

Piecing our Lives

The monthly newsletter of
The West Alabama Quilters Guild

July 2016
Volume 17, Number 7

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Rose presenting to Deborah Cain the proceeds from the silent auction held during the WAQG quilt show this year. Ms. Cain is the volunteer officer at the VA. The proceeds (\$2299) will be used specifically for those veterans suffering from PTSD.

Attention: Mini Workshop Supplies for July 9 Apron Workshop



- Sewing machine and sewing supplies
- Fabric for the back (3/4 yard) and lining of pocket
- Fabric for the front (if you plan to piece your front bring enough fabric to cover the back and pocket equal to at least 3/4 yard + fabric for appliques if desired),
- 5 yards of double folded bias binding or more if you need a bigger apron. You can make your own binding by cutting 2 1/8 inch strips; see Laurie's instructions for how to make your binding.
- Batting only if you want it. Laurie suggests quilting only two layers, which make the apron drape better and is more comfortable to wear.
- Fabric for WAQG with fusing attached which we can cut for you using a shape-cutting machine.
- Invisible thread for appliqueing on WAQG

Hospitality

Bring refreshments to share if you can.

Opportunity Quilt Announcement

Ticket sales for Rolling Thunder, our opportunity quilt, are going great. If you have missed the last two guild meetings, just pick up your ticket packets to get in on the excitement.



President's Letter June 25, 2016

Husbands and Hobbies

When Harriet Hargrave arrived to conduct workshops for our guild and stayed at my house, I thought I would have John, my husband, to help with entertaining, cooking, cleaning, and washing dishes, but that was not to be. Our "hobbies-before-clean houses" philosophy took over because the fishing was the best ever, literally, the best since we moved halftime to Crane Hill. Why? John purchased a "Green Light" (an underwater contraption only sold to fanatic fishermen) guaranteed to bring in fish. We have all heard that fish story before, but this time the advertising was right. We have taken to calling our dock, "Monterey Bay," because the fish are so plentiful it looks like the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Consequently, I suggested he stay at the lake and fish the week Harriet was here—I could survive on my own.



The Green light brings in baitfish, which cause huge and I mean huge striped and spotted bass to go into a feeding frenzy. It started one night when John cast his first lure and a huge fish took the lure with such speed and force it broke the rod in two places. No angler cares, it is just like finding fabric you love without a clear plan what you will make with it. It was awesome. This was followed by a record loss of at least 15 expensive spoon lures, all snapped off his rod with incredible force. He didn't care. One night he lost a saltwater bay rod, also broken in two places, and he thought this was a great night of fishing. When I piece two fabrics together and the colors evoke a sigh of joy at the beauty of it all, I know why John doesn't care about broken rods and fish-stolen lures. Our current schedule is to arrive in Tuscaloosa Tuesday evening and leave Friday noon for the lake again. He fishes; and I quilt and it is hobby heaven. How blessed we are to have hobbies we both love, which keep us busy and happy in retirement.

Kentuck

This is one reason I am excited to spread the word about quilting to the public at Kentuck. Sharing of our knowledge and love of quilting is one of the goals on which our guild was formed; and there is no better place than Kentuck to share with the public. The Board is working on a plan to rearrange the booth space, add signage, and make the booth more inviting for the public to walk through, observe demonstrations, wander through our sales tent, and talk with us about quilting. We hope everyone joins us in this effort.



One way to help is to make an apron, vest, or other clothing item to wear at Kentuck that promotes quilting and the WAQG when you are working. There are no rules other than including the guild name or initials. (See handout available at the sign-in desk if you did not get the email describing the apron project.) You can include funny or serious slogans such as "Ask me about how to make a quilt sandwich" or "When I make a quilt with my hands, I give of my heart." Immediately after the July meeting we will have a mini workshop for learning how to make aprons. You can also get fabric letters cut and acquire an apron pattern. We plan to have an apron (or vest, etc.) fashion show and contest in our October meeting.

In other Kentuck related issues, we continue to need :

- Black and white, 9 ½ inch pieced blocks,
- Solid black, white, or bright colored 9 ½ inch blocks and fabric to which we can add fusing and cut into shapes,
- A quilt top to be tied,
- A quilt top (any size) to demonstrate machine quilting at the start of the festival before the children can design quilts for us to quilt and bind.

Guild Challenge

If you have not started your 2016 guild challenge quilt, you might consider the following Alabama symbols and official species Historic places and people

The Seal of Alabama

The State

• Bird: Yellowhammer	• Saltwater fish: Atlantic tarpon
• Flower: Camellia	• Freshwater fish: Largemouth bass
• Nut: Pecan	• Butterfly: Eastern tiger swallowtail
• Reptile: Alabama red-bellied turtle	• Wildflower: Oak-leaf hydrangea
• Amphibian: Red hills Salamander	• Fruit: Blackberry
• Rock: Marble	



Statewide Quilt Show Proposal

A guild member suggested we consider hosting a multi-guild, statewide quilt show to celebrate the State of Alabama bicentennial. If anyone is interested in working on or even chairing this endeavor, please see me.

Future Board Meetings (5:30 Thursday, the week after guild meetings) July 14, August, 18, September 15, October 13, November 17, and December 15 at Inez R's home, XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX, Tuscaloosa.

