

NTGM

**2021 FIBER  
CHALLENGE**

**#5 VALENTINE  
WISHES**

**FEBRUARY'S CHALLENGE -  
VALENTINE WISHES**

We are all wishing for COVID  
to finally be over.

That it will be safe for us  
and our loved ones.

And that we can gather  
together again and share  
our love of creating with fiber.

Meanwhile, here's this month's  
Show & Tell. FAVS that members  
have sent to motivate  
and inspire us. We even included  
some baked goods... what's  
Valentine's Day w/o sweets!

There is really no limit  
to the scope of these challenges  
or to when you need to finish.

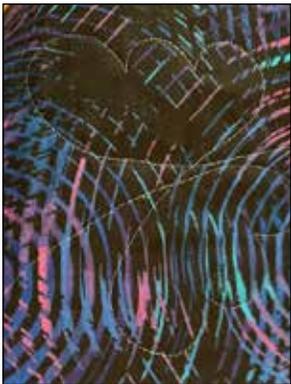
XOXO Terrie, Sharon & Judy

**FROM: BARB GITTLEMAN  
FLOWER GARDEN**

This quilt is 70 x 80 and bigger than I had planned. Each block is 10 x 10. I saw a similar quilt on Pinterest and thought I could figure out that pattern and I did after making several samples.

This quilt was made for a dear friend who moved away to be near her daughter and grandchildren. I was inspired to use a floral design because both my friend and I love flowers and gardens. I used Kaffe Fassett fabrics they are so vibrant and beautiful.

I quilted it on my Janome long arm. You can't see but each square has a butterfly in it. Each square is connected with a heart. I'm just learning to use my long arm so I was pleasantly surprised how nice the quilting turned out.



**SHOW & TELL  
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**FROM: KATHY FORZLEY**  
**FRENCH KNOT VALENTINE**

Hi, I'm a new member and please to participate in the NTGM February Challenge. Here is my Valentine.

I used a cookie cutter to mark the heart shape on to linen fabric and embroidered lots & LOTS of French knots in varied shades of pink to create this simple Valentine greeting. I've developed a love for hand embroidery over the past year and find the repetitive motion of creating French knots is a soothing and methodical motion for me. The piece is mounted in a simple shadow box style frame."

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*Be Mine*



**FROM: RICK WARE  
WHEN ONE PLUS ONE  
EQUALS THREE**

My parents, who are no longer alive, were married on Valentine's Day 70 years ago. I was born about nine months after their 5th wedding anniversary so I was likely to have been their Valentine wish.

This little quilt (8 by 10 inches) is digital whole-cloth. Using the photo montage feature of the editing software, I combined a clip art heart-themed background, my parents' wedding photo, and the earliest photo of myself that I could locate, then added some text before printing it to cloth. It was hand quilted with No. 8 pearle cotton in "big stitch".

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**FROM: SHARON MCKENNA  
BEADED EGGS**

Beading has been my preferred medium for almost 25 years. When I was still working, I made it a point to bead at the end of every day to relax and wind down. So it has been a surprise that throughout this year of the pandemic I have not done any beading at all. The February challenge enticed me to pick up the needle again and I am grateful.

The eggs begin with marble armatures. The large one is approximately 2-1/2" x 1-3/4" while the small one is about 1-1/2" x 1". The large eggs take about 50 hours to complete, using about 10 yards of thread to sew together about 2600 size 11° seed beads (that means there are 11 beads in a linear inch). The small eggs are covered with 15° seed beads (15 beads in an inch) and take about 30 hours to complete. The larger egg has seven different red beads. Designs that emerge develop naturally as I sew and are always a surprise.



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**FROM: SHARON WALIGORA  
SPECIAL VALENTINE COOKIES**

I got lucky this Valentine's Day.

My dear friend, Anne Flora, did all the hard work. SHE made the dough, baked the cookies, made and dyed the icing -- all before I got there. She taught me how to use pastry bags, and gave me some decorating tips." All I had to do was have fun decorating them... and eating a few.

Anne is a special NTGM friend and a past teacher and workshop leader.

*"I was one of the lucky recipient of a few of these treasures. The hardest part is to actually eat them."* JL



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**FROM: MEENA SCHALDENBRAND  
HUGGING BOOKMARKS**

Each time I see my grand kids, they ask me to chase them for hugs. **I have to earn them!**

These bookmarks recreate that fun ritual and will eventually go in a memory quilt for each of them.



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**FROM: TERRIE VOIGT**

It's February and I'm at the **Village Fine Art Gallery in Rochester Hills** where Jeanne Sarna and I show our work.

I'm thinking Valentine's Day, but there is hardly any red in the garment section of my display and way too much cream.

