



Thimbles & Friends Quilt Guild Newsletter

Volume 13 • Issue 9 April 2014

Inside This Issue

1. From the Chair
2. Block of the Month
3. May Meeting
4. Recipe
5. Raffle Quilt
6. Quilting Tips

Board Members 2013-2014

Chair: Rose Perry

Co-Chair: Sheryl Briggs

Treasurer: Shirley MacLeod

Co-Treasurer: Cathy Hodges

Secretary: Sue Warchal

Charity: Joyce Hochstrasser

Facilities: Pat McColem

Membership/Hospitality: Louise Wilson

Newsletter Editors:

Julia Blanchard/Jill Lillie

Programming: Member Volunteers

Block of the Month

Well ladies we have one block left for the year. Anyone who has finished any or all blocks, please bring them with you to the meeting for "Show & Tell."

- Sheryl Briggs

Newsletter Note: Just click on the picture of any quilt to see the Web page it came from.

Greetings from Bridgewater

Well it's the end of another great year. I know its spring when my beautiful magnolia tree starts to bloom. When that happens it's time to start spring cleaning (ugh) and time to tidy up the garden beds, rake, and plant. -- And it's time for the Tea Party that signals the end of the T&F year. I will miss the meetings over the summer, but look forward to another year with you wonderful ladies.

- Julia

From the Chair

Dear Ladies of the Guild,

It is hard to believe that our 2013-2014 guild year will come to a close on May 3rd. I think we've had a wonderful year, full of fun and friendship, great quilting, and outstanding charity work. Thank you all for your participation; it is what makes this guild work.

Don't forget, elections are in May. If you have any last-minute desire to volunteer for office, you can do so before the election.

We also are looking for a volunteer to do the monthly raffle. And we will be asking the guild members if they want to continue the Block of the Month in 2014-2015, and if there is a volunteer.

Lastly, I wanted to thank the Board and the monthly volunteers for their hard work this year. You ladies rock!

- Rose



Raffle Quilt

We're almost there for raffle quilt blocks. I'd like about thirty more to finish up. So if you can, make one or two more and bring them to the May meeting. I'll be scheduling a construction date to assemble the top. Please consider taking on the selling of tickets, maybe with one or two others. If we divide up the responsibilities, it makes for an easy job and income for the guild. Thanks to everyone for your help. The blocks are beautiful and the quilt will look awesome!

- Pat Delaney



Have Something to Say?

Send newsletter submissions to
Julia at Julia.Blanchard@comcast.net and
Jill at scruffsmom@comcast.net

Guild Website:
<http://www.thimblesandfriends.org/>

Blueberry Cake

2 cups flour with a dash of cinnamon and nutmeg
1 TBS baking powder
1 tsp salt
2 1/2 TBS butter, room temperature
3/4 cup sugar
1 egg plus enough milk to equal one cup (beat egg in a cup measure, then add milk)
2 cups blueberries (fresh or frozen)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Mix flour, salt, baking powder in medium bowl.

Cut in sugar and butter.

Mix in egg and milk to moisten.

Mix in blueberries and spread in an 8 x 8 pan.

Sprinkle with cinnamon and sugar.

Bake 30 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean.

makes 9 servings

- Gina Stone





May Meeting

On May 3 we will have the End of Year Tea Party, sponsored by Jo Abbott and Donna Babchuck. There will be **no Auction**, but if anyone wants to donate anything to sell we will have a table set up. Please price your items.

Wear a spring hat if you want, and don't forget your teacup! Please bring your food contribution; here is the list of people who signed up to bring food.

