

The Brooklyn Bee

BROOKLYN QUILTERS GUILD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

October
2015

Volume 23
Issue 2

OCTOBER VENDOR

SEW BEARY
SPECIAL

*Call Marcie by Oct 7
for any special requests*

RETREAT PRIMER

Everything you need
to know!

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ADVOCACY QUILT PROJECT

Helping women tell
their stories.

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OCTOBER BLOCK OF THE MONTH

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CO-PRESIDENTS' LETTER:

Dear Friends,

It was great to see all of you at our first meeting of our new quilting year. Everyone at the meeting got to vote on the name of our upcoming quilt show and the winner is "Brooklyn Quilts!" We still need volunteers to serve as chair people for the following jobs: Instant Win, Member's Boutique, and an advertising person for our Show booklet. Please step up and volunteer. We also need prizes for our "Instant Win," Silent Auction, Member's Boutique, and Doll Quilts (size: 18"x 20" at most) that we can later donate to needy children. Please try to find time to make a few items for us. Thanks to all of our members for all the help that you give to our guild. You are all great! Our third show meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, November 4, 2015, at Methodist Hospital, 8th floor Conference Room at 6 p.m. All are welcome to attend. See you at our next guild meeting on October 17, 2015.

SEPTEMBER BOUNTY:

Our first guild meeting of the year brought in:

- **65 finished ABC quilts**
- **3 soldier quilts**

Congratulations!
Thank you to all
who participated.

Happy Quilting,

Madonna Connor
Co-President



"TWISTER JACK" COURTESY: WWW.BAYSIDEQUILTING.COM

2015-2016 Brooklyn Quilters Guild

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Please Join Us at Our Monthly Meetings

GUILD MEETINGS

Third Saturday of the month, except July and August.

Holy Name of Jesus Church, Shepherd's Hall

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

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

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

Transportation:

Bus: B-68 to last stop at Prospect Park West

Subway: F train to 15th Street/Prospect Park

Parking Available.

SUNDAY BEES

Second and fourth Sundays of the month, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Bring your sewing machine and lunch and spend the day.

Large tables available for use – great for batting up your quilts.

Marien Heim Senior Center

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

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

Transportation:

Bus B-11 to 49th Street and Fourth Avenue, walk to 46th Street, or B-63 to 46th Street and Fifth Avenue, walk to Fourth Avenue.

Subway: N or R train to 45th Street train station.



The Brooklyn Bee

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Margaret Marcy Emerson

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AREA QUILT SHOWS

Martha Musgrove

QUILT TIPS

Alice Braziller

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SEW KNOW

Marcie Brenner

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Ginny Doris

Mara Lurie

Janet Madell

Martha Musgrove

Josette Piacenti

Micki Segel

ADVERTISING:

Position open,
please volunteer!

Something to share?

Deadline for submissions:

All articles for the November 2015

issue of *The Brooklyn Bee* should be received by 9 a.m., Monday, November 23, 2015, for inclusion in that issue.

Please email them to margaret.marcy@gmail.com

If there is something you want to read about, please contact me with your ideas and suggestions.

Brooklyn Quilts! Raffle Quilt Completed

THE FOLLOWING is a list of the eighteen quilters who participated in the making of our raffle quilt for our 2016 show "Brooklyn Quilts!" A hearty quilter's thank you to: Anne Stone, Ellen Piccolo, Jane Harris, Janet

Finello, Joyce Crupi, Leona Shapiro, Leslie McCarthy, Linda McNeely, Madi Appell, Madonna Connor, Margaret Marcy, Martha Musgrove, Merrie Handfinger, Micki Segel, Shelly Raffle, Sheri Saltzberg, Sylvia Hernandez, and Wendy Menard.

The creation of the quilt was spearheaded by Micki Segel and Madi Appell. The designer of the block used in the quilt is Edyta Sitar, who gave us permission to use her design for our raffle quilt. The quilt was machine-quilted by Sylvia Hernandez.

We are counting on all of our members to sell many raffle tickets to raise money to help pay for our show. Raffle tickets will be available at our October meeting. Each member will be expected to pick up tickets to sell. Please post pictures of the quilt on social media and sell tickets to friends, family, co-workers, etc. Finally, we are looking for a volunteer to make a beautiful label for our quilt. If you love to make labels, please contact Micki Segel at 917 596-6055. ❖



PHOTO: RANDY DUCHAINE



October Hospitality

OCTOBER! MONTH OF CHANGE, SEASON OF RED AND ORANGE and yellow, ghosts and goblins! This month, members with last names that start with D, E, F, and G can surprise us with homemade Halloween-themed baked goods, fruits of all kinds, hardboiled eggs, bagels and spread, doughnut holes, and cookies. And a reminder: Bring your own coffee or tea or ghoulish beverage. *Bon appétit!*
~The Hospitality Committee

Over the River and through the Woods...

