March 2022

Next Meeting

Thursday, March 17, 2022 6:30 Social 7:00 Meeting Begins

Location: Temple Beth Or 5315 Creedmoor Road Raleigh, NC 27612

Remember to Bring:

Name tag

Membership pin Comfort Quilts

New Membership Forms and Dues Winter/Spring Workshop Sign-up Sheet

And of course....

A Quilting Friend!

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President's Message

Hi Everyone!

Wow! February was busy! Thanks to all those who participated and donated in the Silent Auction. The guild raised about \$700 and the money will go towards supporting our many activities. In addition, Catherine Redford taught a workshop via Zoom on Saturday, February 26th about hand embroidery. She was absolutely delightful, and I learned so much. If you were unable to join us, I would recommend her class if you ever have the opportunity to take it!

March brings its own excitement! Are you as eager for the quilt show as I am? Please come out on March 18th & 19th to see all the beautiful quilts and to support our vendors. An enormous thank you to the quilt show committee and all those who have volunteered to help! As Nora said, this guild loves their quilt show and it definitely shows with the enormous participation.

In addition, I had an opportunity to take a sneak peek at some of the quilts made for the President's Challenge. They are truly so different and stunning. I am really looking forward to seeing over 30 of them hanging in the show. So that we may chose a winner as a guild, I am asking for guild members to bring their pieces back to the April Guild Meeting where we will display them and let the everyone vote on a winner.

Next, we need you! There are several board and committee positions that will be opening at the end of June. All of the many activities that the guild offers would not be possible without volunteers. One of the biggest concerns individuals have about volunteering is that they don't know what is involved in these positions. No problem! This is the perfect time to shadow a position without making any commitments. Please reach out to any board member or email me at information@capitalquilters.org for more information. It's a lot of fun and don't forget you can team up with another person to cochair.

Finally, the city of Raleigh lifted the Mask Mandate on February 25th. However, Temple Beth Or is still requiring masks and will review the mask policy at their April board meeting. As soon as we have an update from them, we will let you know.

Happy Quilting!

Anna



From The Board...

Fundraising

2022 Raffle Quilt

Hello Members,

This is our last **big push** to sell raffle tickets for our outstanding quilt before the quilt show. We still have a handful of you that haven't turned in the money and stubs. Please try to turn them in at the March meeting. Yes, you may also turn them in at the quilt show.

Thank you and stay safe,

Irene Thomas buckeyegirlict@gmail.com

PS: I'm looking to see if anyone out there would like to do a "paper piece block" for our next raffle quilt. Drop me an email if you're interested.



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Mask Mandate... Please remember!

While mask mandates are continuing to change from town to town and county to county, CQG members will continue to honor our meeting host's—Temple Beth Or—Mask Mandate. The Temple will be reviewing their mandate in April and we will keep you apprised of their decision.



Board and Committee Members Wanted—We Need YOU!

This year we have several board and committee members finishing their time and we are looking to fill those positions. If you are interested in a position, please the Board President or any board member. If you are unsure, ask to shadow the position for a few months to get a feel of what we do. Without dedicated volunteers, our guild could not continue all the good works and fun we enjoy. Can you imagine a world with no comfort quilts, block party, or quilt show? The HORROR! Please, volunteer today.



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Winter/Spring Workshops

June In Person Workshops, The Pizza Girls (The Quilters Gallery) – 6/17 and 6/18 The Quilter's Gallery was a full service quilt shop run by Patti Cline and Cindy Page in Charlotte, NC for over 25 years. They closed their shop in 2006 and are doing quilt shows, guild programs and workshops. They got the nickname, "The Pizza Girls" because of their fabric packaging. Their specialty is making kits, coordinating fabrics for maximum impact for each project and packaging them to look like pizzas.

15 Degrees – Friday 6/17: Member \$55 & Non-member \$75 15 degrees is something a little different. It looks like curves, but everything is straight sewing. \$20 kit includes 15 degree ruler, 9" Stack and Whack), fabric strips for two blocks and an e-pattern. The class covers the basic technique and demo other wedge rulers – from miniature blocks to a 48" centerpiece. Appropriate for beginners.



March 2022



Jack's Chain – Saturday 6/18: Member \$55 & Non-member \$75

Everyone loves this quilt. This was Cindy's pandemic quilt. Yes, you can make one too. You will need to do some prep work before class and the quilt has Y seams. Each quilter will need to make some 9-patches before class. \$29.95 person for the templates and pattern. Appropriate for more experienced quilters.

