

AROUND THE BLOCK

QUILTERS UNLIMITED OF TALLAHASSEE

Volume 41, Issue 2

February 2024

Next Meeting: February 8, 2024, Temple Israel, 2215 Mahan Drive. 6:00 Social, 6:30 Meeting

President's Message – Triumph of the Ordinary

Welcome to Valentine and Red Bud blooming February! Weren't we amazed at our January meeting with happy tables and admiring faces as our superb quilter Linda O revealed how she makes her stunning quilts. See the photos on the website for a good review. Amazingly, Linda would say, "These really aren't that complicated" and then go on to explain her technique. She turns the ordinary to exquisite. How she spoke of fabric color as "close enough" was a liberating thought.



Ever wonder how one can get so much done in a day? I loved those ordinary days in the work world. Things chugged along smoothly, and I could write "good day" in my planner and prep easily for the next day. Much is written about ordinary living. It is comforting to know the sun rises in the morning even if we arrive at it with a "new normal." Ordinary for a quilter means there was uninterrupted time, a machine that behaves, threads that connect, fabric that mostly matches, irons that set a seam, all with alert minds and hands. I call that being "in my zone," which turns out an extraordinary product out of ordinary efforts.

The Amish have a quilt called Sunshine and Shadow, patterns of light and dark colors which work together to make a beautiful contrast highlighting the ups and downs of life. Achieving balance in a quilt may be an ordinary effort, but seen on a wall, in a room, or on a bed, it becomes an elegant terrain, and a reminder that our obstacles can be made smooth, and even ordinary.

My last email to colleagues upon retirement was to wish everyone the gift of an ordinary day. Now as a quilter and fellow guild member, I trust this February's quilt projects you create are gifted in the same way, and bloom as the Red Bud this month as an extraordinary mini-paradise!

Be reminded to pay your dues, read the newsletter, take advantage of the projects offered in the philanthropy section. (There is something for everybody!) Decide on your challenge piece and/or KOC quilt show entry, and/or which class you'd like to take this spring. If a Sit n Stitch is your thing, enjoy attending and sewing with others in our around-town glory days of "ordinary sewing." (I love the mess we make at Eastside that disappears when we leave!) Definitely attend the February meeting to find out how best to get your quilt top ready for the long arm, by Michele H.

Thank you all for making the start of this year ding dang outstanding!

Janet Taylor

March Block of the Month

The Anvil

This block can be found at:

<http://www.quilterscache.com/T/TheAnvilBlock.html>

Preparing the pieces

Start by cutting the Color 1 3-7/8" x 15-1/2" strip into four 3-7/8" squares. Stack the squares and cut them once on diagonal to make eight half-square triangles.

Then cut Color 2 3-7/8" x 15-1/2" strip into four 3-7/8" squares.

Stack the squares and cut them once on diagonal to make eight half-square triangles.

Now cut the Color 2 3-1/2" x 28" strip into eight 3-1/2" squares. Using 1/4" seam, sew pairs of Color 1/Color 2 half-square triangles to make eight half-square units. These should measure 3-1/2".

Now layout all the units as shown in picture. Sew four horizontal rows pressing seams in alternating directions by row. Join rows to complete. Block should measure 12-1/2".

Teresa Bostwick



Hospitality Team News

Are you interested in making new friends? Here is an opportunity to do just that. Join our hospitality team in welcoming guests and new members at our monthly meetings.

It can be overwhelming to enter a room with so many strangers. You can help by greeting guests and explaining what is happening at the tables and projects around the room.

Please contact Jeanne Brenner if you are interested in helping.

In Memoriam

We were saddened to hear that Joy Vo, a very active QU member for many years, passed away on January 27th. She was active in the guild book club and in sit and stitch groups. Our deepest sympathies go out to Joy's family and friends.

Kaleidoscope of COLOR

WHAT CAN I ENTER NOW?

You're probably working on a quilt that will be a great entry when it's finished. But please ask yourself, "What can I enter right now?"

- 🌀 Quilts that were too big for previous QU shows
(King- and Queen-size quilts are welcome in 2024 — and will be too big for LeMoyne in 2025 — this year is their moment to shine!)
- 🌀 Quilts that you've made in the past that were too many for the LeMoyne show
(Your show committee hopes you'll enter THREE quilts AND a Challenge quilt this year!)
- 🌀 Quilts that are imperfect
(Remember: this is not a juried show; you might see a flaw where show visitors would see a delightful creation!)

The entry form is live at <https://www.quilttallahassee.com/qu24show/enter-quilt/>. The sooner entries are in, the sooner we can start planning their display. Please don't wait!

