

October 2021

## Next Meeting

Thursday, October 21, 2021
6:30 Social
7:00 Meeting Begins
Location: Temple Beth Or 5315 Creedmoor Road
Raleigh, NC 27612

## Remember to Bring:

Name tag
Membership pin Comfort Quilts

New Membership Forms and Dues
Fall Workshop Sign-up Sheet

And of course.... A Quilting Friend!

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## President's Message

## Hi Everyone!

Welcome to Fall! It is my favorite part of the year with all the changes and beautiful colors that are about to appear. It's always an exciting time for me, and it begins what I call the holiday season with all the events that start filling our calendars. However, please leave some room in there as the guild has lots of great events coming.

In October, we have Julia Graves coming to speak at our meeting followed by two in-person classes. You will not want to miss out on a fun day learning about color on Friday or freezer paper piecing on Saturday. In addition, Holiday Blocks will begin to be sold at the guild meeting in October and there are some great choices! Please be sure to bring exact change as each kit is $\$ 2$.

November will bring more fun with another charity workshop via Zoom. Roberta has come up with another fast and easy pattern. Kits will be available or make one from your stash. At the guild meeting, we will have our annual Bazaar and I love the opportunity to purchase some handmade gifts for the holidays. Please feel free to donate something and bring your bid sheet with your item. If you are looking for ideas, popular items from the past have included table toppers, pillows, placemat sets, purses or bags, college related quilts and items, necklaces, and microwave bowl holders. We appreciate your support. The maker of any items not sold will have the choice at the end of the night to have it returned to them or donate it to the boutique at the quilt show.

Finally, we are excited to partner up with Interact again to make Christmas stocking. They are looking for stocks for Kids ranging in age from Infant to High School. More information about sizes and due dates will be made available in the next newsletter and on Facebook.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting on October $21^{\text {st }}$ !

Happy Quilting!

Anna


## The President's Challenge  

The Rules....

1. The finished quilt must measure 18 " wide by 36 " long.
2. Each member will be provided a piece of fabric which must enter on the left side of the quilt at 3 " wide and exit on the right side of the quilt at 3 " wide. This piece can be pieced, appliquéd or be attached by any method and can change width as long as it is 3 " on the edges. It must run to the edge so you may want to consider finishing your edges by adding facing or using a pillowcase instead of binding. More tips and tricks to come.
3. Quilts will be due by the 2022 Quilt Show since we will want to display them there. Exact due dates will be published once the quilt show committee publishes them. Please know that having your project judged is OPTIONAL so please participate.


Country Quilters of McHenry A Ribbon Runs Through It (mchenryquilters.org)

## From The Board

## 2022 Raffle Quilt

Attention All Members! The guild still needs your help. We are looking for volunteers to help man the raffle quilt table at the following events:

November $6^{\text {th }}$ : Fest in the West, Cary
November TBD: Lafayette Village, Raleigh January 14 \& 15, Fiber Art Market Place, Sanford March $18^{\text {th }} \& 19^{\text {th }}$ : Capital Quilters Guild Quilt Show

Let's support Irene and the great job she has been doing!


| Spotlight on Comfort Quilt Donations |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Charity | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Goal } \\ & \text { for } \\ & 2022 \end{aligned}$ | Received in September | Received this Year | Drawing Winners |
| Quilts on Wheels |  | 69 | 152 | - Shawna Chase |
| Walker Bags |  |  |  | - Marie Kleinman |
| Quilts for Kids |  | 21* | 82 |  |
| Newborn Hats |  | 31 |  |  |
| Flannel Receiving Blankets |  |  |  |  |
| QFK Pillow Cases |  |  | 176 |  |
| SAFE child | - | 77 | 117 |  |
| Comfort Quilts |  |  |  |  |
| Green Chair |  |  |  |  |

## Fall Workshops

October In Person Workshops, Julia Graves - 10/22 and 10/23


Julia Graves started her quilting business, Special Occasion Quilts LLC, in 2007 and teaches, lectures, designs patterns, makes commission quilts, longarms for others and sells \& services APQS longarm machines. Both of Julia's workshops in October will focus on the use of color. Julia is a Gem Affiliate teaching the gorgeous gem patterns by MJ Kinman - Textile Artist, has had quilts published in books by Gloria Loughman, Katie Pasquini Masupust and MJ Kinman, was an Artist in Residence at Empty Spools in 2019, and will be teaching at Empty Spools in 2022. Visit her gallery on her
website at http://www.soquilts.com. Julia lives in Leesburg Virginia.

