



OCTOBER 2022

BRANDON QUILTERS

Note from the President—

My hello to all. I am finding that we accumulate so much stuff. I have been moving to my new home and I am overwhelmed with all that I have. What fabric and sewing items I don't put in a yard sale I plan to bring for the November Auction. I encourage you to be ambitious about fall cleaning too.



I look forward to this annual event. But please help me to say NO to more fabric.

Happy Quilting,
Diane Carey

Minutes of Monthly Meeting

October 3, 2022

Vice President Marie Yonko called the meeting to order. There were 32 members in attendance and 3 visitors - *Paulette Walley, Darlene Staley and Ran Jones*.

A motion was made to except the minutes as published in the September newsletter by Christy Calhoun and second by Medina Richards.

Judy Robbins was not present to give the Sunshine report. Treasurer Kathleen Greer reported that the guild has a total of \$2,650.92 in our checking account.

Patricia Welsch initiated a discussion on the Christmas meal to be held during our December meeting, on Debbie Wilson's behalf. Debbie and others had discussed having a potluck for the meal as the catering was very expensive last year. Discussions and opinions were made and heard, final decision was to go forward with a pot luck. A sign up sheet was distributed for everyone to note what they would bring, to make sure we would have a variety of dishes to share. Note, Debbie will not be in attendance for the November meeting and wanted to get plans in motion.

Reminder, the MQA Fall Gathering will be held October 14 and 15 in Columbus at the Fairhope Baptist church. Additional information can be found on the MQA website and within the MQA Fall Newsletter.

Minutes continued



Community quilts update provided by Polly Duggan - donations have been made to the Star Fire Department, Children's Safe Center and our local State Veteran's home. She thanked all quilters for their creative work and generosity.

Christy Calhoun invited everyone to the Wynndale Baptist Church two day quilt retreat, being held on Thursday, October 13 and Friday, October 14. Please be sure to bring your lunch. Equipment and supplies brought in on Thursday can remain overnight for Friday.

Sarah Ketchum reminded us that our October Sit-n-Sew will be this Saturday, October 7th.

Marilyn Rose requested a copy of our guild's bylaws. Several made suggestions as to who might have these on file. Kathleen stated that she and others would locate and forward the bylaws.

Paulette Walley, new member and owner of Twin Oaks Crafts' Quilting & Embroidery in Richland was introduced and she gave us information on her store, the merchandise and services offered. She supplied a hand out (see attachment). It mentions a special discount of 25% in October and November to Brandon Quilters members.

Marie announced the 2023 officers as selected by our nominating committee as follows:

- President - Kathleen Greer
- Vice President - Dianne McLendon
- Treasurer - Ann Callender
- Secretary/Newsletter - Patricia Welsch

Lucy Large made a motion that the slate of officers be accepted as noted. No objections were made, no additional suggestions were made and non opposed. The slate of 2023 officers was unanimously accepted.

Marie introduced tonight's program on Fidget quilts, Lucy Large and Kathleen Greer were our presenters.

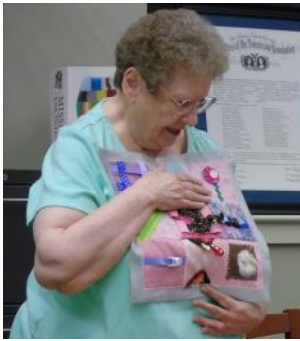
Reminder - November is our Annual Auction "Make It, Bake It, Sew It and Grow It". Pam Avara agreed to be our auctioneer and Paulette and Marie agreed to assist.

After the program, Sew-n-Tell was presented and enjoyed and then the meeting adjourned.

Patricia Welsch—Brandon Quilters Secretary/Newsletter



Program—Fidget Quilts



Helpful hints in making Fidget Quilts -

- Have a good inventory of notions (buttons, zippers, textured fabric, beads, ribbons, etc.)
- This project is a great way to refresh and practice your zipper installation and making button holes techniques
- Use lightweight fabrics as quilts made of heavy fabrics may fall from user's lap
- Fidget quilts can range in size—14" to 16" square is adequate

Include items that:

- Have texture—polar fleece, velvet, fur, ultra suede
- Can be tied—ribbons, shoe strings, braided yarn
- Encourage motion—snaps, buttons and button holes, zippers (nylon, no metal), pockets with attached items to insert and remove.

Contact local Nursing homes to see if they have a need for Fidget Quilts. Share notions with other quilters making Fidget Quilts. (Fidget Quilts hand out is included with newsletter.)

Sew-n-Tell - UFOs—



Billie Harrell—
Beyond the Stars
2019 Brandon Quilters BOM

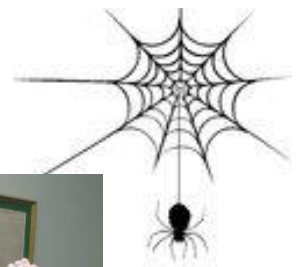
Martha Ludke—
Clothes line wall hanging
A Cherry Guidry class



Ann Callender -
Scrappy Bargello
A Marilyn Rose class



Sew-n-Tell—



Dianne McLendon - Halloween and Fall wall hangings



Karin Brown -
Man Sewing Quilt and Mickey & Minnie cross
stitch (she recently found & completed)



Marilyn Rose -
Midnight Moon quilt
and
Garden Plots
(miniature)



Sew n' Tell



Pamela Kirby -
Shark Nap Sack
Her own design for a
special student that
needed something to
“fidget” with during
nap time at school.



