



Rocky Mountain Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild

Washonaji Quilt guild

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Birthdays

July

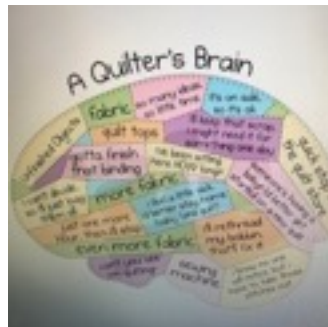
Tonia Schneider - July 9
 Brenda Ames - July 13
 Mary Davis - July 14
 Christine Jacques - July 18
 Deborah Barela - July 20

August

Connie Turner - August 16
 Moira Jackson - August 20

September

Ann Worsencroft - September 5
 Joette Bailey-Keown - September 6
 Mary Sharp - September 12
 Sandra Coleman - September 19
 Elorise Hawkins - September 22



June - August 2017

The Trunk Show at Smokey Hill Presbyterian Church was awesome as shared by an attendee.

From: Nancy Hathcote <nancyhathcote@yahoo.com>
Subject: Thank You

Dear Ladies of the Wa Shonaji Quilting group,

I am from the Smoking Hill quilt club in Aurora. Thank you so much for your wonderful program displaying your amazing quilts. I was spell bound with each quilt presented. I had no idea that I was in for such a treat. Your singing was heartwarming and brought memories of my youth. (I grew up in Louisiana and heard gospel singing just like yours. Such sweet, inspiring memories.) I have heard many comments from other SHQC members praising your great talent and spirit in which you sang and embraced us as we joined in and became a unified community. Our passion for quilting connects us on a grand scale, but the spirit that you brought with you as you presented your beautiful productions of artistry and exquisite taste in design and quilting construction is beyond words. Listening to the history of each style of quilting was fascinating. I suggested to Sandra, one of your members, that your group should think about creating a book, showcasing your quilts along with the history lesson you presented. I believe it would be a best seller. Just a suggestion. If you do this, I hope to be the first to buy your book. God bless each one of you! Nancy Hathcote”

Joanne’s words, “She speaks so eloquently about our Guild and it just warmed my heart receive this email. As you know...I know we are **AWESOME**. However, hearing it from others just makes it even more meaningful.”

Well of course, the guild members provided their input which is as follows:

WOW! That is awesome!!! The book and video is an awesome suggestion given that we are getting so close to the 25th anniversary of the guild. It can begin with the founder and go from there I've been to several of our trunk shows and they always amaze me. SewLong Pennie E

Great idea, let's do a book about the trunk show. It's already written we just need the pictures of each quilt! pat Pat Moore

“All I can say is WOW! With tears! We are awesome! Many thanks to those behind the scenes and to those who have the great ability to speak in front of our guests! And sew on, sew on, sew on!! Karen (von Phul) Blackmon”

The choir was a hit involving the audience. The audience was impressed with the quilt show, Rocky Mountain Washonaji members were impressed with the coordination of the snow and share.

Yes, it is a lot of work to put on the Trunk Show, but when you receive an email such as this, it makes it all worth while.
Are you up to putting this Trunk Show into book form or a video?” Joanne

WASHONAJI QUILT GUILD CONTINUES TO EVOLVE!

CONNIE TURNER SPEARHEADED FIDGET QUILTS FOR ALZHEIMER PATIENTS. THE FOLLOWING QUILTS WERE PROVIDED



The world is full of magic things, waiting patiently for our senses to grow sharper.
John Butler Keats

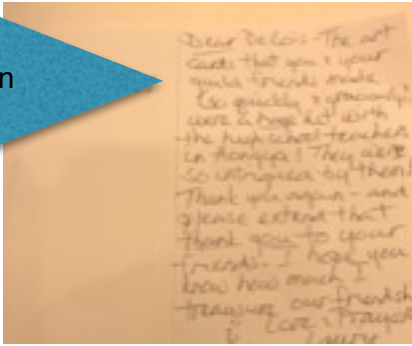


FIDGET QUILTS CONTINUED.



June 3rd's meeting included the following show and share. De Lois shared the following letter received from her friend in Japan expressing her appreciation for the quilt WaShonaji sent.