A RETREAT PRIMER

BY MARTHA MUSGROVE

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I WENT ON MY FIRST QUILT RETREAT IN SPRING 2002, at a time of great personal pain and sorrow. I was alone and shy, and fairly new to the guild, yet found a place in this gathering of kindred quilters. Retreats soon became a favorite activity, a source of much happiness, and my vacations of choice.

To answer Margaret's question—and one-sentence challenge: *Why go on a quilt retreat?* Because if you have never done so, you have no idea how much fun you are missing.

Going on a quilt retreat lets you get to know other quilters, much more than a year of monthly guild meetings possibly can (especially if you are shy). This is the

single best thing retreating has given me. The sharing, telling stories, laughing, having our meals together, and sewing to our hearts content are just simply wonderful.

Sometimes there are group projects, such as mystery quilts, and informal lessons or workshops presented by fellow retreaters. There is ample opportunity to work on your own creations, with suggestions—should you seek them—from those around you. Anything

from “which color is best here” to choices for a border, to “now, how should I quilt this?”

Design walls abound, and as colorful blocks take over the white space, the sewing room becomes a living gallery—one with curators and artists all in residence.

And there are memories made that will last forever. At a retreat of about ten of us in a private rustic setting, we got the idea one evening, after some wine, to have an impromptu fashion show, modeling our quilts and not much else. Some hilarious, sexy modeling developed. We were all laughing so hard! Pictures were snapped—and later deleted, though there was nothing unseemly. Our only crime was having too much fun!

One inveterate retreaters tells of feeling apprehensive at leaving her young child alone with her husband for the first time, to attend her first quilt retreat. It was before



MARGARET MARCY EMERSON

the days of cell phones, and free long-distance calls, and Skype and the other trappings of helicopter parenting so prevalent today. Upon returning, father and son declared that they had had an excellent time together, and hubby said, “Go quilt retreating any time you want.” And she has.

At a summer retreat at a woodland cabin, we enjoyed gathering in our PJs and flip-flops each morning on the lovely deck to have coffee, conversation, and breakfast. (We had a great kitchen to cook in and were making our own meals.) One morning, a renowned quilting teacher among us then shared a lesson in wonderful ways you can accomplish machine quilting. Later she remarked with a laugh, “That’s the first time I’ve taught a quilting class without wearing a bra.”

There are several organized retreats already available to Brooklyn Quilters Guild members. We have one each fall and spring, at the Heritage resort hotel and conference center in Southbury, Conn. It has a swimming pool, spa, and gym, should you want to sample those temptations as a brief diversion from quilting. Guild member Nancy Russell has for several years welcomed quilters to retreats at her spacious Victorian B&B on the Hudson River. Guild member Pat Rosa hosts at least eight quilt



BARB CHRIST

BARB CHRIST





retreats a year at her beautiful mountain home in the Catskills, a little north of Kingston. And guild member Sharon Pratt discovered and organized for us quilt retreats at a Lutheran church camp in Sullivan County, NY, which has a large modern conference center.

And it's always an option to organize one yourself. Think of a nice getaway destination, like a camp or B&B.

The most "thinking outside the box" quilt retreat



I have taken was the brainchild of guild member Josette Piacenti. She loves cruising, so was naturally attracted to the quilt cruises you see advertised in quilting magazines. But they are expensive! The quilt tuition for having

onboard machines and big-name teachers can rival or exceed the cost of the cruise itself, which is extra.

Josette found a Carnival cruise in January of last year that was roundtrip from New York. It was less than \$400 per person when sharing an inside cabin, and included eight nights sailing to and from the Bahamas with all meals and everything ship life had to offer. She announced *(continued on next page)*



What We Love About Quilt Retreats

When I asked for one-sentence answers to the question: "Why go on a quilt retreat?" immediately the responses came pouring in... This is what you said:

"Shopping/sewing/socializing and having loads of fun with friends!" ~Carol Lieberman

"I love quilt retreats for the opportunity to luxuriate in a restorative combination of the company of dear friends – old and new – and an abundance of creative energy and talent." ~Wendy Menard

"Quilt retreats are time just for me and my machine, without the judgment of family or the clock on the wall." ~Renee Ciccone

"Because I can get so much accomplished. It is wonderful to be with like-minded people, sharing ideas and know-how, and the added bonuses, no housework, no cooking, NO stress. *I Love Retreats!*" ~Maryann McEvoy

"I get to enjoy a weekend-long show-and-tell."

