



The Thimbleful

Capital Quilters Guild

Raleigh, North Carolina

Next Meeting

Thursday, September 15, 2022

6:30 Social

7:00 Meeting Begins

Location

Temple Beth Or

5315 Creedmoor Road

Raleigh, NC 27612

Remember to Bring:

Quilts for Show and Tell

Name tag

Membership Pin

Comfort Quilts

Workshop Registration Form

And of course...A Quilting
Friend!

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From the President

Hi, Everyone!

I am so excited to welcome so many new members to our guild. With so much to offer, we hope that each of you discover the opportunities and ways to get involved. If you are a new member who has joined in the last year, I invite you to a Zoom meeting for new members on Thursday, September 29 at 7 pm. Please email me at information@capitalquilters.org for more information.

At the September Guild meeting, the guild welcomes Suzi Parron. She is the author of *Following the Barn Quilt Trail* and will present a beautiful lecture via Zoom about the Barn Quilt Trail. Then on Saturday, September 17, there will be two separate classes taught by Beth Ball (one in the morning and one in the afternoon) to make a barn quilt. Please be sure to sign up before Wednesday, September 14 to secure your spot. Please check out our website for more information at www.capitalquilters.org.

On Saturday, October 1, the guild will be hosting its first in-person Comfort Quilt Workshop since before the pandemic. It will be held at Highland United Methodist Church. This will be a great opportunity to meet other guild members while sewing. There will also be a station set up for anyone who would like to learn about strip piecing quilts. Please contact Cathy for more information or email information@capitalquilters.org.

The quilt show committee is already working hard to prepare for the March 2023 show. They are hosting a Ribbon Sew Day on Tuesday, October 25 at Cary Quilting Company from 10:30 to 3:30. If you have an embroidery machine and can help stitch out the center of the ribbons, this is the event for you. Instructions, digital design, and most supplies will be provided. Please contact Nora or email information@capitalquilters.org for more information.

Raffle ticket sales are well underway, and we still need your help! Please sign up for a 2-hour shift to assist at one of the many events where we are selling tickets. It's also a good way to meet other people in the guild. Please email information@capitalquilters.org or Irene Thomas for the latest schedule and open time slots.

Holiday Block is one of my favorite activities of the guild. A person or group of people select a block, make kits, and sell them for \$2 each at the October and November guild meetings. More information regarding this event is included in the newsletter, and the deadline for submitting your design is coming up soon. If you need fabric for Holiday Block and could use batiks, please contact me at information@capitalquilters.org.

Finally, my apologies for the error in the President's Challenge Pattern. The correction has been made and published in both this newsletter and on the Facebook page. The President's Challenge for 2023 is called "The View through My Window". Guild members will be provided Kona Jet Black fabric donated by Bernina World of Sewing, as well as a pattern showing a quilt measuring 18" x 30". The views from the window may be looking in or out, and every style of quilting is welcomed.

Happy Quilting!

Anna

A View Through My Window

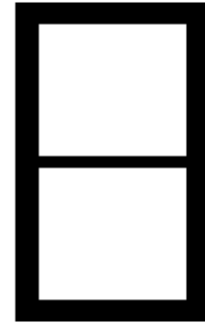
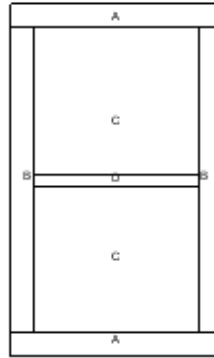
2023 President's Challenge

Finished Size: 18"x30"

Pattern Notes:

All pieces listed below are unfinished.
Use a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.

Fabric: Kona Jet Black #114



Cutting Instructions:

While supplies last, the guild is providing a 5" piece of 60" wide Kona Jet Black. (These instructions are based on a 60" WOF)

From the 5" piece provided, subcut into 2 – $2\frac{1}{2}$ " strips.

Subcut 1 of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ " strips into 2 – $26\frac{1}{2}$ " strips (Piece B)

Subcut 1 of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ " strips into 2 – $18\frac{1}{2}$ " strip (Piece A) **be sure to leave a strip that will yield one piece to be $14\frac{1}{2}$ " long**
1 – $14\frac{1}{2}$ " strip

Trim the $14\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " strip to $14\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ " (Piece D - for center sashing of widow)

The 2 inside sections of the window (the top and bottom of the window) will equal $14\frac{1}{2}$ " W x 13" H (Piece C).

