

2011 Master Gardener Guidebook



2011 Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail Master Gardener Guidebook

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About the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail

Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail is an innovative, creative, one-of-its-kind experience designed to interest a wide-range of audiences and promote the area as a premier visitor destination. It offers a variety of opportunities for partnerships with local businesses and communities and creates widespread community involvement.

The project was initiated as a concept by the Elkhart County Convention & Visitors Bureau (ECCVB) in early 2006 and tested in 2007 with 2 pilot locations. 2011 is the fourth year for the season-long attraction that continues to grow and now features 18 quilt gardens and 18 artist rendered quilt murals presented in 7 communities along the Heritage Trail driving tour.

Recognizing the importance and value of high quality in both the gardens and murals displayed, each garden and mural is required to meet ten standards and related product/service specifications. Based on those standards, all official sites and patterns are juried into the program by a committee that includes landscapers, designers, horticulturists, growers and park professionals. Official garden partners are responsible for performing all of the work necessary to plant and maintain the gardens throughout the season.

The Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail has garnered national media attention and draws significant audience interest from 3 of the largest hobby groups in the nation – gardeners, quilters and photographers. It has also been very favorably received by the group motor coach audience, having been named an American Bus Association Top 100 Event in 2009, 2010 and 2011.

The ECCVB was honored with the 2010 Efroymson Award for Excellence in Cultural Tourism Development for the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail.



Sonya L. Nash, Project Manager

Greetings from a novice Master Gardener! While I can remember dead-heading petunias and geraniums and helping plant peas and lettuce with my Mom when I was a little girl, I never dreamed of being a master gardener. The Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail project changed all that. In 2007, I suddenly found myself participating in meetings with serious gardeners. We talked about soil amendments, fertilizers, plant heights, growing patterns and who knew what a cultivar was? I sure didn't. One of the local Master Gardeners suggested I take the Master Gardener class through Purdue University. I was eager to learn, and ready to "dig in" literally and figuratively into the new strange world of flora and fauna.

The Master Gardener class was much more scientific and intense than I expected. Many of the topics and discussions were way over my head ... I'm a marketer and science was never my strong suit. But, I stayed the course, passed the class and have multiple binders of resources, not to mention many friends, to ask questions and obtain advice. I am a novice, but at least I have a rudimentary understanding of what to look for when assisting Quilt Gardens site managers with their plant determination, problems or concerns. If my new knowledge can help even one site a year, then it is well worth my struggles with plant science.

And my life at home has definitely changed! Three years ago I didn't plant a thing around our house. Now we have 6 flower beds filled with annuals and perennials that I've selected, planted and maintain plus 10 hanging baskets that require deadheading and feeding. Somehow I even have the job of diagnosing weed problems in the lawn. How that happened I'll never understand!

I hope you enjoy the Quilt Gardens as much as I do. Please feel free to share any of your own personal knowledge and advice with me. After all, novices keep learning just as our gardens keep growing.



Vickie L. Estep, Gold Level Master Gardener Master Gardener Guidebook Author

Vickie and her husband Mark have been gardening for more than thirty years. They raised three children on homegrown goodies from the huge garden they all worked together. As the children began leaving the nest her interests turned from the dinner table to her growing collection of perennials. Life has come full circle for Vickie. As the “English” great-grandchild of an Amish family, she enjoyed a taste of the simple life growing up on her grandfather Levi’s farm. Urged by friends to pursue her love of gardening, a love that began in her grandmother’s garden, she enrolled in the Purdue Master Gardening training class – which ultimately led to an opportunity to write and guide tours for the Elkhart County Quilt Gardens. Guiding Amish Country tours she said is bringing the circle back around to her Amish roots and memories of the time spent in her grandma’s garden.

Vickie’s passion for gardening took an exponential leap in 2006 when she added Certified Master Gardener to her list of accomplishments. Vickie is a gold level Master Gardener signifying that a minimum of 1,000 volunteer hours and 100 training hours have been completed. The mission of Master Gardeners is to “help others grow” by providing educational opportunities to the local community.



Mary Davis, Gold Level Master Gardener Master Gardener Guidebook Co-Author

As a little girl, Mary had her own corner of the family garden and loved to sew with her mother. When she was twelve, she decided she wanted to make a Sunbonnet Sue quilt. Rather than laugh, her mom helped her pick out fabric from scraps (her mom made most of her clothes) and she appliqued the first square.

Tragically, Mary’s mother died less than a year later and the quilt obviously was forgotten. Mary’s life became busy with college, marriage, law school and practicing law with her husband. Sometimes, “what goes around, comes around” can be good and in 2003, Mary became a Master Gardener and in 2004 took a beginning quilting class through adult education. Both old loves were renewed, so Mary was thrilled to become involved in the Quilt Gardens by researching the history of the quilts.

She retired at the end of 2010 after 36 years of practicing law, but combined quilts, gardening and talking by becoming a step on bus guide for Quilt Garden tours - she figured this was her perfect retirement job - having been a lawyer, she loves to talk and she says this way she has a captive audience!



Country Comfort Greenhouse, Official Grower Sonya & Tom Miller, Owners

Sonya Miller and her husband Tom are the main forces behind Country Comfort Greenhouse in Middlebury, a home-based business that's been in business since 1987. With family labor (their five children), and part time help, they produce 1,400 hanging baskets, 3,200 annuals and vegetable flats, 14,000 4" pots of geraniums and Proven Winners, and thousands of perennials plus interesting combination pots in unique containers.

Country Comfort is a seasonal spring and fall business and one of the official growers of almost 80,000 annuals each year for the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail. Sonya is instrumental in plant selection and provides advice for each official site to assist in determining pattern definition to enhance the quality visual experience of the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail. Country Comfort also supplies downtown flower pots for four local communities.

Besides gardening, in her spare time Sonya loves to quilt and has completed 23 quilts, wall hangings, and comforters as well as embroidering retro "days of the week" dish towels.



McIntosh Greenhouse & Garden Center, Official Grower Sue & Kim Wilfong, Owners

McIntosh Greenhouse & Garden Center is a retail business, located in Goshen, that is open all year and offers a full line garden center, perennials, tree and shrub nursery, bird supplies and gift gallery. They are proud to be one of two official growers for the 2011 Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail. What makes McIntosh's unique is that they grow most of their own bedding plants in over 40,000 square-feet of production greenhouses (16 total greenhouses) and are open to the public 6 days a week year-round offering many seasonal products, gardening tools, home décor and gifts.

Sue & Kim Wilfong are 2nd generation owners of McIntosh which began 37 years ago in 1973. Kim & his crew produce and retail thousands of high quality plant material annually at the Garden Center including 6,000 flats of bedding plants, 3,000 spring hanging baskets, 35,000 4" potted annuals, 3,000 spring patio pots, 6,000 garden mums, and 4,000 poinsettia plants. In the spring customers can order custom filled pots from their special order department.



-  *Ageratum Fields Blue*
-  *Celosia Fresh Look Orange*
-  *Vinca Pacifica White*
-  *Celosia Fresh Look Gold*
-  *Vinca First Kiss Blueberry*
-  *Turf Grass*

A6 “Blue Bird Thing” - Amish Acres

SIZE: 50'W X 50'H

The Round Barn Theatre at Amish Acres has something special to celebrate this year. They will commemorate the 25th anniversary of *Plain and Fancy* – a musical comedy about life and love among the Amish. Since 1986, The Round Barn Theatre has staged the show every year as part of its repertory program, and it remains the centerpiece of Indiana’s only resident repertory regional musical theatre. Amish Acres founder and show producer Richard Pletcher dedicated the theatre’s stage to Joseph Stein co-author of the play in 1996.

Amish gardeners Alvin and Alta Yoder tackle the day-to-day demands of the largest garden on the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail. Measuring 2,500 square feet, this garden boasts nearly 10,000 plants! Featuring a tidy trio of vinca, celosia and ageratum these annuals should translate well into the original design. The use of Fields Blue ageratum as the bird in this planting is especially clever. The downy soft tufts of blue are a perfect interpretation in keeping with the integrity of the design. This blue bird nearly floats on a bed of Pacifica White vinca bordered by Vinca First Kiss Blueberry. First Kiss is a former AAS winner with a distinctive violet-blue color.

Each of the plants in this garden are draught resistant once established – a good thing since this site tends to be buffeted by highway wind. Celosia Gold Fresh Look forms the sunny area in which the bird nests. This is the only site to select celosia this year. The three types of celosia are easily distinguishable from one another. There are plumes, crests, or spikes; simply described as plumes or feathers, wrinkly-looking knobs, or elongated cones. In addition to their eye-catching beauty in the garden, the taller varieties are excellent as cut flowers, which can be used in both fresh and dried arrangements. The crested celosia, with its wavy fanlike flowers, looks very much like rooster’s red combs - hence the popular common name of cockscomb.

Blue Bird Thing – An Original Design

Blue Bird Thing is an original and unique quilt pattern, which comes to us from the script of *Plain and Fancy*. A sketch of a two-eyed blue bird became a symbol of true love for the childhood sweethearts in the Amish community of Bird-in-Hand. The love-smitten youths part ways for a time only to reunite as adults when a hex sign with the image of the two-eyed blue bird reminds them of their “blue bird thing.” The play that was set in this small Amish village is often credited as a catalyst for the boom in Amish Country tourism.