Martha Ludke and Pamela Kirby -
Graduation quilt for Pam’s daughter

Sew n' Tell—Veteran’s Quilts -



Martha Ludke and
Pamela Kirby -
Donation for a very tall
veteran



Ann Callender -
Two colorful
donation quilts





Brandon Quilters
Newsletter
237 Maplewood Dr.
Madison, MS 39110

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE



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Reminders and Dates -

Guild meeting—

**Monday, November 7th, Annual
Auction—Make It, Bake It, Sew It,
Grow It**

Sit n’ Sew—

Friday—November 11th, 9:00 a.m.

Fidget Quilts

Summary

Planning is key to making a fidget quilt for patients with Alzheimer's or dementia. Debi Warner explains the disease to make an awesome fidget blanket.

Fidget Quilts

People with Alzheimer's often have what is called "restless hands". The anxiety or agitation they may feel is expressed in the need for their hands to be doing something. They may be aware of changes in their environment, and they may not be able to continue with hobbies they have enjoyed for a



lifetime.

Fidget quilts are also called "sensory blankets". Their purpose is to offer concentration, reinforce memory, and help with emotions. The size of the quilt is not critical, but because it is usually used in the lap or on a table in front of the person, a table mat size of 18x20 is often recommended.

A quilter who is making a fidget quilt needs to keep all this in mind during planning. In addition, the quilter must always think about safety. Some fidget quilts have a general theme with different types of fabrics and materials and engagement items such as zippers, buttons and pockets.

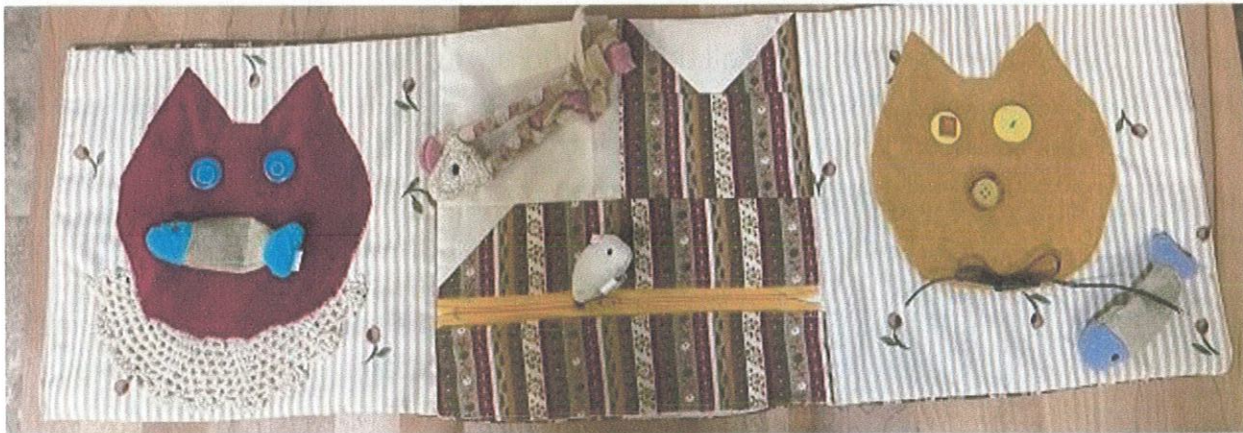


You can also choose a theme that might recall memories of a loved activity. This quilt features a couple of flies suitable for fishing. It is decorated with fishing lures, buttons, and stones. The fishing devices have all been altered to remove the hooks and other metal pieces for safety. I thought about adding pipe cleaners but remembered that the inner part is metal. If busy fingers were to remove all the fuzz, there would be metal underneath.



Other safety suggestions that I have recently read is to make the fabrics into a pillowcase before adding the activities. This prevents the [binding](#) from being removed and it secures the activities to several layers of fabric. As much as possible, please machine stitch your activities to the quilt for extra security. Please make sure all activities and fabrics are washable. Some homes wash the fidget quilts almost daily.

The fidget quilt in this demonstration has the theme "Cats". I started with a cat square from *Missouri [Star Quilting Company](#)* but added a zipper with a pocket underneath to house a mouse. The mouse's tail is sewn into the pocket, so it doesn't become loose when used. The zipper is plastic, so as not to "bite" fingers. My cat, Samantha, was happy to donate some of her old toys for a great cause. They were washed and dried in my household machines.



The cats on the sides are cut from a velvet texture fabric. The ears are lined with a fancy stitch and the eyes are buttons. One cat has a fish toy in its mouth and sports a lace collar. The other sports a ribbon collar that can be tied and untied. Another fish with multiple textures tempts the center cat.

A family member who has cherished cats her whole life might become attached to a fidget quilt such as this one. It can be created from fabrics and toys that invoke pleasant memories. Your local nursing home or assisted living center will be thrilled with your donation!