## Tricks with Transparency - Friday 10/22: Member - \$55 \& Non-member - \$75

Play with fabric and learn the tricks to create transparency effects in this simple to piece but entertaining to look at quilt. You will use these color principles in many future quilts to create depth and interest!
> \$8 pattern fee
$>$ You will leave class with a start on a layout for your strips, an understanding of how to achieve the transparency effect, and an understanding of how to piece the block and finish the quilt.

> Appropriate for all levels.
Gemstone Bling - Saturday 10/23: Member - \$55 \& Non-member - \$75
Create your own sparkling gem using the same techniques that artist and designer MJ Kinman has used to create her giant gem quilts for over 20 years. MJ's gem quilts have been featured in Quilting Arts Magazine and McCall's Quilting Magazine, and she's been on Quilting Arts TV and The Quilt Show.com with Alex Anderson and Ricky Tims.
> Pattern (Julia brings for in-person; \$18+tax, payable at class).
> Select your birthstone, or any gem you think is lovely. Finished size is 17 ".
$>$ Fabric bundles are available from Julia, featuring Fat Quarter solids from Paintbrush Studios in carefully gradated values that will make your gem shine and glow! $\$ 2.25+$ tax/FQ needed $>$ For those wanting to provide their own fabric - Use solids, blenders or tone on tones. Distinct patterns will detract from the faceted effect. There are color chips in the pattern to help you select your fabrics.
> This isn't your typical foundation paper piecing. Freezer paper templates (included in the pattern) are ironed to the right side of your fabric and can be easily removed after piecing. And best of all, these patterns don't require absolute precision, so you can relax and enjoy every aspect of making your gem. $>$ Skill Level: Confident Beginner


## Our Committee Reports...

## Comfort Quilts



4-10"× WOF strips or 16 10" squares
4-1 $\frac{1}{2}{ }^{\prime \prime} \times$ WOF border strips
4-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " binding strips
45" $\times$ WOF backing
From each of the 10 " strips, cut 4-10" squares to create $16-10 "$ squares. Pair the squares with contrasting squares to make 8 pairs of $10^{\prime \prime}$ squares. Cut each pair in half. Cut one $5^{\prime \prime} \times 10^{\prime \prime}$ strip pair into $5^{\prime \prime}$ squares, $1 \frac{1}{2}{ }^{\prime \prime} \times 5^{\prime \prime}$ strips and $3 \frac{1}{2}{ }^{\prime \prime} \times 5$ " strips. Trim the other $5 " \times 10^{\prime \prime}$ strip pair into a 9 " strip and then cut to make $1 \frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime} \times 9^{\prime \prime}$ and $3 \frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime} \times 9^{\prime \prime}$ strips.


Arrange the pairs with a $5^{\prime \prime}$ square with its contrasting fabric strips. Sew strips 1 and 2 to $5^{\prime \prime}$ square and then strips 3 and 4 as numbered above to make 8 pairs. Place the 16 resulting $9^{\prime \prime}$ squares in a 4 by 4 grid, rotating blocks as desired. Sew rows together, add side borders and top and bottom borders. Layer, quilt, and bind.


As the Sunshine and Shadows Chairperson, I will send out cards as needed to Guild members on behalf of the entire Guild. These cards are to express congratulations, get well wishes or condolences. Please contact me, Joni Emerson/Sunshine \& Shadows, at:
information@capitalquilters.org


## Block Party

We had 25 pairs of the wave blocks returned to the September meeting, and Anne Rothrock was the lucky winner of these! Twenty-five apples were returned, with mostly red but also some yellow and green apples for a nice variety! One apple even had a worm in it - so cute! We had two winners for these blocks - Lana Kila Alexander and Sandra Wilson. Congratulations, ladies, and we can't wait to see your finished products! If you were unable to submit your blocks last night, please bring them to the next meeting or contact Jan to submit them.

We also offered three different blocks for you to choose from, a bat, a ghost or a jack-olantern. The directions for these are later in the newsletter and were also posted on Facebook. There are still fabric swatches left for the bat and jack-o-lantern blocks (only white remain for the jack-o-lantern) so if you did not sign up last night for one of these please contact Jan at jchvatal2@gmail.com and I will gladly meet up with you to give you the fabric swatch.

Please return your finished spooky blocks at the October meeting. Fill out a slip for a chance to win the drawing and receive the blocks that were submitted. In June 2022 we will have a prize drawing among those members who made the most blocks throughout the year.

