

The Circular

President's Message

By nature, I am an incurious person. I tend to be very happy when someone develops a tool that makes life simpler and admire the fact that their minds work the way they do. But my husband is a collector of information and is curious about lots of things. So we subscribe to a magazine called "Invention and Technology". It often has articles about space craft and airplanes and military weapons and cinematic advances. But one month several years ago there was an article on how to make buttons. Another article was about the significant upheaval caused by the invention of the sewing machine. Women were petrified that they were going to lose their jobs. This month one of the articles is about the safety pin.

Walter Hunt invented this wonderful little tool in 1848 or 1849. He was fretting about the fact that he owed someone \$15 and was not going to be able to pay up. He was playing with an 8" piece of wire - basically doodling as he worried. He bent it around and the significant thing is that, when he looked at this "doodle" he recognized the value of what he had. He patented it in April 1849 and sold the rights for \$400.

During this time in history we were moving away from craftsmen and artisans due to the rise in industrialization. Clothes making was a fast-expanding result of mechanization. We were producing more and more cotton cloth and we needed to be able to produce clothing more swiftly than the hand sewers could do it. Hunt is actually credited with inventing the first working sewing machine, but Elias Howe was the first to patent that invention. But Hunt's family was in the spinning business and this was always on his mind.

FCQ Officers

President
Peg McClelland

Thursday

Vice President
Nancy Meier
Secretary
Mary McCahill
Treasurer
Eleanor Howe

Monday

Vice President
Kenzie Preston
Secretary
Jane Scott
Treasurer
Jeanette Cocker

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What Hunt's newest invention would do was allow a seamstress to temporarily "stitch" things together. Those early machines sewed stitches so firmly that it was very hard to "unsew". There was no basting stitch, so altering was very difficult. The "safe" pin allowed for trying on and adjusting without having to rip out these seams and without the normal hazard of pricking that accompanied doing these tasks with straight pins. His invention caught on quickly.

Billions of safety pins are produced each year. We tend to take them for granted. I have hundreds. But in less industrialized areas, these simple machines are still handed down from mother to daughter as heirlooms.

As you pin baste your next quilt, or pin the waistband on your slacks, be thankful that Walter Hunt's fertile mind was at work that winter night.

Peg

SLATE OF OFFICERS PROPOSED FOR NEXT YEAR

Here is the proposed slate of officers for the elections scheduled for May 18 and May 21:

President Sharon Rhoton

Vice Presidents : Nancy Meier (D), Kenzie Preston (N)

Secretary: Mary McCahill (D), Jane Scott (N)

Treasurer: Eleanor Howe (D), Jeanette Cocker (N)

NIGHT SUMMER PARTY 2009!

The Monday night guild party will occur on June 1, 2009. John Anderson is the Chairperson of the party committee. Please let him know if you plan to attend, so he can get a rough head count. John's Email is Questinghorse@yahoo.com . Please put "Guild Party" in the subject line. More details will be covered at the Monday night meetings.

DAY SUMMER PARTY 2009!

Planning is just starting. See Nancy Meier if you can help.

THANK-YOU BLOCKS FOR PEG

Peg is ending her two-year term as president of FCQ. She chose yellow and white churn dash blocks (EQ5 calls it a Double Monkey Wrench.) for her thank yous. Here are the instructions—use any color yellow.

Churn Dash Pattern

9" finished block (9 ½" unfinished)

For each block:

From color 1 (background fabric (white)) cut -

One (1) - 3 ½" square

Four (4) - 3 ½" by 2" rectangles

Two (2) - 3 ⅞" squares (these squares can be cut larger - I do 4" - and then the block is cut down to 3 ½" when squaring up)

From color 2 (yellow) cut -

Four (4) - 3 ½" by 2" rectangles

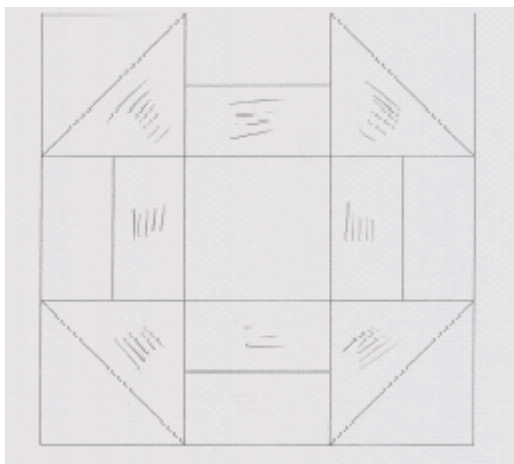
Two (2) - 3 ⅞" squares (see note above. Cut these squares the same size as the four background squares.)

