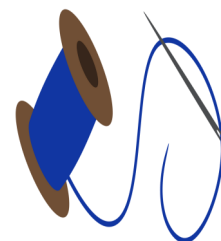


Tucson
Quilters
GUILD

THREAD TALES



Volume 26 Issue 8

August 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Quilters,

I have enjoyed the rain from the last two weeks, and I hope you have also. I'm amazed how quickly our desert absorbs the water and turns everything green. The desert animals around my house are also enjoying the water and the new growth. I'm loving everything except the weeds! The rain reminds me that as quilters, we have been in a desert place the last few months. We have been isolated from the part of quilting that I most enjoy, spending time with other quilters. I have missed the conversations we have while in class, the completed projects we share at meetings, listening to our speakers and the awesome hugs we give and receive.

The TQG Board is so very excited to announce that St. Francis Cabrini will allow us to begin meeting in September. A new priest will be in place by January, and we will have to negotiate a new contract with him. I want to thank Kathy Barton for being so diligent in working with the Catholic Diocese to arrange these meetings. We will see you Tuesday, September 7 at 7:00pm or Wednesday, September 8 at 9:30pm. The library will be open a half hour before each meeting so find those library books and check out what's new in the library.

The President's Challenge was outlined in the July newsletter so gear-up your creativity and get your churn dashing. I'm looking forward to seeing your quilts!

Please feel comfortable contacting me directly when you have a concern, as that will keep me aware of issues that can be directed to the proper Director or Committee Chair. Thank you for staying with us these last months. I'm looking forward to seeing you in September.

Happy Quilting!
Marie Morris,
President



AUGUST CALENDAR

Business Meeting:

Wed. Aug. 4, 9:30 am at 655 N. Craycroft

General Meetings:

No meetings in August due to Quilt-a-Thon

Fly-By:

Saturday, August 14, 8:30—9:30

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Business Meeting:

Wednesday, Sept. 1, 9:30 am

General Meetings:

Tues. Sept. 7, 7:00 pm

Wed. Sept 8, 9:30 am

Workshop:

Thurs. Sept 9, 9:30 am

Please note that these are events are subject to change due to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

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TQG PROGRAM INFORMATION

September Speaker and Workshop

Joyce Hughes

(This is a live event but since we won't be meeting until September you must register on-line for the workshop).



Joyce is a self-taught quilter and fiber artist. Her first quilt was a tee shirt quilt which she enjoyed making but felt limited in the ability to express herself artistically. Within several months she began designing pictorial landscape quilts using raw edge applique. Never knowing the rules, she broke a lot of them, but with exciting results.

Amazingly, her first art quilt was entered into a national show and won a blue ribbon. This had led to numerous awards and opportunities in the quilting world. She loves free motion quilting and thread painting. Currently she has fixed on working with fabric panels to create dimension and texture with threads and embellishments, creating a style all her own. Frequently, she says, these panels are looked at and passed over, often with comments such as "What do you do with this?". "It is so big." "The colors are dull". But, with a little embellishing and thread painting, Joyce says that any panel can become a work of art!

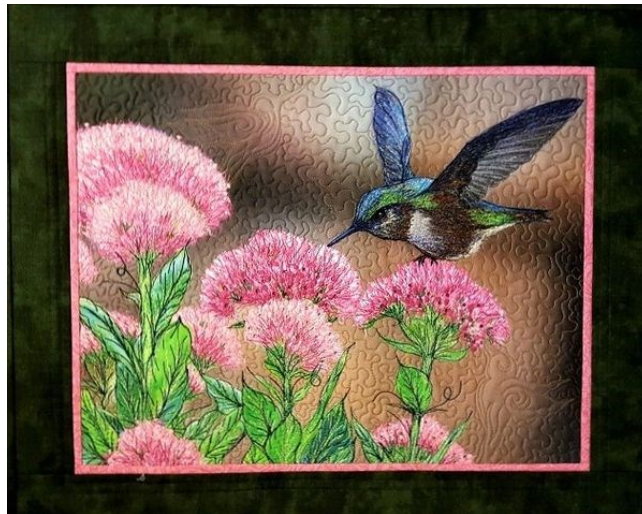
TQG PROGRAM INFORMATION

Lecture “My Journey into Quilting”

This is an open and inspiring talk about how Joyce started quilting, leading into art quilts with thread painting, and finally her work with panels. Showing many “before and after” art quilts she also explores how panels can be used as personal projects. You will learn how she prepares the panel and how she layers threads to achieve different effects on the quilts. Then, with ribbons, markers, paint, crystals, and whatever else she can think of, she will show you how to make any panel a unique piece of art.

