



STASH

June 10, 2015

PINE BELT QUILTERS 2014-2015 Officers

President:

Susie Jackson

susiejackson39421@yahoo.com

601-943-5359

Vice President:

Paula Jones

quiltingmimijp@att.net

Treasurer:

Margie Hancock

wayneandmargie@comcast.net

601-582-5331

Secretary/Newsletter:

Linda Flanders

newsletterpbq@comcast.net

601-544-0345

Membership Director:

Anne Esteve

hawaii@bellsouth.net

601-928-5553

Website:

www.pinebeltquilters.com

Blog:

www.pinebeltquilters.com

WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN



Leslie Kiger with her quilt, Southern Circles

The June meeting opened with a thought for the day from Ellen Cox. Ellen read "The Station" by Robert J. Hastings and reminded us all to enjoy the journey.

Then president Susie Jackson introduced Ruth Byrd and presented her with a cake from the guild to honor Ruth on her 90th birthday.

Leslie Kiger is a PBQ member who moved to Georgia but still maintains her membership. Leslie is a prolific quilter and wins many awards for her quilts and quilting skills. She understands that entering your work in a quilt show (especially that first time) is intimidating. "I'm not good enough. They are going to beat me up. The judge's comments will be ugly." However, entering your quilts is the best way to learn and to improve your quilting skills.

Why does a quilt WE love not even receive notice from the judges? Why does one quilt win and another not?

We won't always agree with the judges, but they have gone through a good bit of training to get to where they are. Their choices are subjective, but they follow several design and technical skill guidelines in making their decisions.

- Visual impact (most important factor) - Does it make you want to take a closer look? Does the overall design make a statement? Do the individual elements

Continued on pg. 2



Ruth Byrd



Leslie Kiger



Flight of the Drunken Goose

work together to make a unified piece? Do the colors work together? Does the quilting bowl you over? Will the judges stand in awe of your workmanship? Does it hang straight and flat?

- General appearance - The quilt should be clean, with no odor, no pencil or other marks, no lint and no loose threads.
- Design - Is the design balanced? Are there variations in color, values and the scale of fabric prints?
- Backing - The back needs to relate to the front. It needs to be flat with no puckers.
- Setting - An unusual setting will draw the judge in.
- Quilting - The design and amount of quilting needs to be appropriate to the rest of the quilt. Stitches need to be even, the same on the back as on the top. There should be no puckering. You should not be able to see starts and stops. The thread color needs to complement the quilt. Quilting should be evenly distributed throughout the quilt.

- Construction - Your piecing or appliqué needs to be accurate. Thread color needs to blend, it should not be seen. Seam allowances need to be trimmed or pressed toward the dark if they shadow through lighter fabrics. Appliqué needs to be flat and stitched down tightly. Borders need to complement the body of the quilt. They should be accurate, straight and flat, with square corners. Straight lines should be straight. Bindings should be full and the stitches should be tight. The binding miters should be stitched down. Embellishments should complement the overall design and be securely attached.
- Finishing - The quilt should be blocked, pinned to the floor and steamed with the iron hovering above the quilt.

It's the little details that make the difference in a judge's decision when you have two excellent quilts that are compared with each other. Leslie's advice is that you have



Leslie's quilts Baskets in Bloom (left) and Reach for the Stars (right)

your quilts judged when you have the opportunity, not for fame, fortune or ribbons, but honest feedback. It will help you learn and keep you honest. It will make you a better quilter. If you have a good eye and judge your own work, you will know what the judging sheet is going to say before you get it back.

Leslie would not say that all judges are right. She doesn't know how you can keep your own personal opinion out of it. But it is a good tool to help you learn, form your own opinions, and judge your own work critically. It is a good way to get good feedback from an experienced and well-trained quilter.

Leslie brought a few samples of her own quilts, some prize winners, some not. See the pictures in this newsletter.

The Row by Row Experience starts June 21 and runs through September 8. It's like a shop hop where you visit participating shops and receive a free pattern or purchase a kit. It's a way of discovering new quilt shops. There is a contest for finished Row by Row quilts. Go to rowbyrowexperience.com for more information and to find a list of participating shops with a map showing their locations in the United States and Canada. Also, check out Bobbin the Robin, the Row by Row mascot. The Stitchin' Post here in Hattiesburg has put together a cute kit to get you started. There are several other participating shops on the coast. You could make it a fun one-day road trip. Oh, and don't forget to ask about the license plates.

Joe and Betty Bingham's quilt has been selected as one of 20 nationwide finalists for Lukey the Lucky Penguin, 2015 Mystery Challenge Contest. Go to the Project Linus Website to see and vote for their quilt (\$10 for ten votes.) PBQ member Marietta Johnson is a regional coordinator for Project Linus. Dianne McLendon drew the winners of the watermelon friendship blocks. They were Gloria Green, Kaye Christensen, Marietta Johnson, Lois Womack and Missy Lee.

Betty and Joe took in 30 pillows and eight blankets. Kaye Christensen took in 10 walker totes and six catheter bag covers.



Never Again

The deadline for entering the Jackson show is July 20.

The month's snippet was from Ellen Cox. She recommended slipping pieces of your block inside the pages of a magazine to keep them organized, flat and together.

Don't forget to bring your quilt for the Parade of Children's Quilts at the July meeting. See Betty Allen at the beginning of the meeting so that she can number your entry.

Betty Allen is also collecting blocks for the president's quilt. Please give them to Betty at the meeting. Susie's color preferences are nature colors, green, gold, brown.

Our July luncheon will be catered by Stonewall's BBQ of Hattiesburg. It will be pulled pork and barbecued chicken with all the trimmings. You will need to make a reservation with Margie Hancock. The cost for each meal is \$7.00.

The committee is diligently working on the raffle quilt for the next quilt show. There are still a few members who took kits for Dresden plates who have not turned in their pieced blocks. Please bring these to the meeting and give them to Susie Jackson. We are almost to the setting stage.



Pieces from Martha Ginn's Pathways Workshop



Pine Belt Quilters Newsletter
1041 Poplar Road
Hattiesburg, MS 39401

JULY REMINDERS

Minnie Watts
Kristen Clady
Lida McDowell

July Birthdays:
Kaye Christensen
Linda C. Smith
Kathy Houseal

Kim Overstreet
Joyce Clark

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

The program for the July 8 meeting is the luncheon and children's quilts presentation.

The June 22 workshop is a Christmas Tree Skirt with Jo Ann Kenney.

The color for July's fat quarter lottery is small scale checks or stripes.

The next Children's Quilts meetings are on July 7 and August 4.

July 27-August 1
MQA Educational Seminars featuring Pat Sloan will be held in the following locations:
Hattiesburg, July 27-28
Jackson, July 29-30
Starkville, July 31-August 1