Assembly:

1. After completing Pieces C (the top and bottom of the view in/out of your window), connect/join them by sewing Piece D between them. Press seam allowances towards the black fabric.
2. Add Pieces B (1 to each of the right and left sides) as a Left and Right Border/window frame. Press seam allowances towards the black fabric.
3. Add Pieces A (1 to the top and 1 to the bottom) as the top and bottom border/window frame. Press seam allowances towards the black fabric.
4. Finish the quilt either by binding the quilt with Kona Jet Black Fabric or by facing the quilt. The quilt must also have a sleeve and label following the specifications set by the 2023 Quilt Show Rules. (**NOTE:** For display purposes, the Kona Jet Black fabric must be the final element at all outside edges of the quilt.)

Please contact Anna Norris with any questions at ayarur@yahoo.com.

Pattern v.2 Written by Anna Norris
2022

A View Through My Window – President's Challenge 2023

"A short story is what you see when you look out of the window." -Mavis Gallant

This year, I challenge our quilt guild members to create a window scene either looking in or out of a window. All the windows will have the same frame and measure 18"x30". A piece of Kona Jet Black fabric, which was donated by Bernina World of Sewing, will be provided as well as a pattern for the window frame. All styles of quilting are welcomed, and the goal is to hang them at the 2023 Capital Quilters Guild Quilt Show as if you are looking into or out of an apartment building. Please join me in creating what is sure to be a beautiful installation.

The Rules....

1. The finished quilt must measure 18" wide by 30" long.
2. While supplies last, each member will be provided a piece of Kona Jet Black fabric which should be used as the window frame. Additional Kona Jet Black fabric can be purchased at your local quilt shop for windowpane dividers/mullions/grilles/muntins.
3. The quilt must be finished with a binding which should be the same fabric as the window frame (Kona Jet Black) or by finishing your edges by adding facing to the quilt (ie. using a pillowcase method.) Please note that to be eligible for judging, quilting must be seen on the back of the quilt. Additional fabric for the binding can be purchased at your local quilt shop.
4. All quilts must satisfy all requirements as set forth by the 2023 Quilt Show Rules and must have a sleeve following those specifications.
5. Quilts will be due by the 2023 Capital Quilters Quilt Show Entry Deadline. Exact due dates will be published once the quilt show committee announces them. Please know that having your project judged is OPTIONAL. Please feel free participate within the category as a non-judged quilt. However, all non-judged quilts must be registered by the quilt show entry deadline and submitted by preview day.
6. Participation is for 2022-2023 Capital Quilt Guild Members only.

Pattern v.2 Written by Anna Norris
2022

From the Board...

Fundraising

Guild T Shirts:

Back by popular demand, T-shirts will be offered to members for a \$20 contribution at the September and October Meetings. This t-shirt drive will end at the October meeting, so don't miss your chance!

If you are interested, the T-shirts are lavender/light purple with the Guild logo embroidered on the upper left hand side. Available in either Crew or V-neck style, they will be offered to members for a \$20 contribution at the September and October Meetings. We will have order forms available at the those two meetings, along with samples, and we can accept cash, checks (preferred), and credit card. Order forms and pictures of the shirts are also attached in the forms section of the newsletter.

Please reach out to Irene Thomas at buckeyegirl1ct@gmail.com if you have any questions.

V-neck style, short sleeve, 5.4-ounce 100% cotton, side-seamed with a contoured body for a feminine fit.

SIZE	BUST
XS	32-34
SM	35-36
M	37-38
L	39-41
XL	42-44
XXL	45-47
3XL	48-51
4XL	52-55

Measure under the arm and around the fullest part of the bust with arms down, keeping tape horizontal.

Crew neck style, short sleeve, men's cut, 50 cotton/ 50 Poly DryBlend®

SIZE	CHEST
S	34-36
M	38-40
L	42-44
XL	46-48
2XL	50-52
3XL	54-56
4XL	58-60

Measure under the arm and around the fullest part of the chest with arms down, keeping tape horizontal.

These are great for wearing while you're working or attending our Quilt Show!

