

Piecing our Lives

The monthly newsletter of
The West Alabama Quilters Guild

May, 2015

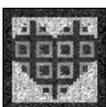
Volume 16, Number 5

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Pam E. sells Opportunity Quilt tickets at the Druid City Arts Fest in April. Thanks, also, to Beth, Diana S., Charlotte, Jacque, Fay H., Laurie, Paula W., and Jill K. for such a good day, bringing \$244! The quilt is on display and tickets are for sale at the.makers.market.



President's letter:

Sometimes I quilt just for fun, but most of the time I want to improve my quilting skills and learn new skills. Anders Ericsson conducted some fascinating research on experts. He showed that experts did not develop expertise because of innate talent or ability; they became experts because of extensive amounts of "deliberate practice." Deliberate practice is not the same as experience or the time you spend quilting. Experience itself won't necessarily lead to improvement.

Deliberate practice focuses intentionally on improving some aspect of a skill and you make a concerted effort to improve. In addition, you break down a larger skill into chunks and design practice tasks that focus on improving each chunk. The practice task should be challenging, but also focus on a skill that you can successfully learn with effortful practice. For example, here is how I broke down free motion machine quilting into chunks along with the deliberate practice tasks, many of which you have seen in Bring and Brag.

1. Quilting on a line, typically a line on the fabric such as a leaf or flower, or on a drawn pattern.

pot holders, purse,

Four small wall hangings depicting "Crane Hill, AL"

Double wedding band lap quilt

2. Stippling

Many, many, many pot holders

Two small wall hangings ("Life is too short to drink bad wine," "Dancing heron")

3. Spirals and pebbles

Pot holders

Wall hanging from Judy Robinson's workshop ("Summer Sunset at Smith Lake")

Wall hanging "Pond Play" (based on Tiffany's glass panels "Fish at play")

4. Echo quilting

Flower pillow for my desk chair

Wall hanging ("Ocean Floor Topography")



Next on my list for deliberate practice are feathers.

News and Happenings

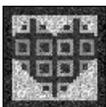
WAQG Quilt Show 2016

Due to visitor and vendor complaints and members' health problems resulting from the heat at our 2014 quilt show, we needed to move our show to cooler months and thus school gymnasiums are no longer options. We are pleased to now have an agreement to hold our quilt show in the gymnasium at the Taylorville United Methodist Church, 640 Bear Creek Rd. on March 4-5, 2016. This is a lovely space and we are excited to be working with the folks at Taylorville.

We have a few changes in programming. **Julia Graber is coming in July** with a program and trunk show from the Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA). It looks like a wonderful program and we are always glad to have Julia, an inspiring quilter, back with us. Our June program will be **Christmas in June** featuring guild members teaching us how to make holiday gifts.

Word of Warning

If you take out the trash to the dumpster at the end of the meeting, be sure to have a buddy hold the door open for your return. I know this from experience—a buddy is really, REALLY important. Last meeting after finding the dumpster, which mysteriously moves from place to place in the lot, I could not get back in the locked door. The fence topped with barbed wire is not an appealing escape route. So I squeezed and shimmied out under the padlocked chain between the pole and the door. It was a tight fit and I had visions of being arrested because a hidden video caught me in the act of breaking out. A buddy is really, REALLY important. **And sew on, Inez**



May 9, 2015, Guild Meeting:

8:45 Basics and Beyond: For May we will explore an old quilt block called The Rocky Road to Kansas. It came about as pioneers headed west to find more open space to live. There are two versions of this quilt block, one for beginners and one for the more adventurous. It is a fun block that can use up a lot of scraps depending on the version you choose. It is also a great way to try paper piecing for the first time. **Ana.**

9:30 Guild Business meeting

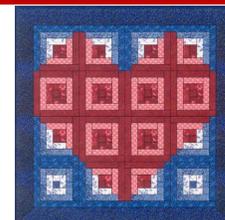
10:30 Program: Join us in May for Itch to Stitch ideas and shortcuts. **Joyce T and Julie T** will give us lots of tips and techniques as we enter the home stretch for our charity quilt presentation in August.



