



Sew On and Sew On

West Houston Quilter's Guild

Issue 5

May 2015

PROGRAM NOTICE

Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Time: 6:45 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Where: Bear Creek Community Center, 3055 Bear Creek Drive, Houston, Texas 77084

Speaker: Gyleen Fitzgerald

Program: Art of Color Blending or the Shape of Things to Come

UFO CHALLENGE

See page 4 for information on this fun challenge! Finish your UFOs and have a chance to win prizes. What more could you ask for????

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CELESTE'S COMMUNICATIONS

Dear Members,

“Green is the primary color of the world, and that from which its loveliness arises.”

~ Pedro Calderon de la Barca

This month my reflections are on the month of May. May first, or May Day, has been celebrated by many cultures going back to ancient time. The one constant, however, seems to have been the “May Pole”, either made from a tree or using a tree. The symbolism was of great vitality and fertility of nature. I can just picture all of these ancient people coming out into the sunlight after the gloom of winter, stretching, and celebrating nature and all of her greenery.

Speaking of green, the traditional birthstone of May is the emerald.

In the northern hemisphere, this is the time for Mother Nature to show off her greenery between the snows of winter and the heat of summer.

So, for how many of you is green your favorite color? I buck the trend – can't say it's one of mine, although I do appreciate certain hues of green. Ireland, the Emerald Isle, is certainly green and I found it beautiful. Fields of different shades separated by low rock walls for fences. Still, I doubt I

will ever make a green quilt or paint one of the rooms in my home green.

If green has all of these wonderful connotations, why, then, do we have phrases like “Green with envy”? Why, when someone looks really ill, do they appear to be green? No answers to these – just the random wanderings of an aimless mind here.

We certainly have had enough rain recently to turn our whole area VERY green. The good thing about the rainy days, however, is it has provided plenty of time for working on those quilt projects.

“President” continued on page 3

BOARD MEETINGS CALENDAR

Any member of the Guild is welcome to attend our board meetings, but the Board reserves the right to hold a closed Executive Session if needed. Board meetings are on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 P.M. Following is the schedule:

May 6 – Café Express, Town and Country

June 3 – Café Express, Town & Country

West Houston Quilter's Guild**2014-2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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2015 Quilt Show	Patricia Cook
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Visitor Welcome	Gloria Stewart
Web Site	Patricia Cook and Amy Mathias

Deadline for submitting articles for the *Sew On and Sew On* is the fourth Friday of each month. Send them directly to Patricia Cook, Editor, at pcook43@gmail.com

PROGRAMS, WORKSHOPS, AND RETREATS**PROGRAMS**

May 20	Gyleen Fitzgerald	Art of Color Blending or the Shape of Things to Come <i>Meal/Trunk Show Nifty Needlers Bee</i>
June 17	Marci Baker	To be announced <i>Meal/Trunk Show Cutups Bee</i>
July 15	Ranae Merrill	To be announced <i>Meal/Trunk Show Ladies of the Night Bee</i>
August 19	Paula Barnes	Civil War Quilts <i>Meal/Trunk Show Katy Rotary Club Bee</i>
September 16	Maggie Ball	Innovative Quilts, Traditional Values <i>Meal/Trunk Show Material Girls Bee</i>
October 21	Brenda Henning	The Life and Times of an Accidental Quilter <i>Meal/Trunk Show OPEN</i>

2015 WORKSHOPS

May 21	Gyleen Fitzgerald	“Starstruck”
June 18	Marci Baker	Binding Techniques
July 16	Ranae Merrill	“Magic Mirror Mandala Quilt” www.ranaemerrillquilts.com/teaching/160
August 20	Paula Barnes	A civil war pattern
September 17	Maggie Ball	Bargello with a Twist

2015 RETREATS

May 15 – 17	Retreats by Margie in the Schulenburg/La Grange area. Minimum of 15 persons; cost to be arranged and depends on meals.
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Program

Deb Karasik was vibrant, happy and made us all laugh really hard. She definitely has a firm understanding of color and how to use it. Her quilts had lots of spikes and color gradations. Deb's class was just as much fun. She showed us a new tool for rolling seams for paper piecing, and gave many tips on how to measure the pieces to cut the fabric. As much as I have paper pieced over the past seven or eight years, I learned several new skills that I will use again.