Welcome Our New Members!

At our January meeting, four new members joined QU. Welcome!

Judy S. Miller, Lori Alberstadt, Barbara Lee and Nicholas O'Sullivan

QU Show TEAM Boutique Update

Team Members: Ann Gaber, Deborah Kelly, Shellie Johnson, Andrea Fenn, Ellen Fournier and Dawn Griffin.

The team has been busy over the holidays. Our goal is to use as much of the fabulous donated fabric that QU has received (and that has been graciously stored at Ann's home). With this goal in mind, a lot of time and energy has been spent going through all the various types and sizes of donated fabrics (cottons, linen, silk, upholstery, etc.) and making a determination on its best use for the boutique. The

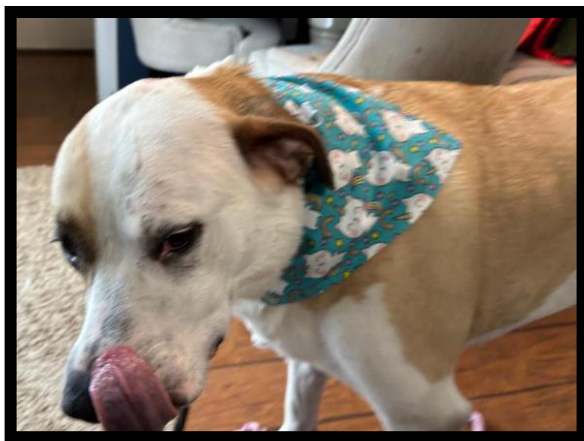


team has been testing/editing patterns and creating samples, and kits have been assembled for distribution at the February meeting. We are trying to have a unique selection of items that would appeal to different age groups, since there will also be a silent auction, quilts, and baskets for attendees to consider purchasing.

HOW CAN YOU HELP! QU members are being asked to pick up kit(s) (which include fabric, materials, and pattern), to create and return no later than the July meeting. You only need to supply thread and your time. You are also welcome to grab from your stash and make any items. For those who are unable to attend the meetings: patterns/instructions are also available online for you to make at home (and assist you in reducing your own fabric stash). See <https://www.quilttallahassee.com/qu24show/qu24show-donate/>

*Remember, it's **your** quilt show, and we need **your** help in making the boutique successful to offset show-related expenses and show the public how talented we are.*

WHAT WE NEED! Does someone have a stuffed dog that could be used during the show to display the dog bandanas or a tabletop Christmas tree to display ornaments?



Below is the list of boutique items we currently plan to offer for sale at the QU Show. The list has been vetted through many people/groups experienced in this type of project. *The team will re-evaluate and determine if additional items are needed and will attempt to be at every QU meeting with kits, if available, to distribute, and to collect completed items.*

Boutique Items: Soup bowl cozy * Cosmetic bag (small, medium, and large) * Drawstring backpacks * Dog bandanas (small/med/large/teeny tiny) * Key Caddies (square and rectangle)* Patchwork & Infinity scarves * Journal covers * Bookmarks.

P.S. While busy creating awesome items for the boutique, consider trying to add regular movement breaks into your life, ideally 5 minutes every half hour. Check out the interesting information about the Body Electric Challenge on NPR.org. Information is based on best practices that came out of NPR's study with Columbia University Medical Center researchers and more than 20,000 listeners in October.

If we want to continue sewing – we need to take care of our bodies! Thanks, Andrea, for sharing!

Thanks, Dawn Griffin

Final Call for 2024 Membership Dues and Directory Photos

If you have not yet renewed your guild membership, please do so. Dues are \$30 for the year (\$32 if you need the directory mailed). At the guild meeting, you can pay dues by cash or check. If you would like to pay using a credit card, you may do so at any time from our website.

After the February meeting, the 2024 Directory will be finalized and sent for printing. Renewing by the February meetings helps us with getting an accurate count of our print needs. Also, if any of your information needs updating, please let me know at the meeting, or send an email to membership@quilttallahassee.com.

This is the last chance to take a photo for inclusion in the 2024 Directory. Michele Hackmeyer will be taking photos at the QU Library table, so don't just be a "logo" in the directory.

Kerry Cohen, 2024 Membership Vice-President

Quilts of Valor

Marvin Hodges was awarded a Quilt of Valor at his home in Dothan, Alabama on December 19, 2023. Marvin served 18 years in the US Army, which included tours in Germany and Viet Nam. He retired as a Staff Sergeant E6. During his career he earned numerous medals and awards. His quilt was made by Roberta G. and quilted by Linda F. He is shown with his wife and son.