"I love the bonding with like-minded quilters, getting instant feedback on quilting questions from multiple fellow retreaters, having four straight days of nonstop quilting!" ~Madi Appell

"I love the energy in a room full of quilters." ~Sheri Saltzberg

"The camaraderie of the participants, the generous sharing of skills, supplies, stories, and laughter create bonds and memories that remain dear even after many years have passed." ~Rosa Gentile

"I really enjoy beautiful and unique places." ~Kate Haller

"I love uninterrupted time with other quilters and laughing, laughing and laughing more!" ~Ginny Dorris

"In order to spend time with the whole group and to see what they are working on." ~Madonna Connor

"A quilt retreat gives me the opportunity to put my cares and concerns 'on hold' for a few days and to concentrate on the craft I enjoy so much. Meeting with others who share my enthusiasm inspires me. I learn much from other quilters during the retreat because they are more than willing to share their ideas, experiences, and discoveries. The retreats I have made also provided some 'quiet time' which was greatly appreciated." ~Yolanda Bonitch

What We Love About Quilt Retreats

"Retreats give you a chance to really focus on what you want to get done – you can make a lot of progress – you don't have to think about other tasks or responsibilities, or even housework! Or you can just relax with friends if you want. They offer a chance to get away to a new, but friendly environment.

Other quilters are there to help or give you an opinion if you want one."

~*Josette Piacenti*

"You get so much done on retreat, get great new ideas, go fabric shopping, and don't have to cook!"

~*Janet Finello*

"Not only do I get to focus on finishing projects without the distraction of household chores, but I get to enjoy a weekend-long show-and-tell." ~*Debbie Breckenridge*

"At a retreat, I don't have to explain my love of quilting, or my obsession with fabric. There's nothing better than being in a room full of like-minded people." ~*Carol Sullivan*

"It's both fun and educational which is a great combination. I learn a lot from watching the people around me and getting feedback on my own work. It is a creative and inspiring atmosphere." ~*Phyllis Siegel*

"For the luxury of devoting concentrated time doing what I love in the company of others who share my passion." ~*Micki Segel*

"...laughing, laughing and laughing more!"

MARGARET MARCY EMERSON



Over the River...

A RETREAT PRIMER, *continued*

the idea in an article in *The Bee* and talked it up at meetings, but it didn't get much traction. (Too far out?) Four Brooklyn guild members and two husbands went. We took hand-quilting projects and had our choice of numerous lounges and restaurants to gather and quilt in during "at sea" days. Yes, we did attract some attention and admiration from fellow passengers strolling by. The six of us had a lot of fun, got out of New York winter to the Bahamas, and returned home the day before a big blizzard hit. (Alas, no such Carnival cruise in 2016, Josette says.)

Upcoming retreats include the guild's fall retreat on Halloween weekend at Heritage Hotel in Connecticut; 2016 dates of Jan. 27-31 and May 11-15 at Koinonia, the Lutheran camp; and a spring retreat again at Heritage. Registration is now open, and all guild members are invited to participate in any of these.

In recent years the spring Heritage retreat has been held the first weekend in May, to coordinate with the large annual show by Westchester's Northern Star Quilters' Guild in Somers, NY, which retreaters could catch on a day trip Saturday or on the way home Sunday. Next year that show is moving from Somers to a campus in Danbury, Conn.—even closer to our retreat.



MARTHA MUSGROVE

The Koinonia retreats are held in a large conference center featuring a big sewing room, dining room where all meals are served, and guest rooms that each have two double beds topped with beautiful quilts (like the ones we make) and a private bath. Everything is on one level. It is set in a forest so the views are all green in every direction. The price includes four nights lodging and 12 meals (and of course use of all facilities). It's \$260 for a double or \$352 single.

There are roads and trails to go for a hike, a run, or a walk, and a lake for swimming in season. If you want to spend less, the May retreat offers the option of lodging in a cabin instead of the conference center, but everything else remains the same: the sewing setup, meals, etc. Cabins offer bunk beds, showers, and toilets, and you bring your own bed and bath linens. The cost is \$125 for the entire retreat.



For a smaller quilt retreat experience, look into Pat Rosa's weekend retreats at her lovely home in the Catskills, with a 360-degree vista of mountains. She can take seven quilters, and they are pampered by her home-cooked healthy meals. The cost is \$250 plus tax, which comes to \$270; and includes two nights and meals from Friday dinner through Sunday lunch. She is fully booked for retreats the rest of this year, but look for her 2016 schedule, and see photos and more info at www.RosaMountainHouse.com. Nancy Russell's Bed and Breakfast can best accommodate quilt retreats in the winter months. Her historic mansion in Newburgh has sweeping views of the Hudson from every level. She will arrange retreats as requested. She cooks wonderful meals! See more about this grand yet cozy delight at www.StockbridgeRamsdell.com.

