble Jet Set 2000" bottle.
3 Pour it into a large cup or small bowl and soak the piece of fabric in it for five minutes.

After five minutes of soaking, wring out the excess liquid from the fabric and hang it up to dry. Do not use a hair dryer or any other device to dry the fabric. (NOTE: At this point, you can pour the used liquid back into the "Bubble Jet Set 2000" bottle since it can be used over and over.)

5 Cut a piece of freezer paper that is exactly 8 ½ by 11 inches.

Once the treated fabric is dry, iron the wrong side of the fabric to the shiny side of the freezer paper, using the cotton setting on your iron.
6

Trim the fabric to match exactly the 8 ½ by 11 inches of the freezer paper, being sure to remove any excess threads that could get caught in the printer.
7

Load the fabric sheet that you just created into the paper tray of your ink-jet printer, being extra careful that the fabric is facing either up or down depending on whether your printer prints the top side or the bottom side of the paper that is fed into it.
8

After scanning or emailing your photo to a device connected to your ink jet printer, print the photo on your printer.
9

10 Remove the fabric from the paper backing.

Thirty (30) minutes after printing, follow the directions on the "Bubble Jet Rinse" bottle to rinse the fabric. (NOTE: If you do not want to buy "Bubble Jet Rinse," you can use a very mild laundry detergent to rinse the fabric for this step.)
11

12 Once dry, the fabric is ready to be used for your project.



Kirsten printed these photos of her mother and uncle when they were children at least 20 years ago. The darker one was printed on unbleached muslin with a low thread count, while the lighter photo was printed on bleached muslin with a higher thread count.

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

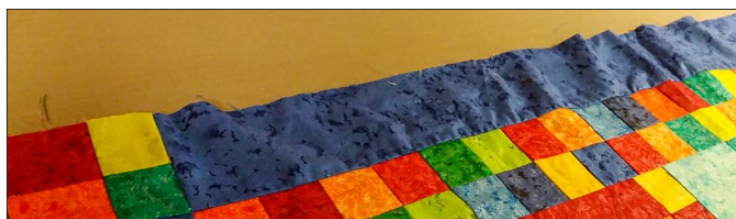
ARE YOUR QUILTS FRIENDLY?

BY JOYCE AUSTIN

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Has your long arm quilter ever said that your quilt was friendly? It really is not as good as it sounds. When a long arm quilter refers to a friendly quilt, we are usually talking about a quilt that waves, like a friendly neighbor. Usually, these waves occur in borders.

Borders will wave on a quilt when they are too big. Typically, the extra fabric winds up eased into the border and the quilt measures longer and wider at the very corners than it does in the center. This causes the corners of the quilt to flare out, and the quilt sides will take on an hourglass appearance. The ease in the border can be spotted pretty quickly, just look down the length of the border and you can usually see the places where the telltale signs of ruffling have been pressed into the border. As you are pressing those borders, keep in mind that they should flip over and lie flat fairly easily. If you are fighting to get them flat, there may be a problem.



Note the fabric puffing at the top of the border. This indicates that the border has extra fabric that was eased to fit.

Four hints for avoiding friendly quilts:

First, remember the piecing basics: Make sure all of pieces in your quilt are the proper size and shape, and make sure that once they are put together, they stay straight and true.

Second, accurately measure the finished quilt top just before adding the borders. To measure the quilt top accurately, press it, then place it on a hard flat surface (the floor may be the best choice if the quilt is too large for your table; a bed can work too). Once it is on the surface smooth it out, but don't stretch it. It should lie flat.

Then place the tape measure on top of it and note the size. Both the quilt and the tape should be lying flat. Do this at all four edges, and across the center of the quilt top for both the length and width. You will have six measurements in all, make note of them. Hint: If you are measuring your quilts by holding them and your tape measure between your outstretched hands, you will never get an accurate measurement, and you will never find any issues. The six measurements should be the same across the top. If they are not exactly the same, don't panic, there is some leeway here. I

am usually satisfied with my own quilts if the measurements are within ¼ inch of each other.

