

The Brooklyn Bee

BROOKLYN QUILTERS GUILD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

February 2024

**Volume 31
Issue 6**

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

Greetings Fellow Quilters,

I hope you all are sticking to your quilting New Year's resolutions and working on your round robin pieces. I want to start off by expressing my immense gratitude to the members of the Guild for your support of my blossoming quilt shop.

One thing that I have learned over the past few years is that community is the foundation of quilting. Within the quilt community there are countless experiences, perspectives, and interests that collectively create a diverse community of creative individuals. That collective support and encouragement allows us quilters to step out of our creative comfort zones and try something new. Whether it's a Round Robin challenge or making Tessuti Aprons there is always something new to learn. Speaking from personal experience, the support of the Brooklyn Quilters Guild has encouraged me to step out of my comfort zone and open my own quilt fabric shop.

As part of opening my own shop I will be traveling around the country this year vending at local and national quilt shows. That means, unfortunately, I will be seeing less of you all at our monthly meetings. On the bright side, it is from your support and the community of the Guild that I have been able to get to this point.

The board and committees have put together some great things for the season. Be sure to take part in the upcoming ABC frenzy; it's such a rewarding opportunity. The Guild offers many community projects to take part in throughout the year. Taking on a new project is a great way to give back to our local community.

I hope you all enjoy the upcoming meeting, and I wish you all Happy Quilting.

Best,
Richie Doron
Co-President

2023-2024 Brooklyn Quilters Guild

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The Brooklyn Bee

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EVENTS OF NOTE

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Mary Hawley
Martha McDonald

Our Social Media Links

Facebook BOM Group

<https://tinyurl.com/ycxzf8fs>

Facebook Member-Only Group

<https://tinyurl.com/ycbwzom9>

Monthly Show and Tell

<https://www.quiltbrooklyn.org/show-and-tell>

Instagram

@Brooklyn_Quilters_Guild

YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Qfeous_-lc

Guild Meetings

NEXT MEETING: February 17, 2024, 11 a.m.

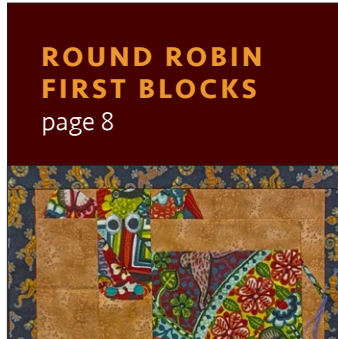
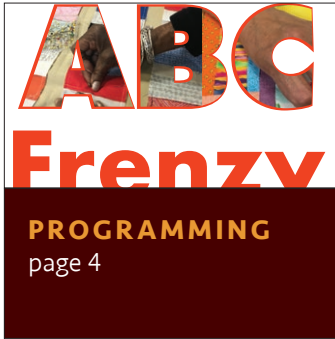
Hybrid meeting: In-person at the Holy Name of Jesus Church and on Zoom.

The church is located at 245 Prospect Park West (enter at Shepherd's Hall in the back, off the parking lot). Masks are encouraged at meetings. If you are experiencing illness, please stay home and join us on Zoom.

ZOOM MEETING LINK: will be emailed to members in a Bee Blast the morning of our meeting or can be accessed on the Events page in the Member section of this website.

SUNDAY BEES: Join us on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, 1 - 4 p.m. Zoom link Information will be emailed on Sunday morning and can always be accessed on the EVENTS page in the Member section of our website.

february bee highlights



QUILT RAFFLE

Susan Sato is offering the raffle from the 1995 Quilt show held at PS 321 in Park Slope. Raffle tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased at the 2024 February Guild meeting with the drawing taking place at the February meeting. All proceeds will go to the Guild's next quilt show fund.

Guild Calendar

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

February 2024

February 17, 2024, 11:00 a.m.— Guild meeting, hybrid/Zoom. Masks are recommended to attend the in-person meeting

Quilt Raffle

ABC Frenzy after our meeting.

February 25, 1 – 4 p.m. Sewing Bee on Zoom

March 2024

March 10, 1 – 4 p.m. Sewing Bee on Zoom

March 16, 2024, 11:00 a.m.— Guild meeting, hybrid/Zoom. Masks are recommended to attend the in-person meeting

Members teaching Members

March 24, 1 – 4 p.m. Sewing Bee on Zoom

GUEST FEES

Starting in January 2024, the guest fee for attending Guild meetings will be raised to \$10. It has been \$5 for many years but it's time for a change. If this, or the membership fee, is a financial hardship, please contact Katie Mahoney, kamahoney001@gmail.com.

