

West Suburban Quilters' Guild Newsletter

Volume 44 Issue 4

Meetings

Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of the month, with the exception of a couple Tuesday meetings. See the schedule in this newsletter.

Meetings begin at 6:30 PM

Social time begins at 6:00

Brookfield Lutheran Church

**18500 W. Burleigh
Brookfield, WI 53045**

Website

Follow us on the website at <http://www.wsqg.net>

WSQG_Mbrs_Only!!

Submit items to Cathy Helgeson at clhquilts@yahoo.com

Facebook

Please check the WSQG Facebook page. This is a closed group. Contact Johanna Fritz to join the page.

Newsletter

Submit items for the newsletter by the 25th of the month to Judy Valentino at judyv1954@sbcglobal.net

The newsletter will be published on the [WSQG.net](http://www.WSQG.net) website. An email, with a link to the website, will be sent to membership when the newsletter has been published.

President's letter

Greetings to all!

I have been enjoying the sunshine and milder weather, and am anxious to go out to lunch where we can sit outside and relax with a glass of wine and watch people stroll by. Staying inside and being cozy and solitary has its attractive qualities, but after a while I need to get out and be amongst people and nature (nature that does not include snow and ice and frostbite of the nose and toes!)

During our Zoom meeting in mid-February the majority of participants agreed that they'd like to get together and meet at the Church in May this Spring. We talked about it being a celebration of our Guild and all we've accomplished during the pandemic and our time of not meeting in person.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, I am very proud of the work many of you have been doing for the benefit of others. I am very pleased with the number of members who have created quilts for homeless veterans (as is Mary Margaret Wacker, who originated this project. Many thanks to Mary Margaret for seeing a lovely opportunity and bringing it to us. Thanks also to those who have made walker bags for elderly persons, masks for those who need them, and more. You are awesome!

We will once again gather on Zoom March 10, 2021 at 7:00 pm. (The Zoom will be open at 6:30 for visiting.) Watch your e-mail for details and a link to join the meeting. If you have questions about the Zoom meeting, please contact me. (NOTE: This meeting was originally scheduled for March 9th when we were going to meet at the Church. This was due to Lenten services at the Church. Our presenter for March was not available on the 9th, and Wednesday is our normal meeting day.

Our presenter for March 10th is Donica Lintner, read all

about her presentation in the programs section in this newsletter. You may want to stitch along, she provides information as to what you need.

The Raffle Quilt Committee has been working on the Raffle Quilt and has made great progress. We are looking for a volunteer to create a special label for the quilt. Contact me if you're interested. We hope that you are all working on quilts for the Show – yes, it's a year away, but after the tough year we've had, let's make this our very best Show ever! We will need everyone's help over the next year with selling raffle tickets, making quilts for the show, serving on committees to help prepare for the Show, and chipping in in every way possible to make this a really successful Quilt Show. Thanks to each of you for your contributions!

We have several quilt challenges that have been issued, (and these challenges will result in special exhibits for the Quilt Show.) See the details on Challenges elsewhere in this newsletter.

Don't forget the President's Challenge. This, too, will be a category at the Quilt Show.

And, in honor of my heritage, my dad's favorite Irish blessing: "May you be in heaven a full hour 'fore the devil knows you're dead!"

Happy St. Paddy's Day, and warmest regards,

Karen

Meeting Minutes

Our Zoom call began a couple minutes after 7pm.

Mary Margaret introduced our Zoom speaker Kristi Droese, of Windswept Quilters in Big Bend. Kristi gave a presentation on rulers that included details on triangle rulers, pineapples, stars, log cabins and rulers with 1/2" cutting slots. Among the favorites is the Lazy Angle ruler with companion books. Another notable mention is wonderful YouTube videos explaining how to use these many rulers. Kristi may be contacted at windsweptquilters.com and will be sharing her shop hours with Karen Hendrickson.

State Fair: WSQG awards 'Best Stationary Machine Quilting'. This year, the information booklet will be digital and a printed version will not be available.

VA Quilts: The Veterans Administration has created a new shelter for homeless veterans and is looking for churches, guilds and sewing groups to create a large number of quilts for the beds. The shelter began with 14 veterans, added 30 more beds and is now up to 100, including women. The WSQG pillowcase project for Children using Christmas fabric is also going very well.

