Block of the Month – August 2014 – Dog Days of August

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**Fabric:** Choose an off-white or cream for the background; browns, blacks, or greys for the dog; pink for the tongue (optional), and you have options for the nose and eyes. Please use pre-washed cotton.

**Cutting:**
- A – (2) 3 ½” x 3 ½” dog fabric for prairie point ears
- B – (1) 6 ½” x 7 ½” dog fabric for face
- C – (1) 6 ½” x 2 ½” dog fabric for nose area
- D – (2) 2 ½” x 2 ½” background for sides of nose area
- E – (1) 6 ½” x 2 ½” background for bottom of block
- F – (1) 6 ½” x 1 ½” background for top of block
- G – (2) 12 ½” x 3 ½” background for sides

**Assembly:**
1. We’ll start with the prairie points (ears). You can watch Susan Cleveland’s video on YouTube “Making Perfect Prairie Points” for visual instruction. We’re going to make the simple kind. Take each of your A pieces and fold in half diagonally with the right side of the fabric on the outside, forming a triangle. Press. Fold them again on the diagonal and press. You have two prairie points! (Jeanne opted to also make prairie point tongue and nose.)
2. Put one D right sides together (RST) on C. Sew on the diagonal from one point to the other of D, using a pencil or chalk to mark the line if necessary. Trim the excess at the ¼” seam and press. Do the other side, making sure you are consistent with the orientation of the fabric (so the nose area comes to a point).
3. Sew F to B and E to the nose area. You may include a tongue between E and the nose area! Or you may want to applique one on later. Including a tongue in any form is optional.
4. Attach FB to DCDE so the entire face area is done. You may also want to add a nose between B and C . . . I opted to add a prairie point here, using a 2”x 2” black piece.
5. Pin the ears (A) to the sides of the dog’s head, lining up the “open” edges with the already sewn head (so the prairie point points out and the top of the ear is at the top of the head) and the final fold toward the top of the block. Attach the G pieces to the sides and sew it all together. Press.
6. You can attach eyes and nose via any method you like – applique, buttons, fabric paint, embellishments . . . or leave it blank. I was looking at button eyes, but some of them were creepy, so I’m still deciding.

**BOM basics:**
- Each person may enter up to three blocks each month.
- Please include your name on your block(s)! Many of us just use a mailing label.
- If you have nice scraps left over, consider including them with your block (pinned on or in a baggie) for the winner (a border or other finishing touches).
- If you cannot bring the blocks to the quilt meeting, you may mail them to the MQ office. Please allow adequate time for them to arrive before the Saturday drawing.
  - Block of the Month
  - Minnesota Quilters, Inc.
  - 1203 Fifth St. SE
  - Minneapolis, MN 55414
- To help us celebrate more winners, we will draw two names if we have over 24 blocks (3 if we have 36+, 4 if we have 48+).
- Drawings are held at the Saturday meeting. If the winner(s) are not present, the blocks will either be mailed or left at the MQ office for the winner to pick up. We will call to notify winners.