Something to share? The deadline for time sensitive submissions for the March 2024 issue of *The Brooklyn Bee* is **Monday, February 26, 2024**. Please send other contributions throughout the month. Feel free to call (917-957-3884) or email at or susan.aronoff@gmail.com.

Events of Note: Please send information about upcoming shows, events, calls for submission to both Carlynn Houghton at carlynn.houghton@gmail.com and Susan Aronoff at susan.aronoff@gmail.com.

Programming

February

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Frenzy

The long-running ABC Frenzy is around the corner...just a winter breeze away! It's scheduled to follow the upcoming Guild meeting on February 17th (1-4 p.m.) and all Guild members are welcome!

To ensure a place at one of the ABC Frenzy work stations AND to help us plan a "smooth" Frenzy event, please let us know in advance, if you plan to attend.

Whether you are a new Frenzy attendee or a returning member, please send an email to Susannah Laskaris at: susannahlaskaris@gmail.com or text: 718-619-9020.

Please let us know if you plan to bring any sewing supplies (needed supplies listed on page 6), and how many ABC tops (including completed ABC kits) and ABC backing materials you plan to bring. Your information will help us make sure we have just enough backing material and batting to match 60 ABC quilts tops on the day of the event (we are no longer storing ABC fabric).

Our Guild goal is to assemble 60+ quilts in one afternoon!

As always, feel free to call if you have any questions.

ABC Frenzy Team:

Jenn Arzberger, ABC Committee Chair:
jennarzberger@optonline.net or cell, 917-685-6712

Susannah Laskaris:
susannahlaskaris@gmail.com or cell: 718-619-9020

For more **ABC Frenzy** details please see page 6.

Seeking:

ABC Quilt

Committee Co-Chair and Volunteers

The Guild's ABC quilt project is a legacy project ... 25 years and running strong!

Members make baby quilts and premie quilts, which are distributed to children in hospitals throughout NYC. If you're interested in volunteering to help assemble ABC kits or in becoming an ABC Quilt Committee Co-chair, and teaming up with current ABC Chair, Jenn Arzberger, please contact Poppy O'Neil at: poppy.oneill@gmail.com.

Thank you!

-
- Thank you in advance to those members who signed
 - up at the January Guild meeting to bring supplies to
 - the Frenzy:
 - Here's the FRENZY RSVP list so far. Please contact
 - Susannah, if you plan to attend the Frenzy, and don't
 - see your name listed below:
 - Samantha Bearden
 - Brigette Bellettiere
 - Katie Mahony
 - Martha McDonald
 - Lily Shames
 - Valerie Turer
 - Susan Aronoff
 - Looking forward!
-

Guild News & Notes

The 2024 Round Robin Round 2

See page 8

Membership Report

In this New Year, our membership has grown to 236.
We warmly welcome all new members.
membership@quiltbrooklyn.org

BLOCK OF THE MONTH



The January Block of the Month was String of Illusion.
The winner of these colorful blocks was Chris Petersen.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS LIST

Please make sure all the items are not past an expiration date, opened or dented.

Cans, jars and boxes of:

- tuna
- chicken
- peanut butter
- pasta
- rice
- vegetables
- beans
- fruit
- soup
- cereal
- condensed milk
- juice
- Jell-O
- baking goods
- pop-open cans of spaghetti, raviolis, vegetables or fruit for the homeless

They will also take money donations for fresh fruits and vegetables.



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Frenzy

BY JENN ARZBERGER

This February we will be having our Annual ABC Frenzy! For those who don't know or have not had the opportunity to participate in a Frenzy let me explain what it is and how it has changed.

In the past, the ABC committee accepted unfinished quilts throughout the year and paired them with backing and batting distributing the "sandwiches" to members who were willing and able to complete them. Although some members do store batting and a bit of fabric, during the year we are only accepting completed quilts—except in February. In February Guild members come together to complete as many quilts as possible.

The ABC Committee tries to have some quilts ready beforehand for each group so no one is sitting around waiting for their group to get to work. The groups and the flow of the day is as follows:

Runners will be members that will be moving the quilts between each group.

Group 1 will be cutting batting and match it with backs and tops.

Group 2 will lay out the batting, then the backing right side up, then the quilt tops wrong side up into the sandwiches and pinning the pieces together around the border.

Group 3 will sew a quarter inch border around the quilt top connecting the top, back and batting, leaving a 12-inch opening in the middle of 1 side of the quilt for a quick turn. Since these quilts will be heavily used, we ask you to quilt with a smaller stitch 2.0-2.5 preferred.

If you have never made a quick turn quilt or tied a quilt don't be discouraged. We will all be there to help each other and work together. This is not just a day to finish quilts, it is also a day of fun to make new friends and learn new things.

