



*A glimpse into the creative heart of today's
most talented sewing & quilting artists.*

A large, heart-shaped quilted piece is the central focus of the cover. It is made of red fabric with white polka dots. The heart is surrounded by a quilted border featuring a cream-colored background with teal star and vine patterns. The entire cover has a blue background with a white dashed line separating the top text area from the quilted image.

Pat Sloan
The Voice of Quilting



Rhonda and Pat Sloan
Moda/United Notions Open House 2015

Pat Sloan is on a mission to share the love of quilting. There are so many ways Pat connects with her growing tribe: Podcasts, videos, books, social media, quilt-alongs. Pat, along with her partner, Jane Davidson, is in the middle of an epic global quilt-along — The Splendid Sampler. Every time I check Facebook, I see amazing Splendid Sampler blocks shared by enthusiastic quilters.

Quilting really has no boundaries and Pat leads with a voice we all want to follow. Whether you are a quilting newbie or a seasoned quilter, welcome to the wonderful quilt world stitched together by Pat Sloan. I just know you will be inspired to quilt!

Sew SCHMETZ & Grabbitt Too!

Rhonda

Rhonda Pierce
Spokesperson, SCHMETZneedles.com

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www.Ritassewfun.blogspot.com

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What Inspires
YOU to Sew?



There's an App for That!



*Sewing
Star* ✨

**54,000
QUILTERS!**

Thank you for
joining my Quilt
Classroom!
QuiltAlongWithPatSloan

Pat Sloan

Issue 28





Pat Sloan

Pat in her studio.

Pat Sloan is a quilt designer, book author, fabric designer and very popular internet radio show host. She runs her own design business, Pat Sloan & Company in Fairfax County, Virginia with her husband Gregg.

Although nobody in her family sewed (not even her Grandmother), Pat started sewing as a child (loved those doll clothes!) and continued to sew clothing for herself until she discovered quilting. On her website, she wrote the story of her first quilt, and bravely shared photos which are hilarious.

— www.patsloan.com

A well-known designer and writer in the quilt industry, Pat designed several fabric lines with **P&B Textiles**. Currently, she

is designing fabric with **Moda Fabrics**. She designs patterns to showcase her fabric lines and she has written 30+ books with **Leisure Arts**. She is writing a beginner-friendly "Teach Me" series of books for **Martingale Publishing**.

She also designs patterns for all the major quilt magazines: **American Patchwork & Quilting**, **McCall's Quilting**, **McCall's Quick Quilts**, **Quilters World**, **Quilting Arts**, and the **Fons and Porter** magazines.

When asked to explain the secret sauce to her success, Pat says, "I really enjoy sharing what I do. I love to travel to talk and teach from my quilt designs. The best part about traveling around the country to meet other quilters is watching what they do with my



"Let's Go Sew" pattern by Pat.

designs in a workshop!"

Her weekly internet radio show, **American Patchwork & Quilting Radio with Pat Sloan**, is so popular, she has become "the voice of quilting." Pat says, "I never planned a radio show. It was one of those odd things that sometimes happens. Six years ago I got an email from a lady who is a quilter and web designer. One of her clients was starting an all-woman internet radio station. They needed a quilt show and she recommended me.

I didn't know anything about radio shows, or internet radio, or podcasts, but thought I'd give it a try! I had to

interview with the station manager, who was also an experienced host. He asked, 'Can you really talk about quilts for an hour'?? Silly man! Of course I can! I've talked about quilts for an hour, 45 weeks of the year, for 5 full years! You can find a list of my guests at my website! — www.patsloan.com

I interview authors, museum curators, fabric designers, pattern designers; people who do unusual things like make documentary films about quilters. My most unique interview was with Astronaut Karen Nyberg. Do you know how hard it is to get an interview with an astronaut? You don't just email her. You have to write NASA and get it all organized.



Live! The voice of quilting.
American Patchwork & Quilting Radio

Well I did, and she is amazing. I was delighted to learn she is not the only quilting astronaut! But she took her quilting into space as her personal payload — so that is the sign of a true quilter. I interviewed her on January 6, 2014."

Pat considers herself a geek, and she LOVES technology. By her own admission, she lives, breathes and soaks happily in all things techy. She began her professional life with a degree in computer science. She wrote code, did project management and at one time had a staff of 40 people.

With the dawn of the internet, Pat was among the first to see the possibility of using it to create a community for quilters.

Her love of quilting and deep understanding of technology came together to create a cosmic explosion of community. She and a like-minded individual from her quilt guild started a group on a forum for quilters.

In 1998, Pat started on Delphi boards, and then moved to yahoo groups. When people started their own blogs, the world changed. But it is hard to have community on a blog. So Pat also had a forum. Her forum went up about the same time as Facebook. She was one of the very first quilters to join Facebook and she started finding others as fast as she could! She created her Facebook Classroom, Quilt Along with Pat Sloan, where she has over 56,000 quilters!



Hometown Girl — Moda and Aurifil.

"My happy place is hanging out with quilters on the internet. And sew alongs, quilt alongs anything alongs are incredible fun. I can't even tell you how many I've hosted or been in the last 17 years!"

On February 14, 2016, Pat Sloan and Jane Davidson launched **The Splendid Sampler™**. The Facebook page quickly grew to nearly 20,000 participants!

