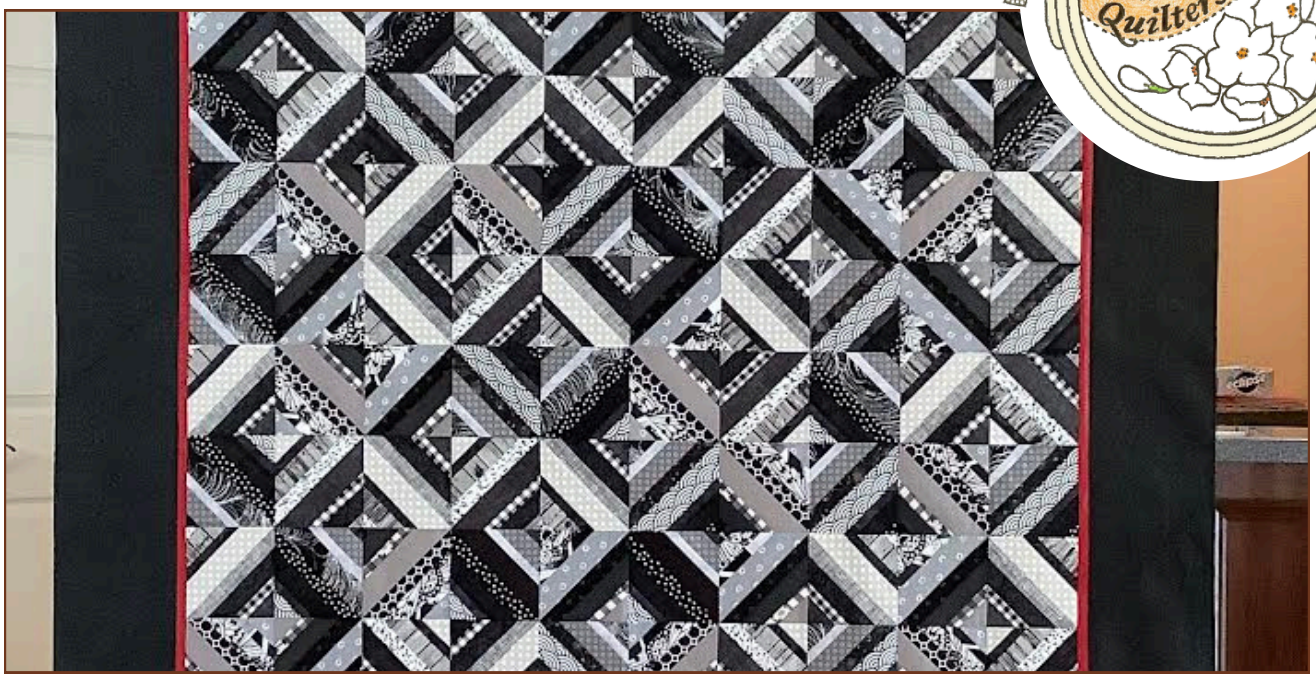
NOVEMBER 2026 VOL. XLVII, #8

CUTTING EDGE

The official newsletter of

Orange County Quilters Guild



QUICK SNIPS

BOARD MEETING: NOV. 2
GENERAL MEETING: NOV. 10

INSIDE:

THE LATEST CHALLENGE

BLOCK PARTY

AND MORE ... KEEP READING!

President's Message

The Beauty of Becoming

As I worked on my “Brown Bag” challenge this weekend, my project was turning out nothing like I had envisioned. This came on the heels of a workshop where I attempted to embrace the “perfectly imperfect” approach to modern improv quilting. Apparently, I may still be struggling with letting go of preconceived ideas and simply going with the flow! (Some lessons take longerto stitch in than others.)

I’ve decided that someday I’ll return to my

President's Message Continued

improv quilt, armed with the techniques Irene Roderick shares in "Improv Quilting," a book Carl Brown recommends. In the meantime, I'm determined to keep moving forward with my challenge quilt. I'm treating it as a proving ground - a chance to try new techniques, stretch my creativity and see what happens when I allow myself to experiment rather than insist on knowing exactly how things should turn out.

And isn't that a little like life?