Third, cut and piece the border. When cutting and piecing the border, make sure that it does not wind up with a curve in it, this is the second reason that borders wave. If the border is curved, it will be impossible to get it to lie flat, and there will be extra fabric in the border. A curve can be created if the border is cut when the fabric was folded (as we normally cut WOF), or even if the fabric was seamed. It is harder to make a border accurate if it has a diagonal seam and it will be stretchy, so there will be an increased chance of the border curving. It is a good idea to check your border after construction to make sure that it stays straight and flat.

When I am creating borders, I normally make them longer than I know I will need. Patterns sometimes specify the lengths that borders should be, however it is common for the top to measure a little different size than the original, so I prefer to cut the borders to length after I have the exact measurements. Decide which sides of the quilt will get the first borders. If my quilt top measurements are within tolerance, I like to take the measurement of the side I will be working on and cut that border to that measurement exactly. I make sure that both ends of the border are cut squarely. I cut and attach one border at a time. If you would rather, you can cut the length of the border an inch longer than required, attach it, press it, and then trim to length. Just be careful not to try to ease in the extra inch of fabric and make sure that both ends of the border are squared up when finished.

Fourth, attach the border. Working on the largest flattest surface I have, I place the quilt top face up and smooth it out without stretching it. I place the border on the top, and start pinning. I pin every three to four inches (about the width of my hand), making sure that the top and the border stay smooth and flat, nothing should get stretched. If I need pins to hold seams in a particular direction, I will pin more frequently. If you are working on a small surface do a little at a time and adjust everything carefully as you go, making sure nothing is stretched.

Once you have pinned, then sew the seam, keeping the border to the needle side and the quilt top to the bottom. Be careful that things don't slip. Once sewing is complete,

Long Arm of the Law continued on page 8

inspect the back of the seam to make sure nothing has slipped. Then press the border seam. There should be no ruffling. When you get the first two borders on and pressed, then you can re-measure for the lengths of the other two sides. Use the same procedure to pin and sew. If you have a walking foot or built-in even feed system, use it for putting on borders, it will help to minimize stretch.

Some other border tips:

If you are having trouble with wavy borders, careful fabric choices can help to disguise things and give you more confidence. Remember that you can't make a quilt bigger than its smallest measurement, so fullness is not worked out, but rather worked in. The extra fabric is left a little looser on the top and the quilting generally hides that. Fabrics with a random, busy print will help disguise any fullness in the border. Fabrics that are solids can be a little trickier to work fullness in. For both, if all else fails, sometimes the quilter can take a tuck in the top fabric to look like a seam, no one will be the wiser, except you.

Border prints where stripes run the length of the border are the least forgiving. Taking tucks can disrupt the look of the print, so be especially careful when sewing these on. If your quilt has piano key borders, keep in mind that these can stretch like mad while being attached, starching them before attaching will help. The good news is there are many seams in a piano key border where a tuck can be taken to hide fullness; just keep in mind that this can affect how straight the keys appear when finished.

Your Long Arm Quilter has tools and tricks to help deal with the fullness in a quilt. We can choose a quilting design to help. We can use a spoon foot to ease the fabric while stitching. We can place canned goods on the quilt top and allow them to roll along to help ease the fullness. We can also use steam, starch or water spray to help shrink up the fullness. These tools and tricks help a lot.

Keep in mind that with wavy borders there can be times when even these tools just will not effectively hide the issues. This is when the Long Arm Quilter will issue a "ticket," and let you know what the border issues are and offer to fix them for a fee, or send the quilt to you to fix. It can happen to anyone; I have had to fix my own borders when I failed to notice issues while piecing. I am hoping that this article will help you to recognize border issues, and avoid tickets for overly friendly quilts!

