

**Barbara Carper**

Hometown: Charles City, VA

Email: [brcarper@hotmail.com](mailto:brcarper@hotmail.com)

Barbara Robertson Carper is an accomplished quilter and professional educator. She began sewing as a child, happily making doll clothes by hand or on her mother's portable Singer sewing machine. Before she was 5 years old, Barbara learned to embroider and in first grade, she was asked to exhibit samples of her work on a class bulletin board. In high school, she made her first full-size quilt top, cross stitched on a stamped Paragon pattern.

A forty year career in education followed Barbara's college and graduate work. In addition to teaching on the high school and college levels, Barbara traveled extensively, often organizing and leading students on trips throughout Europe, Africa, and Asia. During those years Barbara dabbled in various forms of needlework--needlepoint, crochet, knitting, flag making, and quilting.

In 2006, she met and fell in love with Bill Carper, a retired businessman who lives in Charles City, VA. They married in 2008, and Barbara moved to an idyllic spot on the historic James River, not far from Williamsburg. While her husband refers to their location as nirvana, she calls it the boondocks, noting that there are few neighbors and that the closest grocery is 25 minutes away. The nearest quilt shop, well....

A friend who attended The Elly Sienkiewicz Applique Academy for many years suggested that Barbara enroll in the academy in order to meet local needlewomen. There, she was introduced to appliqué and Baltimore album quilts. Barbara describes her first days at the Academy as intimidating, but the teachers she met quickly put her at ease, and the friends she made welcomed her to their weekly Glory Bee. "If those ladies had been bank robbers, I would have been one too. Fortunately, they were appliquéers." Barbara continues to sew with them every Friday. In 2012 she returned to the Academy as a classroom helper. Teacher Evelyn Crovo-Hall became her mentor and friend, introducing her to prepared edge appliqué. In 2017, Barbara joined the faculty of Barbara Blanton's Academy of Appliqué in Historic Williamsburg.

Barbara has been a member of the Richmond Quilters' Guild since 1998 and a member of the Embroiders' Guild of America since 2016.



## GRIFFINS IN THE GARDEN

Taught by  
**Barbara Carper**  
 Email: [brcarper@yahoo.com](mailto:brcarper@yahoo.com)

**3 DAY CLASS \$550.00**  
**MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY**

### CLASS DESCRIPTION:

Half lion, half eagle, mythical griffins surround a bouquet of bejeweled flowers in this aptly named block, "Griffins in the Garden". Buttonhole stitches and fusible web anchor the griffins in place to keep them from flying off to Apollo, the sun god. Elements of the central motif are fashioned off block using the prepared edge method of appliqué. The flowers sparkle with beads and embroidered details. Silken vines and ribbon work bring elegance to the 24"x24" design. The block lends itself well to becoming the center of a spectacular medallion quilt!

### SUPPLY LIST:

- mini iron and a firm ironing surface
- 1/4" stencil brush, spray starch, and a small container to hold starch
- personal sewing lamp, electrical cord and power strip
- stiletto
- sharp to the point scissors and paper scissors
- tweezers
- emery board
- pencil for marking fabric
- Roxanne's glue baste and small appliqué pins
- Soft Fuse fusible web (about 4 sheets-a must for making the griffins!)
- an appliqué (non stick) pressing sheet
- freezer paper
- appliqué needles #11; embroidery needles # 8; chenille needles # 22 for ribbon work
- 20"x20" piece of foam core
- any basic sewing notions that you like to use, such as a thimble, needle threader, thread heaven, etc.

### FABRICS AND EMBELLISHMENTS:

- background fabric 28"x28"
- small pieces of a variety of fabrics (silk or cotton) in your choice of colors for the appliqué flowers and leaves
- 1/3 yd. each of gold and brown fabric for the griffins
- thread to match floral appliqué pieces (silk or cotton)
- 40wt Sulky rayon thread to match griffin pieces
- silamide or nymo thread for sewing beads
- silk ribbons (4mm), seed beads, and embroidery floss (silk or cotton) for stems and embellishments

### Notes and tips:

- I like to use 4-5 different shades of each color way when making flowers, allowing extra for fussy cutting. This will give your flowers the illusion of dimension and texture.
- If choosing silks for appliqué, you must always stabilize them first. I recommend either Touch of Gold or Presto Sheer. Both are available on line, if not at your local shop. Hand dyed ribbons, matelassé silk, and dupioni silks are available from [maryjohiney.com](http://maryjohiney.com)
- I used a single strand of Elly's Silk 30wt. variegated green thread for the vines in the central motif. Elly's Silk thread is available at [uncommonthread.com](http://uncommonthread.com).
- I do not use the freezer paper made for wrapping meats. I prefer CutRite heavy duty crafter's freezer paper that comes in 8"x11" sheets.
- Soft Fuse fusible web, as the name suggests, will keep the griffins pliable

Lab Fee: \$12 (Includes freezer paper templates)



## LOVERS IN THE GARDEN

Taught by  
**Barbara Carper**  
 Email: brcarper@yahoo.com

**3 DAY CLASS \$550.00**  
**THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY**

### CLASS DESCRIPTION:

Celebrating the arrival of spring, cheerful little love birds appear in the garden, anxious to build their nest. They perch on branches surrounded by a flowering wreath in this Baltimore Album style block. Constructed using the prepared edge method of appliqué, the flowers and leaves are quickly assembled off block. Beads, ribbon work, and embroidery embellish many of the flowers. Fussy cutting your fabric will give the illusion of dimension and texture to your work. The design covers an area 15"x15". It may be stitched using cottons or silks, in whatever palette pleases your eye.

### SUPPLY LIST:

- mini iron and a firm ironing surface,
- 1/4" stencil brush, spray starch, and a small container to hold starch
- personal sewing lamp, electrical cord and power strip
- stiletto
- Roxanne's glue baste and small appliqué pins
- freezer paper
- appliqué needles #11; embroidery needles # 8; chenille needles # 22 for ribbon work
- 20"x20" piece of foam core
- sharp to the point scissors and paper scissors
- tweezers
- emery board
- pencil for marking fabric
- any basic sewing notions that you like to use, such as a thimble, needle threader, thread heaven, etc

### FABRICS AND EMBELLISHMENTS:

- background fabric 20"x20"
- small pieces of a variety of fabrics (silk or cotton) in your choice of colors for the appliqué
- thread to match appliqué pieces (silk or cotton)
- silamide or nymo thread for sewing beads
- silk ribbons (7mm), seed beads, and embroidery floss (silk or cotton) for stems and embellishments

### Notes and tips:

- I like to use 4-5 different shades of each color way when making flowers, allowing extra for fussy cutting. This will give your flowers the illusion of dimension and texture.
- If choosing silks for appliqué, you must always stabilize them first. I recommend either Touch of Gold or Presto Sheer stabilizers. Both are available on line, if not at your local shop.
- Hand dyed ribbons, matelassé silk, and dupioni silks are available from maryjohiney.com
- I do not use the freezer paper made for wrapping meats. I prefer CutRite heavy duty crafter's freezer paper that comes in 8"x11" sheets.

Lab Fee: \$12 (Includes freezer paper templates)