When we begin a quilt, we often have a clear picture in our minds of the finished product. We choose our fabrics, arrange our blocks and carefully plan how everything will come together. But somewhere along the way, things change. Colors play differently together than we expected. A block that seemed perfect on its own may take on a whole new personality when joined with others. Then comes the quilting, adding texture, depth and dimension, followed by the binding that brings everything together with a finished edge.

Each stage transforms the quilt. What began as individual pieces becomes something greater than the sum of its parts. And sometimes, the very things we questioned along the way become the details that make the finished quilt special.

Life has a way of working much the same way. We start with expectations and plans, only to discover that the unexpected detours, new experiences and even our missteps can lead to growth we never anticipated. Transformation doesn't always happen in one grand moment. Often, it happens one small piece at a time - as we learn a new skill, reconsider an old idea or find the courage to try something outside our comfort zone.

Our guild is on that same journey. As we continue to grow and evolve, we're looking for ways to keep OCQG fresh, relevant and inspiring to our members. That means exploring new opportunities, finding creative ways to bring motivation and curiosity into our quilting routines and discovering how we can share our love of quilting with an even broader community. In this pursuit, we strive to honor what we've built, remain curious about what we can become and remember that every member is a piece of the whole.

We are beginning our annual budget review, an opportunity to look thoughtfully at our goals, prioritize our resources, and plan for a fiscally

President's Message Continued

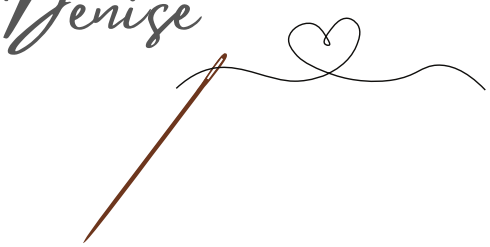
sound year ahead. We're also excited about exploring new avenues for community outreach and finding meaningful ways to share our talents and enthusiasm beyond our own membership. If you have an idea for a community project, partnership or new opportunity for OCQG, please let us know. Your ideas are important pieces of our guild's bigger picture.

Perhaps the real beauty of transformation is that we don't have to have every detail figured out before we begin. We simply need to be willing to take the next stitch, try something new and trust that the pieces will come together in time.

And if the occasional project doesn't turn out as planned? Well, there's always the possibility of a creative breakthrough - or a very good story for Sew & Tell!

Happy stitching!

Denise





From the Editor

By Jamie Cargo, Newsletter Editor

This month's banner quilt is a flimsy from Ruth Saucedo.

Want your work to be the featured banner quilt? Send it on over!

Jamie

Send your newsletter items to:
ocqg.newsletter@gmail.com
by 10 p.m. the Sunday after the General Meeting
Early is always appreciated!



■Holiday Ornament Exchange ■



■ A Celebration of Creativity and Cheer

The holidays are coming fast—ready or not!

As the season of giving and sparkling lights approaches, it's the perfect time to share a little handmade joy.

Join us for our **Holiday Ornament Exchange**, honoring all winter traditions with creativity and heart.

Take a few hours—no more than three—and create a festive ornament to exchange at our **December General Meeting**. Use any stitch technique you love—**quilting, embroidery, crochet, knitting, needlepoint, tatting**, and more. (Please, no Styrofoam.)

If you'll be traveling, you can still join the fun!
Mail your finished ornament **by December 1, 2026**, to:

Sherry Hoyt
17845 Balfern Avenue.
Bellflower, CA 90706

Kathy Christensen
5471 Holland Ave
Garden Grove, Ca. 92845

Please **leave your ornament unwrapped** and include **your name and the year** on it. Each time it's displayed in the years to come, it will remind others that even when times are busy, quilters and stitchers always find ways to create beauty and joy.

At the meeting, **Santa's Elves** will exchange your ornament for another of similar craftsmanship. You'll receive your new treasure before the meeting ends—or if you mailed yours in, one will be mailed back to you.

For questions, call **213-392-4111**.

May your holiday season be filled with love, laughter, and the sparkle of handmade beauty.

Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah!

THREADS of the GAMES
QUILTING ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE
SUMMER 2028

A Special Quilt Exhibition Celebrating Athletic Excellence & Artistic Craftsmanship

Threads of the Games is an upcoming international quilt exhibition that celebrates the powerful intersection of athletic spirit, global unity, and textile artistry. Created by a coalition of Southern California Quilt Guilds, this premier event will showcase high-caliber quilts that capture the movement and emotion of world-class sports throughout Los Angeles during the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2028.

