

Piecing our Lives

The monthly newsletter of
The West Alabama Quilters Guild

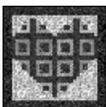
April, 2015
Volume 16, Number 4

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Karen made this wonderful St. Patrick's Day quilt.





President's letter:

Sometimes I am astonished at the number and kinds of mistakes I make, such as forgetting to check if I put the right sides of the fabric together—mistakes I attribute to age, distractions, and a defective brain. I also make tons of mistakes simply because I am relatively new to quilting such as making a quilt that is not square and that has uneven free motion stitches. These mistakes are the kinds of mistakes all beginners make. Being a beginner *means* you will make mistakes because mistakes are part of learning. Consequently, (as Laurie reminded us of Barbara McC's rule), I remember that if you are galloping by on a horse and you can't see the mistake, you don't worry about it.



There is substantial research (much of it based on the work of Carol Dweck) that says what is important when you inevitably make mistakes is your mindset. If you take a growth mindset, you think success is due to effort and hard work and mistakes simply mean you need to work harder and practice more and you will improve. If you hold a fixed mindset you think success is due to ability, rather than effort and practice and mistakes are due to lack of ability. You assume (erroneously) that talent and ability are fixed and innate—you are either born with artistic talent or not, born with craft ability or not, (born with mathematical, reading, etc. ability or not) and you can't do anything to change your talents. But, that's not true. Artistic ability, creativity, and quilting talent are not innate; they are skills and knowledge we can learn with practice. So, I take risks, make mistakes, remember to have a growth mindset, and know that with effort and practice I can develop my talents, creativity, and quilting skills, and I don't worry about mistakes. Experts are not born; they are made through practice and effort. More about experts next month.

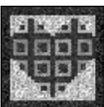


On April 11 we learn about Accuquilt from Ronda Kennedy, which can be a quick and easy way to complete our August Itch to Stitch charity quilts, and Sara Terrell leads her applique dress workshop after the meeting. We have a booth at the Druid City Arts Festival at 1 Government Plaza to sell tickets for our opportunity quilt. We still need some volunteers to help Charlotte with the booth. Then, in May, Julie T and Joyce T help us learn to make quilts using jelly rolls and charm packs.

Spring seems to have finally arrived. My husband bought a "big green" underwater fish light, which brought in schools of shad bait fish and he caught his first bass. He decided to move his hobby train boxes to the basement and to clear out his fly fishing paraphernalia from our hobby room leaving me with many more closet shelves and desk drawers for quilt stuff. It was a happy, happy hobby weekend.



And sew on,
Inez



April 11, 2015, Guild Meeting:

8:45 Basics and Beyond: For April we are going to have some fun with Suzanne McNeil's version of the Ten-Minute Block. A really fun way to use bits of fabric and only a few seams to get really nice quilt possibilities. You can use a layer cake for beginners and we will also try a more optical illusion version of the 10-minute block for those who want to be more daring. **Ana.**

9:30 Guild Business meeting

10:30 Program:

Curious about using a die cutter in the quilting process? We have the answers! **Rhonda Kennedy from Stitches N Stories** will show us how to use the **Accuquilt die cutter** to produce perfectly prepared pieces for our patchwork and appliqué.

You may remember Rhonda as a vendor at our last quilt show.

She has great prices and will have cutters and some dies available for purchase after the program with special offers: \$5 and \$10 Off All GO! Dies - \$5 off the regular price of all GO! Dies up to \$44.99 \$10 off the regular price of \$45 or more. If you already have a cutter and want to purchase a specific die, email Rhonda at rhonda.kennedy.d1140@gmail.com.

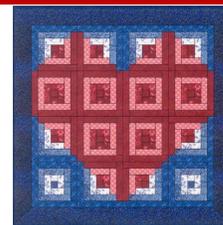
May 9th: Our Itch to Stitch project will get a boost from Julie T and Joyce T. They will present some fun, easy and quick ideas for quilts including using charm packs and jelly rolls.



Red Rooster Retreat: the August retreat at the Red Rooster is set for August 28-30, 2015. Ana will have the signup sheet at the April meeting. Money will be due in July, 2015. 3 days-2 nights=\$195.00 and 4 days-3 nights=\$275.00.

