

SNIPPETS

The Kenya Quilt Guild Newsletter
October 2014

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October Fat Quarter - Bring and Win!

This month, our fabric is NEUTRALS. Bring a Fat Quarter meter of any Neutral colour material and you will be entered into a draw to win all the Neutral colour fabrics which other people also bring! This is a great way to increase your stash quickly!

General Information

KQG's Coordinates:

Address:

P.O. Box 39482, Parklands - 00623, Nairobi

Email:

kenyaquiltguild@gmail.com

Website:

www.kenyaquiltguild.org

KQG's Meetings:

Venue: Simba Union Club, off Forest Road

Time: 9:30a.m. to 1:00p.m.

Monthly meetings (every 3rd Thursday of the Month):

* October 16, 2014

* November 20, 2014

* No meeting in December - KQG Christmas Party to be held on December 4, 2014.

Calendars:

The KQG-KEG 2015 Calendars are available for purchase at a cost of Kshs. 300/- each. The calendars are beautifully done and will make some lovely Christmas gifts.

Kits:

We have some kits for sale. These make great gifts and are perfect for starter quilters. They are reasonably priced from Shs. 400/- - Shs. 800/- each. Neela will be in charge of these.

Contributors to this month's edition of Snippets:

- * Sheryl Fowler
- * Jharna Kamdar

** A Word from our Editor

Phew! A lot of hard work went into ensuring the success of the Magical Art of Stitches Exhibition - 2014. Our Chairperson, who was one of the Exhibition Committee members, has taken a well-deserved break after all the hard work, and we therefore don't have the usual cheery, opening words to Snippets from her. Instead, we have a report from the Chairperson of the Exhibition Committee, Mrs. Sheryl Fowler, whose leadership and guidance to the Exhibition Committee, as well as an incredible amount of hard work by her, ensured that the Exhibition was beautifully set-up and very well received by visitors! Professional photos of each of the quilts that were hung in the Exhibition have been taken and will be uploaded onto the Kenya Quilt Guild's website.

This issue of Snippets also gives you a First Glimpse at the New Challenge to Come in 2015, some useful tips for Adding Borders to your Quilt, and the October 2014 Block of the Month, all contributions from Sheryl.

Chapeau to Sheryl for all that she does!
Jharna

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** Magical Art of Stitches Exhibition 2014
Sarit Centre - 3rd to 5th October

I am sure that everyone will agree that the display for "The Magical Art of Stitches Exhibition 2014" was professional, not cluttered and very pleasing to the eye. We have to congratulate the Exhibition Committee for hanging the quilts tastefully. It was an entire day's work for the ladies, but the end result was fabulous. The general public was very complimentary in every aspect of the show. We have a talented membership and their work was highly appreciated.

The Challenge Quilts and Mystery Quilts were exceptional and took the interest of our visitors. This type of group activity is popular with our membership and we should endeavour to hold

more in the future. We hope to start a new Challenge in January and look forward to many exciting new quilts from everyone. We all have patchwork and quilting in common, enjoy the art of quilting and appreciate each other's skills.

At the exhibition, our loyal members were prompt to serve their duties and every post was manned. The white glove ladies were on hand to help, assist and answer any questions. They endeavoured to promote our art. The impromptu workshops run by Sarah Brewin were well attended and enjoyed by the public as were the complimentary classes given to our members as a gift from our Guild. Peponi Preparatory School sent 58 children and teachers on Friday. The children enjoyed their workshop and the tours given by both Guilds.

The prize ribbons were awarded on Sunday morning: 1st Prize to Sarah Brewin for Kitange Cloth; (A picture the centre-piece of this quilt is the Header picture for the October 2014 issue of Snippets.)

2nd Prize to Jaya & Jharna Kamdar for The Wedding Quilt,

3rd Prize to Lakhbir Virdee for Infinity,

4th Prize to Jasvinder Phull for Tribemen and

5th Prize to Kundan Pattni for Omigosh.

The Challenge Quilts were also awarded ribbons:

1st Place to Jasvinder Phull for Day Lillies,

2nd Place to Anne Lyon for Dragonfly,

3rd Place to Kulwinder Birdi for Spring Flowers and

4th Place to Carol Davey for Comforts of Home.