Whether your passion lies in traditional patchwork, modern design, or intricate fiber art, Threads of the Games invites you and your guild to participate in this unique celebration.

Three Challenges for Quilters

The Miniature

High-impact design in exactly two feet square. A uniform format that makes every design decision count double.

The Guild Lottery

Enter the draw, get one random Olympic or Paralympic sport, and sew a single collective 65” x 85” masterpiece.

The Open

Freeform to 85″ × 85″ (340″ around), hung tall or wide. Narrative, conceptual, gloriously unruly.

Call for Entries & Participation

Theme: Summer Olympic and Paralympic sports, athletic excellence, sportsmanship, the global games, athletes, Olympic history, venues and competition.

Techniques Accepted: Piecing, appliqué, art quilting, modern, traditional, hand/machine quilting, and mixed media.

Entry Portal open July 14, 2027 - September 17, 2027

Exhibition Goals: Highlight the incredible talent within the quilting community and local quilt guilds and share our passion for quilting with the global community.

Visit www.ThreadsOfTheGames.org for complete details.

Follow on Facebook and Instagram @ThreadsOfTheGames



Folk Angels Quilt
63" x 63"

Just in time for Christmas. $5 buys you a chance to win this beautiful Folk Angel Quilt. Each of the 11 blocks was made by one of our own OCQG members: Becky Sproal, Betsy Weisman, Brigette Brink, Carol Harter, Cheri Hansen, Colleen Monahan, Jeanne Dinkle, Jill Ellert, Julie McCluney, Patti Pane and Vicki Slone. Tickets will be sold at each guild meeting from May to December 2026. A winner will be announced December 8, 2026, at our December guild meeting. Winner need not be present to win.

✨ This is YOUR year to finish more quilts! ✨
Do you have beautiful quilt tops waiting to be completed?
Let's bring them to life!

🧵 Edge-to-edge longarm quilting
⚡ Fast turnaround times
💯 Reliable, high-quality results

batting is available for purchase
everything you need in one place!
Let's get them done and ready to enjoy! 🪡❤️

Faith Liu lhquilting@outlook.com 714-293-3337

LAVENDER HILL
LONGARM QUILTING SERVICES



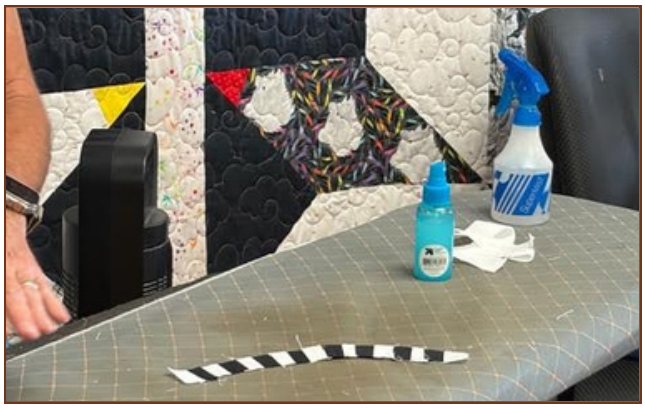
No Patterns, No Rulers, No Problem!

By Vicki Slone, President

We came to Carl Brown's workshop eager to learn about his unique design style, and we certainly weren't disappointed! Our adventure into Modern Improvisational Quilting challenged us to let go of traditional rules, and embrace creativity, experimentation and a little bit of quilting magic.

Carl began by teaching us how to create small components, including thin lines within lines and what he calls "Candy Land Game" lanes made from striped black-and-white or colorful fabric strips. Then he really blew my mind (and that of several other participants) when he showed us how to transform a straight strip into a curve! After spraying the strip with water or, optionally, starch, he carefully ironed and manipulated it into a curved shape. Next, he demonstrated how to use that shape as a pattern, cutting fabric to match the curve. By sewing fabric along both sides, we





created a wonderfully curved, striped element. Voila!

The rest of the morning was devoted to making and playing with our own building blocks. And all of this was done without rulers! Carl encouraged us to cut freely with our rotary cutters, using them “like a pencil.” I was a little apprehensive during my first few cuts, but before long, I found the process surprisingly liberating. The varying widths of the strips gave each component its own character and personality.

