

The Common Thread

A newsletter of the Mississippi Quilt Association

President's Message

It's still warm outside but fall is in the air! Have you been working on your "Silver Challenge" quilt? I invite all MQA members to participate in this celebration of our organization's silver anniversary. Simply create a 25"x25" art quilt, take a photo, write an artist's statement that explains how your quilt celebrates, and send both to me at pjgraber@juno.com. If you can, bring your quilt to the Fall Gathering for our display, including those of you who brought quilts to earlier gatherings. We will display these quilts at each MQA gathering through Spring 2017.

The Possum Town Quilters have been working on the Fall Gathering for months and are excited to welcome you to Columbus. **Reserve your hotel room by Sept. 30 to get the discounted rate!**

We hope you'll join us Oct. 21 and 22 for a fun program! We have lots of silent auction items, door prizes, and favors made by PTQ members and our sister guild in Starkville, the Golden Triangle Quilt Guild. We will honor our outstanding quilters, and our vendors will bring all the latest goodies for shopping! **Special thanks to Country Life Barn Quilts for donating a 2'x2' painted barn quilt block to the silent auction and Featherweight Works for donating a Singer Featherweight sewing machine to be raffled at the Fall Gathering!** We also thank Nancy Carpenter with the Columbus Convention and Visitor Bureau for supporting this gathering!

A special thanks to Linda Jabour for sharing more MQA history with us, and to everyone who keeps MQA a well-run organization. We rely on volunteers and hope you will consider how you can donate your time and talents to MQA! Thanks also to everyone who reported guild news for this issue — it's fun to read about each group's progress.

Celebrate, Integrate, Create!

Julia Graber

The MQA logo is based on an original design by Martha Ginn. Used with Permission.



Inside this issue

Fall Gathering	2
Fall Vendors.....	3
Registration Form.....	4
2017 Seminar	5
Membership Form	6
Regional News.....	7
MQA History	10

Upcoming Events

- Sept. 16-17 Quilt Show in Iuka
- Oct. 7-9 Pine Belt Quilters Fiber Art & Quilt Show in Hattiesburg
- Oct. 21-22: MQA Fall Gathering in Columbus
- Feb. 17-18: MQA Spring Gathering in Brandon
- May 13: Sand Stitches Quilt Show in Gautier
- June 16-17: MQA June Gathering in Jackson

Fall Gathering: The Basics

When: Oct. 21-22

Registration Deadline: Oct. 7

Times: Fri. registration 3:30-5 p.m.
Program 5-8:30 p.m. Saturday activities start at 8:30 a.m.

Location: Trotter Convention Center
120 5th Street North, Columbus

Tip: Park on the streets around the convention center. Additional city lots with free parking available are located 1) on the south side of 2nd Ave. North between 3rd & 4th streets and 2) the corner of 2nd Ave. North and 7th St. (across from First Baptist Church)

Host Hotels:

Fairfield Inn & Suites

2011 6th St. North
662-241-1990
Two Doubles or King: \$89 + tax

Courtyard Columbus

1995 6th St. North
662-245-1540
Two Doubles or King: \$89 + tax

Hampton Inn & Suites Columbus

1915 6th St. North
662-245-1085
Two Doubles or King: \$99 + tax

Tip: Room reservations must be made by Sept. 30 for the special rate. A block of rooms has been reserved at each hotel under the name MQA.

Mail registration and payment to:

Judy Stokes
5794 Hwy. 69 South
Columbus, MS 39702
Questions? Contact Judy Stokes:
possumtownquilter@gmail.com

Special Request!!

Guild representatives:
Please bring ONE (1) door prize to the gathering.

****Remember to select items that would appeal to a broad range of quilters.**

Thank you!!

Fall Gathering Set for Columbus Oct. 21-22!

Registration will begin at 3:30 p.m. on Friday afternoon at the Trotter Convention Center. Vendors will be set up for shopping and PTQ will have a Silent Auction ready for you to bid on your favorite items. A Featherweight Sewing Machine and a 2' square Barn Quilt are two of the most enticing items up for bid. The program begins at 5:00 p.m. with dinner being served between 5:30-6:30 p.m. Possum Town Quilters will be presenting a short program at 6:30 p.m. and Julia Graber, MQA President and Possum Town Quilter, will present her Quilt Journey. We will adjourn by 8:30 p.m.

The doors will open at 8 a.m. Saturday morning. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. We have some interesting programs scheduled beginning at 9 a.m. Billie Thompson of Brandon will share her knowledge on how to repair vintage quilts. Dave Deacon of Featherweight Works will share info about Featherweights. Karen Arzamendi of Columbus will give a program on Elements and Principles of Design. Lunch will begin at 11:45 a.m. At 1 p.m. we will honor our new nominees for Outstanding Quilters, presented by Joan Alliston of Brandon. Show and Tell will begin at 2:30 p.m. and we will adjourn when we've seen all the quilts!