So go on a quilting retreat. Neither cost nor distance should stop you, as there are so many options. And you can use your own abundant creative juices to custom-craft your own getaway. You're going to love it. ❖

UPCOMING RETREATS

HERITAGE FALL RETREAT

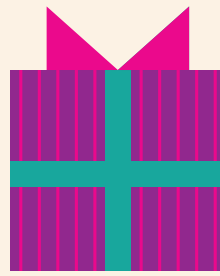
Friday, Oct. 30 – Sunday, Nov. 1 (Halloween weekend), with an extra-day option on Thursday, Oct. 29. Deadline to sign up is October 17. Only a few seats left! Contact Carol Leiberman (clieber@verizon.net) to sign up.

HERITAGE SPRING RETREAT

- April 8-10, 2016

KOINONIA RETREATS

- Jan 27-31, 2016
- May 11-15, 2016



Giving Quilts!

If you have time and fabric to make a quilt for charity this month, here is a summary of our committees and their project requirements.

The Easy as ABC Committee accepts finished quilts (at least 30" square, and no more than about 42" wide), quilt tops, fabric, panels, and pieced blocks. Contact: Peg Haller or Valerie Burrus Bess.

The Comfort Quilts Committee accepts quilt tops or quilts of a maximum of 86" wide and 100" long; 80" by 80" minimum; donations of backing fabric, batting, and machine-quilting (if you can donate the effort) are also needed. Contact: Dori Dietz.

The Soldier Quilt is ideally a lap-quilt size, 50" by 60" (minimum 45" by 55"). Larger quilts are fine too. Great for using extra blocks that with a little added work can make a treasured gift. Contact: Sarah Vinson.

Pillowcases for Ronald McDonald House instructions can be found on nancynotions.com and allpeoplequilt.com. Pillowcases are donated at the holidays, so now is the time to stitch a few! Contact: Janet Finello.

Reach to Recovery Bags and Pillows are for mastectomy patients. The cotton totes should be 17" long, 14" wide, with two 1½" straps. Pillows measure 8" by 12". A detailed instruction sheet is available. Contact: Cathy Coughlin.

Forest Hills Quilt Group Welcomes New Members

A GROUP OF INTREPID QUILTERS HAS BEEN MEETING EVERY Tuesday in Queens for more than twenty years. The cast changes but the enthusiasm doesn't. Currently there are four quilters who are also BQG members... three of us live locally and one is from Roosevelt Island. You can see us together at most BQG meetings.

We meet every Tuesday from 11:30 to 2:30 at The Church in the Gardens, 50 Ascan Ave., Forest Hills, weather permitting (i.e., no downpours or blizzards). We bring our lunches and beverages with us and sometimes homemade goodies to share. We're also two blocks away from Dunkin' Donuts (yum). The room we meet in is set up with a grouping of several large tables, which are ideal for basting or pinning our quilt sandwiches. There is an ancient sewing machine and iron for use. Most bring hand-quilting or piecing projects, fabric cutting (board and rotary cutter also available), binding, or even knitting and embroidery items. We show off our projects, teach each other timesaving tricks of the trade, offer advice when asked, and generally gab our heads off. The whole point is to have fun!

We each contribute \$2.00 a week (rent) and have made several wall hangings to grace the church. Occasionally we have contributed items for the church's annual bazaar. Truly a labor of love and appreciation.

The Church in the Gardens is a four-block walk from the 75th Ave. Subway Station (E train), and while parking is restricted in The Gardens, permits are available from the Church office.

We would really welcome new members with open arms! Hope to see you! For further info, call Pat Decker at 212-300-6285 or email: patleedecker@gmail.com ❖

Flight Quilts To Soar!

Eileen Anderson and Valerie Turer, the Challenge Quilt co-chairs, collected more than twenty "Flight" quilts at the September guild meeting. They will be displayed at the following venues in the next year.

Nov. 18, 2015 – mid-Jan. 2016
Windsor Terrace Branch of Brooklyn Public Library

Tentatively Feb. 2016
Gerritsen Branch of Brooklyn Public Library

April 2-3, 2016
QGB Brooklyn Quilts! Show Marriott Hotel, downtown Brooklyn

November 2016
Lefferts Historic House, Prospect Park.



ABOVE: September Block of the Month had a huge response with 36 beautiful entries. Congratulations to Tom Urciuoli, the lucky winner! We can't wait to see what he does with them!



ABOVE:

Nothing gives me more pleasure as a quilter than making baby quilts for the babies of people I love. When the quilt is appreciated, then I receive the greater gift! This quilt was made for this beautiful boy who is the son of a colleague who I have known for many years.
~Micki Segel

Do you have an adorable shot of one of your quilts with its final receipt? Send it in to The Bee, and when there is room, we will do our best to publish it. [Editor]

The Advocacy Quilt Project

BY JANE MADELL

THIS SUMMER I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY to attend a quilt show on Long Beach Island displaying quilts put together by the Advocacy Project, a group based in Philadelphia. The goal of the Advocacy Project (www.advocacynet.org) is to work for peace and justice in cooperation with local groups in countries where there is a need. Peace interns from the project work with local groups to set up places where women can meet together in a safe space and develop life skills.

