

Piecing Our Lives

The Monthly Newsletter of
The West Alabama Quilters Guild

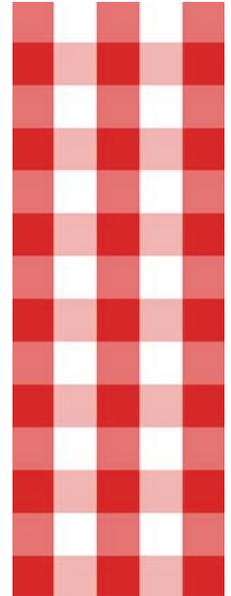
January 2020
Volume 20, Number 1

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Charlotte and Laura helping Nan (left) show off her Bring & Brag Christmas items.



QUILT SHOW REMINDERS!

Complete your quilt registration forms - they are due at the January meeting!

Make an item for the silent auction or plan to bid on one!

Sign up to help with a committee! Or a few! Make sure you are signed up ASAP so your committee chair can submit your name for your name tag.

Sell your opportunity tickets! The drawing is at the quilt show!

Remember that your quilt needs a hanging sleeve to be hung in the show. It needs to be free of threads and pet hair and, of course, completed.

We will have wonderful vendors and opportunity baskets for you to bid on. Bring your spending money!

Our demo schedule is filling up. If you have something you would like to demo, check with Paula B. for a time. We want to see it!

This quilt show is a group effort and needs your help to be a success! Show off your quilts, shop, and have fun with your fellow quilters!



PRESIDENT'S LETTER, JANUARY 2020

Greetings:

One thing I have learned in my 64 years is that the true gifts in the world are the relationships that you encounter and make as you go through life. When I came to Tuscaloosa 30 years ago looking for a new start, I didn't know that I would remain here. I had never lived anywhere for longer than a few years my entire life and only intended to stay here 2 years and then move on. But who knew that wandering into a Quilt Show at Verner School and joining WAQG would be one of the reasons I decided to make this little puddle in West Alabama my home? The friendships that I have made through the years are lasting. You are my family and I am so grateful for all the laughter, the learning, the fellowship, the food, the crying, the losses, the gains, the adventures that I have shared with you. Your kindness with the fat-quarters this December is overwhelming! I will be sitting in the floor dreaming of combinations for months. Thank you so much.

Thanks also for your dedication to this organization. Those of you that step up and volunteer to take on the many tasks that make us who we are in inspiring. I quilt because it brings me close to the woman that taught me to appreciate it... my grandmother...her love of quilting and the women and men who have carried it on for years are who we honor each time we gather and delight in the gifts that they gave us. What could be better than a warm memory of color and softness that we can wrap our friends and family in?

I hope that everyone has had a wonderful holiday season and is ready for the rush of the new year and the coming Quilt Show. Thanks again for all that you do to make this organization a legacy worth carrying forward.

Best,
~ Ana



Estate Sale with Quilting Items

Saturday, Jan. 11, after our meeting, there will be a special estate sale at for guild members. The estate planner has offered to let guild members come and shop before the actual sale (date TBA). There will be a room of sewing supplies, quilting fabric, some panels, and old and newer quilts. Other items in the house may be able to be purchased if she has completed pricing, or she may be able to hold items until the actual estate sale. If you have questions, please call Dianne B. (phone # in directory).



Agenda for JANUARY 11, 2020

8:45 am: Basics & Beyond
Ana will teach "Squaring Up."

9:30 am: Business Meeting

10:30 am: Program - "Telling Stories" - please contact Barbara W. if you have a story about:

- your first quilt
- what was I thinking with this quilt?!
- the quilt you want to kill
- the oldest quilt you have in your "to-finish" pile
- some other quilt story!

Treasurer's Report as of Dec. 22, 2019

New Balance: \$8,330.82

*Details can be seen at the guild meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

New Members:

Deborah H.
Jean S.

**2019 WAQG Officers**

President - Ana S.
Vice Pres - Barbara W.
Secretary - Anne E.
Treasurer - Marie D.

