

## **SQG BOM 25-26 FINALE**

We did it!! We completed the SQG BOM Challenge!! Let's review our journey!

BOM April The 24" Half-Square Triangle Block using 16 half/square triangles. What do half-Square triangles have to do with Rockford? This experiment was a way to show the diversity of people who call Rockford home. Consider the fact that using half-square triangles in a 4 by 4 block compilation leads to a possible 72 symmetrical options. That means even if 72 of our quilt guild members made this block, we could potentially have 72 different blocks! Rockford is a host to a great diversity of people, an experiment of different cultures, religions, backgrounds, living side by side in peace. That is our goal!

BOM for May we celebrated Rockford's nickname of Forest City. Using three sizes of flying geese, we made trees, representing the forests surrounding our city, but also the encouragement of trees being grown right in the city. This was a 24" Block.

BOM June, late spring/early summer and this month we celebrated the 44 forest preserves in Winnebago County by creating two Bluebonnet blocks (each 9" X 18"), a wonderful harbinger of spring.

BOM July, we enjoyed some improvisational curved piecing as we recreated Rock River which flows right through Rockford, making two 12" blocks.

BOM August, a challenging month as we celebrated the history of manufacturing in Rockford, and its well-earned nickname of Screw City. 12" blocks depicting one or two SCREWS!!

BOM September, getting to the end of baseball season, so time to celebrate the history of the Rockford Peaches of the All American Girls Baseball League. Here we did four 6" baseball blocks

BOM October, a time to celebrate the rich and vibrant Art Community of Rockford by creating two 12" blocks where we were encouraged to insert a piece of our own art, or beautiful fabric, or photo, applique, or whatever we could dream of.

BOM November, Rockford, is a prominent hub of aeronautics and a significant aerospace center in the United States. The area boasts a substantial cluster of

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aerospace companies, a major cargo airport, and a skilled workforce. So we completed a total of nine 6" blocks, 3 each of Propeller #1, Propeller #2, and Aircraft blocks.

BOM December, we celebrate the beautiful state we live in with three Illinois Blocks: a 12' Illinois Block; 12" Corn and Beans block; and 18" Illinois Star block.

BOM January, our last one!! Here we celebrated the fact that Rockford was home to the Free Sewing Machine Factory, which produced home sewing machines for several decades, starting with treadles, and when available, adding electric motors to their lineup. Our last block was an 18" Free Sewing Machine Block.

Now it's time to piece our blocks all together. The diagram for placement is a separate pdf. As always, feel free to use your creativity as you complete your quilt top. I leave borders completely up to you, whether you decide to add them, or not, this is your creative piece. Thank you for joining me on this journey.

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