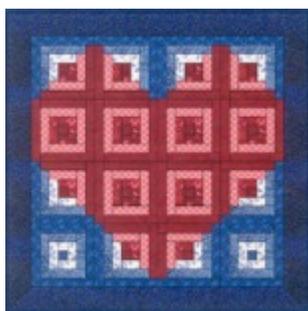


Piecing our Lives



The monthly newsletter of
The West Alabama Quilters Guild

May 2016
Volume 17, Number 5

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Our wonderful Laurie P-D - she receives a gift to show our appreciation for all of the hard work she has done for the guild for many years.



Also a gift for Sara T for her hard work on the opportunity baskets at the quilt show; it was very much appreciated.



Now Accepting \$\$\$

Many members who have picked up their ticket packets for **Rolling Thunder** have been busy selling (and buying) the red or blue tickets. Those completed tickets and money may be turned in at the May meeting. Also in the packet are the 12 white or yellow tickets just for you as part of your membership dues. Simply fill those out and drop into the jar.

Full instructions plus a picture of the quilt are included in the packet. If you need to pick up your packet, get additional tickets to sell, or turn in tickets & money, see committee members Paula W, Diana M, Debbie W, or Laurie P-D. Let’s see how quickly we can fill the ticket jar!

President's Letter April 25, 2016

Phew. We've had a busy and exciting month starting with a tour of four, all incredible, but different sewing spaces. Each had innovative ways to store fabrics and notions and organize sewing and cutting spaces to maximize every inch of space available. I found a number of ideas that will help me improve my sewing rooms and clean up the mess shoved in my fabric closets. Heartfelt thanks to Julie T, Debbie W, Laurie P-D, and Sara T for making their sewing spaces available for our tour. I am personally grateful because John, who accompanied me on the tour, can never complain about my miniscule fabric stash.

On the heels of the tours were five workshops conducted by renowned teacher Harriet Hargrave. Who knew there was so much to learn about batting? Do you want the quilt to be flat or fluffy, thick or thin? Does your top have white and light fabrics that will appear yellow because of the yellow tone of some batting? Will this be a bed quilt or a wall hanging, and if so remember that quilts with wool batting without scrim sag on the wall and must be taken down after several months and allowed to rest to regain their shape. Who knew that they could free-motion quilt a feathered wreath by the end of the quilting workshop or sew an applique with invisible stitches by the end of the applique workshop? We learned a ton, shared supplies, and welcomed the Birmingham crew with typical WAQG friendliness. I learned not to say, "Everyone bring an iron and ironing surface and plug in all 20 at once." When we did, we tripped several circuit breakers. The kind folks at TDOT were there to help within five minutes and we then limited irons to 10 (still an impressive number).

But wait there's more (I feel like one of those annoying TV commercials trying to sell some useless product for \$19.99). Next meeting Nan G will teach thread painting. Ahead are our Round Robin, Itch to Stich, and Kentuck. For the Round Robin, bring the start of a quilted item to the April meeting, which will be passed to two other guild members in turn who add to and modify your start. You can identify what you want the finished item to be and color preferences. Give Round Robin items to Christine L or Tara L. Itch to stich is our August meeting in which we present our donated quilts to Turning Point, who provide services to victims of domestic violence. Quilts for babies to adults are needed.



Kentuck, in October, is our chance to share our love and knowledge of quilting with the community through demonstrations of hand and machine quilting and our work with children during which we demonstrate all steps in making a quilt from designing to bindings. We give young children the chance to draw their own quilt on a quilted square we provide. We give older children an opportunity to design blocks and quilts, which we finish during Kentuck and donate to charity. Towards these endeavors, we need donations of the following starting in April:

We need -

- 9 1/2" pieced blocks, specifically, black and white blocks with a very simple pieced pattern, such as a snowball or four-patch, on which we can fuse shapes
- Nine 1/2-inch solid black, white, or bright colored blocks. Bright means any vivid color other than earth tones (browns, beige, etc.) and pastels.
- Black, white, or bright fabrics which we can add fusing and have those with AccuCutters cut into applique shapes for the children to select.



Give donations for the Kentuck children's quilts to Christine L. We also sell quilted items we made in our booth. More about these items in later newsletters.

One last request: I am trying to collect copies of every WAQG newsletter to store in our library or other storage unit. **We have copies of all newsletters from 1991-2005. I will appreciate any donation of newsletters from 2006 through to the present.** This is your chance to clean out your desk or paper storage area! Thanks.

