



**NTGM**

**2021 FIBER  
CHALLENGE**

**#4-MY FAVORITE  
THINGS**

**WE MADE IT!  
2020  
IS FINALLY BEHIND US.**

Our 1st 2021 challenge was  
“**MY FAVORITE THINGS**”.

Thankfully,  
we all have many of these.

Here is what members  
have sent as their FAVS  
to motivate  
and inspire us.

There is really no limit  
to the scope  
of these challenges  
or to when you need to finish.

They are just one  
of the ways that we can share  
our stories through our art.

Terrie, Sharon & Judy



**SHOW & TELL**  
2021  
#4-MY  
FAVORITE  
THINGS

**FROM: BARB GASH**

Here is one of my fave things  
- the **IRIS**- quilted wall hanging  
done a few years ago.

Here's the second photo.  
Those who know me will agree  
that **PENGUINS** are some  
of my very favorite things!  
This quilted piece goes back  
at least 15 years!





**SHOW & TELL**  
**2021**  
**#4-MY**  
**FAVORITE**  
**THINGS**

**FROM: KATHY BRICKER**

**THIS WAS 2020** - first, last and in-between. They are 8"x8" on flannel backgrounds. Each was begun on a Sunday morning (the cat gets up way too early!) with fabric scraps arranged on the backing; no "rules" except size and whether they played well together. The rest of the week was spent stitching them in pace and finishing on Saturday with embellishment - buttons, beads and additional stitching. There is a plan for them in progress. I'll share more once it has a bit more form; right now it is still "parts".

**ON TO 2021!**



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**FROM: RICK WARE**  
**TALE OF A RAIL TRAIL**

One of my favorite activities outside of the studio is bicycle riding on trails that were formerly railroad rights-of-way, which our state is fortunate to have many of.

I used the technique of integrating a photograph printed on fabric into a wall quilt mounted on painter's canvas as presented in Michelle Dobrin's 2018 NTGM workshop. It started with my photo of the Saginaw Valley Rail Trail's bridge over the Bad River at Lumberjack Park in St. Charles, Mich. Before printing it on fabric, I modified it in editing software by using an artistic filter to appear as a tinted sketch; on the bridge I added a screened version of my image of two steam locomotives from Michigan's Huckleberry Railroad to represent the history of the trail. After fusing the printed image to a base fabric, I fused the sky, grass, path, and other fabrics that extend the printed image outward. The fabric extending the river was painted to better blend with the printed river. The birch trunks were fussy cut from a commercial

printed fabric as well as the tree foliage, foreground ground cover and tall grass. The cyclists started with a clip art book from my college days that is full of sketches of people in various activities to incorporate into architectural renderings; they were scanned and enlarged before printing on fabric. printing on fabric - these were colored with fabric markers and carefully cut out before fusing onto the path. Other clip art images of walkers, cyclists and an equestrian were scanned and reduced before printing on matte plastic which was placed over the "ghost locomotives" on the central printed portion of the bridge.

I created the Lumberjack Park sign in software before printing on fabric - it is my own design since I felt the actual sign at the park was not that attractive. A thin batting and backing fabric were added before quilting on the longarm; the stitching that secures the fused applique' and outlines of the printed portion was done with a very fine No. 100 black thread which fit into the sketch feel of the printed portion.



**FROM: SUSAN SCHWANDT**

**APPLE AND PEAR** were projects taught by Ellen Lindner in a Greater Ann Arbor Quilt Guild class using her double reverse applique technique.

**SHOW & TELL**  
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**FROM:  
MARY KAYE AUKEE**

Couldn't end 2020 without finishing "davidowenhastings Visible Mending Workshop" project.

**MY HUSBAND'S  
FAVORITE  
FISHING JACKET!**

This proved harder than I thought. Inner zippers on pocket flaps, collar so stitching didn't show on underside and I have found I am not a precise stitcher.

This will undoubtedly be an ongoing project since the fabric is shredding in many places. Wonder if it will continue to be his favorite?

**HERE'S TO 2021  
AND NO UFO'S.**



**SHOW & TELL**  
**2021**  
**#4-HIS**  
**FAVORITE**  
**THINGS**

**SHOW & TELL**  
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**#4-MY**  
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**THINGS**



**FROM: JEANNE SARNA**  
**FREE FORM NECKLACE**

Over the years I have made a huge variety of projects, but I have to say this is one of my all-time favorites... the Free Form Necklace.