We will recognize these outstanding quilters, whose work will be on display throughout the Fall Gathering:

Karen Asbury (Tupelo)
Annette Burns (Natchez)
Annie Edwards (Columbus)
Louise Moody Hatcher (Philadelphia)
Dorothea Hoffman (Woodville)
Joanne Humphries (Brandon)
Annette Pennington (Columbus)
Bonnie Prettyman (Newton)

MEAL INFORMATION

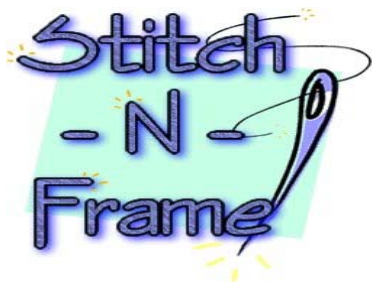
Friday Night: Soups, salads, and desserts provided by the Possum Town Quilters. On your registration form, please mark your soup preference so the needed amounts can be prepared.

Saturday's lunch will be catered by Sweet Pepper's Deli. Sandwiches are dressed with lettuce and tomato, condiments on the side. All boxes include dessert. Sandwich boxes have chips. Either salad can be prepared gluten free.

1. Turkey Sandwich on Milano roll = \$9
2. Chicken Salad on Croissant = \$10
3. Chef's Salad (Fresh greens, cucumbers, tomatoes, ham, turkey, cheddar and Monterey Jack, and homemade croutons) = \$11
4. Oven-Roasted Chicken on Greens (Fresh greens, cucumbers, tomatoes, bacon, cheddar and Monterey Jack with tender, oven-roasted chicken breast and homemade croutons.) = \$11

Coffee, tea, and water will be available.

A Special Thanks to All of our Fall Gathering Vendors!



**Interstate 20 to
Exit 11 Bovina MS.
Mailing address:
31 Willow Creek Dr.
Vicksburg, MS
39183**

Email: Stitch-n-frame@att.net

Phone: 601-634-0243

Toll free: 1-877-634-1462

Now an authorized dealer!

made to create **BERNINA**+

VILLAGE CLOTH SHOPPE

FABRIC, NOTIONS & ACCESSORIES



302 Main Ave

P. O. Box 11

De Kalb MS. 39328

601-743-5638

villageclothshoppe@yahoo.com

Owned by Carolyn Botts Hobgood
Established 1971 by Ola Mae Botts

Main Street Fabrics

Established in 1989

Owned & Operated by Christie O'Kelly

Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Sat. 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Closed Wed.

East Main Street
PO Box 73
Ackerman, MS 39735

Email: mainstreetfabrics@hotmail.com

Phone: 662-285-6241

www.mainstfabrics.com

FEATHERWEIGHT WORKS

Dave & Barb Deacon
Columbus, MS

615-289-4169

dave@featherweightworks.com

**MAINTENANCE & REPAIR
OF VINTAGE SINGER
SEWING MACHINES**

**LARGE SELECTION OF
FEATHERWEIGHT MACHINES
FOR SALE**

CASH OR CHECK ONLY



2016 Fall Gathering Registration Form

Registration Deadline: Oct. 7

Name:

Address:

City:

State/ZIP:

Email:

Phone/Cell:

The Fall Gathering is a free event open to MQA members. Non-member guests are welcome to attend at no cost Friday night and at a cost of \$5 for Saturday's session. Please indicate soup preference if you are attending Friday night and/or complete your Saturday meal selection.

I will attend Friday night. (Mark soup preference in box on right.)

Saturday Lunch Cost: _____

Non-member/guest admission for Saturday: _____

Make checks payable to MQA.

Mail event registration form and payment to:

Judy Stokes
5794 Hwy 69 South
Columbus, MS 39702

Questions: email Judy at possumtownquilter@gmail.com

MENU SELECTIONS (SEE PAGE 2)

****Write in your meal cost in box at left.**

Friday Night: Soups, salads, and desserts provided by Possum Town Quilters. Please select soup preference so appropriate amounts can be made.

- 1. Chili
- 2. Nacho Potato
- 3. Vegetable

Saturday Lunch:

- 5. Turkey Sandwich Box = \$9
- 6. Chicken Salad Croissant = \$10
- 7. Chef's Salad* = \$11
- 8. Oven-Roasted Chicken on Greens* = \$11

*Salads can be made Gluten Free. Please check box.

GLUTEN-FREE SALAD REQUIRED.

Water, tea & coffee provided.



If you have not paid your membership dues, complete the form on pg. 7 & send with payment to:

Jeré Funk
7024 Pinehurst Drive
Ocean Springs, MS 39564
Phone: 228-818-9293
Email: the9patch@bellsouth.net

2017 Educational Seminar with Barbara Cline



Save the Date for a July Class Near You!

Barbara Cline is a quilt designer, author and teacher from the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia who gives lectures and trunk shows, and teaches nationally and internationally. With more than 35 years experience and numerous awards, Barbara has something to offer quilters of all abilities!

Plan now to join Barbara in the summer of 2017 for the annual MQA Educational Seminar, featuring the “Cookie Cutter” quilt.

Learn to make the one block which is featured in Barbara’s new book *Amazingly Simple Triangle Stars*. This triangle block is easy to sew, but can be transformed using countless intricate designs when you experiment with color and value. Stunning triangle-star quilts are perfect for adventurous beginners looking to try something new or intermediate quilters who would like to put their skills to use in a creative way. This quilt class features how to work with a triangle block layout and how to add some zip to your quilt. Note: This workshop will require advance cutting so students can complete their project during class.