If you make an extra block for yourself each month (using your own fabrics) you will have twelve $121 / 2$ inch blocks to make yourself a sweet sampler quilt at the end of the year (for the August Wave, make four blocks to combine into a $12^{1 ⁄ 2}$ inch block)! We will have a show and tell and prize drawing next July for those who completed a sampler quilt top from the 12 blocks; more information on this later in the year.

If you have any questions about the instructions for the monthly blocks, or about how Block Party works, please contact me at jchvatal2@gmail.com.

Stop by to see us at the next meeting at the Block Party table!
Thanks,
Jan Chvatal
Cindy Prow


## Halloween Bat Square

Materials Needed for two bats (to form a $121 / 2$ block):
Background: A Four $11 \frac{1}{2} \times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ inch rectangles
B Four $41 / 2 \times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ inch rectangles
C Two $31 / 2 \times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ inch rectangles
D Eight $1 \frac{1}{2} \times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ inch squares
E Eight $21 / 2 \times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ inch rectangles
F Four $6 \frac{1}{2} \times 1$ inch rectangles


Below is the layout for the background fabric that was provided to you (5 inch x WOF folded so you are cutting through two layers):

| $\begin{array}{r}2.5 \\ \times \quad 1.5 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 2.5 $\times 1.5$ | $\begin{gathered} 3.5 \times \\ 1.5 \end{gathered}$ | $6.5 \times 1$ | $6.5 \times 1$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $11.5 \times$ |  |  | $4.5 \times 1.5$ | $2.5 \times$ 1.5 | $1.5 x$ 1.5 | 1.5 1.5 |
|  | $11.5 \times$ | 1.5 | $4.5 \times 1.5$ | $\begin{array}{r} 25 \times \\ 1.5 \end{array}$ | 1.5 $\times 1.5$ | $1.5 \times$ |


| Bats: | G | Twenty $1 \frac{1}{2} \times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ inch squares |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | H | Four $41 / 2 \times 21 / 2$ inch rectangles |
| I | Two $31 / 2 \times 31 / 2$ inch squares |  |

## Instructions:

From the background you will need the two $C$ pieces, the eight $D$ pieces, and the eight E pieces. From the black bat fabric you will need twelve of the G pieces (hold the remaining 8 for the next step), and the four H pieces.

Arrange as shown to the right, with the eight D pieces on the four H pieces; mark the four white $D$ squares on the diagonal, from the upper inside corners to the lower outside corners.

Place four of the G pieces on the ends of the two C pieces; mark the four black $G$ squares from the upper outer corners to the lower inner corners.

Place eight of the $G$ black bat pieces on the left ends of the eight background $E$ pieces; mark these G squares that are on the white E $2 \frac{1}{2} \times 1 \frac{112}{2}$ inch rectangles from the upper outer to the inner lower corners.

Stitch all as marked.
Trim all seams to $1 / 4$ inch; be sure to trim from the outside corners. Press all to the black sides.


## Halloween Bat Square

Next, position the remaining eight black $G$ squares on the $E$ units from above, as shown.
Mark as shown in the picture to the right - from upper inner to lower outer corner. Stitch, trim to $1 / 4$ inch from the seam and press to the black.

Align the E units in pairs side by side and stitch together, forming four E units. Press the seams to one side.


Align the E units below the H units to form the bat wings, as shown. Stitch each set.

Press seams to the H side


Arrange all pieces as shown to the right (you will have two bats only one is shown here).
Sew the wing units to the black I pieces; press to I.
Sew the white B pieces to each side of the ear units; press to the $B$ pieces. Sew the ear unit to the body/wing unit; press to the ear unit. Sew the pieces A to the tops and bottoms of the bats; press toward the A pieces.


Sew side pieces F to the sides of the bats; press toward pieces F .
Then align the two bat pieces one above the other and sew the bottom of one bat unit to the top of the other bat unit. Press seam open.

Happy Halloween!

