

**Apple Blossom Quilts**



***Apple Blossom Quilt Newsletter***

March, 2018

Dear Quilter,

*Can you feel it? Spring has come to us here in Iowa. I refuse to believe the forecast that says we could get more snow tomorrow. I'm sure it will just come as snow/showers and will refresh us. At least that is my hope.*

*This month saw the completion of the applique on all 100 blocks in my new free BOM called "Connie Sue's Sketchbook." No matter how careful I plan and test fabrics and designs there is always a degree of uncertainty going into the final assembly. Will it really be as I envisioned it?*

*Well I'm pleased to report that it appears to exceed my expectations. I'm in love with the set. Keep reading to learn more.*

***Bertha's Reflections***

I'm proud to introduce my latest pattern - "Bertha's Reflections". As many of you know I have been naming my patterns for family and friends for sometime now.

Bertha was my mother-in-law. She was also a quilter. In fact, she hand quilted for others as well as making and selling large floral quilts.



I wanted to play with a rectangular block rather than the traditional square. This block finishes 12" x 16". There are closeups of each block below.

The first block I made was not a reflection block. The second was. I loved it so decided to make all of the blocks as reflection blocks.

The first block didn't make it into this quilt. Guess I have the beginnings of another quilt.



Beehives



Pots of Flowers



Red Roses



Blue tulips



Birdhouses



Blue Birds

[Click here to purchase this pattern for a special introductory price. \(/shop/SpringSummer-Quilts/p/Berthas-Reflections-x32647110.htm\)](http://shop/SpringSummer-Quilts/p/Berthas-Reflections-x32647110.htm)

### ***Lesson 3 - The QuikPrep Stitch***

I developed the QuikPrep Stitch after student complaints that they didn't have a line to follow when doing QuikPrep Applique. They would lose the basting line as they removed the basting stitches.

I use it whenever I baste an applique project. It has one huge advantage. It produces a line that is almost continuous on the front.

Check out the basted patch to the right. It shows two types of basting. The first is plain basting that I use on edges that are not turned under.

The second is the edge that will be turned under. It has been basted with the QuikPrep Stitch. The line that it produces is almost continuous. Learn how to make this stitch in this month's lesson.



[Click here to download Lesson 3. \(https://media.rainpos.com/4811/lesson3\\_quikprepstitch.pdf\)](https://media.rainpos.com/4811/lesson3_quikprepstitch.pdf)

### ***Connie Sue's Sketchbook***



March saw the completion of the 100 blocks. I laid them on my living room floor. I arranged and re-arranged them until I was happy with the layout.

I then began the sashing. I have decided on a pattern that I call "Dashes". I'll be paper piecing it. It is a simple and fast pattern to make. Still I will need to make 220 sashing pieces so anticipate its taking awhile to complete. I wish I could just start in and get it made. I have a ton of other business related jobs I need to get done first so will have to put this on the back burner for awhile. Well, maybe I'll try to sneak an hour or so a day to work on it. Look for the sashing pattern in the coming months.



**Readers blocks from "Connie Sue's Sketchbook"**



Candace O'keefe's - "Floral 3"  
This prolific quilter just began appliquéing four years ago.



Candace O'keefe's - "St. Patrick's Day"  
She began by taking Mimi Dietrich's Hand Applique class on Craftsy. Way to go, Candace.

I would love to show your blocks to my readers.

Please help me fill up this section each month. It could be your way of thanking me for this free BOM. Send photos to:

[abqhaidle@mchsi.com](mailto:abqhaidle@mchsi.com) (mailto:  
[abqhaidle@mchsi.com](mailto:abqhaidle@mchsi.com))

**"Connie Sue's Sketchbook" - A sneak preview of upcoming blocks**

3/19/18 - Birdie in a Tree



3/26/18 - Spring Birdhouse



4/2/18 - Hiking Boots



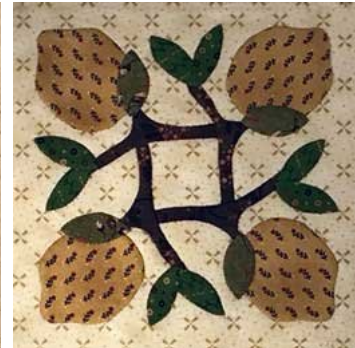
4/19/18 - Songbird



4/16/18 - Nappies



4/23/18 - Lemons



[\(2018-free-bom-called-connie-sues-sketchbook.htm\)](#)[Click here for the download page for "Connie Sue's Sketchbook".](#) [\(2018-free-bom-called-connie-sues-sketchbook.htm\)](#)

[Click here to purchase any missed patterns.](#) [\(shop/Connie-Sues-Sketchbook--6-blocks.htm\)](#)

**Until next month...**

**Happy Appliquéing,**

***Connie Sue***

Click here to download a PDF file of this newsletter. (<https://media.rainpos.com/4811/abqjanuary2018newsletter.pdf>)

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