Class Schedule:

July 17 - Biloxi
July 18 - Hattiesburg
July 19 - Jackson
July 20 - Starkville
July 21 - Oxford
July 22 - Corinth



MQA Officers

President: Julia Graber
Pres. Elect: Nancy Losure
Secretary: Linda Jabour
Treasurer: Susan Beard
Immediate Past President: Marietta Johnson
Membership Director: Jere’ Funk
Newsletter Editor: Keri Lewis
Educational Director: Judy Stokes
Leadership Directors: Judy Stokes & Linda Jabour
Legacy Director: Joan Alliston
Publicity Director: Lauren Hutchins
Historian: Diane Rhyne
Parliamentarian: Billie Thompson
Webmaster: Lucy Large

The Common Thread is published three times per year. Please submit news, ads, and changes in guild information to Keri Lewis at kerikidswriter@yahoo.com.

To request changes to the website, www.mississippiquilt.org, contact Lucy Large at largele@bellsouth.net.

Join us on Facebook! Just search for the Mississippi Quilt Association and click “Join.”



The Mississippi Quilt Association invites everyone who loves quilts and quilting, and is interested in preserving and promoting quilt-making to join us! Our members come from all walks of life and levels of quilting experience. Our backgrounds may differ, but we share our love of quilts and the art of quilt making.

Membership Form

Dues are \$15.00 a year (1 April to 31 March)

Please print clearly!

Name:

Mailing Address:

City, County, Zip Code:

Email Address:

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

The Common Thread Newsletter is sent three times per year. Please check one box.

- Please email my newsletter and Membership Directory. (Must provide email address.) **OR**
- Please send a printed newsletter and directory to the address provided above.

The Membership Directory is sent in May. Please check one box.

- Yes, you have my permission to include my contact information in the Membership Directory. **OR**
- No, please do not share my contact information in the Membership Directory.

Send completed form with \$15.00 check made payable to Mississippi Quilt Association to:

**Jere' Funk
MQA Membership Director
7024 Pinehurst Drive
Ocean Springs, MS 39564-9151**

Questions about membership? Email Jere' at the9patch@bellsouth.net.

Regional News

Submit guild news to your regional coordinator and Keri Lewis at kerikidswriter@yahoo.com by Dec. 15 for the next issue.

Central

Brandon, Brandon Quilters

Brandon Quilters have maintained their enthusiasm for swapping fabrics in various sizes, and learning how to incorporate them into new and different projects. We have even ventured onto the topic of "ugly fabric!"

In May we turned "topsy-turvy" and learned about the Sweet 16 method of making a sixteen patch square, cutting it diagonally twice and sewing the pieces back together to make two blocks that are on point from the one. It looks much more complicated than it is!

June brought back an old friend who had us swap green strips that found their way into a log cabin block that really "grew on us." (They became trees!)

We were treated to a special trunk show in July. Keeping with a "Christmas in July" theme, a previous member, Martha Ann Gordon, graciously showed us many of her beautiful Christmas quilts. We enjoyed them early enough in the year to inspire us to finish one or two Santa projects of our own.

Now....about those ugly fabrics that people swapped! In August, Marilyn Rose gave us a great program on scrappy bargello quilts and promised that all the pieces will go together and be wonderful, even those that we wondered how we ended up with them in our stash in the first place.

Along with these programs, members are working on the "round robin" challenge that will be shown and voted on in December. We will even award prizes! We also continue to produce many community quilts that go to Methodist Children's Home, Star Fire Department, and other worthy recipients.

Come and visit as we "cut up" in the library, first Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., at the Brandon Library!

Brandon, Rankin County Quilters

A great number of our members attended the June gathering and received a lot good information. Our group continues to grow in skills. Since our group is based on volunteerism, we continue to do good things throughout our community. Several members have donated fabric toward making toy bags for Blair Batson Hospital. Another group took purchased fabric and constructed bags. We continue to support our Pregnancy Crisis Cen-

ter by making burp pads, bibs and small quilts.

In June, retired MSU Extension Agent Shirley Wiltshire presented a program on how to organize our sewing rooms. At our July meeting, Marva Goodman brought her spinning wheel and demonstrated how to spin raw cotton into thread. For the August meeting each member was asked to bring and talk about her favorite notions. Our group meets the second Monday of each month at 1:00 pm at the MSU Extension Bldg. in Brandon.

Brandon, Quilters By Hearts Desire

Our President, Ann Tullis has brought a variety of information to our guild this year. She asked member Marilyn Dedeaux to do a program on how to create and draft a pattern. Marilyn did a great job on explaining the elements in making an art quilt from a photo.

Polly Duggan shared the Radiating Star Ball pattern for Christmas in July. This pattern proves everything old is new again. Everyone enjoyed seeing Polly's variety of radiating stars. She made Easter eggs, and has even done the star on garments. In August Angela McInnis did a program on Crazy Patch.

We meet at St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Brandon on the 3rd Monday evening of each month at 7:00 pm. Come and visit.

Canton, Allison Wells Quilters

The members of the Allison's Wells Quilt have been busy. A few of our members displayed their quilts at the Old Man River Quiltfest in Vicksburg, Mississippi in August. Julie Hendricks won a blue ribbon for hand-quilting. Way to go Julie!

Using our donated scraps from our projects, we have been putting together charity quilts. We have also been busy with our beautiful raffle quilt which will be hanging in our spring 2017 quilt show.

