

Piecing our Lives

The monthly newsletter of
The West Alabama Quilters Guild

February, 2016

Volume 17, Number 2

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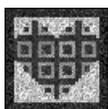


Jamie showed us this wonderful quilt at our January meeting. "China, Dancer, Stinker, and Sweetie" was made for her husband, Mike.

Help spread the word about our Quilt Show. Put up signs, hand out buck-slips. Tell everyone about it.

Last call to renew your membership for 2016 !!

See Mary B to pay your dues. She has a draft of the **2016 Membership Directory** at the meeting, so please be sure to check the directory and make any needed changes to your contact information listing. **The mailing list will be purged after the February meeting—so if you have not paid dues, your name will be taken off our list.**



President's letter: Dear WAQG,

We have lots of exciting programs coming up. See Paula's program list on page 3.

TDOT Winter Appreciation Luncheon: Each year we provide a lunch for the Tuscaloosa Department of Transportation to show our appreciation for allowing us to use their facility without charge for our meetings and workshops. Moreover, they provide and set up the tables and chairs and allow us to keep our library and supplies stored in the TDOT building.



This year the luncheon is Monday, February 15. We set up at 10:30. Lunch is from 11:00-1:00. They like hot food we keep warm in crock pots but appreciate any lunch fare. This year we will be advertising within the TDOT to get the word out to as many folks as we can. Please sign up at our February meeting. Thanks for helping us show our gratitude for all they do for us.

Vintage Quilt Sale for Guild Members at our February meeting (Bring cash or your Checkbook):

Two community members gave us some old quilts that the Board decided to offer for sale to members at our February meeting. We have: Three quilts for \$50 each (Two are 9-patches (one made with shirt material) and one spool (or bowtie) pattern); One hand-pieced quilt top for \$40, Six badly stained quilts with big blocks for \$15 each.

If more than one member wants the quilt, we will draw names out of a hat. If no one is willing to pay the asking price we will take the highest bidder. A few of the quilts have been washed, and those of us who washed them can attest that they all need to be washed following protocols for old quilts with hand quilting. Don't forget, we do not take credit cards. Cash or check required at the time of the sale.

The 2016 Challenge Theme: Celebrating the State of Alabama Bicentennial

Our goals for the 2016 challenge are to celebrate the State of Alabama Bicentennial and increase the number of members who participate in the challenge from beginning to experienced quilters. Consequently, we are keeping the range of options for addressing the theme of the State of Alabama as large as possible from traditional to modern, pieced to appliqued, quilted blocks to bed quilts to nontraditional quilted items, and small to large. We encourage you to interpret the theme in any way you choose with a design, topic, or quilt pattern linked in some way to the State of Alabama. See bottom of page 7 for more details.



Potential Uses for Your Challenge Project

You can offer your item for sale at Kentuck and our 2018 Quilt show boutique, hang it in your home, office, garage (!), or, on a strictly voluntary basis, allow it to be included in a quilt exhibit honoring the bicentennial. Nan G spoke with Jay Lamar, Executive Director of the Alabama Bicentennial Commission who was interested in having such a quilt exhibit, but we would also like to pursue local venues and opportunities. To do so, however, we need as many folks as possible to complete a challenge quilt and join in the celebration of our bicentennial.

GREAT NEWS: GUILD DISCOUNTS

Sew Delightful is continuing their generous offer a 20% discount off our *entire* purchase of regular priced items once each month when you present the coupon at the end of each of our newsletters. Remember, also, that General Sew & Vac gives our members a 10% discount on machine servicing.

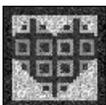


In addition, Laurie talked with the manager of Hancock Fabrics who wants do something special for the guild and offer us a discount on special days. Laurie told her our meetings are the second Saturday of each month. She said to tell our members that on every guild meeting day they can shop for 25% off all merchandise except for machines! Just show your membership card and tell them it is guild meeting day and request the discount. The guild also gets a regular guild discount of 10% on all other days—don't forget to ask.

Solicitations

Our membership list is published so we can get in touch with each other for guild business. We ask that the list not be used for solicitations or marketing purposes of any kind. We all need to protect and respect the privacy of our members. Thanks for understanding.

