

# Piecing our Lives

The monthly newsletter of  
The West Alabama Quilters Guild

February, 2015

Volume 16, Number 2

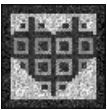
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Elaine Poplin, our guest speaker in January, shares her scrappy Storm-at-Sea variation quilt, one of many wonderful quilts.

**Remember to renew your membership for 2015. NOW.**



## President's letter:

We have a month full of activities ahead. Karen Combs presents her lecture and trunk show on Friday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 at the TDOT. This is free and open to the public, so bring family and friends. Her workshop "Patchwork Illusions" is Saturday, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> from 8:00-3:00.



Typically on Valentine's Day, but this year on Friday, February 13, we thank the TDOT for all that they do for us. Not only do they provide a room, rent free, for our meetings but also storage space for our library and tables and chairs. To show our appreciation, we prepare a great spread for lunch including hot food and desserts. Please help us thank them by bringing food and desserts to the TDOT at 11:00. We also need help with setting up at 11:00. Those good folks contributing food, please remember to pick up your crockpots Friday afternoon.

Our program for February is Judy Balance on "Designing a Quilt." She can help with our new challenge depicting a play on words, speaking of which, for the dog lovers amongst us here are some ideas:

It's a dog's life

Dog days of Summer

The tail is wagging the dog

Three Dog Night (or Knights)

Hot Dog

Bone Appetit

It's Raining Cats and Dogs

Let Sleeping Dogs Lie



I thought I would share how I came to join the guild. My husband is very supportive of my hobby, quilting, as I am of his hobby, fishing. We live in Tuscaloosa 50% of the time and on Smith Lake in Crane Hill 50% of the time, typically weekends. I wanted to join the WAQG so I suggested we change our weekends to Saturday through Monday, traveling back to Tuscaloosa on Tuesday. I noted that once a month I could attend a quilt guild meeting Saturday morning and then we could leave for the lake in time to meet friends for dinner. More importantly, I reminded him, Friday night hosts a ton of fishing tournaments, which makes fishing difficult. The bass boats fly all over the lake churning up the sediment and sending huge waves in their wakes, making it difficult to stand on the dock. Monday, however, the lake is clear, still, and beautiful—just perfect for fishing, and the weekend crowds have vanished. So, John agreed to change our weekend days and I joined the guild the very next week.

So now that John is a quilt spouse, here is what he has learned. John sent the following as part of his (intentionally) funny Christmas letter summarizing our year [comments in brackets are mine]:

"The trips begin in April with Inez and Ida [my mother] heading off to Paducah KY to the famous quilt conference [conference????] where they hang out with other quilters. You ask "What do quilters do?" I know, who cares? Near as John can tell, they drink wine and look at stuff hanging on walls for days and days. Then they purchase quilter stuff that John thankfully never knew existed while getting worked up talking about fabrics, stitches and "Wow what a deal I got on threads." Then they come home and force their husbands to look at photos and pretend to care about a week long monologue of every quilt they saw. And then they have the nerve to wonder why we drink. John spent his time with a real hobby rearranging his plastic worms."

And sew on,

Inez





## February 14, 2015, Guild Meeting:

**8:45 Basics and Beyond:** We are going to try two new techniques. One will be easy and adds variety to your quilt blocks and the other will teach patience but the result is so stunning. Layered Applique and Reverse Applique. **Ana.**

**9:30 Guild Business meeting**

**10:30 Program: Judy Ballance: "Designing a Quilt".** Judy Ballance comes to us from Huntsville where she has been an engineer with NASA for 28 years. She has been quilting for 12 years and loves to design and make art quilts. She is new to long arming but has 18 quilt tops to provide plenty of practice!

**The March 14th meeting** will be a tour of 3 or 4 sewing areas in the homes of WAQG members. We will adjourn after the refreshment time to drive in groups for a fun time to gain ideas for our own creative spaces.