Workshop Dimensional Thread Painting

Yes, you are creative, and yes, you can do this on your domestic sewing machine! In this class, students will start with a beautiful hummingbird panel and will learn the proper steps of dimensional thread painting while exploring thread selection, machine set-up, bobbin work, embellishment and overlays.



Can't attend the class or still want to know more? Our Guild library has both of Joyce's books, "Thread Painting a Garden Quilt" and "Creating Art Quilts with Panels". Check one out and get painting (thread that is)!

GUILD NEWS

Arizona Documentation Report



By Susan T. Franklin PhD

"Colorfast Turkey red thread was a popular choice to use on household linens that required frequent laundering such as towels, tray cloths, splashers, and doilies. It was also a natural choice for bed covers and pillow shams." Deborah Harding

The quote above is from Deborah Harding's *Red & White: American Redwork Quilts*. It is a two-volume set with one having pages of narrative along with lovely redwork quilts. The second consists of redwork patterns. It is a "must" for any redwork lover.

This month, I thought it might be fun to discuss redwork. Something I sometimes have referred to as my "no brainer" love. I collect vintage redwork; I have both blocks and quilts. My Arizona Centennial Quilt is Redwork. I've done redwork since my childhood and still enjoy it.

Redwork, on a white ground, has been around for centuries. During the early years, it likely was a European garment. However, redwork as we know it, had its nudge to popularity at the *Philadelphia Centennial Exposition*. The English Pavilion displayed outline embroidery while the Japanese Pavilion featured artistic subjects in a natural habitat.

By 1885, redwork began to chronicle history, was seen in folk

art, and in story book quilts. Redwork quilts, the generic name for *Penny Square* quilts, continued to be popular throughout the 19th century. Frequently, these weren't quilted, but instead, made into coverlets.

Now for the "red" of redwork. You may have heard of madder red as well as Turkey red. However, there are significant differences in the processes involved between the those of the dying methods of the traditional European madder (dark scarlet or brick red) and Turkey red (closer to carmine).

The complicated multistage process to obtain colorfast Turkey red originated in Turkey. European efforts to replicate it were underway by the 1740s but not successful until 1829. The beauty of Turkey red is that it's colorfast, bright, and a technique used with cotton, not wool.

Several years later, Turkey red threads and dyes were easily obtained in America. It quickly became a favorite with needle workers as it didn't bleed. The cost was higher, but to the needle woman, it was worth every penny! Barbara Brackman noted that in the 1875-76 Montgomery Ward catalog, Turkey red fabric cost three times more than other red fabrics.

Interest in redwork snowballed. Red on white was popular for anything that could be covered, such as pillow or bed shams, back splashes, tables, tea towels, laundry bags, anything imaginable, including beds! Before the 1900s, patterns were rarely made for quilt blocks. They probably were adapted from a dresser scarf or something else about 9" by 9" in each direction. When designs are uniformly sized, the quilt likely was made after 1910.

From the 1860s through the depression, a small piece of muslin could be purchased for a penny. It could then be marked with a pattern from the shopkeeper's pattern book. *Penny Squares* were used to teach young girls basic embroidery skills. Turkey red dye contributed to the popularity due to its colorfastness; the same thing happened with the discovery of colorfast indigo and blue work.

If you have questions about anything, quilt documentation in particular, please call or email either Sue Franklin at 520-490-4721; suevette63@gmail.com. Terry Grzyb-Wysocki at 520-904-2218; terry-gw@mindspring.com.



MORE GUILD NEWS

Quilt--a-thon

August was the meeting when we used to meet to complete all the tops made for Quilt-A-Thon. Although there will be no in-person August meeting, Quilt-A-Thon will still end in August. At this time, a Fly-By is planned for Saturday, Aug. 14. 8:30 - 9:30. Completed Quilt-A-Thon tops can be dropped off at that time. There will also be completed tops that have been kitted with backing and batting ready to take home to complete. If you have completed tops for Quilt-A-Thon but have not been able to get to a Fly-By you can turn them in when we meet in person for the first time in September. All quilts that are part of Quilt-A-Thon will have batting and backings provided and will be brought to our in-person meetings and be available for distribution to those able to finish them. Thank you for participating in Quilt-A-Thon 2021.

Linda Begega,

Chairperson Quilt-a-thon 2021



Quilting for Others

A very special thank you to our Membership! Your participation in our Drawing over the last seven (7) months yielded:

220 Ready To Deliver Quilts,
114 Tops to be Quilted,
183 Pillowcases,
35 Laundry Bags to Candlelighters, and
9 Dog Beds.

Another special thank you to our Team for bringing you this opportunity through their hard work and preparation each month!