Fall Workshops

Cynthia England Picture Piecing, October 21 & 22 9:30-4pm - \$55 members and \$75 non-members

Cynthia has won numerous awards for her quilts, her work has been featured in numerous books, television/radio shows and magazines. She has published "Picture Piecing Traditional Quilts"

One of her quilts, Piece and Quiet has been Named as one of "The Twentieth Century's Best American Quilts", 2000.

She owns England Design Studios [Cynthia England's Resume | England Design Studios](#).

Cynthia will be teaching two workshops at Highland United Methodist Church. There will be a choice of two patterns on each day. There is a kit fee of \$38 for both workshops.

Friday October 21 she will teach Blue Heron and Cat Nap.



On Saturday October 22 she will teach Mountains and Life's a Beach.



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Membership

Dear members, we will be selling the leftover pins from years 2020–2021 and 2021–2022 at guild meetings beginning in September. We'll have them at the membership table. The cost is \$1 each. Please bring EXACT change if you wish to make a purchase. We're also selling the remainder of cookbooks that were printed several years ago. These also cost \$1 and, again, exact change, please.

Thank you!

Membership Team

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Faith Patterson
Longarm Quilting Service

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 @quilting_cats_studio

 @quiltingcatsstudio

quiltingcatsstudio@gmail.com

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McLaughlin at
scarletnewfie@gmail.com and
mail a check payable to Capital
Quilters Guild.

Ads are due by the third
Thursday of the month for the
next month's issue.

\$5 — Classified
\$5 — Business Card
\$10 — Quarter Page
\$20 — Half Page

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Our Committee Reports...

Sunshine and Shadows

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 Amerson/Sunshine & Shadows, at information@capitalquilters.org.

Bee Keeper

If anyone would like to be part of a bee, please email me your first name, last name and email address, phone number, city and zip code. I have received some lists with the existing bees that I might need to update, and I'll do my best to match you up with one near your zip code. If you want a bee in the am or pm on a particular day of the week that would be helpful also. Please note that due to COVID, some bees still aren't meeting in homes.

"Billie" Houchens sbshouchens@comcast.net

Remember:

"Creative clutter is more blessed than tidy idleness."

"As ye sew, so shall ye rip." 

Community Outreach

Save the date! Our first in-person Comfort Quilt workshop for this year will be held October 1 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Highland United Methodist Church, 1901 Ridge Road, Raleigh, NC.

Bring your sewing machine and basic supplies; we will provide fabric kits, backing, batting, cutting and ironing stations.

We will also provide a demo of string piecing as the guild has an abundance of string fabric that we will turn into beautiful quilts. This is a great way for new members to meet others in the guild! Please email Cathy at cam11@nc.rr.com if you plan to attend.

Can't make the workshop? No problem, we have many ways for you to help support our community outreach efforts.

1. We have quilt kits available at every meeting — everything you need to sew up a comfort quilt.
2. We are collecting placemats for Meals on Wheels for the upcoming holiday season — great way to use up your scraps and brighten someone's day. Patterns are available at the meeting or on the website. Please bring to the October meeting.
3. Stitch up a stocking for Green Chair — Six inches for candies and small items, and then 12-14 inch for larger items. The small stockings can be lightweight out of regular fabric, but the larger ones could be quilted or fleece, something a little more substantial. A pattern is available here: <https://www.sewingreport.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Super-Simple-Holiday-Mini-Stocking.pdf>. Please bring these to the November meeting.
4. Pillowcases

Pick up and drop off in the back of the room at any guild meeting.

Comfort Quilts

Spotlight on Comfort Quilt Donations				
Charity	Goal for 21/22	Received in August	Received this Year	Drawing Winners
Quilts on Wheels	1000 Quilts!	27	78	Millie Bozek
Walker Bags		2	2	
Quilts for Kids		30	60	Shawna Chase
Newborn Hats		31	31	
Flannel Receiving Blankets		7	10	
QFK Pillow Cases		3	18	
SAFEchild/Green		58	105	Alice French
Comfort Quilts				
Other:				
Grand Total:		Quilts: 243		Total Items: 304

Scrappy Strip Placemats

Finished Size: 14" x 20"

Supplies needed:

- 7 - 2 1/2 inch strips or strips of various sizes to create a 17.5" strata.
- 1/2 yard of coordinating fabric for backing and binding
- 1/2 yard of batting.