To make the block:

Sew one color 1 rectangle to one color 2 rectangle. Sew along the $3\frac{1}{2}$ " side. Make four of these units

Mark a diagonal line on the back of each of the $3\frac{7}{8}$ " color 1 squares. Place a color 1 square, right sides together with a color 2 square. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the drawn line on each side of the line. Cut along the drawn line. This will make two half square triangle squares. Make two of these units. Press toward color 2 and square up the unit to $3\frac{1}{2}$ ".

You now have nine (9) $3\frac{1}{2}$ " blocks. Sew the block together in three rows. Refer to the picture for placement. Hash represents yellow



2009 BUS TRIPS

*Friday, September 18 is our trip to the PA National Quilt Extravaganza at Valley Forge. The cost is \$40 which includes bus transportation, driver's tip and entrance fee to the show. Lunch is on your own.

*Friday October 16 is our annual shopping trip. The cost is \$40 which includes bus transportation, driver's tip and lunch. We stop at Sauders and the Kitchen Kettle for shopping and lunch is a great buffet at the Shady Maple.

All trips leave at 7:30 a.m. from the Park & Ride in front of the church and will return by 7 p.m.

If you are interested in going contact Sandy Lynch for day group and Glenda Kruger for night group

All checks are payable to MILLTOWN QUILTERS.

NEIGHBOR NEWS

From Baltimore County,

Beth Bohac received an 'opportunity' for any of us:

The Cromwell Valley Park Council is searching for groups or individuals to demonstrate the craft of quilting at the upcoming Fall Harvest Festival October 10th & 11th. The festival days' goal is to educate the public about daily life and harvest time "Down on the Farm".

We ask that exhibitors offer an educational component or demonstration during the Festival. In appreciation for your time, if you have items you wish to sell, there would be no fee. If you do not wish to offer a public educational component to your days here at the Park, there are vendor opportunities during this event as well. Susan Dorsey is the park's administrative assistant. The website is www.cromwellvalleypark.org

From Frederick,

We Are An Official, Proud Promotional Partner for the

RICKY TIMS'
Super QUILT SEMINARS

With Special Guests
Alex Anderson
and
Libby Lehman

April 30- May 2, 2009
Maranatha Community
Church of God
Frederick, MD
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The Red Cross - Frederick County Chapter

Everyone attends all sessions

Information and registration brochures available at guild meetings, or online at www.rickytimes.com

The Ultimate Learning Experience for Quilters!

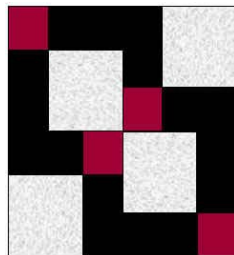
BLOCK OF THE MONTH

Mar BOM Block #7



Windmill or Double Star. And the winner is??

Apr BOM Block #8



Disappearing Nine Patch will be drawn on first Thur in May

May BOM Block #9



3-D Buttercup

This is an easy 3-D block to end the year. I added LOTS of picture to make sure no one has problems.

Fabric:

From white or white-on-white background fabric cut:

- 3- 3 1/2" x 6 1/2" rectangles
- 6- 3 1/2" squares

From a yellow fabric (the flower stamen) cut:

- 1- 3 1/2" square

From a colored fabric (the flower petals) cut:

- 1- 3 1/2" x 6 1/2" rectangle
- 1- 3 1/2" square

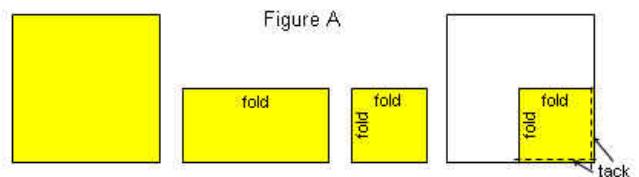
From a green fabric (the flower leaves) cut:

- 2- 5" squares

Special NOTE: pressing with iron will diminish the 3-D effect. It is best to finger press or steam the seams.