## Help with Hospitality Set-up and Clean up/take out Trash (we need 2 people each month)

February: Jamie S, Tara L, Peg L

March: Charlotte N, \_\_\_\_\_

April: Sue G, Laurie P-D

May: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

June: Dot B, Sandra B, Karen W

July: Beth M, \_\_\_\_\_

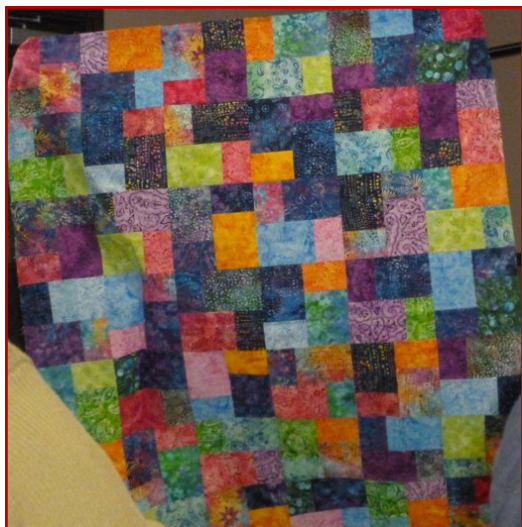
August: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

September: Laura R, \_\_\_\_\_

October: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

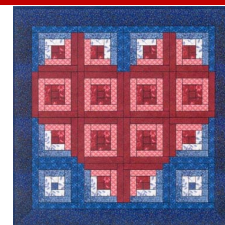
November: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

December (4 people): Becky B, Nancy A, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_



## 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** Joyce T

**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

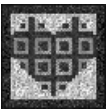
**Quilt Show 2016:** Beth M

**Telephone Tree** Nan G

**Website Coordinator** LPD

**Retreats:** Ana S



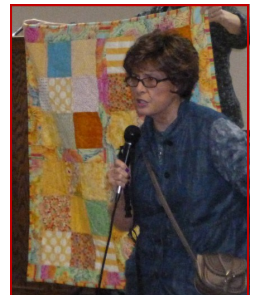
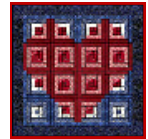


## West Alabama Quilters Guild

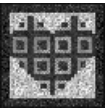
## Piecing Our Lives



**Productive quilters!  
Retreat efforts, some  
"Just Finish It" quilts  
and Bring & Brag.**







## 2015 Major Workshop

### Karen Combs

Friday, Feb. 20th, 7:00 pm.  
Program presentation and trunk show. Free and open to the public, so bring your friends. TDOT.



Saturday, Feb. 21st. Workshop: **Patchwork Illusions**  
Starts early—at 8 am to be finished by 3 at TDOT. We have a waiting list as all seats are reserved. See Charlotte to check on availability. The Supply list is available on our website: [www.waqq.com](http://www.waqq.com).

## Welcome New Members:

Jill

Augusta

Janie



Here is the proud winner of our 2014 Opportunity Quilt, Joannie R, with her son and nephew.



## 2015 Mini Workshop Schedule

Saturday, March 21st: **Stack & Whack** with Brucie W. at TDOT.

April 11th after guild meeting: **Sara T's White Applique Dress**.

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

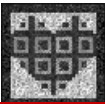
August 8th after guild meeting: **Applique Techniques** with Inez.



## TOTEBAGS !!

More on page 7





## 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. We will have 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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)

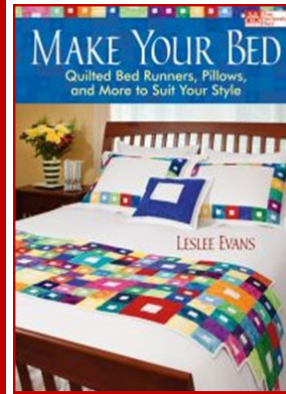
**Design Buddy:** We encourage everyone to find a design buddy for this challenge with whom you can brainstorm possible quilts, discuss your ideas and how you might turn these ideas into a quilt, or figure out how to solve problems with your design or quilt.

**Consultants:** The following have volunteered to help anyone with designing their quilt: Charlotte N, Inez R, Laurie, Ana S, Jamie S, Susan A.

