Winners' Circle:
We want to take this opportunity as we begin BOM to say “Thank You!” to Joanne Holzknecht for her many years of wonderful patterns!

Block of the Month – October
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Each person may enter up to three blocks each month. If 24+ are entered, the drawing will be split in two. If 36+ are entered, there will be three winners!

For 2010-2011, all BOM patterns will be for 12” blocks (12 1/2” unfinished). You may want to make an extra block in your favorite colors for a sampler.

Maple Leaf
From 5,500 Quilt Block Designs by Maggie Malone (Sterling Publishing, 2004) page 43

This block has a cream background; brown, orange, and deep red or rust for the leaf; and black for the stem. Please use pre-washed fabrics. Make up to 3 blocks for the Block of the Month drawing on October 9th.

For each block, cut pieces as follows:

- **Cream**: 3 rectangles 4 1/2” x 2 1/2”; 3 squares 2 1/2” x 2 1/2”; 1 square 4 1/2” x 4 1/2”; and 4 squares for half-squares triangles 2-7/8” x 2-7/8” (or 3” x 3”)—we’ll trim these to 2-1/2” before sewing them into the block.
- **Brown**: 4 rectangles 4 1/2” x 2 1/2”
- **Deep red or rust**: 1 square 4 1/2” x 4 1/2”
- **Orange**: 3 squares 2 1/2” x 2 1/2”; 4 squares for half-square triangles 2-7/8” x 2-7/8” (or 3” x 3”)—we’ll trim these before sewing them into the block.
- **Black**: 1 piece 3/4” x 6 1/4”

Make eight half-square triangles: Layer each cream 2-7/8” square with an orange 2-7/8” square, right sides together. Draw a line diagonally on the lighter of the two fabrics from one corner of the square to its opposite. Stitch 1/4” on each side of the center line. Cut on the center line. Open each piece. You will have 8 squares that are half orange and half cream. Press half the seams toward the cream, half toward the orange. Trim each of these squares to measure 2 1/2” x 2 1/2”. Now sew two squares together, matching seams (pressed opposite one another), so that the cream forms a V (looks like a cream Flying Geese on an orange background)—see diagram. Set these 4 Flying Geese blocks aside for later.

Press the black strip in half. Open and fold the long edges into the center, making a 1/4” wide x 6 1/4” strip. Applique this by hand to the large (4 1/2” x 4 1/2”) square diagonally using an invisible hem stitch, or machine applique. This will be the leaf stem. Set aside for later.

Make strips:

**Step 1**: Join three pieces as shown. Make sure the point of the V of the Flying Geese will touch the brown rectangle in the next row.

**Step 2**: Join five pieces: a cream 2 1/2” sq. + orange 2 1/2” sq. + brown rectangle to orange 2 1/2” sq. + cream 2 1/2” sq.

**Step 3**: Join five pieces: a Flying Geese + brown rectangle + deep red or rust 4 1/2” sq. + brown rectangle + Flying Geese. Check to see that the points of the V’s touch the brown rectangles.

**Step 4**: Join three pieces: a brown rectangle + orange 2 1/2” sq + cream 2 1/2” sq.

**Step 5**: Join two pieces: a Flying Geese + cream rectangle

**Step 6**: Join the row made in Step 4 with the row made in Step 5.

**Step 7**: Join the 4 1/2” square with the appliqued stem to the square made in Step 6.

**Step 8**: Now join row 1 to 2, then add 3, and, finally, add the last piece you made in steps 4 through 7.

Voila! Your finished block should measure 12 1/2” square. When joined with other blocks, it will finish at 12” x 12”.

Quick Tip: Pressing seams one direction or another will make a difference when you attach pieces! To avoid stitching over a big pile of seams, pay attention to how you press seams.