QFO Drawing Statistics Jan - July 2021

Our Grand Prize Basket valued a \$200 went to Joyce Christianson. Joyce also earned 3rd place in our drawing. The placements went as follows:

1st Place - Elena Bennett, Quilter's Market Gift Card Valued at \$25

2nd Place - Rhonda Borders, Quilter's Market Gift Card Valued at \$20

3rd Place - Joyce Christianson, Quilter's Market Gift Card Valued at \$15

4th Place - Karen Kelter, Quilter's Market Gift Card Valued at \$10

Additionally, each 1st - 4th Place Winner received a Boxed Gift with several items. Each box was valued at an additional \$50.

On behalf of the Quilting For Others Team,
Shellie Whitman

Quilting for Others

HOLIDAY STOCKINGS

It's Time for Holiday Stockings and a New Holiday Stocking Drawing!

Every year from as far as I can remember, our Guild has made Holiday Stockings for the Candlelighters Children's Cancer Foundation. These stockings are distributed to children undergoing Cancer treatment throughout the Tucson community.

So, what does that mean for our Guild Members? Well, another Drawing of course! So, here's the details:

PRIZE: One Free Tucson Quilters Guild Class anytime during the year of 2022! Prize is valued up to \$35 and does not include any additional class supplies or instructor fees.

QUALIFICATIONS:

For every 1 Holiday Stocking completed and turned-in from September through our December meeting, You will earn 1 entry into our Holiday Stocking Drawing. One for One!

We are making kits that will be available beginning with the September 2021 Live Meeting!

Fabrics - We are using fabrics that have been donated to us, but feel free to use your own too!

Fabric and Pattern will be provided.

On behalf of the Quilting For Others Team,
Shellie Whitman



GUILD NEWS

President's Block

President Blocks for Karen Fisher

Karen Fisher has served as our President and we need to show our appreciation. In previous newsletters you were ask to make blocks for her. As of July 1, 2021, I have only 8 blocks. There are about 300 members of the guild so let's get more blocks for her. Here's the information you need.

Your block will contain the letter 'K' and will have a maximum distance around the block of 36".

Examples:

6" x 6" finished block = 24" around

9" x 9" finished block = 36" around

6" x 10" finished block = 32" around

You may embellish the block with embroidery, rick-rack, lace, etc. Remember that she loves buttons but don't sew them on because they may interfere with the quilting. If you want to include buttons, put your block in a zip lock bag and include the buttons in the bag.

Karen loves bright colors so use a bright color for the background and a second bright that contrasts with your background piece for your 'K'. Get creative!!

They can be turned in at the next fly-by or mailed to:

Tucson Quilters Guild
President Block



Basket Bonanza!

We are well on our way planning items for the show in January of 2022. We have the baskets...we just need your help filling them. Kate will be at the next drive by on July 17th 8:30 to 9:30 AM at the St. Francis Cabrini Church to receive your items. Remember they don't all have to be quilt related... we hope to construct baskets that can appeal to non-quilters aka husbands (golf, fishing, coffee, tea, etc.) too!!! Use your coupons to JoAnn's or Michael's or Hobby Lobby to purchase items so we can make this a Huge Bonanza of Baskets.

By Kate Verbecke, basket chair



Dress a Bear



New bears were ordered and received; we now have (70) 12 & 13-inch bears to be dressed. I will be at the July "drive by" or "fly by" with bears ready to be adopted. I am in the process of making outfits to verify our current patterns will work.

If you have been storing a dressed bear, I will be most pleased to find loving arms for them.

I am looking for a **co-Dress A Bear person who attends the evening meetings**. Duties are easy . . . distribute undressed bears; keep record of adoptions; share patterns and then collect the beautifully dressed bears. We will work together on distribution of dressed bears.



GUILD NEWS

Quilt Fiesta News

& Opportunity Quilt

We're ramping up for what promises to be a great Quilt Fiesta. The tickets are ready for the Opportunity Quilt sales. This year's quilt is "The Tree of Life," a Navajo rug inspired quilt that was designed and assembled by Lisa Fryxell. Many guild members helped in making the birds. The quilting was done by Brenda Smitley of Proverbs 31 Quilts. We showed the quilt at the last show and had it appraised for \$2250. It's 88" x 93" (Queen/King size).

Tickets were sent out the week of May 24. They cost \$2 each or 3 for \$5. There are 12 tickets in each envelope and the cost for all of them is \$20. Contact Lisa (lisafryxell@gmail.com or 575-590-5472 and leave a message) if you want more to sell. Return your tickets at monthly fly-bys, in-person meeting this fall or mail them to Lisa Fryxell.