Hospitality

Bring food when you can as we all enjoy our goodies!



2013 WAQG Officers

President Inez R
Vice Pres Paula B
Secretary Judy S
Treasurer Beth M

Board Members

Jamie S 13-15
 Barbara W 14-16
 Charlotte N 15-17

Committee Chairs

Basics and Beyond Ana
Community Service Sara

Hospitality Faye, Diana S, Reita M

Education

Kentuck Charlotte N
Library Susan A
Membership Mary B
Name Tag Drawing Jill K
Sunshine Julie T

Mini Workshops Jacque T

Major Workshop 2015

Charlotte N

Major Workshop 2016 Paula B

Newsletter Laurie P-D

Opportunity Quilt 2015 Beth M, 2016 Laurie P-D and Brenda P

Publicity/Historical Sharon L

Yearbook Mary B

Challenge 2015 Board

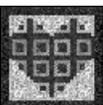
Quilt Show 2016: Beth M

Telephone Tree Nan G

Website Coordinator LPD

Retreats: Ana S





Look at these wonderful quilts shared at our March meeting.

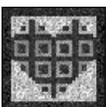


Charlotte's beautiful quilt studio storage unit! One of three great homes on our "Sew Many Spaces"



Thanks to Charlotte, Doris and Joann for opening your homes to us.





2015 Mini Workshop Schedule

April 11th after guild meeting: Sara Terrell's **White Applique Dress**.

June 13th after guild meeting: **Celtic Cross with Peg Lyons**.

August 8th after guild meeting: **Applique Techniques with Inez**.

Laurie was asked to provide information on the yellow rolls of this **paper** she uses for **free-motion quilting** designs. Here are two recommended products:

1. "Lightweight Tracing Paper", 7-lb yellow
18" x 20 yards. Cost \$11.95 at TuscaBlue (the blueprint shop on University Blvd, downtown)
2. Golden Threads Quilting Paper (as shown here).



Welcome New Members:

Elois



Donna



Amelia Gayle



Rejoined:
Rachel

Contact update and directory corrections:

Debbie 's new phone number:

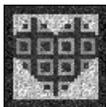
Christine

New email and phone for Betty

Jill

Mini Workshop: Stack-N-Whack thanks to Bruce W for showing us how!





2015 Challenge: A Play on Words

Rules

Limited to two entries per person. Entries must be in different categories and must be brought to the December 12th meeting.

Entry must depict a play on words. We encourage playful, fun-filled, pun-filled entries, but serious depictions are also valued. The entry can be any style (traditional, contemporary, or modern or a combination). Lettering and embellishments are encouraged, but not required.

The title or theme of the quilt must reflect a play on words and be visible. It can be part of the quilt design or you can write the title on paper and pin it to the quilt for the December meeting.

The quilt should be in a pillowcase that is labeled with the category you are entering. You should drop it off in the lobby when you arrive in December.

Item must be made with two or more layers of fabric held together with quilt stitching throughout.

Item must meet requirements and be entered in one of the following categories:

Larger wall hanging: each of the four sides must be at least 30 inches and no longer than 60 inches.

Smaller wall hanging: Each of the four side must be less than 30 inches.

Miscellaneous: This includes wearables, household items, 3-D sculptures. Item cannot be larger than 40 inches in any dimension.

Prize ribbons will be awarded based on the votes of members present at our December 12th meeting. We will have 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place ribbons in each category and a Best of Show ribbon.

The most important rule is: Have fun with this Challenge!

Assistance in Design (not in making the quilt)

Design Buddy: We encourage everyone to find a design buddy for this challenge with whom you can brainstorm possible quilts, discuss your ideas and how you might turn these ideas into a quilt, or figure out how to solve problems with your design or quilt.