BOM: February clue: spike-shaped flowers are to be added to the baskets. Many people have started their shoes quilt, but nobody had a stitched block to share.

Karen is releasing information on her President challenge. Please see Karen's information below in this newsletter.

The group discussed the possibility of going back to in-person meetings in the church in May and possibly having a gathering or two over the summer.

Mary Weber says Waukesha Expo is very excited to have our show return for the 2022 season. The dates will be March 11th & 12th, with set up on the 10th. The theme is 'Quilting Stars'. Prismatic Star by Hoffman is our new raffle quilt design. The team is working to create the 90" x 90" quilt and have photos ready in the fall. The show team is already contacting vendors and is excited to include scissor sharpening.

Show & Tell included a handful of items for charity and a table topper with jigsaw puzzle quilting.

The meeting ended at 8:30pm.

Submitted by MaryJo Busch

Block of the Month

Hello Quilters –

A quick reminder to our block of the month participants – we postponed the drawings for the following blocks:

- Pot of gold
- 3-D scrappy pinwheel
- Crazy little strings, and
- Woven leaves

We will draw the winners of these blocks as a celebration when we are able to reconvene back together. Sew...be sure to complete and bring your blocks for the celebration. Please note...if you want to participate in the above exchange – it is your lucky day! We do have a few remaining kits available. Please contact Vicky Wolf for BOM kits.

Block of the month Challenges – we currently have two challenges taking place. They are as follows:

- The BOM shoe challenge
- The BOM mystery challenge
 - January mystery release – Add background filler to your pot. (Greenery/wheat/?)

You will find the detailed instructions for both of these challenges attached to this newsletter.

Sew...be sure to stitch along with us and share your creation at each guild zoom meeting. We look forward to seeing your progress.

Happy Quilting! Your Block of the Month Team

Block of the month Challenges

Shoe Challenge

This Block of the month Shoe challenge will feature footwear – Yes – Footwear. The question is? Will you be able to fit into your favorite pair(s) of shoes/boots after Covid19 or will we all be in our favorite flip-flops?

For this BOM challenge you will show off your creativity through selecting your favorite style of shoe/footwear (be it...high heels, flats, boots, cowboy boots, sneakers, sandals, or flip-flops).

The objective of the challenge will be to create a block of your favorite shoe for each month of the year. Dress up your chosen shoe style to reflect the month of the year. You may create the same shoe style with a different look based on the month or you may mix it up and select a different style of shoe to depict each month...totally up to you. However, it must be footwear.

We will begin with the month of December. Shoe block may be either pieced or applique to represent the month of December. Block size requirement: minimum of 10 inches finished – maximum size of 12 inches finished. Finish a block each month and show off your work during BOM show-and-tell time at our zoom meeting each month.

Everyone keeps their own blocks. You will end up with 12 blocks. Each quilter may design their own layout for their blocks to finish their quilt. Looking forward to seeing each of your blocks and the finished quilt.

Basket Mystery Quilt Along

Introducing our basket mystery quilt along challenge for this year. This challenge will have you adding something to a basket/container and/or on your background fabric each month that is similar to painting a picture. This challenge is open to everyone that is a member of the guild.

To begin you will need a piece of background fabric that is the size of a fat-quarter (18 x 22). You may want to add a piece of interfacing to the back of this piece of fabric to enable the fabric to be sturdy enough to add on your mystery motif each month.

Once you have your background fabric selected and ready to go, the next step in this challenge will be to select a piece of fabric that is fitting for the type of container (basket/vase) you want to create. You will create this container out of fabric. We suggest a basket; however, you may select any type of container or vase. Basket/container can be pieced or appliqued.

The next step will be to place your basket on your background fabric. You will work with your fat-quarter in the portrait view. You will want to center your basket from the sides of your fat quarter placing it about 3 inches from the bottom of your fabric. Be sure to leave ample space above the basket for adding in each motif as directed. Stitch/applique the basket to your fat-quarter leaving the top of your basket only tacked on to the fabric as this will enable the addition of further motif items as we move forward with the challenge.

Stay tuned for the next addition. We will give you something to add to your basket each month.

Sew...be sure to stitch along with us and share your creation at each guild zoom meeting so we can see your progress.