Our May speaker, Gyleen Fitzgerald, has a fun way to look at quilting. I first saw her on The Quilt Show. com and called the next day to see if

she would come to our guild. I was pleasantly surprised she had a spot open that fit our schedule. Gyleen has one of the few patented “methods” for Y seams, and that is what she will be teaching at the workshop. So if you want to learn a new and possibly better way to do those pesky “Y” seams, sign up as soon as possible for the workshop. The cost is \$50 and includes the pattern and the rulers. You must let me know by May 10 in order to



“Programs” continued on page 7

"President" from page 1

As I write this, I'm looking forward to going on two quilt retreats. The first is just a small group of friends from one of my bees, but the second is the guild's retreat to Margie's. Margie is being a dear and letting us come even though we haven't met the minimum. This is great for me, because I've been wanting to get to a guild retreat for the past two years but my schedule hasn't worked out. I'm really disappointed, though, that more of our members aren't taking advantage of this. I look forward to getting to know others that I don't normally see in the course of my week/month/year. I get so much done on retreats, but I find I have to pace myself. If I work too long at a time, I get a stiff neck, so I make it a point to take a walk at least once a day. At Margie's, it's fun because we get to walk past the cows in the area. Well, as I sip a glass of wine on the veranda at Margie's, I'll be thinking of you!

Happy quilting everyone,

~ Celeste Fritz, President

MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 3	Barbara Treese	May 20	Mary Ellen Galus
May 4	Julie Lisle	May 22	Karen Coffey
May 5	Anne Forrest	May 23	Linda G Stewart
May 6	Jeannie Eberle	May 25	Marcia Karns
May 6	Shannon McGaw	May 26	Georgia Johnson
May 14	Lavita Golightly		
May 16	Cathy Beck		
May 18	Alice Sadeghpour		

Please bring a door prize.

COMFORT QUILTERS / COMMUNITY SERVICE

The April guild meeting was no different than the last 3 meetings for 2015—lots of quilts turned in and quite a few kits taken. Keep up the good work. Over 50 quilts will be delivered to Linus in the next couple of weeks along with IV covers and a few preemies. Exact numbers will be given in the next newsletter.

Special Project for May—In celebration of Mother's Day, we are asking that you concentrate your charity quilt making to quilts for women in nursing homes and female infants and teenage girls at Texas Children's Hospital. Here are some suggested sizes: preemie—25" square with either both sides made with flannel or one side cotton print and the other side flannel, 40" x 50" or longer depending on the age of the girl you

are making the quilt for, and about the same size for adult women in care facilities. Colorful quilts brighten everyone's day so think about what colors make you happy and know that it will also brighten the day of a child or an adult.

How about coming to Comfort Quilters some Tuesday morning and see what we do. We meet at the Kroger's on Hwy. 6, located between W. Little York and FM 529 from around 8:30 until noon. Bring your sewing machine and we will provide the rest. All guild members are welcome to come and sew with us—we are a fun group of ladies who love making quilts for others.

*~ Connie Bihner and Nita Beard
Charitable Projects Co-Chairmen*

CONCERNS, CONDOLENCES AND CONGRATULATIONS

- Joan Rondeau's mother passed away. We send our thoughts and prayers to Joan and her family.
- Zeldajean Byrd lost her mother quite suddenly following surgery for a broken hip. Please keep Zeldajean and her family in your prayers.
- Cathy Beck's mom fell and broke her hip in two places, and injured her wrist. Keep her in your prayers as she mends.
- We're glad Judith Habermacher is okay after being hit by another car on her way home from the April guild meeting.
- Congratulations to all of our Guild members who entered quilts in our show. We were featured (with pictures of many of our quilts) on Sue Garman's blog: suegarman.blogspot.com in April and will be again in May.

If you know of a guild member who has suffered a loss, is coping with surgery or illness, or needs to be congratulated, please contact Cathy Beck with the information so the rest of the guild can be informed. We would like to be supportive of our fellow guild members.

~ Cathy Beck, Secretary

AREA QUILT SHOWS

May 2, 2015

Boerne Hauptstrasse Quiltfest
Annual Show & Sale

Presented by the City of Boerne
Parks & Recreation Venue
Main Plaza and Downtown Boerne
100 N. Main St., Boerne, TX 78006
www.ci.boerne.tx.us/625/
Hauptstrasse-Quiltfest

May 22-24, 2015

Hill Country Quilt Guild Quilt Show
Schreiner University - Edington
Sports Center
2100 Memorial Blvd., Kerrville, TX
78028
www.hillcountryquiltguild.com

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DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

Hopefully everyone is excited about beginning our UFO Challenge!!!! Your first of three turn in dates is June 17. Forms are available in this newsletter and hard copies will be available at both the May and June meetings for your convenience. The purpose of the form is to identify your three objects and assist you with getting started. Here are the rules of the UFO Challenge:

- The UFO Challenge Form must be completed and turned into Jan Mathews on or before the June meeting begins;
- Once the UFO Challenge Form has been turned in, the UFO projects cannot be changed (don't ask because this is set in stone);
- At a "turn-in" meeting, your form will be checked and the UFO being turned in will be "documented" (section of the form for that UFO completed);
- If you have finished (e.g. if a quilt, quilted, bound, and labeled - if another project, ready to be "given away") your UFO for that

quarter, you will be entered to win a prize for that quarter;

- If you have completed the project (e.g. if a quilt, pieced the top), your name will be entered in a drawing for a smaller prize for that quarter;
- In order to be eligible for the "Grand Prize" drawing you MUST have turned in all three of your identified and finished UFO projects ON TIME (which means, you cannot turn in all three in December).

To help motivate you, the quarterly prizes for finished projects will be AT LEAST \$25 in value. The Grand Prize in December will be AT LEAST \$100 in value. Don't ask me more because I'm not telling.

Looking forward to seeing everyone's beautiful work! Start your machines and get sewing!!!!

~ Jan Mathews
Director of Community Service

MAY 2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6 Board Meeting 6:30 PM	7	8	9
10 Mothers' Day	11	12	13	14	15 Guild Retreat	16 Guild Retreat
17 Guild Retreat	18	19	20 Guild Meeting 6:45 PM	21 Workshop 9:30 AM	22	23
24	25 Memorial Day	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

UFO Challenge Hand-In Form
West Houston Quilter's Guild

Member's Name:

UFO Identification:

Title of UFO:

1.

2.

3.

Turn In Information: (To be completed at time of turn-in)

Title of UFO:

Date Completed:

Quarter Turned In: June September December

Title of UFO:

Date Completed:

Quarter Turned In: June September December

Title of UFO:

Date Completed:

Quarter Turned In: June September December



BEE NEWS

Cut-Ups

We have been busy making paper-pieced blocks – very bright colors on black background. Our April sew-in was used to assemble these into a charity quilt. Our first half of the year birthday lunch will be coming up near the end of May. This year we are keeping things simple – no gifts, just enjoying each other’s company. Several of our members have been working on some beautiful embroidered pieces, while others have busily appliquéd some gorgeous blocks. We look forward to seeing these in finished pieces.

Beekeeper: Celeste Fritz

Katy Rotary Club

We had a great birthday lunch celebrating birthdays for the first six months of the year - no gifts, just cards and the fun of visiting over a good meal. Ten of our members are working on completing their beastly blocks for an exchange - only 180 3” blocks. Another group is getting ready to have a lesson from Cynthia Regone on her Christmas row quilt. That will give them a new quilt to celebrate the season. And a group is heading to Debbie Huebel’s lake house for a retreat. It looks like we’re going to have a busy summer.

Beekeeper: Patricia Cook

Nifty Needlers

We had a busy month, with some of us attending area quilt shows. Kathy O. attended the Bay Area Quilt Guild show, then Kathy O. and Pam went to the Woodlands Area Quilt Guild show. Pam even won one of the tin can raffle items, some beautiful 2 1/2” strips of Christmas fabric. A car load including Kathy O., Lauren, Barbara, Kathy C. and Pam attended the most unique quilt show you will ever see. It was held in the beautiful painted church of St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Plantersville. Quilts were draped on every pew and also from the choir loft. It was a beautiful array of color. We had a great time and then had a nice lunch at the Treehouse in Magnolia, followed by a stop at Quilter’s Crossing in Tomball before they move to their larger location on main street.

We celebrated Lauren’s birthday with a sew-in and had a delicious chicken, spinach and mushroom casserole made by Kathy C. A wonderful German chocolate birthday cake was made by Connie. Lauren was showered with gifts and really enjoyed her special day.

*Beekeeper: Teresa Rossman
Submitted by Pam Heine*

Thursday Night Bee

The group that went to retreat at Camp Allen had a wonderful time. All the meals were great—lots of fruit and not one green salad was served the entire weekend. Connie even said she lost 2 pounds—most of us usually gain a pound or two because we sit and sew and sit and eat from early morning to late at night. A couple of us had been sick, so we were quarantined together. The weather was very pleasant which allowed us to eat on the porch for all our meals. Check out our Bee page on the Web site for some pictures of some of the quilts that were finished and the special bag project.

Our May meeting will be spent looking at some of the sample hour glass blocks that everybody has started. We want to make sure everybody understands all the requirements and if they are having trouble making the blocks, get some help before our first turn in at the June bee meeting.