Letter from Japan



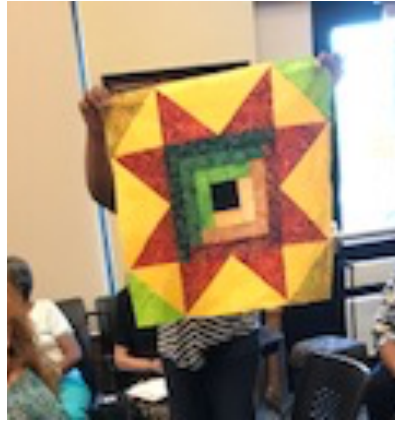
Arties Blue work

SHE DID IT HER WAY!!

WHAT??? THRIFT STORE?

June - August 2017

BLOCK OF THE MONTH



Does anyone know how much money was made this month from those who didn't complete their block of the month, "Log Cabin"

June - August 2017



Linda Whites Shadow Work.



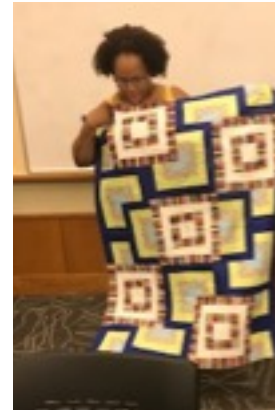
Milinda's Show n Share



Tonia Show N Share



DeLois shares

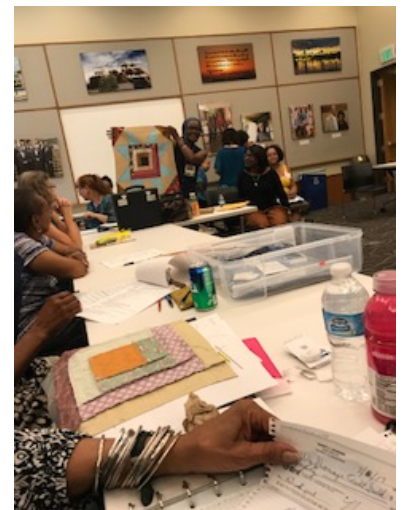


Karen von Phul
Blackmon shares

Linda White designer top



Camilla's rust quilt



July 8, 2017

The theme for our monthly meeting in July was, "Christmas in July"

Thanks to all who made it possible including the food provided by Camilla, workshops provided by Helen Kearney, involved the, Appliqué process, Susan Morrison, showed the members an easy way to make Christmas Ornaments, Marcia Walker introduced the Strip Tube Ruler and the ease of using the ruler.

Show and share began with Mrs Loretta Burleson sharing the background of her family, following the introduction of her family, Gulleta Burleson, Pastor Craig Burleson, Keona Burleson Vernon, youngest child, Angel Smith and 2 great grandchildren Emaul and Malika. Mrs Burleson shared her great grandfathers role in the civil war, and the fact that her grandfather was the author of many books including 101 reasons To Be Baptist.



One had to be there to appreciate the beautiful detail of Mrs. Burlesons' quilt.

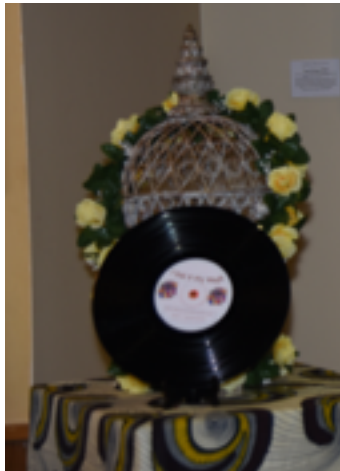
June - August 2017

The Exhibit at Blair Caldwell was a huge hit once again with the opening reception taking place on August 12, 2017 at 12:00 PM.

President Joanne Walton welcomed the audience of approximately 100 men and women, sharing the mission of Rocky Mountain Washonaji Quilt Guild.

Joanne spoke to the mission of Washonaji and introduced Our founder, Helen Kerney who shared the vision 5 women had when Rocky Mountain Washonaji Quilt Guild started 23 years ago.