A quilt encompassing this design would be constructed using the appliqué technique. Appliqué comes from the French *appliquer*, which means to “put on.” In appliqué, one layer of fabric is placed over another and then sewn in place. It opens a completely new design world to the quilter allowing for many more possibilities than just piecing alone.

**Amish Acres Historic Farm
and Heritage Resort**
US Highway 6 | Nappanee, IN

w: AmishAcres.com
p: 800.800.4942



-  *Bronze Leaf Scarlet Eureka Begonia*
-  *Green Leaf White Eureka Begonia*
-  *Fields Blue Ageratum*
-  *Yellow Boy Yellow Marigold*
-  *Turf Grass*

E2 “Pinwheel” - Das Dutchman Essenhaus

SIZE: 49'W X 57'H

Das Dutchman Essenhaus was chosen as a test garden in 2007. This year marks their fourth year on the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail. With experience on their side, the gardening staff does an outstanding job of keeping this treasure in tiptop shape. The exquisite grounds of the Essenhaus complex feature many uniquely original horticultural displays.

Their Quilt Garden displays a double border of Eureka red bronze leaf begonia and Yellow Boy marigolds. The marigolds provide a bold punch of color beckoning us to come into the garden. The pinwheel spins in a clear blue sky provided by a massive planting of Fields Blue ageratum. This plant is widely used in the Quilt Gardens, being favored not only for its flower form and true blue color but also for its sturdy constitution and drought resistance. The pinwheel itself is created by alternating half-square triangles of red and white begonias, which should stand up to the heat of this hillside garden.

The marigold has enjoyed a long and honored place in history. Originating in Mexico and Central America, they are believed to have been grown by the Aztecs and Mayas for religious use. The earliest use of marigolds was by the Aztec people who attributed magical, religious and medicinal properties to them. The National Garden Bureau found the first recorded use of marigolds in the De La Cruz-Badiano Aztec Herbal of 1552. The book records their use for treatment of hiccups, being struck by lightning, or “for one who wishes to cross a river or water safely.” The last use confirms the magical properties ascribed to the flower that has enchanted generations with their colors of the sun and their drought tolerance. It is suspected that in the 1500’s, native marigold seeds were taken from the Aztecs by early Spanish explorers to Spain and later to France and Northern Africa.

Again, a traditional and very popular quilt pattern has been selected by the Essenhaus. They chose this design because they intend for the circular shape to represent the forward motion their organization has taken on in the past 40 years. This garden is a superb photo opportunity for guests, who are encouraged to stroll along the grassed paths. They tell us that they find participation to be “very rewarding and beneficial to work together in community spirit to enhance a guest’s visit to Northern Indiana Amish Country.”

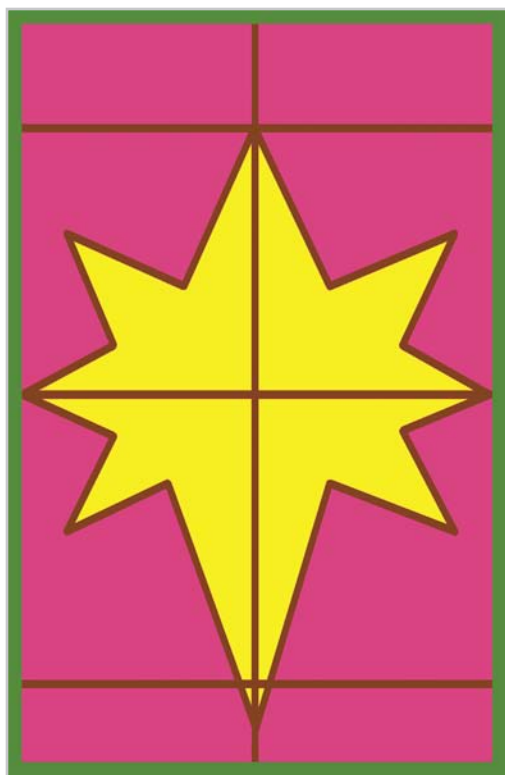
Pinwheel – Quilt Pattern History

The Quilter’s Album of Patchwork Patterns lists dozen of variations on this design. The pieced pinwheel block developed in the U.S. circa 1795 (shortly after the invention of the cotton gin.)

Pinwheel quilt blocks are pieced, using four half-square triangle units that are dark on one side and light on the other, making the block appear to spin when they are sewn together. At the time the pattern was developed, patchwork blocks and pieced borders began to be incorporated into quilts. Most quilt patterns remained unnamed in their earliest incarnations but *Godey’s Lady’s Book* was the first American periodical to publish a quilt pattern in the U.S. in 1835 and by that time, the pinwheel pattern was already quite popular.

Das Dutchman Essenhaus
240 US 20 | Middlebury, IN

w: Essenhaus.com
p: 800.455.9471



Cherry Profusion Zinnia



Yellow Boy Yellow Marigold



Natural Mulch Wood Chips



Turf Grass

F2 “Star of Bethlehem” - Dutch Country Market

SIZE: 25'W X 40'H

Finding locally made foods as fresh as a country sunrise has gotten easier since the Lehman family opened the Dutch Country Market. Katie Lehman's homemade noodles and peanut butter spread are renowned in Amish Country as well as her whipped honey spreads. Mom and Dad make eight in this equation where three sons and three daughters keep busy in the family business. The couple's six children help operate the market as well as the Quilt Garden. When asked what their anticipated work schedule might be Norman said, “what-ever it takes” giving us a glimpse of their Amish work ethic. This is how they run their business and how they care for their Quilt Garden.

Bordering the Star of Bethlehem is the All American Selection winner Cherry Profusion zinnia. They chose the zinnia because of the honeybees on the property. This zinnia is disease resistant, an important consideration when selecting varieties. It also tends to be draught tolerant, which is a definite plus when growing on a steep grade such as we see in most of the Quilt Gardens. From 1931 to 1957 the zinnia was the Indiana state flower only to be replaced by the peony. The star is planted with Yellow Boy marigolds. This dwarf crested or semi-double French marigold tops out at a mere eight inches tall. It is a prolific bloomer, starting earlier than most other varieties. It produces striking 1-2 inch blooms with up to fifty flowers on each plant. Caution must be exercised when fertilizing most marigolds – as overfeeding can result in an abundance of vegetative growth but very few flowers.

This quilt pattern holds special meaning for the Lehman family. They share with us “that if we refer to it as the Jesus Star it needs to be looked upon as our guiding light every single day.” A charming bit of zinnia lore relates to its symbolism in days gone by. It is said to remind us of goodness and daily remembrance – reinforcing the selection for use in this pattern.

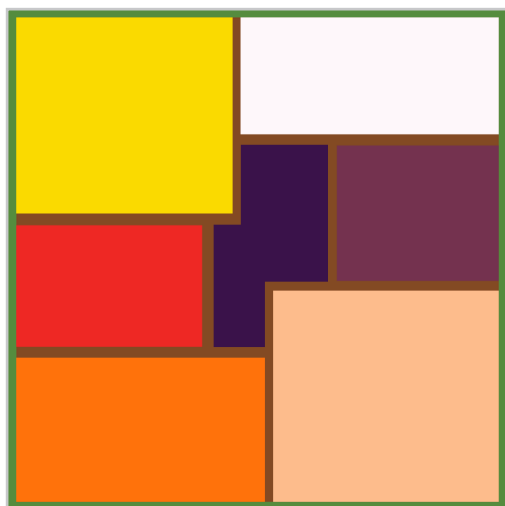
Star of Bethlehem – Quilt Pattern History

A popular and traditional pattern is the eight pointed Star of Bethlehem. It dates to the first quarter of the nineteenth century. As the century progressed these appliqués became less complicated and by the later part of the century the modern version with its plain background was beginning to appear. This version of the Star of Bethlehem traveled across the Great Plains and was introduced to the Plains tribes by missionary wives. The Star of Bethlehem became a predominant theme in their quilt making, as the Morning Star played an important role in their culture. To this day women of the Plains tribes make this pattern in endless variations.

Planning, piecing and quilting this pattern are considered a challenge that serious quilters find hard to resist. It requires precise cutting and stitching as even a single mistake or if the angles of the diamonds are off by even a few degrees, the quilt top will curl or buckle.

Dutch Country Market
11401 County Road 16
Middlebury, IN

w: AmishCountry.org
p: 574.825.3594



- Short Stuff Mix Zinnia*
- White Floral Lace Dianthis*
- Red Night Life Begonia*
- Midnight Madness Petunia*
- Salsa Mix Salvia*
- Outback Mix Durango Marigold*
- Deep Apricot Profusion Zinnia*
- Natural Mulch Wood Chips*
- Turf Grass*

B2 “The Remnants Pattern” - Elkhart Central Park

SIZE: 41'W X 41'H

Located below the City Center Plaza in downtown Elkhart, this garden boasts the River Walk as a backdrop. Within walking distance is the recently restored Lerner Theatre now shining as it once did in the 1920's, but improved and newly outfitted with state-of-the-art acoustical improvements. The renovated theatre is poised to become the cornerstone of a thriving arts and entertainment district.

