

STASH

November 9, 2016

PINE BELT QUILTERS 2016-2017 Officers

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KAREN K. STONE



Karen K. Stone's Indian Orange Peel quilt

President, Connie Hitt opened the meeting, introducing Julie Radavich who told us about lobsters. Lobsters are animals with soft bodies inside ridged shells. She explained to us that when a lobster grows he must cast off his too small shell and grow new one. When his shell gets tight and uncomfortable, that's when he grows. Julie likened that to our own growth. We can use times of stress as signs for us to grow.

Susie Jackson then introduced Karen K. Stone. Karen was a Mississippi girl. She still has people in Woodville. Her grandmother

lived in Crosby. When she was growing up (the only granddaughter in the family) both her grandmothers spent a lot of time with her. Both grandmothers sewed.

One was a perfectionist, "Susan Cleveland perfect," and saved everything back for special. Karen still has many of her quilts. The other sewed plaid shirts for her boys. These were well worn. She made machine-quilted quilts in the 60s. They were made to be used, and if these didn't look threadbare quickly, then she had failed. Karen was glad to have both these influences in her quilting life.

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Karen has a background in engineering and in music. She describes herself as the happiest quilter alive. She loves detail, geometry and color. She loves organizing color into sequences. And she believes that any shape can be broken up using zig zaggy lines.

One of the first quilting classes Karen took was with Nancy Halpern. All the people Karen admired showed up. The name of the class was Irregular Tessellating Quadrilaterals. Everyone around her was wildly making beautiful quilts and she felt like the deer in the headlights. When Nancy came to Karen's table she told Karen, "Everyone has their own individual working style and as soon as you know what that is, that's when you will start to feel successful and productive. And some of us just have to pet the fabric for a really long time before we are ready to start." Karen said it was the very best advice anyone could have given her. Now she knows that she needs to wait until she has a really good feeling about her fabric selection before starting on a project. That's her working style.

Karen treated us to a PowerPoint presentation and brought many of her prizewinning quilts for us to enjoy. Talking about her New York Beauty quilt, Karen told us it satisfied the ADD nature of her brain. The pallet was created using the backing fabric as inspiration. The fabric was originally purchased for a skirt which never got made. Karen only buys fabric that she loves. She never buys fabric because she thinks she "should." This quilt is a "theme and variations" concept, where the blocks are related structurally and the palette is unified. Within the block she could choose the structure and she could choose the variations, but because the palette was so large, she didn't get bored. This quilt was her first national winner; it won a blue ribbon at Paducah in 1994. Indian Orange Peel (the quilt she taught at our workshop) won Peoples' Choice at Quilt National in 1995. Karen describes it as more traditional than New York Beauty.

Karen is a doodler. That is how she designs many of her quilts. She says that when your hands are busy you are a more engaged and respectful listener.

Shirley Wiltshire and Mary Nell Magee demonstrated how to make Christmas stockings using a method and pattern from Eleanor Burns book, *Christmas at Bear's Paw Ranch*. Shirley invited anyone interested to come and make stockings at the choral hall on December 8 for our DAF donations. She plans to set up at 9:00 and will be finished by noon. There will be fabric available if you don't have Christmas fabrics. (If you are making stockings at home, don't feel that you must use Eleanor Burn's pattern. Use any pattern you have available.) The group hopes to have about 40 stockings.



Karen K. Stone's New York Beauty



Back of New York Beauty



Karen K. Stone's Cinco de Mayo



Karen K. Stone quilt



Karen K. Stone's Windsor Gardens

My dear friends,

I want to thank all of you for your calls, letters, and prayers during my recent surgery and recovery. It meant so much to me. It is good to be back to guild meetings again and seeing everyone.

Carolyn Daley

Don't forget to bring stockings and stocking stuffers to the December meeting. Since we donate to both women's and children's organizations, you can bring items which will be of use to either.

The December meeting will be our Christmas luncheon and we will be donating quilts to community organizations. The meal will be catered by Seasoned by Love at a cost of \$10.00 per member. If you have angels that can be used for decorating the tables, please bring them to the meeting. The group leaders will be in charge.

At the December 14 meeting we will have the drawing for friendship blocks and will unveil our travel poster challenge quilts.

Betty Bingham announced that they received 33 pillows, 12 blankets and nine mother pads. Betty Herring announced that they took in 12 walker totes and ten catheter bag covers.

The group voted on a new board member to replace Gloria Green who moved away. Shirley Wiltshire and Barb Peters were nominated. Barb won in a show-of-hands vote.



Karen K. Stone and her Reptile Wisdom quilt

The snippet for this month was presented by Martha Ginn. The title was "When the Cat Destroys Your Batting." She showed us how to repair batting which has become damaged. Lay a rough-cut piece of batting over the hole and cut around BOTH the damaged piece and the new piece. Remove the damaged area and replace with the cut piece of new batting. Using Pellon Fusible Nonwoven Interfacing cut into strips, fuse them to the edges of the area and you have completed your repair. Fusing should be done with a pressing cloth.



Pine Belt Quilters Newsletter
1041 Poplar Road
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DECEMBER REMINDERS

Joyce Bohan
Sharon Barnes
Debbie Davis

December Birthdays:

Cynthia Lott
Julie Radavich
Martha Ginn
Evelyn L. Kleinke-Prine

David C. Wallace
Hulda Ingram
Wanda Wallace

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.

The program for December 14 will be a luncheon and distribution of children's quilts to our community organizations.

There will be no December workshop.

There will be no Fat Quarter Lottery in December.

Boutique meetings will begin again after the first of the year.

JUST A REMINDER

It is time to pay Pine Belt Quilters dues for the next year. Ellen Hall will have new forms at the meeting.