



# Piecing Our Lives

The Monthly Newsletter of  
The West Alabama Quilters Guild

March 2018  
Volume 18, Number 2

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**2018 WAQG Challenge – Applique'**

## Making a template

Tracing an applique is as easy as choosing a design, placing paper over the design, tracing it and cutting it out.

First, gather the materials you will need: your design, freezer paper, either a pencil or a permanent marking pen, a washable fabric pencil or pen, and your fabric. Now, place your paper over the design you have chosen. Be sure to put the shiny side of the freezer paper down when you place it over the design. If you are worried about things moving just secure it with blue painter's tape to hold it securely until you finish tracing. If your pattern is too faint to see you can place it on a window or on a light box such as the Cricut® Bright Pad. Lay the pattern on your fabric with the shiny side down, and iron it to your fabric. Use your fabric pencil to trace the pattern to your fabric. Remember that the edge you traced is where the stitching line will be so you will need to add a ¼ inch seam allowance when you cut out the actual fabric. Cut out your template while the paper is still attached to the fabric and you're done!

Tip: choose a fabric that has a higher thread count so it will hold a crease better.

Suggested videos:

<http://www.allpeoplequilt.com/how-to-quilt/applique/make-and-use-applique-templates>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5GIWcG7nYFc> (Jan Patek)

Next month: Hand basting your applique'



## WAQG President's Letter-March 2018

Dear WAQG members,

What's under your needle? I don't know about you, but as Nan challenged us last month, I am inspired as I perspire. The Melinda Bula workshop made me get out of my box and stretch my wings to try something new. I have to take "I'll never do that" out of my vocabulary since I have put on a few pounds over the years eating my words. When I bought my sewing machine I said I'll never do appliqué, I was wrong, I have enjoyed doing appliqué. When I bought my sewing table I didn't buy the taller, quilting table because I said I would never quilt, boy was I wrong there and sure wish I had listened to Damon and bought the 2" taller table when I bought my 5 long-arm frame I said I would never quilt big quilts, I'm lucky that my husband gave me the 5' extension and I now have a 10' frame to make larger quilts. When I signed up for the class saying I would never do thread-painting but wanted to go find out about Melinda Bula's techniques... well I really enjoyed the class and can't wait to complete my sunflower. Our 2018 Quilt Show is just a few weeks away and few years ago I said that I would never be able to quilt anything 'good enough' to enter in a quilt show and here I am, again, eating my words. I am entering not one, but a few things in the quilt show, and I am really stepping out there by having them judged. I'm not having them judged so that I can 'complete to win a ribbon', I am having them judged so that I can read the judge's comments, then I can stretch my wings and grow as a quilter. I do have a surprise up my sleeve for the show and can't tell you until the show since it is a surprise, but I promise that I will write about it next month since the inspiration came from within our guild at the quilt show at Holy Spirit in 2014 when I went to my first quilt show.

Until then, I've got to get back to what needs to be under my needle which is the "No Food Beyond This Point" banner flags that Dot and I are working on for the quilt show...what's under yours?

*Debbie*

*Fundraiser for the Hallie project in Tuscaloosa –*

**Attention, Attention!**

Just want to give everyone an update on our 'Hallie Project'... the board voted to change the "Hallie Project" from Paducah to Tuscaloosa. Plans are underway to make this a reality with the Public Arts Committee working to identify a place for a form of public art to honor Hallie. There have been numerous committee meetings and the next step is presenting this to the City Council for their approval, which we feel confident it will pass. This project is estimated to cost around \$10,000 so our guild will raise half and the city will then put in \$5,000 and they would be responsible for the upkeep of it. We will be taking orders at the quilt show and the March guild meeting for few items to help us raise the needed funds. Canvas Bag \$20, Crew Neck T-Shirts \$25, V Neck T-Shirts \$25 and Sweatshirts \$35



**January 13, 2018 Guild Meeting:****8:45: Basics & Beyond:** Basics of hand quilting~ Charlotte**9:30: Business Meeting****10:30 Program-** Dr. Elizabeth Wimberley with UA collection**February Treasurer Report**

Income \$759.00\*\*

Expenses \$4785.34\*\*

Previous checking balance \$12,011.40

Current checking balance \$7985.06

**\*\* Details can be seen at guild meeting**

As a small token of our guild's appreciation to the Tuscaloosa Department of Transportation, TDOT, we took them a huge 'goodie basket' on Valentine's Day that was filled with all kinds of goodies, our 2016 quilt album and some quilt show tickets. TDOT has opened their community room up to us for a number of years, free of charge, for our monthly guild meetings and lectures during our workshops. They also allow us to have locked cabinets in the community room so that we can store our supplies and library. We really appreciate the team at TDOT for their support to the West Alabama Quilters Guild.

