

**Hands All Around Quilt Guild of Central Illinois**

# **Newsletter**

**DECEMBER 2020**



**RAFFLE TICKETS DUE NOVEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>**

**REMEMBER, THIS IS OUR ONLY MONEY-MAKING PROJECT THAT WE HAVE THIS YEAR!**

We will be drawing for the quilt during the December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Continue to sell your tickets until November 8<sup>th</sup>. Send your tickets and money to any guild current officer; Sharon Rhoda, Stormy Dawn Helton, Ruth Green or Carol Benson (addresses are in the 2019-2020 membership directory). Also remind your friends who may not have joined the guild this year and have sold any tickets last fall or this past spring before the Quilt Spectrum was cancelled, to send them to Sharon Rhoda.

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*BOO!! Happy Halloween Quilters!*

Haven't the Fall leaves been gorgeous this year! Do you have your Halloween decorations up? My neighbor is all decked out with orange and purple lights, big monster eyes, a mouth with fangs coming out of their upstairs window and green hands hanging over the porch roof. Really scary looking, although the blowup pumpkins and ghost are really cute. I am amazed at the number of houses with elaborate Halloween decorations. It's fun to drive around and see all the decorations. It's like driving around at Christmas and looking at the Christmas decorations.

We had our second Zoom guild meeting and I want to THANK everyone who joined us. I hope you enjoyed breakout groups and the speaker. I know the general meeting was not very long, that's because the programs committee is the only one able to meet at this time and have something to report. Hopefully, we will be able to resume a more normal meeting sometime soon. Covid-19 is just causing so much disruption in our lives.

Our next Zoom meeting is **Thursday, November 5th, at 7:00 PM**. Stormy will send out the invitations on Wednesday, November 4th, with the link to join the meeting. She will open the meeting at 6:30 pm for those who need help. She will have several co-hosts helping you join in so that there will be less time in the waiting room. We are asking again for Show and Tell that you send a picture of your quilt to Stormy either by text or email. She will put it into a gallery to show so you can tell everyone about your quilt when she calls on you. Send your picture(s) to Stormy by Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> (see Stormy Dawn Helton in the 2019-2020 Membership Directory for her phone number and email address). We did not have too many pictures last month and I know you have been quilting while we've stuck inside all summer, so snap a picture and send it to Stormy. We really want to see those quilts!

Do you have a favorite quilt you made for a friend or loved one? Or a story behind a quilt you made for someone special? As quilters we love to hear the history or story behind quilts. That is one of the main reasons I like show and tell, to hear the story of the quilt (along with seeing all the gorgeous colors and designs). Since we have not had as many sharing quilts during the zoom meetings, I think it would be fun to have articles in the newsletter about your quilts and why you made them. Or share how you got started quilting, what inspired you to quilt, did you have a grandmother who quilted and passed the love of quilting on to you? I know each of us started quilting for a different reason and it would be interesting to hear your story. Please consider sharing an article for the newsletter. It does not have to be long and we are not looking for 'great prose', just a story about you or your quilts.

Looking forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the Zoom meeting, Thursday, November 5th, 7:00 pm.

Stay healthy and KEEP SELLING THOSE RAFFLE TICKETS!!

*Sharon Rhoda*

HAAQG President



*Cherish the little things and smile!*



### **November**

- 1 - Ruth Woolcutt
- 8 - Virginia Kendrick
- 9 - Barbara Bowman
- 10 - Lynn Harris
- 18 - Donna Rubel
- 20 - Marlena Bordson
- 21 - Joy Ahearn
- 22 - Eleanor Kummer

### **Belated October Birthdays**

- 5 - Sue Bidwell
- 7 - Patty Winkler
- 7 - Kathy Zuercher

## **PROGRAMS**

“Hello, my Quilting Friends”. If you have listened to any of the videos by Leah Day, you are familiar with this greeting. Our November 5th meeting will be Leah’s program, “Fun with Machine Quilting”. Leah has authored over ten books and has many instructional videos on YouTube. She is well-known in the industry for her machine quilting expertise. Included in the link for the zoom meeting will be the attachment for the handout mentioned in the video. It is suggested that you save the attachment and print it for future use. “Let’s go quilt”.

