

STASH

November 20, 2013

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MEMBERS SHARE QUILTS AND TIPS



Pine Belt Quilter's November meeting, lead by Donna Crager, Faye Barlow and Betty Allen was full of beautiful samples of machine appliqué. In a comfortable and informal format, many members shared their tips for creating fusible appliqué, making the activity easier, and speeding up the process. Books were recommended, materials were compared, techniques were discussed.

Faye showed us her cheerful prize winning quilt from the 2012 Quilt Show. "Butterflies Have Big Hearts" was fused using techniques from Sue Nichols' and Shelley L. Hawkins' book *Machine Applique: A Sampler of Techniques*, which Faye highly recommends. In this method, Faye cut out the centers of her Wonder

Under shapes before fusing to allow the fabric to retain its soft feel. She changed thread colors to match motifs as she machine quilted around each using a small zigzag stitch.

Betty Allen has been working on children's quilts. On her cat quilt, she appliquéd around each cat shape using a buttonhole stitch in black thread. On her lion quilt and her lizard quilts she straight stitched around each motif twice. Betty finds making children's quilts fun and relaxing. She uses coloring books to create simple designs for appliqué. Notice the lizard in the bottom corner. Betty said he just crawled right up on the quilt. As you can see, machine appliqué doesn't require a fancy machine, although you

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can use many decorative stitches to appliqué and to embellish your work.

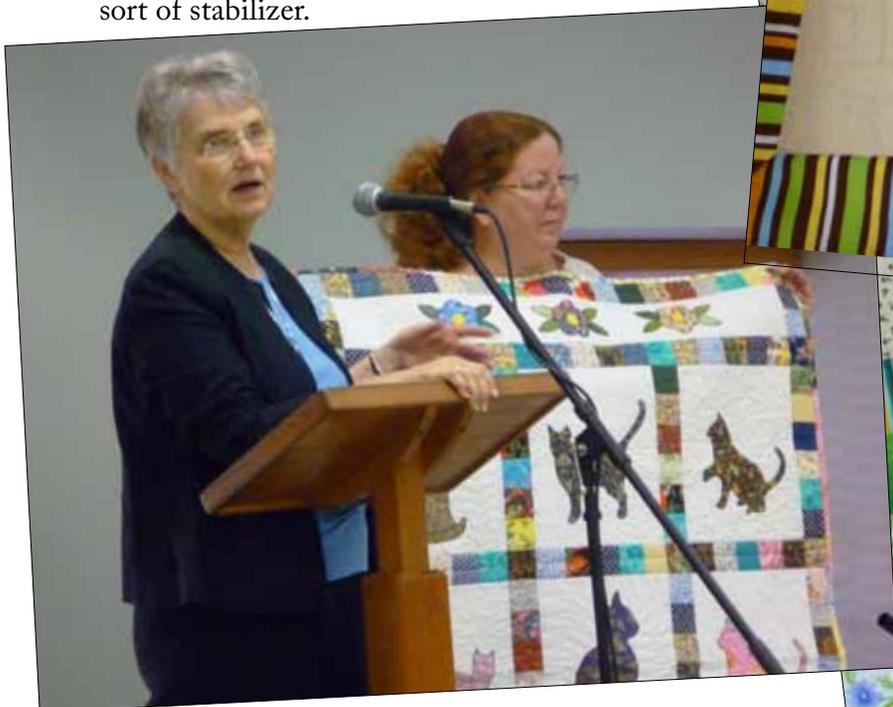
Betty sometimes works in a very relaxing way, without a strict pattern. She says she starts with stems, positions the flowers, then adds leaves. If she notices an empty spot, she just adds another leaf.

Donna reminded us that cutting large motifs, such as flowers out of one fabric and adhering them to another fabric is really easy. There are many large scale fabric prints on the market these days.

Some of the tips which were shared during the demonstration were:

- If your design is directional, be sure to reverse it when you trace it onto your Wonder Under. It is easier than remembering to mentally adjust for it later.
- If you overheat Wonder Under, it will not release easily. You can score the back of the paper with a pin and peel it off.
- There are many brands of fusible web. Some members have been using and very happy with a new fusible called Soft Fuse. If you are not happy with the fusible web you are using, ask a friend for recommendations.
- Machine appliqué needs to be backed with some sort of stabilizer.

- If you spray starch your fabric to the consistency of paper you don't need to use a stabilizer unless doing a lot of stitching or thread painting.
- Some quilters use a light tricot interfacing as a stabilizer.
- You can use a "heat glue" to attach your motifs. It doesn't adhere until it is pressed with a cloth. If you mix the glue with water you can adhere your shape then remove and rearrange. The second time you press it, it becomes permanent.
- Other quilters use dots of glue to attach their appliqué shapes. There are many tutorials on the internet.





Carol Flathers from Columbia has volunteered to take over the chairmanship of the boutique committee. Our thanks goes to those members who have volunteered to chair and serve on committees for the upcoming quilt show. Quilt show chairman, Wanda Wallace urges everyone to participate. Many hands make light work!

Anne Hindmarch's quilts are on display at the Visitors Center the month of December.

Betty and Joe reported that 105 pillows and 2 receiving blankets were turned in at the meeting.

Geraldine reported 12 walker totes were turned in.

Remember there will be no workshops in December. That's a perfect opportunity for all our us to make pillows, walker totes, catheter bags and children's quilts and bring them to the meeting. **We will also be collecting stocking stuffers for women and children at the meeting.** I believe that we have plenty of stockings, but we do need to fill them.

The December meeting is our annual Christmas luncheon, so bring a pot luck dish and celebrate with friends. **If your dish contains nuts or seafood, remember to mark it.** This is one of the meetings where we distribute quilts we have made to groups in the community who lend comfort those going through hard times. It's always inspirational.



Mark Morales, Johnny Sellers and Dianne Herrington were at the meeting to receive the patriotic quilt created for a raffle held by the Wounded Minutemen of Mississippi. The quilt was made by Mary Nell Magee and quilted by Wanda

Wallace. The entire proceeds from the ticket sales go to supporting Mississippi servicemen wounded in Afganistan and Iraq. The drawing for the quilt will be held March 17 at a golf tournament at the Pine Creek Golf Club in Purvis.



Pine Belt Quilters Newsletter
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DECEMBER REMINDERS

December Birthdays:

Kay Anderson

Debbie Davis

Huldah Ingram

Julie Radavich

Wanda Wallace

Sharon Barnes

Martha Ginn

Cynthia Lott

Patricia Routon

David Wallace

Donna Crager

Maryann Hyatt

Wynema McGrew

Ann Shows

People with birthdays in December, please remember to bring a small gift (quilt related) to be used as a door prize. It should be wrapped or bagged.

December 18 program is a our Christmas luncheon and presentation of children's quilts and Christmas stockings.

There is no December boutique meeting.

There are no December workshops.

There is no December fat quarter lottery.

There will be a drawing for the Christmas friendship blocks, "The Right Slice." I have an apology to make, I have been incorrectly calling the friendship blocks "Oh Christmas Tree."