Cutting:

- Cut 7 strips 2 1/2" x 20".
- Cut a 14" x 20" rectangle from batting.
- Cut 14" x 20" rectangle from backing fabric.
- Cut 2 - 2 1/4" x width of fabric strips for binding.

Assembly:

1. Draw a line down the center of the batting.
2. Place two strips rights sides together on the center line.
3. Using the stitch and flip method, secure the first two pieces and then continue to add strips to each side of the center.
4. Once the top is completed, trim to 14" x 20"
5. Sandwich the top and backing together and use the decorative stitches from your sewing machine to quilt your placemat.
6. Create binding for the placemat and sew it to the back of the placemat.
7. Bring the back of the binding over to the front of the placemat and use a decorative stitch to finish the binding.



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Block Party

At the August meeting we collected 22 North Carolina Lily Blocks, which were won by Ann O'Brien and Meg Stoye-Corby. Congratulations to you both!

Also at the August meeting we had the monthly block sampler show and tell, with three participants: Debbie Femia, Maria Kleinman, and Jan Vincent, who showed us some beautiful quilts that they made either from blocks they won or from the monthly blocks they made. Each one got to select a gift bag with a goodie!

The block for the August meeting was the South Carolina state block. All the fabric for the block was provided, thanks to the guild stashes of fabric! We plan to continue to provide all the fabric each month this year as often as possible. The directions for this block follow. Please plan to return your blocks in September.

If you have any questions or need any help with anything Block Party, please contact Jan at jchvatal2@gmail.com. We want you to be successful!

See you at the September meeting!

Thanks,

Jan Chvatal

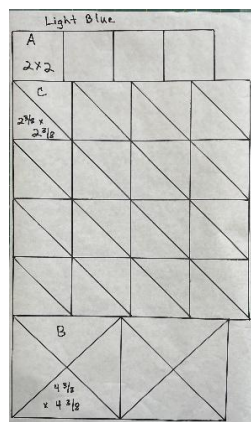
Cindy Prow

South Carolina State Block

Materials Needed:

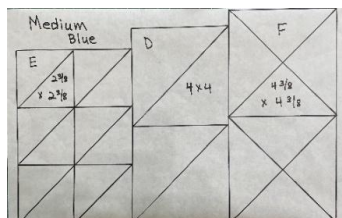
Fabric 1 (Light)

- A. Four 2 inch squares
- B. Two 4 3/8 inch squares, cut on diagonal twice to make 8 triangles
- C. Sixteen 2 3/8 inch squares, cut on diagonal once to form 32 triangles



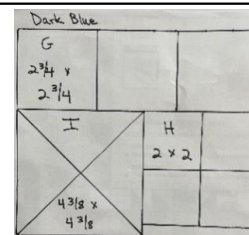
Fabric 2 (Medium)

- D. Two 4 inch squares cut on diagonal once to form four triangles
- E. Six 2 3/8 inch squares, cut on diagonal once to form twelve triangles
- F. Two 4 3/8 inch squares, cut on diagonal twice to form eight triangles



Fabric 3. (Dark)

- G. Three 2 3/4 inch squares (Note: 2 and 3/4, not 2 3/8)
- H. Four 2 inch squares
- I. One 4 3/8 inch square, cut on diagonal twice to form four triangles



Notes:

Use the layout to the right as a guide as you piece this block. The rows are labeled with red numbers and are separated by red lines; the pieces are labeled with letters according to the cutting list above.

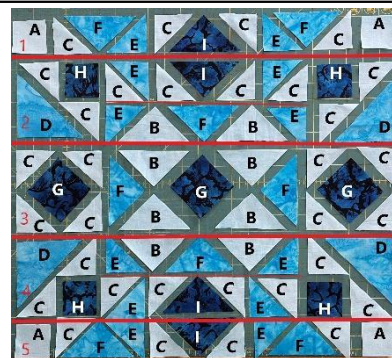
The block is made of squares and triangles.

There are five rows. Lay out your pieces as shown to the right. Rows 1 and 5 are the same, with row 5 rotated.

Rows 2 and 4 are also the same, with row 4 rotated. There are two thinner rows in the middle of rows 2 and 4 that are sewn together before they are joined with the side square pieces.

