

Quilter's Unlimited of Tallahassee

Around the Block

Volume 31, Issue 5

www.quilttallahassee.com

May 2014

2013-2014 Officers

President:

Michelle Hackmeyer

President-Elect:

Karen Skinner

Membership Vice President:

Laura Keller

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Wanda Crowe

Treasurer:

Cheryl Gratt

Committee & Activity

Chairpersons

Audio/Visual: Betty Rinkel

Audit: Stephanie Guttman

Block Raffle: Martha Tilden

Challenge '14: Deon Lewis

City Hall Quilt Show:

Jeanne Brenner

Door Prizes:

Pam Doffek & Linda Brooks

Helping Hands:

Roberta Granville

Historian: Open

Hospitality: To be determined

Library: Shirley Shields

Museum Quilt Show:

Dawn Griffin

Newsletter: Vickie Hooks

Opportunity Quilt '14:

Linda Dosier

Opportunity Quilt '15:

Betty Rinkel

Philanthropic: Karen Kuntz

Programs: Geni Rains

Publicity: Open

Show 'n' Tell: Hatty Pennie

Silent Auction: Sue Skornia

Sit 'n' Stitch Coordinator:

Marsha Walper

Sunshine: Kathleen Turner

Trip Coordinator: Joy Vo

Web Master: Jennifer Moore

Workshops: Barbara Wiggins

City Hall Show: Vacant til 2015

President's Message

In Quilting, Accuracy Count!

When piecing a quilt, there are several points where accuracy is critical and can greatly influence the outcome of your quilt top. Cutting, sewing, pressing all play a role in that outcome. And while an 1/8th or 1/16th of an inch seems really small, when you multiply that by 8 pieces, you end up with 1/2 to 1 inch difference.

The first step, cutting the fabric requires attention and consistency. The rotary cutting tool, acrylic rulers and cutting mat have made this step much easier and quicker, although there is an element of danger if you are careless with that cutter!

The second step is sewing accurately and consistently. How do you test your own accuracy before you try to piece a big quilt top? We always talk about the 1/4 inch seam allowance, but what we are really striving for is an accurate finished piece, what we see on the top. Here is a quick simple technique to check your seam allowance and ultimately the size of the pieced unit.

Cut three strips of fabric at least 3 or 4 inches long and each exactly 1 1/2 inches wide. I would suggest you choose one fabric that is very light and two that are darker so that you will have good contrast. Stitch these three pieces together along the long edge with the light fabric in the middle and using what you determine to be a 1/4 inch seam allowance on your machine. Press the seams toward the dark fabric. Now measure the lighter middle piece from the top side between the seams. It should be exactly 1 inch wide. If it's not, figure out how to adjust your stitching to get the desired one inch width.

You may also want to look at your pressing technique as this can impact the finished size of the piece. I'm not going to get into the debate about whether to use steam or not, make your own decision on that one. But what I will say is that pressing isn't as simple as it sounds. You want to press so that there is no fabric left folded over the seam line and at the same time you don't want to stretch or distort your fabric pieces. This is particularly tricky if you have seams that do not run with the grain of the fabric or perpendicular to the grain.

Once you've figured out how to get that accurate piece, make a note or mark a line on your machine so you can easily get that consistent seam allowance every time.

Happy (and accurate) Quilting! Michele Hackmeyer

Sew many quilts, sew little time!

Dates To Remember

May 8, 2014 *Guild Meeting*
June 12, 2014 *Guild Meeting*
June 26, 2014 *Steering Committee Meeting*
July 10, 2014 *Guild Meeting*

Newsletter Updates: 25th of each month

The QU Quilt Show at Lemoyne

Attention Makers of Beautiful Quilts

Applications for the Lemoyne Quilt Show, happening this August, must be submitted by the June 12 Quilters Unlimited guild meeting.

Forms are available to download on our website (a link is in the upper right corner of the home page) or at the May 8 QU meeting.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the grand opening reception at The Lemoyne Center for the Visual Arts in downtown Tallahassee on August 1.

Help make this show a memorable event with your participation!

May Block of the Month - Deep Peace

The April blocks, "Wish You Were Here/Getting There", were won by Janet France. Thanks to all who made the block designed by Barbara Hoagland. Kathleen Turner showed her "Deep Peace" challenge quilt, and explained her technique for the May block. Go to the QU website www.quilttallahassee.com then go to Activities & Projects. From there, click on 2014 Block of the Month (BOM) to find Kathleen's instructions and a photo of her quilt. This is a very simple, beginner level block that you can create in just an hour with fusible applique. Peruse your stash and use batiks for this block. Make your block, bring it to the May meeting, and put your name in the basket. You may win them all and be on your way to a great one of a kind quilt. Call Wendy or Martha if you need help (see directory).

Wendy Stone & Martha Tilden

QU Museum Show “Starry, Starry Night” 2014 Update!