And sew on,

Inez

May 14, 2016, Guild Meeting:

8:45 Basics and Beyond: During May's Basics and Beyond Class we will discuss two ways to make quilts the easy way- Quilt as you Go and Rag Quilts ~ Charlotte

9:30 Guild Business meeting

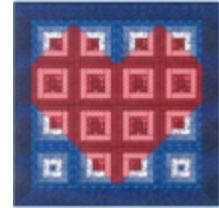
10:30 Program: Nan G with Thread Painting



June 11: Michele Reynolds (creating nature inspired art from recycled materials)
 July 9: "Christmas in July"
 August 13: Itch-to-Stitch

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 L 16-18

Committee Chairs

Basics and Beyond Charlotte N
 Community Service Sara T
 Hospitality Sharon L, Diana S, Reita M
 Education Nan G
 Kentucky _____
 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 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

February Treasurer's Report

Income			Expenses		
	Month	2016		Month	2016
Membership Dues	\$ 825.00	\$ 1,550.00	Monthly Program	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Quilt Show	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	Hospitality	\$ -	\$ -
Kentuck	\$ -	\$ -	Supplies	\$ -	\$ -
Library	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	Quilt Show	\$ 3,516.71	\$ 3,858.53
Opportunity Quilt	\$ -	\$ -	Kentuck	\$ -	\$ -
Retreat	\$ -	\$ -	Library	\$ -	\$ -
Major Workshop	\$ 40.00	\$ 80.00	Opportunity Quilt	\$ 123.78	\$ 123.78
Newsletter	\$ -	\$ -	Retreat	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 235.00	\$ 235.00	Mini Workshop	\$ -	\$ -
			Major Workshop	\$ 1,245.20	\$ 1,832.16
Total	\$ 1,225.00	\$ 1,990.00	Newsletter	\$ 9.80	\$ 58.84
			Storage Unit	\$ -	\$ 600.00
			Community Inv.	\$ -	\$ -
Previous Balance	\$17,617.31		Business License	\$ -	\$ -
Current Balance	\$13,946.82		Post Office Box	\$ -	\$ -
			Arts Council	\$ -	\$ -
			Total	\$ 4,895.49	\$ 6,573.31

Treasurer's Report

Income			Expenses		
	Month	2016		Month	2016
Membership Dues	\$ 175.00	\$ 1,725.00	Monthly Program	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00
Quilt Show	\$ 8,381.06	\$ 8,431.06	Hospitality	\$ -	\$ -
Kentuck	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00	Supplies	\$ -	\$ -
Library	\$ -	\$ 75.00	Quilt Show	\$ 3,265.56	\$ 7,124.09
Opportunity Quilt	\$ -	\$ -	Kentuck	\$ -	\$ -
Retreat	\$ -	\$ -	Library	\$ -	\$ -
Major Workshop	\$ 80.00	\$ 160.00	Opportunity Quilt	\$ -	\$ 123.78
Newsletter	\$ -	\$ -	Retreat	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 235.00	Mini Workshop	\$ -	\$ -
			Major Workshop	\$ 643.70	\$ 2,475.86
Total	\$ 8,761.06	\$ 10,751.06	Newsletter	\$ 9.80	\$ 68.64
			Storage Unit	\$ -	\$ 600.00
			Community Inv.	\$ -	\$ -
Previous Balance	\$13,946.82		Business License	\$ -	\$ -
Current Balance	\$18,688.82		Post Office Box	\$ -	\$ -
			Arts Council	\$ -	\$ -
			Total	\$ 4,019.06	\$ 10,592.37

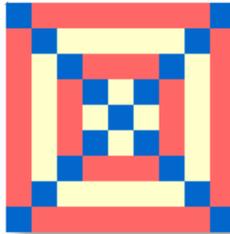
2016 WAQG Challenge: Celebrating the State of Alabama Bicentennial (Inez' letter continued from page 2).

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.



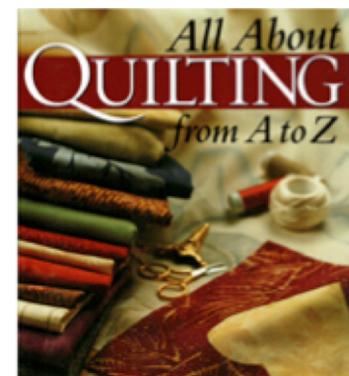
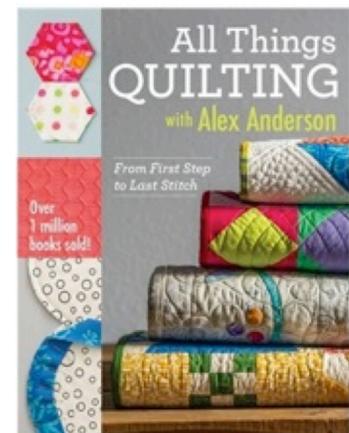
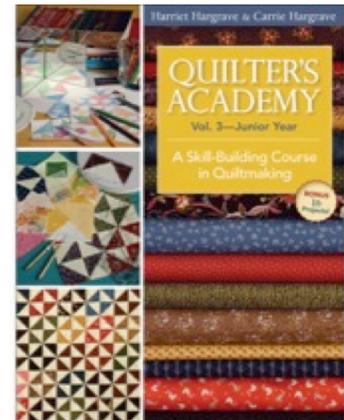
There is no official state block, however, there is an official state quilt called "The Pine Burr Quilt" with blocks made by folding triangles and sewing them in concentric circles (shown on right)—similar to the pine cones we make for Kentucky. There is also a pine burr block, quite different from the 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.