Be sure to press seams in the directions noted.

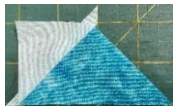
This block is easier than it looks, if you follow the specific directions below!



Row 1 and Row 5

Row 1 requires the following pieces: Two A, four C, two E, two F and one I. Select one C, one E and one F. To attach the C piece to the F piece, lay the C piece on top of the left side of the F piece; the bottom edges should be lined up. Stitch and press toward the C piece. Result is shown below left. Then attach the E piece on the opposite side of the F piece, with the right angles and the bottom edges lined up, as shown below center. Stitch and press toward the E piece. Repeat this process with the other set of C, E and F pieces, but attach the E piece on the left and the C piece on the right (opposite from the other set). Using the I piece and two C pieces, sew together in the same manner, being sure to line up the bottom edges. Press both seams toward the CEF pieces.

Next attach the CEF pieces to the either side of the CIC middle piece, lined up as shown below right. Press toward the middle piece (CIC). Last, attach the A squares to the ends. Press toward the CEF pieces. Repeat all steps to complete row 5, which is then rotated to the other direction.



South Carolina State Block

Row 2 and Row 4: Start with the middle upper row. Combine pieces I, C and C in the same method that was used on row 1. Press seams toward I. Next sew together pieces C and E on the diagonal to form two squares. Line up the squares on either side of the rectangle as shown to the right and stitch together. Press seams toward the middle I piece.

Row 2 and Row 4 Continued

Next complete the middle lower row, using 2 B pieces, 2 E pieces, and 1 F piece. Start by attaching a B piece to the F piece. They **MUST** be lined up as shown top right, with the B piece centered on the F piece, with $\frac{1}{4}$ inch overlap on either end. Stitch and press toward the F piece. Then attach the other B piece on the other side of the F piece, lined up as shown second right. Stitch and press toward F.

Attach the triangles E to either end of this piece. Line up the bottom edges and the long edges of the E triangles with the B pieces, as shown below third right. Stitch and press toward the E pieces.

Next attach the two middle pieces together, lining up the points and seams. Stitch and press toward the row with piece I. The middle piece should look like the photo below.



Next complete the outer square units. Select two C pieces, one D piece, and one H piece. Lay one C piece on top of the H piece, lining up on two sides. Stitch on the line as shown to the right. Press toward C. To attach the other C piece, line up as shown second right, with the left and bottom sides lined up on the H piece. Stitch on the red line. Press toward the C piece.

Attach this piece to the D piece on the diagonal line; line up as shown bottom right. Press toward the D piece.

To complete the row, arrange the three pieces as shown below, with the dark squares toward the top and center. Stitch the side squares to the middle piece. Press seams toward the squares.



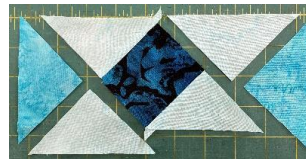
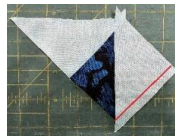
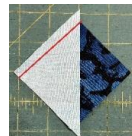
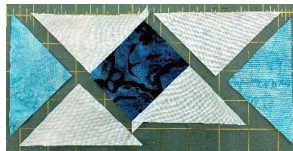
Repeat these steps to complete row 4, which is then rotated.

Row 3

The middle section of row 3 is completed on the diagonal. Start with 4 B, 2 F and 1 G pieces, lined up as shown below left. Line up a B piece on top of the G piece as shown below second, with the right angle sides of B lined up with the G piece. Stitch on the red line; press toward the B piece. Then attach the other B piece on the opposite end, as shown below third left. Stitch on the red line; press toward the B piece. Next arrange two F and two B pieces on either side of the center piece, as shown below fourth. Stitch the F and B pieces together; press toward the B pieces. To finish the middle piece, attach the side pieces to the center piece, lining up seams. Press toward the outer triangle pieces.

Each of the side squares of row 3 is made up of 1 G and 4 C pieces. Line up two C pieces on opposite sides of the square, as shown below right. Stitch the seams and press toward the C pieces. Then attach the other two C pieces on the other sides of G; press toward the C pieces.

Attach the side squares to the middle section. Press seams toward the middle section.