The quilt project www.advocacynet.org/quilts/ is helping women tell their stories. There are quilts from Bosnia listing names of family members lost in the Srebrenica massacre. Women from Guatemala made a rich quilt that featured the names of family members who had died in



Community at work in the Bamako Center making an Alafia Mali (Peace in Mali) Quilt

the Rio Negro massacres in 1982. There are quilts from Roma in Europe; indigenous women in Belize; people with disabilities in Uganda; survivors of uterine prolapse in Nepal; former child laborers in Nepal; and survivors of sexual violence in

the Congo. Women from Uganda made a quilt from recycled straws to publicize the threat to their environment. These artists have a story to tell. The quilts focus on women, children, the disabled, conflict, minorities, and the environment.

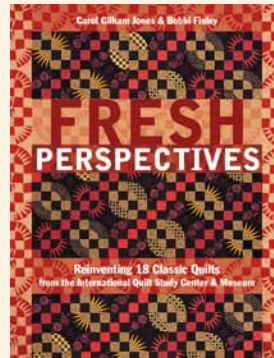
Quilt blocks made by women in the various countries are brought back by the interns to the United States, where local quilters make the quilts, which are then shown around the world to raise money to continue the work.

There are two quilts coming to the US in November. The Advocacy Project has blocks for a Palestine quilt, and would like to know whether any members of our guild would be interested in putting it together. Please email me at jane@janemadell.com if you are interested. ❖

BOOK REVIEW

Fresh Perspectives: Reinventing 18 Classic Quilts

AUTHORS: CAROL G. JONES AND BOBBI FINLEY



Fresh Perspectives: Reinventing 18 Classic Quilts is a great book for quilters because it has something for almost every quilter. It is for the person interested in historic quilts, and anyone interested in modern takes of old designs. The authors took 18 lovely old quilts from the International Quilt Study Center and

Museum and used these beauties as inspiration for new quilts of their own. There is a picture of each historic "inspiration" quilt, and then a picture of the modern quilt that was made using the historic one as the basis. You can see what the maker did to change the original design. Sometimes I agreed with what the modern quilt maker did. Sometimes I didn't. In some cases, two new interpretations of the original are shown.

There are patterns for all the new quilts in this book. Also useful is the grid method to make half-square-triangle units. The quilts range from simple to difficult. The stunning cover quilt is a paper-piecing project. The authors provide as much information about the historic quilt as possible, and then show how today's patchworker modified the pattern with modern fabrics, or



Inspiration



Interpretation

changed the pattern to suit herself. Just looking at the great photos will give you lots of ideas for your own unique quilt, based on time-honored tradition.

~*Josette Piacenti*



Minutes of the Executive Board Brooklyn Quilters Guild – September, 19 2015

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In Attendance:

Madonna Connor, Margaret Marcy Emerson, Marilynn Gipson, Rae Jerome, Jody Leight, Ruth Marchese, Wendy Menard, Micki Segel

Treasurer's Report

Ruth Marchese took over treasury and bank accounts yesterday from Maryalice Beinert. She reiterated our need for a permanent bookkeeper and accountant as was discussed last year when the problems with the guild tax returns and non-profit status surfaced.

NET WORTH AS OF 9/19/15

Assets

Checking Account	\$8,673.26
Leni Abel Fund	4,763.28
Petty Cash	200.00

TOTAL ASSETS \$13,636.54

Liabilities

Credit Card	0.00
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TOTAL LIABILITIES 0.00

NET WORTH \$13,636.54

INCOME/EXPENSE BY CATEGORY

6/20/2015 through 9/19/2015

Income

Membership dues	\$4,610.00
Donation	25.00
Bee Ads	800.00
Bee mail donations	80.00
Guest fees	25.00
Interest on Leni Abel	0.61
Gerritsen Beach raffle	814.00
Calm After the Storm raffle	555.00
Pole Rental	750.00
Fifty-fifty	64.00
Meeting Raffle	199.00
Vendors	70.00

TOTAL INCOME \$7,992.61

Expenses

Printing	\$ 243.33
Bank fees	10.00
Photography of Show Quilt	200.00
Meeting set-up	40.00

TOTAL EXPENSES \$493.44

Programs

There is no planned program for today, but Marilynn and Rae will conduct an informal icebreaker where people will share their experiences at their first guild meeting. There will be more information on this year's programming at the next meeting.

Old Business

Madonna is going to speak to Sylvia Hernandez about getting accountant and bookkeeping contact information; we should be set up with a bookkeeper by the start of our new fiscal year. Jody also wants to confirm the dates of our fiscal year as well as review all of the tax/legal documents that were filed. Madonna will follow up with Sylvia Hernandez for this information as well. Also, according to our by-laws, the guild should have an Audit committee which does not include the treasurer and is separate from our accountant; the co-presidents will solicit members today for this committee. Marilynn and Rae were not advised that they needed to have something prepared for September meeting. On the fly icebreaker activity.