May In Person Workshops, Nina Clotfelter - 8/19 and 8/20



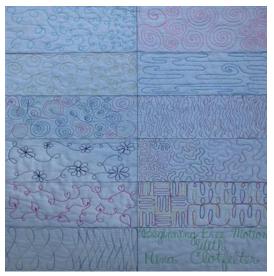
Nina has a passion for free motion quilting! "There is SO much freedom to do anything you wish and ability to express your creativity. Free motion quilting does NOT have to be an expensive endeavor! NO long arm is necessary! You can use your DOMESTIC sewing machine!"

Nina lives in Mobile Alabama and taught at the Houston Quilt Festival in 2021. She is an educator for WonderFil Specialty threads and loves to teach. "There is Nothing more fun and satisfying than to share what you love with others who then become successful! Traveling and teaching are two of my favorite things. My most favorite thing in life is meeting new wonderful quilters"

Beginning Free Motion Quilting - Friday 8/19: Member - \$55 & Non-Member \$75

Been afraid to try free motion quilting? Come let Nina hold your hand...you'll learn ALL the basics and more! You'll learn how much fun free motion quilting on your domestic machine can be! We REALLY do start at the very beginning! This class is for YOU! You'll come away with new found confidence and a sampler you can refer to for many different designs...that you'll create! Come on...let's start the fun!

Enrollment is limited to 16 people.



Ruler Work on a Domestic Machine – Saturday 8/20: Member \$55 and Non-Member \$75

In this Beginner class you learn how to hold and work with RULERS on your domestic machine. You will start at the beginning with how to prepare the RULER and why this is important. You will work with a special RULER designed just for this class with 4 different shapes on it. By the end of class each student has successfully managed the RULER as well as learned to think with a RULER and created a block using the RULER. RULER Work is a GREAT way to enhance your Free Motion Quilting! \$50 supply fee includes: Class RULER, Drawing circle, Mechanical pencil, True Grips, Needle, Single hole needle plate trick

* MUST have a Ruler Foot for your machine.

Enrollment is limited to 16 people



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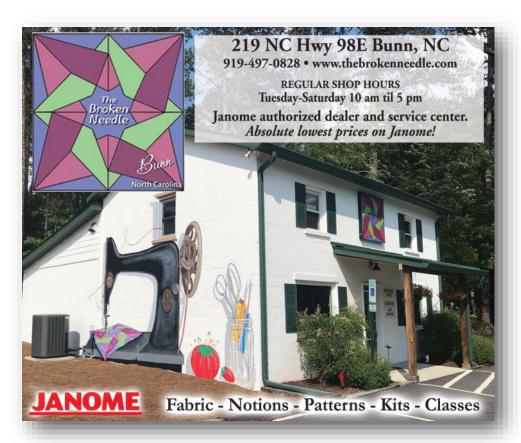
Supporters of Our Guild







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Quilting, sewing, embroidery supplies, & more!









1241-08 South Main Street, Wake Forest, NC 27587 www.quiltslikecrazy.com (984) 237-0071







To place an ad in the *Thimbleful Newsletter*:

Email your ad to Lisa McLaughlin @ scarletnewfie@gmail.com and mail a check payable to: Capital Quilters Guild.

Ads are due by the third Thursday of the month for the next month's issue.

\$5—Classified

Capital Quilters Guild

\$5—Business Card

PO Box 20331

\$10—Quarter Page

\$20—Half Page

Raleigh, NC 27619



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Our Committee Reports...

Sunshine and Shadows

As *the Sunshine and Shadows* Chairperson, I will send out cards as needed to Guild members on behalf of the entire Guild. These cards are to express congratulations, get well wishes or cond*o*lences. Please contact me, Joni Amerson/Sunshine & Shadows, at: information@capitalquilters.org

Comfort Quilts

	Spo	otlight on Co	mfort Quilt	Donations
Charity	Goal for 21/22	Received in January and February	Received this Year	Drawing Winners
Quilts on Wheels		66	294	Quilts On Wheels: Carolyn Murrah
Walker Bags				
Quilts for Kids	10	46	232	Quilts for Kids: Candy Joehrendt
Newborn Hats	1000	9		
Flannel Receiving Blankets	Quilts!	1		
QFK Pillow Cases	lts	14		
SAFEchild/Green		54	355	
Comfort Quilts				SafeChild: Anne Gavin
Other:				

Bee Keeper



If anyone would like to be part of a bee, please email me your first name, last name and email address, phone number and city and zip code. I have received some lists with the existing bees that I might need to update and I'll do my best to match you up with one near your zip code. If you want a bee in the am or pm on a particular day of the week that would be helpful also. Please note that due to COVID some bees still aren't meeting in homes currently.