Have you heard of **Christmas in June**?? Well you have now! We will get ideas for quick quilted gifts for friends and family. Do you have an idea you would like to present? I am recruiting 5 people with projects and instructions to present at the meeting. Email me if you are interested: .

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

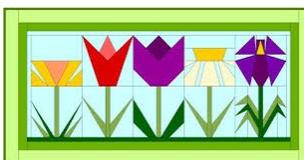
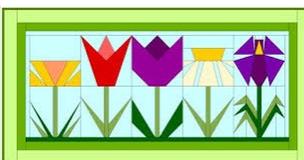
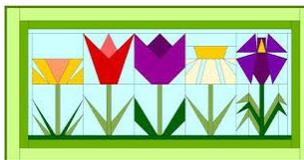
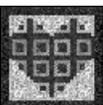
Jamie S 13-15
Barbara W 14-16
Charlotte N 15-17

Committee Chairs

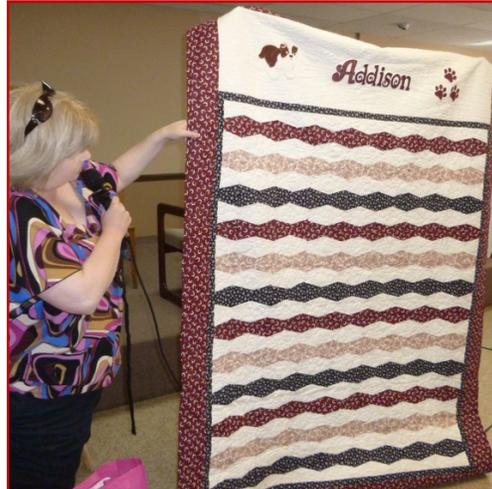
Basics and Beyond Ana
Community Service Sara
Hospitality Faye, Diana S, Reita M
Education _____
Kentuck Charlotte N
Library Susan A
Membership Mary B
Name Tag Drawing Jill K
Sunshine Julie T
Mini Workshops Jacque T
Major Workshop 2015 Charlotte N
Major Workshop 2016 Paula B
Newsletter Laurie P-D
Opportunity 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

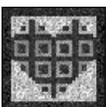


Red Rooster Retreat: the August retreat at the Red Rooster is set for August 28-30, 2015. Ana will have the signup sheet at the May meeting. Money will be due in July, 2015. 3 days-2 nights=\$195.00 and 4 days-3 nights=\$275.00.



April Quilts. Lots of Just Finish Its, Bring & Brag, and a new baby girl! Beautiful!





2015 Mini Workshop Schedule

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

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

Welcome New Member:

Vivian

Directory updates and corrections:

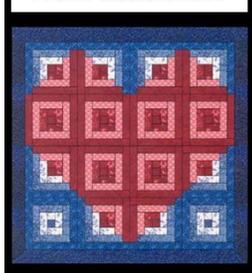
Donna

Diana

Sara

Inez

2016 Quilt Show



West Alabama
Quilters Guild

Exciting News! We have dates and location for our 2016 Quilt Show!

The first weekend in March! Put this on your calendar and sign up to help. It takes all of us to have a great show.

Set up: Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Judging: Thursday, March 3rd

Quilt Show open to the public:

Friday, March 4th 9am—6pm

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

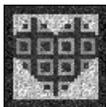
Tuscaloosa, AL

**A very pleasant space
and
an easy location to find.**



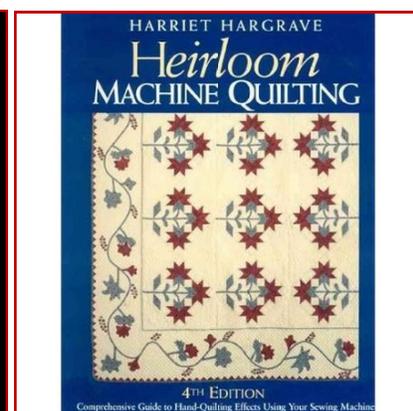
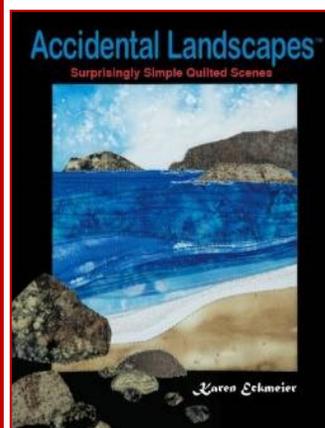
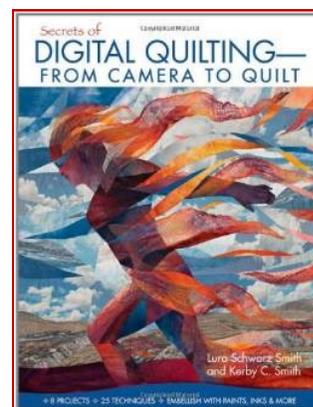
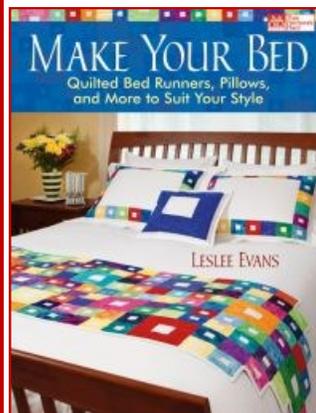
Kudos to Inez! Shown here at the AQS show in Paducah with her “Korean Dancers.”

Outstanding!



Library Notes

New on our shelf:



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 12th 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 12th meeting. We will have 1st, 2nd, and 3rd 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 Nix, Inez Rovegno, Laurie Prentice-Dunn,
Ana Schuber, Jamie Stanley, Susan Ainsworth.

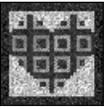
Charlotte recommends this FREE on-line resource: **McCalls Quilting quilt block library:**

http://www.mccallsquilting.com/Block_Reference.html

McCallsquilting.com has other free tutorials an, blogs, etc. that you might be interested in.

Suggestions and book donations welcome.

Susan , WAQG Library

**Minutes March 14, 2015****Ana teaches Basics & Beyond****Brenda Parker, Principal of Alberta Elementary School, is presented WAQG donation by Inez and Charlotte, proceeds from sale of "Recovery Through Love" notecards.**

Next Board meeting April 15th at 5:00 p.m. Jason's Deli

PRESENTATION: Monetary presentation to Brenda Parker, principal at Alberta Elementary. Powerpoint Presentation of "Recovery through Love" quilt, pictures of tornado, and participants who helped make it.

Announcements: Money for Kentuck badges are due by end of April. Paying \$5.00 for a badge will let you in Kentuck for two days and will allow you to work at our quilt booth

Mini Workshop: Sign up sheet for June 13 workshop, Peg L Celtic Cross, will be available at May meeting. Supply list also at that meeting.

Basics and Beyond: Worked on squares by Suzanne O'Neal, can see on You Tube.

Membership: Members present-49. Birthdays announced.

Name Tag: Names drawn were Dot B, Susan A, and Joann C.

Round Robin: Give round robin squares to Jamie.

Library: Four new books- mentioned in newsletter, four books presented to quild.

Retreat: Dates for August retreat are the 20, 21, and 22 but trying to move weekend earlier.

Opportunity quilt: Tickets being sold for quilt at Druid City Arts festival at Government Plaza.

Sunshine: Announced those in need of prayers and well wishes.

Just Finish It and Bring and Brag: Karen L, Sara T, Jill S, Melanie M, Faye LC, Steven H, and Laurie P- D.

Program: Ronda Kennedy on Accuquilt





**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:

Show us your "Just Finish It" completed projects.

Sign up to help with hospitality setup and cleanup.



**Husqvarna VIKING
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Tuscaloosa, AL 35406.

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