And sew on, Inez



February 13, 2016, Guild Meeting:

8:45 Basics and Beyond: Our subject is Applique Applications- there are lots of ways to applique and we'll cover many. Bring a needle, some thread, and a thimble, we'll give needle-turn applique a try! Charlotte

9:30 Guild Business meeting

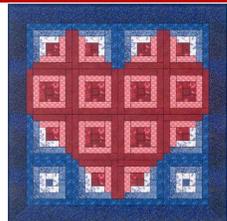
10:30 Program: Quilt Show Workshop. We will be making D-ribbons for hanging our quilts at the upcoming show. **We will need 18 people** to make 330 of these multi-size black and white ribbon hangers. It would be great to have **8 sewing machines** and other folks to measure, cut, mark and organize. I have already marked a wooden yardstick to use as our 2" marking guide. Those bringing machines please bring black and white thread and general sewing supplies. THANKS!

In addition, the name tag team may need some help finishing the name tags. Hopefully all that will be needed are folks who can help sew the pin-backings on the backs of the 100 name tags. Stick some needle, thread (neutral - gray or taupe will work), and a thimble in your purse and join us!

2016 Brings lots of new ideas and interesting programs:
 March 12: Quilt Show Review and Stephen H with Story Telling and Traditional Big Stitch Quilting.
 April 9: Sew Many Spaces Tour.
 May 14: Nan G with Thread Painting.

Hospitality

Bring refreshments to share when you can.



2016 WAQG Officers

President Inez R
Vice Pres Paula B
Secretary Laura R
Treasurer Beth M

Board Members

Diana S 2016
 Charlotte N 15-17
 Christine LeCr 16-18

Committee Chairs

Basics and Beyond Charlotte
Community Service Sara T
Hospitality Sharon Long,
Education Nan G
Kentuck _____
Library Susan A
Membership Mary B
Name Tag Drawing Jill K
Sunshine Julie T
Mini Workshops Debbie W
Major Workshop 2016 Paula B, Inez R
Newsletter Jamie G and Judy S
Opportunity Quilt 2016 Laurie P-D and Brenda P, Diana M.
Publicity/Historical _____open
Yearbook Mary B
Challenge 2016 Board
Quilt Show 2016: Beth M
Telephone Tree Nan G
Shark Pit: Paula W
Website Coordinator LPD
Retreats: Ana S

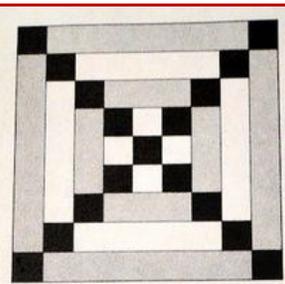
Welcome New Members:

- Keril
- Wendy
- Barbara
- Eve
- Kathy

Luis (Chloe)

Contact info update:

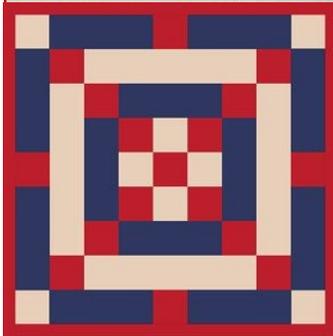
The correct spelling of Jacque's last name



Alabama

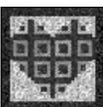
This quilt, measuring 84 x 96 inches, is made up of fifty-six 12-inch pieced blocks set seven in width and eight in length. Bind with a bias binding of the dark material.

MATERIALS
 Light, 4 1/4 yards
 Medium (or print), 4 1/4 yards
 Dark, 3 yards (includes bias binding)

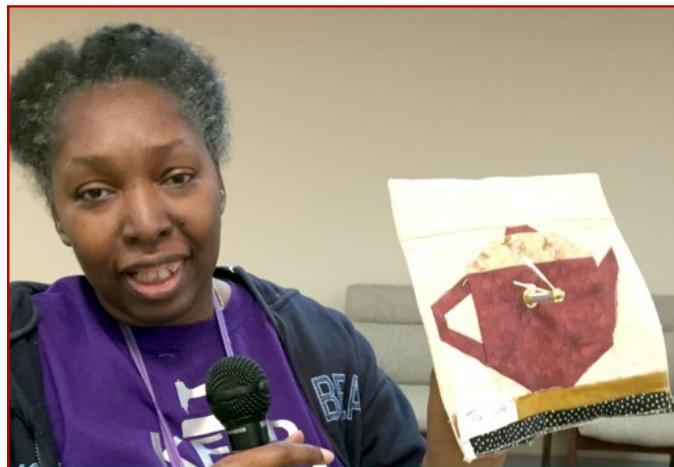


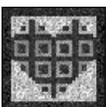
ALABAMA
 "The Cotton State"





January quilts.