The free motion stitching was done on Solvy and when the Solvy was washed out it was still soft, and pliable so it molds to the neck beautifully no matter how it is worn.

The irregular shape adds to the flexibility of being able to wear a necklace in different ways to fit different necklines by simply turning the necklace it will conform to fill in a neckline.

The piece was made using a lot of different threads; silks, cottons, rayons, polyester, and blends which add to the high texture and have different reflective qualities. Being a fiber piece, the necklace is made entirely from thread, it is washable. Overlapping the threads helped achieve some interesting organic effects.

When I made this piece, I was just playing and pushing myself, but I loved the organic look I achieved. I used sections of yellow and orange ball chain, as a closure which added a graceful line to the piece. This piece has been sold.



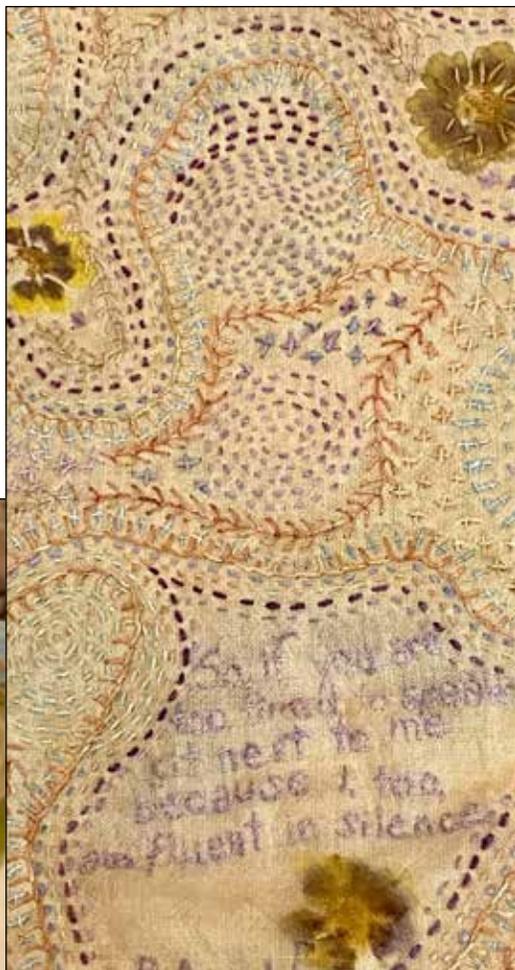


**FROM: KATHY BRICKER** Written by Terrie Voigt

Kathy Bricker will soon have one of her art pieces in an Australian exhibition arranged by artist, alchemist and author, India Flint!

A year ago, Kathy attended an art retreat in Ogden, Utah. On her last day, she was gifted a piece of antique French linen for a slow stitch meditation. Kathy started it with some appliqué but didn't get far. When the pandemic hit and grounded us all, she began an online course with India, focused on "in place", since no one could travel.

India is one of the original artists exploring eco-printing and dyeing and constructs very unique online experiences. One of her exercises was to stitch a tea towel over the weeks and months of confinement in preparation for an exhibit she was arranging. Kathy's antique linen was the perfect choice. She returned to stitching and added references to events of the days, along with a poem she thought was appropriate. She used some of her flower-dyed floss for the poem. The floss was not water-fast so a blue tint seeped around the letters adding a bit of quiet to the poem. She found daily stitching lent a bit of calm during this stressful times. Congratulations, Kathy!



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**FROM: MEENA SCHALDENBRAND**

**KEEP ON SMILING!**

The Project Quilting challenge this week was to use gray and yellow. I started with an illuminated frame on a mirror and made a quilt to fit.

I used beads, cotton, fiberglass window screen and polyvinyl.