2016 Show

The show committee has held two meetings thus far. We still need the following chair people: Instant Win, Members' Boutique, Show Booklet, and Booklet Advertising. At the last show, we spent \$1400 for 1100 booklets; unopened cartons were found after the show. Wendy suggested a digital booklet for people to download and use at show. Wendy will ask Margaret about technical issues with creating a digital guide. We have also made a connection to have some Girl Scouts assist with white glove volunteering as part of their work toward a Silver Badge.

We still need a name for the show. Micki collected names, which she passed along and were published in the Bee, but we don't have access to that list at the moment. We need a name right away for printing raffle tickets, so suggestions will be solicited at today's meeting and the membership will vote.

We need insurance for the show; the NQA will no longer be providing insurance. Ruth and Jody may have some sources for insurance and will research options.

Other Business

Judy Kotkin self-published a book through Amazon and suggested that the guild could create a book and self-publish as a fundraiser. For example, it could include photos of selected quilts and the quiltmakers, and perhaps instructions (although we need to be mindful of copyright issues). Amazon's minimum is 24 pages; they price the book and tell you what your cut (money) will be. Ruth Marchese suggested we could print the book as a catalog rather than include quilt instructions to avoid any copyright issues. Judy is not prepared to execute this entire project herself; she is going to think more about the project and we will revisit the idea at the next meeting.

Madonna approached Robin Engelman in August about reimbursing the guild \$935.12 for the cost of reincorporating and filing for non-profit status. Robin said she would reimburse the guild; funds have not yet been received.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Menard
Recording Secretary

This year the BOM celebrates the rainbow!

Each month's block will feature one COLOR and lots of it! October celebrates ORANGE in a block I am calling "Orange Slice". Time to get happy and have fun sewing.

FABRIC: Choose two 11" squares of **ORANGE** fabric that complement each other. Prints keep it interesting. Have good contrast between the fabrics. The fabric can include other colors, but the block should read primarily as **ORANGE**. Keep the colors juicy, cheerful, and bright! These instructions will give you **two** completed blocks. Keep one for yourself or enter both to double your chances to win. Have fun!

- The final block measure 9.5" unfinished
- 1/4" seams

B O M

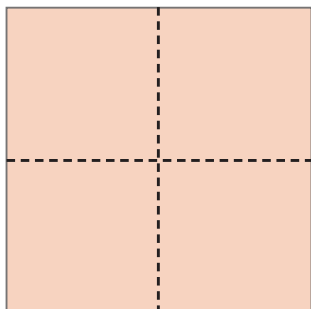
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OCTOBER 2015

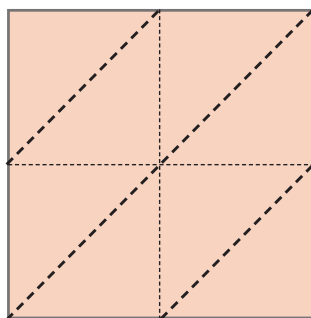
ORANGE

SLICE

STEP 1: Press your fabrics well. (Some spray starch makes construction easier.) On the back of one of your fabrics (choose the one easiest to see marking on), mark lines following directions in (A) and (B) below using a marking device of your choice. These will be cutting lines and will NOT show.



(A) Draw a line dividing the square in half vertically and horizontally, making 4 equal quadrants. (Lines will be 5.5" from the fabric edges.)



(B) Mark a line along center diagonal from corner to corner. Then mark parallel diagonals through the center midpoints as shown.

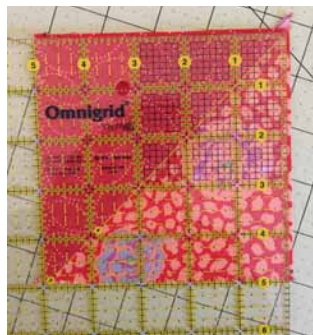


STEP 2: Place the squares right-sides-together and lightly pin to prevent slipping. Sew 1/4" away from both sides of each **diagonal** line. (You will sew a total of six lines.)



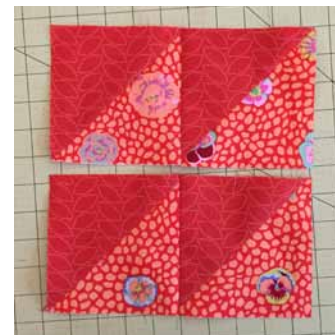
STEP 3: Cut apart on the horizontal and vertical lines. Then cut between the stitched, diagonal lines as shown above. You will have eight half-square triangles.

STEP 4: Press seams toward darker fabric. (You may need to pick a few stitches out of some corners to open them.)