Thank You to our 2016 Quilt Show Sponsors: (more on page 6)

Master Quilter Level Sponsors:

Advanced Quilter Level Sponsors:



General Sewing & Vacuum
 Baby Lock & Brother Sales Riccar Vaccums
 1711 Hackberry Lane Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
 Ph: 205-752-3939 Fax: 205-366-9485





Barbara & Howard Wells are proud sponsors of the 2016 WAQG Quilt Show

In honor of the younger Prentice-Dunns




The Physiatry Group
 James T. Barnett, Jr. M.D.

All pulling for Margie!



Plan to shop our vendors:






SARA TERRELL HONORS MEMORIES OF MAMA

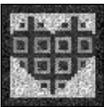


THE SCISSOR GUY



Inez Rovegno and John Dolly are proud sponsors of this Quilt Show





Thank You to more of our 2016 Quilt Show Sponsors:

Intermediate Quilter Level Sponsors:



**In honor of
Fiber Artists
around the
world.**



**Susan & Bob
Ainsworth**



**Barb McClarty
is a proud
sponsor of the
2016 WAQG
Quilt Show**



Your Crowning Moment, LLC

Beginning Quilter Level Sponsors:

Tara Lee
Independent Beauty Consultant

11501 Fairwood Avenue
Northport, AL 35475
Home (205)339-7243
Cell (205)292-2917
taralee@marykay.com
Website www.marykay.com/taralee
God First, Family Second, Career Third



MARY KAY

**Charles and
Hallie O'Kelley
are proud
sponsors of this
WAQG
quilt show.**



**In memory of
Mary Elnora Holmes
Grandma, and
quilting inspiration!**

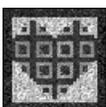
**Steve Ehrnst and
Judy Robinson Ehrnst**



Help us name our 2016 Opportunity Quilt!



Thanks to all of you who pieced blocks, and to our main team: Laurie, Brenda P and Diana M, with help from Julie and quilting being done by Christine LC. This will be ready by our quilt show! **What shall we call it?**



WAQG 2016 Major Workshops We currently have **one space for the Gail Garber workshop** on February 20th (See Paula). We are looking into some exciting possibilities for the Major Workshops for 2017 and 2018. The lectures can be enjoyed by everyone—they are free and open to the public.



February 19-20: Gail Garber

Lecture, Free and open to the Public:

Friday, February 19, 2016, 7:00 pm at TDOT.

Workshop: “Sensational Stars”.

Saturday, February 20, 2016
Full day. At TDOT.

Cost: \$40 plus supplies.

There is one slot available. See Paula.

This is a workshop geared toward the Intermediate quilter and features drafting, foundation piecing techniques and color selection. Read more about it at GailGarber.com



April 12-16: Harriet Hargrave

Lecture: “Top 10 Tips to Becoming a Better Quilter”

Free and open to the

public.

Friday, April 15, 7:00 pm. At TDOT.
harriethargrave.com

Workshops:

All workshops are now full, but see Inez if you would like to be added to waiting lists.

Tuesday, April 12 (9:00-4:00) : **Piecing Quality Workmanship**, \$40

Wednesday, April 13 (9:00—4:00): **Machine Applique** \$40

Thursday—Friday, April 14-15 (9:00-4:00): two-day workshop for beginners, **“The Basics of Heirloom Machine Quilting”** \$80

Saturday, April 16 (8:30-2:30): **“Quilt as Desired”** \$40

2016 WAQG Challenge: Celebrating the State of Alabama Bicentennial (Inez’ letter continued from page 2).

Number: Each member may submit up to 2 items. We will have 4 categories:

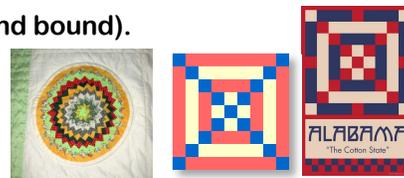
1. Small: Width plus length is 30 inches or smaller (quilt block sized, quilted, and bound).
2. Medium: Width plus length is 31-60 inches
3. Large: Width plus length is 61 or more inches
4. Non-traditional including clothing, household items, etc.