Group 4 will remove any pins, trim the excess fabric a quarter of an inch from the sewed line leaving only a small flap of backing fabric about 2 inches wide where the quick turn hole was left and turn the quilt so the batting is on the inside.

Group 5 will be ironing the newly turned quilts and any fabric that may be too wrinkled to sew into sandwiches.

After the quilt is ironed it will be sent back to the sewing group where you will sew another quarter inch border around the entire quilt and close the hole left from the quick turn.

Group 6 will be finishing the quilt in the tie method and trimming any excess threads. You will be provided with thread and the needles to tie knots connecting all three layers. Each knot should be within 6 inches from each other.

For a successful frenzy we are asking for volunteers to bring the following items. Please label your supplies!

- Sewing Machines with walking foot (at least 5)
- Irons (at least 5) and ironing boards (3-5)
- Water Pitchers (to fill the steam irons)
- Ironing Boards (at least 5)
- Cutting Mats (as many as available 2+)
- Large Rulers (as many as available 3+)
- Rotary Cutters (as many as available 3+)
- Extension Cords and power strips (as many as available)

Please contact Susannah Laskaris at susannahlaskaris@gmail.com or cell: 718-619-9020 if you will be able to bring anything so we can keep track.

Quilt Kits Needed!

Request for ABC QUILT KITS

Purpose: ABC Quilt Kits are a time-saver option for those who prefer to sew an ABC quilt top, and want to skip the fabric-coordinating and cutting process. It's also an opportunity to circle back to that New Year's resolution to unload unwanted fabric i.e. GOT STASH?!!!

Directions: pre-cut fabric to complete an ABC quilt for easy assembly. The approximate dimensions are: no smaller than 32 inches; no larger than 45 inches.

Include some child-friendly, colorful/floral fabric. Shapes/blocks can be simple (squares/strips/unwanted blocks etc).

Design and cuts up to you—assembly up to others!

Bundle, tie or bag the fabric shapes (with a simple sketch of the quilt pattern/layout). Contact Susannah or Jenn (contact info below) and let them know you have kits prepared and they will let you know when to bring the kits to the ABC table for other members to pick-up!

ABC Committee Chair, Jenn Arzberger jennarzberger@optimum.net or text 917-685-6712;
Susannah Laskaris susannahlaskaris@gmail.com or text 718-619-9020.

Thanks so much!



What Do I Do With This?

Sheets. Old sheets. We all have them (or have had them). Thrift stores don't want them, Fabscrap and Big Reuse reject them. But Retold Recycling does take them, so if you're desperate, order some bags from them! I've begun using them. It's easy, and yes, it costs (\$46 for 3 bags), but I've disposed of items that I know Salvation Army doesn't want.

Check out their website—they do wonderful work.

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

For free and local solutions, consider dog or cat beds — you will need to rip or shred the sheets. Animal rescue organizations may also want the old linen to use as rags. Old sheets will also function as drop cloths for messy-ish household tasks. ~Susan Aronoff

FOR THIS COLUMN:

If you are, or know, an educator working with groups to create art projects out of waste and have need of something that our Guild members may be able to supply, write in.

AND, if you happen upon some kind of perpetual waste packaging problem such as the single-use dog food containers pictured below, send in your ideas to me:

susan.aronoff@gmail.com.

Let's use our collective over-flowing garage bins and our creativity to contribute some local solutions to broader problems.



Image courtesy of Carolyn O. Schwartz,

Left: 2-weeks of stacked plastic containers artfully styled to echo the gracefully curve of a potted succulent.

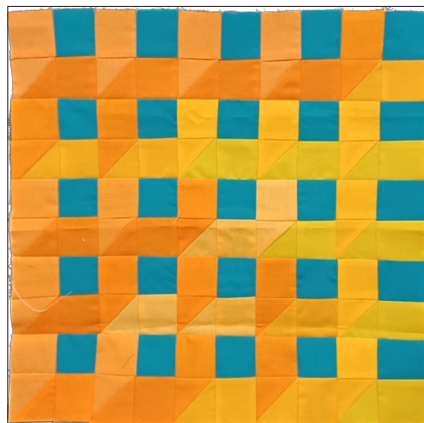
2024: Round Robin First Blocks

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By now everyone has received and started (finished?) the first round for the Round Robin Challenge. Here are a few tips and reminders to help you through this process.

