



# 2023

## President's message:

Hello Fellow Quilters,

The holidays are upon us. The weather has been unseasonably warm. According to the forecast it is supposed to cool down by Halloween. Then Thanksgiving is just around the corner. Christmas is just two blinks away. Then it's New Year's Eve. Happy 2024! Okay, take a breath, enjoy today and remember to live in the moment.

We had a wonderful presentation by Cynthia Simpson at our October meeting where she showed us how she makes her Christmas ornaments. If you didn't have the opportunity to see her vast collection of beautiful ornaments at the Christmas bazaar in Brandon, Cynthia will be at the Candy Cane Marketplace Christmas Crafts Fair at the Clyde Muse Center at Hinds Community College in Pearl on Saturday, November 11 from 9 to 4. Make sure you stop by and say hello to Cynthia.

Don't forget our November meeting is Auction Month!! **"Make It, Bake It, Sew It, or Grow It!"** is our auction theme This is not a garage sale. Please follow the guidelines and we will have a great time. Bring items you have made, baked, sewed, or plants and we will auction them off, so bring cash or your checkbook! This is our only fund raiser so please be generous.

Quilt on,

Kathleen Greer



**2023 Fall Gathering—October 20-21**  
The event was a great success. Great vendors and speakers and a great time with new and well known quilting friends.

---

## Minutes of Monthly Meeting

**October 2, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by our President, Kathleen Greer. There were 40 members present and two visitors—Janice and Susie.

- The September minutes were presented for approval as published in the September newsletter. Motion to approve by Pam Avara and second by Delene Browning.
- Treasury report by Ann Callender, our guild currently has a balance of \$3301.64. Full payment has been made to Lake Tiak O'Khata for the retreat.
- Library Liaison, Sarah Ketchum reported that the quilts currently displayed in the Library were made by Ann Callendar. Be sure to view them.
- Pam Beard, Sunshine Care report—5 birthday cards were mailed out in September and she has 10 cards ready to go out for October birthdays.
- Polly has received a couple of Community quilts, but will wait for more before delivering.
- Debbie Wilson reported that our annual retreat was a success, everyone had a great time. The plans have started for 2024 retreat.
- MQA update by Ann Callendar—Fall Gathering in Biloxi on October 20th and 21st. Registration, hotel and meal options available on the MQA website at [mississippiquilt.org](http://mississippiquilt.org)
- Karen Petrignani is in the beginning phases of organizing our December Christmas party. Volunteers will be needed, please let Karen know if you can help.
- We are in need of a Webmaster for our website and Facebook account. Pam Avara is currently handling the tasks and will be our President next year. Lisa Dunn graciously agreed to be trained by Pam and take on the task.
- Someone inquired on dues—they are \$12/year and collection starts in January.

Announcements -

- Rankin County/Brandon Quilters Sit-n-Sew is Saturday, October 7th.
- Wynndale Quilters will have a two day Sit & Sew on Thursday and Friday, October 12-13. Be sure to bring your lunch and extension cords.

Kathleen announced the candidates for the 2024 Brandon Quilters leadership:

- ⇒ President—Pam Avara
- ⇒ Vice President—Karin Brown
- ⇒ Secretary/Newsletter—Patricia Welsch
- ⇒ Treasurer—Ann Callendar

Diana Carey-Smith made the motion to accept the new slate of officers as noted; Ruby Lowe second the motion. All agreed, there was no opposition. Our 2024 leadership has been voted in. We are in need of a new MQA representative (please let Kathleen or Pam know if you are interested). Sarah Ketchum has agreed to remain as our Library Liaison.

Pam Kirby presented the Ruler of the month as Tips, Tricks and Tools that she picked up during our retreat at Lake Tiak O'Khata.

Our program was presented by Cynthia Simpson. Gorgeous Christmas ornaments that she makes with Styrofoam balls and folded fabric.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Welsch

Secretary/Newsletter Editor

## Ruler of the Month -



Pam Kirby wanted to share a few of the Tips, Tricks and Tools that she learned and utilized during the Quilt Retreat in September.