South Carolina State Block

Complete block

Attach row 2 to row 3, lining up the seams and points. Press seam toward row 2.
 Attach row 4 to row 3, lining up the seams and points. Press seam toward row 4.
 Attach row 1 to row 2, lining up the seams and points. Press seam toward row 1.
 Attach row 5 to row 4, lining up the seams and points. Press seam toward row 5.



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Hop to our shop September & October! We'll have in store drawings for adult & kid shop hoppers. We'll also be open Sunday Sept 18th & Oct 16th, 12-4. Ride together with your sewing & quilting friends & have a great time!





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2022 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 15th. 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!

Q — Do the blocks have to be Holiday themed?

A — They do not. Choose any design and any colors you want. The blocks are turned in and awarded to the winner at our December Holiday Social, hence the name. That being said, Holiday designs are popular.

Q — Are the costs of making the kits covered?

A — You may submit a reimbursement form (supplied on request) for a maximum of \$50. Many groups and individuals choose to donate some or all of the fabric required to make the kits, but you are certainly not required to do so. You may also contact Anna Norris at information@capitalquilters.org if you would like to use batiks from the guild's stash.

Q — What techniques are appropriate for Holiday Blocks?

A — All techniques and skill levels are welcome. Generally, relatively simple designs with appealing colors/fabrics are popular. In the past, we have had redwork, simple piecing, paper piecing, appliqué or even some combination of the above.

Q — How many blocks per sponsored design?

A — Typically, between 16 to 25 kits. However, a kit may contain one or two blocks.

Q — How many sponsored designs will be sold?

A — We try for 10 to 12 different designs, preferably representing a wide variety of techniques and difficulty levels.

Q — If I want to sponsor a block, can I get started right away?

A — Do not spend any money for which you will want to be reimbursed until your design is approved. First you must submit an application with a color image of the block design. (A clear, but simple drawing will do.) This is to prevent duplicate (or near duplicate) blocks.

Please consider sponsoring a Holiday Block. Contact Darlene Silverman (jsilverman@nc.rr.com) if you want to sponsor a block or if you have any further questions.

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- 2000+ bolts of fabric
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Quilts Like Crazy and Embroidery

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Monday	10AM - 12:30PM
Tuesday	10AM - 5PM
Wednesday	10AM - 5PM
Thursday	10AM - 5PM
Friday	10AM - 5PM
Saturday	10AM - 3PM
Sunday	CLOSED



1241-08 South Main Street, Wake Forest, NC 27587
www.quiltslikecrazy.com (984) 237-0071



Quilt Show Updates:

Quilt Show 2023

March 17 and 18, 2023

Quilt show planning is continuing and we are still looking for people to shadow this year's committee leads to prepare for chairing a committee for the 2024 show. The open shadow positions we have are for Charity Auction, Virtual Quilt Show Program, Advertising, Quilt Registration and Intake, Quilt Take Down. If you are interested in any of these positions, please email Nora Bailey (nbailey207@gmail.com) or Sue Ann Jatko (jhsajatko@bellsouth.net). Our next Quilt Show Committee meeting is scheduled via Zoom for Sunday, October 9 at 7:00 pm.

Dates to Remember:

Quilt Show Preview – March 11 – time and location TBD

Quilt Show Judging Day – March 12 – time and location TBD

Quilt Show Set up – Thursday, March 16

SHOW DAYS – Friday, March 17; 9:00 to 5:00 and Saturday, March 18; 9:00 to 5:00

Quilt Show Registration Begins – December 1, 2022

Quilt Show Registration Ends – January 31, 2023 OR WHEN WE REACH 180 QUILTS REGISTERED.

Quilt Intake – February – locations and times TBD

Calling All Machine Embroiderers

We are looking for machine embroiderers to help us in making the ribbon centers for the quilt show. Our sew day will be at Cary Quilting Company on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25 between 10:30 and 3:30. We will have all the supplies to embroider the ribbon centers—you just need to bring your machine. If you are not able to stay and sew and can still help in making ribbon centers, we can provide you with the electronic file. There will be a sign-up sheet at the September Guild meeting, or please email Nora Bailey at nbailey207@gmail.com if you can sew on October 25 or if you want the electronic file to sew at home. The more embroiderers we get, the lighter the work.

One Quilter's Experience

Darlene J 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.)