"Billie" Houchens sbshouchens@comcast.net

Block Party

At the February meeting we collected the Snow People blocks that we distributed in December, since there was no meeting in January. We received 22 blocks back and had two lucky winners – Margaret Townsend and Karen Wahle. If you were unable to return your blocks at the February meeting, please plan to turn them in at the March meeting and we will forward them on to one of the winners.

We distributed patterns and materials for two different blocks – the Heart block (which was originally scheduled for January) and the Shamrock. There are still materials available for each of these blocks so please contact Jan if you would like to participate. Please return both blocks at the March meeting. Remember to fill out a slip when you return your finished block so that your name is entered in the drawing to win some of the blocks.

Remember there will be a prize in July for the person who made the most blocks during the year. AND you still have time to make yourself a sampler quilt using all the patterns that we used during the year. The patterns that we have used so far this year are all on the Guild website Block Party page if you need them. In July we will have a show and tell of the sampler quilts with a prize drawing. Don't worry if your quilt is not completed, just bring your quilt top!

If you have any questions or need any help with anything Block Party, please contact Jan at <u>jchvatal2@gmail.com</u>.

See you at the March meeting for the next fun block!

Thanks,

Jan Chvatal & Cindy Prow

Heart Block

Materials Needed:

Fabric 1. From the small fabric swatch provided (for the small heart), cut:

A Two 3 ½ x 6 ½ inch rectangles

Fabric 2. From the fabric that you are providing, cut:

- B Three 3 ½ x 6 ½ inch rectangles
- C Four 3 ½ inch squares
- D Four 1½ inch squares
- E One 4 inch square

Fabric 3. From the large fabric swatch provided (for the edges), using the layout below, cut:

- F One 3 ½ x 6 ½ inch rectangle
- G Six 3 ½ inch squares
- H One 4 inch square

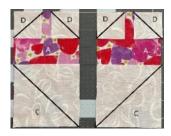


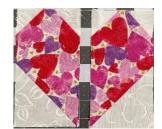


Make the small heart:

From fabric 1, select both 3 % x 6 % inch rectangles. From fabric 2 select the four 1 % inch (D) squares and two of the 3 % inch squares (C). Arrange as shown below to the left. Mark all the fabric 2 squares on the diagonal as shown. Stitch **directly on** all the diagonal lines, trim seams to % inch, and press toward the heart fabric.

Stitch the two sides of the heart together, matching the seams. Press this seam open.

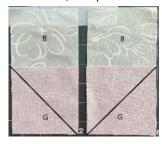






Make large heart:

Middle side sections. From fabric 2 select two of the 3 ½ x 6 ½ rectangles (B) and from fabric 3 select two of the 3 ½ inch squares (G). Arrange as shown below; mark the G squares on the diagonal. Stitch **directly on** the marked lines, trim seams to ¼ inch, and press toward the G pieces.







Heart Block (continued)

Top and bottom middle sections. From fabric 2, select one 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ rectangle (B) and two 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch squares (C). From fabric 3, select one 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ rectangle (F) and two 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch squares (G). Mark all squares on the diagonal. Line up a fabric 2 square (C) on the fabric 3 rectangle (F). Line up a fabric 3 square (G) on the fabric 2 rectangle (B), as shown below to the left. Stitch **directly on** the lines. Trim seams to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch; press toward the colored fabric. Place the remaining squares on top of the opposite fabric rectangles, lining them up on the right sides of the rectangles. Stitch **directly on** the lines. Trim seams to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch; press toward the colored fabric.









Upper corners. Select the 4 inch squares (E and H) from fabrics 2 and 3. Place the two squares right sides together. Draw a diagonal line on the top square. **NOTE: This seam is different than the previous triangle seams.** Sew a seam ¼ inch away on **either side** of the diagonal line. Then cut into two pieces **ON** the diagonal line. Press both parts open, with seams pressed to the colored fabric, to form the two upper corners.