## Ghost Square

## Materials Needed:

| Background: | A | Two $121 / 2 \times 11 / 2$ inch rectangles |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | B | One $41 / 2 \times 31 / 2$ inch rectangle |
|  | C | Two $11 / 2 \times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ inch squares |
|  | D | Two $31 / 2 \times 31 / 2$ inch squares |
|  | E | One $21 / 2 \times 21 / 2$ inch square |
|  | F | One $11 / 2 \times 21 / 2$ inch rectangle |
|  | G | Four $1 \times 1$ inch squares |
|  | H | One $11 / 2 \times 51 / 2$ inch rectangle |
|  | 1 | Two $21 / 2 \times 21 / 2$ inch squares |
|  | J | One $31 / 2 \times 51 / 2$ inch rectangle |
| Body: | K | One $51 / 2 \times 2$ inch rectangle |
|  | L | Two $2 \times 1$ inch rectangles |
|  | M | One $11 / 2 \times 1$ inch rectangle |
|  | N | Two $21 / 2 \times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ inch rectangles |
|  | 0 | One $11 / 2 \times 3 / 4$ inch rectangle |
|  | P | One $51 / 2 \times 7 \frac{1}{2}$ inch rectangle |
|  | Q | Two $21 / 2 \times 21 / 2$ inch squares |
|  | R | One $31 / 2 \times 21 / 2$ inch rectangle |
|  | S | Two $11 / 2 \times 11 / 2$ inch squares |
| Eyes/Mouth: | T | One $11 / 2 \times 11 / 4$ inch rectangle |
|  | U | Two $1 \times 1$ inch squares |



Here is a layout for the background 14 inch square that was provided:


Face: From the background, select pieces $A(1), B, C(2)$ and $D(1)$; from ghost select pieces K, L(2), M, N (2), and O; from Eyes/ Mouth select U(2) and T.
Arrange as shown to the right, with the two C pieces on top of K as shown. Mark the two C pieces as shown.

Stitch on the lines, trim to $1 / 4$ inch and press toward the back-
 ground.
Stitch the two U pieces (eyes) to M; press toward M.
Stitch this unit to the L pieces; press toward the L pieces.
Stitch O to T (mouth); press to T.
Stitch the $N$ pieces to the $O / T$ unit. Press to the $N$ pieces.
Stitch the K unit to the eye/mouth unit. Press toward the K unit.
Stitch piece B to the left side of the face; press toward B.
Stitch piece $D$ to the right side of the face; press toward $D$.
Stitch the A piece to the top of the face unit; press toward piece A.

## Ghost Square

Hands: From the background select pieces E, F and G (4); and from the body select the $Q$ pieces (2). Arrange as shown to the right, with the $G$ pieces on the outer corners of the $Q$ pieces. Mark the G pieces as shown. Stitch the G pieces on the corners of the Q pieces; trim to $1 / 4$ inch
 and press to the background pieces.
Stitch the E piece to the left side of the Q piece, oriented as shown. Press to E.
Stitch the F piece to the right side of the Q piece, oriented as shown. Press to F.

Body: Select the hand units; from the background select pieces $D$ (1), H, I (2), and J; from the body select pieces P, S (2) and R. Arrange as shown to the right, with pieces $S$ on the bottom corners of $D$, and the I pieces on the outer corners of $R$ and $P$ as shown. Mark the $S$ and $I$ pieces as shown.
Stitch the $S$ pieces to the $D$ piece; trim to $1 / 4$ inch. Press to the $S$ pieces.
Stitch the I piece to the R piece; trim to $1 / 4$ inch. Press to I. Stitch the I piece to the P piece; trim to $1 / 4 / 2$ inch. Press to I. Stitch the D unit to the R unit, oriented as shown. Press to the R
 piece.
Stitch $H$ to the D/R piece. Press toward $H$.
Stitch the left hand unit $(Q / E)$ to the $H / D$ unit. Press toward the hand unit $Q / E$.
Stitch the right hand unit $Q / F$ to J. Press toward J.
Stitch $P$ to the left hand/tail unit. Press toward $P$.
Stitch the right hand unit $Q / F$ to $P$. Press toward $P$.

Attach the face unit to the body unit. Press toward the body.
Attach the last piece A to the bottom of the body. Press toward A.

Boo!

## Jack-O-Lantern Block

## Materials Needed:

Background: A Two $6 \times 2 \frac{1}{2}$ inch rectangles
B One $1 \frac{1}{2} \times 1$ inch rectangle
C Two $1 \frac{1}{2} \times 91 / 2$ inch rectangles
D Four $2 \times 2$ inch squares
E One $12 \frac{1}{2} \times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ inch rectangle