The list of cultivars in this quilt garden is long but worthy of mention. Listed in order of quantity used they are; Profusion Deep Apricot zinnia, Short Stuff Mix zinnia, Night Life Red begonia, Salsa Mix salvia, Durango Outback Mix marigold, White Lace dianthus and Midnight Madness petunia. The majority of these flowers will play well together having similar growing requirements. The exception may be dianthus, which tends to perform better in spring and fall due to cooler temperatures – often showing stress and fewer blooms in the hottest part of the summer. Only time will tell. Gardening is an art and as such is always subject to the whims of nature and our nurture.

The National Garden Bureau has named 2011 the Year of the Zinnia and here we have two varieties showcased. The zinnia is held in high esteem as a cut and come again. According to the NGB all one need do is “cut one flower stem above a pair of leaves and, within days, two new stems with flower buds will have taken its place.” Like dahlias, zinnias have many flower forms - they may be single, semi-double, or double.

When I first looked at the long list of flowers (eight to be exact) the Parks Department chose for the garden I thought when too many varieties are used in a design it can become difficult to see the pattern, muddled if you will. However, upon second look this particular pattern should work for such an ambitious planting. The color blocking of this design gives clear definition to each variety while still encouraging the eye to meander.

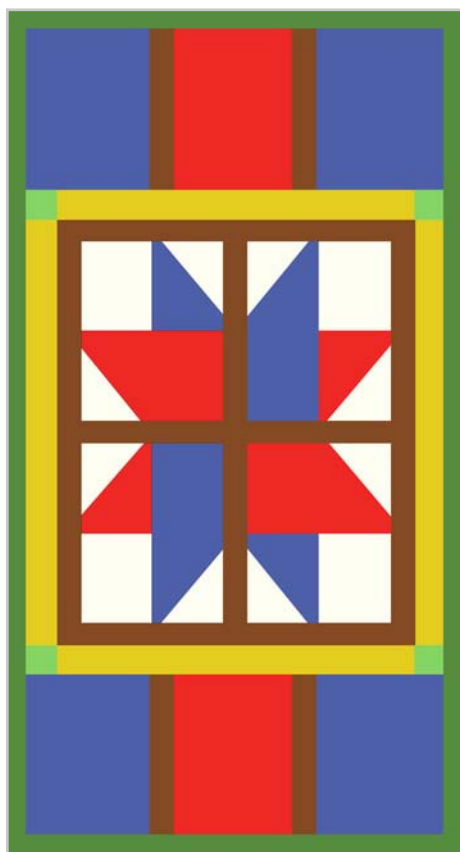
The Remnants Pattern – An Original Design

Although this is not a traditional quilt pattern, the simplicity and minimal colors would certainly be consistent with an early Amish quilt. The park's department personnel designed this garden. It is the fourth garden they have designed. They tell us that their method is KISS – Keep It Simple Stupid. Since they have had gardens in the past featuring circles and curves, they decided to use the square this year noting the variety of plant colors and levels will make this an exciting quilt/garden to bring to life!

The late Mike Maloney, Master Gardener, garden shop owner, radio personality and lover of everything green, was honored by the City Beautification Council of the Elkhart Chamber for his contributions to making Elkhart more beautiful. Mayor Moore proclaimed the Quilt Garden at Elkhart's Central Park to be dedicated to Mike. In 1958, Mike began sharing helpful gardening advice via a weekly segment on WTRC radio. Over the years, his segment “blossomed” into the two-hour “Green Thumbs Up” heard by thousands of devoted listeners each Saturday morning.

Elkhart Parks & Recreation Department
Waterfall Drive & Franklin Street
Elkhart, IN

w: ElkhartIndiana.org
p: 574.295.7275



-  *Bronze Leaf Red Cocktail Begonia*
-  *Fields Blue Ageratum*
-  *Green Leaf White Prelude Begonia*
-  *Jazz Yellow Coleus*
-  *Curley Leaf Parsley*
-  *Natural Mulch Wood Chips*
-  *Turf Grass*

D4 “Star of Purdue Extension” - Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds

SIZE: 20'W X 40'H

Creative and always a winner you will not be disappointed by this garden. The Star of Purdue Extension garden is a cooperative partnership between four organizations: Purdue University Co-operative Extension Service, Michiana Master Gardeners Association, Elkhart County Extension Homemakers, and the Elkhart County 4-H Fair Board. While plant selection and maintenance are primarily done by the Master Gardeners, the Extension Homemakers contributed the design and along with the other two partnering organizations help with planting and expenses.

The eight-pointed star featured in this design is composed of Cocktail red begonia and Fields Blue ageratum. The white background is packed with waxy Prelude begonias. Bordering the medallion is Jazz Yellow coleus and of course, the four corners of parsley, which are a trademark of the 4-H Fairground's quilt gardens and have been used in each of its designs. Jazz Yellow coleus first appeared in the Quilt Gardens last year when it was evaluated at both the Wellfield Botanic Gardens and at the Ruthmere House Museum sites.

Coleus is prized for its brightly colored and textured leaves – which come in many colors, often with multiple colors on each leaf. Although technically a tender perennial, even the slightest frost causes plant damage or even death. The Jazz series is said to be more compact (growing to only 10 inches) and more sun tolerant than other varieties. These heat tolerant plants do better in semi-shaded areas but some can take full sun (be sure to check the tag). Their colors tend to fade in strong sun where keeping them moist can be a challenge. Pinching the plant back will help them stay full and bushier. It is also best to remove the flower spike, as they tend to encourage long leggy growth if left on. Coleus cuttings can be easily rooted in water as well as a light potting mix. You can take cuttings in the spring to get more plants for the garden and again in the fall if you plan to winter over them indoors. A rooted cutting will adjust much better to an indoor environment when it has been started from a fresh cutting.

Parsley is not only a sumptuous deep green herb with great texture and easy care but also is also edible and high in vitamin C. Interestingly, the parsley is also one of the favorite foods of the green, yellow and black-striped larvae of the Black Swallowtail butterfly, so watch for the caterpillars and later in the year the Swallowtails after they emerge from their cocoons.

Star of Purdue Extension – An Original Design

This is the third eight-pointed star for this site (but all very different) and is the center of the fairground's quilt. As with all eight-pointed stars, this would probably be a pieced quilt. The aim of the designer is that the garden appears as if it were a completed quilt on a bed with the star as the focal point. The quilt was designed by Mike and Mary Ann Cross (Mary Ann is an educator for the Elkhart County Extension Office) and represents the four extension program areas - Agriculture & Natural Resources, Consumer & Family Sciences, 4-H Youth Development and Economic & Community Development.

Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds & Purdue Cooperative Extension Service
17746 County Road 34 | Goshen, IN

w: 4HFair.org | Extension.Purdue.edu
p: 574.533.FAIR | 574.533.0554



-  *Picobella Blue Petunia*
-  *Bronze Leaf Red Cocktail Begonia*
-  *Portulaca Sundial Gold*
-  *Green Leaf White Prelude Begonia*
-  *Gold Mulch*
-  *Turf Grass*

D4 “Whirlwind Flag” - Elkhart County Courthouse

SIZE: 20'W X 40'H

Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail now has 18 official gardens – thanks to the participation of the Elkhart County Courthouse. The garden is located on the grounds of the courthouse near the historic Goshen Police Booth-- built in the late 1930's to protect the city's two banks, which were located diagonally opposite of one another, from members of the John Dillinger gang. The courthouse was built in 1869, when the county seat was relocated to Goshen. The square in front of the building is home to many stately maple trees dating back to 1847, which were saved when surveying for the new structure. The courthouse is a stately structure in its own right, but even more so for the magnificent Neptune Fountain. The setting could not be more perfect.

The stars and stripes unfurl among a field of Picobella Blue petunias dotted with white begonias. The patriotic theme is completed in Cocktail red and Prelude white begonias. The flag motif is repeated in each direction allowing it wave to all four corners of the county. Cleverly, they have selected Sundial Gold portulaca (a.k.a. moss rose) for the remainder of the pattern, which is drought resistant enough for this sunny corner of town. Moss rose is a beautiful, bright colored, low growing annual that blooms all summer long with little or no care required. It is one of very few annual succulents.

This garden is a combined effort between Elkhart County Government, Goshen Chamber of Commerce, and the downtown Economic Improvement District of Goshen. Because of its central location, the courthouse is a good place to park and explore downtown. It is within easy walking distance of the famous Olympia Candy Kitchen, Sorg Jewelers, Woldruff's Footwear & Apparel, the Goshen Antique Mall, and a score of unique stores, coffee shops, and historical buildings.

Whirlwind Flag – Quilt Pattern History

Other names for this pattern are Twin Sisters, Water Wheel, Windmill or the Pinwheel quilt. This is a great quilt block for beginning quilters to sew. There are only eight pieces in the whirlwind quilt block, and the pattern of each quilt block is repetitive and easy. This design was found on a website for quilt blocks and was selected in recognition of the location on the courthouse lawn, to represent the government with our nation's flag. With the pattern having four flags, one in each direction it was thought it also represented unity.

