

# Piecing Our Lives

The Monthly Newsletter of  
The West Alabama Quilters Guild

March 2020  
Volume 20, Number 3



## QUILT SHOW TIMELINE & REMINDERS

The Quilt Show 2020 is almost here! We have some awesome items for the silent auction, exciting demos, and enticing vendors to explore! Our judging ribbons are fabulous this year! It's going to be a great show! Please plan on helping with the show in some way. We need help with set up, hanging, manning tables, and tear down. If you are walking around looking at the show, you might as well put a white glove on and help show people the backs of quilts. Bring some food for hospitality, you gotta eat too! Be proud to be a part of the show! We are awesome!

**Wednesday, March 4th** - bring your quilt (in a pillowcase) to the church between 7:30am and 10am.

- Quilt rack set up is 7am - 10am
- Quilt Hanging - 10am - noon
- Quilt Judging - Noon-5pm...

### **Thursday March 5th**

- Quilt Judging 8am-until finished
- Silent Auction set up
- Final touches to prep for opening

### **Friday March 6th**

- Quilt show opens 9am
- Quilts, vendors, shopping!
- Hospitality: food from 10am-2pm
- Hallie O's demo is at 11:00am
- Show closes at 5pm

### **Saturday March 7th**

- Quilt show opens at 9am
- Silent auction, opportunity baskets, demos!
- Hallie's demoing at 11:00 again.
- Hospitality will have food from 10am-2pm
- Silent auction closes at 3pm.
- Opportunity basket winners are drawn.
- Opportunity quilt winner is drawn.
- Show closes at 4:00.
- Take down quilts and racks. Load trailer.
- Quilt pick up at 5:00 (bring your receipt).

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***Please plan to help with putting on your show. We need you!***



***PRESIDENT'S LETTER,  
MARCH 2020***

Hey there, Quilters:

Here we are staring the March show in the face and I know everyone is working hard to get ready and get it done. I am so excited for all the work we have done and can't wait to see the quilts, the winners, the demonstrations, the vendors, the baskets and all the warm smiles that we will share with our community. So much is going on. Right after The March show, we will move right into the Druid City Art Festival which is April 3rd and 4th. The Opportunity Quilt is being quilted and will be ready to show.

Our 2020 Challenge is String quilting. It will be due in December for our showing and the sizes will be wall-hanging, Large quilt, and non-traditional. I realize that this may be new for some of us so I found a great tutorial site for you to look over how it is done and many examples of how to do it. It is an internet site: <https://newquilters.com/how-to-make-string-quilts/> We all have a lot of scraps hanging around so here is your opportunity to use them up.

Our Itch to Stitch partner this year is the Tuscaloosa Juvenile Detention Center. We will need a few baby quilts to give to the young women leaving detention with new babies. The real challenge is that they need what we might call "skinny" twin quilts and the measurements are: 50" X 80". Remember these will stay at the Center and be on hand when the colder weather comes. They also would like a lot of color--all patterns are welcome. There are girls and boys in the center. The third project we will do with them is to visit the center and teach them about quilting and help them artistically put together a quilt project they can hang at the center... more about that later.

If there is someone out there who would like to get a Round Robin started in April (organizer), please contact me and let me know so we can get a sign up sheet started. I will be meeting with TDot next week to secure some dates for our two Workshops this year and let you know at the March meeting what those dates will be.

Are you tired yet? The year has hardly begun. Please take care of yourselves in this up and down weather and illness all around us. Warm quilting thoughts are coming your way.

Best, Ana

**JUST A COUPLE MORE QUILT  
SHOW NOTES...**

***Your quilt entry should:***

- Be at the church Wednesday morning between 7:30am and 10am
- Have a hanging sleeve
- Be in a pillowcase (one for each quilt)
- Be free of threads and pet hair
- Be shown with pride!

***Bring spending money for:***

- Vendors
- Opportunity baskets
- Silent Auction

***Distribute your quilt show flyers! Spread the word!***

***Agenda for March 14, 2020***

8:45 am: Basics & Beyond

It's a surprise! The only hint is: "Wear old clothes."

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 Feb. 20, 2020

New Balance: \$14,166.88

\*Ask Marie D. for details at the guild meeting.