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

Our December 3 meeting will feature Donna Lee. She will present, via zoom, “Interleaving: Mixing Two Designs Together”. If you are a member of the Bloomington-Normal Modern Quilt Guild, you may have seen her presentation. However, if you have any questions about “How did she do that”, here is your chance to see it again! Donna loves color and creating unique quilts. When she starts a quilt, she rarely knows what the end design will be. Donna shares her enthusiasm with others by teaching quilt guilds across Central Illinois. She has served as president and vice-president of the Bloomington-Normal Modern Quilt Guild. Her artistry was on display in her quilt published in Modern Quilts Unlimited magazine.

## **REALLY LOOKING AHEAD and NEEDING MEMBER INPUT**

Carole Lyles Shaw is still under contract for April 8, 9, & 10, 2021. HOWEVER, she has made some contract changes that alter her prices. Although the Executive Committee has approved that Programs cancel her

lecture, Programs would like to keep the scheduled classes. BEFORE that happens, Programs needs to know if there are a minimum of 12, maximum of 18 members, who will commit to pay \$59 for one of her classes. Those numbers are specific to her contract. THEN the decision needs to be made to offer one or two classes. Currently scheduled are:

- Friday, April 9, 2021, “Fibonacci Quilt #1” for confident beginner
- Saturday, April 10, 2021, “Fractured Disappearing 9-Patch” intermediate skill level

(To be clarified: is the required pattern included in the registration price.)

To guarantee that class price, the contract needs to be signed by December 31, 2020. There is time to make changes in what is offered, but Carole would need to approve all changes. So, two things are needed: your commitment to pay for a class and if you want a different class(es) which would still require 12-18 participants. Please let Ary Anderson know about your commitment and preferences. Her email is in the membership book.

### **LET’S TRY SOMETHING NEW! PLAN TO ATTEND A WATCH PARTY!**

Is there a technique you want to learn or a particular teacher with whom you would love to take a class? The following information may be for you!

Global Quilt Connection (GQC) has announced a new webinar series introducing teachers who offer open enrollment to individual quilters! This “meet the teachers” webinar series showcases teachers offering open enrollment to individuals in a variety of virtual workshop formats. Each teacher will present a glimpse of the virtual workshops they offer and their class formats to give you a sense of what you can learn and create with them. This series wants to connect quilters with teachers. This is your opportunity to select from a wide variety of teaching styles or techniques that you want to learn. Maybe some of your quilting friends would like to join you and take a class together with the same instructor. To register, go to [www.globalquiltconnection.com](http://www.globalquiltconnection.com). Your registration is valid for all webinars.

- Webinar 1 & 2: November 17, & 19, 2020 3 - 4:30 CST
- Webinar 3 & 4: February 9, & 11, 2021 3 – 4:30 CST

*Ary Anderson*

Programs

## **Almond Joy Cookies**

*Submitted by Sharon Rhoda*

Do you like Almond Joy candy bars? If so, you will love these cookies and they have only 4 ingredients.

- 1 14 oz bag of coconut flakes
- 2 cups Semi-Sweet chocolate chips
- 2/3 cup chopped lightly salted almonds
- 1 14 oz can sweeten condensed milk

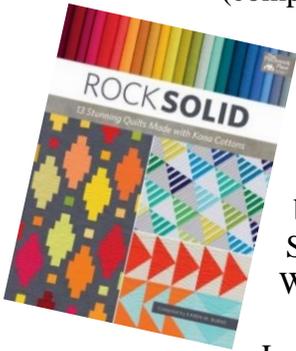


Mix all ingredients together in a large bowl

1. Using a small cookie scoop (like an ice cream scoop), scoop onto a baking sheet lined with parchment paper, flatten slightly
2. Bake at 325 degrees for 12-14 minutes.
3. Cool on baking sheet and store in an airtight container.
4. Makes 3 dozen with a small cookie scoop
5. Be sure to use parchment paper on the baking sheet.