As added incentive to selling tickets, beginning with June sales (once everybody has their tickets) Lisa is offering a digitally downloaded pattern from her patterns on Etsy (PreFurred Quilt Shop) to the quilter who sells the most tickets and turns in their money by the end of each month through December. The quilter who sells the most tickets overall will win Lisa's wall-hanging version of the Tree of Life. Yes, you win the actual small quilt (33" x 40")!

Get out there and sell those tickets. If you want color photos of the quilt pick up some of our bookmarks or postcards at the next fly-by or at fall meetings. If you have any questions about tickets, email Lisa.

The Tucson Quilters Guild presents

Quilt Fiesta 2022

2 Days Only! **Fri. & Sat., Jan. 28 & 29** New Location!

9 am - 5 pm
Old Pueblo Hall

\$10 One Day
\$15 Two Days

\$5 Parking

Pima County Fairgrounds
11300 S. Houghton Rd., Tucson, AZ



2022 Opportunity Quilt—Tree of Life

RV Parking Available.
Contact the Pima County Fairgrounds.

Hundreds of Quilts, Small Quilt Auction, Quilts of Valor, Sit & Sew, Antique Quilts, Basket Bonanza, Classes and Demos, Vendors, Food Trucks

for more information visit: TucsonQuiltersGuild.com

Bus Tours Tickets: sales@eastwestglobaltravel.com (Ref: Tucson Quilt Fiesta 2022)
Arrangements made directly with East West Global Travel.
Tucson Quilters Guild is not responsible for lost/stolen items or travel matters.

Tucson Quilters Guild
APPROVED 2021-2022 BUDGET

	PRIOR Budget for comparison purposes	APPROVED current budget
INCOME		
Activities for Guild Members		
Library	800	700
Speakers/Workshops	4,000	4,2775
Charitable Collection	3,300	3,000
Goods Sold	100	
Membership Dues	10,000	9,000
Newsletter Ads		100
QUILT FIESTA INCOME	54,000	57,480
Total income	72,200	74,480
EXPENSE		
Administrative – Guild	13,149	12,724
Membership	650	2,100
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		
Bears	400	400
Total Charitable Donations	3,300	3,000
QUILT-A-THON	560	500
quilting for others	2,650	3,710
ACTIVITIES FOR GUILD MEMBERS		
Total Library	2,000	2,320
Pattern of the Month	150	150
Total Speakers/Workshops	15,650	15,875
MARKETING & PUBLICITY	1,800	1,300
QUILT FIESTA EXPENSE	45,000	41,313
TOTAL EXPENSE	85,309	83,392
Dividends earned		4,000
Net income	-13,109	4,912

MORE GUILD NEWS

Small Quilt Auction 2022

A huge and enthusiastic THANK YOU! to all those who have donated pieces for the small quilt auction! Numerous pieces have come from members who selected blocks or panels from our collection of "lamentables" at the monthly Drop Offs at St. Francis Cabrini Church. Stop by and see what challenges you can find in the "lamentables" bucket! Other members have donated pieces from their quilting group challenges, from study series they have done, or just from left over blocks. We accept small pieces (maximum 100 in perimeter) in many forms- wall hangings, traditional and art quilts, table runners, doll quilts or anything else you can think of. We ask that wall hangings include a 2- inch hanging sleeve.

Proceeds from the Small Quilt Auction will go to EMERGE! to support the services they provide for victims of domestic abuse. Instances of domestic abuse have increased during the pandemic so the donation of our auction proceeds is greatly needed and appreciated! EMERGE provides an emergency hotline, emergency shelter as well as lay legal services, education and counseling for victims and their families. Please visit emergecenter.org to learn more about the variety of critical services that EMERGE! provides.

The SQA is a silent auction which will run all 2 days of the quilt Flesta. Each small quilt will be assigned a "Starting Bid" amount and a "Buy it Now" price. Bidders who aren't willing to risk being outbid on a quilt they like can buy it outright and take it home immediately.

Please help support EMERGE! by making a donation to the 2022 Small Quilt Auction. An application form is available on the Guild website.

Please see the donation form on the following page...



QFAC is still selling quilts that are on display at The Tucson Botanical Gardens. We are very thankful for all of you that go look and then buy these lovely handmade creations.

Do you remember the Constellation Stars quilt created by Evelyn George and quilted by Suzanne Irving? It was entered in our 40th Jubilee Quilt Fiesta show several years ago and has been submitted to Houston International Quilt Show and accepted. Remember QfaC made a pattern for it, and it is for sale on our website.