STEP 5: Square up and trim each block to 5" square. (I use a small, square ruler with a diagonal center line as my guide.)

NOTE: Each completed block uses four half-square triangles (HST). Put four aside and continue with four HST to complete the block.



STEP 6: Sew two pairs of HST together to make two matching sets. Press the seam on one set to the right and the seam on the other to the left.

STEP 7: Sew the two sets together making sure all blocks are oriented the same way. Press final seam open.

Complete the second block in the same way using the remaining HST. Enjoy!

▶ Four completed block samples



Sew Know: Twister and Twisted Sisters

BY MARCIE BRENNER, MCSE

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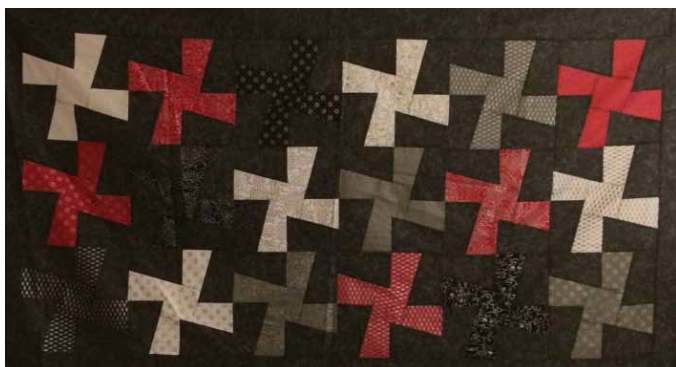
QUILTERS REALLY ARE CRAZY! THINK about that statement. We take perfectly beautiful fabric, cut it up into small pieces, join it to other fabric, and sew it into a larger piece of fabric, to be backed, batted, and quilted. We take great pride in our creations and gather with others of like mind, in person and online. A whole industry has grown to support our needs. Outsiders (non-quilters) do not understand us: Why do you need that fabric, you already have . . . ? If I have a “problem” I don’t want to get “better.” I love being a quilter!!

As an example of being a little bit “nuts,” I’ve made several quilts using the **Twister** template, a square template with lines dividing it into four wonky pieces. This templates come in different sizes, 2½”, 3½”, 5”, 6”, and 10”. Some of the sizes correspond to pre-cut fabric square sizes and this can make cutting go faster. To begin



you cut same-size squares from your chosen fabrics. Arrange them in rows vertically and horizontally, and stitch them into a grid. Then place the template markings on an intersection of 4 blocks. Cut out the square and repeat,

keeping the squares in the order in which they are cut. When you stitch the new squares together you will get a pinwheel effect, as in the multicolored quilt above right. If you alternate a background fabric between blocks, the pinwheels will float. I have a rainbow twister in the works with a black background; the blocks seem to be



dancing across the quilt. It’s all in how you place your original squares. Pictorial quilts can also be made from the Twister template: I have a pattern for a Menorah and a dreidel . . . I wonder who

I’ll be making those for?

Twisted Sisters is another fun template crazy with possibilities. You cut strips (3½” main fabric, 5¼” background) and stitch them together. Using the template, you cut 4 pieces per block and stitch them to a 3½” center square. It does involve a partial seam, which is not difficult. The design creativity explodes with color placement, sashing options, and borders. The blocks finish at 9 ½”, so 16 blocks can make a nice-sized baby quilt. I made a quilt for my son and daughter-

by-choice from a fat-quarter bundle I picked up at Quilt Market. The fabrics are silver metallic prints on red, grey, black, and white backgrounds. The quilt will hang in the guest room, so I asked if it would go vertically or horizontally, as the quilting will be a one-way design—I know they love Mickey Mouse and I have digitized his face. I’ve been having so much fun with my long arm and I keep discovering new things.



I’m the vendor at October meeting, so if you need something special, please call by October 6. Please like my Facebook page *Sew Beary Special* and link to my business page on LinkedIn. ❖

Marcie is owner of Sew Beary Special, a quilt shop in Brooklyn, open by appointment. Reach her at 718-951-3973.

Raffle Magic! Big Wins for Guild and Member

ROBYN BELLAMY, A LONGTIME MEMBER of the Brooklyn Quilters Guild, was the happy winner of the Carpenter's Wheel quilt raffled at the Guild meeting in June 2014. The quilt was created to raise money to support all of the guild's charity quilts. It brought in exactly \$1,000 that can be used to buy batting, backing, and pay for machine quilting of tops donated by members for people who find themselves in need in the coming year.

The quilt top was donated by member Ginny Dorris (who by total coincidence happens to be a great friend of Robyn's). The top, made from feed sacks, had been given to Ginny some 25 years earlier by her husband's mother, Kay Dorris, who'd been storing it in a cabinet in her Pennsylvania home. Kay didn't know much about the top, not being a quilter herself, but said she thought it had been made by a cousin who lived in the Midwest, maybe around Cleveland. Kay was happy to pass the top on to Ginny after learning she was a quilter.