## LIBRARY - CHECK IT OUT

On a recent trip to Lincoln, IL, I bought a book which is my current favorite. ROCK SOLID is written (compiled) by Karen M. Burns and "features 13 stunning quilts made with Kona Solids" designed by 13 of our favorite designers. ROCK SOLID is an easy read, patterns seem clear and plenty of tips from all the designers



The first quilt is Spectrum, a rainbow effect quilt designed and pieced by Julie Herman of Jaybird Quilts. (Yes - that Julie - designer of the new Nebula quilt many quilters will be making in a block of the month starting in January 2021.) Spectrum uses 30 Kona Solids in rows of easy blocks. Beautiful, simple, modern. And quilted by Angela Walters, another favorite quilter.

Lanterns is a dynamic quilt, designed and made by Christa Watson. I love this design and Christa's color combination of Kona Solids rocks.

Another favorite quilt in ROCK SOLID is Columbia, designed and pieced by Debbie Grifka. Though I'm not familiar with this designer, Columbia is very modern and reminds me of 35mm camera film. I know a few quilters who might like to make this one.....

ROCK SOLID was a perfect purchase at Indigo Quilt Studio. Indigo has a huge selection of Kona Solids, huge. Nice shop, new location, friendly owner.

(P.S. ROCK SOLID is my personal book, not a HAAQG Library book.)

If you'd like to borrow a library book, please contact me at 309.706.3455 or [conniejocars1423@outlook.com](mailto:conniejocars1423@outlook.com). I'll let you know what books I have. We can arrange a porch pickup or drop off.

The HAAQG Library will not be doing renewals or new subscriptions to Fons & Porter's Love of Quilting magazine for the 2020-2021 year. Sorry. If you want to renew, please renew directly with Love of Quilting. I received a renewal notice with my November/December issue then renewed online.

*Connie Jo Carstens*

**Library**

## FABRIC MEMORIES

*from Connie J Carstens and Connie Guhlstorf and Arlene Mitchell*

A few years ago, our dear friend Anne Powell passed, and part of her legacy was to gift her fabric and unfinished projects to her many friends.

On a recent sunny afternoon, a few friends gathered in a very-very large garage for lunch, handwork, show-n-tell, and conversation, always maintaining physical distancing.

Arlene Mitchell brought three 30" x 45" pieced sections that she had been gifted. She was convinced that there was a fourth section that had been separated from the project and asked us if we might have the fourth piece. You should understand that Arlene is a 'finisher' and would not be satisfied until the project was done. So, after we told her none of us had a missing section, she laid out the three sections and was ready for some finishing options from us. And, wow, did the suggestions start flying. After all, us Quilters are usually full of suggestions.

But then as if lightening had struck, Connie G recalled Anne actually making these three small quilts. Anne was inspired by the pattern from a Hands All Around Quilt Guild class with a quilt designer, Linda Potter. But why was Anne making three identical quilts...perhaps as gifts for three dear friends, as Quilts of Valor since they have gold stars, or as charity quilts through the Guild. One thing we all were confident in saying is that Anne had 'good intentions' for these quilts. Who knows....maybe lightening will strike again and the mystery will be solved?

The chatter and banter were so refreshing that day, you'd never know there was a thing called "COVID". I absolutely love stories of our friendships stitched with thread and memories.

To be continued --- with photos.

### **Rachel's Grandmother's Flower Garden Quilt**

(56"x70)

*Submitted by Sharon Rhoda*

In April of 2008, Sharon had gone to a giant quilting show in Kentucky. She brought me back a single tiny hexagon with instructions to create a flower. She was excited about it because it was a way she could quilt while traveling or waiting for a Dr.'s appt. It was very portable, besides using up exceedingly small pieces of fabric. She showed me how to baste a 2" piece of fabric wrapped around the little paper hexagon. Then she completed six more and then whip stitched them around the original one creating a flower. She added 12 more around that hexagon to create a second row of petals. After all the pieces were connected, she then snipped the basting threads and removed

the paper. It is called paper piece quilting. On May 15th, I decided to make one for myself. I found it was fun and every piece was perfect as long as I cut the paper piece exactly the same size. I was hooked and interested. I researched it on the Internet and found a lot of history about the pattern.