Submitted by Roberta Granville

Mariner's Compass Workshop (1-day)

Pam Doffek

Friday March 15th AND/OR Saturday March 16, 2024

10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



Our 6-hour workshop is an introduction/refresher to foundation paper piecing. We will construct 2 different star/compass designs starting with a very elementary one: a 7" 4- or 8-pointed star and finish off with a 14" wide X 19" high 24-point oval. It's all the same techniques!

This class provides a safe environment to learn foundation paper piecing, no tiny pieces. You will also learn to calculate how to cut fabric pieces that FIT the different sections. You don't have to guess or end up with sections that are all bias edge.

Class fee: \$30 which includes all patterns and instructions.

Supplies list provided with paid registration.



QU Show Silent Auction

Now is the time to come to the aid of the QU Silent Auction!!!!!! I look forward to an overwhelming response to the Silent Auction and am asking you to think about participating in this year's event. The Silent Auction was traditionally a top money-making activity at the Guild's shows when they were held at the Museum of Florida History. We need that tradition to continue!

Please think about donating items to the Silent Auction that will take place at the Quilt Show from August 31 through September 2, 2024. Donations can include any sewn or quilted item such as quilts, wall hangings, bags*, purses, potholders, place mats, table runners, necklaces, ragdolls, or such. **PLEASE NOTE: The boutique will be selling cosmetic-size bags. Please don't compete with those. You are invited to donate larger bags.*

The participant who brings in the most money for a single donated item will receive their next year's QU dues (2025) gratis. Please note that the award is for a single entry and does not include the total of an individual's multiple entries. However, we do encourage multiple entries if you so desire. The Sit N Stitch group that brings in the most money for a group donation will receive a \$20 gift certificate, given to the contact person named in the directory, to use at one of your upcoming Sit N Stitch

sessions.

Quilts should have a label on the back with the quilter's name, a title for the item, and the year completed. The title will be published in the Silent Auction Guidelines given to bidders at the show. It would be helpful to also provide the size (in length and width) of a donated quilt. You can *optionally* set a minimum bid amount for each of your items — you will get an item back at the end of the show if the minimum for it is not met by a bidder.

I will be accepting Silent Auction donations at every QU meeting. If you are unable to bring your item, I am very happy to meet up with you to get your donation. You can contact me via email at stichnmo@aol.com or by cell at 850-345-1530. Let's make this Silent Auction one to rave about! Thanks again and I look forward to receiving your Silent Auction donations.

Marty O'Neill



Help Send a Little Sunshine

If a member needs some cheering up, don't forget to let me know. I'll send some sunshine their way on behalf of the guild!

Shelley Woodyard

Newsletter Info

The deadline for newsletter submissions for the next issue is **February 26, 2024**.

Please submit materials to our Newsletter Editor via email at newsletter@quilttallahassee.com. To receive a newsletter by mail, contact the editor for details.

Missing Email Blasts?

Check your email spam filter, check for blocked addresses, and/or add webmaster@quilttallahassee.com to your contact list. Still have problems? Email our Membership VP at membership@quilttallahassee.com. If your email address changes, let us know at the next meeting.

Follow and "Like" Quilters Unlimited of Tallahassee

on Facebook & stay connected. <https://www.facebook.com/QuiltTallahassee/>



Happy Valentine's Day!



Guild Calendar	
2024	What/Where
Guild Meetings are at Temple Israel unless otherwise noted.	
February 8	Guild Meeting
March 14	Guild Meeting
March 21	Steering Committee, 6-8:00, Main Library
April 11	Guild Meeting
May 9	Guild Meeting
June 13	Guild Meeting
June 20	Steering Committee, 6-8:00, Main Library
July 11	Guild Meeting
August 8	Guild Meeting
August 22	Steering Committee, 6-8:00, Main Library
Aug 30-Sep 1	QU Quilt Show, N. Florida Fairgrounds
Sept 12	Guild Meeting
Oct 17	(Tentative date/place) Guild Meeting
Nov 7	Steering Committee, 6-8:00, Main Library
Nov 14	Guild Meeting
Dec 12	End of Year Celebration, Temple Israel