Stem: $\quad$ F One $1 \frac{1}{2} \times 2$ inch rectangle

Pumpkin Body: G One $10 \frac{1}{2} \times 31 / 2$ inch rectangle
H Two $4 \times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ inch rectangles
I One $3 \frac{1}{2} \times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ inch rectangle
J Two $2 \frac{1}{2} \times 31 / 2$ inch rectangles
K One $6 \frac{1}{2} \times 2 \frac{1}{2}$ inch rectangle
L Two $1 \frac{1}{2} \times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ inch squares
M Two $1 \times 1$ inch squares
N One $101 / 2 \times 21 / 2$ inch rectangle
Use this cutting layout for the fabric that was given to you (note - the black fabric is JUST WIDE enough to cut the pieces as laid out):
$\begin{array}{lll}\text { Eyes \& Mouth: } & \mathrm{O} & \text { Six } 1 \frac{1}{2} \times 1 \frac{1}{2} \text { inch squares } \\ & \mathrm{P} & \text { Two } 1 \frac{1}{2} \times 1 \frac{1}{2} \text { inch rectangles } \\ & \mathrm{Q} & \text { Two } 1 \times 1 \text { inch squares }\end{array}$
R
One $1 \frac{1}{2} \times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ inch square


## Instructions

Smile: Use pieces K, L (2), M (2) from the body and O (2), P (2), $Q(2)$ and the $R$ piece for the mouth and arrange as show to the right.
Draw diagonal lines on the two black squares at the top and the two orange squares on the bottom row, from the upper outside corner to the lower inside corner on each, as shown.
Stitch directly on top of the lines. Trim off outside of the stitching, leaving $1 / 4$ inch. Press to the black. Stitch the orange one inch squares to the black one inch squares; press to the black.
Stitch together all pieces on the bottom row of the photo; press to the black.


Stitch together the upper and lower sections. Press to the top.
Use pieces J from the body and sew to either end of the smile (not shown).
Press to the J pieces.

## Jack-O-Lantern Block

Eyes: Use pieces $\mathrm{H}(2)$ and I from the body and four O pieces from the eyes and align as shown to the right. Mark the squares as shown, and stitch on the lines. Trim the fabric to $1 / 4$ inch beyond the seams, press to the black. Then stitch the three pieces
 together; press to either side.

Stitch the eyes to the mouth, then stitch body piece G to the top of the eyes and body piece $N$ to the bottom of the smile. Press seams to the solid pieces.


Background: Place pieces D from the background on the corners of the jack-olantern.

Mark lines as shown, then stitch on the lines.
Trim the corners $1 / 4$ inch from the seam.
Press seams away from the jack-o-lantern.


Attach the stem F to the background piece B; press toward the stem. Attach background pieces A to either side of the stem unit; press away from the stem.
Attach pieces $C$ to either side of the jack-o-lantern; press seams toward the background.
Attach the stem unit to the top of the jack-o-lantern; press seam to the stem unit. Attach piece E to the bottom of the jack-o-lantern. Press to the background.

Happy Halloween!


## 2021 Holiday Blocks

What is your favorite block? Do you love an Ohio star? Does a block made from flying geese get your creative juices flowing? Do you delight in beautiful appliqué? Have you always enjoyed the movement of a drunkard's path? Are you mad for the precision that paper piecing gives pointy blocks?

In the spirit of getting back to the things we love, the Holiday Block committee (aka the Remnants Bee) is asking for individuals, bees, and groups of friends to sponsor a Holiday Block.

Here is how the program works.
Sponsors commit to participate by September 1st. Sponsors select a block (or blocks) to make a quilt top and submit an application to have the block approved.
After approval, sponsors kit the instructions and the fabrics for the blocks to sell at the October and November Guild meetings.
Guild members will purchase the kits and return their finished blocks to the sponsors at the December Guild meeting.
Sponsors will draw a winner for each quilt and the winner gets all of the finished blocks as well as any unsold kits. Participants get to keep the instructions.

The best part is when the winners bring finished quilts back to show the Guild!
Here are some of the blocks already approved for this year:


If you are still interested in sponsoring a Holiday Block or have further questions, please contact Darlene Silverman (jsilverman@nc.rr.com)

# CQG Quilt Show Rules for 2021 

Have you thought about entering a quilt in the 2022 Capital Quilters Guild show? You really should! I enter because I really like seeing my quilts hanging up amongst the gorgeous contributions of my fellow guild members!

This year, we've changed the categories a little bit, so we're announcing the rules earlier than usual. For both the individual pieced quilts and the individual miscellaneous / other quilts, we've previously divided the categories between sit-down machines and long arms. This year, however, we're dividing based on how the quilting was done. Manual / hand-guided quilting regardless of machine is the characteristic of one category, while computer-guided quilting regardless of machine is the guiding factor for the other category. The committee's thought is that the comparisons between quilting techniques should be more similar. If you have any question about the proper category for your quilt, just ask!

Did you take the miniatures class last spring? If so, complete that little quilt and enter it! We've got a separate category for miniature quilts!

Did you get together with a bunch of friends and swap blocks, or have someone else do the quilting or binding for you? The Duet or Group categories are built just for that!