WAQG Library – New Books



HOMEMADE SOAP RECIPE - For those that are interested – here is the link (supplied by Janie W) for the recipe of the laundry soap mentioned by Harriet Hargrave Janie uses Method #1. Thanks Janie. [Super Laundry Sauce for Dummies | No Fail Laundry Detergent Recipe - Budget101.com](#)

Notes to self...

1. Make block for Round Robin if participating
2. Take food for meeting
3. Gather items for **Basic Mini-workshop**
4. Be thinking about this year's challenge
5. Pick up packet of Rolling Thunder tickets
6. Hmm...what else?



Correction to Directory:

Pam Erickson's address:
1929 25th Way East
Tuscaloosa 35404

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



Harriet Hargrave - April workshops



Mini – Workshop News

Don't forget that on May 14th our Quilt Guild Mini-Workshop will be on BASICS. When we say basics, we mean we will work together to talk and practice the very basic concepts. The items you will need to bring (so you will be comfortable with *your* own equipment) rotary cutter/scissors, cutting mat, rulers, one yard of material, sewing machine, pins, thread and yourself. Together we will leave the workshop with confidence to take on a quilt project with our newly practiced skills. We will leave our anxieties that we have at the curb over the terms we've been hearing and didn't know what folks were talking about and was too scared to ask. Can't wait to see you at the Guild Meeting "Quilting Basics Mini-Workshop".



WAQG Meeting Minutes, 4/9/16

Announcements: Big Thank You to Laurie P-D for all of her service to the guild over the years- newsletter, website, prize ribbons and much, much more. Thank you to Sara T. for her hard work on the opportunity baskets for quilt show. Review preparations for Harriett Hargrave classes 4/12-4/16. Several old/antique quilts at the Forest Lake United Methodist Church sale, 7am-2pm 4/16.

Mini-workshop: after May meeting until 2:30 at TDOT, the VERY BASICS of quilting.

Kentuck Art Festival: Sign up for \$5 badge at this April meeting, must work at show.

Basics and Beyond: 4 and 9 patch overview and the first installment of the Mystery Quilt (which uses 4 and 9 patches). May meeting will be easy quilts to get ideas for Itch-to-Stich in August. Mystery Quilt will also make a good donation for Itch-to-Stich.

Retreat: August 18-21, 2 spaces left. See Ana to sign up and pay.

Library: Susan A highlighted Harriett Hargrave's Mastering Machine Applique book. All of Harriett's books will be in guild library by May.

Membership: 59 members in attendance, 6 guests (need more guest name tags). Happy Birthday April Babies!

Name Tag Drawing Winners: Nancy A, Chloe P, Karen C.

Sunshine: Julie T updated on the needed thoughts for guild members and associates.

Newsletter Items need to be sent to Jamie and Judy by April 25th.

Next board meeting at Bank of Tuscaloosa building (1st floor board room) April 21st, 5:30.

Round-Robin: Christine L. and Tara L. are organizing. It will be a mystery (you won't find out who is in your group until the end). Bring your filled out entry form and your starter block at the May meeting. The goals are to have fun with new projects, challenge ourselves to make a positive and pleasing addition to each quilt, and to get to know two guild members better.

Bring and Brag: 11 people shared, including 4 Just-Finish-Its.

Program: Sew-Many-Spaces. Wonderful tour of 4 sewing studios (Sara T, Laurie P-D, Debbie W, Julie T) organized by Debbie W. Tours rotated in four groups, go in order, carpool if possible, be done by 1pm. Got lots of great ideas for how to design/reorganize sewing rooms

More Workshop Pictures





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.




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.

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Sew Delightful

1875 McFarland Blvd N, Phone: 205-752-1700
Suite 200 E-mail: sewdelightful@comcast.net
Tuscaloosa, AL 35406. Website: sewdelightful.net

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merchandise. You must
have coupon and certain
exclusions apply. Limit one
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