Assemble the block:

Assemble all of the sewn units plus the remaining 3 ½ inch squares from fabrics 2 and 3. Lay out the pieces as shown below to the left. Sew the pieces by column. Press the side unit seams downward, and press the middle unit seams up. Then sew the columns together, matching the seams. Press the seams to the side units.







January 2022 from Amy Smart, Diary of a Quilter.com: Be Good to your Heart

jchvatal2@gmail.com

Shamrock Block

Materials Needed:

Fabric 1. Provided to you:

From the Otrob common of fabric annuithed to come

A One 7 ½ x 7 ½ inch square

From the 2 ½ x 19 inch fabric provided to you, cut:

B Nine 2 inch squares

Fabric 2. Fabric of your choice:

From the 8 inch square of fabric provided to you, cut: From one or multiple scraps of green

fabrics, cut:

- C Twelve 3 ½ inch squares
- D One 1 ¼ x 9 inch rectangle



Step 1: Make the leaves

Select all of the B squares and nine of the C squares. Mark all B squares on the diagonal, as shown below left. Line up the two inch squares (B) on the 3 ½ inch squares (C). Stitch on each diagonal line, then trim to ¼ inch on the outside of the seam, as shown center below. Press toward the dark color, as shown to the right. Set aside.



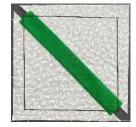




Step 2: Make the stem

Mark the 7½ inch square (A) on the diagonal and cut into two triangles. Attach the triangles to the 1¾ x 9 inch rectangle (D). **Note:** The strip (D) will be shorter than the triangles. Line up the strip so that there is an equal length of fabric extending on each end of the triangle. Stitch the triangles to the strip, one at a time. Press the seams toward the strip. This piece needs to be trimmed to a 6½ inch square. You will need to trim about ¾ inch from each side. Mark first, as shown below, center, measuring to be sure the square is 6½ inches. Then trim each side, keeping the strip lined up evenly in the center. You should have a 6½ inch square as shown below right.







Step 3: Assemble the block

Arrange the large square and the small squares as shown below left, making sure to orient the small background fabric triangles as shown. Stitch the smaller squares in pairs, forming two rectangles in the top two rows, and one rectangle in each of the two lower left rows. Press seams to the side, alternating the direction by row so that seams are facing in opposite directions. Next seam the left top and second row rectangles together; the right top and second row rectangles together; and the bottom two rows of rectangles on the left together, lining up the seams. Press the top two seams in opposite directions, and press the bottom square seam to one side. Next, sew the top squares together, lining up the seams to match; sew the bottom squares together. Press the seams in opposite directions. Last, sew the top and bottom together, lining up the seams. Press to one side. Trim to a 12 ½ inch square.







February 2022 – from: Piece N Quilt – How To: Clover Quilt Block Tutorial

jchvatal2@gmail.com

One Quilter's Experience

By Darlene Silverman

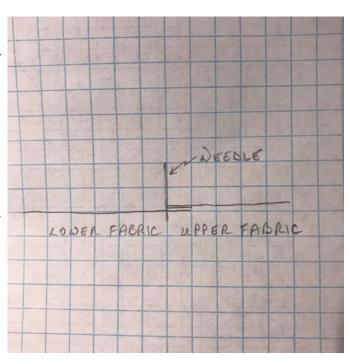
<u>Disclaimer:</u> I do not hold myself out as an expert. I know that many of you know so much more than I do. I share my experience in the hope of helping newer quilters as well as to stimulate conversation among more experienced quilters. I welcome feedback and differing views, as we are all on this journey together and can only benefit from hearing each other. (If you are reading this in the newsletter, please weigh in on Facebook.)

Stitching in the Ditch

Good heavens, Darlene! What is there to say about ditch-stitching? You stick your needle in the ditch and go forward. End of story.

I see your point, imaginary-reader-responding-in-my-head. There is very little that is more basic (or self-explanatory) than stitching in the ditch. However, I have learned a thing or two over time that have improved my quilting and that I hope might help you as well. So please bear with me. I know it is hard to get excited about something that ideally is almost invisible!