2024 OFFICERS	
President	Janet Taylor
President-Elect (Vice President)	TBA
Treasurer	Peggy Clark, Rachel Smith
Membership Vice-President	Kerry Cohan
Secretary	Cheryl Fontenot
Immediate Past President	Peggy Clark
2024 Committee and Activity Chairpersons	
Annual Capital City Quilt Show 2024:	
~ Chair	Sue Isaac
~ Vendor Coordinator	Peggy Allen
~ Sponsor Coordinator	Susan Thomson
~ Baskets Coordinator	Karen Kunz
~ Demos and Kids' Area Coord.	Janet Taylor
~ Boutique Coordinators	Dawn Griffin, Shellie Johnson
~ Reception and Logistics	Ann Gaber
Auditor	Pam Doffek
Awards Coordinator	Janet Hughes
Block of the Month Coordinator	Teresa Bostwick
Boutique Coordinator	Dawn Griffin, Shellie Johnson
Challenge Quilt Coordinator	Pam Doffek
City Hall Show Coordinator (2025)	Janet Taylor

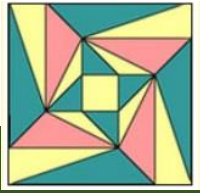
Door Prize Coordinator	Teresa Bostwick
Equipment Coordinator	Michele Hackmeyer
Fiscal Planning	Pres., Pres-Elect, Imm. Past Pres., Treasurer, Guild Member at Large
Internet Team: Email	Carol Eskola
Internet Team: Social Media	Tara Goodman
Internet Team: Website	Jennifer Darnell
Library Coordinator	Michele Hackmeyer
Newsletter Coordinator	Carol Eskola
Nominating	TBD
Opportunity Quilt 2024 Coord.	TBD
Opportunity Quilt 2025 Coord.	TBD
Parties	TBD
Philanthropy Coordinators	Marion Millet, Evelyn Gonzalez
Program Coordinators	TBD
Publicity Coordinator	Tara Goodman
Quilter's Treasure Coord.	Teresa Bostwick
Silent Auction Coordinator	Marty O'Neill
Sit-n-Stitch Coordinator	Ellen Fournier
Sunshine Coordinator	Shelley Woodyard
Travel Coordinator	Christine Walsh
Welcoming Committee Coord.	Jeanne Brenner
Workshops & Classes Coord.	Cheryl Gratt (Zoom), Peggy Clark

Sit-n-Stitch Groups

“Sit-n-Stitch” groups meet weekly, biweekly, or once a month. Some groups meet in a member's home on a rotating basis and work on their own individual projects. Other groups meet at a specified location and work on service projects. There are several types of groups in the guild. **If you are interested in joining a group or starting a new group, contact Jeanne Brenner.**

Sunday	Modern Quilt Sit-n-Stitch	2nd Sunday, 3-5 pm	Marsha Walper
Monday	Quilting Bees @ Senior Center	Weekly 9 am-1 pm	Janice Watson
	Southwood Stitchers	Weekly 10 am - 3 pm	Jane Kazmer
	Sew Darn Happy	Monday after QU Meeting 1:00-3:00 pm	Dawn Griffin
Tuesday	Bits and Pieces	1 st Tuesday, 11-3:00 Eastside Branch Library 1583 Pedrick Road	Jeanne Brenner
Wednesday	Pin Pals	1 st and 3 rd Wednesdays Killearn area, 1:00-3:30	Terri Smith
Thursday	Sew Arty	3 rd Thursday 11:30 am-1 pm	Marion Millet
	Patchwork & Prayer	1 st , 3 rd , 4 th Thursday 6:30-8:30 pm	Judy Stricklin
	Appliqué Addicts @ NE Library	3 rd Thur 11 am-1:45 pm	Selena Foo
Saturday	Sew for HOPE St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 2198 N. Meridian Road	1 st & 3 rd Saturday 10 am - 2 pm Lunch break 11:30-12:30	Sandra Tate
	Second Saturday	Saturday after guild meeting, 9 am - 4 pm	Connie Beane
	Havana Sit 'n Stitch	4 th Sat.; 1-4 pm	Martha Mitchell

The following Sit-n-Stitch groups are listed at full capacity: *Frayed Edges*. This is due to physical limitations -- no more room in members' home or no more parking space available.



CLASSIFIED ADS

QUILTERS UNLIMITED OF TALLAHASSEE

*Items for Sale or Free, by Guild Members.
See Directory for Specific Contact Information*

Free to a Good Home

Men's ties donated, looking for a home.

If you need and can use men's ties, please contact Dawn Griffin.

Classified Ads -- Instructions

Only Guild Members can list items for sale, for services, or "free-to-a-good-home". How to request an ad? Email your ad/notices to the Newsletter Editor at newsletter@quilttallahassee.com. Briefly describe the item and asking price.

Your item will be posted for only one month per email submission.

ALL NEGOTIATIONS AND PROBLEMS WITH A SALE OR SERVICES ARE BETWEEN THE BUYER AND SELLER.