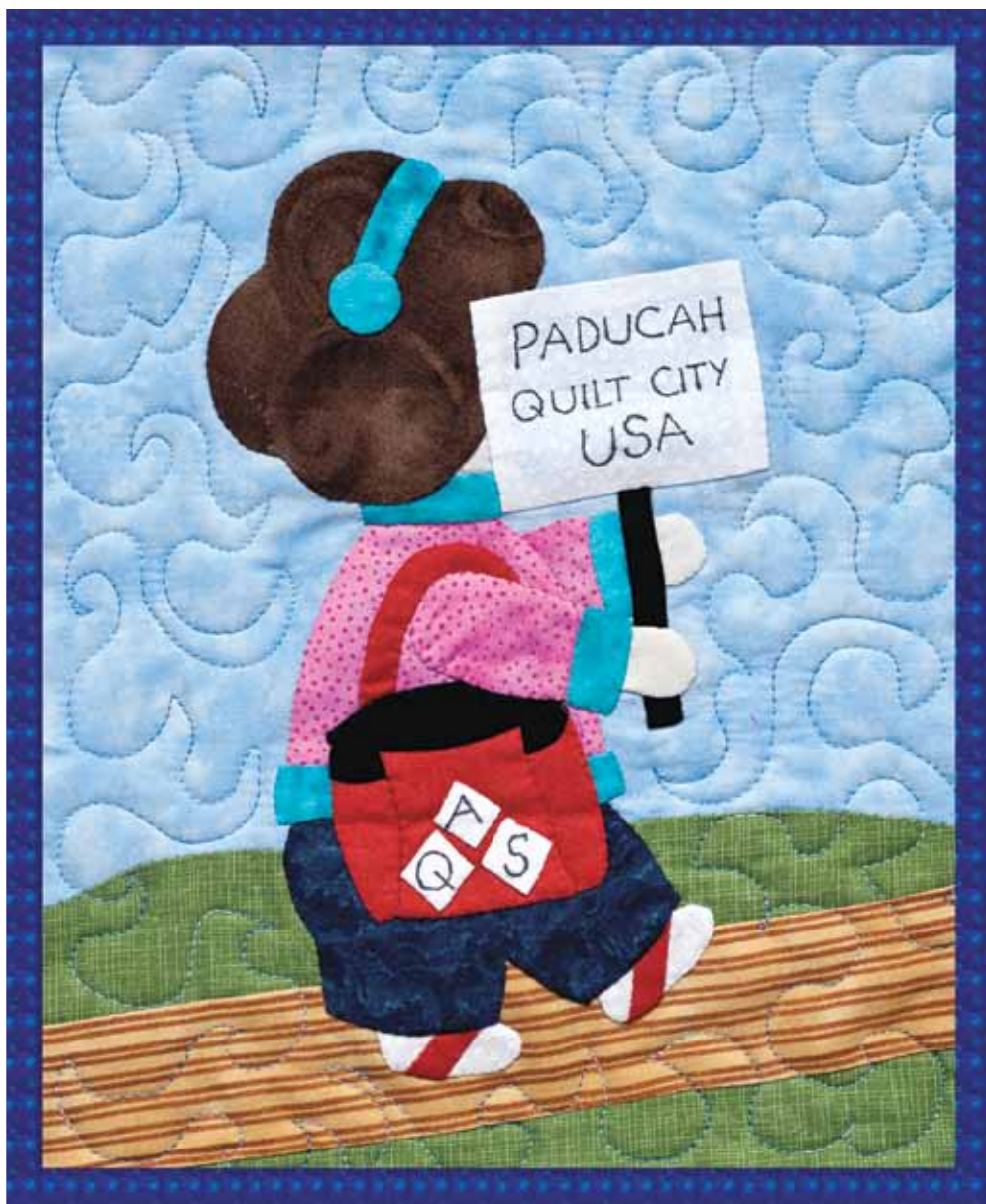


by Debra Kimball, MD, with Andi Reynolds

Sunbonnet Sue

GOES INTERNATIONAL



The basic design we know as “Sunbonnet Sue” became popular in appliqué quilts in the 1930s.

Sue is now popular worldwide, and recently, she had an epiphany. She was reassessing her life and realized that for all of these years, her activities centered upon her family, friends, home,

and garden. She said to herself, “I want to have adventures! I want to travel!”

And so she did in my new book, *International Sunbonnet Sue* (AQS, 2011).

First, I wanted to show several Sunbonnet Sues from different regions of the USA. Then I thought about the countries of origin of many of

our US ancestors, and came up with various North and South American and European countries as well as African and Asian countries.

By then I was having so much fun creating these Sues, I chose to represent all of the populated continents—even the Oceans and Outer Space—49 International Sues in all!

Once out and about in the great wide world, Sue was delighted to meet her counterparts from many countries, each holding something as

iconic as her oh-so-identifiable “bonnet” and outfit, representing her homeland.

I used the Internet to research ideas for characteristic costumes, national symbols, flags, and flowers, and I used elementary-level coloring books and workbooks for drawing ideas. My intent was to be creative and respectful but not necessarily perfectly accurate. Every country is so rich with diversity, each Sue could have been completely different than what I ultimately sewed!

“Traveling” and “meeting”

Sunbonnet Sue all over the globe like this was great fun for me, so I thought you might enjoy making Paducah Sue, a bonus block not included in my book: Cut a background piece 10" x 12". Use various scraps to appliqué Sue in an outfit suitable for going to the AQS Quilt Show and Contest in Paducah (comfy shoes a must!). Use the method of your choice; the sample block is needle-turn hand appliqué. When the appliqué is complete, trim the block to 8" x 10". Attach a border or two if you like, quilt, bind, and enjoy!



**Announcing the
AQS International Sue Quilt Contest!**

See entry rules online at

www.americanquilter.com/shows_contests/desmoines/2011/quilt_contest/