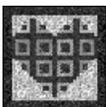
Pieced Blocks and Quilts: There are several quilt block patterns associated with Alabama. The one shown most often is from a 1905 book in which the author presented a pattern from each state (pictured here with a 9-patch center). Other authors have done the same. I have a Carol Doak book with 50 different foundation pieced stars, one for each state. I will be glad to share the patterns with anyone interested in trying foundation piecing.

There is no official state block, however, there is an official state quilt called “The Pine Burr Quilt” with blocks made by folding triangles and sewing them in concentric circles (shown above)—similar to the pine cones we make for Kentucky. There is also a pine burr block, quite different from the official pine burr quilt, with variations from easy to difficult. Directions for making these blocks can be easily found on the internet.

We will share any patterns guild members find associated with Alabama (note that I am referring to the State of Alabama, not the University of Alabama). We plan to hold workshops to teach the major Alabama blocks.

Applique: Applique topics are numerous and can include historical events, buildings, sites, natural wonders, your favorite spot, and the many official state symbols such as the state bird, fish, flower, game bird, nut, insect, reptile, fruit, folk dance, wild flower, mineral, rock, etc. An internet search will reveal many official state symbols.





Quilt Show 2016

Set up: Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Judging: Thursday, March 3rd

Quilt Show open to the public:

Friday, March 4th 9am—6pm, and

Saturday, March 5th, 9am—5pm

Take down and clean up: immediately after the show, Saturday at 5pm.

Location: Taylorville United Methodist Church
640 Bear Creek Road
Tuscaloosa, AL

A very pleasant space and an easy location to find.



In addition to our many wonderful quilts on exhibit, we will have: Demonstrations, Special Exhibits, Vendors, Opportunity Baskets, our Opportunity Quilt, and a Silent Auction to benefit our local VA Veterans of Foreign Wars PTSD group.

Thanks to everyone working on the many tasks for our show.

Check our website for updates:
www.waqq.com.

Quilt Show 2016 Demonstration Schedule

Friday, March 4th		
Time	Subject	Teacher(s)
10-10:45	Trapunto	Peg Lyons
11—11:45	Interlocking Tesselations	Diana May
1:00—1:45	Screen Printing	Hallie O'Kelley
2:00—2:45	Machine Embroidered Reverse Applique	Fay LeClair
3:00—3:45	Piecing with Precuts	Joyce Terry
Saturday March 5th		
10—10:45	Quilted Boxes and Embellishments	Mary Burke
11—11:45	Binding Made Easy	Tara Lee and Mary Ann Lopacki
1:00—1:45	Preparing Your Quilt for the Longarmer	Christine LeClair
2:00—2:45	Applique Fun	JoAnn Williams
3:00—3:45	Disappearing 9-Patch	Ana Schuber

Quilt Show News from Beth:

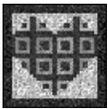
Thank you for all the entries for the quilt show! It will be a great display! Here are a few of the things for you to remember before you bring your quilt to the church:

Every quilt **must** have a 4" hanging sleeve on the back. If your quilt is longer than 96", the hanging sleeve must be put at the 96" height on the back of the quilt so your quilt does not touch the floor. If you do not want to sew the sleeve on, you may pin it but know that your quilt will be hanging by this sleeve so pin it accordingly. Quilts smaller than 30" may have a 2" sleeve on the back.

The quilts need to be brought to Taylorville United Methodist Church on Wednesday, March 2nd between 9am and 11am. Taylorville United Methodist Church is at 640 Bear Creek Road in Tuscaloosa, down 69 South across from the old Food World. Please **bring your quilt inside a cloth bag such as a pillowcase with your name on the bag**. You will receive a receipt for your quilt when you drop it off and you will need this receipt when you pick up your quilt on Saturday, March 5th at 5:30pm. WAQG will not ship or mail any quilt.