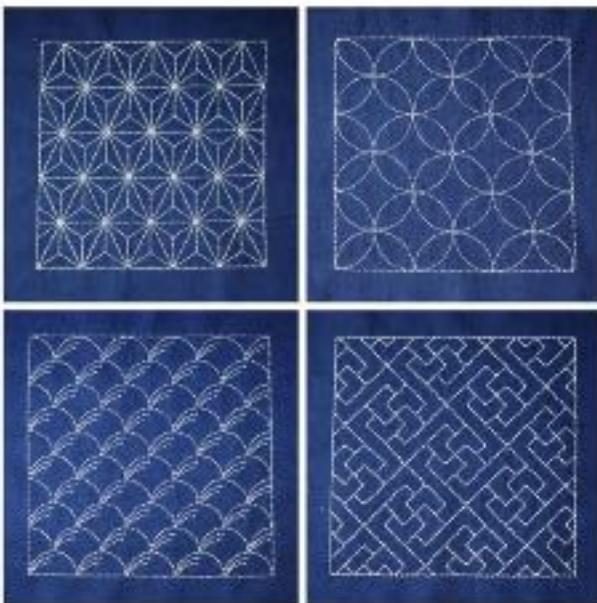
Clue Number 1 For the basket/vase challenge, MaryJo shared the first item to be placed inside your basket/vase: background filler material.

Clue Number 2 Add 3 tall flowers.

Happy Quilting! Your Block of the Month Team

[Program Committee](#)

March 10, Wednesday. Danica Lindner. **Sashiko.**



Our presenter for March 10th is Donica Lintner, and here is her information:

My name is Donica Lintner and I am the owner of Log Cabin Sewing Company. We opened in 2018 with the desire to create a space for other sewists to join together, work on projects, and share what they know with each other. We do that by having open sews, classes and workshops. We also have a small retail section with fabric and notions and are now a proud Brother sewing machine dealer.

I will be doing a Sashiko Demonstration. The Japanese word sashiko means "little stabs" and refers to the small stitches used in this form of needlework. This style of embroidery and the "sashiko stitch" was used to reinforce or repair worn fabric or tears with patches, making the

darned piece ultimately stronger and warmer. The most common form we are familiar with is navy blue cloth with white thread. (See below.)

If anyone wishes to stitch along in authentic Sashiko, you'll need the following supplies:

- SASHIKO TIN: Sashiko Stitching Fine Thread is the most popular thickness. It comes pre-printed or plain so you can use a stencil to create your own design. Let's start with a coaster size fabric, so it should be about 5" x 10".
- YUME FUKIN: Yume Fukin is cloth for Sashiko stitching. This can be a looser weave of cotton. It feels something like a sturdy handkerchief.
- SASHIKO NEEDLES: There are 4 kinds of needles having each length and thickness. The shortest, thinnest needle is recommended with the fabric and thread named above.
- THIMBLE: Thimble is indispensable for Sashiko. There is a "coin thimble" that comes in handy and a finger thimble. I would suggest at least one type.
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To stitch along with supplies you most likely have:

- Embroidery Floss
- 100% loose weave cotton (quilting cotton will work but is usually too tight of a weave. Try Kona Cotton.
- Thin, short hand needle.
- Thimble

Also needed:

- Ruler
- Erasable marking pen to make pattern on cloth
- Snips
- Pins

Note: Check Amazon for Sashiko supplies.

April 14, Wednesday, Everything but the Cotton with Julia McCleod

“Let’s explore the world of quilts that were made with what I call ‘Not Cottons’. When quilters don’t have access to a stash of quilter’s cotton, what do they turn to? This one hour lecture, trunk show and Q & A session shows quilts – antique and modern – made of wool, silk, polyester and more. The trunk show of my own work shows what you can create with neckties, saris, kimonos and other unusual, ‘not cotton’ textiles.” Julia McCleod

May 12 Potluck

Charity Committee

Don't forget in this time of giving, there are still many needs. We are still seeking Walker Bags for persons with walkers. There is a pattern on the WSQG website. You can also contact Joy Zuerner, Mary Margaret Wacker, or Karen Hendrickson if you cannot access it. Fidget quilts are desired for older adults as well. And Karen Hendrickson is still collecting menstrual products for homeless women, as well as masks of all sizes, but especially small sizes for children and women. Karen will be happy to pick up Menstrual Product or finished items from your porch or curb – just call Karen (414-358-9501). Mary Margaret (414-587-6008) will be available in Feb to arrange pickup or drop off of VA homeless quilts and Christmas pillowcases for children.

Veterans Quilts:

When we committed to making quilts for the Old Soldiers Home, I wasn't sure what the turnout would be. I should not have worried! To date we have 21 quilts with more promised in the coming weeks.

The residence is planning to open in early March so we'll get the quilts delivered asap and then bring them another batch as they come in.

The article about our project on the VA website has worked its magic. A sewing group has volunteered to help out with donating quilts, a woman from Spectrum wants to do an article on our guild and a veteran who read the piece brought me a beautiful quilt made by his mother in law.

In exploring the Old Soldiers Home website, it mentioned that there will be a section for female veterans as well. Eventually, they hope to house families too. At this point, I'm guessing that lap size, twin size and larger will all be accepted and used.

https://www.milwaukee.va.gov/features/Handmade_quilts_to_greet_new_residents_of_Old_Main.asp

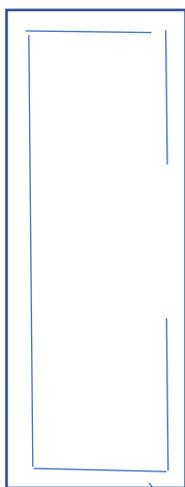
Thank you, also, to all those who have added pillowcases to Operation Sweet Dreams for the children of All People's Church in Milwaukee. I was talking with my friend who works with the church and I asked her what else we could provide. She suggested kid size quilts or fleece blankets, fleece scarves, hats and mittens. Her thought was that the fleece was easier for people to wash than knitted items.

I have always said that quilters are among the most generous people I know. Thank you for proving it time and again!

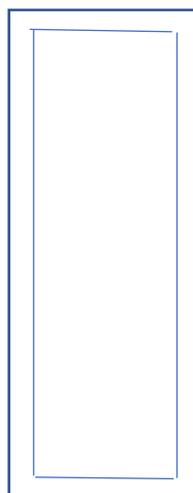
Mary Margaret Wacker

Walker Bags:

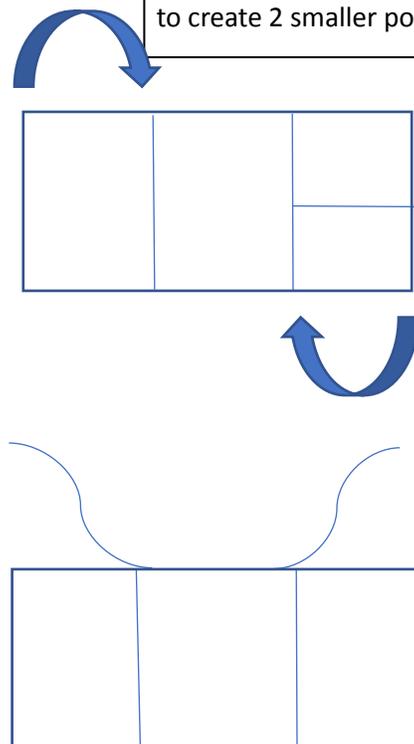
1. Start with 2 pieces of fabric 42 x 16. Place right sides together and stitch around the edges using a 1/2 inch seam allowance. Leave an opening to turn the fabric right side out.
2. Trim corners and turn right sides out. Top stitch entire outer border of fabric piece 1/8 to 1/4-inch, stitching closed the opening. (similar to making a table runner)
3. Bring sides in and stitch along the edges to create 2 eight-inch pockets at each end. Sew a seam on one pocket to make 2 smaller pockets
4. Stitch 4 pieces of ribbon (bias tape, or twill tie) 12-inch-long to the back edge of the bag just above the pockets to make ties to attach to the walker. The long ties will make the bag adjustable to different size walkers.
5. If using thinner fabric (quilting cotton), you may need to add fusible interfacing/fleece or batting between the layers to stiffen the bag. If you have heavier fabric (home décor, canvas, denim) you shouldn't need this. The finished bag should be approx. 15 x 25 inches.



1. Stitch a 1/2 inch seam leaving an opening to turn right side out.



2. Turn piece right side out, press and topstitch close to the edges, (stitching closed the opening)



3. Bring ends in to create 2 eight-inch pockets. Stich one pocket in half to create 2 smaller pockets

Sunshine

If you know of anyone who needs a little sunshine please notify either myself or Patty Martin.

Quilt Show

Mary Weber is our new/returning Chair of the Quilt Show. Yeah Mary!



Raffle Quilt

The Raffle quilt group has now met for 3 full Saturday's of sewing. The quilt is coming along nicely and we are in agreement that it is a stunning quilt that we all hope to win! Soon we will be able to turn it over to Maryjo Busch for quilting.

President's Challenge

It has become tradition for WSQG Presidents to issue a Quilt Challenge once during their term, and for the quilts submitted in that challenge to be a) voted on by members, with honors given within the Guild and b) hung together at our Quilt Show, voted on by viewers, with 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ribbons given in the President's Challenge category. Many of you may recall that at the last Show, then President Patty Martin's Challenge was to create a quilt based on a song. They were wonderfully done and very creative. This is a great opportunity for you to "stretch" a little and have some fun.

This year, my Challenge to you is:

Create a quilt that incorporates your birth flower or birth stone or both. The depiction of these symbols can be literal or suggested, but we should be able to identify what they are and I am asking that your label indicate the name of your birth flower and birth stone.

The size of the quilt should be 36" square, and it must be three layers, quilted (by you or someone else), bound and have a 3" hanging sleeve.

Here is a list of Birth Flowers and Birth Stones:

January	Carnation (or Snowdrop)	Garnet
February	Violet (or Primrose)	Amethyst
March	Daffodil	Aquamarine
April	Daisy (or Sweet Pea)	Diamond
May	Lily of the Valley	Emerald
June	Rose	Alexandrite
July	Larkspur (or Water Lily)	Ruby
August	Gladiolus (or Poppy)	Peridot
September	Aster (or Morning Glory)	Sapphire
October	Calendula (or Marigold)	Opal
November	Chrysanthemum	Topaz (or Citrine)
December	Holly or Poinsettia (or Narcissus or Orchid)	Turquoise (or Tanzanite)

Most of all, let go and have a great time! Call me if you have any questions: 414-358-9501.

Creatively yours,

Karen

Followup Information from Kristi Droese - Creative Grid Rulers presentation

Good Morning Mary Margaret, I did enjoy sharing what I have done with the Creative Grids rulers. They really are a wonderful product. It is different giving a demo with no one watching. I think I need to put cutouts of people like they do in the stadium for football games. HAHA

My studio information is:

Windswept Quilters

s89w22915 Maple Ave

Big Bend WI 53103

Studio phone # 262-404-5025

Home phone # 262-662-5318

Cell phone # 262-336-3631

I am at the studio for sure Feb. 16,17,and 18. I have ladies come to sew. I have a retreat

19-23 and again 25-28 so will not be at the studio.

In March the sew dates are 2,3,4,16,17,18,30 and 31.

The web page does have dates on it. www.windsweptquilters.com

If there are rulers your members would like they should let me know. I have some rulers but not all and only one or two of them. If they would want a class I would be glad to have a class.

I have room for 9 people and still be 6' apart. I have notions and over 2000 bolts of fabric. If you have any questions please call or stop by.

Thank you again for allowing me to speak to your guild.

Kristi Droese

The attached list of open sew dates do not have the Wednesdays listed between the Tuesday and Thursday dates. I just added Wednesdays dates.

WSQG Coupon - African Print fabrics

My name is Cecily and I'm co-owner of Sew Creative Lounge in Maryland. We specialize in African print fabrics including pre-cut jelly rolls, charm packs, fat quarters and patty cakes. We launched our online store at the top of the pandemic so we are relatively new to the scene. I'm reaching out to you to see if you think members of West Suburban Quilt Guild: Brookfield, WI would be interested in our fabric. If so, I will set up a discount code of 10% off for your current members. This code will be valid for 2021 and I will follow up next year should you want to continue this benefit for your members. Here is the [link to our website](#) and the [pre-cut fabric](#). I look forward to hearing from you.

Best,
Cecily

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Cecily Habimana
Co-Owner
Sew Creative Lounge
3711 Rhode Island Ave
Mt. Rainier, MD 20712
301-779-9000

Fabric Donation

From: Natalie Salois <liannesalois@icloud.com>
To: "clhqilts@yahoo.com" <clhqilts@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021, 09:32:31 AM CST
Subject: Material

Hi Cathy,
I read about the quilts that your guild is donating to the Milwaukee veterans home. I have some quilting cotton material that I would like to donate to your guild. Please let me know if you are interested.

Thanks,
Lianne Salois