This past year we have had several programs Mary Jane Boutwell, Ann Fox, Diane Rayburn and Julie Hendricks.

The guild meets on Tuesdays in Canton at the Visitors Welcome Center from 9:30 a.m. until ?, to fellowship and teach each other tips and tricks and just have fun.

October thru January we meet at the WIN Center in Canton located on Watford. We are always happy to see visitors.

Jackson, Jackson Quilt Guild

Jackson Quilters have been very busy the last few months. In May, Cathy Dixon McNamara, co-owner of Cotton Blossom Farms in Madison, brought a Sashiko machine. She talked about how the machine came into being and the history of the Sashiko stitch. She brought samples and allowed members to test drive the machine.

In June, Joan Alliston presented a program using Edyta Sitar's Homestead Quilt Pattern. She talked about using a pattern and altering the blocks/sashings etc. to make a quilt the desired size. Joan displayed her version of the pattern and talked about how she modified the pattern to suit her taste.

July's program was Dr. Addie Stanford, a chiropractor at the Northeast Chiropractic Clinic. Dr. Stanford spoke about how chiropractors assess and realign the body so that it can function properly. She talked about ways to help quilters protect our bodies from repetitive motion and sitting too long. She recommends taking breaks often, stretching the neck, and moving about more.

Many members participated in the June Gathering, the Mickey Dupre classes, and the Old Man River Quiltfest (hanging quilts, organizing judging and participating in the process, attending classes, shopping, and taking down quilts).

Members had quilts hanging at the Paducah Quilt Show and were winners at the Gulf States Quilt Association Quilt Show and Old Man River Quiltfest.

Jackson Quilters continue to make and donate quilts to Blair Batson Children's Hospital in Jackson (38 donated in last 3 months) and make wheelchair bags for the University Medical Center.

East Central

Decatur, Busy Hands

We have been sort of slow for two or three months. We are grateful for 2 new members. We finally finished and delivered the quilt to Mt. Zion Congregational Church to raffle for their mission cause. We did this in memory of one of our members who passed away.

We have had several good programs on making different blocks. Some of the members gave their practice block to be put in quilt tops for charity purposes. Also some made additional blocks and donated to the cause. We completed one quilt and gave to a family

whose house burned. Our members now working on a challenge project like one Pine Belt Quilters did. It covers several different types of shapes for making 20 blocks. Our August 9 program was given by one of our local artists, Bruce Guready, on batik painting. This process came from Africa to Europe by Dutch Traders and involves the dying of fabric and using wax to protect each color from being dyed again. The dye colors are used in the order of light to dark. White, tan etc. and then black or the darkest color being the last color used. He brought an extra large painting that he did a number of years ago and also some paintings that were done by native artists.

Meridian, Carousel Quilters

The Carousel Quilters of Meridian made their first Quilt of Valor, and chose to honor one of our own, Barbara Thompson. We do appreciate your service, Barbara! Now we are in the process of making a second one, recipient yet to be decided.

In May we discovered a wonderful local venue for a time of retreat. We had 7 quilters in attendance and a great time of fun, food, fellowship and quilting! Another retreat is planned for September.

Our membership is growing slowly. We meet the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Meridian Activity center and are always ready to welcome new members.

Philadelphia, Nimble Thimble Quilters

This year the Nimble Thimble Guild has been revisiting some previous classes. This way new members could learn some things we had already tried, and long time members could revisit a technique. There was the pillowcase challenge. Several ladies were even getting started on their Christmas gifts! We also did the Rag Quilt, an easy favorite. Then it was time for appliqué again. We did present a few new classes, including the self-binding baby quilt, and several classes on making different types of bags. Now we're looking forward to a road trip to Village Cloth Shoppe in Dekalb. That is always a fun time!

Louisville, Red Hills Quilters

We thoroughly enjoyed a Mother/Daughter trunk show. Irene Rogers and Betty Lewis are very busy ladies! It was fun to see the same quilt made up in different colors and fabrics. Now we're looking forward to Dot Livingston doing a trunk show. We need to see her quilts before they are gifted to grandchildren and great grandchildren! Plans for October include hosting the luncheon with the Nimble Thimble ladies. We always look forward to this time together to enjoy fellowship, eat good food and see some amazing quilts. Fran Cummings

will be coming to teach a class called Star Lanes.

Gulf Coast Long Beach, Ocean Waves

Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Contact Jean for info. jeant228@aol.com.

Lucedale, Melon Patch Quilt Guild

The summer has come and gone but has definitely left us with cherished memories of our best quilt retreat yet!! We owe it all to the Davidsons and their beautiful Bogue Homa Lodge. Our little group just seems to grow closer every year as we meet in this secluded getaway nestled deep in the woods. It's simply refreshing to experience 3 full days of sewing without interruption, as we share our love for sewing and quilting with other women who completely understand our passion. The retreat was packed full of fabulous meals, interesting workshops, field trips, tractor trailer rides, pig hunts and non-stop laughter!!

We've been crazy busy this summer planning for the quilt show — there's so much work that goes into the planning & preparing. The group was extremely proud to finish a charity quilt as well as the raffle "Barn Quilt" for the upcoming show titled: Trailing Mississippi Barn Quilt Show on Sept. 17. Even through all the business we still managed to squeeze in lessons on Flower Pounding & Slice-N-Dice, summer sewing/craft camps with grandkids, and nursing a few guild members back to health. We all seemed to emerge with a new appreciation of health and wellness. God is good! For more info on the quilt show contact Carolyn King at 601-947-8704.

