



Rocky Mountain Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild



Luana Rubin to Open 2021 for Wa Shonaji

Luana Rubin, owner of eQuilter (www.eQuilter.com), will present “Trends in Contemporary Quilting” for our first meeting of the year, this Saturday, Jan 9. This will be a ZOOM activity.

President Geneva Lottie will email the link in a few days. If you’re not sure how to Zoom, contact Geneva. You can use your desktop computer, your laptop, or even your landline phone.

The 2021 Block of the Month, “Road Trip,” will commence at this meeting as well. Sew Simple Quilt Shoppe BOM. See page 3 for details. <https://sewsimplequilts/Block-of-the-month.htm>

Future Meetings

Saturday, February 6, 2021: Lisa Sheppard, Owner of Cultured Expressions in New Jersey, will present a **trunk show** including a talk on African Fabrics. **Note:** This ZOOM webinar event will be held at **3:30 pm**.

March 14, 2021: Celebration of National Quilting Day (actually March 20) **Where Quilters Gather**. Work on individual projects. Also, Show ‘n Share activity led by Mary Lassiter.

April 3, 2021: TBD

May 1, 2021: Janet Finley, **English Paper Piecing**

June 5, 2021: Mary Sharp, **Beading and Quilting**

July 10, 2021: Artie Johnson, **Bowl Caddies**

Have you recently finished a project? Please send a photo by Monday, Jan 4, for Show n Share: h2olou3000@gmail.com

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Upcoming Programs

- January 9—Luana Rubin (eQuilter) at our first meeting in 2021!
- February 6—Lisa Sheppard Trunk Show, **3:30 pm**
- March 14—National Quilting Day

President's Corner

Hi Members,

As we say Good Bye to 2020 we must be thankful that we came through the year and have been able to continue to “meet” as a Guild through the technology of Zoom. Although we were not able to showcase the Guild members’ wonderful quilting skills at our usual August Exhibit, the Guild (and our various support systems) developed an online exhibit, which was a great success. The Corona virus trapped many of us in our homes for 2020, but many of the Guild members took this opportunity to create beautiful quilts and share these masterpieces at the Guild General meetings, and this always inspires me to get to work on a quilt. Some of our members also made face masks, which were sent to one of our Native American reservations. Thank you, quilters, for sharing.

I am looking forward to 2021 and have faith that we as a Guild will continue to enjoy our love

of quilting and still serve our community. I know there are plans to make pillowcases for local nursing homes. Some of our Guild members are providing quilting classes to new quilters. Mary Lassiter has scheduled some exciting classes and a wonderful “Trunk Show” opportunity for 2021. Please check out the Guild web page for details.

Although we will not be able to meet in person for several more months, there is hope that the Guild can get together later this year. Until that happens we will continue to have monthly Zoom Guild meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2021. Keep an eye out for the agenda. Be careful and be safe.

—Geneva Lottie

P.S. The Guild still needs a Newsletter editor and I am looking for a volunteer.



2021 BOM Takes a “Road Trip”!

Hello BOM 2021 Participants!

We’re on our way to a new adventure in 2021. We’re going on a ROAD TRIP to the Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum—founded in 1994 and housed at the former Lowry AFB in Denver. The museum preserves the history of Lowry AFBV’s operations from 1938 to 1994 in its collections, archives, and research library. There is something for everyone! New exhibits provide fresh and exciting experiences visit after visit. Location: 7711 E. Academy Blvd., Denver. The museum follows all State and Federal recommendations regarding Coronavirus regulations. So have fun and enjoy the exhibits.

On your way home, stop by Trelotta Fabric Store at 29 S. Fox St., Denver. The selection of fabrics is vast and they can provide longarm services to quilt your quilts. The staff is friendly and knowledgeable.

We now have 19 participants. They are Brenda Ames, Joette Bailey-Keown, Sandra Coleman, Mary Davis, Camilla Edwards, Pennie Estrada, Mary Lassiter, Nannette Locke, Geneva Lottie, Julie Marsh, Keri Mills, Susan Morrison, De Lois Powell, Edith Shelton, Carolyn Somerville, Connie Turner, Karen von Phul, Joanne Walton, and Ann Worsencroft. If anyone else wishes to join,

please let me know because I will be communicating with this group only.

Road Trip blocks are identified by number only so this is what you will see on your schedule. I know that some of you are well on your way in finishing your blocks. Copy your instructions soon because we never know when they will be taken down. Setting instructions will be coming soon. If there are any questions, please contact Artie.

Guess What? Because of everything that is going on and Covid 19, there will be no fee for blocks not finished on time. No stress, just fun!