**Tips**—she learned of Leaders and Enders for the first time. (Bonnie Hunter’s favorite) Not only assisting when sewing lots of Half Square triangles—but also making Bonus Blocks for future projects.

**Tricks**—her mother, Martha Ludke likes to layer pieces and/or small strips on a long ruler in multiples for easy transporting to her sewing table and machine.

**Tools**—she did find the setting triangle ruler that Polly had presented in August very useful on the projects she worked on while at the retreat.

## Program—Christmas Ornaments



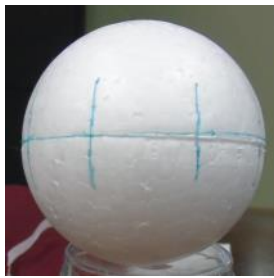
Cynthia Simpson spoke and gave a demo on how she makes Christmas ornaments, the technique is from [ornamentgirl.com](http://ornamentgirl.com). There are several YouTube videos on the process. Cynthia puts her own special touch on the ornaments, utilizing local SEC team fabrics, her biggest sellers. She also sells a lot made with Christmas fabrics.

- She starts with a 3 inch “smooth” Styrofoam ball (marking lines are more accurate on the smooth ball)
- Lines are marked on the ball by taking a thin width of paper and wrapping it around the ball, cutting to make the ends meet. Fold the strip of paper 8 times. Each fold will be where you make markings on the ball (they will be evenly distributed)

## Program—Christmas ornaments continued

- Cut a 3" circle of fabric that will be your center (main focus). Cynthia found that a clear cake frosting lid makes a great template. Glue the circle in the center of the ball.
- Cut 8 2 1/2 inch squares of two contrasting fabrics, that will be folded for your points. The squares are folded in half, in half again and then the sides of that square are folded in.
- Push a straight pin in the middle of the crease point.
- Pin Prairie Point to marked line on ball.
- Ribbon is wrapped around the ball to hide pinned areas and a bow made to adorn the top of the gorgeous ornament.

See the website and Youtube videos for more accurate instructions. Also the [ornamentgirl.com](http://ornamentgirl.com) website has a Free workshop available.



## Sew-n-Tell



Lucy Large—COVID quilt, front and back

# Sew-n-Tell



Ruby Lowe—charm pack bags for Christmas gifts, Quilt of Valor & pillow and Christmas quilt



Beth Sonnier -  
Anita Murphy's Reversible vest  
(Front and back of one side)



Cindy Pannier -  
Marilyn's Mystery Quilt  
(UFO)



# Sew-n-Tell



Diana Carey-Smith -  
Oakleaf on Point  
And  
Star quilt



Polly Duggan -  
Crazy Triangles  
(Community quilt)  
*Polly also showed a bag made  
from Kaffe fabric, unfortunately  
the photo was blurry.*

# Sew-n-Tell



Christy Calhoun -  
Fall table topper  
and  
Marlene's quilt



Lori McDade—Pink Lemonade (a quilt for her)



Susie Guyton—Thanksgiving  
Wool pillow



Pam Avara—Quilted jacket (sweatshirt) and Athena in LSU colors

# Sew-n-Tell



Cindy Barnett -  
Oh Christmas Tree  
(each ornament is a  
Machine embroidery  
Creation with tear away  
Foundation.



Pam Kirby -  
Community  
Quilts



Pam has challenged  
herself to make  
enough quilts by  
Christmas that each  
child at the local  
Domestic Violence  
Center gets a quilt  
for Christmas







Brandon Quilters  
Newsletter  
237 Maplewood Dr.  
Madison, MS 39110

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE



Inside this issue

President's message .....1  
October minutes..... 2 & 3  
Ruler of the month.....3  
Program .....3 & 4  
Sew & Tell..... 4-8  
Dates to remember.....9

***Dates to Remember***

**Guild meeting—Monday, November 6th  
at Brandon Library; 6:30 pm**

**Make It, Bake It, Sew It, Grow It**

**Auction night**

**Sit n' Sew— Saturday, November 11th**