This is the third in a series of how to prepare for your long arm quilter. The first two appeared in the February and March 2021 issues of the **Bee**

Events of Note

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, October 31, to 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. <https://www.metmuseum.org>

Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia), January 28 – September 19, 2021, 2400 Third Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN. Exhibit featuring fabric artist L'Merchie Frazier. *Freedom Rising: I am the Story,* is part of Textile Center and Women of Color Quilters Network's We are the Story initiative. <https://new.artsimia.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 BROOKLYN QUILTERS GUILD PRESENTS:
Earth Day Quilt Fence Show
Saturday, April 24
11 am - 4 pm
(RAIN DATE: MAY 8)
50 quilts will be on display at our 2021 Earth Day quilt show. Start at 245 Prospect Park West, follow the quilts along the iron fence surrounding Holy Name Church in Windsor Terrace, Brooklyn.
FREE!
QUILTBROOKLYN.ORG
#brooklynquiltsfenceshow



A flock of Bertie the bird blocks is headed toward Mary Hawley's home. She was the winner of the Block of the Month drawing at the March meeting. This group of blocks joins Mary's pod of whales, which she won at a recent meeting. Congratulations Mary!

Using Scraps

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Looking for a way to use up scraps and old pieces of fabric? I have an idea for you.

I live near the Sean Casey Animal Rescue on East Third Street between Caton Avenue and Fort Hamilton Parkway. So I use my leftover scraps and little bits to make beds for the shelter animals.

I cut out two pieces of fabric of matching sizes and sew around the edge, making a bag and leaving an opening for stuffing. Turn the bag inside out, and stuff it lightly with fabric odds and ends. Then sew the opening closed and put a hand-stitched X in the center so the contents don't shift around too much.

The size of pillow varies according to the fabric pieces I have left over, but I suggest any size between 10 and 18 inches.

I don't think the animal shelter cares whether the shape is square or rectangular. They just want something for the pets to curl up on. Sean Casey is open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. If you have some free time, you can even take one of the dogs for a walk!

~Margaret Walsh



Margaret Walsh's latest dog pillow for Sean Casey Animal Rescue.



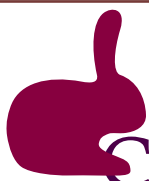
IT'S A TREND

I had saved my scraps and was planning to take them to the recycling drop-off at the Grand Army Plaza greenmarket when I heard that they no longer take fabric scraps — only old clothes. How disappointing!

I used the extra fabric strips and batting cut from the edges of comfort quilts I have been long arm quilting to make a bed for the animal shelter. I now keep the unfinished bed next to my sewing space, and drop the batting and fabric scraps too small to save into it.

Think green. Reduce, reuse, recycle.

~ Margaret Marcy Emerson



Coming next issue

• Freedom Quilting by Elaine Gould

2021 RETREATS

Cross Roads in New Jersey

Tuesday, June 1 – Sunday, June 6

This is a five-night retreat from Tuesday to Sunday.

5 nights, 14 meals (Tues. – Sun.)

\$394 (shared room) | \$434 (private room)

4 nights, 11 meals (Wed. – Sun.)

\$321 (shared room) | \$361 (private room)

3 nights, 8 meals (Thurs. – Sun.)

\$258 (shared room) | \$298 (private room)

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

Cross Roads is a camp and retreat facility located in Port Murray, NJ, 1.5 hours from Brooklyn. Information about Cross Roads can be found on their website

www.crossroadsretreat.com.

If you are interested in the retreat and able to make a commitment, please make a deposit of \$125 made out to Martha Musgrove, 637 90th St, Brooklyn, NY 11228, and email her to let her know your check is in the mail. Reservations will be honored in the order of checks received. *Deposits are nonrefundable at two weeks prior to the retreat, unless there is someone to take your place.*

If you have any questions, please contact Martha Musgrove, marf86@hotmail.com, 718-745-6759 or Trudy Reeves, trudyreeves@yahoo.com, 718-415-2955.