And **block 12 is now available** on the Sew Simple Quilt Shoppe website. Go to <https://sewsimplequilts.com/block-of-the-month.htm>

Have a quilting good time!

—Artie Johnson

2021 BOM Takes a Road Trip

Month Block “Due”—Note they’re not in order!

January #1	February #3	March #5, 6
April #9	May #2, 7	June #4
July #11, 12	August #8	September #10
October—Piece together top		
November—Quilt all three layers		
December—Show-off time!!		



Block 1 for January



Block 3 for February



Let the New Year 2021 of Sewing and Projects Begin... Forward thinking for our 2021 Annual Exhibit

We don't know what 2021 will bring as far as "social gatherings" are concerned. However, let's go ahead and prepare ourselves for either an "in person gathering" or another "Virtual Exhibit" for 2021.

Our theme this year is "Things Ain't What They Used to Be." Many of you are asking for the sizes of quilts for the side walls. These are our guidelines...

No larger than 50" wide
No smaller than 24" x 24"

We are suggesting the theme of "Faces" for the 12" x 12" quilts on the back wall.

In 2020 we have not had the opportunity to see very many faces—and those that we did see were half-covered with a mask! Let's celebrate "Faces"

by creating a portrait—self-portrait or of someone else, either specifically or generically.

Check out the link at the bottom of this story to see what other people have done. This website shows a project from Alex Anderson of *The Quilt Show*. There are lots of pages as people posted at each step: background, face, features, hair, embellishments, quilting, etc. Quilts do not necessarily look like the maker. It is the embellishments that give character to the Face. I think many of us can relate to this project and its relation to Covid 19, not being able to go out and get your facials, etc., not wearing makeup, etc.

<https://thequiltshow.com/forum/search?query=Faces&childforums=1&limit=5>

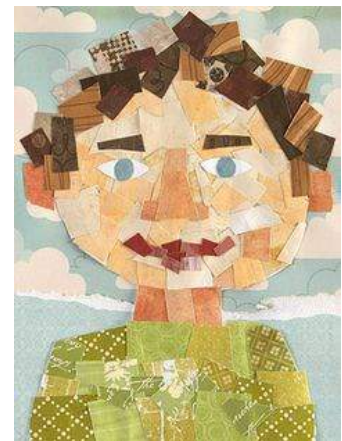
—Joanne Walton



From Alex Anderson's "The Quilt Show" website



From <https://www.pinterest.com/trudial/funky-self-portrait-ideas/>



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Sharing...

Susan Morrison: Sherry Songhurst made this quilt as a gift for Susan. “We’ve been friends for a long time.” Meanwhile Susan says she’s “just missing everybody, hoping everybody has a safe, healthy, happy New Year!”



Edith Shelton: Thankfully I am doing well and my family members are all in good health. I am doing the BOM and have been working on a yellow, gray, and black design named “Rectangular Prism.” I might have bitten off more than I can chew with this one. It is slow going. Have sorted through scraps and orphan blocks. I even found enough small blocks to make placemats. Binge-watched *Bloodlines* on Netflix, and now definitely know that binge-watching is something I will not do again soon. Thank good for music channels and CDs.

De Lois M. Powell: Paper-piecing, minus the tearing?

So, I just hate tearing away the paper when paper-piecing. I also don’t like the extra work of cutting background squares and sewing onto those.

So, I sewed 1.5 to 2-inch wide strips of fabric together, selecting scraps of colors to my fancy, enough to press to about 10 inches wide (length? at least 10 inches). Next, I place a 6.5-inch paper square, angled to get the desired scrappy affect, atop the pressed strips and cut a square from the sewn strips. Six of such squares arranged as 3 lengths by 2 widths makes a lovely placemat (thanks to Edith Shelton for the design). My results: Placemat #1 pictured here.



Joanne Walton: This ornament was made by the daughter (who now lives in California) of our neighbor who lived across the street from us when we lived in Ann Arbor, Michigan. We have been family friends since 1975. This ornament is so touching to me for many reasons and especially since my sister is in quarantine in a



Nursing Facility in San Diego and has been there for two weeks.

As of December 28, 2020, the statistics are:
US **Cases** = 19,395,715; **Deaths**=337,678
Colorado **Cases** = 326,960; **Deaths** = 4,673

This note accompanied the ornament:

The Story...

My Grandma Artie has some Christmas ornaments from her travel about the world, which have seen better days. They were silk balls encrusted with beads that were now damaged and missing beads. She wanted me to fix them, which I did, and with the extra beads and more silk balls, I made new ones too.



