

Piecing Our Lives

The Monthly Newsletter of
The West Alabama Quilters Guild

August 2018
Volume 18, Number 7

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Fay L showing an example of a Fidget Quilt. Anything that you might have that would help clients with sensory feel (i.e. different texture fabrics, buttons, elastic, things that make noise, etc.) would be helpful.

Fidget quilts- Fay mentioned that there are sessions to make these quilts taking place at Hospice of West Alabama most each month from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Usually these working sessions are announced at the guild meeting so keep an ear open. They could use some zippers and other appropriate items - please contact Fay L.



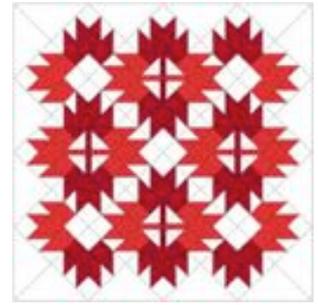
"Pueblo Pathways" by Laurie PD

It measures 27" x 38" and now hangs in her living room. "The center applique patches were stitched during our travels from Alabama to North Carolina, Colorado, Utah and New Mexico in the summer of 2016. The blue-on-black sections of the border are from a handkerchief that was purchased at the Acoma Pueblo (in New Mexico) that summer. The quilting and binding were completed in 2018, after we moved to Chapel Hill. This evokes great memories of fun times with all of our kids and wonderful scenery."

WAQG President's Letter-August 2018

Dear WAQG members,

What's under your needle? When it is as hot as it is outside it seems like it would be easier to stay inside and sew... but I haven't been at my machine for a long while and sure do miss it. While many of you were at the free motion workshop learning and having fun, I was with Rotarians from all over the world at the International Rotary Convention in Toronto. Sammy, my husband, is the Tuscaloosa Rotary President so I traveled with him and was fascinated with the new languages, customs and beautiful clothes that made me feel like I traveled the world. On Sunday, I had planned on taking a shuttle to the airport then hop a train into the city to go to church, until I found out that even with the rain, the city was expecting two million people for the 38th Annual Pride Parade. The thought of curling up at a coffee shop to people watch and do some hexie sewing quickly became a more desirable way to spend my morning.



On Monday I took a taxi to North Toronto and spent the day at 'Sew Sisters Quilt Shop'. The business started in 2000 with two sisters selling their surplus of fabrics from their personal projects. As their business grew, they hired their dad, a retired accountant, to help them open their retail store in 2007. The warm atmosphere made it easy for me to spend hours at the quaint shop and was amazed at their huge mail order business. After my 'free day', I was to meet Sammy for supper, so I asked the owner for directions to get into the city. I was told to just walk two blocks, cross the street and catch the train into the city. I didn't look to see how long the blocks were as I set out on my journey. After hiking with my two huge bags loaded with my 19 lbs. of fabric, my body was getting weary and collapsed when I finally got on the train. As the train made numerous stops and more folks spilled onto the train, reality hit that I was meeting Sammy for dinner, it was starting to drizzle and paper bags that are weighted down don't last long when wet. I didn't have a clue what on earth I was going to do with the two huge paper bags of fabric when I got off the train and tried to meet up with Sammy who was just one tiny person in the sea of 27,000 Rotarians. I made it to the convention center and found a coat check room where I was able to check my beautiful fabrics. We ate at a delightful restaurant that gave me huge plastic bags to bundle my stash in so they could safely make it back to the hotel.

On Tuesday I received a 'travel weather waiver' text from our airline so I spent half a day on the phone trying to get our flights changed and started packing to catch an earlier flight home so we wouldn't have to stay three extra days. I carefully packed our suitcases, trying to distribute our weight to accommodate the fabric and thought I had done a good job... until we got to the airport. When you are told you are over the weight limit and you need to step to the side and distribute your weight, you can imagine how you would feel if your undies are exposed to the world when you open your suitcase and they fall out. Yes, I was over the weight limit and was the person who had to move to the side and take things out of my suitcase to put in my carryon bag. By the time we made it home, I was exhausted.

Don't forget the opportunity we all have to clean out our sewing studios and support our Hallie O project. You are welcome to donate any sewing supplies, equipment, projects etc. that will be sold on August 11th following our guild business meeting and program. You are welcome to get your priced items to a board member prior to the 11th which will help us with the setting up of the room. Or, if you can't get it to a board member in advance, you can bring it to the meeting on the 11th. *Please go ahead a price your items that you are donating.* All money raised will go toward the painting of one of Hallie's quilt blocks that will be part of the City of Tuscaloosa Public Art project in downtown Tuscaloosa.