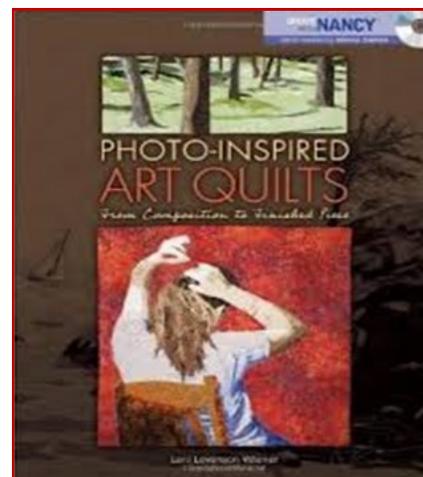
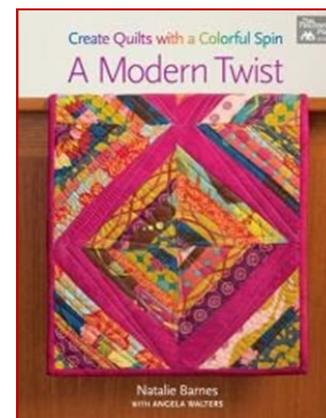
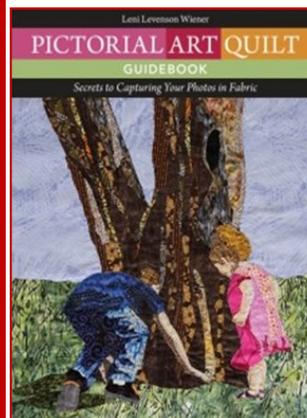
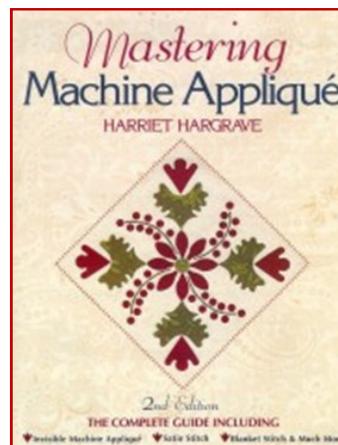
Consultants: The following have volunteered to help anyone with designing their quilt:

Charlotte N, Inez R, Laurie P-D,
Ana S, Jamie S., Susan A.



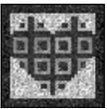
Library Notes

New on our shelf:



Suggestions and book donations welcome.

Susan , WAQG Library



Minutes March 14, 2015

Next Board meeting March 17 at 5:00 p.m. Jason's Deli

Mail: Thank you from Laura R for her gift of a baby quilt.

Announcements: Next month's meeting will include a presentation of check for \$507 to Alberta Elementary from the proceeds of our "Recovery Through Love" quilt notecards.

Mini Workshop: Next Saturday, 21st, Brucie W will do workshop on stack and whack. Discussion on how to measure for repeat pattern. Sara T is accepting money for her "Dress " workshop in April.

Membership: Members present-53 and there are 4 visitors present. Birthdays announced.

Name Tag: Names drawn were Inez R, Marjorie S, and Diane A.

Round Robin: Squares are still being accepted for the mystery round robin.

Library: Please check out any books you may have picked up.

Sunshine: Members needing prayers and cards announced.

Opportunity quilt: Quilt finished and displayed. Tickets will be sold for quilt at Druid City Arts festival in April at Government Plaza. Volunteers still are needed.

Just Finish It and Bring and Brag: Paula B, Charlotte N, Nan G, Judy W, Melanie M, Laurie P- D, Debbie W, Fay L, Christine L, Julie T, Pam E, and Rachel L.

Program: "Sew Many Spaces" tour. Thank you to Charlotte N, Doris LG-K, and Joann W for opening their homes and sewing rooms for us to visit.





**West Alabama
Quilters Guild**
P.O. Box 020059

Tuscaloosa, AL 35402

WAQG Meets at the Department of Transportation Building (1000 28th Avenue) on the second Saturday of each month

A not-for-profit organization



Reminders:

Show us your "Just Finish It" completed projects.

Sign up to help with hospitality setup and cleanup.

Sara's "White Dress" workshop is after guild meeting April 11th.

Husqvarna VIKING Sew Delightful

1875 McFarland Blvd N,
Suite 200
Tuscaloosa, AL 35406

Phone: 205-752-1700
E-mail: sewdelightful@comcast.net
Website: sewdelightful.net

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Bring this coupon to the shop for **20% discount on notions and software.**
Good April 1-30, 2015.