Challenges

While I have not participated in a lot of Challenges, I have absolutely loved those that I have done.

What is a Challenge?

Frankly, I am not sure of the exact definition. But in my own head I define it as a project with certain set parameters, allowing you full freedom of creativity in other areas. As a rule, when one makes a quilt, one's choices are only limited by one's imagination, skills, and patience — you define your own parameters. Pattern, block, size, colors, fabric, techniques, variations, combinations, quilting, embellishments, and time are all in your hands. A Challenge contains one or more parameter(s) defined by someone else.

What are examples of Challenges and who creates them?

I have friends who participate in all sorts of internet-based Challenges. Professional quilters, quilt bloggers, and quilt shops will post Challenges for their followers. I have not participated in any of these (yet!), but many have sounded intriguing and I am sure a little time and some web-surfing will tell you what is out there. I would love to hear more about experiences any of you have had with these Challenges!

Closer to home, bees will create Challenges for themselves. This is where my own experience lies. I have participated in a fair number of bee Challenges. These are self-defined by the group and can be as tightly controlled or as loose as the group likes.

An example of the former is the snip-it, rip-it, pass-it Challenge. Cyberbee did one a couple of years ago. Each participant brought a 1½ yard piece of batik and we all stood in a circle. We found the half-way point of the fabric, snipped the edge, ripped the fabric in half, dropped one half at our own feet and passed the other half to the right. Repeat. Stop before the pieces are too small to be of practical use. You have a pile of progressively smaller pieces of fabric. The Challenge is to make a quilt of these fabrics, plus one more of your own choice. Some of you may remember that Cyberbee displayed many of these quilts at the 2021 Quilt Show.

An example of a very loose Challenge, and one meant to address a particular issue, is Remnant's Bee's current Challenge. No two quilters can spend any amount of time together without bemoaning how many UFOs they have. The current project hits a snag — some point of frustration, uncertainty, or boredom. It is so easy to get distracted by the next shiny-new thing that dazzles our imagination. It isn't that we don't want to finish this project and we fully intend to do so, but setting it aside for now, we reach for the shiny-new thing. Alas, if we do that enough, a pile of rather forlorn and neglected partially-finished projects reproach us from whatever corner we relegated them. The Remnants bee decided that we would each pick a UFO that, for whatever reason, we have found particularly difficult to motivate ourselves to finish. At our retreat in late April/early May, we set a Challenge to finish that one (or more, for the truly ambitious) difficult quilt by the end of October. So here, only the type of quilt (UFO) and the deadline are defined. Even "finished" is to be determined by the individual, as some consider a quilt finished when the top is done, and others when the last stitch is put on binding and label. We hope to have a group hanging of these at the 2023 Quilt Show.

And, as a final example, there is the Guild's own — the President's Challenge. This is determined and defined each year by the Guild President. Anna has set this year's President's Challenge, *A View Through My Window*, to use a specific fabric, which must be used to create a window frame of specific dimensions and which must be completed by a deadline. But you can put anything within those window frames that you want. That is where your imagination can take flight.

Why do a Challenge?

Short answer — because it's fun! Obvious answer — because it's a Challenge. Longer, less-obvious answer — because you will be enriched by the experience. In fact, it is because some parameters are defined for you that allows you to focus your creativity on those aspects that remain to you. This is the very thing that I love about a challenge. Limitations in one area allow us to consider greater possibilities in others. This can force us to grow.

As shown by the examples above, you needn't wait to find a Challenge that interests you. You can talk it out with your buddies and figure out a Challenge for yourselves. Round robins, row-by-rows, block exchanges, "challenging" fabric, new techniques — each of these can be the basis of a Challenge.

Fair warning:
This article is a blatant attempt to
persuade you to do a Challenge.
I have a definite agenda!

Is a Mystery a Challenge?

Yes and no, per my own definition above. No, as almost every aspect of making a mystery is out of your hands. You do your best to select fabrics based on whatever suggestions the designer has given, and then it is all about skillful execution while letting go of virtually every other aspect of control in the quilt. Aside from selecting fabrics (which one does blindly without knowing where they will be used and in what combinations) there isn't a lot of room for you to exercise your own creativity. I would say that making a mystery is primarily a challenge to your inner control enthusiast. That being said, I think everyone should try one at least once. Trust me that, no matter how hard it is for you, it is unlikely either to kill you or do serious damage to your psyche to relinquish that much control of ONE of the many quilts you will make over the course of your life. And, yes, in the sense that it will stretch your experience, a mystery is unquestionably a challenge. (Yes, the lower case is deliberate.)