Now I need to get back to see what I can clear out of my stash so it can find its way to its new home and possibly be under your needle.

Debbie

July 14, 2018 Guild Meeting:**8:45: Basics & Beyond: Foundation Piecing****9:30: Business Meeting****10:30 Program:** Program presented by Patricia W**July Treasurer Report**

Income: \$4,757.50 *

Expenses: \$6,058.63*

Previous Checking Balance: \$10,102.74

Current Checking Balance: \$8,801.61

Hallie Fund: 2,974.47

*Details can be seen at the guild meeting.

**Membership Report**

New Members:

Deborah C
 XXXXXXXXXXXX
 XXXXXXXXX, AL
 205-XXX_XXXX
 205-XXX_XXXX
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

November 15

**2018 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
Education Nan G
Historian Anne E
Kentuck Paula B , Teresa M
Library Patricia W, Dana M
Membership Mary B
Name Tag Drawing Diane A
Newsletter Jamie S, Judy S
Programs Eve E, Rose O
Quilt Show Paula W, Karen L
Retreat Ana S, Barbara H
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
Website Laura R

Major Workshop, Free Motion Quilting on a Domestic Sewing Machine with Christina Cameli April 19th and 20th, 2019.

We are fortunate to have booked Christina Cameli for our major workshop for 2019. Christina Cameli has been free-motion quilting for over a decade, and writes the quilting blog A Few Scraps (www.afewscraps.com). She is the author of several books, including **First Steps to Free-Motion Quilting, Step-by-Step Free-Motion Quilting** and **Wedge Quilt Workshop: Step-by-Step Tutorials 10 Stunning Projects** (at least one of these is in the Library), and contributes to numerous publications, including **Stitch, Quilts and More, Quilty** and **The Quilt Life**. She is also regularly featured on the PBS show **FRESH QUILTING** (www.freshquilting.com). Christina has several classes on **Craftsy** (www.craftsy.com) and also has several free videos on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/user/afewscraps>). In her life outside of quilting (is there such a thing?), she is a nurse-midwife. She is a member and past president of the Portland Modern Quilt Guild. She is extremely relatable and practical, making Christina the perfect person to guide the novice as well as inspire the seasoned quilter. She will be doing several mini-workshops and you'll be able to pick one, a few or do them all! Cost is to be announced but will be very reasonable. Of course, the lecture on Friday night will be free and open to the public. Please plan to take advantage of this offering of a world-renowned quilter at a fraction of what it would cost to attend at a conference.

West Alabama Quilters Guild, July 14, 2018 Minutes



Treasurer's Report. (Dot B) Report filed in notebook

Name Tag Drawing. Joann W, Beth M, and Mary Jean H were winners.

Membership. 51 members present. One visitor/new member– Debbie C

Announcements

- Jamie S stated that she will not be opening a fabric store as she had announced previously.
- Debbie W announced that Beth M and Julie T have agreed to co-chair the Quilt Show for 2020
- There is a computerized quilting Gammill Statler Stitcher for sale. Contact Christine L at 2quiltornot2quilt@gmail.com
- Julie T announced that she is not buying the Sew Delightful store as rumored
- Anne E read a note she had received from Hattie H (Dianne's mother) thanking the Guild for its donation to the Hallie O fund in her (Dianne's) memory
- The Hallie fund has reached \$3000. Donations are very welcome to reach the goal of \$5000

Itch to Stitch. The Guild has completed 1 kids quilt, and 133 pillowcases for the Manderson Cancer Center. Fidget quilts- there will be a session to make these at Hospice of West Alabama on July 18th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. They could use some zippers and other appropriate items - please contact Fay L.

Sunshine. Julie T shared that Jamie S is recovering well from surgery; Laurie PD has a grandson – Wes; and Christine L is expecting a baby in January 2019.

Library. Debbie W announced that Susan A was not able to be at the meeting, and she received a round of applause for her devotion over many years to the success of the Guild's library. New co-librarian Patricia W asked members to give her or Dana M suggestions for purchases.

Opportunity Quilt. Because no tickets will be sold at Kentuck this year, members need to sell as many as possible in all possible venues. Tickets could be sold and the quilt shown at the Druid City Pride Festival at Government Plaza in October if the Guild wants to get a booth. Drawing will be at the December WAQG meeting.