1. RELAX- Don't stress too much about your round. No one is expecting to get back the quilt of their dreams. Remember that this challenge is for fun, to bring us together as a community and to get our creative juices flowing. Nothing more, nothing less.
2. Please add fabric each time you work on a round (Remember that more fabric will be required as the quilt grows). If you don't have fabric to add, don't sweat. All the extra fabric will be returned to the owner of the original block.
3. Remember to write your name on the sheet of paper in your packet under the name of the quilt owner. Try to jot down a few notes next to your name regarding your decision process. Include your challenges and any ideas for the next maker. Again, if you have nothing to add, no problem.
4. Turn in your packet at the beginning of the February meeting. Please don't wait until the end of the meeting since the Round Robin team needs time to assign each packet to a new quilter.
5. If you can't attend the February meeting, find a friend who can bring in your packet and pick up a new one for you. If this isn't possible, keep the packet and add another round. Please contact Micki Segel at mickisegel@gmail.com if you need to do this.
6. Most of all – HAVE FUN! Do what you can, be yourself and pat yourself on the back for participating in the 2024 Brooklyn Quilters Guild Round Robin Challenge.

~Micki Segel





Last year, Micki asked me to work with Andrew Hansen and Leona Shapiro, collecting Round Robin blocks and their added borders as they grew, row by row. As many of you know, my organizational skills are legendary—and not in a good way. My memory of that experience is mostly of confusion as I attempted to apply my non-linear brain to the linear task of collecting and recording the blocks. Things only became worse as the task expanded to include pairing blocks with their new borders to a different quilter.

When I manage to remove my thoughts away from the horror of confusion, I remember being awed by the changes each round made upon the original block—quilting chaos theory writ whole in the most amazing way!

This year Micki sensibly left me out of the equation, and I was curious to get Andrew's and Leona's perspective on the Guild's 2024 Round Robin block exchange.

~Susan Aronoff

The first month of our Round Robin block exchange

"was a mix of excitement and nerves from a lot of participants. It seemed like several members were afraid they'd mess up or ruin the original block, but I hope everyone realizes this is ultimately supposed to be fun. I always find exercises like these to be a good way to practice letting go of the idea of perfection and not being too precious about your work." ~Andrew Hansen

Leona "...agreed with Andrew. Everyone was quite excited and I expect people will be putting a lot of thought and effort into their rounds."

My First Quilt

BY MARY RUMSEY HAWLEY

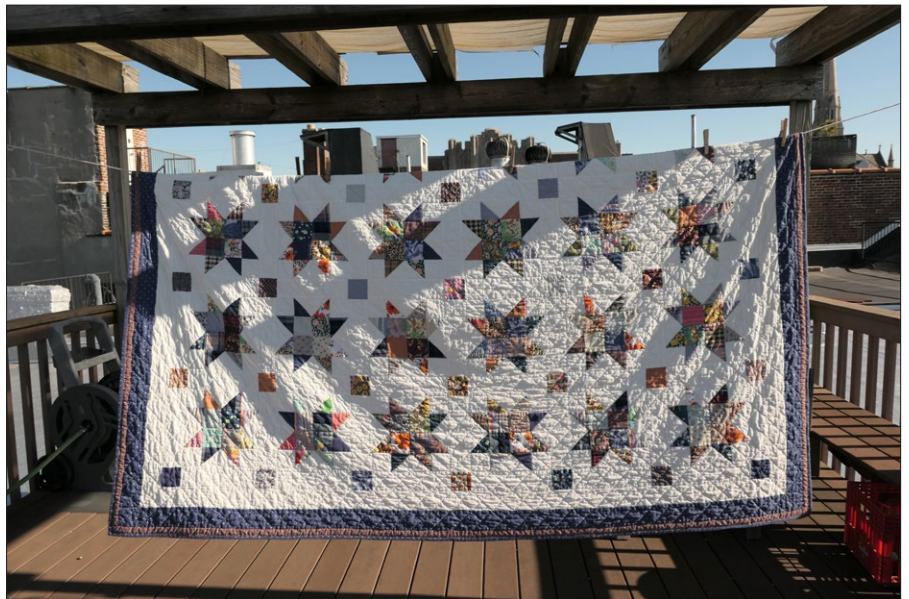
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My first quilt was a hand-quilted full-sized quilt. Quite an undertaking for a beginner, but I had several good friends who were long-time quilt makers and a box of trimmings from dresses that my mom, sister, and I had made over the years. The actual impetus was moving into an apartment by myself for the very first time and that box of scraps came with me.

I also had a plan. I had seen a sawtooth star quilt made by my Maryland-based friend, Leslie Marshall. It was made up of multiple fabrics all sashed in white. All that white convinced me that I could make a bed quilt without planning everything at the beginning; I could make a bunch of star blocks without solving the whole quilt design.