Raffle tickets for our current opportunity quilt, "Forever and a Day", are still available on the website at <https://www.quiltforacause.org>. Remember we will be drawing that winner in September.

New quilts are being added to our website every month and we encourage you to check them out.

Thank you to those of you who came by the drive by in July with 7 quilts and 5 more in August. And we will continue to be at the drive-bys until we can

meet in person.

It looks favorable for events beginning to happen and we will keep you updated.

Thank you for reading about Quilt for a Cause and don't be afraid to ask any of us questions you may have about joining us to be on our board. There is no charge to join, and you could be part of this amazing group that provides support to so many.

Also, we would like to acknowledge the generous donation from the Walmart at Kolb and Golf Links during their Health and Wellness Giving Days.

Connie German, director



Small Quilt Entry Form

(For Completed Donations, also available on the website)

Quilter's name(s):

Address:

Phone # _____ Email: _____

Quilt Title:

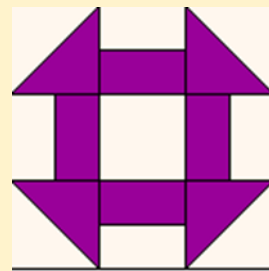
Quilt width: _____ Quilt length:

Artist's statement about this quilt: (50 words or less)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

QUILT NUMBER _____

Quilt Fiesta 2022 President Challenge



Rules:

1. The theme is Churn Dash.
2. You may use any colors.
3. The quilt should measure no more than 100 inches around the perimeter. Any rectangular shape of that dimension is acceptable. If your quilt is not rectangular, make sure that it will fit in a rectangle that is no more than 100 inches around the perimeter.
4. The quilt must have a hanging sleeve and a label containing the quilt maker's name and title of the quilt. Quilts must also be contained in a cloth bag (pillowcase) to protect them from dirt or damage.
5. Your application is due by the October meetings and your quilts must be turned in at the November meeting.

Entrant's Name _____ Guild Membership # _____

Entry Title _____

Top by _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Quilted by _____

Phone # _____ Email Address _____

Description: Use this space to provide details about your quilt. Please include information about the materials and/or techniques used or what your quilt represents to you. Please do not use more than 40 words in your description.

Your quilt will be displayed at the November meetings for a first round of voting and at the December meetings for final voting. Winners will be displayed at Quilt Fiesta 2022.

TUCSON QUILTERS GUILD BEES

Eastside

1492 BEE

Lisa Fryxell – (575) 590-5472
Columbus Library
4350 E 22nd Street
1st Monday, 10 AM to 2 PM

EAGLE WINGS QOV BEE

Char Gasker
Quality Quilterz
8421 E Broadway Blvd
4th Thursday of the month

EASTSIDE QUIET BEE

Vicki Moore
748-7219, 241-7290
Ask Vicki for location
1st Thursday, 6:30 PM

HIMMEL QUILTERS

Ruth Campbell – (520) 792-1639
Himmel Park Library
1035 N Treat Ave
3rd Wednesday, 6 – 8 PM

NORTHEAST 9 PATCHERS

Janice Jones
Members Homes
1st Friday, 9:30 AM

PACIFIC RIM QUILTING BEE:

Susan Owara – 520-572-9231
The Quilt Basket
6538 E. Tanque Verde #130
1st Tuesday, 10 am

Eastside, can't.

TUCSON ART QUILTERS:

No contact person at this time
Eastside City Hall
7575 E. Speedway,
3rd Wednesday, 10 am – Noon

UFO BEE

Mary Meserve
The Quilters Market
7601 E Speedway Blvd
Every Tuesday, 9 – 11:30 am

Northwest

MATERIAL GIRLS

Cindi Huff – (623) 225-6109
members homes
1st & 3rd Thursdays, 1 – 4 pm

MONA LISA BEE:

Debbie Sileven (520) 954-9265
Foothills Community Church
3301 W Overton Rd
3rd Monday, 9:30 – 11 am

PIECE PATCHERS:

Evelyn George
Members homes

NORTHWEST NEEDLERS:

Evelyn George –
Members homes

Southwest

MONDAY NIGHT QUILTERS:

Marie Morris
403-6208, 623-0123
Grace Pointe Church
2555 W Valencia Rd.
3rd Monday, 6:30 – 8 pm
Sept – Nov and Jan – March

Green Valley

NORTH OF THE BORDER:

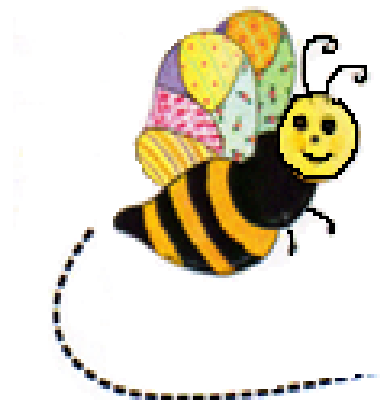
Patty Goodsell – 989-1754
Ask Patty for location info
Every Thursday - 9:30 AM – Noon

Bee Keeper

For more information about any of the Bees listed or how to start you own bee, please contact our personal beekeeper.

