



Quilters' Chatter – April 2016



Burke Quilt Guild meets at the Burke Senior Center on the 4th Monday of each Month at 10:00 A.M. except for our December meeting.

News You Can Use

Therapy Day For Monday, April 11, 2016 - 10:00 AM

Wee Care Quilts Workshop – See News You Can Use section for more information

PROGRAM FOR – Monday, April 25, 2016 – 10:00AM

Sara Phillips from Bill's Sewing will present Free-Motion quilting with a Ruler Foot and Template

Officers

President

Debbie Mangold

1st Vice-President! Program Chairman

Alice Engstrom

Mary Stang

2nd Vice-President! Membership Chairman

Carol MacKinney

Secretary

Linda Myers

Treasurer

Judy Brittain

Members-at-Large

Barbara Whipple

Freda Rosenthal

Advisor

Welcome New Members!!!

Janet Sibole	

Birthdays

April

12 Joy Miller

21 JoAnn Jennings

23 Debbie Smith

23 Karen Thomas

24 Gail Cotten

26 Judith Pearson



NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spring has sprung- as long as I live here, I will never stop being amazed at the beauty of seeing emerging flowers and trees! Truly spellbinding.

With our trip to Pigeon Forge wrapped up, we now have several new matters to consider:

First: our bus/ carpool trip to School House Quilts is just around the corner (no pun intended). If you have already signed up, please be sure to pay the \$10.00 bus fee by the end of May. Since the bus is now full, you can still join us by signing up for the carpool that's being formed. We would love to have you.

Next, my personal thanks to all of you who participated in our first survey, which asked you to rate among 4 reasons for being in our great club. The result that received the most members number one choice (over half of the responders) was an interest in learning new ideas to become better quilters; the result that received the most members number two choice (again, over half of the responders) was developing friendships. As you can see by these results, we will need new ideas to help us balance listening to programs in order to become better quilters and our desire for socializing. It is my hope that during the months ahead, we can find ways to meet these two goals.

The third choice from the group was volunteer work and the fourth choice was participating in the quilt show. Several members indicated they felt all the choices were number one- and I see their point. If you are interested in seeing the ballots, I will make them available at the next general meeting.

Debbie Mangold

BURKE COUNTY QUILTERS' GUILD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES **March 28, 2016**

Welcome and Introduction of visitors:

Debra Mangold opened the meeting using her toy xylophone to get attention at 10:00 AM. Deb announced that everyone seemed to have a great time in Pigeon Forge and hope to share what they learned in future meetings. There were several visitors at the meeting. Debbie McGough introduced her mother, and NancyLynn Sharpless introduced one of her students. Two friends of Laura Satterwhite introduced themselves, and Deb welcomed all of them and encouraged them to join our club.

Introduction of new members: There were no new members to introduce.

Announcements:

The first announcement was from Pat Bell. There will be a 50/50 table at the monthly meetings giving each of us a chance to sell any unfinished quilt tops or materials we have in our stash. Half of the price will go to the club and half will go to the seller. Pat explained, for the visitors, what a UFO was and encouraged all members to write them down in her file box which she



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passed around. She reminded us that you cannot include challenge or community quilts as your UFOs.

The second announcement was from Deb about the survey to be taken at the end of the meeting. This will give the board some ideas of what to focus on this year.

Minutes from February:

Karel Johnson moved the February minutes be approved and Mary Stang seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously as printed in the February newsletter.

Programs:

Alice Engstrom introduced this month's program, Opal Woody. Who knew Opal was such a comedian? She had us all in "stitches" with her discussion of preparing quilts for long arm quilting. Opal shared the techniques she has developed in the years since she got her long arm quilter. She has been quite inventive with ordinary tools rather than buying expensive ones. She also shared pictures of her work and showed quilts that she has quilted. Opal also gave out a handout called "Everything that you always wanted to know about quilt backings but were afraid to ask" Her talk was very informative as well as entertaining.