“I Did It My Way”



Joanne welcomes attendees



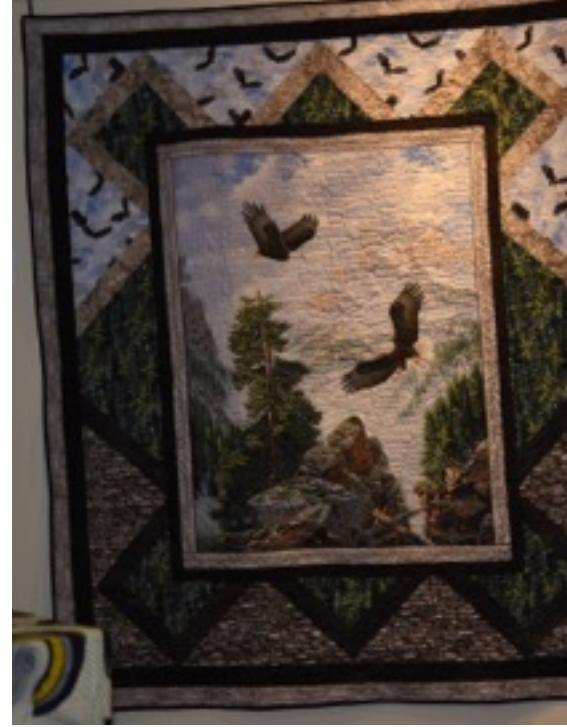
Washonaji Founder, Helen greets audience



June - August 2017



June - August 2017



Blair Caldwell art quilts



BEAUTIFUL WORKS OF ART!

How About More beautiful quilt work?



**CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF THESE BEAUTIFUL
QUILTS? NO WORRIES, THERE IS MORE.**

June - August 2017



Sunshine Ladies smile for the camera.

How about these beautiful smiles from 3 of our Rocky Mountain Washonaji Quilters as they enjoy the Quilt Show





Edith Shelton poses with her quilt titled, "Fantasy Tree"

Edith also shared the following hint: To clean your iron's sole plate try "Mr Clean's Magic Eraser". It removes starch build-up with minimal scrubbing and it does not scratch teflon coating. The iron must be cold and you should wipe the sole plate after using the magic eraser to make sure no residue is left. Much cheaper than those tubes of iron cleaner.

Edith

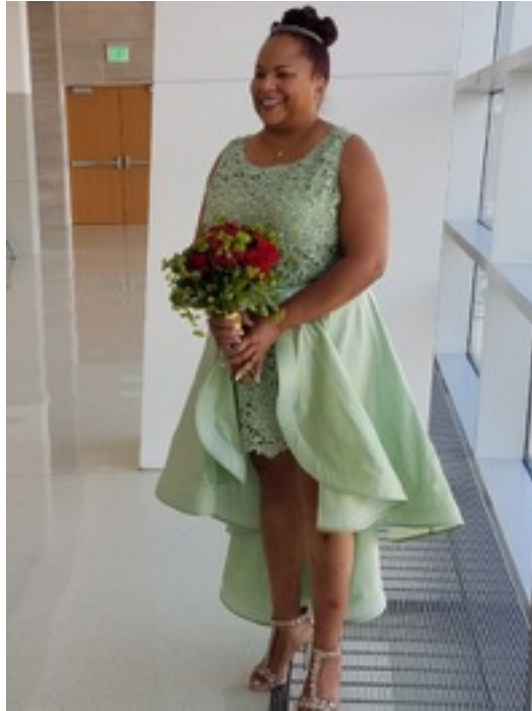


Undivided attention at the Strip ruler presentation provided by Marcia Walker

*Karen von Phul Blackmon wedding reception
(she made her dress)*

It's tough to list all the Washongji talent however here is another sample.

The exquisite detail can be seen even in a photo.



The Blackmons
glide off so
beautifully



I wish I knew THEN what I know NOW! **Mary Lassiter**

Have you ever reflected on your quilting beginnings and said to yourself, “I sure wish I knew then what I know now?” Well I certainly have. Oh, the many lessons I have learned along my quilting journey. Lessons in technique and lessons on life. I asked Guild members about their “teachable moments” and those answers are included in this article.

