

STASH

May 11, 2016

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SCRAP QUILTS WITH CINDY PANNIER

Connie Hitt opened the meeting and Martha Ginn and Margie Hancock entertained us with a Quilter's Hotline story "Sometimes Quilts Need to Talk, Too." Not every quilt is destined to be a quilt show winner, but these quilts are still very important.

Susie Jackson introduced our speaker, Cindy Pannier from Brandon. At one time, because of the scarcity and expense of fabric, homemakers saved and reused all their scraps. Now that is seldom the case. Many quilters have large stashes of fabric. Several times a year, manufacturers put out beautiful new fabrics to entice us. Still many quilters find it difficult to part with the last small bits of cherished fabrics. Many quilters love the complexity and spontaneity of scrap quilts. But many of us find it difficult to organize our scraps into a quickly usable system.

Cindy 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 resorting them. She saved scraps, no matter how small. When she began to think of her scraps as a resource, she started to think about organizing them so they would be more readily available for her use.



Cindy Pannier

When Cindy found *Cut the Scraps!* by Joan Ford, she found a workable method of dealing with her scraps. She began by deciding what would be the

smallest scrap she would save. She saves pieces as small as one and a half inches. She cuts her larger scraps into strips, thinking of them as "produce in the freezer" because she can later recut them into squares. Smaller scraps she cuts into squares ranging from six inches down to one and a half inches. These can later be used for half-square triangles and quarter-square triangles.

Cindy and some of her friends get together for cutting bees. (I found instructions at Quilty, sounds like fun. Just do a Google search for heyquilty.com/content_downloads/QuiltyCuttingBee.pdf). The group selects a theme for the bee, then gets together to cut and swap fabrics. This really can increase the variety of fabrics in your scrap quilts.

It is easy to find scrap quilt patterns in quilting magazines. Cindy usually keeps two or three quilt patterns in separate boxes with a list of the squares required. She adds the

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appropriate size pieces as she goes along. Then some of the work is done when she is ready to start on the quilt.

She says it is nice to treat ourselves to a little new fabric when we start on a project. But according to Cindy, most of us have 80% medium value fabrics in our stashes. So she recommends we search out lights and darks to add to our collections.

Speaking of scraps, Shirley Wiltshire reminded us to bring in scraps to sell at the quilt show. Shirley is chairman of the boutique committee. She has patterns for Sunbonnet Sue needle keeper. Contact her if you want her to email instructions to you.

Dianne McLendon had the fabric packs for the new challenge, "You Have The Whole World In Your Hands," the travel poster challenge. At least a small piece of each of the fabrics must be used in the center of these pieces. These quilts will be revealed at the December meeting. Dianne reminded us that "Friendship Star" blocks are due back at the June meeting.

Mary Nell Magee announced that children's quilts will not meet in June. Remember, the Parade of Quilts will be held at the July meeting. Mary Nell asked for volunteers to sell raffle tickets on the "Autumn Splendor" at the Blueberry Jubilee in Poplarville on June 11. Sign up at the June meeting or call Mary Nell. Betty and Joe Bingham have already sold 231 tickets.

Martha Ginn encouraged each of us to sell ads for the show catalog. This information needs to be turned in to Martha. Also regarding the quilt show, we still need someone to be in charge of planning the hanging and someone to plan the display of other talents our quilters possess. One

