Missouri Bicentennial Quilt Project

Block #8 -- Faithful Companion
Seaman, Canine Member, Lewis and Clark’s Corps of Discovery (1804-1806)

Option #1 - Pieced “Seaman”

Option #2 - Photo Collage “Seaman”

TECHNIQUES:
Piecing, HST, snowballing, scant
¼” seams, optional embroidery

TECHNIQUES:
Photo collage fusible applique technique, optional embroidery

CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS - OPTION #1 - PIECED

For the dog, from your DARKEST or BLACK fabrics, cut the following... OR fabric could be little bits from ALL your prints. It is, after all, just a representation of Seaman. (Here is a different version of the pieced Faithful Companion block using multiple prints.)

- Cut 1 rectangle 3 ½” x 6 ¼” for ear
- Cut 25 squares 2” for body, muzzle, face, and snowballing
- Cut 2 squares 2 ½” for half-square triangles (HST)
- Cut 2 squares 1 ¼” for snowballing of ear tips
- Cut 1 square 1 ½” for nose

From BROWN:
- Cut 1 rectangle 3 ½” x 5” for longboat

From BLUE:
- Cut 1 rectangle 3 ½” x 5” for water (left side)
- Cut 1 2 ½” square for HST for a little bit of water (right side)

From BACKGROUND:
- Cut 1 rectangle 3 ½” x 5” for back of neck
- Cut 1 rectangle 3 ½” x 2” for left of muzzle
- Cut 1 rectangle 2” x 12 ½” for top of block
- Cut 1 square 2 ½” for HST in the eye area
- Cut 1 square 2” for snowballing ear
- Cut 1 square 1 ¼” for snowballing chin
- Cut 1 rectangle 2” x 5” for above nose
SEWING THE HALF-SQUARE TRIANGLES

Believe it or not we only have TWO HST that we need to make this time. (When I refer to the color black here I really mean whatever color(s) you decided upon for your canine…)

1) Take one 2 ½” black square and one 2 ½ blue square and make HST triangles. Trim one to 2”. You will only use one. This is for the little bit of water on the right side of the block. (See pic below or diagram on page 4 for location). Set the other one aside for possible use later.

2) Take one 2 ½” black square and one 2 ½” background square and make HST triangles. Trim one to 2”. You will only use one. This is for the forehead area. (See pic below or diagram on page 4 for location). Set the other one aside for possible use later.

SEAM ALERT!

A “scant” ¼” seam is slightly smaller than a regular ¼” seam…try and use a “scant” ¼” seam when piecing this block. Here is a great explanation of why:

LET'S START PUTTING THE SECTIONS TOGETHER

**Ear**
- Lay the 3 ½” X 6 ½” ear rectangle in direction as shown in pic. Take a 2” background square and “snowball” the upper right corner. Trim and press.
- Take two 1 ¼” black squares and snowball the bottom two corners of the ear rectangle. Trim and press.
- Now sew three 2” black squares and one black/background HST together to form part of the dog’s face. Press. Sew this portion to the ear as shown.

**Back of neck**
- Turn the background 3.5” x 5” rectangle vertically as shown. Take a 2” black square and “snowball” the lower left corner. Trim and press.
- Right under this white rectangle area you see a 2” black square and a black/blue HST. Sew these two pieces together and then sew them to the background rectangle. Press.

**Muzzle and nose**
- Sew four black 2” squares together to form the four patch of the muzzle.
- Take 1 ¼” background square and “snowball” the bottom left square to form the chin.
- Take the 1 ½” black square (nose) and snowball the upper left side of the four patch to make the nose.
- To the left of this section, add on the 2” x 3.5” background rectangle vertically. Press.
- Add the 2” x 5” background rectangle (turned horizontally) to the top of the nose section.

**Longboat and water**
- Sew the 3.5” x 5” brown and 3.5” x 5” blue rectangles together as shown in the pic.
- Take a 2” black square and “snowball” the upper right corner of the blue rectangle to form the neck.