Board Members

Paula B. 17-19
Jamie S. 18-20
Joyce T. 19-21
Rose O. 20-22

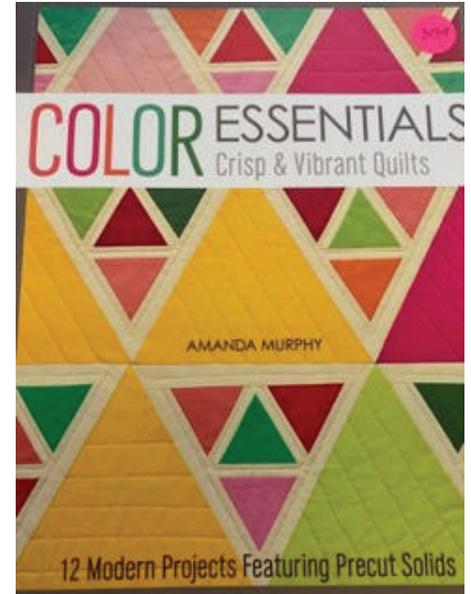
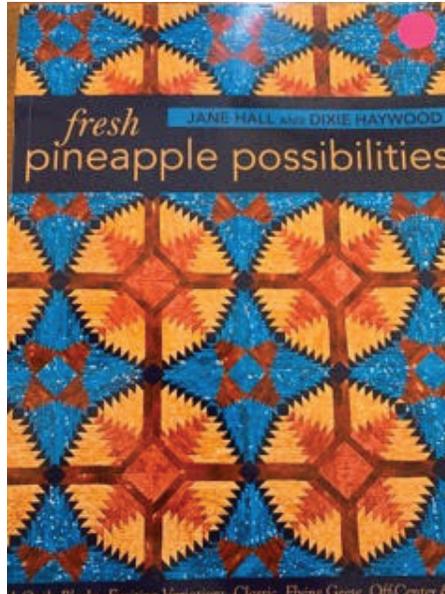
Committee Chairs

Basics and Beyond - Board Members
Community Service
Education
Historian - Anne E.
Hospitality - Judy S.
**Kentuck - Becky B., Linda A.,
Reita M.**
Library - Patricia W., Dana M.
Membership - Mary B.
Name Tag Drawing - Diane A.
**Newsletter - Rachel D., Jamie S.,
Judy S.**
Photos - Judy S., Becky B., Nan G.
Programs - Barbara W.
Quilt Show - Beth M., Julie T.
Retreat - Joann W.
Shark Pit - Paula W.
Sunshine - Eve E.
Telephone Tree - Nan G.
Website Coordinator - Laura R.
Workshops
Yearbook - Mary B.
Challenge 2019 - Board



LIBRARY REPORT

Lucky us! AQS sells some of its best quilting books at a steep discount in December and here are two I've snagged before the January meeting. "Color Essentials" provides instructions and color palettes for 12 modern projects made with pre-cut fabrics. "Fresh Pineapple Possibilities" will show you how to make the most beautiful pineapple block quilts you've ever seen! Stop by the library table to check out these or browse all holdings in the cabinet for other topics of interest. Remember—our library's website and a list of all our books can be found at www.waqqlibrary.wordpress.com. All members can check out any book for a month by signing the checkout sheet at the library table.



~ Patricia W., Librarian

WAQG Meeting, December 14, 2019, 8:30 a.m. TDOT meeting Room, Minutes

Approximately 55 members were present including a new member: Jean S.

There were many members with December birthdays and Mary B. sang a birthday song.

Dianne A., appropriately attired for the holidays, drew name tags. Winners were Debbie W., Anita C., and Marie D. Debbie W. will take over from Dianne in 2020.



Ana read out two announcements of events received by mail. Details of these events will be posted in the Newsletter.

In response to Ana's request for a coordinator of Basics and Beyond for 2020, Karen L. volunteered and will begin in January. Ana asked for suggestions of topics to be covered and the following will be considered: Basic hand quilting, squaring up, curves, points, hand applique, bindings, use of color wheels, Big Stitch, how to cut fabric, workshop on the 2020 challenge theme, Quilt As You Go, Jelly Roll mats.

Eve E. gave the Sunshine Report. She has sent cards to Laurie P., Sara T., Steven H., Melanie M., and Beth M. Eve has moved to Greensboro.

Ana announced that the Board will be making a decision on the non-profit organization to be chosen as a partner in the 2020 Itch to Stitch program. The Board will ask a leader of the chosen organization to come to a WAQG meeting and speak about its work and purpose.

Patricia W. showed a book she purchased recently for the library, titled "Quilt As You Go."

Rachel D. agreed to take over the Newsletter responsibility from Jamie S. She will begin immediately.

Ana has contacted the Huntsville group that had asked if we wished to co-sponsor a special workshop in 2020 and has declined the offer. Announcements of the workshop will be shared with members through our Newsletter. The presenter is Sherri Lynn W. whose topic is improv quilting.