Poplarville, Jubilee Quilt Guild

We learned how to fuse appliqué to a block in May and practiced hand quilting at the June meeting. We assembled a spider web quilt for a new guild member who was undergoing cancer treatment in July and were able to give her the completed quilt before she passed away. Robin Shaw was a member of our guild for less than eight months. We are planning to have a booth at the Pearl River County Fair to portray a wash-day theme with 30's fabric items. We meet 10:00 a.m. on the 4th Saturday at the MSU Pearl River County Extension Service Office, 417 Hwy 11 North, Poplarville.

Orange Grove/Gulfport, Magnolia Quilters

We consistently meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month except for November and December. We have been blessed to have an easy transition from one president to the next as the last president stepped down and the new stepped in taking over the reins. The group has already not only started making

preparations for the 2017 quilt show, but our raffle quilt is finished and tickets and fliers are in the process of being printed for the October 2017 Sands of Time Quilt Show. In addition, we had 18 quilters attend the Red Rooster Retreat and several attended a retreat with the Bay Oaks guild. Charity quilts continue to be brought in on a regular basis for Memorials' NICU and for CASA, two organizations always in need. We are saddened by the loss of our long time friend and sister quilter, Barbara Stewart. Barbara will always be missed, but donations from friends and family members on her behalf will continue her love of quilting charity quilts for the children who need to feel the love wrapped around them. In addition, the guild had a magnolia tree planted in honor of her memory.

Moss Point, River City Quilters

We meet every Thursday at the Ina Thompson Moss Point Library from 3:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

Picayune, Picayune Piecemakers

Greetings from Picayune! We hope everyone is staying cool. We are starting our Christmas gives early this year. We are donating a Pink Ribbon Quilt to the local hospital as a breast cancer fundraiser. We continue to work on our charity items: baby blankets, dog beds for the local SPCA and quilts for the Fisher House at Keesler AFB in Biloxi. We will be doing the Eye of the Storm in Sept.

We meet on the first Saturday of every month at 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall 1309 Hwy 11 South Picayune. For more information please contact Glenda Copeland at 601-798-3944.

Gautier, Scrappy Quilters

We meet every Tuesday, 4-6 p.m. at Gautier First United Methodist Church.

Vanceleave, The Vanceleave Quilt Bees

We meet every Monday from 4-6 p.m. at the Vanceleave Library.

Diamondhead, Bay Oaks Quilt Guild

Meetings are held 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Kiln Library, Highway 603. At the June business meeting members voted on contributions to the three organizations which had been nominated to receive donations from our last show. Brenda's House, Friends of the Animal Shelter, and Starfish Cafe will each receive a donation from the guild. Guild Information: Sue Chamberlain, President; Therese Springer, Vice-President; Laurie Johnson, Secretary; Barbara Scott, Treasurer. Check out our website www.bayoaksquiltguild.com and our Facebook

page for more information. August 18-21: Bay Oaks Quilting Retreat Beckwith Retreat Center, Fairhope, AL. Current guild project is for each member to make a quilt for the Hancock Library Charity Book Quilt Auction.

Biloxi, Sand Stitchers

We meet on most Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall at Northside ASOG Church, 14901 Lemoyne Blvd., Biloxi. The first Thursday of the month is our business meeting. The third Thursday is project night. We may have a lesson, work on a charity project or have a lecture. The second and fourth Thursdays we have Quilting and Crafts. Everyone works on whatever project they want to. Some bring their sewing machines, some bring hand-piecing, and some bring knitting or crocheting. We even occasionally push some tables together to baste a quilt or two. And of course everyone is willing to lend a helping hand to those who need a lesson or want an opinion. We welcome visitors at any time. For more information: Jere' Funk 228-818-9293 the9patch@bellsouth.net

Northeast

Ackerman, Scrappers Quilt Guild

Scrappers have been busy attending retreats, classes, and the Old Man River Quiltfest in Vicksburg. We are proud of the Scrappers members who had quilts entered in that show. Several of those talented Scrappers also received ribbons on their beautiful show pieces.

Our guild meets at various locations and times each month. Visitors are always welcome to come join in on the fun at our guild meetings, but be sure to call to get all the details of the meeting. We have 35 members and continue to grow with creative and talented members, who come from 9 different counties in our Northeast area of the Mississippi. Come join us. For meeting details, call Diane Rhyne at 251-680-1409 or Nancy Henson at 662-285-8373.

Starkville, Golden Triangle Quilt Guild

Our guild just participated in the Oktibbeha County American Cancer Society Relay for Life. Several of us made "quilty" items for sale to the public. We're also busy making a "happy" for the goody bags for the MQA Fall Gathering at our sister guild in Columbus, the Possum Town Quilters. We hope to see you all there. Dot Livingston of our guild has made cellphone bags (on lanyards) for the veteran's home in Kosciusko where her brother is recuperating. We've heard good things about the Old Man River Festival and hope this will be a continuing venue for viewing these wonderful art pro-

jects.

If you are ever in Starkville, we'd love to have you join us at our monthly meeting on the 3rd Thursday night of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the Starkville Sportsplex Activities Building...or come to our monthly Sit & Sew on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at this same location. Also, look us up on Facebook to see some of our show and tell from the meetings.