Mechanics of stitching in the ditch. This (à) is the image that helps me to place my stitching line in the right place. I try to have my needle rub against the pressed edge of the upper fabric and pierce only the bottom fabric. This places the stitching line as close as possible to "the ditch". This is impossible for me to do at speed, but I have been able to go a bit faster as I have gained experience. It is a good idea to slow down when approaching intersections. When in doubt as to where to put a stitch, the answer should always be: where it will be the least visible.



When does one stitch in the ditch? Is it really necessary? If you have decided to give your quilt an all-over or edge-to-edge design, then you needn't stitch in the ditch. Indeed, if you do, it might interfere with the design, at least on the back. However, if you are custom-quilting, you should seriously consider stitching in the ditch first.

Stitching in the ditch stabilizes your quilt sandwich. It creates a "stop" — a

boundary beyond which shifting cannot occur. This makes for less stretching and pleating. No matter how you temporarily hold your layers together, whether by pins, tacks or basting, it will not be as effective a stop as ditch-stitching. (As for adhesives, I do not have enough experience to give them an up-vote or a down-vote.) Once my quilt is stabilized with ditch-stitching, I can move forward with the remainder of my custom quilting with more confidence.

Stitching in the ditch gives your design elements better definition. Your quilt top is the result of many hours of decision-making and execution. Stitching in the ditch makes your top lie flatter and gives the piecing or appliqué design clarity and definition. Your top will not necessarily lie as flat without this assistance. The main reason for this is that your top is not uniformly thick/thin or soft/stiff. In some places it is a single layer of fabric; in others, two or three. In some cases even more, as when the eight blades of a star come together in a single center point. Additionally, your actual piecing thread creates a certain degree of stiffness that doesn't exist on the un-stitched areas of fabric. Much of this can be stabilized and evened out by stitching in the ditch. Stitching in the ditch will enhance your quilt's appearance and emphasize the design, since you are basically outlining your design, albeit in a subtle way.

How much should I stitch in the ditch? Only between the design elements and the background or at every single seam? I think the answer to this depends on one's tolerance for what can be a fairly long and tedious job vs. one's perception of the benefits — so the answer will differ for each quilter and for each quilt. If you are making a quilt for show, you might bite the bullet and do every single seam.

What thread should I use? I always used to use the same 50/2 thread (aurifil) I use for piecing and, often, for quilting. Lately, I have been using either a 60-weight or a 100-weight. I particularly like 100-weight silk thread. I don't know why it took me so long to figure out that a thinner thread would be better for a stitching line that you do not want drawing attention to itself! Duh! Also, as to color, since this line is sewn onto one fabric, but is tucked up in the shadow of another, my experience is that the thread is least visible if it is a neutral that blends into the shadow — just a bit darker than the fabric you are sewing on. Where a stitching line runs continuously from one fabric to another, you may have to make a decision. Some compromise might have to be made on the darkness of your neutral thread (I tend to lean darker, rather than lighter). Stopping and changing threads at fabric changes is another option, but is again dependent on effort vs return. (This is usually one station further than I am willing to travel on the crazy train.)

<u>Note on using silk:</u> I confess that I do not always use best practices when burying threads at stops and starts. When using cotton thread, I do not always bother to knot my ends together before burying my threads (although I am trying to be better at this).

That being said, I always knot before burying silk thread. Silk thread is seriously slippery and it wants to pull out. I use my sewing machine's knot feature at both the beginning and the end of a stitching line and/or I manually make a square knot at each end before burying. For inadvertent stops — stop and restart to correct an error or end of bobbin — I rip my stitches far enough back to have what I need to knot the ends together manually. For me, the jury is still out on whether it is always worth using silk thread for stitching in the ditch, but I am leaning toward a thumbs-up. Silk sinks a bit more into the cotton fabric and thus has a lower profile. On the other hand, it is more expensive, harder to find, available in fewer colors and a bit difficult to work with (see "slippery", above!)

What about seams that have been pressed open? Can these be stitched in the ditch? I rarely press my seams open. When I do, I do not stitch in the ditch. Frankly, it makes me nervous. The "ditch" in this case is a line of stitching between fabrics. So you would be stitching, not on fabric, but on thread. Is that okay? I don't know, but I fear that it could weaken, and even break, the thread. If any of you do know, please share!

I hope that this article has given you something to think about on the subject of stitching in the ditch. Do you stitch in the ditch? Always? Sometimes? Never? What factors go into your decision-making? Have you any tips or techniques that you'd like to share?