When Covid 19 hit, and I saw the microscopic images of the virus close up, I thought how beautiful that evil little bugger was and it made me think of those silk balls encrusted in beads. I couldn't stop thinking about it, so I sketched it out and then I decid-

ed, instead of holiday cards, I am going to make and send out Covid 19 Christmas ornaments.

I had a hell of a time finding the silk balls, finally was able to get them, American made, from a company in Michigan. Yes, of course I bought beads, but also used this project to clean out my collection (can we say "bead hoarder"!), some of which people had donated to my collection, including some really cool beads from loved ones who had passed.

I know it has been a year we all want to forget, and now it looks to be continuing into next... but hopefully this little beauty will memorialize it with a little sparkle.

Each one is handmade, imperfect, and one of a kind. Enjoy!

Cristin Harrigan

Created 10/24/2020 #38 of 144

Karen von Phul: I am doing OK. I am thankful that I have a job... for so many do not. I am thankful that I belong to a few sisterhoods and am able to bestow small gifts to them. I am thankful for my sister for taking my mother into her home! That woman (Mommie) is so sweet and being 5'2" and 117lbs can eat you out of your house! I am thank-

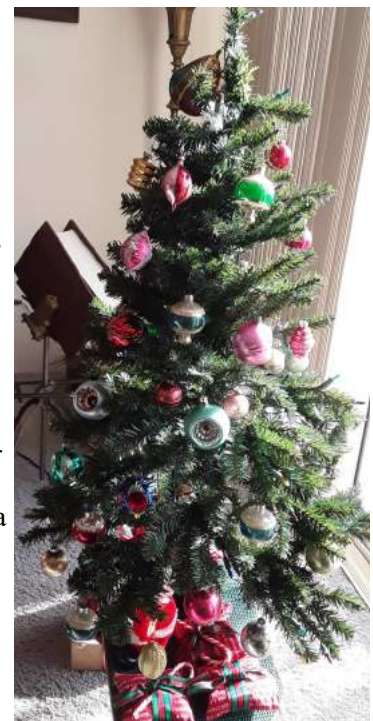
ful for Mommie! I pray that we have a blessed 2021 and we will be able to see each other again!

Oh my gosh! I have a few days off between the holidays! I have finally put the binding on a quilt for my aunt! I will be mailing this long awaited gift for her very soon. I am also finishing up my 2020 blocks of the month. Don't keep your fingers crossed on this one! ;-)

Happy New Year!



Iris Hawkins: I'm okay! Spent about three hours on Christmas with my daughter, son-in-law, and adult children exchanging gifts and kibbitzing. All masked and no touching except those in the "bubble." Here's a photo of the tree I decorated; it lights up on a timer as do the lights on my patio. Happier New Year!



Linda Hernandez: Well, so far we have survived 2020. We have taken some hits but we keep going because that's what we do.

I finished a pretty pink comfort quilt for a friend and gifted it at Christmas. We have been friends since we were 16 years old. I told her that when you don't feel well, wrap up in the comfort quilt, and consider it a hug.



I normally back my quilts with flannel but I just recently read in the Facebook group Quilting Space that some people use fleece as backing or they buy velour blankets and use that as a backing. I had heard of Minky being used but that seemed pretty messy. The people who stated they did this said they used either a light batting or none at all. I'm thinking maybe a ballpoint needle would have to be used with a walking foot for simple quilting. It's something to consider when making baby quilts or service quilts.

I've been thinking about 2021 and what I want this coming year. I want to finish up a couple more UFOs (a yearly goal), and I want to make a fun quilt with a fruit print for fun. Don't pineapples or strawberries sound like a fun theme? I want most of all for my friends and family to be safe and healthy.

Linda White: I counted my 2020 quilting projects.

2020 in Review

Finished Quilts

from Dormant Quilts – 13

from 2020 New Starts – 13

Waiting to be quilted – tops finished

Dormant Tops – 6

2020 New tops – 6

In Progress – too many to count...

A dormant completed quilt, pictured, Aspen Trees – 20" wide X 15" long



Moira Jackson: I am doing a bit better. Trying to get used to doing things with one hand. I don't know if you knew that I broke my left arm. I get very frustrated at times. Bob has been doing a great job taking care of me. He has to do everything around the house. I hope to get on the Zoom meeting for January.



Historic BOM Quilts, Completed

These quilts were made from the same historic blocks, but look at how different they are! Color choice and placement and overall layout can radically alter a quilt's appearance.

At right, Artie Johnson, who just happens to be coordinator for the Block of the Month activity, used a variety of fabrics and added a "border" element to change the look of the blocks.