It is believed to have been created around 1770 in England and it quite possibly is the very first pattern brought to the New World by the colonists. There were many designs on how these could be put together, from traditional to contemporary. It gave me an exciting idea for a new quilt. I had been trying to think up

something different for Rachel, my 16-year Granddaughter. This was it. First, it could be my flower garden to her. Every woman in our family has been able to grow beautiful flowers but me. It's just not my talent. Rachel's Mother, Great Grandmother and Great, Great Grandmother all had a knack for growing things. I was just skipped. So, this fabric garden could be mine to give to Rachel and I would create it to be really special. Secondly, it would be an old-fashioned traditional quilt. I had some beautiful pieces of fabric for flowers (the designs had to be small to look right) but it



didn't stop me from getting back in those fabric shops to find the perfect pieces. And all I needed for this one was fat quarters. I had found a green leaf fabric a long time ago and without knowing what I would use it for, I bought 3 yards of it. I decided to use this around the main flower design. All the centers would be gold. I had some white fabric that I would use as the path between the flowers. On one of my fabric hunting trips to Walmart I spotted a beautiful piece with butterflies on it. There were several kinds including the swallow tail butterflies like those that live in Illinois. I bought two different colors and decided to try something new for me. I wanted to try doing some applique. I went to the Internet to discover how to do it. They suggested using a fusing product to keep the butterfly in place while stitching it with a blanket stitch. I felt butterflies would be the perfect addition to my

Grandmother's Flower Garden. Especially since it seemed like the summer of 2008 produced many butterflies everywhere I walked.

Since the hexagons were easily to take along with me, I pieced them in Dr's. Offices, out on the patio swing, to church when my husband had coffee with the men's group and watching TV all summer long, wherever I went, I took a little plastic bag filled with 2" squares, paper hexagons and needle and thread. I had to make hundreds of them; actually, it took more than a thousand hexagons to complete the garden.

I had several rows completed and the butterflies applied on when I got another idea. I wanted to put frogs in the garden. After several searches in many fabric shops I had come away empty handed. Then I remembered one clerk telling me about fabric that I could print on with my computer. I bought 3 sheets at a horribly expensive price and decided to use pictures of the little tree frogs that Rachel and her Mother had raised from tadpoles as a science project. Her Mother had taken some excellent photos of the little frogs. I cleaned up the backgrounds



and reproduced them to the right size for each frog to fit on a single hexagon. In real life they were just about 1" big, exactly the size I needed. I also decided to put one of the colored pencil sketches I had done of one of her cats (Misu) and then also included one of the many squirrels that my husband fed on the patio. It really was becoming like a garden with individual touches.

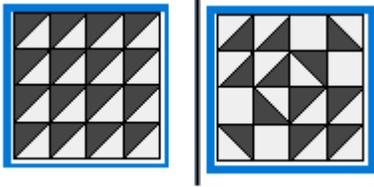
Then I had to hunt for more fabrics. I wanted to enclose the garden with a white picket fence because her Great Grandmother had a picket fence around her yard and gardens. I thought that would be a neat traditional reminder of her history. We hunted all of central Illinois for white fence fabric; I even went on the Internet and could find absolutely nothing that would come close to what I had in mind. Finally, at a suggestion from a friend, I decided to do it with bias tape. I found a bright floral fabric and one at a time, cut and sewed on the tape as white picket fence posts. I ran into a problem at the corners and added a square of lilac fabric. Every woman from Rachel, her Mother, her Grandmother, her Great Grandmother and Great, Great Grandmother had loved lilacs. It was the perfect choice. I needed to add sky and couldn't find the correct color I was looking for till at a fabric store in Sterling, Illinois I found the perfect blue of a hot, steamy August day. I also found at our Walmart store a piece of fabric with birds in it. The very birds that would come and sing for me while I was out piecing the flowers on the patio swing all summer; cardinals, yellow finches, chick-a-dees and blue birds. I haven't seen a blue bird around but a neighbor did so I included them too. The hard part was finding a way to square off the path around the flowers and lady bugs (I loved the

lady bugs). I found a grass fabric and did half pieces and it looked great. But I didn't like the square look of the birds in the corners. I had placed them in the four corners of the quilt to look right when Rachel would have been sitting in the middle of the garden. Then I had an idea and applied on some of the tree and flowers around the birds. That worked out really well. I didn't know what to use for the binding of the quilt until I found the perfect batik fabric. My husband, Sharon and I must have looked in 20 different shops before we found that perfect color. The turquoise color had to be just the right shade or it looked awful.