That’s all for now—spend some time outside enjoying the weather and stay in when it gets too hot or as the case has been lately—raining.

Beekeeper: Nita Beard

CHARM SQUARES

We have 10 people signed up for May Charm Square exchange. Here are the choices for 2015. If you are interested in joining in the fun - sign up, then bring 6” x 6” cotton squares of the monthly design.

• May – Birds

• June – Jungle Animals

• July – Farm Animals

• August – ABC/Numbers

• September – Balloons/Kites

• October – Structures (Barns, Houses, etc.)

• November – Shoes

• December – Toys

*~ Brenda Marien
Charm Squares*

MEMBERSHIP

The Membership Drive is officially over, but dues can still be renewed. There are 39 members whose dues have not been renewed; please check the Roster to see if yours are paid if you are not sure. I am waiting one more month before I clear the unpaid member names off the roster.

If you wait to renew later in the year the dues will be the same price as they are now, the partial year discount only applies to new members. If you haven't already gotten one - the new 2015 membership forms are available in the newsletter, on the Web site, or on the membership table.

Dues are \$30.00 a year if you elect to see the newsletter online or \$40.00

a year if you prefer to have it mailed to you. Dues can be paid by mail with a check or cash. You can also pay in person at the meeting with cash, check, or with your debit or credit card.

Please check the online Roster to verify that your information is correct, and then if there are no changes, a form with your name and 'SAME' will work with your dues. I do ask that everyone submit a form with their dues to help me keep track of all of the renewals.

As of the April meeting our membership is up to 191 new and returning members.

We'd like to welcome the following ladies who joined in April: Pam Armstrong, Anne Forrest, and Betty Heisey. Welcome!! We hope you enjoy our Guild as much as we do.

The Member Badges are green for 2015. Green stands for prosperity and growth and is what I hope for our Guild. You will find your white Membership card behind the badge in the holder. Please try to remember that the Badge stays in the holder – the white business size membership card is yours to take.

Happy Quilting!

~ Karen Coffey

First Vice President - Membership

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receive the rulers with the class fee. If you sign up after May 10, rulers will be extra.

Now that we are a month removed from the Quilt Show, I ran across a wonderful You Tube video by Angela Walters and want to share her wisdom with you. 3 Things Quilters should do: 1. Stop comparing your worst work to everyone's best—Comparison is the thief of Joy. 2. Stop pointing out your mistakes—Accept compliments graciously. Even if you don't think it is your best work, you are denying that person her opinion. "I enjoyed making it" is a great response. 3. Don't forget the purpose of the quilt. While the quilt may not be your best effort or your favorite one, you made it with a purpose in mind—as a gift for a newborn child or to celebrate a special event. That is the joy of quilting.

Until next time, keep stitching.

~ Debbie Adami

Second Vice President -
Programs and Workshops

MAKE-A-WISH

Quilt 'n Sew has partnered with the Greater Southern Region of the Make-a-Wish Foundation to help supply quilts to the very sick children who have their wishes granted by going on a magical trip. The quilts will be given to the children as they leave for their trip so they can be wrapped in a hug!!

These children do not necessarily receive Linus Blankets, so a quilt would bring them much-needed comfort. Last year the children received memorabilia from local sports heroes and businesses who contributed to provide these kids and their families memories to last a lifetime. The children who are chosen to have their wishes granted are the very sickest and need to be cheered up so they can forget about their illnesses for a short time.

Last year the need for quilts was over 400, and we are still very shy of that now. We ask that you look in your hearts to see if you can provide some comfort, a hug, and a small throw or lap quilt for these sick kids. Children range from toddlers to teens and the foundation asks for small quilts to wrap up in, NOT as large as bed size.

Quilt 'n Sew on Mason Road is the drop-off point for these quilts. We will also be hosting "charity sew-in days" all year long, so look for more info in your e-mails and on our Web site. Quilters are among the most generous and caring people, so I am confident that your response will be great. Please look in your closets or in your fabric collection and donate a small quilt which will bring some child joy and let them know someone else cares. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

~ Terri Burton



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RANDALL'S GOOD NEIGHBOR PROGRAM

Here is how you link your Randall's card to West Houston Quilter's Guild. This is the store's Good Neighbor program. Go to the customer service counter at your local store and ask that your card be linked to the number 11950. The guild will receive a percentage of the groceries and pharmacy items purchased for cards attached to number 11950. Remember the West Houston Quilter's Guild number is 11950.