**Body**

ASSEMBLE THE PARTS INTO THE WHOLE

- Sew muzzle and nose section to longboat/water section. Press.
- Sew the back of neck section to ear section. Press. Add body section. Press.
- Sew the 2 large sections together as shown and then add the 2” x 12 ½” background piece to the top of the block. Press.
- Add any optional embroidery as desired (patterns included on the next page).
- Add an eye eventually...embroidered, buttons, felt, appliqued...you pick!

You’re all done with the piecing - see the optional embroidery on the next page:
OPTIONAL EMBROIDERY FOR EITHER VERSION OF “THE FAITHFUL COMPANION” BLOCK

Seaman

I plan to stitch “Seaman” in the upper right corner of the pieced block. Could also be added to the photo collage block. Ironically, this font is called Merriweather!

I am going to stitch a version of this compass in the brown longboat area of the pieced block (probably will just stitch the N-E-W-S and the spikes and leave out the outer circles)...you may find a compass drawing you like better...use it instead! Could also be added to the photo collage block.

★★★CRAZY THOUGHT★★★
Some of you might want to add mountains in the distance for this block. After all, they did travel through the Rockies! Here is a pic of the grids of the block...you can decide how to add the mountains if you are tempted to try this. (I’m resisting.) Each grid square is a finished 1 ½”.

You will likely make HST from 2 ½” background and mountain fabrics and/or 2” squares to accomplish this!

Any questions? Please email Leslie at lblanchard@stchlibrary.org or Cindy at cmccormack@stchlibrary.org and we will be glad to help. Thanks to Nancy F., a new quilter, for the idea to include Seaman!
OPTION #2 - PHOTO COLLAGE

SUPPLIES

- Various shades of fabric
- ½ yard of Lite version of fusible adhesive such as HeatnBond (Wonder-Under is another brand)
- Cut background square 14” - trim to 12 ½” at end of process

INSTRUCTIONS

1) Use a fusible adhesive such as HeatnBond Lite for this project. You want to use the lite version so you can sew over it later. You cannot easily do this if you use an ultrahold product because the adhesive will gum up your needle.

2) Decide what fabrics you want to use. Assign the fabrics first and it will make your project easier. You can be as creative as you want to be! I am using batiks in my quilt, so I made sure to use some in this piece.

3) **Enlarge the image if desired** and trace the pieces of Seaman. Use a lightbox (or sunny window) to trace each piece separately onto the paper side of the adhesive. Remember that tracing it like this will reverse the image. So if you want Seaman to face to the right, then you want to trace him facing to the left. Leave a little room around each piece for when you adhere it to the fabric.

4) Adhere your pattern pieces to the back of the fabrics you have chosen. Do not overheat, it adheres very quickly.

5) I fit this pattern together like a jigsaw puzzle. **When I cut the pieces out, I cut just barely on the outside of the lines to have a tiny overlap.** This way there is not a lot of fabric built up on the block. However, if you are not comfortable with that, you can certainly build it up and have a fantastic piece. For example, you could cut the outline of the entire pattern out of black and then add the other pieces on top.

6) Once all of your pieces are laid out the way you like them, then iron them on. Do not overheat/overpress them! The adhesive will fail and nothing will stick. The lite adhesive sticks in just a few seconds.

7) You can finish Seaman by straight stitch sewing around each piece if you’d like for a raw edge look or use a satin stitch. This can also be done during your final quilting.

8) There are lots of tutorials online, just search Photo Collage Quilts.

If you have any questions feel free to reach out to me (Olivia) at the Augusta Branch Library (636-228-4833) or via email oschaeferblanton@stchlibrary.org

NOTE: Cindy and I want to thank Olivia for sharing this technique. Olivia held a class on this technique with her monthly quilting group at the Augusta Branch Library last year. Participants recreated their own pets in fabric! Olivia started by taking a photo, photocopying it in black and white, and then outlining the areas where changes in tone were obvious...that resulted in her line drawing of Seaman that you see on the next page.