Do you have a quilt that oozes a modern sensibility? We've got a category for that too!

And this year, there is a special category for the President's Challenge quilts. This way they are all grouped together for easy hanging. Don't worry, you can opt to not have your quilt judged - but it still needs to be entered for the display.

Registration for the quilt show will open December 1 and closes January 31, 2022. We hope we'll see your quilt in the show!

Nancy Honeycutt


# One Quilter's Experience 

By Darlene Silverman

Disclaimer: I do not hold myself out as an expert. I know that many of you know so much more than I do. I share my experience in the hope of helping newer quilters as well as to stimulate conversation among more experienced quilters. I welcome feedback and differing views, as we are all on this journey together and can only benefit from hearing each other. (If you are reading this in the newsletter, please weigh in on Facebook.)

## What are the best practices for pressing?

Part two: the tools and techniques of pressing
As with everything else about quilting, my pressing has changed over time. This is true of both the tools I use and the process I follow. I no longer use steam when I press. I like the effect of steam, but I use my iron all the time and do not like to keep water in my iron all the time. Doing so shortens the iron's life-span and puts fabrics at risk for rust spots. (Distilled water or reverse-osmosis water, which Jules has offered me, reduces - but does not completely eliminate - these risks.). Further, especially in this climate, leaving water in an enclosed dark space for stretches of time is never a good idea. Mold, mildew and other unpleasant things taking up residence are always a possibility. So I always use a dry iron and when I want the benefits of wet heat, I use a mister to apply water to my fabrics. After misting (on both sides, unless I am in a particular rush or feeling lazy), I give the water a few minutes to absorb into the fabric before pressing.

I used to press on a non-stick ironing board fabric stretched over and stapled onto the plywood surface of my $2^{\prime} \times 5^{\prime}$ ironing table. It worked fine and I had no complaints about it. However, when a friend raved about pressing on a felted wool mat, I borrowed hers and then promptly bought one for myself. It's a decent size - 18" square, but too small (and multiples would be too expensive) to cover my entire table. Then another friend (I love and learn so much from my quilting friends!) told me about wool felt mats sold as saddle pads for horses. So much more reasonably priced! And bigger! I trimmed two to fit my table. Caveat -- these are not quite as thick nor quite as densely felted as the expensive ones intended for quilters, but they work fine if you keep your iron set at "wool", so as not to scorch the mat's surface. Here is why I am such a fan of using felted wool: it "magnifies" and extends the life of the heat that your iron is applying to the fabric. Wool absorbs and then slowly releases heat so your fabric gets ironed from both sides. Leave your fabric in place until cool and it will be beautifully pressed. One additional tweak to this process - I have taken to placing a fabric weight (see photo) or another wool mat on top of the fabric the moment I remove the iron. This presses the block firmly in place and holds the heat even longer while I move on with other things. Again, let the block cool in place before moving it.

## One Quilter's Experience (Continued)

On those rare occasions when I use starch or starch substitutes (e.g., sizing, best press), I spray the fabric on an easily-cleaned non-stick surface, let it absorb a bit and then bring the fabric to the wool mat. Some of the product will still get on the wool, but less so. I am not sure whether this could create a problem over time, but having a piece of wool absorb more and more starch over time sounds to me like it could be a problem. Also, I do not know whether the mats can be washed. I do not know of anyone who has and have not yet had reason to try it myself. If you have tried it, please let us all know what your experience has been.


When pressing, handle your fabric with care and be aware of your fabric's bias so as to avoid stretching it out of shape. Starch and starch substitutes can be helpful in preventing stretch and make for a nice crisp seam line. Remember, your seam line should be straight once pressed. Pressing (up and down), as opposed to ironing (across), makes it less likely that you will inadvertently skew your seam out of alignment. Also, make sure you are pressing directly at the seam line and are not pressing a small pleat along the seam line.

My iron, like many, has a safety cut-off, but I still want to make sure that I do not inadvertently leave it on. Plugged into an extension cord are both my iron and one of the two lamps I have over my pressing table. I never turn either lamp or iron on or off at the item itself. I only turn them on and off at the extension cord. They go on together and they go off together - a far more obvious reminder for me than the little light on the iron itself.

(I know this is a slightly awkward angle as I took the photo from above, but hopefully you get the idea.)

What tips or techniques have you developed over time to make your pressing easier or better? Please share.

Coming up: How does one ensure accuracy in cutting?
(Suggestions for future topics gratefully accepted.)