If you have not signed up to help with the show, please do. We need help hanging and taking down quilts, working the tables and our guild booth. Plan to shop our vendors and get some of your scissors sharpened.

This is our show and it will be great! Thank you for participating!



Guild Meeting Minutes 1-9-16

Next board meeting will be January 21, 2016 at Inez R's house at 5:30pm, will discuss how to repurpose donated old quilts

Announcements/Mail: Thank you notes, Inez for Holiday Fabric gift, Tuscaloosa Children's Center for donation of quilts. Announcements include: Movement to create a National African American Quilt Conference, Group raising money to start, See Inez for information on how to get involved; Leftover pillow cases from December Challenge show, please pick-up; and Tuscaloosa Big Band (Swing Music) will be performing at the River Market, Thursday January 28th from 7-8:30, Free, bring dancing shoes

Quilt Show: February Guild Meeting program will be a work session, Making ~330 ribbons for hanging quilts, Finishing Nametags. Bring basic sewing supplies and sewing machines and white and black thread, Sign-up for specific tasks.

Boutique, Items must be quilted throughout, Information sheet and price tags available for items, Proceeds go back to the artist, Sign-up sheet for working in Boutique during show. **Vendors:** **Diane Springer** (funky fun stuff); **Sew Delightful;** **Scissor Guy** (by donation, proceeds to charity) - sharpens scissors, knives, garden tools, pinking sheers; **Buy The Inch Fabrics,** resells fabric from estate sales etc., bring unwanted fabric to sell to vendor for cash or booth credit; **YLI thread;** **Stich-n-Frame** - Will have great fabrics and a fun clearance table. **Prize ribbons:** Laurie P-D showed the prototype, there will be place ribbons as well as additional ones like WAQG choice, and Viewers choice. **Silent Auction:** Benefit for VA, Veterans for Foreign Wars and PTSD group, Please donate items for auction, quilted throughout and make sure to respect fabric licensing requirements (e.g. no UA fabric unless you are licensed). **Admissions Table:** sign-up to help, admission \$7 and good for both days. **Opportunity Baskets** - need 5" squares, give to Sara T, sign up to help at table. **Registration:** quilt entry forms need to be sent/given to Beth M by January 16th. **Publicity:** Hang and handout flyers to advertise the quilt show. **Judging** - Nancy Hinds, very supportive and constructive judge. **Beth gave prizes** today for correctly answering questions about the show.

Workshop: Gail Garber, February 19th 7pm trunk show and lecture (free), February 20th workshop, one spot available, \$40, get supply list from Paula Barnett - Pattern drafting tools, skills, methods, will sell drafting supplies/patterns. **Basics and Beyond:** Charlotte Nix new leader, January Program basic supplies, skills, tools, February will cover applique - bring scissors, thread, and needle. **Membership:** 46 present (many at retreat), 3 visitors, and 5 new members, \$25 dues for 2016 membership. **Name Tag Drawing:** winners are Susan A, Jane W, Christine C, please bring items to donate for name tag drawing (notions, fabric bundles). **Sunshine:** see Julie T for information on visiting Barb McC. **Newsletter:** Deadline January 25th, send items to Laurie P-D. **Just Finish It:** Fill out a new form for a new year, Paula B top finisher for 2015 (77%) received a prize.

Bring and Brag: Laurie P-D, Jamie S, Chloe P, Cheryl S, Wendy S, Rose O, Judy W, Betty S, Inez R.

Program: Damon Ligon from General Sew and Vac gave tips on sewing machine care and maintenance, a very informative session.





**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



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

**Longarm quilting,
Husqvarna and Viking Machines,
Heirloom Supplies and Sewing**
Featuring Fine 100% Cotton Fabrics and all your sewing supplies.

Bring in this ad and receive 20% off a one-time purchase of regular priced merchandise. You must have coupon and certain exclusions apply. Limit one per customer per newsletter.

Reminders:

Sign up to help at our Quilt Show!

Bring your machine and sewing supplies in February to help do our quilt show prep .

Start your "Just Finish It" list for 2016.

Help us name our 2016 Opportunity Quilt. See page 6.

Friday night, February 19th is the program by our Major Workshop Presenter, Gail Garber. Free and open to the public. 7:00 at TDOT.

**WAQG Quilt Show
March 4-5, 2016!**