Coming up: One Thing



2021 Guild Leadership Board Members

President: Anna Norris

Vice President: Sandy Wilson

Secretary: Marsha Tolley

Treasurer: Carolyn Wigmore

Charity & Community Outreach: Roberta Miller-Haraway & Ginny Nugent

Communications: Lisa McLaughlin

Fundraising: Irene Thomas

Membership: Betsy Proctor-Roose

Teachers & Workshops: Ann O'Brien

Member at Large 1: Cindy Prow Member at Large 2: Marie Grasso

Committee Members

Bee Keeper: Billie Houchens

Block Party: Jan Chvatal

Holiday Blocks: The Remnants Bee (Darlene Silverman)

Hostesses: Katie Greenwood & Alma Mellish

Library: Sherill Boyce & Rosena Grott

Quilts for Kids: Kate Pearson & Maria Wall

Quilts on Wheels: Sue Hatch

SAFEchild: Vickie Peoples and Tiffany Harwood

Secret Sew-ciety:

Social: Maria Kleinman

Sunshine & Shadows: Joni Amerson

Quilt Show: Sue Ann Jatko & Nora Bailey

To contact us, email: information@capitalquilters.org

Upcoming Events!

CQG Workshop Dates

Apr TBA Comfort Quilt Workshop via Zoom
Jun 17 "15 Degrees" with The Pizza Girls
June 18 "Jack's Chain" with The Pizza Girls
Aug 19 Beginning Free-Motion Quilting with Nina Clotfelter
Aug 20 Ruler Work on a Domestic Machine with Nina Clotfelter

Quilt/Vendor Shows

Mar 18-19 CQG 2022 Quilt Show.

Jul 15-16 The Columbia Quilting Expo

Other Events of Interest

???

Let us know if there are any other events of interest you would like to see noted in our Newsletter.



Capital Quilters Guild Membership Form

July 1, 2021- June 30, 2022

Help us **confirm** that our records are accurate by completing **all** the information below:

Name:			
Address:			
City:	State:	Zip code: _	
Phone:	Email:		
Birth Month	Birth day	(for member ber	efits)
Are you a new member? Y	es No	_	
Please check this box if you	ublished in print for a fee and a do <u>NOT</u> wish to be included in	the directory	per-only social media.
•	s Facebook page? Yes No ee, what is the name of your be		
•	ee, tell us your preference (ple /South/East/West/Any Region		
•	ers are required to pay dues. (P	lease circle your members	nip type)
Regular Membership			\$40.00
Quilters aged 70 or older (p	orior to, or on June 1, 2021)		\$25.00
Junior Membership (18 yea	rs and younger; full scholarship	os are currently available)	\$ 25.00 0.00
Printed CQG Membership Dir	ectory (to be picked up at the Nov	ember meeting)	\$5.00
Optional donation (tax deduc	tible)		\$
Please bring	this form with paymen	t to the next meetin	g or mail to:
	Capital Quilt	ers Guild	
	PO Box 2	0331	
	Raleigh NC 27	7619-0331	
Date Check#	Cash Credit C	ard (last 4 digits)	Total:

Capital Quilters Guild-Workshop Registration Spring/Summer 2022

Address			
Email			
	In Person Workshop – Membe	er fee: \$55 No	n-member fee: \$75
Teacher:	Class:	Date:	Amt: Cash/Ck#/Chg
Quilters Gallery	In Person 15 Degrees	6/17/22	
Quilters Gallery	In Person Jack's Chain	6/18/22	
Nina Clotfelter	In Person Beg. Free Motion	8/19/22	
Nina Clotfelter	In Person Beg Ruler Work	8/20/22	
		Total:	

<u>Payment</u>: **Due when you sign up.** Payment with charge card/cash available at monthly guild meeting or when you register via the Guild website – wwww.capitalquilters.org

Make your check payable to : <u>Capital Quilters Guild</u> Mail your check and registration form to:

Ann O'Brien 1336 Holt Road Apex, NC 27523

Location: In person workshops will be held at

<u>Highland United Methodist Church</u> 1901 Ridge Rd Raleigh, NC 27607.

Most Class hours: 9am-3:30pm Be sure to pack a bag lunch!

Refund Policy: Full refund will be made if requested 30 days prior to the workshop. Without 30 days notice, you will only receive a refund if space can be filled from the waiting list. If not, you will receive a credit for a future class.

Inquiries: information@capitalquilters.org