



THE THIMBLEFUL

Capital Quilters Guild

Raleigh, North Carolina



Next Meeting

Thursday, March 21, 2024
6:30 Social
7:00 Meeting Begins
Location: Temple Beth Or
5315 Creedmoor Road
Raleigh, NC 27612

Remember to Bring

- Quilts for Show & Tell
- Name Tag
- Membership Pin
- Comfort Quilts
- Workshop Sign-up Sheet
- A Quilting Friend!

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Contact Us:

[facebook.com/groups/capitalquilters](https://www.facebook.com/groups/capitalquilters)
<https://capitalquilters.org>
information@capitalquilters.org

President's Message

Hi Capital Quilters!

March is an exciting month for our Guild. March 16 is National Quilting Day and our Annual show is March 15 & 16. A big thank you to the Quilt Show Committee for all of their hard work. And thank you to all of you who have entered quilts, made boutique items, donated books or have volunteered to help.

Please plan to attend the March 21 meeting. I am hoping that we will have a special show and tell with all of the ribbon winners from the show! We will also share the results of the communication survey and some next steps that have been agreed by the Board.

Please plan on attending the virtual comfort quilt workshop April 13 either on your own or with a group of your quilting friends and help us get some donation quilts completed. A zoom link will be mailed to the membership at the beginning of April and will also be posted to Facebook.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Sue Ann Jatko for doing "double duty" as VP and Fundraising Chair this year. Displaying the raffle quilt at events throughout the year has helped us promote our Guild and the quilt show and has attracted new members. Sue Ann's efforts coordinating volunteers ensured we could attend those events.

One last reminder about our Guild Library. If you have borrowed a book, please return it at the next meeting. We want to keep our library books circulating.

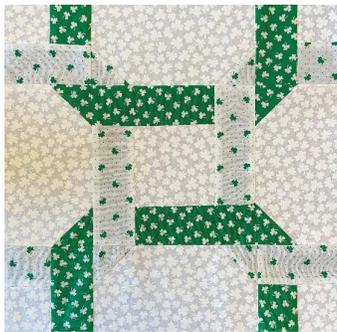
I hope to see you all at both our quilt show and the meeting this month!

Ann O'Brien

Block Party

In January we had a Japanese Lantern block with Japanese fabrics from the guild stash. There were 34 kits, and all were claimed at the meeting. Twenty-six blocks were returned; we had two winners: Karen Wahle and Karen Zeher. We also had a challenge block, which was a paper pieced Japanese Crane. There were 12 of these available, and all were taken. Eleven were returned at the meeting. The winner of these was Vera Beers. Congratulations to all our winners!

In February we had a Ukrainian sunflower block made in the colors of the Ukrainian flag. We had 33 kits, and all were claimed at the February meeting. The directions for both blocks are available on the Capital Quilters Guild website (Block Party page) and on Facebook. We are continuing to reduce the number of paper copies that are available and appreciate your cooperation in obtaining the blocks from the website or Facebook. You can also take a photo of the directions at the meeting.



In March we will be traveling to Ireland (surprising I know!). We have a Celtic Twist block. We will also have a challenge block, which is an applique' Shamrock. We will be providing the shamrock fabrics; you will provide the background from your stash.



Next, we have the results of the Block Party Survey:

Total respondents - 65

Question 1: Would you consider yourself a beginner, advanced beginner, intermediate or advanced quilter?

- Beginner - 3.1%
- Advanced Beginner - 15.4%
- Intermediate - 60%
- Advanced - 21.5%

Question 2: Do you like the current level of difficulty in Block Party blocks?

- They are way too easy - 3.2%
- They are just right - 85.7%
- They need to be less challenging - 0%

Question 3: Do you like the Challenge Months - applique and paper pieced options?

- Yes, they are fun - 73.4%
- No-I prefer pieced blocks only - 7.8%
- Yes, but I am too scared to try - 9.4%

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Question 4: Would you like more challenge blocks (appliqué or paper pieced options)?

- Yes, every month please - 22.6%
- No - every other month is fine - 72.6%

Question 5: Do you have any ideas for themes for Block Party?