Quilt Show

Julie T. and Beth M. brought members up to date with plans for the show. Silent Auction funds will go to Catholic Social Services. Items for the silent auction are due by the February meeting, and must be quilted. Those who sign up to volunteer will receive a name tag crafted by Laurie P. As the featured artist, Hallie O. was given a special name tag for the show.

A number of committee chairs and others need help. Glenda P. and Paula B. need more helpers, and Ana needs ideas for publicity. Members are urged to continue selling tickets for the Opportunity Quilt and to distribute postcard size flyers about the show wherever they can. Fay L. needs scribes to write down the judge's comments. Fay also needs to hear from anyone who knows of a junior quilter.

Education Committee

Nan G. reported on the sessions that she, Ana, and Anne presented to 4th graders in the county schools. She also mentioned the Read Across America event on March 2, 2020.

Ana thanked Paula B. and Anne E. for their service to the Board and their support of the guild, and presented each with a gift. She then welcomed new members to the Board: Linda A. as secretary and Rose O. as member at large. The Board meets at 5:30 p.m. the Tuesday before each WAQG meeting at the Gateway in Alberta City.

Ana reported from Diane B. that there will be an estate sale at the end of February, but all details will be publicized nearer the time.

Barbara W. then presented President Ana S. with a basket overflowing with fabric from guild members for her service to the Guild in 2019. She then described the voting process for entries in the Challenge event.

There was a short display of completed or near-completed quilted items during Bring and Brag, followed by the Guild's Holiday Lunch.

Members then voted on the Challenge Quilt entries in 4 categories: Large, Medium, Small, and Non-Traditional. The winners in the Large group were Bruce W. (1st), Joyce W. (2nd), and Barbara H. (3rd). Winners in the Medium group were Karen C. (1st), Julie T. (2nd) and Judy S. (3rd). Winners in the Small category were Mary Lou P. (1st), Tara L. (2nd), and Dot B. (3rd). Winners in the Non-tra-

ditional group were Nan G. (1st), Paula B. (2nd), and Debbie W. (3rd). Nan G.'s entry was voted "Best in Show." Finally, the following members entered the Starting Line category and received ribbons: Ruth M., Christie A., and Anita C.

Respectfully submitted
Anne E., Secretary

BRING & BRAG / CHALLENGE 2019





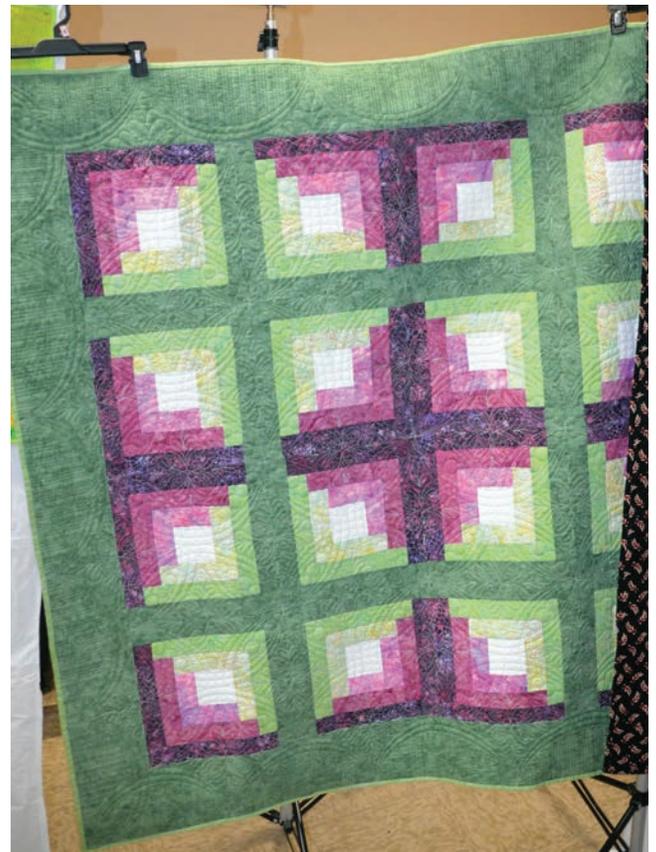
First Place in Non-Traditional & Best in Show
Nan G.



Small Category, First Place
Mary Lou P.



Large Category, First Place - Brucie W.



Medium Category, First Place - Karen C.

CHALLENGE 2019



**West Alabama
Quilters Guild**
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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.