It all came together with a flower garden fabric for the backing. This is the most original quilt I had made. It took me 4 ½ months to complete!!! If I know Rachel, she will probably have to count every piece just to know how many I used. One surprising thing about quilting that I have learned; it makes one hold the person that the quilt is for in their heart and mind with every stitch and it becomes a very personal thing to do.



## TREASURER'S REPORT 9302020



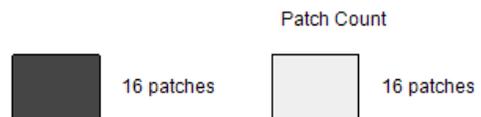
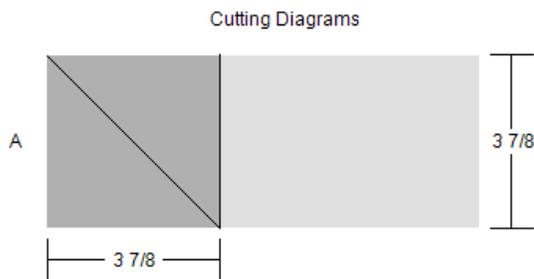
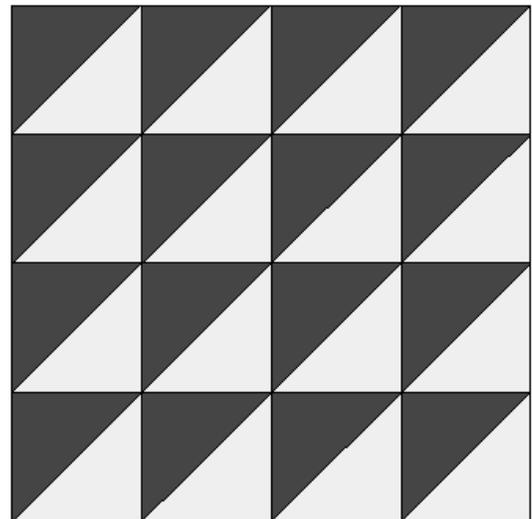
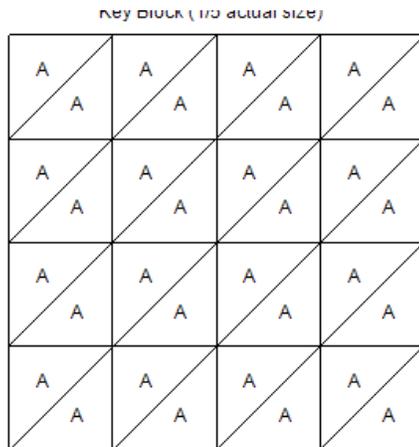
Size options 6 inch or 12 inch

Six-inch blocks will have 1 1/2 inch finished HST's

Twelve-inch blocks will have 3-inch finished HST's

Use your favorite HST triangle method or the rotary cutting directions below.