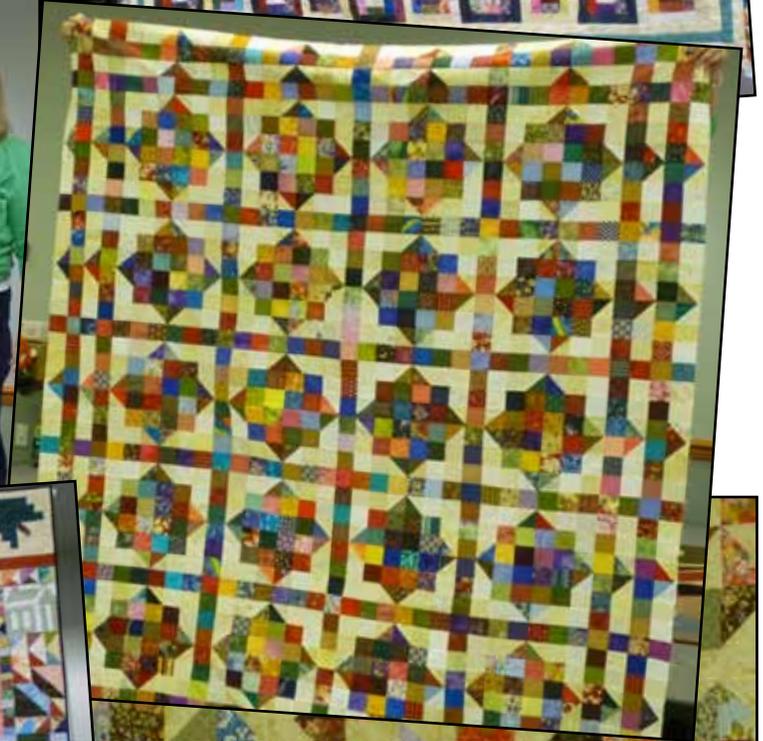
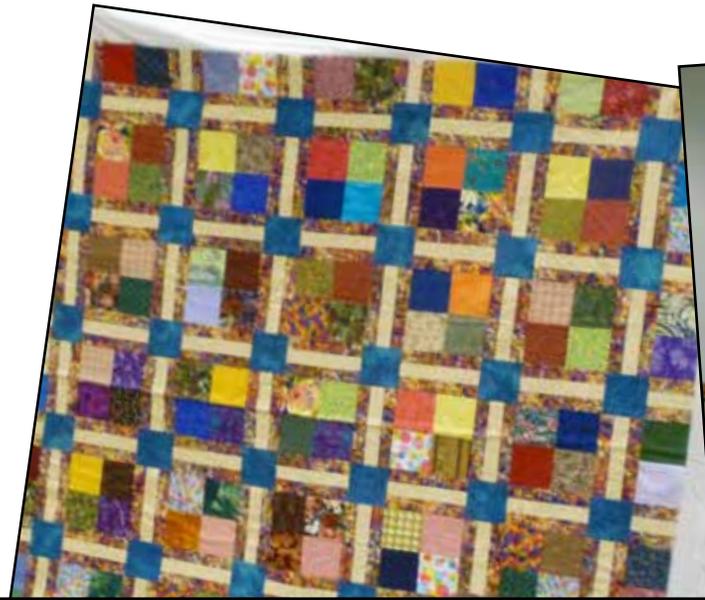


last thing, don't forget the Hattiesburg challenge category at the quilt show, the theme this year is "Curious George Meets de Grummond". As always, this piece should be 24 inches square. More information about the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection can be found at [youtube.com/watch?v=Oa0VdG98FiQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oa0VdG98FiQ).

Betty and Joe Bingham announced that they took in 83 pillows, 20 blankets and ten mother pads for the month. Kaye Christensen and Betty Herring took in 22 walker totes and 20 catheter bag covers.

Gloria Green will tell us about paper piecing at the June meeting. It is also time for our Treasure Hunt. So be getting together items you may wish to sell. Price your items, and have your name on an envelope or stand nearby. Place your items on the tables which will be set up around the walls. The sale will take place after the program.

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. She suggested 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. You can even occasionally add a different fabric, one not in your toolbox. When you have several blocks completed, they will automatically work together.



The border of the Courthouse Steps quilt (at the left) used all Cindy's orphan blocks.



Pine Belt Quilters Newsletter
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JUNE REMINDERS

June Birthdays:

Dorothy Aultman
Betty Moore
Ruth Byrd
Renee Dembowski
Cheryl P. Owens

Laura Beth Brewer
Ellen Hall
Pat Watkins
Sandra Woodall
Beth McDaniel

Linda Sherman-Hull
Judy Spiers
Betty Allen
Lida McDowell

People with birthdays in June 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 June 8 will be "Paper Piecing" with Gloria Green. We will also be having our annual Treasure Hunt.

The June workshop will be "Paper Piecing" with Gloria Green.

The color for the June's fat quarter lottery is blue.

There will be no Children's Quilts meeting in June.

UPCOMING QUILT SHOW

The Old Man River QuiltFest - August 16-20, Vicksburg, MS, August 17-20. For more information: www.oldmanriverquiltfest.com.