## Spotlight: The Togo Sewing School Mission

Noi Bland is helping to share our love of sewing across the globe! Her daughter and son-in-law have gone to Africa where they will spend the next two years-her daughter practicing medicine and her son-in-law doing missionary work. His mission, The Togo Sewing School Mission is asking for donations of sewing supplies as they teach sewing skills to the community. At that time, the school had one treadle machine and the rest was being taught as handwork.


Noi brought the request to the Guild in September asking if anyone would like to donate to this wonderful cause. And of course, our Guild rose to the occasion! Noi has collected quite a number boxes of supplies and the mission has already sent the first batch on their way.

Thank you Noi for letting us join you in such a great cause!

## Our Common Threads

By Lisa McLaughlin

Although I have just begun this column, I have found one thing I always suspected. Quilters in our guild are shy! Not about sharing their work. We see all the beautiful quilts during show and tell each month. But no one volunteered so share their story of how they became a quilter.

However, I am not daunted. Because I believe we have so much to share with each other. I thought, "Now what am I going to do for an article this month?" And then it hit me. I'll do a poll on Facebook! So many of you join into the conversations there and share your successes and struggles, funny stories, and beautiful work. But what to poll? Oh, yes! People may not talk about themselves, but most of us can't stop talking about our sewing machines!

On September 29th, I started the poll asking a few simple questions. How many machines do you own and which one is your favorite? What a joy this has been! Twenty people shared their machine stories! Antiques passed down from grandmothers, first sewing machines still held dear, current favorites, and dream machines. And several I have never heard of: a Johnson Ruffler? And Husqvarna-isn't that the lawn mower people?


Johnson Ruffler-age unknown.

All in all, 20 responders had 111 machines! With a membership of 170+ people, can you imagine how many machines might that be? Blows my mind. And congratulations to Katie Greenwood for the most machines-21! I bow down to you in awe.

If you haven't already, go and check all the entries on Facebook. It is so great to see all the enthusiasm we have for the tools of our craft. Thanks to all who participated....and don't be surprised if I reach out to you for your personal quilting story!


Singer Featherweight 221—circa 1935


Nolting Longarm—circa 2000.

## This Month's Meeting:

Our Guest Speaker this month is Julia Graves of Special Occasions Quilts, LLC. She will also be teaching two classes: Friday-Tricks with Transparencies, and Saturday-Gemstone Bling. It is not too late to sign up for these classes!

We will also begin our Holiday Block Sale! Come with your single dollar bills as each block will be $\$ 2$. Irene Thomas has generously offered to break any larger bills in exchange for a few raffle quilt tick, ets!

Looking forward to seeing you there!

## And the <br> Olimners are...

Name Tag: Karin Mede
Show and Tell:
First time: Shannon
Also: Lori Adington, Parker
Yarur, and Carrie

| Special Thanks to: |
| :---: |
| The Broken Needle |
| Cheryl Porter |
| Martha Bragg |
| And Threadwaggle |
| for donating door |
| prizes! |
|  |

## To place an ad in the Thimbleful Newsletter.

Email your ad to Lisa McLaughlin @ scarletnewfie@gmail.com and mail a check payable to:
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Ads are due by the third Thursday of the month for the next month's issue.
\$5-Classified
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Take home the Bernina 770 QEE Plus for $\$ 118$ monthly, tax included!
The L890 Overlocker/Serger only $\$ 89$ a month, with tax!
A Q16 Plus on the Horn Lift table at only \$164 per month, tax included!
The fabulous Q24 with QMATIC on a frame at $\$ 453$ per month with tax!
These prices do not include accessories available with each model, which will be discounted too!

Include us in your travel plans for the All Carolina Shop Hop Oct 1st-Nov 31st! Free gift for every new customer. Enter our drawing for a Laurastar Ironing System valued at $\$ 2,000$ and a $\$ 500$ sewing machine to be given away! We now have over 8,000 bolts of new fabrics \& a sale room with everything $30 \%$ off?