Sunday, November 7 – Friday, November 12

This is a tentatively planned five-night, mid-week retreat. More information will be available at a later date.

Heritage in Connecticut

The Heritage Hotel is a Spa and Conference Center in Southbury, CT, about one hour and 45 minutes from Brooklyn. See website:

<https://www.heritagesouthbury.com/>

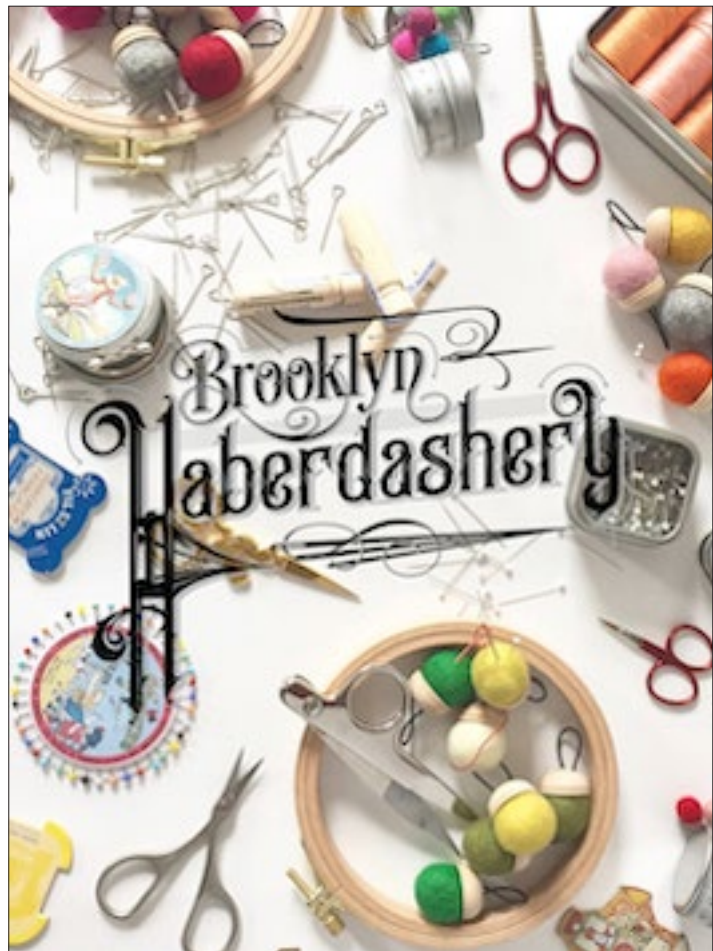
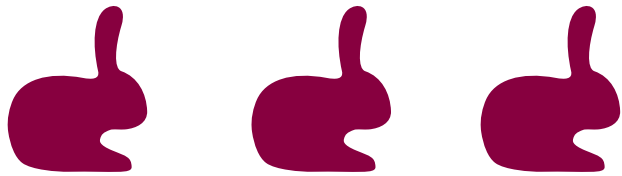
April 23-25 (extra days 4/21, 22)

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

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Tips N' Tools

This one came from Trudy Reeves:

"I saw this in a quilting group on Facebook and it works. Slice a pool noodle lengthwise. Put it on the edge of your sewing table so all those little things like pins, spools of thread, small scissors, etc won't slip through the small crack between the table and the wall. This is ingenious. I'm always losing things back there."



Pool noodle

And from me:

I started my spring cleaning by getting rid of old bedding. My new comforter came in a see-through bag which is just perfect for storing sewing projects. Not only is it roomy enough to hold even your largest quilts, but it has handles for easy transport. My new sheets came in a similar see-through bag with handles but a smaller size. I never need excuses to buy new bedding, but the recycled bags make buying even sweeter.

So happy spring and don't forget to be like Trudy and send me tips and tools that sweeten your sewing life.