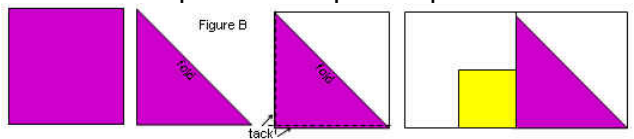
Directions:

1. Fold the 3 1/2" square of yellow in half, right side out. Fold it a second time, making a square. Place the folded stamen piece in the lower right corner of the right side of a 3 1/2" square of background. Place it so that folded tip of stamen is at center of background fabric. (figure A)

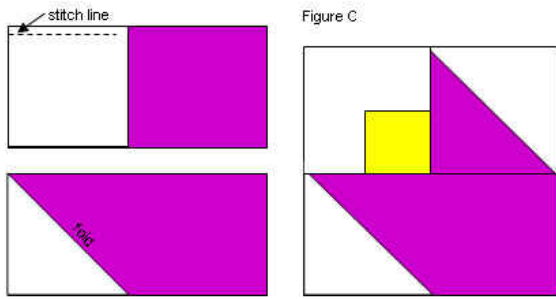


Tack in place inside the quarter inch seam allowance.

2. Fold a 3 1/2" square of flower fabric in half diagonally, right side out. Place it on top (right side) of a 3 1/2" square of background. Tack in place inside the quarter inch seam allowance. With right sides together, attach the stamen square to the petal square.

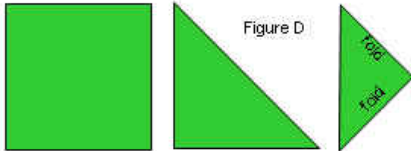


3. Take a 3 1/2" x a 6 1/2" rectangle of flower fabric and a 3 1/2" square of background. Place together, right sides together and aligned at one end. Stitch down side ONLY 3 1/4" a scant 1/4". Pick up the lower edges of the flower fabric piece and open it toward the right, diagonally. This creates a diagonal fold. (figure C)

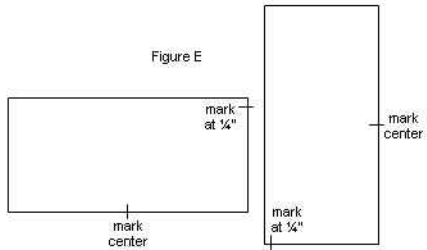


With right sides together, attach the stamen segment to this segment.

4. Fold the two 3 1/2" squares of leaf fabric, diagonally, right sides out. Fold them a second time (making prairie points).



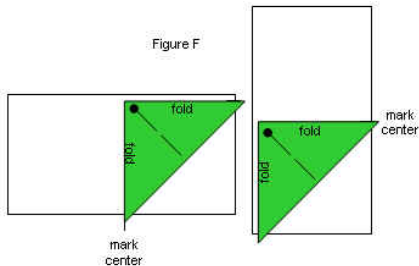
5. On front of one of the 3 1/2" x 6 1/2" rectangles of the background, mark (in seam allowance area) the center point of the top (long) edge and mark 1/4" above the lower right corner. (figure E)



On front of one of the other 3 1/2" x 6 1/2" rectangle of the background, mark center point of the left (long) edge and mark 1/4" above the lower right corner. (figure E)

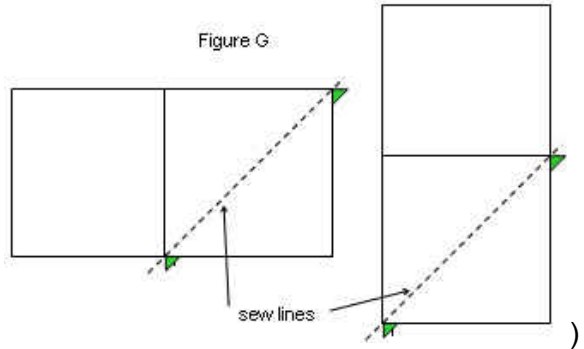
NOTE: the two leaf segments are not oriented the same – match your work to figures!

6. Place one of the leaf prairie points on top of the right side of the marked rectangle background pieces, matching the folded edges of the leaves with the marks. (figure F) Pin in

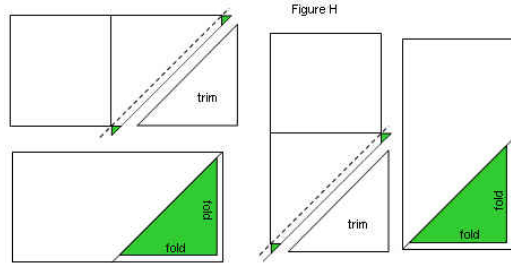


place.

7. On the back of two of the 3 1/2" squares of background, draw a line diagonally. Place a square of background on top of leaf, right sides together. Sew along marked diagonal.



8. Open the 3 1/2" square and fold it and the leaf back. Trim the seam and reopen. The leaves are now only attached on one side with two loose folded edges.



9. Sew the last 3 1/2" square of background to the lower leaf rectangle. Sew the right side leaf to the left side of the flower unit. Attach these to complete block.