Finally — and then what?

Meeting and completing a Challenge is an accomplishment. Bring your creation to show-and-tell at a Guild meeting. Enter it in the Guild Quilt Show. In your write-up for the display card, make sure you describe the challenge, so viewers can better understand and appreciate what you have made.

If you and your friends do a Challenge together, make sure that they hang together in the Guild Show. Write up a description of the Challenge and it will hang with the group, to help viewers compare how different quilters met the Challenge. Teaching people about what we do is part of our Guild's Mission Statement.

Coming up: Quilt as Desired (aka, the three least helpful words found in instructions)

2022 Guild Leadership

Board Members

President: Anna Norris
Vice President: Sue Ann Jatko
Secretary: Marsha Tolley
Treasurer: Carolyn Wigmore
Charity & Community Outreach: Cathy Alvis
Communications: Lisa McLaughlin
Fundraising: Irene Thomas
Membership: Betsy Proctor-Roose
Teachers & Workshops: Ann O'Brien
Member at Large1: Cindy Prow
Member at Large 2: Carolyn Ruby

Committee Members

Bee Keeper: Billie Houchens
Block Party: Jan Chvatal
Holiday Blocks: The Remnants Bee (Darlene Silverman)
Hostesses: Katie Greenwood & Sandra Wilson
Library: Alma Mellish
Quilts for Kids: Maria Wall
Quilts on Wheels: Sue Hatch
SAFEchild: Vickie Peoples
Secret Sew-ciety: *vacant*
Social: Maria Kleinman
Sunshine & Shadows: Joni Amerson
Quilt Show: Sue Ann Jatko & Nora Bailey

Upcoming Events

CQG Workshop Dates

October 21 Blue Heron and Cat Nap with Cynthia England

October 22 Smokey Mountains and Life's a Beach with Cynthia England

Quilt/Vendor Shows

October 21-22 Catawba Valley Quilters Guild presents *Stars Over The Valley*, Hickory Metro Center in Hickory, NC. See www.catawbavalleyquiltersguild.com for more information.

October 22 Orange County Quilters Guild presents *Fall in Love with Quilting* Quilt Show, Mebane Recreation (Old Rec) Center, 209 W. Jackson St, Mebane. See www.durhamorangequilters.org or the flyer in the CQG newsletter for more information.

Other Events of Interest

November 25-27 The Christmas Carousel Gift Market, Jim Graham Building, State Fairgrounds

January 13-14 The Quilting and Fiber Marketplace at the Sanford Civic Center

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

Capital Quilters Guild—Workshop Registration Fall 2022

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

In Person Workshop – Member fee: \$55 Non-member fee: \$75

Teacher: _____ **Class:** _____ **Date:** _____ **Amt: Cash/Ck#/Chg**

Cynthia England Blue Heron or Cat Nap 10/21/22 _____

Cynthia England Smokey Mtns or Life's a Beach 10/22/22 _____

Total: _____

Payment: Due when you sign up. Payment with charge card/cash available at monthly guild meeting or when you register via the Guild website – www.capitalquilters.org

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: 9:00 am-3:30 pm 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



Capital Quilters Guild Membership Form

July 1, 2022- June 30, 2023

Help us **confirm** that our records are accurate by completing **all** the information below:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Birth Month _____ Birth day _____

Are you a new member? Yes _____ No _____

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 **NOT** wish to be included in the directory ☐

Are you a member of CQG's Facebook page? Yes _____ No _____

If you are a member of a bee, what is the name of your bee? _____

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 _____

Membership Fees:

Please note that **all** members are required to pay dues. **(Please circle your membership type below)**

Regular Membership \$40.00

Quilters aged 70 or older before July 1, 2022..... \$25.00

Junior Membership (18 years and younger; full scholarships are currently available).....~~\$25.00~~ 0.00

Printed CQG Membership Directory (to be picked up at the December 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 _____ Check # _____ Cash _____ Credit Card (last 4 digits) _____ Total: _____