Winners’ Circle:  
Diana Maetzold won 19 March “Picket Fence” blocks!

Block of the Month – May
Kathie Simon Frank (Kathie@umn.edu) and Jeanne LaMoore (jlamoore@gmail.com)

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 ½” unfinished). You may want to make an extra block in your favorite colors for a sampler.

Three dimensional pinwheel

Fabric:
For the background: Light blue: cut 4 squares 6 1/2” x 6 1/2”.
For the pinwheel: Bright colors (tone on tone or pattern): cut 4 squares 5 3/4” x 5 3/4”.

Directions:
1. Fold the pinwheel square in half to make a triangle.
2. Line up two raw edges of the triangle along the right and bottom edges of one background square.
3. Baste the two fabrics (the folded triangle and the background) together a scant 1/8” along the right side.
4. To make the pinwheel blade, fold the bottom edge of the pinwheel fabric back onto itself until the point of the triangle meets the bottom right corner of the basted side.
5. Baste the bottom layers and the background together along the bottom edge with a scant 1/8” basting stitch.
6. Repeat with the remaining three pinwheel squares and background squares. Be sure to line up all the pinwheel blades as in #2 above.
7. Place two squares together at right angles, nestling the folded corners together.
8. Sew the two squares together in a scant 1/4” seam. Press seam open.
9. Repeat steps 7 and 8 with the third and fourth squares. Press seam open.
10. Nestle the pinwheel points together to make as flat a seam as you can, matching the center. Sew the two sets together in a scant 1/4” seam.
11. Press the block and press the seam open.
12. Press the pinwheel blades up so they stand nicely rounded.

The blogger Sara M.E. Neal has given us permission to use her directions for these 3D pinwheels. See the directions at http://sararulesquilts.blogspot.com/. At the top left of the blog page enter in the text box: 3D pinwheels and up will pop the entry showing step by step illustrated directions for making the pinwheels.

For an 8 1/2” unfinished square, use 4 1/2” pieces of background fabric and 3 3/4” pieces of pinwheel fabric.