Ginny then turned the top over to a group of quilters from the guild who'd come together under the leadership of Dori Dietz to help in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. After some discussion, the group decided they'd finish the quilt themselves and then raffle it to raise money to pay for some of the costs associated with the charity quilt effort.

Among the guild members (and former members) who worked to finish the quilt and/or sell raffle tickets were Dori, Sylvia Hernandez, Judy Speezak, Pat Spear Daskin, Mara Lurie, Leona Shapiro, and Ruth Marchese. Thanks to all, and congratulations, Robyn! ❖



Sew Smart October's Tip

Discovered a short cut? Tried a tip you found in a quilting magazine or heard about from a fellow quilter? Have a new tool that you can't sew without? If so, share it with guild members and see it published in this column in a future "Bee." Send your ideas to albraz@nyc.rr.com. Here's October's tip:

I am always looking for my pins when hanging fabric on my design wall. I've found a solution. I pin a soft pin cushion to the corner of my design wall so it doesn't take up precious space. Now I know there are always pins in the cushion for rebellious fabric that won't adhere to the wall. ~ Alice Braziller



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Dutchess Heritage Quilt Show XVII: Changing Times, Oct. 10-11, Poughkeepsie, NY

Judged quilt show, merchants mall, lectures, workshops, guest speaker and teacher Karen Eckmeier. Dutchess Community College. 53 Pendell Rd. Hours: 10-5 both days. Admission: \$6 adults, \$5 seniors and students. Info: www.DHQuiltShow.org.



Keystone Quilters 2015 Raffle Quilt

Quilters in Bloom Quilt Show Oct. 10-11, Bloomsburg, PA

Vendors, boutique, prizes, raffle. Columbia Montour Vo-Tech, 5050 Sweppenheiser Rd., Bloomsburg, PA. Hours: Sat. 9-5., Sun. noon-5. Admission: \$5.

Colorburst Quilt Show, Oct. 9-10, Quakertown, PA

A Guild show by Keystone Quilters with 250+ quilted items, raffle, demos and vendors. Quakertown Christian School, 50 E. Paletown Rd., Quakertown, PA. Hours: Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-5. Admission: \$7 or \$10 for both days. Info: www.keystonequilters.org.

Quilting Up A Storm Quilt Show, Oct. 16-18, Tuckahoe, NJ

Presented by South Shore Stitchers. Upper Township Community Center, 1790 Route 50, Tuckahoe, NJ 08250. Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10-5, Sun. 11-3; Admission: \$7, children under 12 free. Info: www.southshorestitchers.com.

Under the Stars Quilt Show, Oct. 23-25, Brookhaven, PA

Undercovers Quilters Guild show. Brookhaven Municipal Building, 2 Cambridge Rd., Brookhaven, PA. 19015. Admission: \$7. Info: www.undercoverquilters.com.

Burlington Quilters' Guild Quilt Show and Boutique, Oct. 24-25, Bedford, MA.

Middlesex Community College Campus Center, 591 Springs Rd., Bedford, MA 01730. Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Admission \$6. Info: www.burlingtonquiltersguild.org.

Harvest Quilt Show, Oct. 24-25, Avon, CT.

200 quilts on display, vendors, raffles, cafe. Avon Congregational Church, 6 West Main St. (corner of Rt. 10 & Rt. 44). Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. noon-5. Admission: \$8. Info: Susan Elliott at 860-658-0863 or shsellcott@sbcglobal.net or www.avon-church.org.

International Quilt Festival Houston 2015, Oct. 29-Nov. 1

A profusion of quilts, vendors, classes, and all things quilting. Preceded by International Quilt Market/Houston on Oct. 24-26. Info: www.quilts.com.

Celebration of Quilts 2015, Nov. 6-7, Allendale, NJ

Judged show presented by Brownstone Quilters Guild. Quilts, vendors, raffles, food. Northern Highlands Regional High School, 298 Hillside Ave. Hours: 10-5 both days. Admission: \$8. Info: www.brownstonequilters.com.

Quilting on the Line Fall Fiesta, Nov. 7-8, Stewartstown, PA

Display of guild member's work and antique quilts, demonstrations, silent auction, vendors.

Eureka Volunteer Fire Co., 82 N. Main St., Stewartstown, PA. 17363. Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Admission: \$5. Info: www.quiltingontheline.com.

Exhibition of Quilts, Nov. 13-15, Lebanon, PA

Sponsored by Lebanon Quilters Guild. Lebanon Expo Center & Fairgrounds, 80 Rocherty Rd. Hours: Fri. & Sat. noon-6, Sun. 10-4. Admission: \$6. Info: www.lebanonquiltersguild.com, or www.lebexpo.com.

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