Carl also shared helpful suggestions for choosing fabrics to complement our designs. Black and white can make colors pop, while a gray print can add movement and visual interest. To illustrate just how unconventional our fabric choices could be, Carl brought out a gray patterned shirt from his own wardrobe. He had already cut pieces from it and incorporated them into one of his creations. Then he generously offered the remaining shirt fabric to the class, and several of us happily accepted!

True confession: When I went to pick up lunch, there was a man standing in line ahead of me wearing a shirt that would have been absolutely perfect for my project. Fortunately for him, I didn’t have scissors with me!

In the afternoon, we moved from creating individual components to bringing them together in an overall design. Everyone was invited to arrange their pieces on the design wall, where Carl and the class offered suggestions for moving, rearranging and refining the elements until we were happy with the result. As you can see in the photo, the finished composition was a wonderfully vibrant kaleidoscope of color, pattern and movement! Like the quilters who created it, the design was unique — a one-of-a-kind collaboration that celebrated everyone’s creativity and imagination. At the end of the day, we each took home our own





components, ready to transform them into individual works of art.

Of course, no workshop would be complete without a few special treats! Patti Pane curated bright, colorful fabric bundles for a raffle, and three lucky attendees went home with new treasures for their stashes. Carl also generously donated a bundle of Cherrywood fabrics for our workshop raffle, which Michelle Cooper won. The gift-giving continued when Denise presented Carl with a packet containing several yards of fabric in his favorite color, acid green, along with a beautiful ombré fabric.

What a fun, inspiring and wonderfully freeing experience! Carl encouraged us to trust our instincts,







experiment without fear and discover the possibilities that emerge when we let go of rulers, patterns and preconceived ideas. We left with new techniques, fresh inspiration and plenty of ideas to explore in our own studios.

Next month, we'll take a turn in a completely different direction as we welcome Hanne Lohde, who will teach us wool appliqué and embroidery techniques. This popular workshop is already full, with a short waitlist. Hanne's beautiful workshop sample showcases the stitches she'll be teaching, and we're looking forward to another exciting learning experience!

I hope to see you soon at one of our upcoming workshops. There's always something new to learn, inspiration to share, and fun to be had!

Fabric Sale

The holidays are here! Gift making season is in full force!
At the November OCQG meeting we will have a Fabric Sale at 6 p.m.!
And – at $3 per pound– our OCQG meeting fabric price! You can find awesome backing pieces, fun prints, tone-on-tones, brights, lights and holiday fabrics.
There will be a large collection for you to choose from.
Checks, Cash and Credit Cards by Square will take care of your purchase.
We would appreciate some helping hands – if you are able to.
Let's go shopping!







Membership

By Ruth Saucedo, Membership Chair

Total membership remains steady at 123 Active Members.

Please help me welcome ....Lieling Hwang, our newest member in October.

We had many guests at the October meeting and hopefully many of the guests will join our guild.

May your heart be filled with joy, and your life be SEW blessed.

Jennifer Kerr 11/6
Sandra Brown 11/10
Barbara Mead 11/11
Irene Bischetsrieder 11/15
Kim Jenkins 11/16
JoAnna Clayton 11/18
Betty Rainey 11/22



Opportunity Baskets

By Donna Hansen and Jeanne Dinkle

I'm overwhelmed by your generosity! I left with my little green wagon overflowing with donations. Wednesday morning I sorted through them and was able to make six complete baskets and still had lots leftover for future baskets. Thank you all so much for helping make this possible.

We raised $199 at the September meeting.

Our six lucky winners were Colleen Monahan, Lois Visconti, Vicki Walters, Pricilla Owens, Patti Pane and Susan Fisher.

Upcoming Programs



November 10, 2026 – Hanne Lohde (a.k.a. Mama Lohde) – "Stitching from Childhood to the Present"
Mama Lohde is an accomplished sewist and stitcher of beautiful wool embroidered art quilts, both large and small. She formerly taught classes on wool applique and embroidery at both Quilt Passions in Mission Viejo and at Piecemakers in Costa Mesa, and recently taught at Road to California in January 2026. Her work is colorful, whimsical and inspiring. On her website www.mamalohde.com you can view examples of the type of work she does, but we are going to be treated to seeing some of it in person as Mama Lohde tells her own personal story from childhood to the present. She will share how stitching and embroidery bring her joy and how she has come to be a skilled and inspiring teacher of an art that we all hope to see preserved for many generations to come.