Now, I must get back to making a wall hanging that will have tons of beads embellishing the flower appliques so I can demonstrate handwork at Kentuck—a first for me.

And sew on,

Inez

July 9, 2016, Guild Meeting:

8:45 Basics and Beyond: Basics and Beyond attendees- let's help make the black/white/bright unfinished 9.5" blocks needed for the Children's area at Kentuck this year. They can be a single square of cut fabric or a 9-patch. I'll bring some fabric to the July meeting to share. This would be great practice for new quilters! **July's Basics and Beyond Class will introduce some new as well as tried-and-true ornaments.**

~ Charlotte

9:30 Guild Business meeting

10:30 Program: "Christmas in July"

August 13: Itch-to-Stitch

WAQG Guild Meeting Minutes June 11, 2016

Rose presented the proceeds (\$2299) from the Quilt Show Silent Auction to Deborah Cain, the volunteer officer for the VA. \$ will go to the PTSD/Veterans of Foreign Wars. VA also needs undergarments (XL-XXXL) and Ms. Cain also suggested that the Guild might consider teaching a quilting workshop for Women Vets.

Announcements: Jackie received her quilt squares and says thank you. Sue G. is leaving soon. Guild is making split rail fence squares in white and bright teal, 8" finished, bring your 8.5" unfinished square to meeting. Quilt show in Pell City. Craft Show at old Books-a-Million, booth \$25. Still need copies of newsletter from 2008-2016. Fleece for Itch to Stich available, bring dimensions to meeting to get it cut. Need 1 more 15min demo for Christmas in July program, see Paula B.

Kentuck: Guild will make a big effort to remain useful to Kentuck with lots of demos and visibility to make sure we are invited back in future years. Will display completed children's quilts, more signs, more hand work demonstrations, everybody who is working will be wearing an apron with "WAQG" on it - See below. Charlotte and Debbie co-chairs. Boutique rules - 2 layers minimum, quilted throughout (tied, quilted, quilt-as-you-go) proportional to the scale of the item, no copyrighted fabric unless you have your own license, no cheaters cloth (already looks like it has patchwork), ornaments do not have to be quilted, pillow fronts only have to be quilted. Bring specific questions to the board before you make a bunch of items.

Kentuck Aprons: can use guild logo, lettering in any large, easy to read font-can print off giant letters with computer as templates, Inez recommends attaching as applique with invisible thread, two pieces of fabric (~3/4 yards each) and quilting throughout, mini-workshop after July meeting to make the apron, must say "WAQG" or "West Alabama Quilters Guild". Pockets recommended to hold dangerous tools. Directions will be emailed. General Sew-and-Vac has glittery vinyl that could make nice letters.

Basics and Beyond - did 1/2 square, 1/4 square triangles, and split (hour glass) triangles, final installment of mystery quilt given. **August Retreat** - 2 slots left, see Ana, \$ due in July. **Library** - Studio Art Quilting Association 22nd portfolio is a beautiful book, Scrapolator out of print but AQS sells e-book and library has a copy, Calico Man vintage fabric ID guide. **Membership**- 59 members, 3 guests, **Name tag winners**- Dave L., Jean Y., Beatrice P. **Board meeting** June 16th, future meetings at Inez's house, Thursdays at 5:30, **Opportunity Quilt** - over \$100 turned in at meeting. **Bring and Brag** - make sure to stand close to your quilt for a picture, 9 people shared and one "first bed sized" quilt (Patricia W.)- got pin

Lovely program presented by Michelle Reynolds from Birmingham, nature inspired story quilts, www.coverings.me

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 L 16-18

Committee Chairs

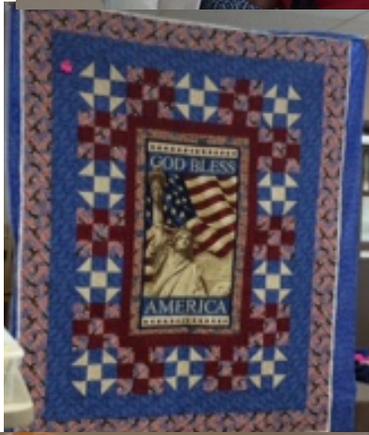
Basics and Beyond Charlotte N
Community Service Sara T
Hospitality Sharon L, Diana S, Reita M
Education Nan G
Kentuck _____
Library Susan A
Membership Mary B
Name Tag Drawing Jill K
Sunshine Julie T
Mini Workshops Debbie W
Major Workshop 2016 Paula B, Inez R
Newsletter Jamie S and Judy S
Opportunity Quilt 2016 Laurie P-D, 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 Laura R
Retreats: Ana S

Notes to self...

1. Make block for Kentuck Children's Tent
2. Take food for meeting
3. Make block for Sue G (split rail - bright teal and white 8.5" unfinished)
4. Bring apron workshop materials
5. Work on Itch to Stitch Quilt
6. Make Kentuck apron



**Bring and Brag/Just
Finish It - June**



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.

We're on the web
www.waqq.com
and on Facebook!



General Sewing & Vacuum

Baby Lock & Brother Sales Riccar Vaccums

1711 Hackberry Lane Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
Ph: 205-752-3939 Fax: 205-366-9485

**WAQG members get 10%
discount on machine servicing.**



Husqvarna VIKING Sew Delightful

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