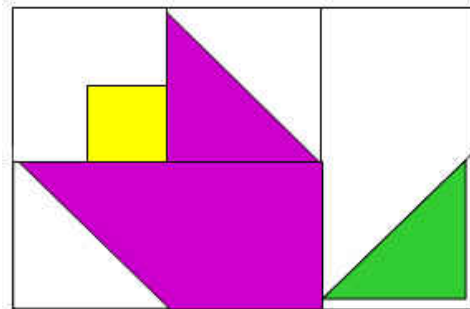
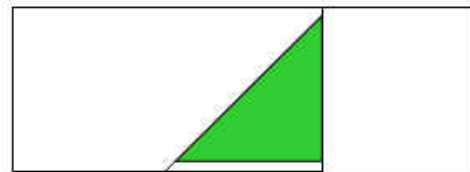


Figure I



NOTE: the two leaf segments can get in the way of these last assembly seams. Make sure they do not get sewn into the seam. I found it easier to pin them back a bit.

Finished block is 9" (9 1/2" unfinished)

EDUCATION

From Sheva Farkas

On May 7th Helen Squire, famously of "ask Helen" will be lecturing at 11 a.m... She will also be teaching a class on UFOs on Saturday, May 9th. Helen's class is a wonderful chance to have an expert evaluate any UFO you have and help you determine the quilting design and pattern. This is a hands-on class that will answer all your questions and entertain you. There are places available.

Finally, on Thursday, May 28th we will be hosting Frieda Anderson, whose work has been in *Quilt Arts* magazine among others. She will be lecturing at 10 a.m. (NOTE THE EARLY TIME) and will have a half day class from 1-4 p.m. The class will cost \$25.

Coming up next year will be Nancy Odom (October), our own talented Debra Gable (Feb., 2010) and Karen Kay Buckley (March 2010). We are also trying to schedule Susan Cleveland.

If you have any questions, contact Sheva Farkas at sbpowers@verizon.net. Support your education program. Sign up for classes and come to the lectures. Lectures are paid for by the Silent Auction money made at the Quilt Show.

CALENDAR

May 7, Helen Squire lecture 11 am
May 9, Helen Squire
May 11 Love Quilts
May 14 Love Quilts
May 18 Elections
May 21 Elections
May 25 - Memorial Day - no Monday meeting
May 27 Caring Hands
May 28, Frieda Anderson lecture 10 am
May 28, Frieda Anderson afternoon class, fee and reservation
Jun 1 PARTY
Jun 4 PARTY
Jun 6 Board Meeting, 9am room 252
Jun 8 Love Quilts
Jun 11 Love Quilts
Jun 24 Caring Hands
July 27-31, Vacation Bible School
Aug 8 Sew-In, Christmas Stockings for the Church
Aug 31 end triple four patch
Sep 7 Labor Day - No meeting
Sep 18 Bus trip - PA National Quilt Extravaganza XVI, reservation & fee
Oct 5 Silent Auction

Faithful Circle Quilters

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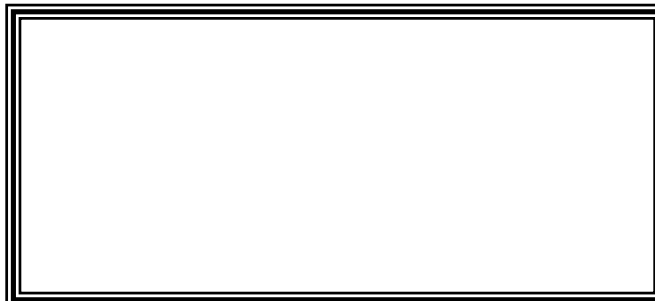
Email: editor@faithfulcirclequilters.com

Faithful Circle Quilters
welcomes anyone
interested in quilts and
quilting.

We meet on Monday
evenings
from 7 to 9 pm
AND

Thursday mornings
from
10 am to 2 pm
At the
First Presbyterian
Church on
Rt. 108 at Rt. 29
Columbia, MD

Please come join us and
visit our web site at
www.faithfulcirclequilters.com



Betty Kilroy May Birthday Party

02 Beth Rice

02 Pat Bloomer

05 Barbara LaNore

06 Buck Buchanan

06 Edith Candee

08 Kim Reading

10 Dede Edwards

11 Cynthia Hall

12 Margo Cramer

15 Inge Stocklin

17 Jane Ebert

22 Sharon Etridge

23 Mary Beth Little

24 Cheryl Paytas

26 Barbara Blue

26 Adrienne Phelan

28 John Anderson

28 Jeanne Smith

30 Nora Goldstein

31 Jean McDonald