I begin my quilting heritage sometime in high school and was quite happy creating as a self-taught, free spirited quilter. I am inspired to, and still love *“doing my own thing.”* I have since then, learned a myriad of quilting techniques, and there are several basic skills I think every quilter must learn to successfully put together ones’ own masterpiece.

I remember my first large quilt, a log cabin, from a class taught by Cynthia Catlin. I called it “Jeweled Sea” because of the beautiful jewel toned fabrics laid out in the *fields and furrows* format, and I made it for my precious daughter. When I finished the top, I brought it to a Wa Shonaji meeting so the quilters could help me pin baste it. Well, my backing, though an inch or so larger than the back, was too small. I had to un-tape the back and take everything home. I wish I knew then that one should allow at least 4 inches all around so the backing will work well for the top. I quilted that large quilt on my home machine and it is still used today.

In the first Wa Shonaji exhibit that I participated in the nineties, I made a satin quilt. There was gold, royal blue, and red crape-backed satin. I put a red heart in the middle. Well I need to tell you, I made that quilt twice! Yes, twice. I decided when the top was completed, to give it a **“good pressing”**. That satin stretched so and was so catawampus, I could not live with it. So...I made it over and barely pressed it which is all it really needed. It is one thing to **iron** and steam yardage that you have washed to prepare it for your quilt blocks, and it is another thing to **press** your tops gently as your final press before basting and quilting. I did not know then, but I do know now that it not “jack’-o-bean” but “jac-o’-bee-en” when pronouncing **Jacobean**. Also, it is not “buffalo stitch” but “button-hole” stitch!

Pennie Estrada says that she wishes she knew that not all brands of rulers are the same in terms of size. She says, “I learned last year at Wa Shonaji’s Nov 2016 retreat that not all rulers and mats are equal. I was struggling to get my points to match. I sewed and ripped numerous times. Brenda Ames was working with me. At some point Brenda shared that not all brands of mats and rulers are the same. They are a smidgen off. 1" on one brand of mat or ruler is not exactly 1" on another brand.

Another example, try as I might to ensure my rulers do not slide when I align them in preparation of cutting they'd slide a bit. I learned small rubber tips are sold that adhere to the bottom of your ruler so it does not slide.”

NOTE: **Measure once, cut twice. Measure twice, cut once.** Be careful in measuring to avoid the frustration of re-cutting or buying more fabric. Rulers of different brands sometimes don't measure up the same as other brands. When cutting out your fabrics make sure you use the same ruler for all the pieces cut for one project. Essential tools include, “good,” sharp scissors,

small scissors for snipping threads, an 18" x 24" self-healing cutting mat (or larger if you prefer), a 6" x 24" acrylic ruler, and a good rotary cutter with a sharp blade.

Ann Worsencroft says, "I wish I knew that if you slowed down and carefully cut each piece out to the exact size and carefully sewed each piece to the exact seam allowance, it adds up to a big difference in how the pieces fit together flat and straight. I spent a lot of time early on trying to force pieces that weren't the same size to fit together."

Another lesson I have learned is to never sew while tired. Sometimes I am having so much fun, I don't stop and rest. Once I sewed through my finger. Learned that lesson well! Take breaks, stretch or just rest when you feel you are getting tired.

Use a scant 1/4" seam allowance. It is CRUCIAL to the overall quilt top. You can break a lot of rules, but I don't recommend breaking the quarter inch rule. Having too much or too little seam allowances can affect the way your blocks fit together. You could lose points on stars or have blocks end up "wonky". 1/8" here and 1/8" there can really add up too! There are many ways to gauge and accurate seam allowance. Some sewing machines come with guides, which are great, or use painters or masking tape to mark the line on your sewing machine's bed to help guide you.

When in doubt, ask someone. Remember, our Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild Motto is **"each one teach one."**

We have all had teachable moments in quilting, such as, which pins work best for us, which needle to use in the machine, metallic, or embroidery or quilting, etc. Here are a few tips I learned from experience.

