



APRIL 2025

Quilters –

Wow! What a great birthday month for Brandon Quilters. I thought for sure 40 chairs would be enough. It is great that we are growing. And the number of blocks turned in for the President's Challenge – I think in blocks alone there we had enough for 7 lap quilts, not to mention the tops and quilts turned in over the past few months. Thank you for participating. I can't wait to see the quilts as they are finished.

As I write this Quilt Week Paducah has wrapped up. Some of you were fortunate enough to go to the show. I'm looking forward to hearing about the show. The week inspired me to get into my quilt studio and move some projects toward completion. Now I have a pile of binding to do.

See you soon.
Pam



April 7, 2025 minutes -

The meeting was called to order by president Pam Avara. There were 46 members in attendance, including new member Sheila Kolle.

Pam asked for approval of the March minutes as noted in the March newsletter. Beth Sonnier made a motion to approve, Marilyn Ross made the second and all approved.

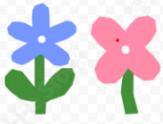
Ann Callender gave the Treasurer report, we currently have a balance of \$8,197.03 (includes retreat funds), \$5,564.22 as the current available funds.

Polly Duggan reported that 12 quilts have been delivered to the Children's Safe Center.

Pam Beard mailed out 5 March birthday and one Get Well card.

Sarah Ketchum shared that Cindy Barnett's quilts are currently on display in the library.

The May's Sit-n-Sew at the Rankin County Extension building is Saturday, May 3rd. Kathleen Greer will be teaching how to make the charm bag. She distributed a supply list to those that plan to attend. The class will start at 9:00, please be there when the doors open at 8:30 to be set up and ready to begin on-time.



April 7, 2025 minutes *continued* -

Christy Calhoun invited all to join the Wynndale Quilters for their sit-n-sew on the second Thursday of each month from 9:00am– 4:00pm at the Wynndale Baptist Church. Please bring your machine, projects, beverages and lunch.

Pamela Kirby thanked everyone for their continued fabric donations for dog beds. She's had lots of beds to deliver lately.

MQA update, Kathleen Greer—The Summer Gathering is scheduled for June 6 & 7 and will be at the Eagle Ridge Conference Center in Raymond. Rooms are currently available at the conference center for \$105 (plus taxes and fees). Classes will begin on Friday at 1:00, break at 5:00 and resume after dinner. Classes will resume Saturday morning and continue till noon. MQA is requesting nominees for Legacy Quilters. Please see the MQA website for the nomination form and additional information. The deadline is July 22nd. New MQA President Susan Rademacher has presented a President's Challenge for MQA's 35th anniversary, a 35" x 35" quilt that is to include the colors of Coral and Jade.

GSQA (Gulf States Quilting Association) will have their quarterly meeting in Pensacola, FL on April 12th. They also had classes during that week to register for, taught by one of their circuit teachers. See the GSQA website for details.

Debbie Wilson reminded us to get our registration forms and \$50 deposit turned in for our 2025 retreat that will be held September. We currently have the minimum of attendees met, but more are welcome to attend. She will inform us when the final room count is due to Lake Tiak O'Khata.

Polly Duggan presented Tips and Tricks, she spoke on quilt borders.

Debbie Wilson also informed us that the Brandon Artisan Festival held on March 29th was well attended. Her team received a lot questions and people showing interest in quilting and our guild. Thanks to Debbie, Beth, Pamela Kirby and any others that assisted with the event.

MS Cultural Crossroads will continue to have quilts on display through April 30th during their Pieces 'n Strings quilt show. Their location is 507 Market Street in Port Gibson, MS.

Pam Avara shared the 4th clue to our 2025 Mystery Quilt, we will be making flying geese. There are a lot to make, so please use the method you prefer as there are numerous methods to select from. Check out YouTube videos and try several till you find the one that works the best for you.

Karin Brown, requested donations of empty prescription bottles with lids. Please remove labels and bring to our May meeting.

Drum roll!!!—380 of the President Challenge blocks have been turned in. These will make several lovely community quilts. Pam utilized a "randomizer" app and selected nine winners from those that had brought in blocks. Each recipient received various precut fabrics. Those winners were -Marcella Comans, Lucy Large, Dorothy Rainer, Martha Ludke, Pamela Kirby, Ann Callender, Beth Sonnier, Patricia Welsch and Cindy Bratz. Thanks to all who participated. Our program included arranging blocks on design walls Pam had up on the wall and enjoying cake for our birthday celebration.