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Barbara White | dessert |
| Cathy Hodges | dessert |
| Chris Thierfelder | quiche |
| Donna B | kugal |
| Gina Stone | coleslaw |
| Janice O'Gara | fruit salad |
| Jill Lillie | appetizer |
| Joan Teal | cookies |
| Joanne Fruzzetti | dessert |
| Josephine A | tossed salad |
| Joyce Hochstrasser | fruit |
| Louise | quiche |
| Margaret Rooney | dessert |
| Nancy Moynihan | appetizer |
| Pat Clemons | cookies |
| Pat McCollum | undecided |
| Pat O'Leary | fruit |
| Paula Whalen | dessert |
| Rose Perry | sandwiches |
| Sally Thornton | potato salad |
| Sheryl Briggs | quiche |
| Shirley | sandwiches |
| Sue Painter | quiche |
| Sue Warchal | danish |
| SueEllen Hewitt | cheeseball |

Quilting Tips from our Members

Curved Seams

When sewing curved seams (as for a mariner's compass set-in or a drunkard's path block):

1. First make a little crease in both curved pieces to mark a center point of the arcs.
2. Pin the centers together with a very fine pin (Bohins are GREAT, but the Dritz pins will do).
3. Pin the two ends carefully with the same pins, so the sides of the arced pieces are perfectly parallel.
4. Sew the seam with a scant 1/4" allowance using an awl or quill or other pointed object to align the edges between the pins. Pat Delaney has introduced me to "the quill." It has a natural hook at the tip that helps hold the fabric.

Happy piecing and quilting. Curves are beautiful and fun!

– Chris Thierfelder

Stop the Sliding!

To stop your power foot from running all around the floor, use a piece of rubber shelf liner and make a bag. I found this to be very difficult to stitch so I used a piece of binding across the bottom and side and it worked fine in the machine. Place your power pedal in the bag, place on the floor. NO more chasing. – Sheryl Briggs

Clippity-Clop!

When looking for clips to use to hold binding in place, don't go to a quilt store but rather go to your local pharmacy or discount store and buy hair clips. They are the same, but a lot less expensive. – Sally Thornton

The Quill

I'm vision impaired so Pat Delany hooked me up with a quill that guides my material. It's better than a stiletto because it has a barb at one end to securely hold the fabric. Paired up with a 1/4 inch foot I get my seams exactly where I want them. Happy quilting! – Linda

Scrap Management

When I make a quilt, I put all the scraps for the front, backing, borders, and binding in a clear plastic box—I do not just add them to my already overloaded scrap heap. Because the scraps left over from the quilt all match each other and coordinate already, I just sew them together quite haphazardly to make an artsy type of table runner, table mat, candle mat, coaster, or whatever. I back it and bind it with the same scraps from the quilt I just made. I usually even have enough batting scraps to use for whatever I am making. If I like it I keep it and use it around the house. Otherwise I save it for when I need some sort of a small gift unexpectedly. – Gina

Quilting Goes Green

In my sewing room, I keep a small basket next to my cutting area to save small scraps that I intend to sort and reuse later. Any "crumbs" that are too small to save or threads from my sewing machine, lint dust, small batting scraps, etc., I toss those into a waste basket that is lined with an empty pillow case. When the pillow case is full, I take it out, sew the end closed, and donate it to a local vet for use as a pillow or bed for sick animals. They love the "fluffy" donations and I recycle my fabric trash! Win/win! – Joyce

Picture This

When setting up your quilt blocks for the design, take a picture with your digital camera –it allows you to change out different ideas and refer back to them before deciding on your preference! – Louise Wilson

Straight they Ain't

Here's a tip from Strip Therapy author, Brenda Henning regarding Bali Pops. Since they are not always accurate 2 ½ inch strips she suggests that you match up the left side of the strip when sewing instead of usual right side which is under presser foot. She also recommends ironing open all seams! – Pat O'Leary

Design Wall Idea

Use a vinyl flannel-backed tablecloth to hang up in your sewing room. It makes a great design board and you can also roll it up and take it with you to without having to remove or reposition your pieces. – Susan Conant

Editor's note: Christmas Tree Shop sells these for \$2.99.

Ironing Tip

For ironing large pieces of fabric, get more space on your ironing board by flipping it around, with the wide end out, and use the narrow end to keep your iron. - Rose