

Patchwork Gazette

Volume 6 Issue 8

August 2018

The Newsletter of the Santa Rosa Quilters Guild

President's Notes:

by Janie Klipstein

Are you intimidated, wary, and/or easily frustrated when it comes to learning a new block or a new ruler??? I consider myself an advanced beginner after only 12 years of making quilts. Well folks, I fell into all these categories before taking the Swoon Block class. Afraid to make the wrong cut into the fabric, not understanding the directions as written but understood when explained and demonstrated the correct way to use a new ruler. Let me tell you the Fons and Porter half and quarter ruler for making Flying Geese is wonderful. Very little waste while cutting fabric. Our instructor showed the correct way to turn the ruler so we had very little waste when cutting Half Square Triangles (HST) Quarter Square Triangles (QST) and Rectangles all with one ruler by using the yellow or black lines on the ruler. How to get Mirror image parts to the block. How using a design board after cutting all the parts to the block at once helped sewing go faster. Everyone got at least one block completed during class.

My emails from my iPad are signed "Learn something new today" and let me tell you we learned loads that day. The next time a new block is offered for a class I hope more of you will join us for a fun day.

August Program

by Gail Matuskey

It's A Party!

We are celebrating our guild's 16th year of existence with a Fun in the Sun party. We won't be in the sun though. We'll be in our usual cool guild meeting room. Wear your colorful beach, garden, or sun hat – and make it colorful!!! Bring a wrapped sewing themed gift. Part of the fun will be in the way these gifts are exchanged. We will be serving cupcakes, iced tea and lemonade. A fun time will be had by all. What a great way to spend a hot summer's morning! See you there!

News from the Library Lady

by Anne Walborn

Did you know our Library is growing each month? It's true! Due to the generosity of our members we are getting new books regularly. The best news is you don't need a card or money to check them out. Just look in the front of the book for the library card. Sign and date it and put it in the little gray box on the table by the books. Easy as binding! Please do remember to return them when you are finished making all those quilts so another member can check them out. And if you have any new or gently used quilting books that you don't need any more we are always happy to give them a new home.

My dentist told me I needed a crown. I was like "I know. Right?"

Ruthie's Notions Quilters Event

by Janie Klipstien

Ruth Barnhill will be hosting her annual Quilters Appreciation weekend on the 10th & 11th of August from 10:00-4:00 each day. Yes, I know this is the day after Guild so we get to see your wonderful faces two days in a row. The instructor is Mike Johns who is a quilter. He has created some wonderful quilting classes that some of us have attended over the past year.

Make sure you register using the link in the email I forwarded to everyone. We will be carpooling from the Publix parking lot in Navarre and will park on the end near Regions Bank. Please arrive so we can leave NLT 8:10. It is an hour drive to Baker so please be on time. Text or email me at 850-207-9281 or janieorjoe@bellsouth.net if you are going to carpool.

Roberta Bland will be in charge at Ruthie's keeping track of everyone signed in over the two days. If you belong to more than one Guild make sure you sign in under each. Parking and seating is limited so basically, it is first arrivals get the better seats and parking.

Yes, Ruth will go over all the machines she sells. Remember that our Guild will benefit by just 10 of us attending and the guild with the most present over the two days will get an extra machine. And there is more, each person's name will go in a drawing for attending.

Our Friend Math

What do you call a number that can't keep still? A roamin' numeral.

SRQG FACEBOOK

by Laura Phillips

A number of you have joined our Chat Group but just in case you haven't gotten around to it here is the information again.

The Guild has TWO Facebook pages, our PUBLIC page and our PRIVATE CHAT members only page. For our public page type "Santa Rosa Quilters Guild Gulf Breeze" in your Facebook search bar. Everyone has access to this page. You can post to this page.