December 8, 2026 – Member Showcase
Although we do not have a visiting Guest Speaker at this meeting we will be treated to presentations by two or three of our own Members who will bring some of their own favorite quilts to share with us. They will tell us about themselves, how they got involved in quilting, what inspires them, what type of quilts they like to make, and so on. They may reveal some interesting surprises about themselves, too. By the way, the identities of these Members will remain a tantalizing secret until they are introduced, but you can be sure this will be a fun program, whoever they may turn out to be.

Upcoming Programs Continued

January 2027

January 12, 2027 – Lyn Brown – "Quilting ABC's"
We are fortunate to have Lyn Brown returning to OCQG for our first meeting of the new year on January 12, 2027. This presentation and lecture were inspired by a particular quilt from Lyn's antique quilt collection that she showed to us in 2024. It was a unique and eye-catching alphabet quilt which we all admired and wanted to know more about. Lyn took it a step further and built her presentation around that idea. Isn't it nice to know the teacher?

Lyn's website is www.lynbrown.com.

Upcoming Workshops

By Vicki Slone, 2nd VP Workshops

November

November 11, 2026 – Hanne Lohde (a.k.a. Mama Lohde) – "Blooming Needle Keeper Book"
Whether you are new to embroidery or looking to expand your stitch library, this workshop is a colorful, skill-building experience you won't want to miss! This richly detailed workshop blends wool appliqué with an expansive exploration of embroidery stitches to create a beautiful and functional needle keeper book. Students will learn over 25 stitches, ranging from foundational to decorative, while building strong hand-stitching skills. The project is both practical and artful, offering plenty of opportunities to personalize and experiment with color, texture, and thread.

Skill focus: wool appliqué, embroidery technique mastery, stitch vocabulary expansion, and fine handwork skills

December

December 8, 2026 – Member Showcase – No Workshop

Best Bang For Your Buck!

For $45, you can learn from teachers who normally charge much more at places like Road to California!

Upcoming Workshops Continued

January 15 - 16, 2027 – Lyn Brown – "Alphabet Quilt"
Step into a world of vintage charm as Lyn shares her treasured Alphabet Quilt and guides students through stitching a selection of letter blocks. Each block highlights a different technique, allowing participants to sample piecing while learning clever construction tips that simplify even intricate designs. Whether you create a few favorite letters or feel inspired to stitch the entire alphabet, this workshop offers joyful learning and creative growth from start to finish.

January 2027

Skill focus: piecing techniques, multi-block construction, creative flexibility, and confidence through playful exploration



Save the Date

OCQG Retreat

JULY 5-8. 2027

Vina de Lestonnac Retreat Center



Block Party: November 2026

By Jamie Cargo and Lois Visconti

House No. 9

Inspired by Laundry Basket Quilts

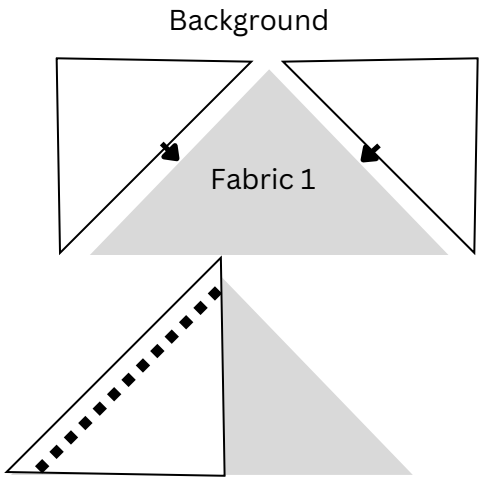
Fabric Requirements and Cutting Instructions

- Fabric 1 - 7 ¼” square
  - Cut on both diagonals to make 4 quarter square triangles (QST); you’ll use one for this block and have three for future blocks (or use your leftovers from last month)
- House body fabrics
  - 5 medium 2 ½” squares
  - 1 light strip 1 ½” x 13”
  - 1 dark strip 1 ½” x 13”
- Background - 11 1/2 x 17” rectangle
  - Cut one 4 1/4” square then subcut on the diagonal to create two half square triangles (HST)
  - Cut two 3 ½” x 10” rectangles
  - Cut two 2” x 12 ½” rectangles