There is math in quilting but don't despair if you, like I, have "math anxiety." Familiarize yourself with basic quilt math and don't be afraid to use it! You need to feel confident in understanding how pieces add up to equal a total measurement in a block or quilt and even calculate how much fabric you will need to purchase for your quilt. Once you know the basic equations, your trusty calculator can do the hard part. Here are a few basic formulas:

The total width (or height) of a block or quilt = the width of each piece X the number of pieces, minus .5" for each seam.

Total inches needed for border = quilt width X 2 + quilt height X 2 + border width X 4.

Total inches needed for binding = quilt width X 2 + quilt height X 2 + 24" excess to join.

Number of strips to cut for binding = total binding length (see previous equation) divided by 44".

Always buy slightly more fabric than you need.

Keep your sewing machine manual handy.

Quilting without rules. Learn to take a compliment graciously. Do not feel the need to point out a hundred different ways as to why it is not really that good. It IS that good, and you ARE creative! Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild members appreciate and admires one another's work, and are not here to critique. If you desire advice or a critical viewpoint, ask someone personally.

When sewing quilts that have bulky seams intersecting, like pinwheels, press those seams open. This will help the quilt lay flatter and make it easier for the machine to glide over the quilt when it's being quilted.

Rulers: Have a nice assortment of clear, non-slip rulers available. Even though it unnecessary to have zillions of them, do purchase a 6" X 24" size. Omni grid "InvisiGrip" or the

small sandpaper circles added to the underside of the rulers, helps ensure a steady hold when cutting fabric and avoid that annoying slippage.

Mat: Do invest in a high-quality self-healing mat, but try not to get in the habit of using the markings on the mat for cutting. These can be helpful if you need to cut a big piece, but for most things your rulers will provide much better accuracy.

Sharp things: Keep your rotary blades sharp, and change your needle often. You know the feeling when using a new rotary cutter, how it cuts like a hot knife through butter? You want that feeling all the time. Sharpen your rotary cutter blades or keep sharp blades handy to enjoy your cutting experience.

Lori Kennedy ([The Inbox Jaunt http://theinboxjaunt.com](http://theinboxjaunt.com)) Lists what she feels are the **Twelve Essential Skills Every Quilter Must Learn** to create a quilt from start to finish.

1. **Sewing Machine Knowledge**—Every quilter must learn the basics of using their own sewing machines. Necessary skills include oiling, threading, changing a needle, adjusting stitch length and adjusting tension.
2. **Read a Pattern**—The quilter must have a basic understanding of terminology, abbreviations, cutting and sewing instructions.
3. **Cut accurately with a rotary cutter**—This skill includes how to read a ruler, how to square the fabric, where to cut.
4. **Stitch an accurate 1/4-inch seam consistently**—This is a skill that must be learned and rechecked periodically. Inaccurate seam allowances cause distortion (and headaches) when piecing any block or quilt.
5. **Chain Piece** — This method allows for increased quilting efficiency and accuracy. Using “leaders and enders” is helpful here as well.
6. **Pressing Techniques**—The Quilter must understand how to press (not iron) to avoid distorting the quilt block. This skill also includes understanding which way to press each seam and why.
7. **Square**—Fabric, blocks and quilt tops all require “squaring” before cutting to prevent distortion of the entire quilt.
8. **Add Borders**—The quilter must learn to cut and stitch borders correctly to prevent distortion of the quilt.
9. **Create the Quilt Sandwich**—layering techniques to prevent folds and ripples
10. **Straight line quilt**—Basic quilting using straight line quilting with feed dogs engaged. (What? no Free Motion Quilting? —While *I* consider FMQ “Essential”—it is possible to create a beautiful quilt using only straight-line stitching!)
11. **Bind a quilt**— The finishing touch to any quilt. Should include a mitered corner.
12. **Label**—The quilt isn’t finished until it’s labeled!

Websites provided that you may use.

Christmas In July 2017 Ornament instructio

http://katrinastutorials.blogspot.com/2009_09_fabric-ornament-number-one.html

Joanne Walton provided this website she found and has been using to document her quilts.

- I have found it to be user friendly and a good way to keep track of quilts.

<http://www.quiltalbum.com/>