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

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Sew Know: How to Build a Wall Quilt Rack

BY MARCIE BRENNER, MCSE

13

SOME MEMBERS HAVE asked me about the quilt rack they saw at our March Zoom meeting. I was coming to you from my living room as I was waiting for a delivery. Let me give you some background on how my rack came to be. I first saw such a project in a quilt magazine, but the side pieces were cut from wood with a jigsaw and you laid the poles into the cutouts. I cut fabric, not wood. Then one day I was walking down a street in Soho, when I passed a store that I had passed many times before going home from work and I saw their window inside security bars. The bars were metal and placed into metal rod holders, EUREKA!

I had wanted to put up MY quilts in MY house since I took ownership of it. I did not want the quilts on individual hangers as it would be difficult to change them and the wall would be damaged. This was more than 20 years ago.

Now to the wall-to-wall quilt rack: First I decided that I wanted natural wood as the room itself is small and I love the warmth of wood. I measured the length between the two walls and the height of the space I needed to cover. Using a bit of math, I was able to come up with a pleasing arrangement that would accommodate many different size quilts; the height was eight feet and I used seven rods spaced

12 inches apart.

I used 1½-inch diameter closet rods and closet rod holders. I polyurethaned the rods and holders to seal them; attached the holders to the wall with screws. The rods and holders could be from wood or metal and painted any color. I will say it is not easy for me to hang my quilts as I am height challenged (10 foot ceiling), and the wall is 13 feet long.

That's how I solved my quilt display problem.



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HIPPITY HOPPITY

Happy Spring! We are so ready to hop into Spring this year! Bring out your prettiest spring colors and get into the season with this sweet new bunny. ~Robin Engleman & Joy West

Fabrics & Cutting

Use numbered pins, stickers or tape to stay organized. Label each piece by the number below as you cut them out. Some numbers have more than one piece cut, so number all pieces.

R - Rabbit (if your fabric is not directional – you can get all the pieces from one 3 1/2" WOF strip, otherwise you will need a 5" strip)

- 1 6" x 3 1/2"
- 2 2 pieces – 2 1/2" x 5"
- 3 2" x 1 1/2"
- 4 2 1/2" x 1 1/2"
- 5 7 1/2" x 3 1/2"
- 6 5" x 3 1/2"
- 7 2" x 2 1/2"
- 8 4 1/2" x 3 1/2"
- 9 3 pieces – 1 1/2" squares
(draw a diagonal line on back)

T - Tail (complimentary to the body)

10 Forehead – 1 @ 2 1/2" by 6 1/2"

E - Eye (dark contrasting color)

11 1 1/2" square

B - Background

12 4" x 3 1/2"

13 2 pieces – 3 1/2" squares (draw diagonal on 1 piece only)

14 3" square (draw diagonal)

15 2" square (draw diagonal)

16 7 1/2" x 3 1/2"

17 3 1/2" x 2 1/2"

18 1 1/2" square (draw diagonal)

19 2 1/2" square (draw diagonal)

Sewing instructions

- All seam allowances are 1/4".
- Trim seams and press back as you go.
- Refer to *figure 1* for piecing. The letter code refers to fabric.

Rabbit fabric = R, Tail fabric = T

Eye fabric = E, Background fabric = B

The number code refers to the above list of cut pieces and their placement within the block on the diagram.

