



Brandon Quilters

January 2025

President's Message:

Greetings –

It's been cold the last couple of weeks, and a great time to stay in and get some quilting done. Personally, I've finished 2 of my UFOs and I'm working on a 3rd. You still have time to get your UFO lists in for the year. Debbie has heard from the retreat center and will have those rates for us at the meeting on February 3th. If you have a President's Challenge block, feel free to bring them in. The box and check in sheet will be on the back table. Have you picked your fabrics for the Mystery Quilt? The next clue will be posted after the meeting.

February we will have a representative from the Star Fire Department speak. We will be presenting quilts to them, so if you have one ready for donation please bring it. Please include a label "Made for you by Brandon Quilters".

Finally, do not forget, we are putting together a photo roster, so be prepared to have your photo taken at the meeting.

Stay warm and dry,

Pamela A.
(since there are now 4 Pam/Pamela's in the group!)

January 6, 2025 minutes -

The meeting was called to order by president Pam Avara. There were 33 members and two new members in attendance. Welcome to new members Janeane Babb and Pam Walker. Pam reminds everyone to wear their name tags to assist our new members in getting to know us.

Pam asked for a motion to accept the December minutes as published in the December newsletter. A motion to accept the minutes and second was made, approved by all.

We plan to take photos of all members, starting prior to our February meeting. A photo guild roster will be generated and shared over the next few months.



January 6, 2025 minutes *continued* -

Pam announced that Lisa Dunn is moving. Volunteers are needed to replace her as our MQA representative and webmaster. Kathleen Greer volunteered to fill in as our MQA representative and Patricia Welsch volunteered to be the new webmaster.

Amy Schwalm announced that she is also moving, late January. She is moving to be near her two sons, their spouses and children in the Huntsville, AL area. We will miss them both.

Ann Callender gave her treasurer's report, stating we have \$5413.98 in available funds.

There were no updates to share on Community Quilts or our Retreat this month.

Pam Beard stated she has mailed out the January birthday cards.

Sarah Ketchum informed us that Susie Guyton's quilts are currently displayed in the library, be sure to check them out.

Our Sit-n-Sew's will be held the first Saturday of each month this year.

MQA is holding their Spring Gathering in Hattiesburg on February 7 & 8 at their convention center. Visit MQA's website at mississippiquilt.org for additional information.

Gulf States Quilting Association will meet in Slidell, LA on Saturday, January 18th with workshops on the 16 & 17th. Additional information is also available on their website—gulfstatesquilting.org

Christy Calhoun invited all to attend the Wynndale Quilters meetings this year, being held the second Thursday each month. In March, May, August and November they will have two-day sit-n-sews on the second Thursday and Friday. All are welcome to attend. Please bring your machine, projects and lunch.

Pamela Kirby announced she has donated 47 dog beds.

Guild dues of \$12 are due by our March meeting.

The 2025 UFO challenge form is available and should be completed and returned by March. It has been decided not to offer fat quarters when UFO's are brought in for Show-n-Tell as they do not appear to be popular at this time. The fat quarters we have will be utilized as a MQA prize.

Pam's 2025 President Challenge is a 12.5 inch quilt block made with 4.5 and 2.5 inch squares, pattern on our website. Completed blocks are due at our April meeting. A community quilt will be made from the blocks.

Pam is also starting a Mystery Quilt. Four fabrics for the blocks and 1 for the background are required. It is recommended to avoid directional, plaids, strips and large prints. Instructions can be found on our website under "Activities". Pam will give monthly instructions with the "finishing" instructions shared in October.

Pam asked if anyone has program or class ideas to please let her know. Kathleen Greer stated that she has had several inquired about her offering the Charm Bag class, she is willing to teach once a date is decided.

Paulette Walley thanked guild members for their quilt donations for the flood victims she was assisting.

Karin Brown asked for volunteers for our Tips and Tricks during the 2025 meetings. Christy Calhoun, Pam Avara and Patricia Welsch volunteered. Please contact Karin if you would like to be listed as a presenter.