Iuka, Northeast Needle Chasers

Quilters are busy with final plans for the biennial Harvest of Quilts at Iuka Baptist Church on Friday, Sept. 16 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) and Saturday, Sept. 17 (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.) Vendors will be available, special theme rooms, and a guest quilter trunk show at noon each day. Members without direct pre-show responsibilities have been finishing quilts for the show.

The Kids Can Quilt Class was a success with nine participants and a couple of children had to be turned away because of space restrictions. Each child took home a completed lap quilt. One boy was heard to say, "I thought this would be boring, but it was fun."

Members have been quite busy over the past months doing all that is necessary to get a Quilt Trail started in Tishomingo Co. The first block will be installed on September 6 at a local lumber yard that faces 'old' Hwy. 25 in Iuka. Others are in the works. The Guild has initiated a "Star Quilter" program and so far Nancy Ice and Marilyn Robertson have been featured.

Columbus, Possum Town Quilters

PTQs have been busy preparing for the Fall Gathering. We are looking forward to seeing lots of old and new friends Oct. 21 and 22 at the Trotter Convention Center downtown. There will be quilts on display, interesting programs, good food, and a quilt raffle opportunity. We will have a Silent Auction with tons of items that have been donated, including a Barn Quilt Block and a Featherweight Sewing Machine!! We hope to see you there!!

Come see us on the 2nd or 4th Saturday. We meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Rosensweig Art Center in downtown Columbus. Visit our blog at www.possumtownquilters.blogspot.com.

Starkville, Happy Hoopers

This summer has once again seen larger attendance than in summers past. We have welcomed several new members since the last newsletter. While we did not get to attend as a group, several of our members visited the Old Man River Quiltfest and at least one member participated in a class.

Each quilter works on her individual project (we have seen lots of hexis recently!) with skills at every level represented. This small dues-free, project-free guild began as a hand-quilting guild but has opened its arms to all quilters, very similar to the quilting bees of old.

The Hoopers gather for fun & friendship every Thursday morning. The "old" Starkville Sportsplex Building at 405 Lynn Lane is our home. Our official meeting time is 10:00-noon. If you are in the area on a Thursday morning, please visit!

Tupelo, Gumtree Quilters

This year has brought several interesting programs from members to guild meetings. We've learned about creating a stained-glass effect using bias tape, multi-layered Dresden plate blocks, quilting as you go, and many other techniques.

In August, we hosted a scrappy strip quilt class given by Amy Crunk of Lexington, Alabama. We had 29 registered participants. Amy showed us how to use collected scraps to create 10 different blocks. All participants were able to make at least two different blocks during the class.

We've had several new members join this year and always welcome visitors. We meet the first Tuesday of every month at All Saints Episcopal Church, 608 W. Jefferson St., Tupelo, 38804) at 6:30 p.m.

Corinth, Cross City Piecemakers

The Cross City Piece Makers Quilt Guild of Corinth has enjoyed a very busy year. In addition to a fun class in fabric painting taught by Savannah, TN artist and quilter Johnnie Schell, in May we also offered a 4-part batik wall hanging class where we dyed fabric with a wax resist technique. We're planning a class on how to make strip pieced quilted jackets offered by member Barbara Hickman later this year.

We've also been busy with our ongoing charity projects. This year we have donated well over 120 chemo caps for patients at the West Clinic Cancer Center and 26 lap and crib quilts for the Alcorn County Sheriffs Dept. to use during domestic emergencies.

Our annual Silent Auction and Trunk Show event in July was once again a big success. The trunk show featured the very talented, nationally recognized quilter Patti Sandage from Middleton, TN. Additionally, we raised nearly \$1,700 through the sale of tickets for our 1930's-themed raffle quilt. With the success of our fundraising, we hope to offer a workshop to our members taught by a national teacher in 2017.

The Cross City Piecemakers meet the third Thursday of the month, at 1 p.m. at the MSU Extension Service Building near the Crossroads Arena at the junction of Hwy. 45 and Hwy. 72 in Corinth. We are an enthusiastic guild of

nearly 30 members who enjoy sharing ideas on all aspects of the quilting process. New members and visitors, with or without quilting experience, are always welcomed to join us. Our monthly programs offer demonstrations of techniques, quilt block ideas and back-to-basics fundamentals plus book reviews, gadgets, and handy tips & tricks.

Southwest

Brookhaven Piecemakers

Gardens and babysitting have kept a lot of us busy this summer and not much time for quilting but we have still been productive by making our quilts for the quilt show, charity quilts and ornaments for our Christmas tree.

We had a good representation in the Old Man River QuiltFest with 27 quilts and several ribbons. Some stayed all four days taking classes and sewing.

We lost long-time member Perlene Bennett who came as often as she could despite getting up early and going to dialysis before our meeting. She will be greatly missed.

Plans are being made for our annual retreat the first week in October at Camp Wesley Pines in Gallman. We're looking forward to a lot of sewing, eating and fellowship. We will leave just in time for the Pine Belt Quilt Show so October is starting off with a bang.

Fall is always a busy time with festivals and quilt shows but we always look forward to our meetings and seeing what has been done at home.

