

South Wind Celebration Quilt

A quilt project celebrating
Kansas' 150th birthday

..... Designed by Jerry Stube



South Wind – Celebrate Kansas

2011 will mark the 150th anniversary of the statehood of Kansas and with this quilt we will celebrate that event. Each issue will include one block of our Sunflower Heritage. Kansas takes its name from the Kansa Indians; Kansa means "People of the South Wind".

We will also include some history of our state outlining some of the great, and maybe not so great, events.

Kansas was home to Indians thousands of years before the first white man arrived from Mexico in 1540 in search of gold. The Spanish conquistador Francisco Vasquez de Coronado did not find gold but he called this part of the country "the best I have ever seen for producing all the products of Spain." This was 80 years prior to the Pilgrims arriving at Plymouth Rock.

The Kansa and Osage Nations arrived in Kansas in the 17th century. By the end of the 18th century, these two tribes were dominant in the eastern part of the state. The Kansa on the Kansas River to the North and the Osage on the Arkansas river to the South. The Pawnees were dominant on the plains to the west and north of the Kansas and Osage nations. About the same time, the Otoe tribe of the Sioux also inhabited various parts of the northeast corner of Kansas.

By the late 17th century, France claimed all the land drained by the Mississippi River and named the territory Louisiana. The Louisiana Purchase of 1803 is crucial to the history of Kansas. This permanently annexed the area to the United States. Prior to the purchase all of what is now the state of Kansas had the status of unorganized territory.

Meriwether Lewis and William Clark explored across the territory in late June and early July 1804. Two years later Lieutenant Zebulon Pike, US Army, crossed the Kansas area to meet with the Indians as a representative of the new "White Father". His maps were labeled "the Great American Desert" and this view would help form US policy for the next 40 years, prompting the country to set it aside as land for Native Americans.

Due to the burgeoning trade up the Missouri River from St. Louis, The United States Government sought to form government posts throughout the area. On May 8, 1827, Cantonment Leavenworth, or Fort Leavenworth, was built just inside Indian territory to guard travelers on the United States' Western frontier. This was the first permanent settlement of white Americans in the state. The Santa Fe and Oregon Trails, established in the early 1800's, brought many more immigrants through the Kansas territory traveling in different directions across our vast country. Some who traveled quickly saw the enormous possibilities in Kansas that they made their homes here and others returned to settle on the rich farm lands of the area.

Kansas has a rich history that includes quilting from the early days. Quilting in Kansas and the entire Midwest is known throughout the world. Each month we will show the pattern as well as a photo of the actual block. You may see a color version of the block at www.quiltersqtrs.com. We encourage you to visit your local quilt shop for fabrics to complete this quilt, or use from your stash. However, if you wish to purchase a complete kit using fabrics designed by a Kansan, Toni Steere, you may do so at www.quiltersqtrs.com.

Designers note: The South Wind Celebration quilt is designed so that the quilter can use an assortment of fat quarters or scraps from their stash, however, it does use four fabrics throughout the quilt. The quilter will want to purchase the following yardages for these fabrics:

Deep Red: 3/4 yd.
Dark Brown: 1 yd
Main Background color: 1 yd
Main Floral: 2-1/2

The red, dark brown and main background, is in each of the pieced blocks. The dark brown and main background are also used in the setting to be shown later. The main floral is used throughout the quilt blocks and in the final border. If the floral fabric is chosen first, then the remainder can be chosen to coordinate. I use the term Main Background as there are backgrounds that can be lighter colors later.

Block 1: The Territory

Cutting Directions:

Dark (this fabric will remain the same in each block): Cut two 4" squares
Light Background (this fabric will remain the same in each block): Cut two 4" squares

Main Floral: Cut four 3 1/2" x 6 1/2" rectangles

Red: Cut eight 3 1/2" x 3 1/2" squares.

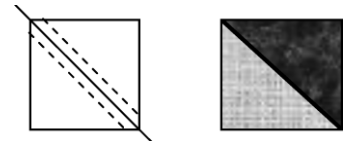
Green: Cut four 1 1/2" x 4 1/2" rectangles

Light tone on tone: Cut four 1 1/2" squares

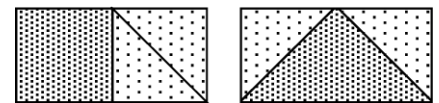
Blue print: Cut one 4 1/2" square

Piecing Directions: Flying Goose and Half Square Units (HST)

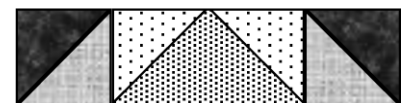
HST: Layer the two dark and two light background 4" squares, RST, draw a diagonal line on the back of the light; sew 1/4" on each side of the line, cut on the line. Press these open to create four HST; square to 3 1/2".



Flying Goose: Place one red 3 1/2" square on one end of each main floral rectangle; draw a diagonal line from the top left corner to the lower right corner; sew on the line. Press to the corner; trim excess from behind. Place a second red 3 1/2" square on the other end of the main floral rectangle; draw a diagonal line from the top right corner to the lower right corner; sew on the line. Press to the corner; trim excess from behind. Make four flying goose units.



Sew one HST to each end of TWO of the flying goose units. Set aside.



Block Center: Sew one 1 1/2" light one on tone square to each end of TWO of the green rectangles. Press.

Sew one green rectangle (without the squares) on each side of the blue print 4 1/2" square. Sew the two green rectangles with the squares on the opposing sides. Press.

Sew one flying goose unit (without the HST) on opposite sides of the center unit. Press. Sew the two flying goose units with the HST to the opposing sides of the unit. Square should measure 12 1/2".