General Meeting:

After a short break the general meeting began. The following reports were given:

Treasurer: Judy Brittain announced the balance of \$6468.88 in the treasury. She also said the bus trip on June 13th should be prepaid (\$10) by May. The bus is full but there is a sign-up sheet to car pool.

Membership: Carol McKinney announced there are 68 members and encouraged our visitors to join us. The dues are \$20. Don't forget to bring your name tags and wear them during the meeting.

Programs: Alice Engstrom announced the future programs: April 11th will be a Wee Quilts Kits workshop; April 25th will be Sara Phillips from Bill's explaining free motion quilting with templates. Alice also mentioned that while some will be going on the bus trip to Forest City there will be another Sit 'N Sew at the senior center on June 13th. She discussed the quilt-as-you-go project for August's Therapy Day – but more details will follow.

Quilt Show: Pam Beck asked for any feedback from the write-up in the 2016 Yearbook concerning this year's Quilt Show. There were no comments. Pam announced there would be a short meeting of the committee after the general meeting.

Ribbons: Dawn LeDuc reported that the ribbons are in the works! Thread and needles were bought and some of the designs for the ribbons have already been stitched.

Newsletter: Linda Henson announced that the deadline for the newsletter was two days away because the meeting was late in the month.



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Library: Diane Carpenter does an inventory of the library every several months. She reminded everyone that if they keep a book out for more than a month, they need to recheck it out on the cards. In the past we have lost 15-18 books because people forget they have them.

Hospitality: Hope Estepan announced that the committee would be using cloth tablecloths for future events. They were also donating all the Styrofoam to the Senior Center and replacing the stash with plastic. Hope thanked all of the people who helped with the New Members Tea since she was not there. She is pleased with her committee.

Challenge Quilts: Phyllis Fox encouraged the members to continue working on their quilts for the challenge.

Donation Quilts: NancyLynn Sharpless announced that several quilts were already finished for the raffle quilts. She also mentioned that she had more Quilts of Valor pillowcase kits and quilt kits for those who were interested. She reminded us that now would be a good time to stockpile Wee Quilts before we get caught up on our “Challenge” projects. She also announced that she would be retiring and moving to Asheville in 2017.

Publicity: Cheryl Svendsen was not present so Alice spoke for her. They are trying to get the word out about our guild through newspaper articles, new neighbors information packets, and business cards at various businesses. Judith Pearson announced there was already info at the Chamber of Congress.

Wee Quilts: Susan Briggs was not present so Phyllis Fox was collecting the quilts.

Scrapbook: Debbie McGough stated that she had received an article from Opal Woody from another newspaper, and encouraged everyone to give her articles they see. She also mentioned a former member, Sharon Scholl, who is at the Duke University Hospital for treatment. Her name and address were given out by Mary Stang and will be in the newsletter for anyone who wants to send a card.

Sunshine and Shadows: Phyllis Fox announced that there were no cards sent this month, but reminded us to call her if we hear of a need.

Quilts of Valor: Cindy Grimond announced that she is learning the job and is working with NancyLynn to coordinate the ongoing Quilts of Valor projects. The center has asked for quilts as well. More details for the special services they hold will follow later.

Block of the Month: Pam Beck announced that there was only one of the Christmas package blocks turned in so she gave it back to the person who turned it in. This month's block will be a Vento Box design using patriotic colors. Directions will be in the newsletter.

Next on the agenda was Show and Tell.

After viewing many beautiful quilts, the meeting was adjourned. Everyone was asked to fill out the survey.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda L. Myers



NEWS YOU CAN USE:

Reminder: Don't forget about the 50/50 table at the next guild meeting

Sharon Scholl's Address:

Sharon and Alan Scholl
910 Constitution Drive, Apt 908
Durham, NC 27705-2892

Wee Care Therapy Day

For new members who aren't aware of our community projects, here is some information.

