



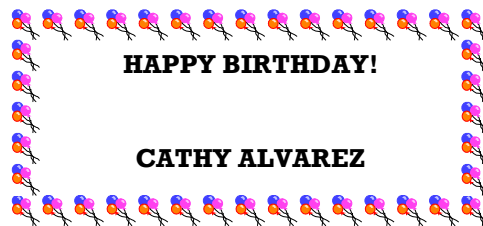
# The Brown Sugar Press

## PRODUCT REVIEW

### BENDABLE BRIGHT LIGHT

If you wish you had more light in the sewing area of your machine, then the Bendable Bright Light may be the answer for you. The light features a flexible, bendable arm which allows you to beam the light wherever you want. This small but bright little light has a base which attaches directly to your sewing machine and also has a long electrical cord; the flexible arm, lamp and electrical cord portion can detach from the base. You can buy extra bases to attach to other machines so you can use the light at multiple sites. It is great to take to class instead of lugging a larger light. The light is available at many places, including Nancy's Notions and Addicted to Crafts.com; ask for it at your local quilt shop as well.

Myla Chapman



## QUILTING HINTS

To help get a grip on a quilt for free motion quilting, try these: 1) fingers cut from rubber dishwashing gloves; 2) knit gloves with gripper dots; 3) your bare hands and Neutrogena® Norwegian Formula® Hand Cream or glycerin. They both provide the tacky feel needed for good control and neither product will stain your quilt; 4) secretary fingers with vent holes



# The Brown Sugar Press

## QUILTER PROFILE—AISHA LUMUMBA

**Your name and place of birth –** Aisha Lumumba, McDonough, GA

**How long you've lived in the Atlanta area –** 35 years

**What you do for a living and other hobbies and interests -** Full-time Fiber Artist - I have worked in food service, worked for a book distributor and have been part-owner of several health food stores and a restaurant. I have written three books; two cookbooks and a novel. I am presently working on a book of short stories.

**A little information about your family –**Married to Chinyelu Lumumba for 31 years. Four children: Malaika 35, Jabari 29, Sharifa 26 and Anane 21.

### Quilting history:

I started sewing when I was a little girl, but my family couldn't really believe my interest. By the time I was 12, I had made my first dress, got my very own sewing machine and started making all my clothes. I made clothes for other people during my high school years. The accumulation of scraps from all that sewing started me on the path to making quilts at 18. I'm in the process of becoming a well-know professional. I have found that consistency is the key to getting known. I've been quilting full time for the last seven years. I grew up in rural Georgia and just about every adult in my close circle quilted and sewed. My mother, both my grandmothers quilted and I hear that my great-grandmother was a master quilter. Our neighbors quilted and so did my aunts. I love hand piecing and machine quilting. It is the satisfaction I get from the finished product that matters. I would hand quilt more if I had time. My heart is in traditional, but lately I have been doing a lot of art quilts. I have done about an equal amount of each. I do a lot of bed quilts for special orders but more wall hangings since I have been doing more art quilts. I have entered several quilt shows. I have entered a couple of juried shows, although that is not my focus.

**What do you like most about being a professional? What do you like least?** I like creating and quilting gives me the greatest satisfaction of creating. I am pretty rigid with my work schedule but I like the freedom of being able to change it if I need too. I least like the fact that many times people don't consider art as a legitimate job.

**What is your favorite class to teach? What is your dream teaching venue and subject?**

I don't teach much but would love to share what I have developed for advanced quilters.

**What is your favorite quilt that you have made?** I made this orange quilt that I have kept for myself. It is a traditional pattern and I just love the fabrics that I used.

CONT'D ON PAGE 4



# The Brown Sugar Press

**Aisha Lumumba**

**cont'd from Page 3**

What is your favorite place in the world that your profession has taken you to? **I have been a lot of places all over the United States and Ghana, West Africa. I guess I haven't been to that favorite spot yet because home is my favorite place in the world.**

In ten words or less, what words of wisdom do you have for the quilters in our guild?  
**Organize your time and work space and be consistent.**

*Editor's Note: Aisha is our BSS member profile and professional quilter profile for this month. Be sure to go and see her work at the Grounds Coffeehouse through November 8.*



