Our block for July is in celebration of the 4<sup>th</sup>of July and gives the illusion of fireworks. It is an appliqué block, which should make those who love appliqué very happy, and provide a challenge to the rest of us who don't usually do the "A" word! Don't be scared. It's easy!

## July 2012 Fireworks Star



12 1/2" unfinished block

| We Provide:                 | You Provide  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| #1 Fabric: Kona Solid White | #2, 3, and 4 Fabric: Your Choice Bright Reds and Blues |
| Cut 1 14" X 14"             | Cut one of each color, larger than templates           |

You can use any technique you are the most comfortable with -there is no right or wrong with this block. If you are unfamiliar with appliqué, you can look up YouTube tutorials on the different techniques on the internet. Here are just two ways to appliqué, for those totally unfamiliar with appliqué.

## Note: Fabric #1 is intentionally larger than 12 ½ inches as sometimes there is shrinkage when appliquéing. You can either trim to 12 ½ inches after you are done, or leave it be so the winner can do the trimming. Position the stars on the background in an arrangement that is pleasing to you.

## Needle Turn/Hand Appliqué:

- 1. Trace templates onto freezer paper. Cut out templates and iron on to wrong side of chosen fabrics 2, 3, and 4 with a hot, dry iron.
- 2. Cut fabric around the freezer paper. Make sure you cut a 1/4 inch from the edge for a seam allowance.
- 3. Pin your star to the background fabric #1. Turn seam allowances underneath the edge of the star as you hand sew the star to the background block. You may find it easier to first fold the seam allowances under and sew them down to the star using a basting stitch. You can then sew this unit to the background block and remove the basting stitches once it is sewn down.
- 4. Once your star is attached to the background block, cut a slit in the back of the background block and remove the freezer paper.

## Heat and Bond/Machine Appliqué:

- 1. Trace the templates onto the paper side of Heat and Bond and cut out on the lines.
- 2. Place with plastic side down on the wrong side of fabric 2, 3, and 4 and iron according to manufacturer's instructions.
- 3. Cut out on your traced lines. Peel paper off the template and position your star on the background fabric #1. Iron according to manufacturer's instructions.
- 4. Sew along the edges of the star with a button hole stitch using either your sewing machine or by hand.