- Stars - 7
- Sewing Theme - 6
- Blocks for Guys - 6
- Pets - 4
- Flowers - 4
- Modern/Improv - 3
- Baking Theme - 3
- Birds/Birdhouses - 2
- Garden - 2

Other mentions: beach/ocean/water, forest/mushroom/gnomes, classic blocks for beginners, quarterly colorway

Question 6: Do you think we need an annual theme at all?

- Yes, I like a theme for the year - 43.3%
- No, surprise me every month - 45%

Other mentions: mini themes during the year.

Question 7: Are there any blocks or techniques that you are scared to try, but might try if they were a Block Party block?

- Curved piecing - 8
- Y-Seams - 6
- Paper Piecing - 3
- Appliqué - 2

Other mentions: Feathered stars, miniature blocks, disappearing blocks, advanced appliqué

NOTE A: A number of respondents mentioned that they would like the opportunity to use their own fabrics, e.g., the kit for the month comes with a single 'focus' fabric that you would use as a base to select fabrics from your own stash to complete the block.

NOTE B: A few respondents commented that they would like to try new techniques or blocks if a demo or workshop was available. I have already spoken to Ann O'Brien about this, and it looks like we may be able to do this for some blocks. Watch this space for more on this subject.

Thank you, once again, to everyone who shared their views on Block Party!

Stop by and see us at the March meeting!

Thanks, Jan Chvatal, Cindy Prow, and Rosi Hanley

Secret Sew-ciety , It's back!

What is it you ask? A fun exchange of a little item you make for a fellow member based on a given theme. But you won't know who you'll be making it for till reveal time. Each start month you fill out a form with your contact information and likes/ dislikes, etc. You will then be given a secret partner and you'll make something for them based on swap theme. It's a "Mug Rug" this time.



Swap guidelines:

Swap starts in March. Deadline: May meeting with a special show'n'tell and your secret partner will be revealed. Its a really quick and easy idea, and we're thinking no one has to go out to the store to make it happen, right?

See the attached sign up sheet for Secret Sew-ciety Swap or pick one up at the beginning of March meeting. Please complete and email the form back to Maria Kleinman or Irene Thomas.

**Just a quick clarification: In the past this group had an additional gift at the exchange. We will not be doing this. We're trying to do exchanges where one would not have to go buy something.

**If you're thinking, "I don't need one for any reason," Secret Sew-ciety would be a fun way to meet members and start collecting stuff for next year's quilt show. Just saying.

Thank you for your participation,

Maria and Irene

Guild Activities, Quilt Shows & Vendor Events

March 15 & 16: CQG 2024 Annual Quilt Show

April 3-May 25, 2024: PAQA South, Cary, NC

For more local events, check this site: [Quilt Guilds and Shows in North Carolina.](#)



Community Outreach

Please join us for our virtual Comfort Quilt Workshop on April 13th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We will send out a link via email to the membership so that everyone can attend. This workshop is to finish up those comfort quilt kits that may be sitting in your sewing room or any other comfort quilt project you would like to do. If you need a kit, we will have plenty available at the March meeting.

Thank you all for continuing to support Comfort Quilts!

We always need:

Quilters - we have several tops ready to quilt. These can be completed on a home machine or longarm. If you want to learn how to longarm quilt, you can call [Thread Waggle Quilting](#) and set up a time to practice on our tops!

We have:

- Patterns - perfect for some stash busting.
- Kits - simple quilts to piece quickly.
- Batting & Backing - to finish them.

Cathy McKillip



Comfort Quilts

| Comfort Quilt Donations | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Charity | Goal for 23/24 | Received in Jan/Feb | Received this Year |
| Quilts on Wheels | 1000 Quilts! | 46 | 258 |
| Walker Bags | | 17 | 37 |
| Quilts for Kids | | 41 | 232 |
| Newborn Hats | | 62 | 267 |
| Receiving Blankets | | 0 | 10 |
| Pillow Cases | | 15 | 149 |
| SAFEchild/Green | | 47 | 235 |
| Other: | | 7 | 277 |
| Grand Total: | | Quilts: 725 | Total Items: 1465 |

May 2024 Workshops

Sue Heinz

Sold out at the
Houston Quilt Festival!