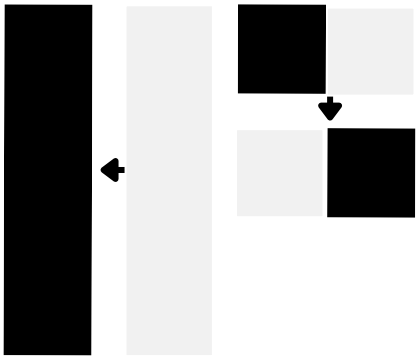
Directions

All seams are 1/4" unless otherwise noted.

Step 1: Place a background HST piece on Fabric 1 QST so the bottom edges align then sew. Press. Repeat for the other background HST. Press. Trim to 4 x 6 1/2". This is your roof.

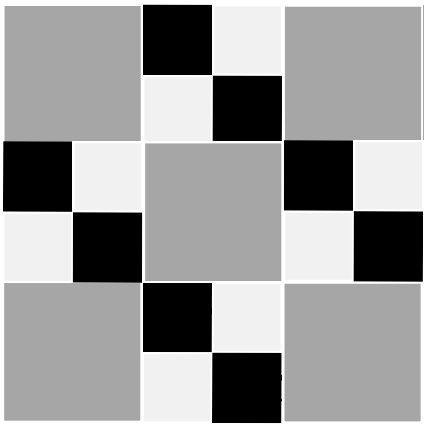


Step 2: Sew the long sides of the strips together. Press. Cut this into eight 1 ½” units. Sew the units into 4 four-patches. Trim to 2 ½” squares.

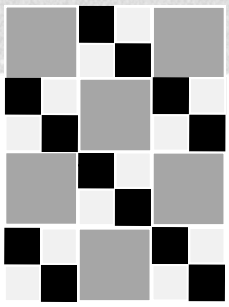


Block Party: November 2026

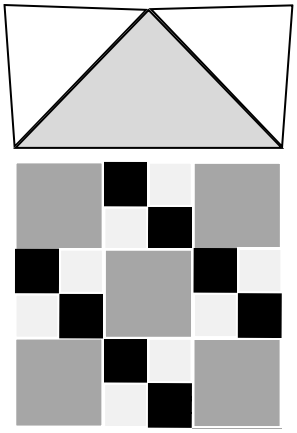
Step 3: Make 3 rows alternating medium squares with four-patches. Sew the rows together to create a 6 ½" square.



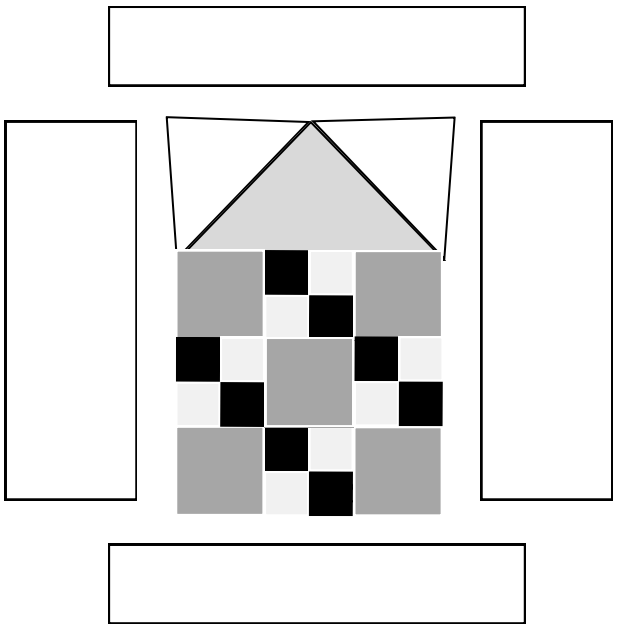
This house also lends itself for easy size change by adding a fourth row.



Step 4: Sew the roof unit to the house body unit, Trim to 6 ½" x 10", if necessary.



Step 5: Frame the house with the remaining background pieces. Sew one 3 ½ x 10" background piece to each side, then sew one 2 x 12 ½" to the top and one to the bottom. Trim to 12 ½" square.



Show Lois and Jamie your house block and be entered for a chance to win 8 fat eighths!