Elkhart County Courthouse
in partnership with the
Goshen Chamber of Commerce and
the downtown Economic Improvement
District of Goshen
 101 North Main Street | Goshen, IN

w: ElkhartCountyIndiana.com
 w: Goshen.org
 p: 574.533.2102



	Red Magellan Dwarf Zinnia
	Profusion Yellow Zinnia
	White Snow Crystals Alyssum
	Profusion Orange Zinnia
	Green Stone
	Black Mulch
	Turf Grass

D1 “Flower Basket” - Elkhart County Historical Museum

SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

The Elkhart County Historical Museum participated in the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail as a mural site since the program's inauguration in 2008. Attendance increased each summer thanks to visitors touring the gardens. Bristol is resurging with exciting new businesses, a farmers market, and increased community involvement. Transforming from a mural to a garden site in 2011 is a natural progression for the museum. The mural has been relocated from this location to historic Bonneyville Mill County Park.

As part of the museum's commitment to the preservation of and appreciation for antique quilts, they sponsor many local quilt related events. One such event is the Annual Quilt Registry Day – an event where county residents are encouraged to visit the museum to enter their quilts into its registry of locally owned quilts. Since the program's inception in 2009, the registry has grown to more than 150 quilts owned by more than 60 different families.

The Flower Basket garden is literally brimming with zinnias of all descriptions – a favorite in the cutting garden. Here you see Profusion orange and yellow zinnia and Magellan red zinnia woven to resemble wicker of a fine county basket. It sits atop a massive planting of 550 Snow Crystals alyssum. Under optimal conditions, alyssum may self-seed giving you free spring surprises. Museum operations are managed in cooperation between the Elkhart County Parks and Elkhart County Historical Society. Parks staff and volunteers from both organizations help develop and care for the garden in the 2011 season. The Town of Bristol graciously supported the Quilt Gardens initiative by waving any additional fees to the Museum's water bill related to the garden maintenance.

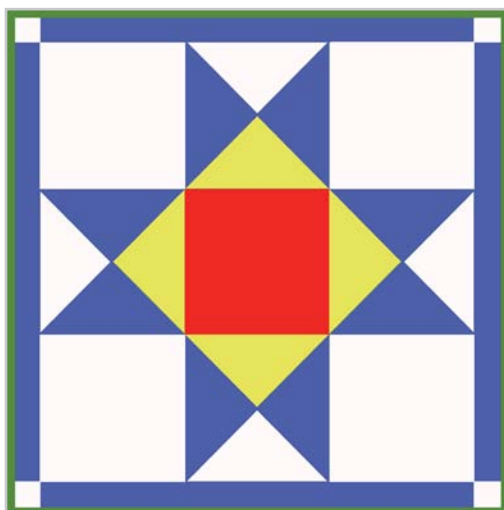
Flower Basket – Quilt Pattern History

The Elkhart County Historical Museum selected the Flower Basket quilt pattern based on an original quilt in the Historical Society's collection of over 60 antique bed covers. The quilt was completed in 1859 and remains in remarkable condition. It has been featured in the museum's popular “Show and Tell” program for tour groups and is generally a crowd favorite. Their quilt was appliquéd, although the basket is popular in pieced quilts as well. Baskets were used constantly in a homemaker's duties and it is natural that it became a popular quilt pattern, as a symbol of home and womanhood. The Museum has a small hallway gallery showing four of the best quilts in its collection, which will prominently feature the quilt inspiring the garden.

Families brought heirlooms to their new homesteads to remind them of their previous residence. In 1877, Cyrus and Drusilla Mosier carried this quilt with them from New Haven, Indiana to Washington Township in Elkhart County. By 1890, Mr. Mosier had started the *Bristol Banner* newspaper and founded the Mosier Opera House. Today the *Bristol Banner* is known as the *Bristol Bugle* and the Mosier Opera House became the Bristol Opera House (home of the Elkhart Civic Theatre.) The original quilt has “1859” embroidered in the lower left corner as a maker's mark to signify the year it was completed. The fabric features red and green appliquéd, which were popular color selections before the American Civil War. The Museum reminds us this quilt was completed two years before Abraham Lincoln became President.

Elkhart County Historical Museum
304 West Vistula Street | Bristol, IN

w: ElkhartCountyParks.org
p: 574.848.4322



- Bronze Leaf Red Eureka Begonia*
- Yellow Profusion Zinnia*
- Fields Blue Ageratum*
- White Hawaii Ageratum*
- Turf Grass*

G2 “Ohio Star” - Farmstead Inn

SIZE: 40'W X 40'H

This year the Ohio Star welcomes guests at the entrance to the Farmstead Inn. Each year they choose a different block from The Shipshewana Blessings Quilt to provide the design inspiration for their Quilt Garden. The town manager commissioned the original quilt “to embrace all the people who have come here over the course of time.” It features both their Amish heritage and that of the Potawatomi Indians who prized this territory for generations prior to settlement by European immigrants.

Another outstanding eight-pointed star pattern comes to life in vibrant flowers at the Farmstead Inn. By using a simple plant palette, they have actually given a more fluid and uniform look to the overall design. More than 5,000 Fields Blue and crisp Hawaii white ageratum make up the largest portion of this garden. I especially like the way they flow one into another creating a soft cozy feel for this garden. Dimension is established in the center of the star by utilizing Profusion Yellow zinnias and Eureka red bronze leaf begonias each adding additional color. It seems that this must be a winning mix of plants for Farmstead since they utilized the exact same combination last year. As is the case with many gardeners, once you find what works you stick to it.

Originally, from Mexico zinnias are a warm climate plant especially favored by countless butterflies. Many gardeners add zinnias specifically to attract these “flying flowers.” Zinnias do best in well-drained soil with infrequent watering. They are quite drought tolerant. Collecting zinnia seed is fun and easy to do. Remember, however, if your plant was a hybrid it may revert to its parent characteristics. Yellow Profusion zinnias have been included to provide the shine in the Ohio Star quilt. Tried and true, the begonia cannot be beat for dependability. Eureka provides the focal point here, with its rounded and profuse flowering habit. Bronze foliage replicates the fiery red of the blooms allowing the design to communicate the color theme with or without flowers.

The Shipshewana Blessings Quilt is actually the daughter design of The Blessing Quilt that is on display in the Shipshewana Town Hall. This quilt, created for the town of Shipshewana by regional women is a handmade “visual prayer” for those who have been here before us, those here now and for the people of the future that will create life here.

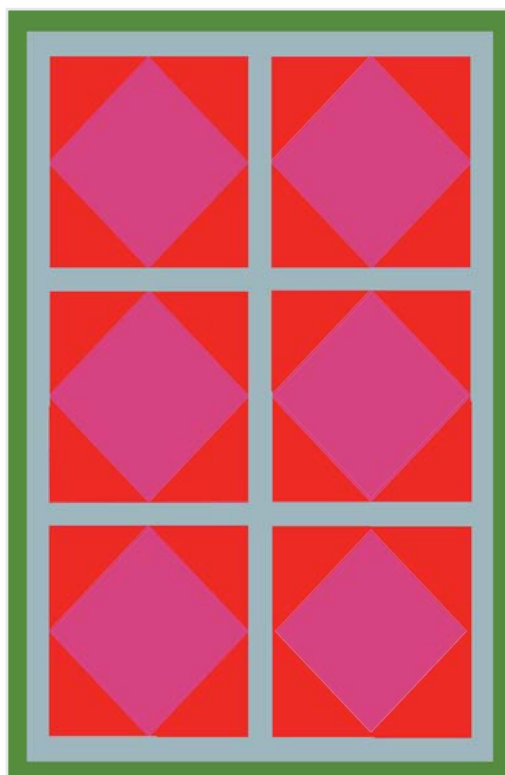
Ohio Star – Quilt Pattern History

The Ohio Star is Block #9 from the Shipshewana Blessings Quilt. Their 2010 quilt was Blazing Star and due to its success, they decided a simple bold pattern was a good idea. Ohio Star is a staple for generations of quilters and is the official quilt block of the State of Ohio. (Whoever knew states had official quilt blocks!) It is a nine-patch block (3 rows of three squares). Four of the squares consist of four-quarter-triangles. This quilt would likely be a pieced work. It is historically popular with Scottish and Irish immigrants of the Midwest as well as in many traditional Amish quilts. The Farmstead comments that the beauty and endless variety of the pattern comes from the placement and contrasts of color within a simple structure.

Farmstead Inn

State Road 5, across from the Flea Market
Shipshewana, IN

w: FarmsteadInn.com
p: 260.768.4595



Cherry Profusion Zinnia



Bronze Leaf Red Eureka Begonia



Silver Dust Dusty Miller



Turf Grass

E2 “Diamond in the Square” - Greencroft

SIZE: 24'W X 36'H

This garden is just one of the many reasons to spend an afternoon in Middlebury – the “Mayberry of the Midwest.” The project is an ambitious one for the volunteers of Greencroft Retirement Village. The team of caretakers will prepare, transplant, deadhead, weed and feed almost 3,600 annuals in this year's garden. The garden requires weekly attention, but it also gives back to those who toil over them. Gardens calm frazzled nerves, renew spirits and stretch their imagination to new possibilities.

