



STASH

March 8, 2017

PINE BELT QUILTERS 2016-2017 Officers

President:

Connie Hitt

philliphitt@gmail.com

601-731-3729

Vice President:

Susie Jackson

susiejackson39421@yahoo.com

601-943-5359

Treasurer:

Missy Lee

Lee.martha@gmail.com

601-847-1347

Secretary/Newsletter:

Linda Flanders

newsletterpbq@comcast.net

601-544-0345

Membership Director:

Ellen Hall

ehall962@comcast.net

601-264-1542

Website:

www.pinebeltquilters.com

Blog:

www.pinebeltquilters.com

February Meeting



Connie Hitt opened the meeting and introduced Lois Mills who gave us the prayer and thought for the day, "The Secret of GRITS" (Girls Raised in the South). This appeared in Kathy Brown's book *Strip-Smart Quilts*.

Next month's program will be "A Quilter's Forum." **It is important to note that the meeting will be held on the THIRD Wednesday (April 19) rather than the second Wednesday.** Tina Dickins will narrate and a panel of quilters, Ollie Jean Lane, Ella Lucas, Anne Hindmarch and Martha Ginn will answer all your quilting questions. This should produce interesting discussions.

Betty Allen then presented the program, "How to Make a Ho-Hum Quilt Fabulous". She said that when she was asked to do this program it was titled "How to Make a Ho-Hum Quilts Cute." Betty uses many of

the tips she shared with us when she makes children's quilts. She says they aren't "fabulous" but they are "cute." She says you can make children's quilts without going to a lot of trouble or expense. You can make them using scraps. We all have too many scraps.

One of the techniques Betty uses is to make an appliqué based on coloring books. Books for really young children work better than books made for older children. The simpler, the better. This appliqué can be added to a very simple quilt to give it a theme and some pizzazz. Little boys love lizards. Little girls love ladybugs and flowers. Everyone loves animals. These elements added to a simple quilt made of 12" squares or wide strips will make it really "cute."

Another inspiration for a simple appliqué can come from your fabric itself. Take one motif from your fabric, scan it to your computer and enlarge it to use as an appliqué for a center panel. Then all you have to do is add borders. Most of Betty's children's quilts have very few pieces.

Betty says anyone can do machine appliqué. Fuse the appliqué onto your fabric and zigzag or blanket stitch around it.

Another way to make a simple quilt is to take one easy quilt block and make it BIG. For example, a variable star block made 36" inches wide rather than 12" wide, makes an entire quilt top when you put a border around it. Add an appliqué to the center and it is

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“cute.” This is the idea Betty used for her workshop based on a friendship star block. She hopes that those taking the workshop will make a children’s quilt or at least a top and donate it to Children’s Quilts.

Jo-Ann Evans showed some of her quilts based on wide strips and using appliques made from both actual coloring books and from online coloring books. She also made appliques from simple shapes, such as circles. She handed out a pattern for easy quilts. It gives dimensions for an easy quilt based on a central panel. Both Jo-Ann and Betty like to make quilts that can use one width of fabric for backing. That way, they don’t have to piece the back.

Shirley Wiltshire introduced the boutique project for this month, a trash bag for the car. Instructions are on her Pinterest board, Boutique 2017. She supplied a pattern for a trash bag to those who don’t have access to a computer. You can also use your own pattern if you prefer.

Dianne McLendon announced that they had enough friendship blocks for two drawings. The winners of the blocks were Lois Womack and Kathy Houseal.

Joe Bingham who received children’s quilts for Mary Nell Magee this month, reported a total of 26 quilts. He reminded everyone that they had kits and labels. He also reported taking in 51 pillows, 54 mother pads and 21 blankets for area hospitals

Betty Bingham stated that they have added two Jodi Barrows books to the library.

Betty Herring announced that she had taken in 36 walker totes and 19 catheter bag covers. Note: Betty is making many of these totes and covers herself. She could use some help. Directions can be found on the Pine Belt Quilters website under “Guild Activities.”

Hulda Ingram announced that the Stitchin’ Post is still offering 20% off your entire purchase to PBQ members on meeting day.

Ellen Cox quoted from an article in Kiplinger’s Personal Finance. (Who would expect to find a mention of quilting in Kiplinger’s?) The article was on Healthy Living. The topic was Exercise Your Intellect. *Just as physical muscles require*



Jo-Ann Evans with her quilt top from Easy Quilts pattern.

Betty with quilt by Joe Bingham.

frequent use to stay strong, your mental muscles need flexing to keep your memory in shape. "to be more intellectually engaged, find a brain-stimulating activity that gets you up and motivated—and do it. The more concentration an activity requires, the greater the potential benefit," says Dr. Laura Germine, a research fellow at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Whether you focus on improving a current skill or learning a new skill, pick an activity that's challenging, says Dr. Denise Park, who researches the effects of new learning on the brain at the University of Texas at Dallas's Center for Vital Longevity. Learning a complex skill that offers an ongoing mental challenge, such as quilting or digital photography, has been show to improve memory, says Park.



Upcoming Area Quilting Events

April 8-9, 2017

Flowers at the Cabin Door

Gulf States Quilting Association
Northshore Harbor Center
100 Harbor Center Blvd., Slidell, 70461

For more information:

www.gulfstatesquilting.bizland.com

or Email: kguillot@gmail.com

or Phone Kay Guillot (228) 255-0658

April 8-9, 2017

Bay Oakes Quilt Show (100+ quilts)

Bay Oakes Quilt Guild
St. Rose De Lima Holy Spirit Center
301 S. Necaise Ave., Bay St. Louis

Admission \$2.00

For more information:

www.bayoakesquiltguild.com

or E-mail: tspringstc@icloud.com

or Phone: Therese Springer (228) 223-1033

May 5-6, 2017 10:00AM-5:00PM

2017 Festival of Quilts: Springtime in Mobile (300+ quilts)

Azalea City Quilters' Guild
Abba Shrine Center, 7701 Hitt Rd., Mobile, AL, 36695
(right off Schillinger Rd. near Cracker Barrel and between Grelot and Airport)

For more information:

www.azaleacityquiltersguild.com

or E-mail: robojo2@aol.com

or Phone: Bonnie Johnson (251) 343-5406

June 16- 17

Smoky Mountain Quilters Show (37th Annual)

Smoky Mountain Quilters of Tennessee
Knoxville Expo Center, 5411 Clinton Hwy., Knoxville, TN 37921

For more information:

www.smokymtnquilters.com for

competition and entry forms **May 8, 2017 deadline**



Pine Belt Quilters Newsletter
1041 Poplar Road
Hattiesburg, MS 39401

APRIL REMINDERS

Connie Hitt
Stacy Clady
Faye Barlow

April Birthdays:
Anne Hindmarch
Elvia Edwards
Joe Bingham

Elaine Magee
Maggie Jean Martin

People with birthdays in April 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 April 19 will feature “The Forum” a forum of experienced PBQ quilters.

The April 26 Workshop will be “Donuts and Coffee” with Susie Jackson & Dianne McLendon.

The April Fat Quarter Lottery fabric is spring florals.

Membership directories were distributed at the February meeting. If you did not pick up your copy, please see Ellen Hall at the April 19 meeting to receive your copy.