April 7, 2025 minutes *continued* -

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

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Welsch

Brandon Quilters Secretary/Newsletter

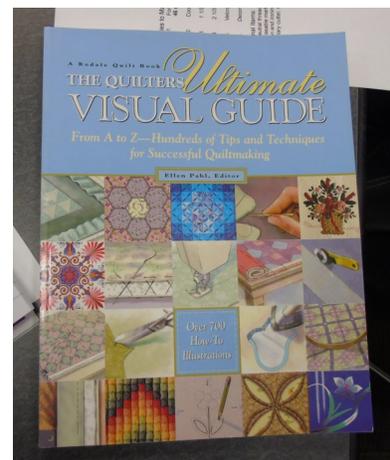
Tips, Tricks and Tools—



Polly shared the following tips on quilt borders -

- Design and plan ahead considering portions of the blocks.
- Blend borders with the color theme of the quilt
- Cut border strips on the lengthwise grain of fabric if possible
- Cut and sew as accurately as possible
- Be accurate when measuring for borders.
- Add small narrow borders first, to frame the quilt design

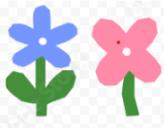
Polly referenced a Rodale Quilt Book—The Quilters Ultimate Visual Guide, From A to Z—Hundreds of Tips and Techniques for Successful Quiltmaking—Ellen Pahl, Editor



See Polly's full set of notes on Page 13 of newsletter.



June Gathering is scheduled for June 6 & 7. Classes and registration are on the MQA website. Check the classes out and register before they reach their capacities. mississippiquilt.org

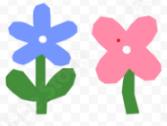


Mystery Quilt—Clue 4

Pam demoed how to make 4 flying geese at one time. Clue 4 for our Mystery Quilt will have us making a lot of them—32 for the small quilt (16 of Colorway 1 and 16 of Colorway 2) or if making the large quilt a total of 120 (60 of Colorway 1 and 60 of Colorway 2). We should all be experts on making flying geese once this phase of the quilt is complete.



Thanks to Karen Petrigani for the picking up the beautiful cake to complete the celebration of our guild's birthday.



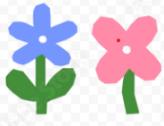
Sew-n-Tell



Wanda Newell -Sneaker Ball and Camping & Fishing



Sarah Ketchum—Thank Your Star quilts for QOV



Sew-n-Tell



Sarah Ketchum—Hunter's Star



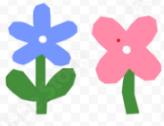
Ann Callender—Daisy Baby quilt



Karin Brown—Wedding Ring
table runner

Marilyn Rose—various,
very functional bags





Sew-n-Tell



Marilyn Rose—Gemstone quilt



Sample of Staying Positive that Marilyn will be teaching at the MQA gathering in June.

(Free pattern on the Free Spirit fabrics website.)



Quilt resulting from Marilyn doubling the size of the blocks of a free on line pattern.





Sew-n-Tell



Medina Richards—Flowers & Bees
(a 3-yard quilt)

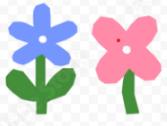


Dawn Taylor—Bubbles



Linda Wolfe—Bear Claw in a Log cabin and collage wall hanging (an Emily Taylor design)





Sew-n-Tell



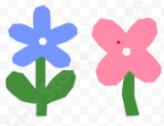
Martha Ludke—president's challenge block quilt & ONE block quilt



Ellen Meeler—Periwinkle



Pam Walker—cute puppy wall hanging



Sew-n-Tell



Debbie Wilson—Baby quilt and completed 2024 block of the month



Pamela Kirby -

D is for Dragon, Modern Music and Sarah Shines Bright





Sew-n-Tell



Cyndi Bailey—chandelier wall hanging



Beth Sonnier—Squares in multi-color



Diana Carey-Smith—Star baby quilt, Squares and Gold & Purple



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; jblain smith@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, May 3rd at the
MSU Extension-Rankin County Bldg
Kathleen Greer teaching Charm Bag**

**Guild meeting—Monday, May 5th at the
Brandon Library - Social Time at 6:00 pm;
Meeting begins at 6:30 pm**

Top Tips From 10 Top Teachers

1. Designing your borders:
 - A. Make border width proportional to quilt block size: full size, three-quarter size, half-size, etc. of the block.
 - B. Plan ahead- don't just put one on to bring it up to the desired size.
 - C. Design the border with a feature of the interior blocks.
2. Buying and piecing fabric for solid borders:
 - A. If possible, cut borders from lengthwise grain of fabric for stability.
 - B. If piecing is necessary, sew with a diagonal seam as it is less noticeable.

3. Accuracy: Be as accurate as possible when piecing your blocks, as small errors add up quickly when there are many seams. Also, be accurate when measuring for borders. Two schools of thought on measuring body of quilt to add borders: Originally, we were taught to measure three times, each side and down the middle. Hopefully these will be the same or very close. Cut the border the average of these three measurements. However, the Rodale resource book and some of our teachers suggest one measurement down the center of the quilt top.

Once the border is cut, mark the center of the border and the quilt top. Pin at each end and the center then ease the quilt to fit.

4. This last tip was also included in the Rodale resource: Add a narrow $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to 1 inch border between the center of the quilt and a wide border. "This frames the design, adds an accent similar to a mat around a picture, and often repeats one of my favorite colors from the quilt." And as Billie noted, will stabilize those numerous seams from the quilt blocks themselves.