So, I took home some of the rust and tannin dyed sweaters, sweatshirts and scarves and over-dyed them in greens or browns. I rearranged one wall to highlight the variety of colored garments and scarves with red up front. On the other wall I narrowed the focus to the cream and rust colors. I feel the area is now more inviting.

It's an example of how important color is in all aspects of textiles.



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**FROM: JEANNE SARNA**  
**DIAMOND TUDOR NECKLACE**

I fell in love with this pattern called Diamond Tudor, it was designed by Pru McRae for her Prumihimo disk. I converted this pattern from a disk pattern to be made on the marudai, a Japanese braiding stand.

When using the marudai it is much faster braiding than working on a disk, because you are able to move two cords at once and do not have to readjust after every set of moves.

I loved how the Diamond Duos/Gem Duos are integrated into the braid. After the braid was complete, the braid was beaded to outline the Diamond Duos/Gem Duos, with seed beads in a diamond pattern, this beading is worked by connecting the beads that have been braided into the braid.

I generally like to repeat most patterns I try in different color ways, making little adjustments. The three main difference between these two necklaces are using top drilled 6 mm rounds in the teal necklace and teardrops in the pink necklace.

The satin cord changed from .5 mm in the teal necklace to 2.0 mm cord in the pink necklace. Notice in the photo with the two necklaces the pink fiber base is much thicker than the teal base, the bead size and shape differences. I also changed the size 8/0 beads to 6/0 beads.

These may seem like little differences but by documenting these differences I can understand the finer points these changes made and understand and control the outcomes of future projects.

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**FROM: JEANNE SARNA**  
**MY VALENTINE CHEESECAKE**

**Oreo Cheesecake** is one of my favorite cheesecakes, in fact my husband Michael noticed I had this recipe out and said I should make that Cheesecake for the Superbowl game when our son, Geoff comes over.

Years ago, I worked out a 6 inch version, which is perfect if you just need a decadent dessert for two, and don't want a lot of left overs around. I usually top this Oreo Cheesecake with about 6 or 8 Oreos placed in a circular pattern on top, so people know at a glance what kind of cheesecake it is.

One Valentines, I added the **Chocolate ruffle top** with a drizzle of white chocolate and fresh raspberries. This ruffle top was spectacular but very time consuming to make. The chocolate ruffle requires about 10 ounces of bittersweet chocolate, the chocolate must be perfectly tempered, chilled then brought back to room temperature then using a triangle chocolate scraper each ruffle is made. The ruffles are added starting in the center. White chocolate is drizzled over the ruffles and the fresh raspberries were added. Full instructions for this Chocolate Ruffle technique are available in the *Cake Bible* by Rose Levy Beranbaum.



# OREO CHEESECAKE

Your choice of two sizes. Please note: portions are for 6" cheesecake (portions for larger cheesecake are in parentheses) JS

## **Crust:**

**1 tea** (1 TB) butter or non stick baking spray  
**15** (25) Oreo cream sandwich cookies  
**2 1/2 TB** (4 TB) unsalted butter, melted

## **Filling:**

**8 oz + 3 oz** (four 8 oz pkgs) cream cheese, softened  
**6 TB** (1 1/4 C) sugar  
**2 tea** (2 TB) flour  
**1** (4) eggs  
**1** (3) large egg yolks  
**2 TB** (1/3 C) whipping cream  
**1/4 tea** (1 tea) vanilla  
**7** (15) Oreo cream sandwich cookies, coarsely chopped

## **Topping:**

**3/4 C** (2 C) sour cream  
**1/4 tea** (1 tea) vanilla  
**1 1/2 TB** (1/4C) sugar  
**6 -8** Oreo cream sandwich cookies for garnish



- Preheat oven to 425°F.
- Using butter or non-stick spray, grease or spray a 6" x 2" (or 10 1/2" x 2" or 9" x 3") spring-form pan.
- **To prepare crust:** Place cookies in a food processor fitted with a metal blade. Process until cookies are all crumbs.
- Add melted butter and mix. Or mix cookies crumbs and butter in a bowl.
- Pour into spring-form pan. Press evenly over bottom and two-thirds upside of the pan. Refrigerate while preparing filling.
- **Filling:** In a large bowl, beat cream cheese until smooth, scraping down sides.
- Add sugar, beating until mixture is light and fluffy, about 3 minutes, scraping down sides of the bowl occasionally.
- Mix in flour. While beating continuously, add eggs and yolks, mix until smooth.
- Beat in whipping cream and vanilla until well blended.
- **Assemble:** Pour half the batter into prepared crust.
- Sprinkle with coarsely chopped Oreo's. Pour rest of batter over and smooth top with spatula. Some of the Oreo's may rise to the top.
- **Bake:** Place on a baking sheet. For 6" size, bake 5 minutes. (for the larger size, bake 15 minutes). Reduce oven temperature to 225°F degrees and bake an additional 30 minutes for 6" size (and 50 minutes for large size) or until set.
- Remove cheesecake from the oven and increase oven temperature to 350°F.
- **To make topping:** Combine sour cream, vanilla and sugar in a small bowl.
- Spread sour cream mixture evenly over cake.
- Return cheesecake to the oven and bake 7 minutes for either size, or until sour cream begins to set.
- Remove from oven and cool on a rack in a draft-free place to room temperature, at least 30 to 40 minutes.
- Cover and refrigerate several hours or overnight. The cake may be refrigerated for up to 3 days. Before serving remove sides of spring-form pan.
- Serve chilled. 6" cake serves 6; larger cake serves 12.

**FROM: JUDY LOYD**

From Wikipedia

**Valentine's Day**, also called **Saint Valentine's Day** or **the Feast of Saint Valentine**, is celebrated annually on February 14. It originated as a Western Christian feast day and is now recognized as a significant cultural, religious, and commercial celebration of romance and love in many regions of the world.

The Feast of Saint Valentine was established in AD 496 in honor of Saint Valentine of Rome, who died on that date in AD 269. The day became associated with romantic love in the 14th and 15th centuries when notions of courtly love flourished, apparently by association with the "lovebirds" of early spring. In 18th-century England, it grew into an occasion in which couples expressed their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards. Since the 19th century, handwritten valentines have given way to mass-produced cards.

In 1797, a British publisher issued *The Young Man's Valentine Writer*, which contained scores of suggested sentimental verses for the young lover unable to compose his own. Printers had already begun producing a limited number of cards with verses and sketches, called "mechanical valentines." they were assembled in factories.

Fancy Valentines were made with real lace and ribbons, with paper lace introduced in the mid-19th century. In 1835, 60,000 Valentine cards were sent by post in the UK, despite postage being expensive.



In 1840 invention of the postage stamp (Penny Black) saw the number of Valentines posted increase, with 400,000 sent just one year after its invention, and ushered in the less personal but easier practice of mailing Valentines. That made it possible for the first time to exchange cards anonymously, which is taken as the reason for the sudden appearance of racy verse in an era otherwise prudishly Victorian.

In the United States, the first mass-produced Valentines of embossed paper lace were produced and sold shortly after 1847 by Esther Howland\* of Worcester, MA. She took her inspiration from an English Valentine she had received. Intrigued with the idea of making something similar, Howland began her business by importing paper lace and floral decorations from England.

Since the 19th century, handwritten notes have given way to mass-produced greeting cards. In the UK, just under half of the population spend money on their Valentines, and around £1.9 billion was spent in 2015 on cards, flowers, chocolates and other gifts.

In 1868, the British chocolate company Cadbury created Fancy Boxes in the shape of a heart for Valentine's Day. Boxes of filled chocolates quickly became associated with the holiday. In the second half of the 20th century, the practice of exchanging cards was extended to all manner of gifts, such as giving jewelry and flowers.

The U.S. Greeting Card Association estimates that approximately 190 million valentines are sent each year in the US. The average valentine's spending has increased every year in the U.S., from \$108 a person in 2010 to \$131 in 2013.

\*<https://b-womeninamericanhistory19.blogspot.com>

## FROM: JUDY LOYD

From Wikipedia

*"As I was looking up the history of Valentine's Day I found this charming little treasure". JL*

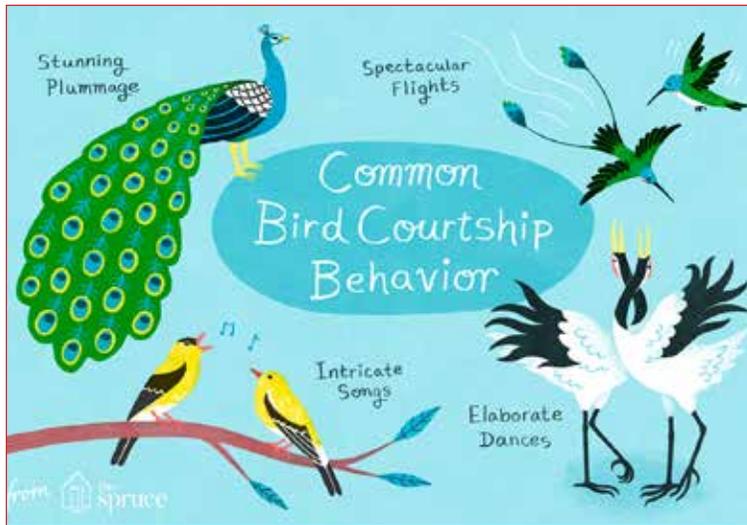
A proverb says that "Saint Valentine brings the keys of roots". Plants and flowers start to grow on this day. It has been celebrated as the day when the first work in the vineyards and in the fields commences.

**It is also said that birds propose to each other or marry on that day.**

## CHAUCER'S PARLIAMENT OF FOWLS

The first recorded association of Valentine's Day with romantic love is believed to be in the Parliament of Fowls (1382) by Geoffrey Chaucer, a dream vision portraying a parliament for birds to choose their mates. Honoring the first anniversary of the engagement of fifteen-year-old King Richard II of England to fifteen-year-old Anne of Bohemia, Chaucer wrote:

"For this was on Saint Valentine's Day  
When every bird comes there to choose his match  
(Of every kind that men may think of!),  
And that so huge a noise they began to make  
That earth and air and tree and every lake  
Was so full, that not easily was there space  
For me to stand—so full was all the place."



## CRAFTSY CROCHET HEART PATTERN

Level: Advanced-beginner

### What You Need:

- Cloudborn Superwash Merino Bulky (larger heart shown in Sky Blue)
- US L-11 crochet hook
- Tapestry needle

### Pro Tip:

This is a perfect project for any yarn scraps you have on hand. We worked up a version in both fingering and bulky weights, and both look amazing. As long as you match your hook size and yarn weight, the sky's the limit.

### Gauge:

Gauge is not important here!

### Finished Size:

Your finished heart will vary in size depending on your yarn and hook combo. Experiment and have fun!

### Abbreviations:

Ch – chain

Dc – double crochet

Hdc – half-double crochet

Rnd – round

Sc – single crochet

St – stitch

Tr – triple (treble) crochet

### Instructions:

- Ch 4.
  - Rnd 1: (3 tr, 3 dc, ch 1, tr, ch 1, 3 dc, 3 tr) in 4th chain from hook, ch 2, slip st to first tr to join.
  - Rnd 2: Ch 3, (sc, hdc) in 1st st, 3 hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, sc in next 4 sts, (sc, dc, sc) in next st, sc in next 4 sts, 2 hdc in next st, 3 hdc in next st, (hdc, sc) in next st, ch 3, slip st in center of heart.
  - Rnd 3: Ch 3, sc in top of ch 3 from previous round, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts, (sc, dc, sc) in next st, sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, ch 3, slip st in center of heart.
- Fasten off. Weave in all loose ends.

## Share the Love

Have more hearts than you know what to do with? We've got ideas!

- Be mine. Attach a sweet note to your heart and give it as a valentine.
- Fill it with gifts. Crochet two identical hearts, then use a yarn needle to seam around the bottom of the heart. Leave the top open so you can tuck in fun Valentine surprises like candy, lip balm or another tiny gift.
- Wear it on your sleeve. Glue or sew a pin back to your heart, then literally wear your heart on your sleeve.
- Make a garland. String the hearts on a long strand of yarn, or chain a long strand with your crochet hook for something sturdier. Sew or thread the hearts onto the long strand, then hang it somewhere awesome.
- Yarn bomb it. Tie long strands of yarn to three or four sections of the heart, then tie the heart to a chain-link fence. It's sure to make passersby smile!



***NOTE FROM JUDY:** We have most of the older NTGM newsletters, since the summer of 1975. In the beginning, we were very much a Needlework Guild. Each issue had a least one needlework diagram or pattern. Some were very elaborate and interesting. Might be fun to recreate some of them. I'll include some in the future.*



**FROM: JUDY LOYD  
FAMILY TREASURE**

My mother was one of five Davenport sisters. Aunt Josie knitted, Aunt Louise crocheted and was a master seamstress, Dorothy (my Mom) was also a fine seamstress, fashion designer and jewelry maker, Aunt Lily was a fine arts water colorist and Aunt Florence did wonderful Tole painting. Amongst the grandchildren we have an architect, car designer, portrait artist, interior decorator, knitters and more sewers. And I'm an artist (commercial, fine and fiber). I made this treasure ages ago with lots, lots of help from Aunt Louise.

**SHOW & TELL**  
**2021**  
**#6-**  
**MARCH**  
**MADNESS**

**EARLY ENTRY!**

**FROM: SHERYL HOGAN**  
**AVIATRIX QUILT**

I have my fabric for #GAAQQQAK. Can't wait to start the aviatrix quilt!

Greater Ann Arbor quilt guild quilt along. Starts Feb 14th and we are doing the aviatrix medallion quilt by Elizabeth Hartman. For the quilt along we will be posting our progress on Instagram.

Anyone can join the quilt along. You don't have to be a member of the Ann Arbor quilt guild.

<https://letsquitalong.com/blog/f/quilt-along-with-ann-arbor>