**Ninety Degrees**



**Aisha Lumumba**



**The Stars Come Out**

# The Brown Sugar Press

DAS QUILT

By Thea Crosby

*The Division of Aging Services (DAS) Quilting Team was founded on August 3, 2007 when Ruth Davis, a staff member of the Community Care Services Program, shared her vision of a DAS quilt with Maria Greene, Director of the Division of Aging Services. The quilt displays a message of the Mission, Vision, and Values of the Division of Aging Services, and will serve as a lasting tribute to the elderly and disabled clients for years to come. The Brown Sugar Stitchers Quilt Guild agreed to take on the project and provided consultation and technical assistance toward the successful completion of the project. The BSS DAS Quilting Bee completed the DAS Quilt in August 2008 and the DAS Quilting Team presented the quilt to the DAS staff on August 26, 2008.*

**Members of DAS Quilting Team:**

**Ruth Davis, Founder**

**Cynthia Adams-Butts**

**Pat King**

**Diane Roberson**

**Gloria Pearce**

**Sheila Phillips**

**Gloria Adams**

**Patricia Haley**

**Joan White**

**Tina Lawrence**

**Marsha Caleb**

**Brown Sugar Stitchers DAS Quilting Bee:**

**Thea Crosby, Chairperson**

**Anita Crosby, Assistant Chairperson**

**Janice Daniel**

**Nina Moore**

**Maxine Moore**

**Bessie Barnett**



**DAS QUILT**



# **The Brown Sugar Press**

## **Quilt of Holes**

**As I faced my Maker at the last judgment, I knelt before the Lord along with all the other souls. Before each of us laid our lives like the squares of a quilt in many piles; an angel sat before each of us sewing our quilt squares together into a tapestry that is our life.**

**But as my angel took each piece of cloth off the pile, I noticed how ragged and empty each of my squares was. They were filled with giant holes. Each square was labeled with a part of my life that had been difficult, the challenges and temptations I was faced with in every day life. I saw hardships that I endured, which were the largest holes of all.**

**I glanced around me. Nobody else had such squares. Other than a tiny hole here and there, the other tapestries were filled with rich color and the bright hues of worldly fortune. I gazed upon my own life and was disheartened. My angel was sewing the ragged pieces of cloth together, threadbare and empty, like binding air.**

**Finally the time came when each life was to be displayed, held up to the light, the scrutiny of truth. The others rose; each in turn, holding up their tapestries. So filled their lives had been. My angel looked upon me, and nodded for me to rise. My gaze dropped to the ground in shame. I hadn't had all the earthly fortunes. I had love in my life, and laughter. But there had also been trials of illness, and wealth, and false accusations that took from me my world, as I knew it. I had to start over many times. I often struggled with the temptation to quit, only to somehow muster the strength to pick up and begin again. I spent many nights on my knees in prayer, asking for help and guidance in my life. I had often been held up to ridicule, which I endured painfully, each time offering it up to the Father in hopes that I would not melt with in my skin beneath the judgmental gaze of those who unfairly judged me.**

**And now, I had to face the truth. My life was what it was, and I had to accept it for what it was. I rose and slowly lifted the combined squares of my life to the light. An awe-filled gasp filled the air. I gazed around at the others who stared at me with wide eyes.**

**Then, I looked upon the tapestry before me. Light flooded the many holes, creating an image, the face of Christ. Then our Lord stood before me, with warmth and love in His eyes. He said, 'Every time you gave over your life to Me, it became My life, My hardships, and My struggles. Each point of light in your life is when you stepped aside and let Me shine through, until there was more of Me than there was of you.'**

**May all our quilts be threadbare and worn, allowing Christ to shine through!**

**Father, God bless all my friends in whatever it is that you know they may need this day! And may their life be full of your peace, prosperity and power as he/she seeks to have a closer relationship with you. Amen.**

**Submitted By**

**Phyllis Scott**



# The Brown Sugar Press

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### BROWN SUGAR EVENTS

**October Meeting- 10/18**—Rhonda Barrow—Taxes-Hobby Expense/Elaine Parker-Bead Wksp

**November Meeting—11/15**—Meet at Carrie Steele Pitts Home

**December Meeting**-Annual Holiday Party—Details TBA

**January Meeting—1/17/2009**-Annual Tri-Guild Challenge—What Does Going Green Mean to You? For challenge information go to the private yahoogroups site in the files area.

**July 2009—Brown Sugar Stitchers Quilt Show**

**Callaway Gardens Quilt Show—October 11-12 & 18-19.** Entry deadline September 21. See private yahoogroups site for form and information.

**Georgia Quilt Show—October 16-18,** Gwinnett Civic Center, Duluth, GA. Entry deadline was 8/25/08.

**IQA International Quilt Show and Festival - October 29-November 2,** Houston, TX - Go to [www.quilts.com](http://www.quilts.com) for more information.