This was back in the day without rotary cutters; all pieces were cut with scissors and a cardboard template. Every square and triangle in each block was different from its neighbor. It was so satisfying creating a stack of carefully “composed” and ironed blocks; I never put my ironing board away. When it was time to lay them out, I moved all the furniture to the walls and with a little help from my two cats, worked out the layout.

Every time I had a question about the next step, I would call up a quilting friend. A couple I knew from Scandinavian dancing, Bob Dawson and Evie Landry, lived nearby in Park Slope and I would walk over to see how they did things. Bob had started quilting so he could make his own Amish-style quilts and Evie was much more experimental. (They also introduced me to the Guild.) They got me through the layering and basting steps and when it was time to bind the quilt, they suggested I roll the edges of the backing fabric around to the front, which I did, although I replaced it in later years.



I never considered not hand-quilting the top. Bob and Evie were both hand-quilters and so was another long-time friend, Lorrie Moore, who lived in Florida (and who was a mentor to Leslie when Leslie was a teenager and Lorrie was a young military wife). Lorrie’s philosophy for quilt making is “They’re bed quilts; don’t have to be “art!” Frankly, that was a very liberating notion. I used to be a rug weaver and couldn’t have that freedom.

This isn’t just a story about my first quilt. It is a story of the long-time friends who quilt and mentored me. I met them all through folk-dancing. I’ve never lived in the same place as Lorrie and Leslie; our friendship grew from long dance weekends in West Virginia. They brought their bed quilts with them to decorate the dance hall. I met Bob and Evie dancing here in NYC and it was great when they settled down together here in Park Slope. They both had quilts hanging in the Guild’s 1996 show.

(Of course, now I have quilting friends who don’t dance. I was surprised when I pulled out that 1996 show catalog, many of those quilters are still active in the Guild, and I’ve gotten to know them better at weeklong retreats.)

This quilt hung in the Guild’s “Third Annual Quilt Show,” in 1996, held at PS 321 in Park Slope, Brooklyn. I see from the program notes that after I used up the family sewing scraps, I moved on to cut up yardage once earmarked for projects that never materialized. My personal challenge was to use at least one piece of every cotton print I owned, no matter how ugly it looked to me. ❖



"What a Little Light Will Do"

I made a small quilted sample square before I started building this quilt. Here it is placed against the now faded quilt. The quilt was displayed for many years on a wall with no direct light, but in a room with a skylight.



THE GIFT OF ZOOM

And yes, I know. Many of us are heartily sick of Zoom meetings and hunger for human contact. But there are others who found unexpected uses for Zoom and who have made online connections that otherwise might not exist. The generous (and tidier) among us have shared their living spaces, prompting this opportunistic editor to see possible Bee articles in the most innocuous of comments. Carolyn Oppenheim Schwartz, one of our California members always indulges my whims. ~ Susan Aronoff

Quilting from Afar

As a long-distant BQG member, the friendship, fellowship and sharing that occurs in our Guild has become so important to me. Monthly Zoom meetings and Sunday Bees keep me involved and connected to other members.

One winter Sunday Sewing Bee Marie Towle spoke about bringing quilted potholders on a visit to family in France to give as gifts to old friends and new acquaintances. It has been her experience that people enjoy them and she gets the pleasure of gifting something handmade, special and very useful — a little piece of herself. She showed us several of her potholders both completed and in progress. I was intrigued. This manageable, portable project requires few materials, less time and angst than it takes to make than a bed quilt. AND I can still be creative, play with fabric and create something in a relatively short period of time.

During that Sunday Zoom, Marie explained the materials needed and the technique that she uses. I purchased said items but realized I needed more instruction. As with

most long-distance relationships, in-person meetings are difficult to arrange, so I texted her for additional assistance and she was most helpful in guiding me through the potholder-making process via text.

With Marie's expert advice I successfully completed my first potholder. Once completed, I proudly texted Marie a picture! We continue our bicoastal communication and periodically share our individual scrap sorting techniques. I love that Marie irons her scraps as I do before putting them away.

I must also make mention of Mary Hawley, Robin Engelman, Margaret Marcy and Joyce West who have also helped me with various quilting techniques via texts, calls and FaceTime .

The kindness and generosity of the members of the Brooklyn Quilt Guild consistently impresses me. Thank You!

~Carolyn O. Schwartz

Tough times for Brick and Mortar Stores

So, what can we do... fabric stores have closed for many reasons: the pandemic, rising rental prices, the ease and, often, low prices of on-line shopping. It's worse for us, living as we do in the metropolitan area. There are few options for us to purchase fabric in person.