Sue's passion is teaching, and she brings to each of her classes a Fine Arts and Education background, over 25+ years of quilting experience, a sense of humor, design expertise and a commitment to help each of her students reach new levels of quilting excellence. She has authored five books, each brimming with fresh design ideas for free-motion quilting, patented several innovative marking tools and has designed some awesome of free-motion rulers – all to intrigue, delight and inspire. For more information about Sue, visit www.SueHeinz.com.

Friday May 17 Sue will teach: 360 Degree Grids/

Sashing That Sizzles

360° Grids - Create Mesmerizing Designs that are Oh, So Easy to Sew! Does this sample look packed with possibilities but too hard to free-motion quilt? Don't be fooled! Let Sue Heinz show you her innovative technique of combining simple grids with her patented, easy-to-use tools. Add Sue's original sashing shapes and step-by-step instruction, and get ready to take your quilting to the next level. All skill levels.



Saturday May 18 Sue will teach: Harmonics Fill Harmonics

Create a symphony of background designs that harmonize well together on any quilt -or use just one for a dramatic textural effect. You'll learn how to draw an array of Sue Heinz's unique free-motion and grid pattern backgrounds while she demonstrates with step-by-step illustrations and how-to hints. Your future quilts will be shouting, "Bravo!" All skill levels.

How To Register for the Workshops

Click On This Link: [May Workshop Registration - 2024](#)

The Workshop Registration 2024 form is also available at the Membership table during meetings, on the Capital Quilters Guild website and on our Facebook page.

Workshop fees are \$55 for members and \$75 for non-members.

One Quilter's Experience

Darlene J Silverman

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.)

My Favorite Tools

I love tools. I love gadgets. I love all the cool stuff that makes what we do faster, easier, and more fun. From the craft-wide revolution sparked by the introduction of the self-healing mat/rotary cutter combo to my personal revelation of how a saddle stool improves my posture, I am grateful for how my life has been improved by the clever inventions of people much smarter than myself.

I was asked about my favorite tools, which I now present to you. This is not an exhaustive list. I think an exhaustive list would be . . . well, exhausting! If you want to know about all of my stuff, you will really need to step into my sewing room and actually see all my stuff. This is just a basic survey of some things that I find make each of these processes easier and/or better.

Fabric selection:

Color wheel
Value finder

Pattern selection:

Books (lots of books!)
Magazines
Pinterest

Designing:

Graph paper/drafting ruler/mechanical pencil
EQ

Cutting:

Micro-serrated scissors
Fresh, sharp blades for your rotary cutter
Non-slip rulers of different sizes
Self-healing mat
Bloc loc ruler (my new favorite for half-square triangles)

Machine piecing:

***Excellent, reliable sewing machine* (To me, nothing is more important, as I do very little sewing by hand!)**

Set-in table
Strong, thin thread (my go-to is aurifil 50-weight)
Saddle stool [see photo]
Under pedal non-slip mat



Under machine pad to reduce vibration
1/4 seam-guide foot
Walking foot
Silk pins
Stiletto
Seam ripper (a bit of a love/hate relationship there)

Appliqué:

Appliquick tools [see photo]
Appliquick glue stick
Small appliqué needles
Small appliqué pins
Silk thread



Pressing:

Dry iron
Misting bottle with water
Wool mats
Weights

Marking:

Frixion pens
Ceramic fabric pencils



Sandwiching:

Large square ruler
Painters' tape
Quiltak [see photo]

Machine quilting:

Slider
Machingers
Walking foot
Free-motion quilting foot
Rulers + ruler foot (still getting to know and love these!)
Long, big-eye needle (for burying threads)



Trimming and binding:

Large square ruler (20 1/2")
Clips [see photo]

Miscellaneous:

Reading glasses (without which I can do none of the above!)

What do you think? Do you agree with my list? What would you add/subtract? What tools or gadgets make your quilting life better?

Coming up: Overthinking



Secret Sew-ciety Swap



Name: _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Favorite Fabric (color, type, designer):

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Fabric Dislikes (novelty, orange, holiday):

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Allergies (food, smoke, pets): _____

Pets (none, dogs, cat, etc.): _____

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY