

Newsletter #17, Week of November 1 , 2007

The Quilters II Newsletter is published weekly during the season, and monthly during the off season. Information on scheduled events will be restricted to the coming week (or month), except for classes which may require advance preparation.

From the Coordinator(s)

We're still "Stringing Along!" Monday's sharing meeting of ideas for using string and/or narrow widths of fabrics in quilts was interrupted with the distribution of the flu shot. So, after our weekly Show & Tell session next Monday 29th, we'll continue our sharing of string ideas.

To encourage all of you to make new quilting friends, preceding our regular meeting on Monday 29th, is our "Friendship Potluck Breakfast." Also, this is an opportunity to invite a friend who is interested in learning to sew/quilt but has been hesitant to become involved. Bring a dish to pass with serving utensil. The breakfast will start promptly at 8:00 A.M. so you'll have to come in your PJ's if you get up too late!

For long range planning, please discuss "light bulb ideas" with us. We want to vary the activities to include all the purposes of our organization: to preserve the heritage of quilting; to maintain high quality workmanship; to teach and share quilting ideas; to have fun; and to serve charities.

To keep Monday's "Show & Tell" session at an interesting pace, we ask that you use the Newsletter for "telling factual information" that does not pertain to what you are showing. This becomes more critical as our group grows in size.

To insure security to all our quilting rooms, if you unlock a door to enter, ALWAYS, ALWAYS lock that door when you leave or be sure you have asked someone else who has a key for that specific door, to lock it when they leave. Do not assume that the people remaining in the room will lock it since they may not have a key for that door. People remaining in the room can exit, even though you've lock the door.

The quilting rooms will be open after the Saturday Coffee/Doughnut Meetings and on Wednesday mornings until the Educational classes begin in November, to work on your personal projects or to work on some charity cupboard projects.

“HAPPY QUILTING”.....Lynn & Audrey

Field Trip

The Quilters' Market (local quilt shop on Speedway) has generously offered to host our group for a demonstration at the shop, by owners Linda and Kathy. They always have NEW and unique projects to show, plus lots of new fabrics coming in all the time. We will decide at Monday's meeting (the 29th) which day to go - possibly Dec. 3rd? They are also open to suggestions as to what we'd like to see demonstrated.

Lynn Parker

Demonstrations

Not yet scheduled

Room Availability

The Handi Quilter Room is available seven days per week from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The large room is available on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. except when classes are in session, and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Class Schedule for the Week of November 1

No classes have been scheduled.

Committee Reports

No committee reports were submitted.

Treasurer's Report

The Year End financial report has been posted in the Members Only section.

Adrienne Bortell

From the HQ16 Chairperson

By the time you read this, the HQ16 will have been upgraded with new hardware and software. The purpose is to make new and more convenient features available for our use. In support of Quilters II charitable activities, Handi Quilter has provided this \$1,000 upgrade to us at no cost.

Frank has revised and completed the HQ16 User Manual. The first introductory group session will take place on Saturday, October 27 at 9 a.m. Additional sessions as well as refresher courses will be scheduled as soon as possible.

Claire Fuqua

General Interest

From Frank Fuqua

Feel free to review the revised HQ16 User Manual, and submit written comments regarding any errors found or ways to make it more user friendly.

From Fran Walthall & Bev Polito

Block of the Month:

We've decided to start a sample book where any member, new or otherwise can go look up a technique or pattern and see how to do it and look at the samples. This means everyone in Q2 who has an extra block can join in this effort. Put it in a 3-hole clear plastic sleeve and add it to the book, along with its name and step-by-step directions.

The month of November will be dedicated to the half square triangle, AKA, the 7/8's rule. Make these blocks all of November.

One hundred years ago, when women lived in KANSAS DUGOUTS, made butter with a CHURN DASH, flipped at insects while saying, ‘SHOO-FLY’, and under the night sky made a wish on the FRIENDSHIP STAR, half squares quilts were born.

Fast forward to Olfa cutters, Omnigrid rulers and computerized sewing machines, we still enjoy these quilts and the patterns are open domain. We have updated the methods, so here they are: Use 2-7/8, or 3-7/8 or 4-7/8 **or** use the 2”, 3” and 4” squares we have cut. . Use the fabric in the boxes. Make at least 4 half squares so a block can be made.

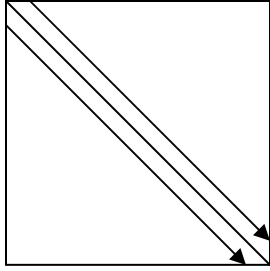
(Since we have even squares already cut, you can use this method and then trim them down.)

1. Lay 2 same size contrasting color squares right sides together (rst) with lighter square on top. Press them to get them to stick.
2. Draw a line (or press a crease on the light square) diagonally corner to corner. Sew with 1/4” foot on both sides of the line – make sure the seams are 1/4” inch.
3. Cut on the marked diagonal line.
4. Press from front side with darker fabric up so seam will go to the dark.

The idea is to add 7/8” to the finished size of the desired square – for example, you want 2” finished squares, cut 1 dark, 1 light, 2-7/8” squares and after sewing on each side of the drawn line and cutting apart, you will end up with two 2-1/2” half squares (do not cut them down any further – you want the half inch) which finish to 2” after sewn in the quilt. (this is not as hard as it sounds – try it.)

You will be amazed at how many blocks use the half square triangle.

(arrow lines indicate stitching lines – couldn’t find a dashed line.)



Comments from the Members

From Lynn Parker

Who would like to learn how, or practice making dynamic art quilts?

I would like to work through an art quilt workbook, learning techniques "to ignite my creativity". I propose that a book be bought for the library (possibly Art Quilt Workbook: Exercises & Techniques to Ignite Your Creativity by Jane Davila and Elin Waterston), and then a group of interested quilters get together to discuss, do the exercises and learn new skills. **Is anyone else interested?**

From Adrienne Bortell

It's pretty impressive that the Education Committee is already at work and has a tentative schedule ... lots of classes to look forward to. I'd like to make two suggestions. One, that they look into the possibility, for next year, to have classes on a day other than Wednesday. I know that Wednesday is the only full day we "own" the room but with Market Days, during which we look for volunteers to work, there is a lot of time conflict both for teachers and students. We could possibly use parts of Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and keep Wednesdays as a sewing day like it is in the summer. My other suggestion is to schedule the first beginner class for earlier in the season, like right now. We have a lot of people who are here and want to learn to quilt, who could have the whole season to hone their skills and make generous contributions to our output. By the first scheduled class in January, they are knee deep into some other activity. Let January be the second scheduled class so we can catch the next wave of wannabes, and scrap March as most people leave soon after and those classes are really not to our advantage. That is the main purpose for us to be teaching beginners, isn't it? If they just want to learn to quilt, they should be doing so at the local quilt shops. We want to support our quilt shops!

I found a great address online for batting ... WholesaleQuiltBatting.com ... check it out. Good prices and no shipping charges. It is not better than JoAnn with a 50% coupon and it is in quantity. But I often use king sizes and they're difficult to find in cottons at JoAnn, especially during a sale. King size, Warm & Natural, is \$22/4 to a case ... enlist a couple of friends ... use this newsletter to find people interested in buying wholesale. I found the site by accident ... was looking for ConnectingThreads.com but used all lower case letters and found a site with all kinds of deals, including the batting site. But when I tried to find that same site three days later – nada. I have no idea where I was and have given up trying to find it again but the batting site is good.

Several people have asked me about a needle-turn applique class. I will be happy to teach it if we get enough people to make it happen. I will put a sign-up sheet in the room or you can contact me at tabfull@aol.com

From the Editor:

The newsletter submission form on the website is a little confusing. The submission should be typed just as you wish to see it in the newsletter (paragraphs, punctuation, text, etc.). When the confirmation of submission is displayed, everything that was typed is all run together. **Nevertheless** it is actually sent correctly, and is received by me correctly. I'll see if I can get this fixed.

It has been asked why I want the newsletter submissions through the website instead of by direct e-mail. The reason is because I receive several hundred e-mails per day, and I can't always read them in a timely manner. Submissions through the website arrive in a special electronic mail box, and their arrival is obvious to me.

Frank Fuqua