**2017 WAQG Officers****President** Debbie W**Vice Pres** Eve E/ Rose O**Secretary** Anne E**Treasurer** Dot B**Board Members****Christine L** 16-18**Paula B** 17-19**Jamie S** 18-20**Committee Chairs****Basics and Beyond** Charlotte N**Community Service** Sara T**Education** Nan G**Historian** Anne E**Kentuck** Paula B , Teresa M**Library****Membership** Mary B**Name Tag Drawing** Diane A**Newsletter** Jamie S, Judy S**Opportunity Quilt 2018** Sara T**Programs** Eve E, Rose O**Quilt Show** Paula W, Karen L**Retreat** Ana S**Shark Pit** Paula W**Sunshine** Julie T**Telephone Tree** Nan G**Workshop/Major** Eve E, Rose O**Workshops/Mini** Debbie W**Website Coordinator** Laura R**Yearbook** Mary B**Challenge 2018** Board**Shark Pit** Paula W**Website** Laura R**New Members:**

Mary

Rowan

Michelle

Telisa

Sheila



**WAQG Business Meeting Minutes  
Agenda February 10, 2018**

Call to order by Debbie W., president.

Previous meeting minutes were not read, noted they were in the newsletter. Board member, Jamie S., took minutes for Anne E.

Mary B., Membership chair reported that 54 members and 3 guests were present. Mary sang a song reminding everyone that dues are due and she is working on getting the updated directories out by the end of the month. She also announced and sang happy birthday to our members with birthdays in February.

Sunshine was presented by chair, Julie. She reported several members have health issues including Anne E., David . and Dianne H.. Laure Prentice-Dunn continues to have surgeries and appreciates our get-well cards and now is happy to report that she is going to be a grandmother.

Jamie S. had a guest pull names and announced the 3 winners of the Name Tag drawing: Jamie S., Dot B. and Beatrice P.. Each winner was presented with a Valentine bag with fabric in them.

Jamie S. and Dot B. gave an Applique demonstration and reminded members that we have a lot of Applique books in our library to help with this year's challenge.

The August Retreat is full and there is still some room for a few folks to go on our June Retreat at the Red Rooster. Thanks, Ana S. & Barbara H., who co-chair our retreats. Thanks also was given to Mary Burke for getting the sewing machine back to the Red Rooster Inn that was picked up in error.

Rose O. reminded everyone that the February program would follow our fellowship time and would be from our very own Ana S. on Trash Quilts. Future programs include Hallie O'Kelly on Scrapbook Quilting, Cathy S. on Crochet Fusion Quilts and Eve E. on Fast & Easy Pillow Quilts.

The Melinda Bula Workshop was a tremendous success, thanks to Rose O., who took great care of working out the details for two workshops and a lecture. Rose explained what a great bargain our workshops were compared to what quilt show workshops cost and how our ratio between the instructor and participant is low to allow one-on-one time. The lecture is free and open to the public which gives everyone an opportunity to hear our guest. Thanks, to Ana, our workshops were in a tranquil setting of trees and tons of natural light at her church. Our next Workshop will be April 19 & 20, 2019 with Christina C.

It was announced that the Itch to Stitch "Quilts for Kids" & Pillow Cases for DCH Manderson Cancer Center will be collected at a table at the rear of the room monthly. All donations should be logged in the "Itch to Stitch" notebook so donors can be recognized at the end of the year.