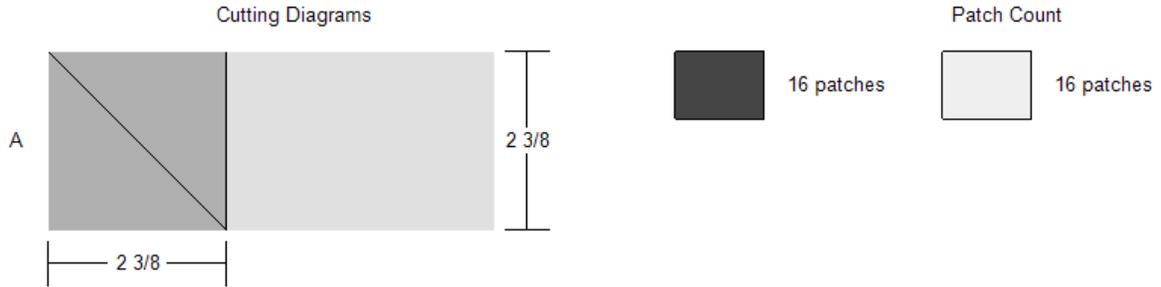
### Block One



Rotary cutting-12-inch finished block, 3-inch finished HST

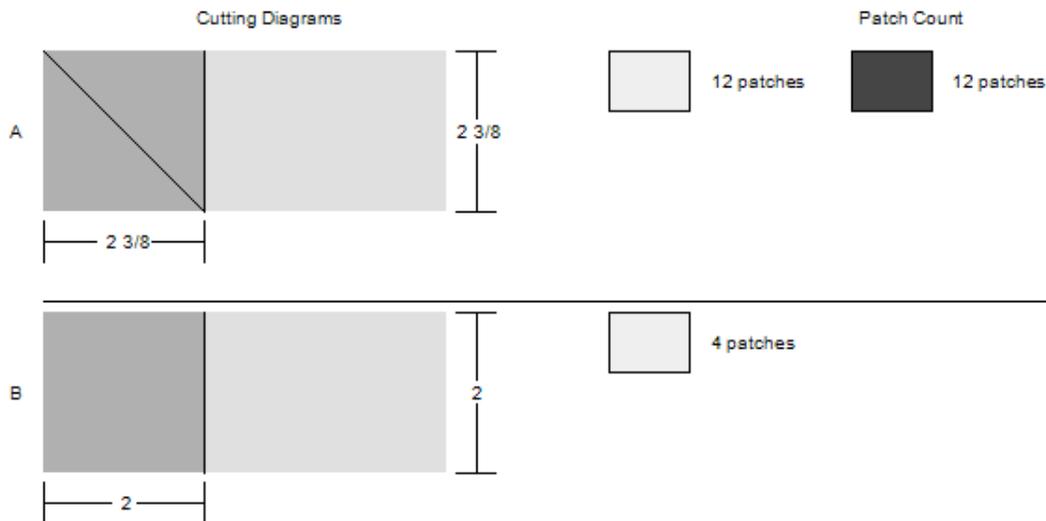
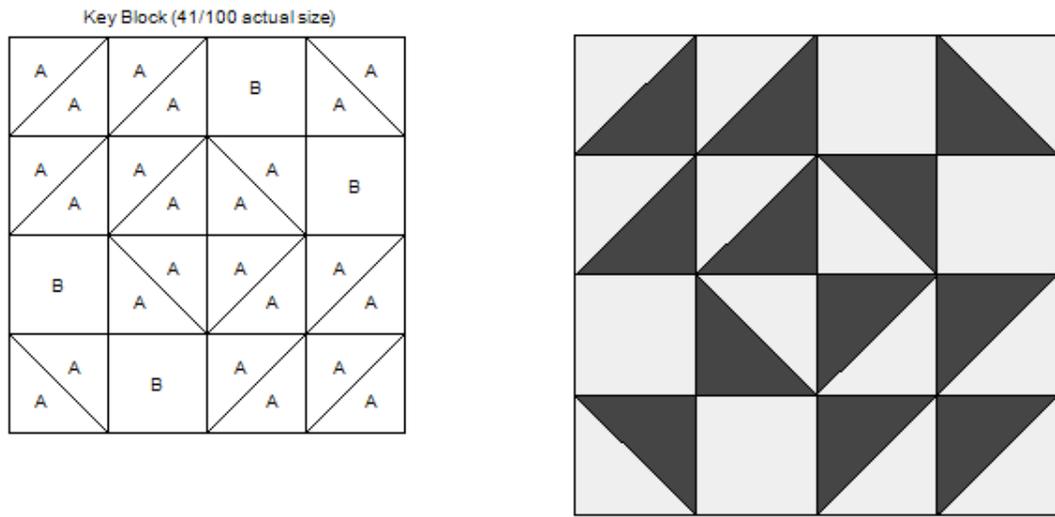
# NOVEMBER BLOCK OF THE MONTH

Rotary cutting-6 inch finished block, 1 1/2 inch finished HST



## Block Two

Rotary cutting for 6 inch block



# NOVEMBER BLOCK OF THE MONTH

Rotary cutting for 12 inch block