Oftentimes we must go online and look at fabric on the internet and choose fabric according to the colors and designs that we see. When our fabric arrives it may or may not be what we thought it would be—what you see is Definitely NOT what you get! So very disappointing! I have found an alternative: Rosie's Calico Cupboard in San Diego, California. I have purchased fabric from both in person and through Face Time

For me, Face Time was especially helpful last spring when I was looking for specialized themes — the city of Paris and watches. The store's manager, Kathy, gave me her cell number and I called her via Face Time to audition various

possibilities. I selected some beautiful and colorful fabric featuring iconic buildings of Paris. Next she took me into the 'Sale' room where she found a beautiful and high quality cotton featuring watches.

Kathy said that they would be happy to do the same for other quilters. The store has a wonderful website—<https://www.rosiescalicocupboard.com/>—and carries 14,000 + bolts of fabric. The fabric is high quality from well known designers and manufacturers but it is discounted way below the standard price. You will not find Kaffe Fassett on their shelves, because the wholesaler will not allow his fabric to be discounted. Rosie's is always having some sort of sale. Visit their website. My experience when I purchased their fabric is that they mail it either that day or the next and so an exciting package arrives quickly. I do hope you are encouraged to 'visit' their store and see for yourself.

~Carolyn O. Schwartz

Events of Note

COMPILED BY CARLYNN HOUGHTON

QuiltCon 2024, February 22-25, 2024. This is a biggie: quilts, classes, vendors, multiple challenges and the website includes a link for first time attendees. For more information:

<https://quiltcon.com/>

Sisters in Fabric Quilt Exhibit: Quilts Crafted in African Fabrics, Williamsburgh Public Library, through 2/29/24. Reception, 2/15/2024, 5:30-7:00 pm. Sylvia Hernandez, Thadine Wormly, Diane Pryor-Holland, Farrah Lafontant, Wilda Smith and Jacqueline Colson are all members of the BQG—stop by and see them at 240 Division Street, Brooklyn, NY on **February 15.**

Indiana Heritage Quilt Show, February 29-March 2, 2024

A friendly quilt show held in beautiful Bloomington, Indiana during the first weekend in March. <https://www.ihqs.org/>.

Flora & Fauna, SAQA, February 9-March 3, 2024

A new exhibit of art quilts, begins its tour of Connecticut at Guilford Art Center in February, including work by Guild member Christine Janove. The exhibit consists of 32 pieces of fiber art created by 26 members of the Connecticut Region of the Studio Art Quilt Associates. The pieces on display range from realistic to abstract and depict real and imagined plants and animals. Some use plants to create the images; others are created by piecing fabrics together as a form of collage or through more traditional piecing methods; and some use dyes, paints, and/or stitching.

<https://guilfordartcenter.org/flora-fauna-a-new-exhibit-of-art-quilts-at-guilford-art-center/>

Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival, February 29-March 3, 2024 The largest quilt festival on the Eastern seaboard. Hampton, Virginia.

<https://www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/mid-atlantic-quilt-festival/>

Judy Chicago: Herstory, New Museum, through 3/3/24.

Textiles, paintings, sculpture, both collaborative and personal.

<https://www.newmuseum.org/exhibitions/view/judy-chicago-herstory>

Patchwork is part of the **Share Your Story: Multisensory Storytelling for Transformative Healing**, exhibit at the **Brooklyn Children's Museum**, through 3/31. see image and text in the right column.

<https://www.brooklynkids.org/exhibits/share-your-story/>

Virginia Quilt Museum

If you plan to be in or near Harrisonburg, The Virginia Quilt Museum looks like a 'must-visit' destination. From the current exhibitions **Abstractions in Color** by Cindy Grisdela, which runs through March, and **Elegance in Quilts: Historical Applique Quilts from the VQM Collection** which ends May 11, to **Code Switch** by Andi Cullins which runs from April 3, 2024 to June 15, 2024 there appears to be something for every one.

<https://www.vaquiltmuseum.org/>

Fashion Forward "B" Dry Goods, through March 30.

An exhibition celebrating the fashion arts, featuring original paintings and drawings by famous designers as well as original textiles, garments, ephemera and contemporary artworks which straddle the art and fashion worlds. "B" Dry Goods, 679 Franklin Avenue, Brooklyn.

<https://bdrygoods.com/pages/fashion-forward>

Sisters in Fabric Quilt Exhibit Quilts Crafted in African Fabrics

We are pleased to display quilts crafted in African fabrics for Black History Month.

The quilts are the creations of a group of quilting friends who have exhibited together many times in the past.