A medley of pink and red gives a cheery note to this garden. Eureka Red begonia form the perfect foundation for the dazzling diamonds. Adding that bit of hot color are Cherry Profusion zinnia. Maturing into mounds almost 15 inches high and nearly 18 inches across this prolific bloomer is sure to add interest to this design. Silver Dust Dusty Miller provides a velvety contrast between blocks as well as the outer border of the quilt. This variety is much showier than the one found most often at discount garden centers. A sensory delight, Silver Dust is as soft as a spring lamb and has lacey foliage that could have been laser cut by the angels themselves.

Begonias have performed well on this site each of the last two years. Sturdy and heat resistant these plants always meet our expectations with ease. As for the zinnias, Profusion is not like the one your grandmother planted - owing mostly to its disease resistance, drought tolerance and performance in both cool and warm growing conditions. Zinnias and Dusty Miller do best in well-drained soil with infrequent watering however; this may present a challenge to their resident gardeners due to the low-lying location of this garden.

The symbolism associated with zinnias are thoughts of absent friends, lasting affection, constancy, goodness and daily remembrance – which I find intriguing as it relates to the value of our elders. Highly treasured as though they were diamonds, they hold the wisdom of many years. Lives lived well; through hardship and prosperity, they represent the timeless jewels entrusted to us to relay to future generations.

Diamond in the Square – Quilt Pattern History

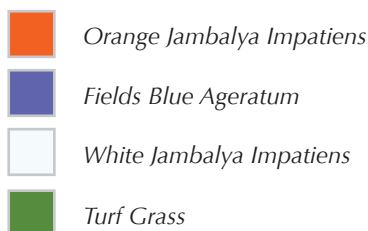
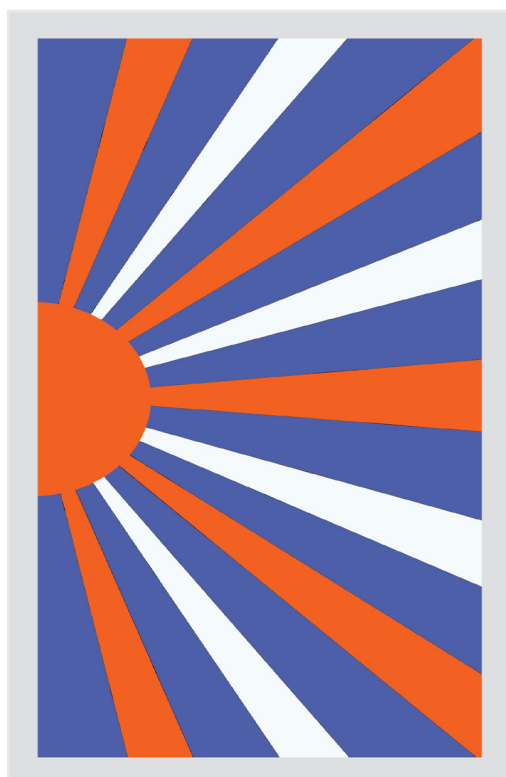
The antique Amish quilt pattern most focused on and admired by collectors is the Center Diamond, also known as Diamond in a Square. It is a quilt design that is one of the oldest known. The minimalist pattern allows for a vibrant interchange of color and provides an optimum solid field for displaying expert stitching abilities. Though originally made in Eastern Pennsylvania, the pattern is now popular in Indiana, Ohio, and Iowa as well. The design is actually not a diamond, but a square tipped “on point,” then surrounded on each side by large triangles, thus forming the “Square” of its title. The beauty of the Center Diamond pattern lies in the simplicity of the lines and solid bold colors of the fabric and quilt design. According to AmishNews.com, the Diamond in the Square design was one of the most common in the early Amish quilts. The border triangles reminded Amish women of the shoulder cape worn over their dresses, which has a triangle shape in the back where it is fastened at the waist.

Greencroft - Middlebury

701 Windridge Drive | Middlebury, IN

w: Greencroft.org

p: 574.825.6785



E2 “Sunrise” - Krider Garden

SIZE: 20'W X 40'H

Mr. Vernon Krider started a nursery business in 1896 and later purchased the patent for the Festival Thornless Rose, the first of its type. Mr. Krider originally designed the gardens for display in the 1934 Chicago “A Century of Progress” World’s Fair. After displaying this immaculately designed garden at the fair, Krider Nurseries gained national prominence.

This garden holds a glimpse of an iridescent sunrise and the promise it holds for us each day. The brilliant orange and white rays of Jambalaya impatiens spill generously between puffs of Fields Blue ageratum as if they were the sky itself. Jambalaya impatiens has a mounded habit that resists stretching, even in the heat and high humidity of August here in the Midwest. This variety is very early to flower and boasts a large number of delicate 2-inch blossoms. Impatiens are symbolic of motherly love according to flower lore. They are also known as “Our Lady’s earrings” referring to the Virgin Mary and the many gardens devoted to her.

Fields Blue has been a standard in landscape design since its introduction in 2004. It won best of class in trials at the University of Florida that year. Fields Blue ageratum is a sturdy pest resistant plant that lends itself to borders and rock gardens. You may also know it as floss flower or pussyfoot. Whichever name you choose you will never forget the airy tufts of color this little plant imparts.

The garden committee has once again chosen shade tolerant plants, which are necessary for this bed in view of the fact that it receives rather filtered sunlight due in large part to the mature trees that are found in the park. As the Quilt Garden designers continue to experiment with color, texture and flower form I look forward to many new inspiring combinations.

Sunrise – Quilt Pattern History

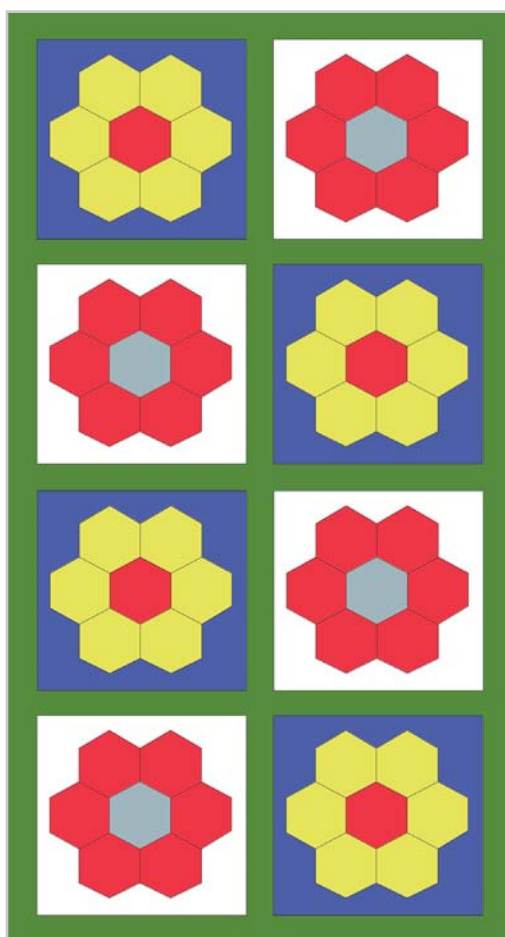
With nothing but candles and oil lamps for light, the pioneers relied on the natural light of day for most of their activities. Industrious folks rose early and were able to witness the splendor of every sunrise. Those who slept late were thought to be lazy and guilty of the sin of sloth – one of the seven deadly sins. It is only natural that Rising Sun quilts would be created as a reminder of those cherished values. In sharp contrast, quilt blocks representing the setting sun are much simpler. A block like Setting Sun, known also as Indian Summer requires some skill, since it includes triangles on a curve, yet was not as difficult as the Rising Sun. Perhaps the contrast represented the difference in the level of energy of a quilter between the early morning rising and the end of the day, having completed a full day’s work.

Krider chose this pattern to commemorate the Sunrise Bench, which is located in the garden. The current bench is a reproduction of the original, which was displayed in the Krider Nursery display garden at the 1934 Chicago World’s Fair. It is also a variation of the Buggy Wheel pattern, which recognizes the local Amish community.

Krider Garden

302 West Bristol Avenue (County Road 8)
Middlebury, IN

w: MiddleburyIN.com
p: 574.825.1499



C2 “Grandmother’s Flower Garden” - Linton’s Enchanted Gardens

SIZE: 32’W X 66’H

Linton’s has more than doubled the diversity in their garden this season. The landscape designers at Linton’s incorporated five flowers in the Grandmother’s Flower Garden. Whenever possible it is wise to avoid monocultures and their inherent vulnerability to pests. Last year a hoard of hungry grasshoppers dined on Linton’s Quilt Garden forcing them to replant.

Profusion Yellow zinnia and Bravo red petunia form a veritable tapestry of color in this Quilt Garden. The contrasting height and color of these plants add overall interest to this time honored quilt design. Notice how half the flower centers are taller than the remainder. This subtle design element helps the viewer’s eye to travel from block to block. For the background of the blocks, they have alternated Hawaii Blue ageratum and Wonderland White alyssum. These plants present us with solid mats of delicate blooms and fill in any negative space left by the larger plants. As filler, they have chosen New Look Dusty Miller with its compact 9-inch habit and solid oak shaped leaves.