Block Party: November 2026





Block Party: December 2026

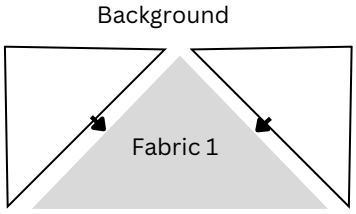
By Jamie Cargo and Lois Visconti

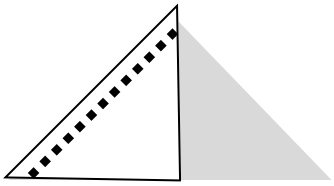
House No. 10

Inspired by Laundry Basket Quilts

Fabric Requirements and Cutting Instructions

- Fabric 1 - 7 ¼” square
  - Cut on both diagonals to make 4 quarter square triangles (QST); you’ll use one for this block and have three for future blocks (or use your leftovers from last month)
- House body fabrics
  - 1 light 1 ½” square
  - 1 light 1 ½” x 5” rectangle for door
  - 1 dark 1 ½” x 6 ½” rectangle
  - 2 dark 2” x 6 ½” rectangles
  - 2 dark 2” x 1 ½” rectangles
  - 1 dark 1 ½” x 4” rectangle
- Background - 11 1/2 x 17” rectangle
  - Cut one 4 1/4” square then subcut on the diagonal to create two half square triangles (HST)
  - Cut two 3 ½” x 10” rectangles
  - Cut two 2” x 12 ½” rectangles

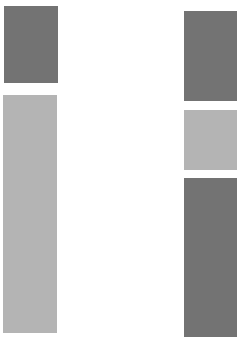




Directions

All seams are 1/4" unless otherwise noted.

Step 1: Place a background HST piece on Fabric 1 QST so the bottom edges align then sew. Press. Repeat for the other background HST. Press. Trim to 4 x 6 1/2". This is your roof.



Step 2: Sew the 1 1/2" x 2" dark piece to the top of the 1 1/2" x 5" light piece for the door. Sew the 1/ 1/2" x 2" above the 1 1/2" square light fabric for the window and the 1 1/2" x 4" dark fabric to the bottom of that unit.

Block Party: December 2026

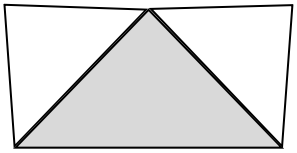
Step 3: Sew the following togethe from left to right:

2" x 61/2" → Door Unit → 2" x 6 1/2" → Window Unit → 1 1/2" x 6 1/2"

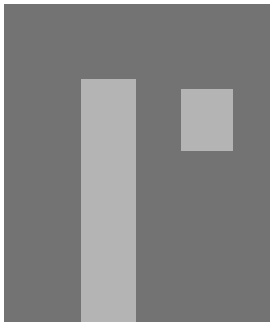


This house also lends itself for easy size change by lengthening the columns and adding a window.

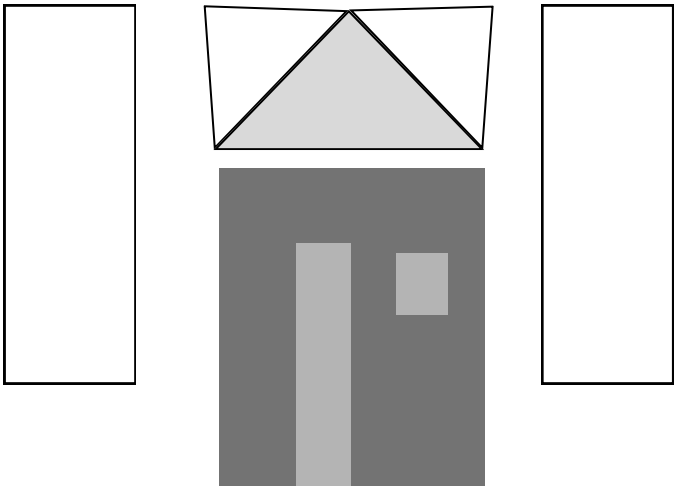
You can also flip your house to have the door on the right and the window on the left!