**NEW MEMBER!**

Denise J.



Please make sure all your contact info is correct for the guild directory. If you still need to renew your membership, please do!

**2019 WAQG Officers**

**President - Ana S.**

**Vice Pres - Barbara W.**

**Secretary - Linda A.**

**Treasurer - Marie D.**

**Board Members**

**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.**

**Photos - Becky B., Nan G., Rachel D.**

**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**

## A PEEK INTO THE OPPORTUNITY BASKETS

The Opportunity Basket raffle at our 2020 Quilt Show is going to be exciting this year, as new donations pour in each week. Just since the February guild meeting, we have had more than \$500 worth of donations, some of it yours if your lucky ticket is drawn. Advance Opportunity Basket tickets at the February meeting were \$1 each. At the Quilt Show we'll be selling them for \$1 each or 12 for \$10. We will have separate drawings for each basket on Saturday afternoon. We rely on donations from our sponsors for these wonderful gift baskets! Please support our donors, listed below, for your quilting needs:

- **Appliques, Quilts and More** (intricate appliques, with or without backing)
  - **Cherrywood Hand Dyed Fabrics**
    - **Colonial Needle Company**
  - **The Cotton Cottage Press** (kits and rulers)
  - **Elizabeth's Studio** (panels and novelty fabric)
    - **Embassy Suites**
    - **Fabricworm/Birch Fabrics**
    - **Fat Quarter Shop**
  - **Hobbs Bonded Fibers** (battings)
    - **Robert Kaufman Fabrics**
  - **LaPierre Studio** (Supreme Sliders)
  - **Little Foot Quilt Shoppe** ("Purple Thangs")
  - **Pacific Rim Quilt Company** (Hawaiian fabrics and patterns)
    - **Southwind Designs**
    - **Urban Elementz**
    - **Woolylady**



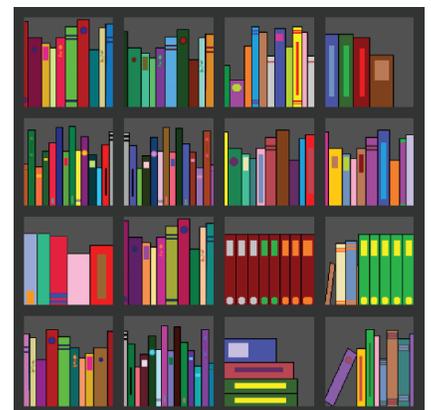
Thanks also to Barbara W., Pat S., Julie T., Maryann L. and all the other guild members who donated items for the Opportunity Baskets.

Patricia W.  
Opportunity Baskets Chairman

## OUR LIBRARY

Stop by the library table to check out books or browse all the 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.waqlibrary.wordpress.com](http://www.waqlibrary.wordpress.com). All members can check out any book for a month by signing the checkout sheet at the library table.

~ Patricia W., Librarian



# Change of plans!!

The guild has the opportunity to get into the church on Tuesday afternoon now! So, Karen and Paula have the muscle to get all the quilt racks to the church on Tuesday afternoon and get the heavy stuff set up. But, we need people to help with putting the drapes up and handing drapes to the guys on the ladders. Doing this Tuesday afternoon means we can take our time setting up the racks with less stress. Then Wednesday morning we just have to hang the quilts and let the judge do her thing earlier if she wants to. So, please bring your quilt Wednesday morning as planned, but if you can help Tuesday afternoon, meet at the church between 3:00pm and 3:30pm. Paula and Karen will be running set up and would love your help.

And one last reminder to committee chairs- remember to get all the names of people signed up to Debbie C. so she can get their name badges embroidered.

Thank you everyone! It's going to be a great show! ~ Beth M.

## *JUDGE'S "AWARD OF MERIT" RIBBON*

We are happy to have Madeline H. judge our show this year. She will be awarding Best of Show and Judge's Choice ribbons, as well as First, Second, and Third place ribbons for each category. There will also be three Honorable Mention ribbons to be awarded at the judge's discretion. Because Madeline is certified by the National Association of Certified Quilt Judges, she also has the option of presenting the NACQJ's Award of Merit ribbon to a deserving quilt in the show, one that exhibits recognized standards of quilting excellence. This ribbon is not meant to conflict with any other show awards, but is meant to be an encouraging addition to them, at no cost to the guild. The maker of the Award of Merit quilt will receive a letter of congratulations, in addition to the rosette ribbon. The quilter will also be invited to post photos of their winning quilt on the NACQJ website.