Zinnias are rather carefree with some careful planning. Good airflow is essential in order to avoid the tendency to develop powdery mildew. However, Profusion is bred to be resistant to this common problem. While not a heavy feeder, it benefits from a balanced dose of fertilizer a couple of times during the growing season. Try not to over feed them, as they will put the extra energy into lush foliage rather than abundant blooms. Deadheading also encourages increased blossoms and keeps them looking neat and tidy. It would be prudent to include the ageratum and petunias on the deadheading schedule to keep them blooming non-stop through the summer.

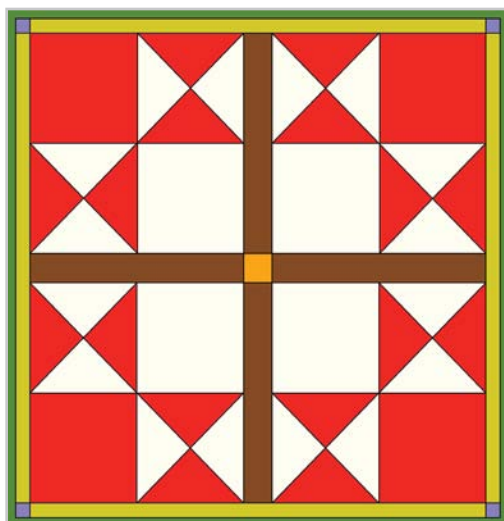
Flowers were once considered a language for women who could not read or write. A bouquet was arranged with specific flowers to convey a precise message. Interestingly in the book, *The Language of Flowers* the symbolism attributed to alyssum is “worth beyond beauty” with which I would heartily agree. It forms a weed suppressing mat up to 12 inches wide and possesses a sweet heady fragrance.

Grandmother’s Flower Garden – Quilt Pattern History

This beloved, traditional pattern is based on the hexagon. Some scholars find the origins for the pattern in ancient Rome where at that time it was known as Honeycomb. Although large hexagons may be pieced with a machine, this quilt is traditionally hand worked. It originated in the late nineteenth century and enjoyed a renewal of interest during the Depression, when quilt making became a necessity in many homes because the tiny hexagons could make use of the tiniest scrap of fabric. The hexagons are individually sewn by hand, and then pieced together to as a flower, which is joined by a meandering path that forms the background of the quilt. In the depression years, each flower was usually different, with the path, which unifies the quilt being the only constant. Today most flower garden quilts pick a unifying color scheme repeated in each flower. Linton has said they felt the flower symbol represents the many aspects of their business and as landscape designers, it shows their respect for the knowledge and creativity of gardeners and nurseries everywhere.

Linton’s Enchanted Gardens
315 County Road 17 | Elkhart, IN

w: Lintons.com
p: 888.779.9333



Cosmic Yellow Cosmos



Green Leaf White Eureka Begonia



Green Leaf Red Eureka Begonia



Lemon Delight Melampodium



Purple Angelonia Sereno



Turf Grass

G2 “Anabaptist Cross” - Menno-Hof

SIZE: 34'W X 34'H

Mennonite groups in Northern Indiana wanted to share the story of their faith. In 1986, with the help of many volunteer workers they organized a massive barn raising to build the beautiful structure housing the Amish-Mennonite story, Menno-Hof. The new facility opened in May of 1988. Menno-Hof is a non-profit organization operated by a board of Amish, Beachy Amish, Conservative Mennonite and Mennonite Church USA members. It presents the history and values of the Anabaptist people who left Europe to flee from persecution and seek religious freedom.

In everything, there is a message, which is especially true at Menno-Hof. Inside you follow the path of people looking desperately for the peace that only freedom of religion can bring. Peace is an important tenant of the Amish-Mennonite faith. They promote the theology of peace not only in relationship to God but also as it relates to social justice and community.

Eureka red and white begonias dominate the Anabaptist Cross - 550 of each to be exact. These begonias do well in full sun, and full sun they will get in this garden. Many triangles are used in this design. The compact habit of this plant produces tight margins to keep the lines of the pattern straight and true. You'll find a block of dwarf yellow cosmos in the center of the cross. The golden border holds one of the easiest annuals you have never heard of. This is Lemon Delight melampodium and one of its best attributes is that rabbits and deer leave it alone. Tucked into the corners are Sereno purple angelonia, a heat-loving plant that will grow and bloom best when the heat is on.

Red, white, gold and purple flowers are “sewn” into this quilt; however, the colors selected are not just ones that happen to match the original quilt. There is strong imagery seen throughout Menno-Hof and the faith they share. This is also true of the Quilt Gardens they create. In the Colors of Salvation, these colors represent the blood of Christ that washes us white as snow to walk the streets of gold in heaven with the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. When looked at through the lens of faith even nature sings the song of the King.

Anabaptist Cross – An Original Design

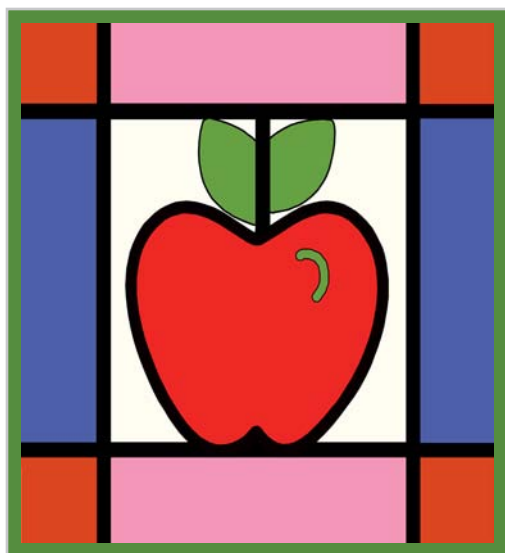
This quilt design was commissioned by Menno-Hof to be used as artwork on the newly constructed barn that would become the Interpretive Center. If you look up from the garden, you should recognize the pattern you see there. They have taken half of the quilt block and tipped it on edge to form their logo. The garden represents the whole block.

They have named the design the Anabaptist Cross, which communicates the story they share with visitors. Amish and Mennonites are Anabaptist churches. The term Anabaptist dates back to the origins of these religions. At that time, their church believed that adults should be baptized, rather than infants or children and therefore they re-baptized believers. “Anabaptist” means, “re-baptized.” This belief was one that led to great persecution and martyrdom among early believers.

Menno-Hof

510 South Van Buren Street
Shipshewana, IN

w: MennoHof.com
p: 260.768.4117



-  *Bronze Leaf Red Cocktail Begonia*
-  *Curley Leaf Parsley*
-  *Green Leaf White Prelude Begonia*
-  *Pink Puff Ageratum*
-  *Orange Boy Marigold*
-  *Hawaii Blue Ageratum*
-  *Black Mulch*
-  *Turf Grass*

A6 “As American as Apple Pie” - Nappanee Center

SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

A symbol of Nappanee's rebirth is their Quilt Garden. Only four short years ago, this quiet little town was nearly destroyed by a late season (October 2007) tornado. The following spring they installed their first Quilt Garden at the McCormick Creek Golf Course. Of course they had many other more pressing issues at hand, but they needed something to believe in and it took the shape of an original quilt and garden named Recovery. Now three years later they've moved the garden to the Nappanee Center to give it a place of prominence in their historic downtown.

Location and accessibility is the name of the game for these gardens. Now this garden can be viewed at a distance from the parking lot, which allows those with disabilities easy access. The previous garden suffered numerous site related challenges. Now with those problems addressed this garden should be much less demanding to maintain. Their committee (exclusively volunteer) is excited about another shot at planting a garden that will truly shine. Even with the problems that beleaguered them last season, there is renewed enthusiasm for the project. We know of course that a newly installed garden brings with it some inherent challenges, however they have so much community support that they are energized and ready to go.

A bright red apple of Cocktail begonias (bordered by Prelude white begonias) is the focal point of this garden. It is paired with deep green curly parsley, which forms its leaves and the happy little worm peaking out to see who has come for dinner. Parsley can be used as an edible ornamental border or companion plant. Parsley attracts beneficial wasps (non-stinging) to the garden, which are especially useful against the dread tomato hornworm. The border is pieced with Pink Puff and Hawaii Blue ageratum. The wide use of ageratum in the Quilt Gardens gives testimony to this dependable and carefree ornamental. In each corner, they have added Boy orange marigolds to complete the design.

By moving the garden to the new location it is now much closer to the four Quilt Murals (on the side of John's Butcher Shop) displayed in the downtown area. This makes possible a “walking” tour of the garden, murals and the downtown district. They tell us “participation in the tour provides an opportunity to be a part of a beautification project that is bringing many visitors to the Elkhart County area.” As technology moves us ever forward, it is reassuring to know that something as simple as a garden can help revive and renew our hope for small towns all across our county.