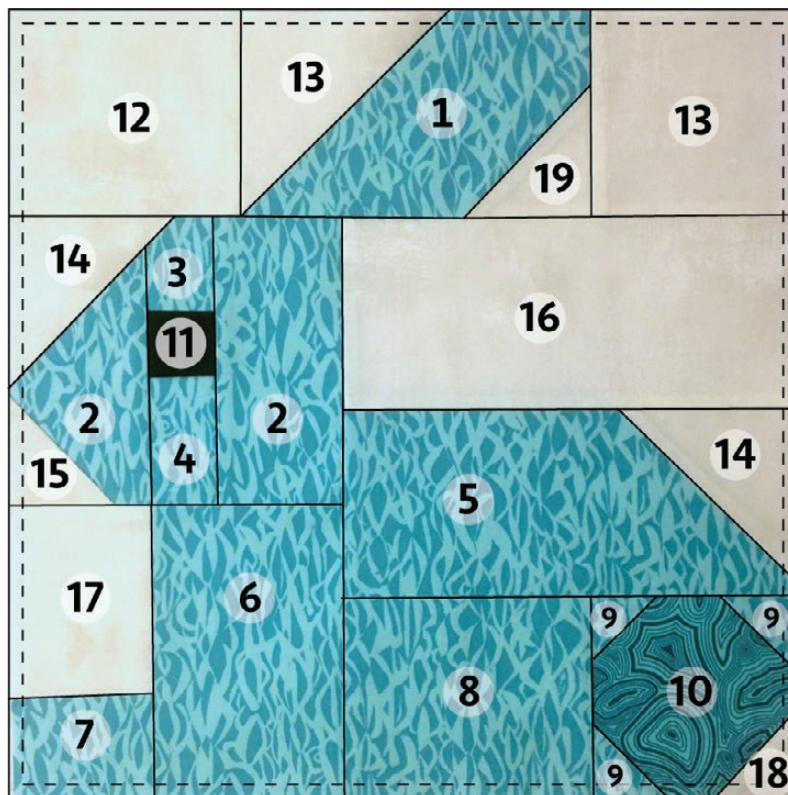


figure 1: Follow diagram for placement and orientation of pieces.

Ear section

- Sew B13 on the diagonal line to top left corner of R1. Sew B19 on the diagonal to the bottom right of R1.

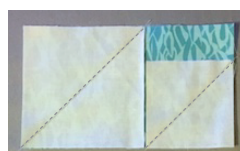


fig. 2

- Trim the corners to 1/4" from the seam and press open. (fig. 3)



fig. 3

- Sew second B13 (without diagonal line) to right side of ear and B12 to the left side of ear & press. (fig. 4)



fig. 4

Head section

- Sew eye between R3 & R4 and press to the eye fabric. (fig. 5)
- Sew a R2 to the left and right of eye section and press to the outside. (fig. 6)
- Sew B14 to top left of head on the diagonal, trim & press out. (fig. 6)
- Sew B15 to bottom left of head on the diagonal, trim & press out. (fig. 7)



fig. 5



fig. 6

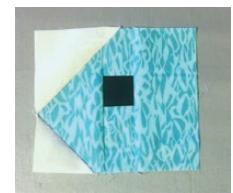


fig. 7

Continued next page ...



Sewing instructions (Continued from previous page)

Rabbit's foot section

- Sew R7 to B17 and press, then add R6 to the right side and press. (fig. 8)



fig. 8

- Sew the foot section below the head section and press. (fig. 9)



fig. 9

Tail and body section

- Sew B14 to R5 on top right corner on the diagonal, trim & press open. (fig. 10)
- Sew R9 squares to tail piece on 3 corners on their diagonals, trim & press. Sew B18 square to last corner of tail on the diagonal, trim & press. (fig. 11)
- Sew tail to R8 making sure that the background corner is bottom right and press. (fig. 12, lower)



fig. 10



fig. 11

- Sew the tail section below the body section and press.
- Sew to B16 to the top of the body and press. (fig. 12)



fig. 12

Final Seams!

- Sew the left side (head & foot) to the right side (body & tail) & press.
- Sew ear section on and press.
- Trim block to 12 1/2" square. (fig. 13)



fig. 13

Pieced block should measure about 12.5" square. (Includes 1/4" seam allowance all the way around for 12" finished.)



Post your block to our Facebook page!



Join our Face Book Group **BQG Block of the Month Group** (<https://tinyurl.com/y99wbfgy>) where you can share your block and enter the on-line lottery to win the 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.