Step 4: Sew the roof unit to the house body unit, Trim to 6 ½" x 10", if necessary.



Step 5: Frame the house with the remaining background pieces. Sew one 3 ½ x 10" background piece to each side, then sew one 2 x 12 ½" to the top and one to the bottom. Trim to 12 ½" square.



Show Lois and Jamie your house block and be entered for a chance to win 8 fat eighths!



Block Party: December 2026





2025-26 Board Meeting Schedule

Mark your calendars! Board meetings are open to all members and your voice is very welcome at our Board meetings. If you would like to join a meeting, please contact Denise at presidentocqg2026@gmail.com and she will send you the Zoom link. All meetings begin at 7 pm.

- **3/2/26**
- **4/6/26**
- **5/4/26**
- **6/1/26**
- **July – no meeting**
- **8/3/26**
- **9/1/26 (due to holiday)**
- **10/5/26**
- **11/2/26**
- **12/7/26**
- **1/4/27**
- **2/1/27**
- **3/1/27**

Board Members

The Board Members of OCQG serve from March - March. Here are the current Board Members. Feel free to contact them if you have questions or ideas for the guild.

Executive Board Members

- President - Denise Rainier
- 1st VP, Programs - Alan Calgaro
- 2nd VP, Workshops - Vicki Slone
- Secretary - Pam Gayle
- Treasurer - Deb Wilson
- Ways & Means - Patti Pane

Standing Committee Board Members

- Past President - Carolyn Erratt
- Membership - Ruth Saucedo
- Parliamentarian - Vicky Walters
- Newsletter - Jamie Cargo / Cheri Hansen
- Community Outreach - Julie McCluney

If you aren't sure who to contact, you can always send a note to **info@orangecountyquiltersguild.org** and your inquiry will be directed to the appropriate person. Information about the guild, our meeting times, and locations are available on our website at orangecountyquiltersguild.com. If you're not a member, we warmly invite you to join us at our next meeting to discover fun and exciting quilting activities and make new crafting friends!

Hospitality ... Let There Be Snacks!

Quilting, looking at quilts, talking about quilts, chatting with quilty friends ... it's hard work, and hard work means ... snacks!

You are welcome to bring snacks at any time, but in particular, please bring snacks for hospitality at the general meeting according to the first letter of your last name in the month shown below. Don't forget to pick up your ticket for the door prize drawing when you drop off your snack!

JANUARY 2026 M - N - O - P	FEBRUARY 2026 POTLUCK!	March 2026 BIRTHDAY CAKES	April 2026 Q - R - S - T
MAY 2026 U - V - W - X - Y - Z	June 2026 A - B - C	JULY 2026 NO MEETING	AUGUST 2026 D - E - F - G - H
SEPTEMBER 2026 I - J - K - L	October 2026 M - N - O - P	NOVEMBER 2026 Q - R - S - T	DECEMBER 2026 U - V - W - X - Y - Z

You're Invited ...

by the Members of the Orange County Quilters Guild

If you're not a member of OCQG, but you've read this far in the newsletter and you're thinking ... "well, they look like a fun bunch of people!" ... we are! We would love to see you at our next meeting and get to know you and your quilts!

You are invited to join us
for our general meeting

7 p.m. Tuesday, November 10, 2026
Doors open at 6 p.m.

Hansen Elementary School
1300 S. Knott Ave.
Anaheim, CA 92806

Orange County Quilters Guild

OCQG Newsletter Advertisement Request

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You can submit information online and pay by credit card by going to https://www.orangecountyquiltersguild.org/advertise-with-ocqg or using the QR Code.

To pay by mail or in person, make your check payable to: Orange County Quilters Guild. Either bring form and payment to an OCQG meeting or mail to:

Newsletter
Orange County Quilters Guild
P.O. Box 4983
Orange, CA 92863-4983

If not submitted online, please submit your advertising "print ready" copy (**300 dpi .jpg or .png file**) via email to the following email address: ocqg.newsletter@gmail.com and mention that you mailed in this form and payment and/or turned it in in person. If you can**not** submit an electronic file of your ad, please attach a copy to this form and either turn it in in person or mail via USPS.

If you have any questions, please contact Cheri Hansen (714-270-3036) or email ocqg.newsletter@gmail.com and hansen.cheri@gmail.com.

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