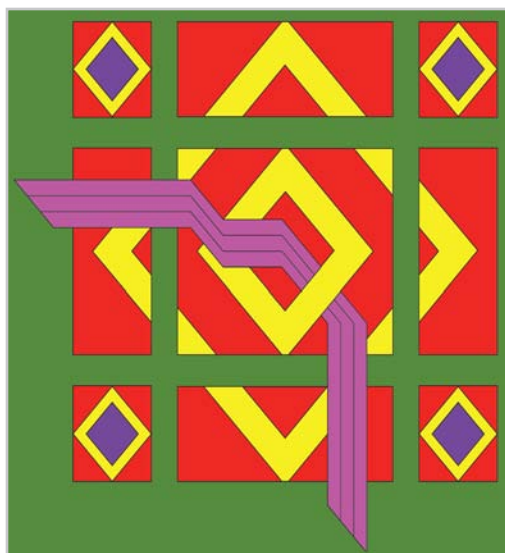
As American As Apple Pie – An Original Design

This original design pays homage to the Nappanee Apple Festival. As a quilt, it would probably have the borders and corners pieced and the apple would be appliquéd on the center panel.

Nappanee has hosted an Apple Festival every autumn since 1975. Held the third weekend of September, the event's signature seven-foot apple pie, weighs in at a hefty 600 pounds.

Nappanee Center
302 West Market Street | Nappanee, IN

w: NappaneeChamber.com
p: 574.773.7812



-  *Lavendar Picobella Petunia*
-  *Bronze Leaf Red Cocktail Begonia*
-  *Yellow Boy Yellow Marigold*
-  *Blue Picobella Petunia*
-  *Turf Grass*

C4 “Egress” - Old Bag Factory

SIZE: 29'W X 32.5'H

A poignant mix of history both past and present awaits you at the Old Bag Factory. The historic property oozes with hospitality and charm and so too the artisans who contribute time and energy to their Quilt Garden. Ask any of the shop owners about the garden and they immediately share a smile, adding how many visitors it brings to their doorstep.

Each year quilt designer Shirley Shenk composes both a quilt and a garden design. She shared with us that she “never knows which will come first.” Although there is strong similarities between the two designs each is an original piece of art.

“Quilter’s logic” is used when mapping out this planting bed. First full-size paper templates of the design are made to scale then laid out on the garden and sprayed with landscapers paint creating outlines for flower placement.

Bronze leaf red Cocktail begonias, Yellow Boy marigolds, and Picobella petunias in both lavender and blue are dressed to impress in this modern twist on a Center Diamond design. There will be deadheading to be sure, but in most other aspects these plants should be trouble free and low maintenance.

The language of flowers, or floriography, was a Victorian-era means of communication in which various flowers and floral arrangements were used to send messages in code. This allowed people to express feelings which otherwise could not be spoken during this particularly period of history. Fortunately, the hidden meaning in flowers was not the consideration in this garden or one might think the affair had gone cold. The symbolism associated with the begonia, French marigold and petunia (according to the Language of Flowers) is dark thoughts, jealousy, and never despair.

Egress – An Original Design

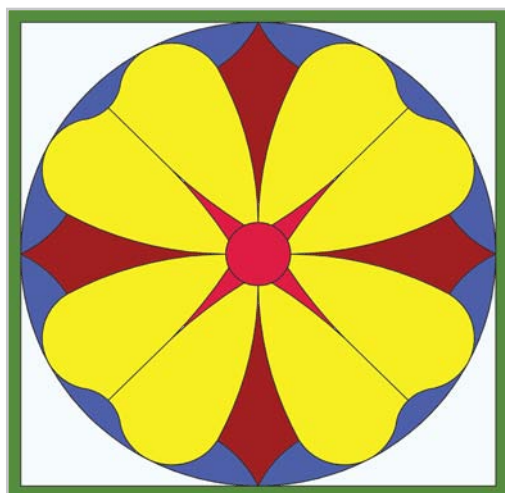
Shirley Shenk of Quilt Designs designed Egress as a contemporary quilt. Different people may view the pink color that moves through the quilt as different things. One man who purchased a wall quilt in this design saw a ski slope (he was an avid skier and owned a ski lodge in Colorado). Others see a lightning bolt or a river. One customer even saw a goose—if you step inside the shop and see the fabric rendering of the quilt you can (with some imagination) see it really is there. Most likely, you will see a waterfall weaving through the two diamonds, but with the joy of art, you may see something entirely different.

Old Bag Factory

1100 North Chicago Avenue
Goshen, IN

w: OldBagFactory.com
p: 574.534.2502

Shirley’s husband Dave names her new quilt designs (in addition to meeting and greeting visitors to Quilt Designs adjacent to the garden). He immediately picked the name and tells of his dad’s rendition of the story of P. T. Barnum and his sign in the circus that had an arrow and the words, “To See the Egress - 5 cents.” Thinking the egress was an exotic bird or dancer, men, in particular, would go through the door marked egress only to find them out in a cornfield. Then in order to get back into the circus, Barnum would charge them the 20-cent admission. Dave points out they learned that “egress meant to exit,” which this quilt does in several places.



-  Hotline Red Salvia
-  Janie Yellow Marigold
-  Fields Blue Ageratum
-  Jambalya White Impatiens
-  Red Mulch
-  Turf Grass

B2 "Prairie Rose" - Ruthmere House Museum

SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

What was once an opulent private residence is now a historical museum and a must see on the Heritage Trail. I highly recommend a guided tour of this treasure filled with lavish one of a kind furnishings and stunning works of art from the Beardsley's private collection. The magnificently restored 1910 Beaux Arts mansion was featured on A&E's *American Castles* and it's sure to transport you back in time to America's Gilded Age.

Ruthmere's garden draws its inspiration from the beautiful stained glass windows in the grand entry to the home. A large yellow rose stitched in nearly five hundred Janie marigolds forms the centerpiece of this garden. The rose rests delicately on a medallion of Hotline red salvia that is also used for the center of the flower. Even more dimension is created by floating the medallion on a large round of Fields Blue ageratum. Each of these components adds a visual layer to the garden with not only color but also height and proportion. Each corner is finished with free flowering Jambalaya white impatiens, which easily spill over to fill out the quilt block.

All American Selections winner Janie marigold offers vibrant yellow double crested blooms that are never hidden by foliage. This is an important point when considering plant materials for the Quilt Gardens, which require big bold areas of color. Ruthmere is one of three gardens utilizing salvia this season. Here they have chosen bright Hotline red salvia, which bears sturdy, lavish, and densely packed solid red bloom stalks forming a flame of color that draws the eye from across the garden. Park Seed Company awarded Hotline their High Performer citation for superior garden-worthiness, "both for its beauty and for its easy, vigorous growth."

Obviously, the Beardsley's were fond of gardening as evidenced by the elaborate conservatory on the property. Mrs. Beardsley enjoyed her gardening so much that an underground tunnel was constructed so she could walk to her greenhouse without the inconvenience of inclement weather. That interest continues today with the Ruthmere Foundation's participation with the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail program. Master Gardener, Pam McIntire, teaches horticulture at the Elkhart Career Center and manages the gardening crew of four who care for this garden and the surrounding grounds. She personally trains each member of the team to insure proper care of the historic gardens, which utilize many of the same plants documented in Mrs. Beardsley's journals.

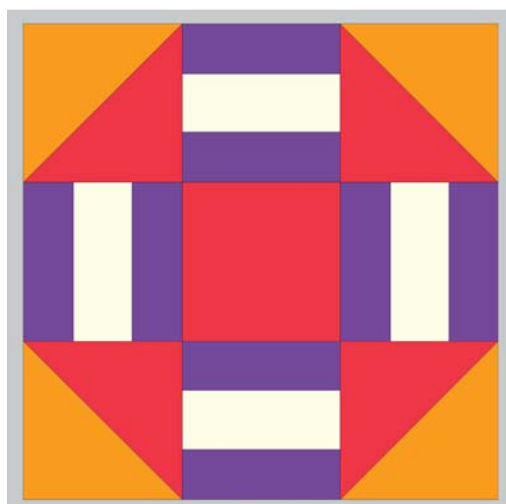
Prairie Rose – An Original Design

Although not a traditional quilt pattern, the Prairie Rose could easily be appliquéd by a skilled quilter. Quilts featuring a medallion of an individual flower or leaf appliquéd in the center were popular from 1834 to 1859 according to A Timeline of Quilting History in America (Red Dawn.net.)

The rose pattern was a traditional image used in stained glass at the time the house was designed by E. Hill Turncock, a well-known local architect (and student of Frank Lloyd Wright.) In the tradition of his mentor, he incorporated many Prairie style accents including the three stained glass windows in the entry, which bear the design used for this year's Quilt Garden.

Ruthmere House Museum
302 East Beardsley Avenue | Elkhart, IN

w: Ruthmere.org
p: 574.264.0330



A5 “Golden Gate” - Wakarusa

SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

From day one, this picturesque little village (named for an Indian princess) set a standard for the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail. They built their garden at a steep angle adding retaining walls so visitors could properly view it. The Maple Leaf mural hangs just to the left of the garden on the side of the Yoder Brothers Mercantile building offering one vantage point for both attractions. While in town be sure to sample the Wakarusa Dime Store's world famous Jumbo Jelly Beans.