The Splendid Sampler™ is an epic quilt-along — involving 83 different designers, releasing two original quilt blocks each week. Eventually, there will be 100 BLOCKS in **The Splendid Sampler™**, which is supported by its own website, Facebook page, blog, as well as tips and techniques from the

participating designers linking to their websites, Facebook pages, etc. The blocks are free until March of 2017. Then they will publish a beautiful book of the blocks, quilts, layouts and variations!!

So, how did the mother of all quilt-alongs — **The Splendid Sampler™** — happen? Pat says, *"Jane Davidson and I go way back. Many years ago she invited me to design a block for her, Desperate Housewife quilt-along, and we have been friends ever since. She is a very talented designer, and a longarm quilter with mad skills. I love every quilt she makes, and she is fun to hang around!"*



...Happiness in Stitches with Pat Sloan & Jane Davidson

Jane and I wanted to do something with a large group of our quilt friends. Designers, industry people and shop owners ... something fun ... something extraordinary. At 2015 Spring Quilt Market, with those thoughts percolating, we sat down over a long cup of coffee (latte to be exact). Jane had seen an exhibit of quilts made with blocks of different techniques that really inspired her. We talk about this on my podcast of February 22, 2016 and she explains how that exhibit made her feel. By the end of that coffee we decided to invite 83 people to join us for a 100 block epic quilt-along of 6" squares called The Splendid Sampler™ (we don't know why 83, that's just what happened!).

We asked **Moda Fabrics**, **Martingale Books**, **Aurifil Thread**, **American Patchwork & Quilting** magazine and **Handi Quilter** to work with us.

The Splendid Sampler™ took a lot of time to organize and plan. Almost a year later, on February 14, 2016, we finally kicked it off — and the response has been overwhelming.

We are thrilled to have quilts shops running **The Splendid Sampler™**, designers sewing along to make their own versions, and thousands of participants sharing their blocks on our Facebook page. Quilters are a sharing bunch — and tips are coming out about die cutting, sewing circles, or getting that

The Splendid Sampler™

Jane Davidson & Pat Sloan

Block 1 by Pat Sloan



www.TheSplendidSampler.com

perfect 1/4" seam. We have an expert quilter on the team, and once a month she gives tips and ideas for how to quilt the blocks. It is so darn exciting we can hardly stand it!

With this many people involved, our Facebook group grew like crazy to almost 20,000 in four weeks. It's a wild and beautiful spot filled with quilt blocks from all over the world!

Because we are doing a book, things have to be done way up front so that the single blocks can be photographed. We have two colorways — so 200 blocks. I was flying to our publisher, and took the blocks with me. I hand carried them onto the plane as I was not taking any chances! Jane was texting me to be sure I had

them on my person . . . so funny!! I had the blocks in my roller case, and when they announced that people might need to check their rollers, I took ALL the blocks out, and put them in my purse!"

The Splendid Sampler™ has received rave reviews from quilters all over the world. On the Facebook page, from Karen Johnson: "All I know for sure is that this is the **BEST** quilt along I've ever participated in. Such great instructions so far, so much variety of techniques, etc. Thank you to all the quilters contributing the block patterns. Wonderful!"



— written by Rita Farro



Splendid
SAMPLER™

Pat Sloan

"The Splendid Sampler™ is a journey, we know it will go on for a long time, maybe years. In the next few months we'll be coming up with plans for the future, so stay tuned!"





Links:

www.patsloan.com

American Patchwork & Quilting Radio with Pat Sloan
<http://www.creativetalknetwork.com/>

The Splendid Sampler™
<http://www.thesplendidsampler.com/>

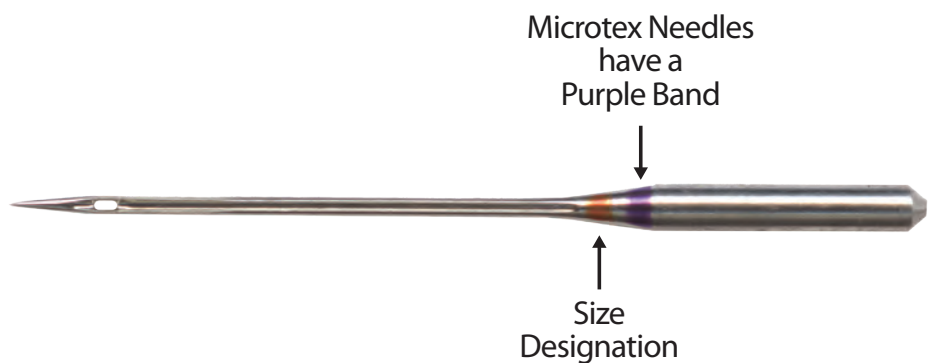
Splendid Sampler™ Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TheSplendidSampler/>

Jane Davidson
<http://quiltjane.com/>





Needle Points with Rhonda



SCHMETZ Microtex Needle

The SCHMETZ Microtex is generically known as a Sharp. This needle has a very slim acute point. In other words, a very fine point. Because the needle is so fine, it also needs to be replaced more often. That's right! Needles don't last forever. Replace the needle when you hear a little click at stitch formation or your stitches become uneven.

Use SCHMETZ Microtex with Micro fibers, polyester, silk, foils, fake leather, batiks, quilting cotton. The very thin acute point creates beautiful topstitching and perfectly straight stitches for piecing quilts. Use when precision is paramount.

Sizes: 60/8, 90/10, 80/12, 90/14, 100/16, 110/18

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Size: 250 x 250



www.SCHMETZneedles.com