We donate baby quilts for Grace Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). They are 36x36. We supply larger quilts (40x60 approx) to the Morganton Public Safety and Burke County Sheriff's Dept for the officers to carry in their cars to use when comfort is needed. The Community Projects Therapy Day is Monday, April 11th from 10:00 -2:00. On that day you have the opportunity to make quilt kits for members to take home to complete. We will have stations set up to cut and to put kits together. Supplies needed are fabrics, rulers, cutting mats, rotary cutters and scissors. Some folks prefer to cut 6.5" squares at home and bring them to match with other fabric. Bring a lunch and stay for as long as you can.

So between now and then and throughout the year save fabrics that can be used for these projects and let's see if every member can complete one or more community projects. It's a good way to clean your sewing room and practice your piecing/quilting skills.

An added bonus: For every quilt you complete, your name is entered in a drawing to be held in Dec.

See you April 11th.
Susan Briggs- Wee Care Coordinator

INFORMATION FROM OPAL WOODY'S PRESENTATION:

Everything that you always wanted to know about quilt backings but were afraid to ask.

1. Make sure that the backing is SQUARE. Take same care in making backing straight that you do on the quilt. top.
2. Make sure that the backing and batting are 8 inches wider and longer than you quilt top –that is 4 inches longer than the quilt **on all sides as a general rule for most long arm quilters.** This extra fabric and batting are necessary so that the



backing can be affixed to the leaders on the long arm front and back and to have space to clamp the sides.

3. Any backing that is seamed should have all seams running parallel with each other. Seams will be placed parallel to the leaders of the long arm. When sewing two pieces together for backing, make about an inch wide seam, then trim the selvages off and PRESS the seam open.--**LEAVE outer selvages in place (you can trim them after quilting.) These outer selvages will be placed on the leaders of the quilt frame.**
4. Once all seams are pressed, and extra threads are trimmed from the top of the quilt, fold neatly the TOP, BACKING, AND BATTING separately, and keep in a neat stack. Do not glue, pin or otherwise affix them together.
5. It is wonderful if you supply wide backing just know to buy yardage that is at least 8 inches longer than your quilt. This backing goes onto the machine leaders at the selvage edges. Inspect the ends as they probably are not straight—have found as much as a 6 inch difference from one side to the other. Straighten the edges by ripping.
6. Tell your quilter if you want the quilting to extend over the edges of the top and if you want all the beginning and ending threads left long so you can tie off.
7. **Write your name on a piece of paper along with the length and width of the quilt and the backing.**
8. On the backing seams, secure the beginning and ending by back stitching.

OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER, for Opal, ask your quilter about these things

9. For a backing for ME, have 8 inches on sides (parallel to machine leaders) Have about 12 inches for the other sides. On the other two sides (ones attached to the machine leaders, have at least 12 inches extra. This applies to me and my machine, and may not be what other quilters want.
10. Batting should be same size as backing and is wonderful when it is bought off the roll from the store. Battings in package have to spread out overnight. To relax and get wrinkles out. Usually package batting needs trimming also.
11. If the backing is just a little more than enough wide, sew an extension strip same width as the backing onto it. A piece of muslin ripped down the middle or some awful fabric you don't mind tearing up makes a great extension.
12. I do take locking stitches at beginning and end of quilting rows. Also, keep a bottle of Fray check on hand to stop loose threads from coming loose.
13. I do not take out basting threads around edges of the quilt. You can pull them out easily.
14. I do not trim outer edges of your quilt; some quilters provide this service. Some quilters can attach binding to the right side of your quilt so that it can be hand stitched to the back.



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15. Some fabrics which have lots of sizing in them cause thread to shred or present tension issues. Batik fabrics also presents problems with shredding and skipped stitches.

GUILD PUBLIC RELATIONS

Cheryl Svendsen has been working on some ways to increase guild membership and to improve our visibility in the community. If you are a member of an organization (such as newcomers, neighborhood, sewing circle) that publishes a newsletter, she has put together a press release announcing our meetings and activities. Any other relationships you may have that would be appropriate for posting information about the guild, let her know. She's created postcards and business cards to help distribute guild information. that will be distributed at our next meeting.