IMPORTANT DATES

Entry Applications DUE:	Thurs 6/12/14 Midnight
Challenge Quilt Contest:	Thurs 8/14/14 (Guild meeting)
Quilt Drop-off (Museum):	Sat 8/23/14 10:00 am til noon
Opening Night Reception (Museum):	Thurs 9/11/14 5:30-7:30 pm (Guild meeting)
Museum Show:	Friday 9/12/14—Sunday 10/19/14
Silent Auction ends & Opportunity Quilt Drawing	Sun 10/19/14
Quilt Pick Up (Museum):	Sat 10/25/14 10:00 am til noon

See Website for Complete Museum Show Guidelines

2014 Team:

OPEN – Coordinate Volunteers

Hatti Pennie - Museum Show Co-Chair (Chair 2015)

Margaret Boeth - show reception, (coordinates reception with museum staff and reminds QU members to bring tasty treats).

Marsha Walper and Pam Doffek - ribbons for Best of Show – 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for each category and youth entries and first time show entries.

Sue Isaac - count the votes submitted by the public during the show for each for each category and Best of Show.

Linda Dozier - Opportunity quilt tickets, Opportunity Quilt Photograph

Frayed Edges Creative Team - Opportunity Quilt

Deon Lewis – Challenge Quilt and Ribbons

Dawn Griffin – 2014 Museum Show Chair ([\(850\) 509-6103](tel:8505096103) / Griffindd@aol.com)

CHALLENGE QUILT FOR 2014

It's just a few more months until our “Starry, Starry Night” Challenge voting at our August meeting. Between now and then we need to finish our challenge quilts, take photos, and fill out Museum show applications (no charge). It isn't too late to sign up and start your challenge quilt!

Applications are due on 6/12/14 (June Guild Meeting) and you can also apply online at on our Quilters Unlimited website.

Any questions? Call me at 294-3055 or email cdlewis@velocityonline.net

Deon Lewis, Challenge Chairperson

SILENT AUCTION: Please get your silent auction items ready for the museum quilt show. Any handcrafted item will be accepted. Please, e-mail me at penlental@Comcast.net if you plan on submitting an item. Every year gets bigger and better, let's make this year no exception. Remember, all proceeds go to guild education projects. Thanks, Penny Blasczyk

2014 Fabric Square Exchange Information

For those of you participating in the 8-1/2" Fabric Square Exchange, we have decided to make a change. If you cannot make it to a meeting, please try to have someone bring in your bag of squares for you for that month, if at all possible. If you can't get someone to bring your squares in for you, please do not bring them the next month, as it is very difficult to determine who will remember last month's fabric, and we don't know how many, if any, to hold back to give you in return. Instead, basically, you will be participating in those months that you either bring in your bag, or can have someone get it to the meeting that month for you, because if you bring it in later you will not get the previous months fabrics in exchange. We apologize, but didn't realize the difficulty this would pose at the beginning of our exchange, and we feel this will work out much nicer.

You will be receiving the number of new fabrics in your bag as there are the number of people that participate for that month, and also getting back any extra pieces that you brought; example being that in one group last month only 8 people brought in bags, out of 14 in the group, so those in that group got 7 new fabrics (plus one of their own) and 6 of their own back, so you still should have received a total of 14 pieces in your bag. Also, in that group that evening two people brought the identical fabric, making it seem that you might not have received what you were possibly expecting, and that cannot be helped from time to time.

We are trying hard to get this all straightened out so that it will be fun for everyone, and worth your while to purchase the fabric, and cut it into squares, and hope that this will be the case from now on...I do apologize for any confusion at the beginning of the program, and hope that you will let us know if you have a problem before you get discouraged. *Thanks ever so much to all of our helpers,* and those of you who will remain faithful over the course of the year. Any suggestions will be appreciated. Please try to remember to pick up your bag after the meeting has ended.

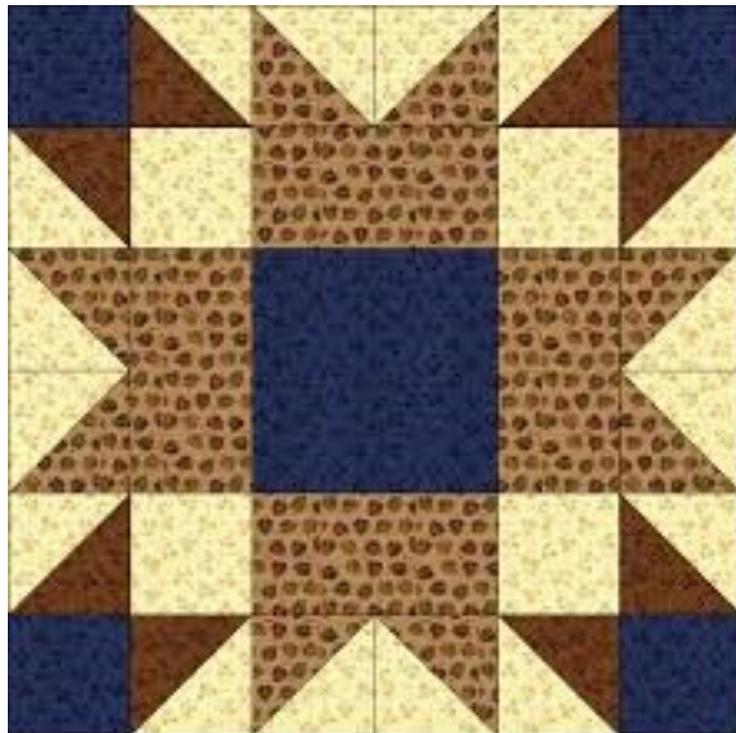
Something that might make things go smoother would be if you could staple a 1" or so piece of your fabric to the outside of your bag each month, in case the bag gets separated from your squares. Also, please don't forget to put your name, group number, and month on the bag. Group numbers can be found listed in the Feb. newsletter, or call one of us. Cheryl Willis 878-5751; Elizabeth Hawker [1-352-359-1017](tel:1-352-359-1017)