Sylvia Hernandez

The Sisters in Fabric are:

Sylvia Hernandez	Wendi Higginbotham
Thadine Wormly	Diane Larrier Collier
Joan Foster-Johnson	Deloris A. Frazier
Diane Pryor-Holland	Jacqueline Johnson
Farrah Lafontant	Sylvia Munroe
Wilda Smith	Jacqueline Carlson
Marilyn Hamilton	

Join us for a reception on Thursday, February 15, 5:30-7:00 pm. Meet the quilters and enjoy some light refreshments!

Williamsburgh Library
240 Division Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11211
718.622.7446
bklynlibrary.org



"Discover Patchwork Quilt by master quilter Sylvia Hernandez, intricately stitched from 120 squares created by Brooklyn children and adults across 8 Brooklyn FAM events. Each square narrates a personal story of growth, healing, and joy. As a whole, the squares collectively form the shape of Brooklyn, overlaid atop a tree with exposed roots, honoring our individual voices while symbolizing our interconnectedness and mutuality. On view on BCM's 2nd floor, between ColorLab and the café."

The Calling: The Transformative Power of African American Doll and Puppet Making, City Lore Gallery through March 3, 2024 City Lore is an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and a pioneer in Urban Folklore programming. Located at 56 E. 1st Street. <https://citylore.org/about-the-gallery/current-exhibition/>

Events of Note continued on page 14

FOR OUR FLORIDA MEMBERS, SNOW BIRDS AND TRAVELERS

Wet Pasco Quilters Guild, February 16-18, 2024. New Port Richey Recreation & Aquatic Center, 6630 Van Buren Street, New Port Richey, Florida.

AQS Quiltweek, February 21-24. Daytona Beach, Florida. <https://www.americanquilter.com/daytona-beach-2024-admission>

Quilting By the Gulf — A Festival of Quilts, March 1-2, 2024 Venice Community Center, 326 Nokomis Ave S, Venice, FL. <https://www.vaqg.org/>

Stitches in Time Quilt Show, March 1-2, 2024. New Hope Ministries, 7576 Davis Blvd, Naples, FL. <https://naplesquiltersguild.org/quilt-show/>

Original Sewing and Quilt Expo, March 14-16, 2024, RP Funding Center, Lakeland, FL <https://www.sewingexpo.com/>

ONLINE RESOURCES YOU MAY ENJOY:

The Smithsonian National Museum of American History's entire quilt collection is online: <https://tinyurl.com/2p9ry2n3>

Calls for Entry

SAQA (Studio Art Quilt Associates) offers their members multiple calls for entry both virtual and live. If you are at all interested in growing your work and/or exhibiting, whether now or in the future, SAQA is an amazing organization with resources for both members and non-members! <https://www.saqa.com>

ARTICLES OF NOTE

Quilts and the New Deal

<https://livingnewdeal.org/quilts-embodiment-the-new-deal-practically-and-symbolically/>

2024 RETREATS

Heritage in Connecticut

The Heritage Hotel is a Spa and Conference Center in Southbury, CT, about one hour and 45 minutes from Brooklyn. For more information, go to: <https://www.heritagesouthbury.com>

2024 Heritage retreats

- April 24-26 (package); extra days 4/22 & 23
- July 23-25 (extra days 7/22 & 23)
- October 23-25 (extra days 10/21 & 22)

If interested, please contact Carol Lieberman, 917-439-9549, or email: clieber@verizon.net.

Cross Roads in New Jersey

Cross Roads is a camp and retreat facility located in Port Murray, NJ, one and a half hours from Brooklyn. Information about Cross Roads can be found on the website, www.crossroadsretreat.com.

2024 Cross Roads retreats

- Sunday-Friday, February 18 - 23
- Sunday-Friday, June 2 - 7
- 2024 June Weekend!
- Friday-Sunday, June 7-9

All mid-week retreats are for 5 nights and 14 meals.

Want to come? Interested? Or questions? 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>.



February 2024 - BOM

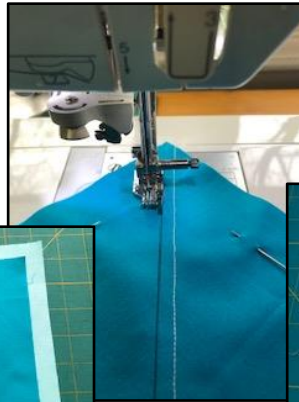
Technique Focus

BONUS PAGE – Alternate Method for HSTs; Trimming Blocks and Nesting Seams

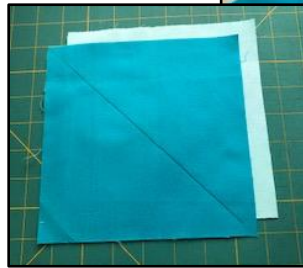
Half Square Triangles from a Square

There are many ways to make HSTs. This method takes one square and makes 2 HSTs!