An update on the Hallie Project was presented by Debbie W. In November 2016 the board voted to enter a quilt into the entry of the Paducah Quilt Mural project, with an estimate of \$20,000 needed to be raised. Last year, the board started looking into changing the location of honoring Hallie from Paducah Kentucky to Tuscaloosa. After many months of working with the various committees that are working to have public art in Tuscaloosa, our board is excited to announce that the next step is for the "Hallie Project" going before the Tuscaloosa City Council. The proposed cost is around \$10,000 so our guild has committed to raising \$5,000 and the city will put forth the other half and they will be responsible for the upkeep. As soon as it passes, our plans to honor Hallie O. will be right here in Tuscaloosa where Hallie lives and has given so much to our community. We are looking at getting bags and T-shirts to sell at our quilt show to help us raise the needed funds.

Charlotte N. gave a report on Basics & Beyond. This month she showed the proper hanging sleeve and next month will be on Hand Quilting. She also gave an update on the upcoming Paducah trip.

Because we have had so much going on with the retreat in January and the Melinda Bula workshop this month, the 'Just Finish It' deadline to turn in sheets is at our meeting in March.





Minutes continued:

Karen L gave the following Quilt Show report:

- All items for the Quilt Show, boutique and Silent Auction are to be dropped off at the Taylorville Methodist Church on Wednesday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> between 7-9:00am. There will be signage denoting the location in the church for items to be delivered to. The reason that 9am is the cut off is all items must be hung in place before the judging can begin at noon.
- The judge this year is Nancy Hinds, thanks, Julie for hosting her.
- All quilts must have a hang sleeve on the back.
- A gentle reminder to our members that parking on Friday and Saturday is available across the road in the shopping center parking lot and the church parking is reserved for our quilt show guests. There will be plenty of parking in the shopping center lot and no one should park in the street.
- All Assisted living locations have received letters of invitation to the show at a reduced rate.
- Reminder that all WAQG members should bring their own food when working on Wednesday and Thursday during set up. There will be food provided to quilt show workers on Friday and Saturday. See sign up sheet in back for open spots where food is needed.
- All WAQG workers are encouraged to wear aprons to help identify workers.
- There will be "No Food Beyond This Point" signs posted, please help encourage folks not to have food in the quilt area.
- There are 21 categories of quilts this year, over 160 items and 138 being judged. All ribbons will be hung on the quilts before the show begins, except for the "Best of Show", which will be announced at the end of the show. The judges comment sheets will be passed out on Friday.
- The vendors this year include: General Sew & Vac, The Scissor Guys, Dianne Springer, Oh Sew Pretty, Sewcial Studio and Stash Tools.
- Press releases will go out the week of February 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Remember to help get the word out by putting the show information on community calendars and all forms of social media that you can participate with.
- Julie will send out thank you notes to Lamar Advertising for the bill boards, Pepsi for their banners and Hamner Real Estate.
- The hours of the Quilt Show are Friday 9-5 and Saturday 9-4, tickets are good for both days. There will be no early take down or the movement of items to aid in take down until the show ends at 4 on Saturday. NO quilts will be able to be picked up before 4:30.
- There are still many opportunities for members to work at the show on both days... everyone is encouraged to please sign up to work at least one shift.

Just Finish It/Bring & Brag showing.

Refreshments were provided by the February birthday honorees.

Ana Schubert presented a program on Trash Quilts.

Respectfully submitted by Jamie S.

**Bring & Brag – February**









## Feb. Program



Check it out.....

[www.kentuck.org/yvonne-wells-bicentennial-project/](http://www.kentuck.org/yvonne-wells-bicentennial-project/)

YVONNE WELLS  
BICENTENNIAL  
PROJECT

TUSCA200SA  
BICENTENNIAL



And.....





West Alabama  
Quilters Guild  
P.O. Box 020059  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35402

We're on the  
web

[www.waqq.co](http://www.waqq.co)



WAQG meets at the  
Department of Transportation  
Building (1000 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue) on  
the second Saturday of each  
month.

**Husqvarna VIKING**  
**Sew Delightful**

1875 McFarland Blvd N,  
Suite 200  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35406

Phone: 205-752-1700  
E-mail: [sewdelightful@comcast.net](mailto:sewdelightful@comcast.net)  
Website: [sewdelightful.net](http://sewdelightful.net)

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purchase of regular priced  
merchandise. You must  
have coupon and certain  
exclusions apply. Limit one  
per customer per transaction.