Workshops

From the comments given to me, Cathy Miller's performance at our April meeting, followed by her workshops were very well received. For those of you who missed either of these make every effort to see her when we are able to host her again. The Friday workshop on Mock Mola was well attended with lots of enthusiasm for the technique and the design process. Saturday's class was incredible! You may have looked at the samples and thought along the lines of "they are so similar, I'll just go to one class." Well, you couldn't have been more wrong. The class on Notan was all about design principles with some very exact rules. Stuffy, NO! Restrictive, NO! The students were both thrilled and amazed at their efforts, with the results almost beyond belief. I'm hoping both class participants will have their projects to 'show & tell' at the May meeting.

Lynne Hagmeier's class is in November. How are your savings for YOU going? Remember to invest in yourself. \$2.50 a week, tucked away, will have you ready for the class tuition plus just a bit extra for a pattern, a bit of fabric or one of her special rulers. She will speak at the November guild meeting with classes the next two days. Classes are held at the Timberlane Church of Christ, where we meet. The classes are from 9 am to 3 pm. You are encouraged to arrive for classes around 8:30 so you can be set up and ready to go at 9 am. We usually break for lunch around noon. Brown bagging your lunch is likely easiest as the lunch break could be fairly short, around 30 minutes. If you would like to bring a dessert or snack to share with the group, it is always enjoyed. More on the specifics about the class projects and required supplies will be forthcoming. Lynne has a new book(s) due out soon and we're working on having classes from the new book(s).

A stitch at a time,
Barbara Wiggins



Sit-N-Stitch Groups

A "Sit-n-Stitch" is a group of members who meet weekly, biweekly or sometimes once a month. Some groups meet in a member's home on a rotating basis and work on their own individual project. Some groups meet at a specified location and work on a service project. We have several of both of these types of groups in our guild. **If you are interested, please call Marsha Walper .**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Big Bend Hospice 1-3 pm Virginia Lewis The Quilting Bees Senior Center 1-4 pm	Sew for Hope 2nd Tuesday 1-4:30 pm Cynthia Seyler McQuilters Ronald McDonald 1-3 pm Carol Harrison	Crazy Quilters Monticello Library 1-4 pm Barbara Sheats Pin Pals * 1st & 3rd Wednesday 1-3 pm Linda Steans	Sew Arty 3rd Thursday 11:30 am-1:30 pm Kathleen Turner Patchwork & Prayer 1st, 3rd, & 4th Thursdays 6:30-8:30 pm Janice Parker Southern Comfort 'Sew'sciety * 1st, 3rd, & 4th Thursdays 7-9 pm Esther Weiner	Thimble Buddies * 2nd Friday 9:30-11:30am Wendy Stone	Sew for Hope 1st Saturday 9:30am-1pm Cynthia Seyler Second Saturday 9 am-4 pm Connie Beane Havana Sit 'n Stitch 4th Saturday 1 pm Martha Mitchell Lafayette Community Last Saturday 2-5 pm Gertrude Shirley
* Sit-n-Stitch at full capacity					

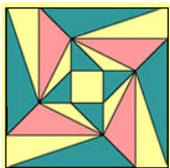
Small/Medium/Long-arm Machine Quilter's group

The group is open to both (1) machine and/or frame owners; and (2) those who are interested in acquiring the machines/frames. New members are welcome!

Next Meeting: This group has elected to begin meeting on a quarterly basis (although interim meetings may be scheduled if something special pops up). Accordingly, the next meeting will be in July, possibly on the 16th. Please refer to the Bulletin on the Guild's website, or the Newsletter for updates

If you have questions or wish to be put on the group's e-mail distribution list, contact Karen Skinner (see directory for contact details).





Quilter's Unlimited

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Submit Info for Newsletter!

**The deadline for newsletter
submissions is**

25th of the Month

**Please submit materials via
email at
qutlhnews@gmail.com**