Southeast

Hattiesburg Pine Belt Quilters

At our May meeting, speaker Cindy Pannier from Brandon told us she loves scraps and used to put them in baskets and play Scarlett O'Hara, ("I'll deal with them tomorrow") eventually sorting and re-sorting them. When she found *Cut the Scraps!* by Joan Ford, she discovered a workable method of dealing with her scraps. A week later Cindy taught a workshop on using quilt scraps. We exchanged fabric squares and made quilt tops using a quick and easy technique.

Dianne McLendon introduced a new travel poster challenge, "You Have The Whole World In Your Hands." Quilts will be revealed at the December meeting.

Ellen Cox's snippet for the month was a method for organizing a workshop toolbox. She recommended it as a way to cut down on orphan blocks. This box should contain basic sewing supplies and coordinated fabrics, such as a focus fabric, print, stripe, plaid, a light fabric and a dark fabric. Plan on using these fabrics as the basis for **several** class projects. When you have several blocks completed, they will automatically work together.

Accomplished paper piecer Gloria Green presented the June program. Gloria began with two goals for us for the day: don't be afraid of paper piecing, and go places and take classes. She also taught a Floral Stars design by Carol Doak at the June workshop. This was Gloria's last Pine Belt Quilters meeting, because she moved to Madison to be closer to her grandchildren.

Ellen Cox's snippet for the month was about using Superglue to protect your fingertips if you don't use a thimble. It can also stop bleeding if you prick your finger. We don't want to get blood on our quilt tops!

The July meeting featured a luncheon and the Parade of Children's Quilts. Parade winners: first, Betty Allen; second, Missy Lee; and third, Anne Esteve. Each organization's representative seemed to have a heartwarming story to pass along to the group. Annie Jackson represented the South Mississippi Children's Center. Riley Herrin represented the Shafer Center for Crisis Intervention. Leigh Ann Leonard repre-

sented Forrest General Hospital. Joan Harper represented Merit Health -Wesley. Approximately 180 quilts were given away.

PBQ always has a friendship block going. Dianne McLendon introduced the newest, Hard Rock. It's a beauty, due back in September.

Ellen Cox's snippet for the month was a technique from Patrick Lose about reducing the bulk from the corners of our bindings. Missy did an excellent job putting together a tutorial with pictures for the group. You can also find a PDF detailing this method at www.patricklose.com/instructiondownloads.htm. The PDF you are looking for is "Coveted Corners" binding tips. The video is Perfect Mitered Binding Corners.

At our August meeting, Anne Hindmarch delivered an excellent program about the ABCs of quilt design. Anne described the most commonly used grid systems, such as four-patch and nine-patch. She progressed to the use of a system based on the Fibonacci series. This is a favorite of Jinny Beyer and Caryl Bryer Fallert-Gentry. Anne went on to talk about using the color wheel. Many of us own color wheels, but few of us know how to use them. Anne made their use much clearer. Anne concluded her presentation with this piece of advice: when someone compliments your work, accept praise and don't point out your errors.

Everyone is invited to our quilt show Oct. 7- 9 at the Lake Terrace Convention Center at the intersection of Highways 49 and 59 in Hattiesburg, easy to find and plenty of parking. You can get more information at www.pinebeltquilters.com.

Rumor has it that Jo-Ann's Fabric is coming to Hattiesburg this fall.

MQA History: Celebrating our First 25 Years!

Part 2: 2000-2008, By Linda Jabour

2000

President, Sue Mitchell, challenged the membership "to stretch yourself as you try a new quilting venture: Develop a new skill, create a new quilt design, improve your quilt stitch, try a new color scheme." MQA's documentation project introduced our traveling photographic exhibit with the first exhibit at the Neshoba County Library in Philadelphia entitled "Unfolding Our Past: Mississippi Quilts-1850 to 1946." The *Mississippi Quilts* book manuscript was delivered to University Press of Mississippi. Publication date set for June 2001. At the June Gathering, the first leadership planning session met to brainstorm ideas to make MQA an even greater organization. MQAlist@egroups.com was launched by Jere' Funk to keep members informed. The Educational Seminar instructor was Margaret J Miller.

2001

President, Joan Alliston, challenged the membership "to involve new people in our organization...Also involve youth in quilting." At the February Gathering in Hattiesburg, MQA celebrated our first ten years. The first MQA Leadership Retreat was held at Lake Tiak-O'Khata in March. The guest speakers were Carol Ann Moss and Harriet Laird. The official presentation of *Mississippi Quilts* was held at the Old Capital Museum in Jackson on July 15th. Author, Mary Elizabeth Johnson and photographer J.D. Schwalm were present to sign copies. In the first 6 weeks, the publisher sold 2500 hard and softback copies! Nancy Pearson was the Educational Seminar instructor.

2002

President Martha Dubard challenged the membership "to be bold in developing our creativity through infusion of fresh innovative procedures." Copies of *Mississippi Quilts*, along with 26 quilts pictured in the book, were featured at the Paducah Rotary Club in April. The second Leadership Retreat was held with the focus on exchanging ideas to help MQA grow and prepare for the future. Guest speaker was Allegra Brigham. The June Gathering changed venues by meeting at the Duncan Gray Center in Canton. The MQA handbook was adopted in June 2002. Karen Stone was the Educational Seminar instructor.