For our private members only page, type "srqg chat group" in the search bar. It comes up with our page where you can click "JOIN" to become a member if you're not already. This will send me a message where I can check to see if you are indeed a 2018 member of our Guild. I'll approve it and then you're in! Our members post all kinds of fun things from projects to tips and of course you'll get to see all the beautiful quilts made by our members shown at Show & Tell at Guild and Bee. The best part is only our Guild members have access to this page so post away! Please join us and see all the things we are doing.

What kind of shorts do clouds wear? Thunderwear.

Mind Your P's and Q's

by Gail Matuskey

Some say this phrase originated in English taverns. A brawl may break out, and the bar keep yells out, "Mind your pints and quarts!!" It was later shortened to "Mind your p's and q's!"

Growing up, "Mind your p's and q's," was spoken to children as a reminder to say "please" and "thank you." And now I find a better meaning. P's and Q's can stand for Peace and Quiet while Piecing and Quilting. I enjoy the peace and quiet of nature when I'm out in it. I treasure the peace and quiet of my sewing room as I piece ad quilt.

However you think of it, I hope you are minding your P's and Q's this summer.

Tools of the Trade

By Sarah Wisnewski

For hand piecing, binding and needle turn applique I have found that Black Gold Needles by Clover are far superior to others I have used over the years. They are specially polished with black plating which allows the needle to smoothly pierce through fabric and also resists rust.

Another product by Clover is the Fabric Folding Pen. In the package is a felt tipped pen that you add water to and a small bottle of fabric folding liquid that you add a few drops of to the water. It relaxes the fibers in the cloth allowing the fabric to easily fold over. This product makes needle turn applique so much easier.

Bee - utiful Time

by Sarah Wisnewski

We had close to a full house at July's Bee. If you are not a member of our Chat Group you and did not attend Bee you missed out on a wonderful Show & Tell. It was great to see Verona and Eli back too! Community Quilts continued with the string pieced project. Some were working on the Swoon Block from a recent class. Several were doing handwork while others had their machines buzzing away. The food was great and so was the conversation.

At the Bee Gail and I got to talking about starches. I shared that Kimberly Jolly of Fat Quarter Shop does not pre-wash her fabric but spray starches it till completely saturated and hangs it to dry. Yes, she goes through a lot of starch and buys it in bulk. After drying she irons it before cutting. She finds this gives her better accuracy especially when cutting on the bias. Did you know that starch will shrink your fabric (if it's going to shrink in the wash) if it hasn't been washed? I have noticed this and recently heard a teacher on line say this.

Gail shared what an instructor said. If you are going to use starch, especially the more expensive kind like Mary Ellen's Best Press, to get the full benefit let it sit for at least 20 seconds to fully be absorbed so when you iron creases fully come out. I never thought of that but it makes sense. I'm always in such a hurry to get the ironing done so I can move on that I don't always think of the advantages of slowing down. See what you miss when you don't come to Bee!!

I never run with scissors. Those last two words were unnecessary.

Community Quilts

by Linda Ness & Sarah Wisnewski

Several have joined in on the fun at Bee sewing up the string pieced squares. Linda has already assembled one top and another is in the works. Look for them at Guild during Show & Tell. Some have requested to take scraps and papers home to work on and if this interests you please speak to Linda and she will be happy to set you up.

Quilt Challenge

by Gail Matuskey

The Challenge this year is to create a quilted piece that features birds with words. It can be any size as long as it is quilted and bound. The choice of material is up to you. Birds can be in the fabric itself, or be appliqued, or even painted. Words or text can be in any format as well. Bring your finished piece to our November Guild meeting. Please bring it in a brown paper bag or any kind of bag that hides the contents. The quilts will be displayed, voted upon, and makers revealed. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. It's a lot of fun, and it's not too late to join in this year's challenge.