Please contact Cheryl at 828 544 5220 or cherylsvend@gmail.com with the information that she needs and she'll take it from there.

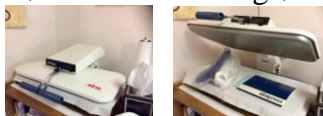
Recipe(s) of the Month:

Nothing submitted

Visit Our Website!!... Go to www.burkequiltersguild.com and check it out. If you have suggestions for the site, please send Linda Henson a note at burkequiltersguild@yahoo.com.

QUILTER'S SWAP & SHOP: *If you have anything quilt related which you'd like to buy, sell, trade, or give away, send a brief description of the item and any other pertinent information to Linda Henson. We'll include it in the newsletter.*

For Sale Electronic ElnaPress, works perfectly even though it is old. If you do a lot of fusing, this is a great machine. Manual and accessories that came with it are included. New price is \$250.00 + Asking \$75.00. Contact Karel Johnson 584-3902.



For Sale: Over 100 Quilt books and Patterns. If interested, please call Naomi Smith of Morganton – 475-9712

For Sale: Grace EZ3 Quilt Frame. It will do all sizes of quilts from a baby quilt to a king size. Bungees and all expansion rods included as well as the assembly book and all instructions for loading a quilt. Originally costs \$269 but would take \$75 for it. If interested, contact Karen Higgins at 828-286-3482 or snowgirl@reagan.com.

TIPS: If you have a tip you'd like included in an upcoming Newsletter, please send the information to Linda Henson. [PLEASE SUBMIT TIPS OR OTHER INFORMATION YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH THE GUILD MEMBERS.](#)

Tips submitted by Karel Johnson from APQS



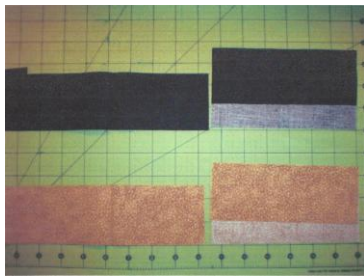
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- Cut all your appliqué templates and pieces at once. Then when you sit to do hand work, you can settle in with music, a cup of tea, and a candle. You don't have to keep getting up and down and can really savor each step.
- Listening to rock and roll while you're stitching keeps me on track, which means you waste less time.
- Dedicate an entire day (preferably a day when there's a TV marathon of one of your favorite old shows!) to nothing but cutting out quilts.
- Sew in the car, on airplanes, while waiting for appointments, and any chance you find to fit in 20 more stitches.
- Use three hair clips to hold binding in place while you're hand sewing it to the backing. One clip secures the binding where you began stitching; it stays in one place. The other two clips you move down the binding as you sew.
- Instead of hand-sewing binding, attach it entirely by machine. Sew the binding strip to the backing side of the layered quilt top, batting, and backing. Then turn the binding over the edge to the quilt top, fold under the raw edge, and machine blanket-stitch in place.
- Finish your projects while you are still excited about them. That way you won't end up with too many UFOs (unfinished objects)!

Block of the Month:

Directions - each block will use 2 strips

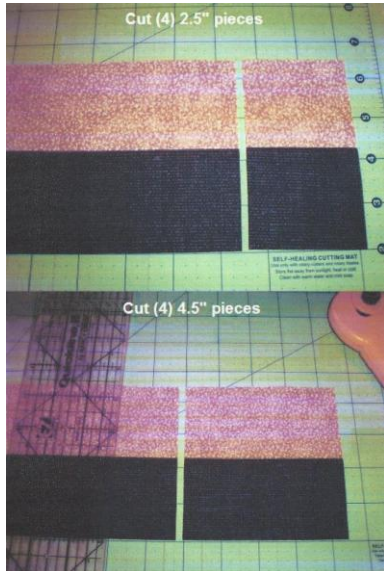
1. From each of your two strips, cut (2) 6.5" pieces and set aside. (Leave your strips folded in half and cut both pieces at the same time.)