### BITS FROM THE BY-LAWS

**The purpose of the BSSQG shall be to foster the art, history, and culture of quilters of color; to promote the preservation of quilt making through educational programs, exhibits and outreach activities, to establish lines of communication among its members for the stimulation of thought, exchange of ideas, mutual assistance and enhancement of individual strengths; to encourage sharing of members' talents and skills.**

***Do your part towards our guild's purpose and mission. Make sure you get those quilts done for the upcoming quilt show and always be willing to share your quilting knowledge with your sister guild members and anyone else.***



THE BROWN SUGAR PRESS

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**Brown Sugar Stitches  
Quilt Guild**

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brownsugarstitchers.htm](http://www.quiltsites.com/brownsugarstitchers.htm)

ADVERTISING RATES:

	1	3	12 mos
1/4	\$10	\$20	\$60
1/2	\$15	\$40	\$80
Full	\$20	\$50	\$100

Please contact editor to advertise in this newsletter:

Myla D. Chapman

quiltmyla@aol.com

2008

NEWSLETTER

DEADLINES:

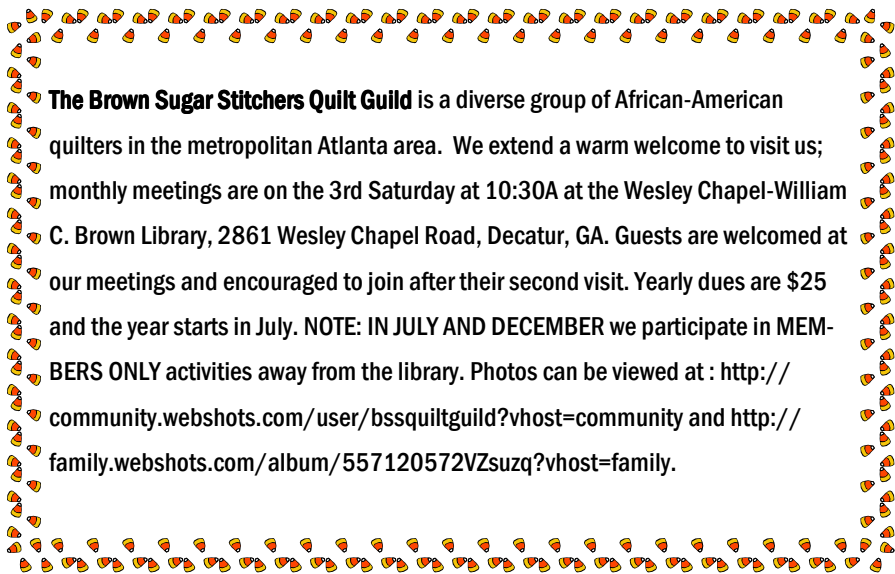
10/29, 11/29, 12/27

**LITTLE TREASURE ASSIGNMENTS**

2008

October—Myla

November—Nina



The Brown Sugar Stitches Quilt Guild is a diverse group of African-American quilters in the metropolitan Atlanta area. We extend a warm welcome to visit us; monthly meetings are on the 3rd Saturday at 10:30A at the Wesley Chapel-William C. Brown Library, 2861 Wesley Chapel Road, Decatur, GA. Guests are welcomed at our meetings and encouraged to join after their second visit. Yearly dues are \$25 and the year starts in July. NOTE: IN JULY AND DECEMBER we participate in MEMBERS ONLY activities away from the library. Photos can be viewed at : <http://community.webshots.com/user/bssquiltguild?vhost=community> and <http://family.webshots.com/album/557120572VZsuzq?vhost=family>.



**QUILTING HINT—FOLDING FABRIC FOR COMPACT STORAGE**

This works for fabric yardage of around one yard or more and 45" width. 1) place the fabric in front of you, with the length going towards your left (west). 2) fold the fabric in half so that selvages are north and the fold is south. Basically, this is the way that it already comes off the bolt. 3) take the folded south end and fold up and in half so that the 1st southern fold is now even with the northern selvages. 4) take the short end of the fabric from the right (east) and fold it over left toward the length (west) onto itself in a 10" width—use a 10" x10" square to help you measure; the now double-folded piece should be about 10" wide - place your square on top of the newly folded part to make sure. 5) take the 10" folded piece and fold again from right to left, keeping your 10"- I put my finger in to help, and then continue to fold to the end of your fabric yardage. Anything left over can be folded toward the right under the folded stack, making it all even. Fold all your fabrics this way and stack them up neatly. I got the idea from seeing the folding system where you secure the fabric to a very slim "bolt" and then fold. You could also use the 10" square and fold the fabric around it and then remove the square from inside the folded fabric.

Myla Chapman