**SHOW & TELL**  
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**FROM: JUDY LOYD**

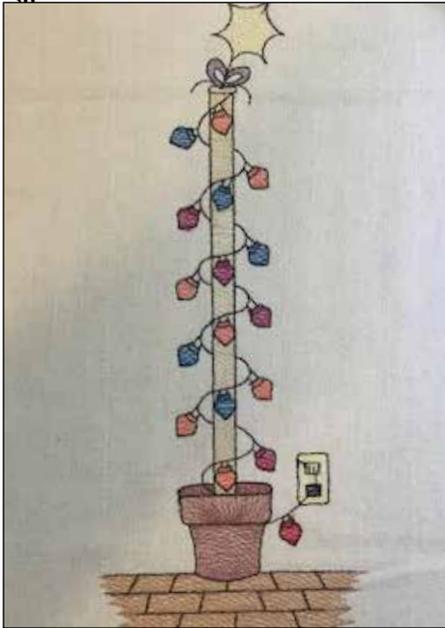
Planning is as far as I've gotten with this project. I was born in August so my sign is LEO. And I've got many Leos/lions around the house...plus a few other wonderful cats.

My dear friend, Susan, embroidered this fine Gauguin style lion on the back of a denim jacket many years (and sizes) ago, in the early 70's.

This will be it's 3rd move. I'm planning it to be on the left side with his fine head on the front and his body and tail wrapping to the side and back. I want to see him this time. I've used this pattern before, so I know the look and fit. Thinking of lining with small pieces of indigo dyeing and edging with Kumihimo braiding.



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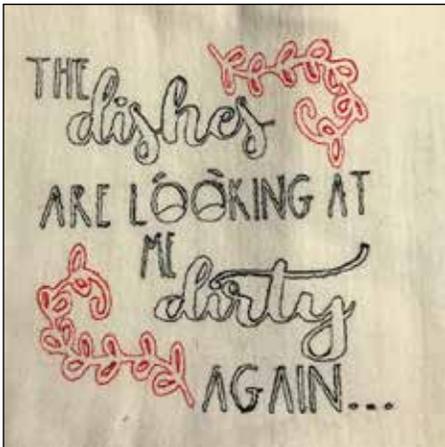


**FROM: SHERYL HOGAN**

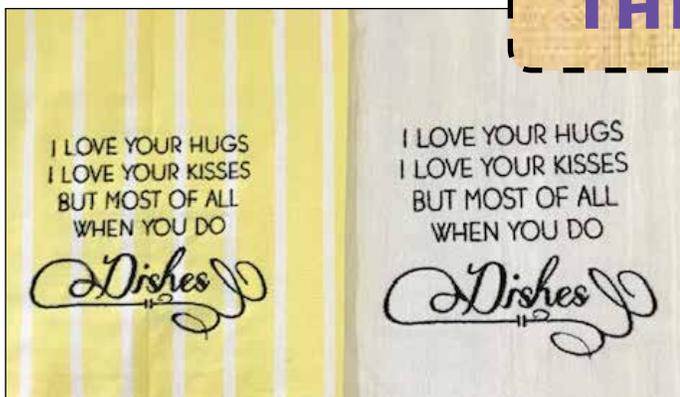
Here are photos of my favorite things this past month. I am determined to learn how to use my embroidery machine and the software I have invested in so I worked on towels to practice manipulating designs in the software and in the stitch outs.

Also created some T-shirts with heat transfer vinyl- "among us" was for my grandson and the "2000 do not recommend" was for me.

The gnome happy new year is a stitch along I do with OML embroidery on Saturdays. My favorite thing(s) is to play and make things that are **not** gifts for some one else!



**SHOW & TELL**  
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**#4-MY FAVORITE THINGS**



**FROM: SUSAN SCHWANDT**

**THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE  
GNOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

He reminded me of the Swedish Jul Tompten (Christmas elves) and I was dreaming of celebrating the holidays with my Swedish family.

Technique:  
Itty Bitty Twister Tool

Finished size of each block: 1"

Quilting assistant: Barney



**MORE DEC.  
SHOW & TELL  
# 3 -  
HOLIDAY  
DREAMS**



**MORE  
SEPT.**

**SHOW & TELL**

**#1 - RECYCLE**



**FROM: JUDITH LEVITT**

**IT IS FINISHED.**

**COVID BIRD - 2020**

My challenge was to use ONLY what I have available in my studio. Colors are to express the turmoil the virus has created, with the various textures expressing the different directions and effects it causes. **Lastly the bird can not fly away. It / we must wear a mask to recover.**