Julianne Walther
Professional Appraiser julianne@caryquilting.com

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## 2021 Guild Leadership Board Members

President: Anna Norris
Vice President: Sandy Wilson
Secretary: Marsha Tolley
Treasurer: Carolyn Wig more
Charity \& Community Outreach: Roberta Miller-Haraway \& Ginny Nugent
Communications: Lisa McLaughlin
Fundraising: Irene Thomas
Membership: Betsy Proctor-Rose
Teachers \& Workshops: Ann O'Brien
Member at Large1: Cindy Prow Member at Large 2: Marie Grasso

## Committee Members

Bee Keeper:
Block Party: Jan Chantal
Holiday Blocks: The Remnants Bee (Darlene Silverman)
Hostesses: Katie Greenwood \& Alma Mellish
Library: Sherill Boyce \& Wendy Ann Smith
Quilts for Kids: Kate Pearson \& Maria Wall
Quilts on Wheels: Sue Hatch
SAFE child: Vickie Peoples and Tiffany Harwood

Secret Sew-city:
Social: Maria Kleinman
Sunshine \& Shadows: Joni Emerson
Quilt Show: Sue Ann Jacko \& Nora Bailey

To contact us, email: information@capitalquilters.org

## Upcoming Events!

## CQG Workshop Dates

Oct 22-23: Julia Graves—Tricks with Transparencies and Gemstones

## Quilt/Vendor Shows

Oct. 15-16: The Hearts and Hands/ECA Quilters' Guild of Sanford Quilt Show.
Dennis Wicker Civic Center, 1801 Nash St., Sanford, NC . For more info: Contact Barbara Massengill at barmas@charter.net or (919) 499-0766 or Suzanne Dykeman at daisy1949@optonline.net or 845-616-1004

## Other Events of Interest

Now through Oct 17: Hollis Chatelain's Retrospective Exhibit (33 quilts from 1995 to 2021). The Perspective Gallery at Virginia Tech. Blacksburg, VA. (540) 231-6040 or squiresgallery@vt.edu

Let us know if there are any other events of interest you would like to see noted in our Newsletter.

## Wh Capital Quilters Guild Membership Form

July 1, 2021- June 30, 2022
Help us confirm that our records are accurate by completing all the information below:
Name: $\qquad$

Address: $\qquad$

City: $\qquad$ State: $\qquad$ Zip code: $\qquad$

Phone: $\qquad$ Email: $\qquad$

Birth Month $\qquad$ Birth day $\qquad$ (for member benefits)

Are you a new member? Yes $\qquad$ No $\qquad$

The Member Directory is published in print for a fee and available free on CQG member-only social media. Please check this box if you do $\underline{N O T}$ wish to be included in the directory $\square$

Are you a member of CQG's Facebook page? Yes $\qquad$ No $\qquad$

If you are a member of a bee, what is the name of your bee? $\qquad$

If you would like to join a bee, tell us your preference (please circle ALL of your preferences): Day/Night Weekday/Weekend North/South/East/West/Any Region Art/Hand/Charity/other $\qquad$

## Membership Fees:


Quilters aged 70 or older (prior to, or on June 1, 2021)................................................................................... \$25.00
Junior Membership (18 years and younger; full scholarships are currently available)......................\$25.00 $\quad 0.00$
Printed CQG Membership Directory (to be picked up at the November meeting)........................................................ \$5.00
Optional donation (tax deductible) ........................................................................................................................................ \$
Please bring this form with payment to the next meeting or mail to:
Capital Quilters Guild
PO Box 20331
Raleigh NC 27619-0331

Date $\qquad$ Check \# $\qquad$ Cash $\qquad$ Credit Card (last 4 digits) $\qquad$ Total:

## Capital Quilters Guild- Spring Workshop Registration Fall 2021

Name $\qquad$
Phone $\qquad$
Address


Email


Zoom Workshop - Member fee: \$30 Non-member fee: \$45
In Person Workshop - Member fee: \$55 Non-member fee: \$75

| Teacher | Class | Date | Amt: Cash/Ck\#/Chg |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1, Julia Graves | In Person-Tricks w/Transparency 10/22/21 | $\$$ |  |
| 2. Julia Graves | In Person-Gemstone Bling | $10 / 23 / 21$ | $\$$ |

Total:_ \$ $\qquad$
******************************************************************************************************************
Payment: Due when you sign up. ( Payment with charge card/cash available at monthly guild meeting only.)

Make your check payable to : Capital Quilters Guild Mail your check and registration form to:

Ann O'Brien
1336 Holt Road
Apex, NC 27523
Location: In person workshops will be held at Highland United Methodist Church 1901 Ridge Rd Raleigh, NC 27607.

Most Class hours: 9am-3:30pm Be sure to pack a bag lunch!
Refund Policy: Full refund will be made if requested 30 days prior to the workshop. Without 30 days notice, you will only receive a refund if space can be filled from the waiting list. If not, you will receive a credit for a future class.

Inquiries: information@capitalquilters.org

Holiday Bazaar Bid Sheet
Describe Item:
$\qquad$

Bidder's Last Name, First Name

1. $\qquad$
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3. $\qquad$
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