Scrap Solutions

by Sarah Wisnewski

At July's Guild meeting sisters Juliette and Suzette showed rugs they made with 2 ½" strips of quilter's cotton and batting. This project was on my list for August but I'm so glad they did it first as they gave me some useful tips. The sister's rugs were oval but mine is rectangular to fit my bathroom. A few years ago I won a Batik jelly roll that has been sitting around like my scraps and just so happened to be the colors I wanted to use. I ended up cutting my strips into 9 - 11 inch lengths so it does lend itself to using up scraps. Tutorials for this can be found on You Tube and also the pattern name and designer if you would like to follow a pattern. In the tutorials a thin batting was used but I chose a mid-loft because that's what I had on hand. You will need a jeans needle for this project because of the thickness.

I joined my strips with a straight seam as opposed to a slanted seam like we use in binding. This made it easier to join and no left over triangles. (YAY!) My rug is about 67" long and 19" wide. I cut my batting and joined strips to the finished length. Once I had each row done I laid them out in the order I wanted and began sewing them together. The challenge was to keep it all straight. I only joined three rows at a time then took it to my ironing station where I had a metal yard stick laid on top to use as a guide. I ironed my rows keeping them straight against the yard stick and used steam when needed to coax them straight. Then I joined sections ironing after each addition. To finish it off I bound the ends.

The finished rug came out a little shorter than I intended because did not take into account how sewing the strips and ironing would tighten things up a bit. I think it looks nice in the bathroom but my husband wants something a bit softer. No worries, though. It will go great in the guest bedroom.

Don't be sad because sad backwards is das, and das not good.

September's Program

by Gail Matuskey

Linda Devins will be our September program presenter. She is an accomplished doll-maker and has had her dolls published in magazines and shown in galleries. She started her crafting journey as a quilter and eventually branched out into turning fabric into dolls. Let's all bring a doll ourselves to add to the day – homemade, antique, sentimental??? Our dolls can sit with us as we enjoy Linda's program.

Don't forget our Crafter's Sale in October. If you would like a table please speak to Janie. The cost per table is \$5.

Guild Christmas Party

by Janie Klipstien

This year, instead of the board making gifts, we are asking each of you to make a POTHOLDER as an exchange gift. It will need to be wrapped of course. Use an orphan block from 8 – 12 inches. Please use Insulbrite between two layers of cotton batting that will take heat. This will be a mini quilt when finished. I will have samples at the meeting and if you have questions please ask me or Gail.

Calendar of Events

August 9 – Guild 9:00 – Program: Guild's 16th Birthday Party – at the CLC

August 23 – Bee 9:00-3:00 - at St. Paul's UMC

September 13 – Guild 9:00 – Program: Linda Devins Doll Maker – at the CLC

September 27 – Bee 9:00-3:00 – at St. Paul's UMC

October 11 – Guild 9:00 – Program: Crafter's Sale – at the CLC

October 25 – Bee 9:00-3:00 – at St. Paul's UMC

November 8 – Guild 9:00 – Program: Quilt Challenge Reveal

November 15 – Bee 9:00-3:00 – at St. Paul's UMC - Last one for the year

December 13 – Guild 9:00 – Program: Christmas Party upstairs in our regular meeting room

I'm not sure how many chocolates equal happiness but so far it's not 27

Board Members

President – Janie Klipstien

Vice President – Gail Matuskey

Treasurer – Fran Brewer

Secretary – Sherri Blais

Ex-Officio – Sarah Wisnewski

2018 Committee Chairs

Community Quilts - Linda Ness & Sarah Wisnewski

Newsletter – Sarah Wisnewski

Door Prizes – Lynda Krupka

Quilt Challenge – Gail Matuskey

Facebook & Chat Group – Laura Phillips

Quilts of Valor – Barbara Logan

Historian – Mary Ellen Larson

Website – Ben Marshall

Library – Anne Walborn

Workshops & Quilt U – Stacey Hieb & Sharlene Adkison

Membership – Pat Clark

Are you interested in helping out with the newsletter? Maybe you would like to jazz it up a bit. Perhaps you would like to write of your quilting adventures, something you learned or anything “quilty” we would find interesting. Even a ‘did you know?’ article would be welcome. Please see Sarah. She would love to hear from you!

I'm still waiting for the fairytale scene where the animals clean everything for me