January 6, 2025 minutes *continued* -

Lucy Large then presented our program and shared numerous helpful Tips and Tricks.

A Thank You note from the Brandon library was shared for our donation for the use of our meeting room.

Sew-n-Tell was shared and our meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Welsch

Secretary/Newsletter

Program—Tips & Tricks—Lucy Large



- Use magnets to pick up metal items. An extending magnet is very useful in hard to reach areas.
- Timers are useful for reminding crafters to get up and move.

Sewing machine maintenance -

- ◇ Clean after each use
 - ◇ Use a brush or cotton swab to clean out lint (small brushes similar to mascara brushes do a great job too)
 - ◇ Oil your machine with oil recommended in your manual
 - ◇ Keep machine accessories that you use the most close to your sewing machine
 - ◇ Wipe your machine and table freeing them of dust and dirt
- Clean cutting mat surface with coarse sponge (from Dollar Tree)
 - Press fabrics prior to sewing—Faultless spray starch or Flatter spray (better than Best Press) to remove wrinkles.
 - Use organizers—Nest for rulers and circular organizers for sewing supplies
 - Creative Grid rulers are Lucy's preferred brand
 - Most common rotary cutters—Olfa and Fiskars, save rotary blade packaging to dispose of used blades.

Program—Tips & Tricks—Lucy Large *continued*

Pressing -

- ◇ Use a wool mat (clean with lint roller)
- ◇ It is best to press quilt blocks with numerous seams open
- ◇ Clappers used when pressing make flatter seams

Keep a cell phone stand near your sewing area for keeping notes (that you will not misplace)

End seams with 2 to 3 stitches beyond the seam before snipping threads (to avoid raveling seams)

Recommended glues for sewing are Acorn glue and Elmers washable glue. Use a glue stick for paper piecing.

An easel for photographs near your machine can be used for reading instructions. Use post-it notes to cover up instructions that do not apply to the task you are working on.

Lay out your quilt block prior to sewing together to ensure proper assembly.

Press quilt top before taking to long armer and hang on clothes hanger for transportation. Do the same for the backing fabric.

When laundering fabric, clip the savages at the corners and it will not fray.

Sew-n-Tell—

Pam Avara, Ruby Lowe and Danielle Butler show their quilted tennis shoes. A class to be held at Ritzy Quilting this spring.



Sew-n-Tell—



Marilyn Rose -
Soliloguy
Aurifil Spools
Chock-a-block
White gem stones
quilts



Diana Carey
Smith -
Lone Star and
Wolf panel



Sew-n-Tell—



Pam Walker—Dragon quilt



Wanda Deaver—Duck panel



Ellen Meeler -
Disappearing
4 patch



Martha Ludke -

T-shirt, baby and 2024 BOM quilts



Goods and Services provided by our members:

Quilting related:

Danielle Butler, owner Ritzy Quilting Company, quilting fabric, accessories & long arm services - 601-850-7913; Ritzyquilting@yahoo.com

Paulette Walley, owner Twin Oaks Crafts, sewing and quilting machines, fabric, accessories & long arm services - 601-506-7514; twinoakscrafts20@gmail.com

Jonce' Smith, Tucker Trimmer licensed instructor, 601-201-3011; jblainessmith@gmail.com

Judy Stanley, computerized E2E longarm quilting and makes t-shirt quilts, 601-942-9882. Also has ETSY page: <https://handmadesbyjudith.etsy.com> for her thread catchers.

Other:

Jo Patterson, artisan jewelry, metalsmithing and lapidary artist (text) 601-842-3139;
FaceBook - Jo Patterson Artist

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Dates to Remember

Sit n' Sew

**Saturday, February 1st at the
MS State Extension Bldg**

**Monday, February 3rd—Guild meeting at the
Brandon Library - Social Time at 6:00 pm;
Meeting begins at 6:30 pm**