

Modern Quilt Group Zoom Meeting April 1, 2021

We welcomed twelve modern quilters by Zoom at our meeting on Thursday April 1. Thank you to Pam Rimmer for her leadership and expertise with Zoom over the past months. Sheila Hamilton has offered to take on that role as Pam moves to website management. Thank you to Wendy W for convening the meeting. What a talented group!

Not unexpectedly there was lots of covid and vaccine discussion as we began our meeting.

Sandi is looking forward to seeing 'Temperature Quilts' at Quiltcon 2022. A number of quilters have been tracking temperatures as design ideas in their quilts or needlepoint.

She also mentioned that Quilt Canada registration opens April 20 for workshops. The event will be held digitally June 16-19 2021.

Last month Margaret Gage presented 'whirling stripes' as our block of the month and Mary R, Sandi, Sheila, Halina and Wendy W showed their vibrant completed blocks. Wendy has stitched hers into a pillow for her bedroom.

Some discussion and ideas re paper pieced blocks followed...leave the paper backing on till the end to prevent stretching and stitch around the outside of the block narrowly to secure seams.

Sandi presented our Quilter of the month, Christa Watson <http://www.christaquilts.com> out of Las Vegas. Her books include '99 Machine Quilting Designs' and she offers free patterns online including 'Blooming Wallflowers'. Specialty rulers are needed for some. 'Pixie Sticks' on p 58-62 of our Quiltcon magazine shows she loves playing with the quilting process and using triangles. She advises 'The best way to become a better quilter is to practice'.

Halina presented this month's block, and initially tricked all of us with her April Fool's block, which was quite something. The real block is 'Parallel Lines' a free pattern on Christa's site. Halina has created a pdf pattern and sent it out to us. It is a 6.5" block and she made four to show us a variety of design placements.

Much discussion took place around our plan to sort our scraps, bag them, and share at our May picnic meeting to make crumb blocks for use in an outreach quilt or bags. The lockdown may delay this. We will be making 'crumb blocks', with one colour/tone shade per block. Suggested largest piece to start with at 2x6", and smallest 1" squares. So when we get together you might gather two or three baggies with yellows for example to make a yellow block, and you had left individual bags of green, red, and purple on the table for others. We want to use solids, modern blenders and other modern fabrics and work towards 17.5 " squares. Lots of ideas if you google 'crumb quilting'.

'Remember this should be fun'.

'Remember we are a modern group'.

'This is just crazy quilting with one colour per block'.

'Only join in if interested'.

We may make crumb bags as shown in the pattern Joanne K sent out March 24 at <http://www.terestadownunder.com>

For Share Modern Halina showed her completed Handkerchief Corners quilt on point with wonky stars and two borders added.

Sandi completed a sweet pastel baby quilt with the heart pattern from February and used her machine embroidery stitches to quilt it. These show well on the flannel back.

Wendy made a pillow with her spinning pinwheel block using Kaffe Fasset fabric to co ordinate with the large flying geese quilt on her bed. She also found making wonky birds is getting addictive as she did mama and babies and a large bird on the back of a new quilt.

Sheila has completed her complicated Hemispheres quilt using Kaffe and grunge fabrics which she started last August. It is channel quilted and has a wonky stripe binding.

Hanne has also completed her Hemispheres quilt from Sheila Christenson using Carolyn Friedlander fabrics and is thrilled it is done. She put large triangles on the back and a hanging sleeve as it will be displayed in her home.

She also showed a clever bag from a mini swap where you make 30 mini squares, keep 6, send the others out and receive 24 back. She did it twice so one side of the bag is bright warm and the other is cool. It was a Ryerson fundraiser and Hanne found it fun. Her bag is copied from one she saw and photographed at Chapters/Indigo.

Mary McFarlane showed a generous pile of Robyn Pandolf traditional fabrics donated to us from <http://www.make1.ca> store in Guelph for our outreach programs.

We all look forward to seeing each other but with the new lockdown in place doubt that will happen soon.

Keep sewing and keep healthy.

Next meeting is Thursday May 6 likely by zoom.