2. Sew the remaining length of the two strips together down the long end and press open.

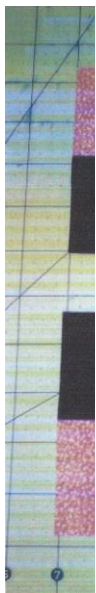


3. Next, cut (4) 2.5" segments and (4) 4.5" segments.



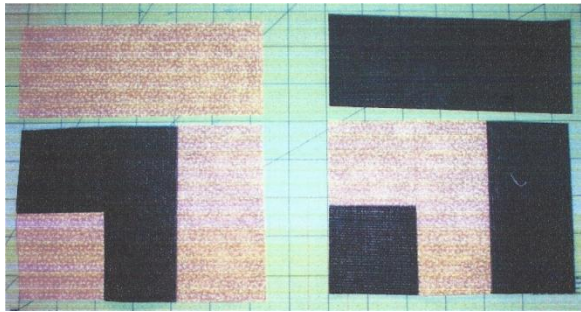
You will have just a little scrap at the end to toss! Very little waste!

4. Next, attach your 2.5" segments to your 4.5" segments. You'll make 2 each of the 2 different blocks (see below).

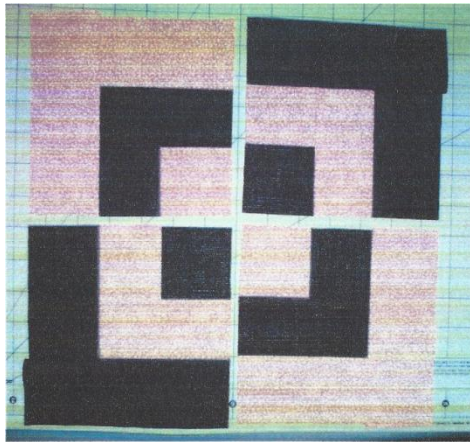




5. Now, using the 6 pieces you cut during step 1, add the final pieces to your blocks.



6. Next put your 4 blocks together to make one big Bentol



JOKES AND SAYINGS FROM SUPERIOR THREADS:

A man phones his attorney and queries, "How much would it cost me to have you answer three questions?"

"That would be \$300," the lawyer replies.

The man says, "That's an awful lot of money for three questions, isn't it?"

"I guess so," says the attorney. "What's your third question?"

Upcoming Quilt Shows:

April 29 & 30, 2016 (29th - 10:00-5:30) (30th - 10:00-4:00)

Salisbury Rowan Quilt Show

First Baptist Church Ministries Center



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223 N. Fulton St, Salisbury, NC

May 11 - 14, 2016

Rutherford Quilt Guild Show

Contacts Website: www.rutherfordquiltguild.org Email: dorothybaird@bellsouth.net
Phone: Dorothy Baird,

Location: ICC Student Union Gym, 286 ICC Loop Rd. (off Rt. 74 Alt.), Spindale,

Hours: Fri 10 - 5, Sat 10 - 4 Admission: \$5

Sponsored by: Rutherford Quilt Guild, Inc., Rutherford,

We have 150 entries in this show and some of the best quilters in the county. We will have 14 vendors with fabulous items to add to your stash. We are located approximately halfway between Asheville and Charlotte. We hope to see you there !

June 2-5, 2016

Capital Quilters is proud to host the 2016 North Carolina Quilt Symposium from June 2 – 5, 2016 at William Peace University.

We're still in the planning stage for this event. Look for updates, teacher announcements, and registration information on this page as we get closer to the event. If you have suggestions, questions, or are interested in teaching, please email us at symposium@capitalquilters.org.

Show and Tell:



Program: Opal Woody – Preparing your Quilt for Long arm Quilting



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