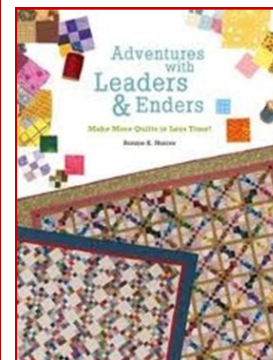
## Library Notes:

### MISSING BOOKS!

Please check your shelves--no fines--just thanks for returning!



**Make Your Bed** by  
Leslee Evans  
#1831 or #1931



**Adventures with Leaders & Enders**  
by Bonnie Hunter  
#1862

### Over-stocked with scraps and strips?

Try these for inspiration, tips and free patterns:

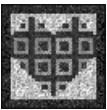
**Elaine Wick Poplin** - [messygoat.com](http://messygoat.com)  
(January WAQG speaker)

**Bonnie Hunter** - [quiltville.blogspot.com](http://quiltville.blogspot.com)  
includes *Cute Tutes*: links to 100+ patterns and tips from other quilt blogs

**Katrina Kahn** - [sunshower-quilts.blogspot.com](http://sunshower-quilts.blogspot.com),  
includes video on sewing leaders and enders and using Accuquilt

Suggestions and donations welcome!  
Retired books are on sale at meetings.  
*Susan A, WAQG Library*





## Minutes January 10, 2015

Next Board meeting January 27 at 5:00 p.m. Jason's Deli

**Mail:** Colcasieu quilt guild from Sulphur, LA is having quilt show April 17-18. Anyone interested in submitting entry-please let them know. Thank you note received from Beth Millis for her quilt squares.

**Announcements:** 1) February lunch for TDOT workers on Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up to provide food if you can. 2) Hospitality sheet still has spots available for volunteers for setup and cleanup. 3) Bonnie Hunter system of scrapping and quilting-if interested, come to lunch at Jason's Deli and we will discuss.

**Basics and Beyond:** Reviewed use of rotary cutter and discussed log cabin blocks.

**Major Workshop:** Karen Coombs will be here Feb. 20. She will do free program Friday the 19<sup>th</sup>. Her material will be available for \$11/yd. Please pick up supply list today.

**Mini Workshop:** Next Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup>, Laurie P-D and Sue G will do their tote bag workshop. In March Brucie W will do a stack and whack workshop.

**Library:** Two books are available on stack and whack. Other books presented.

**Membership:** Members present-53 and there are 3 visitors present. Birthdays announced. Three new members today- Augusta A, Janie W and Jill S.

**Name Tag:** Names drawn were Diana S, Doris L K, and Debbie W.

**Round Robin:** Tara L and Christine LC proposing a mystery round robin. Please let them know if you are interested.

**Newsletter:** Deadline for newsletter submissions January 25.

**Retreat:** Next retreat will be in August.

**Sunshine:** Members needing prayers and cards announced.

**Treasurer's Report:** Beth M reported expenses and income.

**Retreat quilts:** Ana S, Joanne W, Melanie M, Peg L, Tara L, Christine LC, Joyce T, Dot B, and Shirley S.

**Just Finish It and Bring and Brag:** Rose O, Donna N, Diane A, Dot B, Pat S, Jamie S, Doris L K, Karen L, Diana M, Hallie O, Melanie M, Steven H, Judy R E, Nancy F, Marjorie S and Martha S.

**Bring and Brag-** Debbie W, Hallie O, Nan G, Deanna T, Teresa M, Martha M, Martha S, Marjorie S, Tara L, Mary Lou P, Joanne W, Steven H, Inez R, Laura W, and Sandra B.



### More photos from our totebag workshop





**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:

**Bring food on Friday Feb 13. We provide a hot lunch to our TDOT hosts!**

**Pay your Membership Dues this month. Newsletter lists will be purged—you don't want to miss any issues!**

**Show us your "Just Finish It" completed projects.**

**Sign up to help with hospitality set-up and cleanup.**

**Friday, Feb. 20th—Karen Combs will give us a program and trunk show. 7pm at TDOT. Free and open to the public so bring family and friends.**

## **Husqvarna VIKING Sew Delightful**

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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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