1. Cut one square of each color/fabric. **Squares should be + 7/8" than desired end size.**
2. Then, draw one line on the diagonal on the back of one square.
3. Pin squares together and sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " on each side of the line.
4. Cut along the line and you have 2 triangles! (See photo on bottom of page)



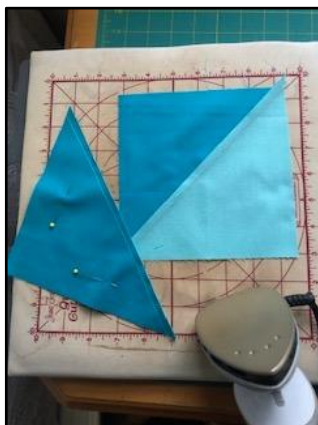
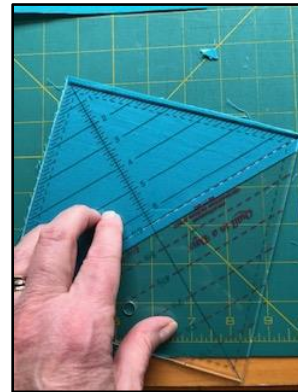
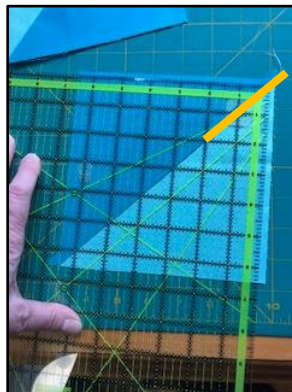
For **FEB BOM**, use a $7 \frac{3}{8}$ " square to start.



Trimming Blocks

To insure you have accurate points for HSTs, it is helpful to make the block slightly bigger than needed and trim it down to the size desired. Some options include:

1. Use a square ruler and align the diagonal with the seam of the HST.
2. Use a specialty ruler such as "Square Up Ruler" and measure before pressing seams open.



Nesting Seams

If you press both HSTs to the dark side, the seams will nest and you can use the guide of these seams to line up the square.

The advantage of nesting seams is that it offers a good way to match seams from one block to another in a quilt AND helps with keeping the points precise when you pinwheel HSTs!



BROOKLYN
QUILTERS
GUILD

February 2024 - BOM

Over the Rainbow

Pick your favorite rainbow color and join us in making some half square triangles, the featured technique for February.
Linda McNeely & Heidi Swanson

Over the Rainbow

Technique = Half Square Triangles or HST
Block size is a 12 ½" square.
¼" Seam allowance.

Fabrics & Cutting

1. 3 ½" squares – 2 white, 2 black.
2. 2 x 15" square. Colors should be light and dark shades of a rainbow color.

This method makes 8 HSTs at once. You will only need 4 HSTs for each block. You can adapt this part of the pattern to allow for your preferred method. The Bonus Page provides instructions for 4 HSTs.

Assembly Steps

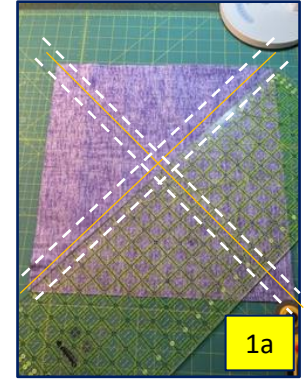
1. Make 8 Half Square Triangles
 - a) Mark lines across diagonals of one 15" square (yellow line in photo). Put light & dark 15" squares right side together (RST) and sew ¼" seam on both sides of both lines (white dashed lines).
 - b) Cut along center and diagonal lines to get 8 triangle units. (You will have enough for two "Over the Rainbow" blocks).
2. Press triangles open and trim to 6 ½" square.

TIP: Press seam to the dark side as this will allow you to nest seams and get sharp points.

3. Sew together the 4 x 6 ½" squares in a pinwheel pattern. See photo #2.
4. *Snowball* the corners with black and white squares diagonal to each other, placement as in photo #3. Fabrics are right sides together (RST).

TIP: For a snowball refresher, see Oct BOM and remember to sew slightly to the outside of the line towards the corner.

5. Trim corners (See photo #4) and press the corners to finish the block. Final square measurement is 12 ½".



Bring your block to our next guild meeting to enter the lottery and win that month's collection of blocks! If you can't come to the meeting, you can enter by sharing your block on our BOM Facebook page by 10 am the morning of the Guild Meeting. Each completed block give you one chance to win, whether you are present at the meeting or not. Blocks will be collected from those attending the meeting in person. Everyone else will privately mail their blocks to the winner.



facebook.com/groups/838028493370905