The income from the exhibition will be calculated on the number of raffle tickets sold, the rental of the seminar room and vendors, plus sponsors. From this profit we will deduct the expenses, primarily the rental fees. We hope to break even or make a small profit this year.

The calendar sales will not be complete for quite some time and will be accounted for separately as should sales and stock of kits. We are hoping that our members will take up the challenge of buying/selling the calendars for the Guild. The KEG has been given half of the stock and our Guild has retained half. If you haven't seen the calendars yet, you are in for a treat.

We have published a new KQG brochure, designed by Sarah Brewin that is available to prospective members.

It was suggested that we hold the exhibition every two years instead of every year. This will give our members more time to produce quilts and the Committee more time to plan group activities such as challenges, mystery quilts and block of the month patterns which can be incorporated into quilts.

Well done to all the ladies who served on the Exhibition Committee and to our talented members who submitted quilts for the show. Without everyone's participation, we would have no prospect of holding such a successful exhibition.

** Sheryl Fowler

** It's A Challenge to Come

Our last Challenge was an extremely successful event. We had 39 members who submitted quilts that were so varied in technique and artistic value that it was impossible to choose one's favourite.

From one 6" square piece of orange batik fabric, we had fun creating our small quilts.

Next January, we will be introducing a new "Challenge" for our members. We will be giving out the instructions and a 'starter' for you. I won't tell you any more now other than it will involve a bit of applique. We will be allowing a little more flexibility in the size, up to 30".

We hope to involve at least 50 of our ladies this time, so we are looking for even greater support.

Sheryl Fowler

** Adding Borders to your Quilts

How many times have you seen quilts that have wavy borders and that do not lie flat? This can be easily prevented.

First, it is important that you square up your quilt before thinking of adding sashing or borders to the main body of the quilt top.

Cut your border strips longer than needed. Lay them down the centre of your pieced top, matching up the edges with the edges of your quilt. Neatly trim the border strip to the same length of your quilt. Repeat for all sides, always measuring from the centre.

The reason you measure using the centre portion of the quilt and not the outside edges is that the edges of a quilt tend to wave and bow. The centre is the tightest part.

When pinning you might find that the border strip is slightly shorter than the outside edges of your quilt. This is not a bad thing because it will help square up your quilt and prevent a wavy edge.

To pin, start by finding the centre of the border and match it up with the centre of the quilt edge. Pin at the centre and at both ends. Carefully pin the remainder of the border to the edge of the quilt.

When you sew the seam, place the border strip on top as you sew. The feed dogs will ease the excess of the quilt edge through the machine without creating puckers.

Sheryl Fowler

October 2014 BOM: Chevron

CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS:

Colour 1: One 3½" x 26" strip (Then cut again into four 3 ½" x 6 ½" rectangles)
(Medium Fabric)

Colour 2: One 3½" x 26" strip (Then cut again into four 3 ½" x 6 ½" rectangles)
(Dark Fabric)

Colour 3: One 7" x 28" strip (Then cut again into sixteen 3 ½" x 3 ½" squares)
(Tone on Tone)

PIECING INSTRUCTIONS:

1. On the back side of the Colour 3 squares, FIRST draw one diagonal line across the centre of the square, then draw another diagonal line parallel to the first line, BUT ½" away from it. (This avoids you throwing away your cut off triangles and in the process you will be making half square triangles for another project of your choice. No Waste.)
2. Placement of the squares is vital. With right sides together sew the first Colour 3 square onto a Colour 2 rectangle on the left side as shown below on the first line of illustration. Sew on both drawn lines. Repeat on all Colour 2 rectangles. Cut between the two sewn lines. Press towards the Tone on Tone square on the rectangle unit and towards the darker triangle on the half square triangle. Put the half square triangle aside.
3. Taking care to note the difference with diagonal lines on the Colour 1 rectangles, repeat this process with Colour 3 rectangles to make your chevrons.
4. Using the illustration at the top of the page, set the rows together.

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The Editor welcomes contributions to Snippets from all members. Please send articles for inclusion in the monthly edition of Snippets by the 10th of each month.