Workshop. Rose O reminded members that the workshop will be held on Friday and Saturday, April 19-20. There will be 2 workshops on each day – the cost is \$40.00 per workshop. There will also be a lecture on Friday evening, which will be free, and there will be door prizes. The instructor has suggested that attendees should not try to attend all the workshops as they are quite intense. They will be geared to both beginners and more experienced quilters.

Just Finish It/Bring & Brag. 16 individuals showed a total of 30 quilted items. In addition, a lamp was shown by Sara T made from a small sewing machine and a kerosene-type lantern. There were also many batik printed panels, as well as pillowcases. A completed fidget quilt was presented by Fay L so that members could see the various items and fabrics used.

Kentuck. Becky B will have sign-up sheets at the next meeting for those who have paid for Kentuck passes. Passes are \$5. The WAQG booth will be in the same location as last year, with the Fiber Arts and Woodworking groups adjacent.

Education. Nan G has no report as it is summer and there is no activity.

Retreat. The August retreat is coming up and is full. Ana S stated that some people have suggested that the Guild hold one or two more retreats. If someone would like to organize an extra retreat or two, they should do so, but Ana cannot add this to her responsibilities.

Minutes continued on page 5.....

Minutes Continued.....

Basics and Beyond. Charlotte N presented a session on 3 theories of composition for quilts; the Rule of Thirds, the Fibonacci method, and Golden Ratio. Charlotte thanked Julie for her assistance at the free motion quilting workshop. The topics for August and September will be Foundation Piecing and Curved Piecing, respectively.

Charlotte talked about quilting items, from long time guild member Barb M's, that have been donated to the Guild. The board voted to follow the family's wishes and there will be a sale immediately following the August meeting. All proceeds will go to the Hallie O fund. Members may give items already priced to a board member prior to the meeting, or bring quilting/sewing supplies (pre-priced) to the meeting, with the understanding that the proceeds will go to the Hallie fund.

Future Programs. Eve E. Programs for August and September will be presented by Patricia W and Hallie O, respectively.

Program Following the break, three members participated in "Christmas in July", showing items that could be sold at Kentuck or given as gifts. Eve E talked about a number of aprons she had made (modeled professionally by Rose O!); Christine L offered members the opportunity to trace tried and true patterns for Christmas stockings, and Paula B demonstrated a jelly roll mat/area rug and how to make one. Rose O showed an alternative method of preparing the materials for this type of rug. Paula also shared a cross-body purse and methods of "storing" the prepared materials in a large ball or in a long container.

Respectfully Submitted

Anne E, Secretary

Challenge Quilt Info....

The Board voted to have the following categories for the 2018 WAQG Challenge – "Anything Appliqué"

- Small quilts
- Medium Quilts
- Large Quilts
- Non-Traditional Quilts
- Starting Line Quilts

Starting Line Quilts is a category for those who are new to applique quilting and for whom this is the first time they have shown an appliqued quilt. Instead of placement ribbons, each applicant will receive a pin for their effort, which is expected to encourage new quilters and avoid competitiveness and discouragement.

To determine the appropriate category for a quilt, the Guild member will measure the width and length of the quilt, and taking the lower number (in inches) fill out the entrance form with the correct category marked. Round quilts should be entered in the Non-Traditional category.

Sizes: (using the **smaller** of the width and length measurements)

- Small: up to 30 inches
- Medium: 31 inches to 60 inches
- Large: 61 inches and larger

Info continued on pg. 6.....

Challenge Quilt Info continued....

e.g.

- a quilt measuring 6" by 32" will be entered in the a Small category
- a quilt measuring 44" by 66" will be entered in the Medium category
- a quilt measuring 62" by 62" will be entered in the Large category

Note: If a quilt measures a fraction of an inch above or below the sizes indicated, round the measurement up to the next inch if the fraction is 50% or above, and down if it is below 50%, e.g. 31.75" becomes 32", and 30.25" becomes 30"

July Bring & Brag/Just Finish It









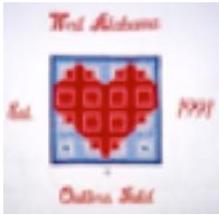
July Program



When: Saturday August 11

Where: At TDOT after the quilt guild meeting (business portion and program)

A fundraiser to raise funds for the Hallie Project will take place with items related to quilting/sewing as part of the merchandise. Please look through your sewing room and anything you would like to donate to this cause would be greatly appreciated. All items will be sold with the funds going to the Hallie Project. You will need to price your items and take them to a board member or you may bring to the meeting on August 11. Items will be displayed for your purchase.



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

We're on the
web
www.waqq.com



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