The Golden Gate Garden features many tried and true standards in the world of annuals. Marigolds, petunias and salvia do quite nicely here. This garden is quite sunny giving these heavy bloomers plenty of energy to perform their best. Boy Gold marigold adds a bright burst of color to the corners of this pattern. Standing in the center of this design is firecracker red Hotline salvia. These make a striking partner to the marigolds in both height and terms of color. Sizzling hot, these hues complement the overall pattern balancing the cool tone of the petunias. Picobella petunias in blue and white form the bars, which together make up the final four blocks in this quilt. The Picobella series is one of many miliflora petunias, simply meaning that it is loaded with thousands of petite blooms.

Although seed companies tell you Picobella needs no pruning, I disagree. All petunias benefit from pinching back to avoid getting leggy as the season progresses. This also stimulates good branching and sturdier stems helping them cope with the wind and rains of summer. Petunias are also heavy feeders due to the generosity with which they bloom. Fertilize them weekly with a balanced liquid product. They also tend to have shallow root systems so care must be taken to avoid drying out.

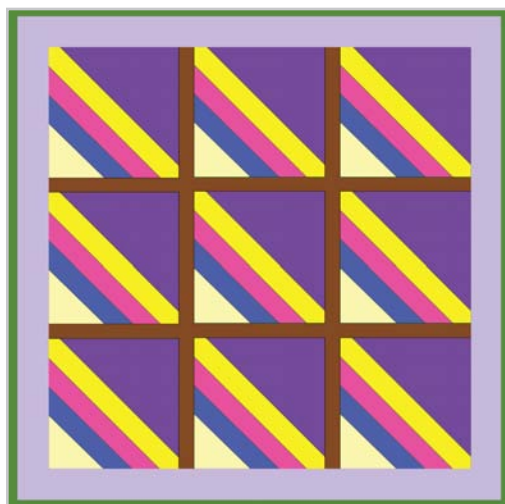
Adding to its charm is the symbolism linked with the petunia, “Your presence soothes me.” Surely, a friendly face would have soothed the brave pioneers who made the long journey, forging new lives so far from home and family. *The Immigrant's Guide to California* by Joseph Ware estimated the cost of passage by ship around the Horn to be \$600 per person – equal to the price of moving a family of four overland by covered wagon. Guidebooks recommended taking two to three quilts per traveler, which was sufficient bedding to last the trip and several years after arrival.








Golden Gate – Quilt Pattern History

This pattern comes from the well-known queen of “Quilt in a Day”, Eleanor Burns. It is a block in her Pioneer Sampler quilt. She said, “The Golden Gate is the strait linking San Francisco Bay with the Pacific Ocean. Eleanor describes the Pioneer Sampler quilt as a tribute to those pioneers going west and the Golden Gate block to those who chose the trip around the Horn as their route thus entering through the Golden Gate. Eleanor's pieced quilts have a different emphasis than most pieced quilts. Rather than painstaking measuring and cutting of pieces “just so,” Eleanor sews pieces together and then cuts them to the appropriate size for quick assembly.

Wakarusa Chamber of Commerce
100 West Waterford Street
Wakarusa, IN

w: WakarusaChamber.com
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-  *Citrus Supertunia*
-  *Hawaii Blue Ageratum*
-  *Pink Apple Blossom Mini Supertunia*
-  *Janie Yellow Marigold*
-  *Royal Velvet Supertunia*
-  *Misty Lilac Wave Petunia*
-  *Natural Mulch Wood Chips*
-  *Turf Grass*

G3 “Amish Shadow” - Weaver Furniture Sales

SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

New to the Quilt Gardens this year is Weaver Furniture Sales - a family owned and operated business since 1989. They offer locally sourced handcrafted Amish furniture that just might become your treasured family heirloom. The Weavers say “it gives them great satisfaction that in today’s global marketplace they are able to offer such high quality Amish built furniture and at the same time help their community, especially their Amish community.”

Sew together a few strips of brightly colored cloth, cut them into triangles, attach them to a dark triangle of equal size to form a square and you have an Amish Shadow. The same process should make quick work of this garden. Here petunias have been used liberally throughout the garden. The border is packed with Misty Lilac Wave petunias while the blocks are lined with Supertunias with names like Citrus, Royal Velvet and Pink Apple Blossom Mini. Hawaii Blue ageratum and Janie Yellow marigolds separate the rows for added texture and height.

Wave Petunias have several varieties with different growth characteristics. The Original Wave (used in the border) is a low-growing and spreading variety that makes excellent ground cover. Most of the Supertunias are only 6 to 10 inches high, but can trail up to 2 to 3 feet long. Due to their vigorous growth, both types need to be given plenty of water and a liquid fertilizer once a week.

The Weavers along with their eight children started their furniture business after many years of work on their crop and dairy farm. The barn that was used in the farm operation was renovated and converted into a large showroom. Since the start, the entire family, all eight children and their growing families, have committed to make this furniture business a success story. Both LeRoy and Ida grew up in Amish homes in Northern Indiana’s Amish Country. Ida grew up in Honeyville where father Amos, ran a farm and sawmill. Later in life, he ran the Honeyville General Store. LeRoy also grew up on an Amish farm where he helped with chores. Still members of the Old Order Amish Church, LeRoy and Ida make their livelihood helping clients fulfill their dreams with custom Amish furniture.

Amish Shadow – Quilt Pattern History

This group of gardeners opted for a traditional quilt pattern. The history is unknown however according to the Nebraska State Historical Society, “the design is popular in many Amish quilting circles because it lends itself to solid colors and geometric designs.” The Society has a quilt that originally belonged to Mrs. Anna Holliet Knapp who had received the heirloom from her mother (presumably as a wedding gift.) Anna was born in 1876 and was married to Robert Knapp around 1893. This quilt was said to be one of Anna’s most prized possessions.

Their gardener chose this pattern because it features bright colors and is a simple geometric design. A quilter of thirty plus years, she saw the quilt at a recent show and decided the Amish Shadow was a perfect fit for a flower garden in the heart of Amish Country. There are many variations of quilts featuring “shadows” created by using appropriate light and dark fabrics.

Weaver Furniture Sales

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-  *Purple Ruffles Basil*
-  *Pink Vinca*
-  *Sunstorm White Vinca*
-  *Purple Gnome Gomphrenha*
-  *Spanish Moss*
-  *Coleus Black Dragon*
-  *Turf Grass*

B2 “Hope Blooms” - Wellfield Botanic Gardens

SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

This 36-acre sanctuary is dotted with scenic ponds and a winding pathway that curves alongside mature hickory and oak trees on the site of the city's historic waterworks. You'll see the Hope Blooms garden situated on a hillside overlooking the largest pond. This garden faithfully replicates an original quilt designed by local fiber artist Diana Bennett for *Hope along the Heritage Trail*, a partnership with the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail and the Vera Bradley Foundation for Breast Cancer.

Plant selection was carefully considered in order to best interpret the exclusive Vera Bradley fabrics used in the original quilt. Beginning with the outermost border, we find Black Dragon coleus, a decidedly stunning example of the diversity coleus has to offer. Sunstorm Deep Orchid vinca is scattered amongst almost thirty flats of white vinca to replicate the dotted Swiss border in the original design. In the floral motif we find orchid pink vinca, Purple Gnome gomphrenha a.k.a. globe amaranth, and finally repeating the “petals” of white and pink. The center holds a delicious surprise featuring Purple Ruffles basil. Thanks to turf grass and a step-able named Spanish Moss giving a two-tone appearance to the leaves.

Artist Jeff Stillson captured the 2010 Interlocking Hearts of Hope quilt in a mural. It hangs next to the Cinnamon Stick in Middlebury - an official Vera Bradley retailer. For the second year, two incredible organizations and one talented individual have collaborated to create an extraordinary garden. Against that backdrop, the Vera Bradley Foundation has joined Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail to collaborate in the fight against breast cancer.

Hope Blooms – An Original Design

Fiber artist Diana Bennett of Goshen created a quilt with the right to use Vera Bradley fabrics in 2010 and returns with a new design in 2011. She again used Vera Bradley's exclusive fabrics for this year. Diana said, “My inspiration for a wall hanging often comes from a walk along one of the country roads near my home or the hard architectural lines that are present in buildings and streets of a town or city. I am sensitive to graphic lines, lights and shadows, color and the change in the seasons. I have always been fond of mysteries and puzzles and the mental stimulus and challenge they provide. The entire process of creating a new work of art is driven by trying to capture an inspiration by doing a simple sketch or jotting down an idea in a notebook. Later the sketch or notes are then expanded into a large hand drawing or computer drafted design that becomes a pattern for the finished piece. I then enjoy the mental stimulus of puzzling out what colors and techniques to use for completing the piece. Like most artists the plan I start with is not always what I get when a project is completed.”

Wellfield Botanic Gardens takes Diana's quilt and renders it in beautiful flowers. You will want to visit the local Vera Bradley retailers and see the quilt wall hanging as it travels from vendor to vendor and buy a raffle ticket for a chance to have this quilt as a permanent reminder of the quilt gardens in your home.

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