Elizabeth Sonnenfeld,

beekeeper@tucsonquiltersguild.com



TUCSON QUILTERS GUILD BASICS

The mission of the Tucson Quilters Guild is to perpetuate the art of quilting, encourage the practice of quilting, and to stimulate interest in this art form.

Who:	All Members
What:	Business Meeting —First Wednesday of every month in the Church Classroom. General Meetings - Second Wednesday of the month in the morning or the Tuesday evening preceding the second Wednesday - in the Parish Hall.
When:	Business Meeting – 9:30 AM ~ 10:30 AM General Meetings: Tuesday Evening –7:00~9:30 PM Wednesday Morning –9:30 AM~12:00 PM
Where:	St Frances Cabrini Church 3201 E. Presidio Near Fort Lowell and Country Club
(How): Parking	Guild members are asked to refrain from parking in the spaces in front of the Parish office; the Church wants these spaces to remain open for Church members who have business to attend to in the office. This is the small building to the east of our meeting room. PARKING NOTICE: Tuesday evening attendees: The Church's Family Classes are in session again, so PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE FRONT LOT. Use the side or back lot.
Why:	Come to get involved with all aspects of the Guild, to make new friends, learn new quilting skills, share, but most of all, to have <i>FUN</i> .
Cost:	Members – \$30/year (due in March) Guests – \$5/meeting

TQG MEETINGS ARE FRAGRANCE FREE

Please remember to be kind to fellow members with allergies to scents and perfumes. Please attend the meetings fragrance / perfume free. It means another member can attend.

USE OF CAMERAS AT GUILD MEETINGS

Due to copyright concerns, photos may be taken before the meetings, during the breaks, and after the meetings.

No photography or videos are permitted during the guest speaker presentations.

Submission deadline for the next newsletter is the Tuesday following the Wednesday General Meeting. For the July Newsletter, deadline is **Tuesday, July 20.** Please send your articles/ads to the Newsletter Editor at newsletter@tucsonquiltersguild.com.

SHH-HH PHONE APP FOR TQG MEETINGS

<http://shushapp.com> The shush app allows you turn the volume of your ringer off for whatever amount of time you want. At the end of that time your phone's ringer will be turned on again. It is handy for those of us who forget to turn on the ringer again.

TQG BOARD AND COMMITTEES

President	Marie Morris	president@tucsonquiltersguild.com
Vice President	Cathy Blackburn	vp@tucsonquiltersguild.com
Recording Secretary	Francie McMillan	secretary@tucsonquiltersguild.com
Treasurer	Joyce Province	treasurer@tucsonquiltersguild.com
Endowment/ Donations	<i>OPEN</i>	endowment@tucsonquiltersguild.com
Membership	Joyce Holley	membership@tucsonquiltersguild.com
Member at Large, Evening	Laurel Clarke	memberatlarge-pm@tucsonquiltersguild.com
Member at Large, Morning	Joline Albaugh	memberatlarge-am@tucsonquiltersguild.com
Programs Director	Kathryn Barton	programs@tucsonquiltersguild.com
Programs Co-Director	Connie German	programs-co@tucsonquiltersguild.com
2021 Quilt Show Director	Pamela Golliet	quiltfiesta@tucsonquiltersguild.com
2021 Quilt Show Co-Director	<i>OPEN</i>	

Dress a Bear	Joyce Bott	
Bee Keeper	Elizabeth Sonnenfeld	
Education	<i>OPEN</i>	
Finance	Keith Dommer	
Finance	Mimi Pollow	
Guild Publicity	<i>OPEN</i>	
Historian	Joyce Harrison	historian@tucsonquiltersguild.com
Hospitality		
Library	Janet Chumbley	library@tucsonquiltersguild.com
Newsletter	Francie McMillan	newsletter@tucsonquiltersguild.com
Pattern of the Month	Karen Fisher	
Quilt-a-Thon	Linda Begega	quilt-a-thon@tucsonquiltersguild.com
Quilting for Others	Shellie Whitman	quilting4others@tucsonquiltersguild.com
Opportunity Quilt 2021	Lisa Fryxell	
Record Keeper		
Website	Kathy Barton	website@tucsonquiltersguild.com

August 2021 Block of the Month

Square in a Square in a Square in a Square

Karen G. Fisher

As Quilters, how many of us have a favorite technique, or two or three, that we use much of the time? We might even avoid some skills because they are too confusing, or time-consuming. Or if we just change a pattern a teeny, little bit, we can do it another way—with a technique we think is easier.