Judy E.  
Judging Co-Chair



## **February's Basics & Beyond**

Karen L. led "Coloring with Paint."

**WAQG Meeting, February 8, 2020, 8:30 a.m.  
TDOT Meeting Room  
Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by President, Ana S.

Mary B. announced that 50 members were in attendance. There were 5 guests present. Four members were celebrated with a birthday song by Mary. Members were reminded that dues should be paid.



Debbie W. drew name tags. Winners were Reita M., Joyce T., Pat S., Charlotte N., and Joyce W.

Eve E. reported on Sunshine. Members were asked to remember Margie S. and Martha J., who have both been in the hospital, Helen C., who is recovering from Achilles surgery, Steven H., and Melanie M. Eve also asked for members to remember her daughter-in-law who is being detained in China due to the travel ban.

Two items of correspondence was read by the Secretary, Linda A.

Karen L. reported on Basics and Beyond. She began by reading a cute poem about wearing colors. The class was "Coloring with Paint."

**Workshops:**

Ana revealed the survey results from January. Two workshops will be set.

- 1.) Trash quilting
  - 2.) Blocks (2 different block techniques)
- Also, a block exchange will be done during the summer months.

**Challenge:**

The 2020 challenge will be a "Strip Quilt". Instructions will be included in the newsletter. The challenge will be due at the December, 2020 meeting.

**Itch-to-Stitch:**

Our partner for this year is the Tuscaloosa Juvenile Detention Center. The instructions for making skinny twin quilts will be in the newsletter. Cathy W. will speak at our April meeting. Those who wish to do so will go to the center and work with some of the kids to help them make blocks to hang in the building. The participants will be selected as a reward for good behavior.

**Library:**

Patricia W. reported that she has two new books on making bags and purses, as well as a new book The Book of Gee's Bend Quilts.

**Education:**

Ana announced that the Education Committee has completed the work that has been ongoing with 4th graders at the Heritage Center in Northport. Heritage Center has generously donated a check in the amount of \$100 to the Guild in appreciation of our services. The check has been given to our Treasurer, Marie D.

**Kentuck:**

Kentuck will be co-chaired again this year by Becky B. and Linda A.

**Quilt Show:**

Julie T. and Beth M. gave the final reports on our quilt show which will be on March 6th and 7th. Committee chairs gave reports and many asked for additional help. Patricia W. showed three of the opportunity baskets and offered members to begin buying tickets for these three. Julie T. and Judy E. presented a beautiful handmade banner to Hallie O., our featured artist. Barbara W. collected items for the silent auction and expressed many thanks for the outstanding donations. Quilts being entered into the show should be dropped off between 7:30 and 10:00 AM on Wednesday, March 4th at Taylorville United Methodist Church. Each quilt should be in a separate pillow case. Pick up for the quilts will begin at 5:00 PM on Saturday.

After enjoying snacks, members showed beautiful quilts at Bring and Brag.

***Respectfully submitted***  
***Linda A., Secretary***

## UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

### ***Druid City Arts Festival - April 3-4***

The Druid City Arts Festival (DCAF) is April 3rd, 6pm to 9pm and April 4th, 10am to 5pm. Please plan to attend and participate in our demos and children's activities. This is also another opportunity to sell your quilted items. Same rules as Kentuck: quilted items of your best work. DCAF is more laid back than Kentuck and free admission to the public so there is lots of traffic. This could be an annual opportunity for the guild to get our guild and quilts out in front of the public. Pick up your inventory sheets and price tags at the March meeting. Save these dates! Don't miss out on the fun!



### ***WAQG Quilt Retreat Sign Up! August 13-16***

The August retreat is Aug. 13-16. If you would like to sign up for either one (or both), please text Barbara H. If all slots are taken you will be put on waiting list in the order that your text was received.

# BRING & BRAG











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

We're on  
the web:  
[www.waqq.com](http://www.waqq.com)



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