2003

President Jere' Funk's theme was "Past, Present, Future and Lagniappe...to enhance your MQA Experience." MQA's bylaws were revised to include two new board members, Publicity Director and Historian. Educational Seminar instructor Pat Campbell taught "Jacobean Applique." At the Fall Gathering in Biloxi, attendees were privileged to view 3 beautiful quilts assembled to support the "Pascagoula River Basin Project." 44 blocks were submitted by MQA members.

2004

President Nancy Funderburk's theme was "The Year to Plan For So Much More." The June Gathering changed venues again by meeting at Hinds Community College's Rankin County Campus in Pearl. Gatherings were held in Madison, Pearl and Greenville. Educational Seminar instructor Karen Combs taught "Patchwork Illusions."

2005

President Jerry Ann Dye's theme was "A Journey of Quilts: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow." The MS Quilt Legacy Committee was appointed to develop guidelines and begin a research project to locate outstanding quilters. Primary considerations were that the quilter be at least 70 years old with a significant body of work to document. Sue Nickels taught "Machine Applique" at the Educational Seminar. The Fall Gathering was cancelled due to the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. Our Coastal and Southern quilting sisters and vendors suffered and lost so much.

2006

President Mary Nell Magee challenged the membership to "IMAGINE the possibilities, BELIEVE in your abilities, so you can ACHIEVE your dreams and goals." MQA came together at the Spring Gathering in Rankin County to support our soon to be Hurricane Adoptees by donating fabric, tools, quilting supplies, sewing machines and money to help our sisters return to their love of quilting. Many guilds adopted MQA Hurricane Katrina Survivors and provided additional support to include group quilts. The Martha Skelton Book Committee was created to document Martha's amazing body of works. Finding a publisher was a challenge due to the publication costs. A special committee was appointed to address fundraising ideas and events. Mary Elizabeth Johnson signed on to write the manuscript. Mary Sorensen was the Educational Seminar teacher.

2007

President Broach Winsley's message was "GROWTH. Try lots of new things...Grow some more quilting friendships. Teach a quilting class." The Quilt Legacy Committee held a documentation training session at the February Gathering. The regional volunteers showed their dedication by reporting to class at 7:45 a.m.! The Martha Skelton Book Com-

mittee's goals to assemble a professional team, all with publishing experience, to publish a book on Martha's life and quilts, was slowly becoming a reality. A Gala honoring Martha was held in Vicksburg in May to fund her book. Donations for the silent and live auction were made by members and others. Educational Seminar teacher Ann Fahl taught "Free Motion Embroidery."

2008

President Cindy Pannier's theme was to celebrate the incredible "Diversity and Variety" of Mississippi quilters from experience level to preferred styles. A book signing event was held June 12th commemorating *Martha Skelton: Master Quilter* in Vicksburg. It documents her life and quilting journey with family photographs and professional pictures of her amazing quilts. It was a joyful celebration of a dear quilter we love and treasure. This incredible project and publication would not be possible had it not been for two dedicated groups of quilters, members of the Martha Skelton Book Committee co-chaired by Cay Jones and Carol Vickers and the Fundraising Committee co-chaired by Shirley Wiltshire and Bobbie Gray. Every MQA member who had a role in this rewarding project should be proud of this achievement and tribute. Brett Barker was the Educational Seminar Teacher.

2009 to 2016

Stay tuned for the final installment of "MQA, the First Twenty-Five Years." Special thanks and appreciation to the "Common Thread" editors for publishing MQA's communication life-line, our newsletter during this period: Martha Ginn, Barbara Hutchinson and Leslie Kiger. And special thanks to Martha Ginn, who published MQA's Directory for the Board of Directors, Officers, Committee Chairs and Regional Represent-

MQA Membership Report

We currently have 398 paid members. Benefits of maintaining a current MQA membership include: attending 3 gatherings each year, receiving 3 newsletters and an MQA membership roster. MQA also hosts an educational class each summer with a nationally known instructor. Invite your friends to join!

Please contact me if you did not receive your membership card or if you need to update your information (address, phone number, email and email vs. regular mail preference.) Dues are \$15 for a year. You can pay for more than one year at a time.

You may pay by mail using a membership form on the www.mississippiquilt.org web page under About MQA/Joining MQA. You must left click on the blue letters "Membership Form." You may print this out or use the membership form included with this newsletter. Don't forget to include your check made out to MQA. Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Jere' Funk, Membership Director
7024 Pinehurst Drive
Ocean Springs, MS 39564
The9patch@bellsouth.net
228-818-9293

MQA

The Mississippi Quilt Association invites everyone who loves quilts and quilting, and is interested in preserving and promoting quilt-making to join us!

Our members come from all walks of life and levels of quilting experience. Our backgrounds may differ, but we share our love of quilts and the art of quilt making.

PINE BELT QUILTERS 16TH BIENNIAL FIBER ART & QUILT SHOW October 7-8-9, 2016

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday & Saturday
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday

Dresden Plates — Then and Now

Lake Terrace Convention Center in Hattiesburg



Judged Show ∞ Vendors ∞ Door Prizes ∞ Demos ∞ Boutique
Silent Auction ∞ Hoffman Challenge Exhibit
Lectures: See website for list.
Quilt Appraisals: Contact Martha Ginn.
www.pinebeltquilters.com

MQA

Keri Lewis
PO BOX 31
Mayhew, MS 39753