I have to admit I do that too, but I've also been willing to learn whatever new technique will expand my skill set to create the next quilt design that comes into my head.

This month's design is truly easiest to make with Paper Piecing. You know, the upside down and backwards sew-it-to-paper method that works quite perfectly for a design with geometric straight lines and non-standard size pieces. You get to rough-cut all the pieces larger than necessary, then trim to perfection to achieve precision points and corners.

I chose to work with a colorful print fabric, and three tone-on-tones that coordinate with it. The always useful focus fabric method. The fabrics are arranged in four different progressions in four blocks, so they come together nicely at the corners to form another secondary square. These secondary patterns are one of the coolest things about many traditional patterns. You can also make just two fabric arrangements to keep the whole over-all pattern simpler, or even go scrappy with four values from light to medium-light, to medium-dark, to dark.

The pattern on the following pages is full-size for a 6" block, once you add an outer seam allowance. Included are rough-cut sizes for each "square," and the numbered order for sewing it all together.



Full-size pattern for 6" finished block

Add quarter inch seam allowance to this drawing, before starting to sew fabric pieces in place.

If you want to make a bigger block to start with, enlarge basic pattern to the desired size, THEN add a quarter inch seam all around.

12" block: enlarge 200% 9" block: enlarge 150% 8" block: enlarge 134%

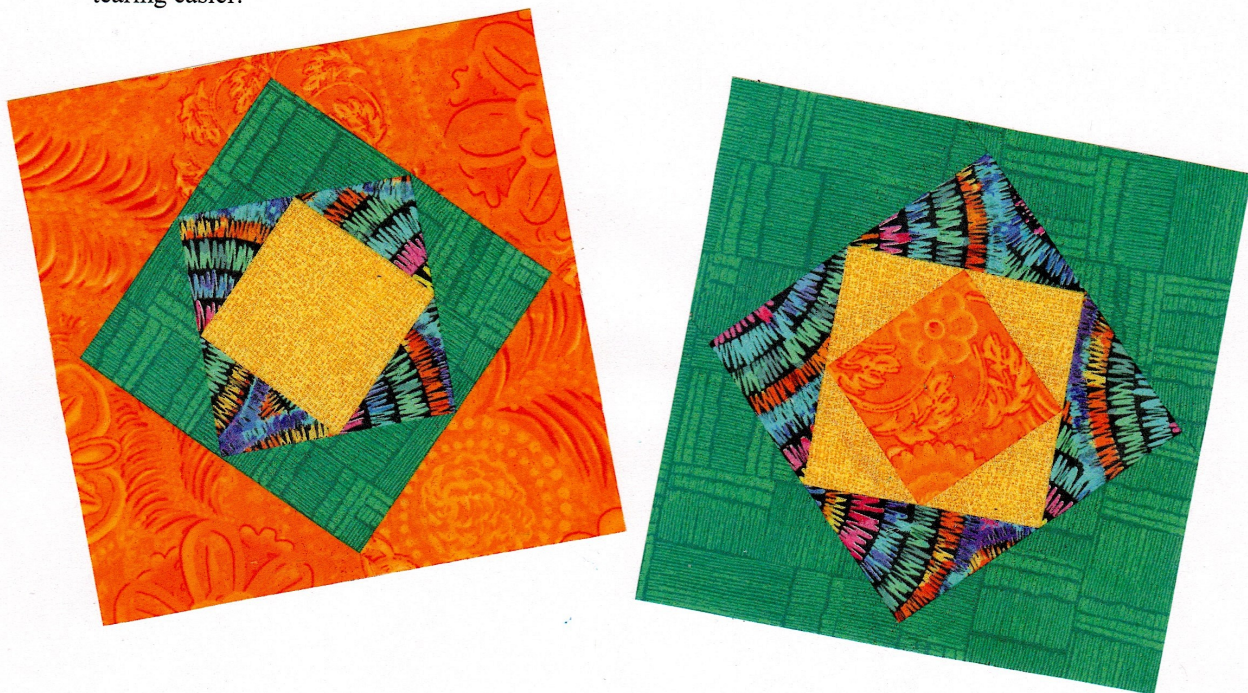
Rough-cut sizes for pieces for each 6" block:

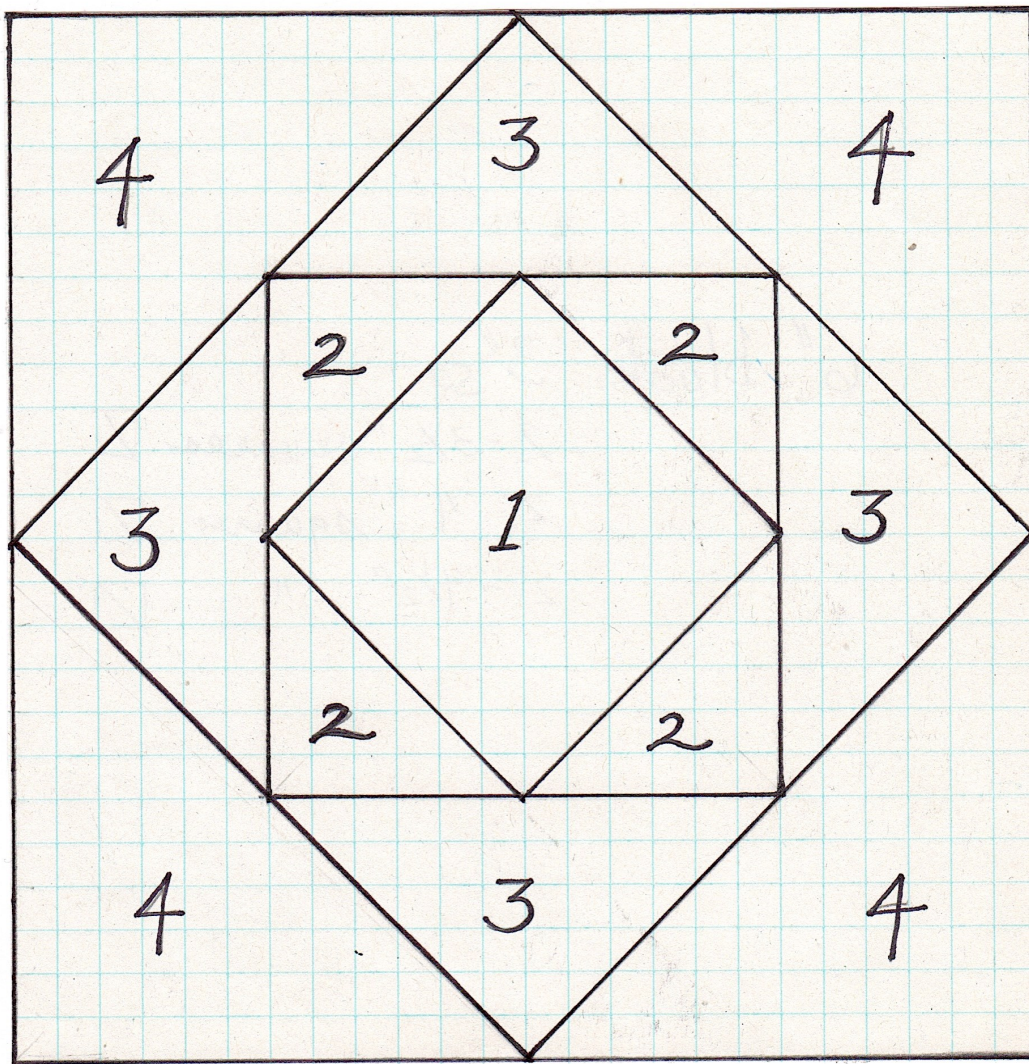
1. Center square: 1 - 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 3" square
2. Next square: 2 - 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " squares, cut into 4 half-square triangles
3. Third square out: cut 2 - 4" squares, cut into 4 half-square triangles
4. Fourth square out: cut 2 - 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " squares, cut into 4 half-square triangles

Start with the center square, and sew all four #2 pieces to it. I like to sew two at a time, across from each other. As you sew each one, you can hold it or pin it to the blank side of the paper, so you can see the stitching lines to follow on the other side. This takes a bit of practice, but I expect there are good demo videos on line. As you add each piece, finger press it into place, AWAY from the center.

Using the same methods, attach ALL the #3 Pieces on all four sides, and finger press them away from the center. At any point, you can trim away excess fabric. Be careful to NOT CUT any pieces across the center. Finally add the #4 pieces, trim any seam excess, and press flat.

Trim your block to the correct finished size, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " or larger. Finally, carefully tear away the backing paper along the stitching lines, which are now working as perforations to make the tearing easier.





Full-
size
6"
Pattern
Make
1 Copy
per
needed
Block