At bottom right, Joanne Walton used multiple colors and ethnic fabrics for her personalized look.

On next page, top left, De Lois Powell also used a variety of fabrics and added white sashing.

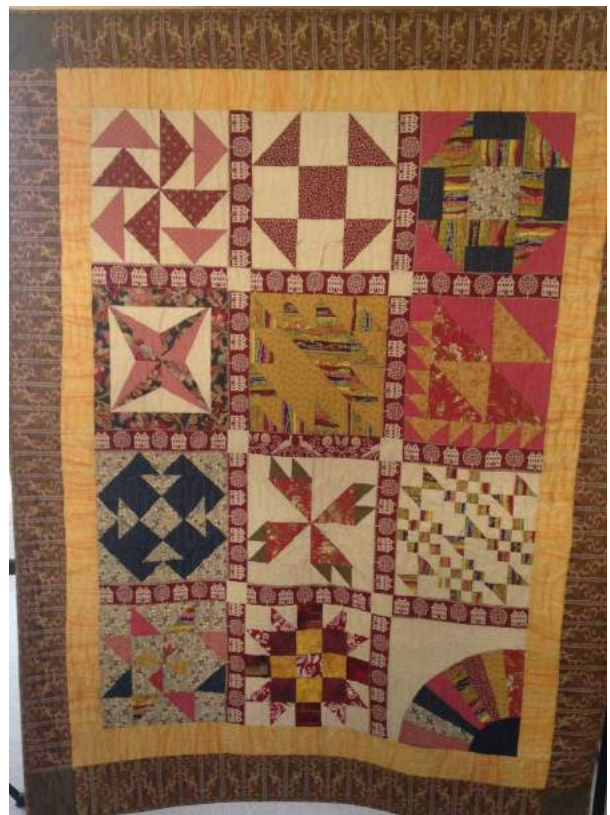
At top right Camilla Edwards chose a brown and gray color pallet plus corner squares.

Bottom left, Geneva Lottie brightened her dark brown with punches of lime green and edged the blocks with narrow, dark sashing.

And, bottom right, Edith Shelton went bright with a light background and blocks in solids and prints in red tones.



Artie Johnson



Joanne Walton



De Lois Powell



Camilla Edwards



Geneva Lottie



Edith Shelton



Sister Stitcher

Have you met Sister Stitcher? She is a mythical quilter whose quarter inch never wavers, whose bobbin never runs out, and who finishes her projects on time. She lives in a house that never needs cleaning, with a spouse who cooks and holds up quilts as requested. Her studio space measures 100x100, with lots of natural light. Oddly enough, it never needs cleaning either.

Sister is thinking about her New Year's Resolutions.

Sister, Happy New Year! How did you celebrate? What are your resolutions for 2021?

—Shonda

Happy New Year to YOU, Shonda! Sister spent it in her Happy Place: her sewing room. Where else?

Sister confesses, her 2021 resolutions are recycled from her 2020 resolutions. They, in turn, were recycled from 2019, and 2018, and 2017... You know how that goes.



And that made Sister think more about your question. Sister is not giving up on the big goals such as losing weight and finishing all her UFOs. There must be some light at the end of the tunnel, some prize on which you can keep your eyes.

But that prize seems so far off, especially when Sister steps on the scale or looks at Planet UFO. You hear that crash? The one the scale makes when it hits the bathroom wall? You see that pile of projects thrown into the yard?

Getting discouraged leads Sister to giving up or postponing her resolutions. After all, she's got a whole year.

This is how Sister sets herself up for disappointment.

Well, not this year.

Thinking about resolutions as steps toward that goal weight, those finished projects, is more helpful. Sister is not going to list some shiny Big Ideas that she'll forget all about, and then dredge up in December, beating herself up for failing. Sister is setting small, reachable resolutions that will contribute to her big success.

For example, Sister has meant to organize her sewing room "some day." It frustrates her when the perfect fabric isn't easily found in her stash. It makes her miss deadlines, and that doesn't endear her to the Exhibits Committee. Her chaos is costly too: Sister has two rotary cutters, because she



misplaced one for a month. Worse: Mr. Stitcher, in search of curved needles, could not find one in any of the three places they could have been stored. Sister had assumed responsibility for all things sewing at Maison Stitcher. Yeah...

Question, Guild Sisters: What would happen if Sister resolved to put things away after she used them? What if she spent 15 minutes before leaving her project, straightening around her machine and her cutting table? How about spending an hour sorting scraps, or labeling storage?

Answer: Sister would spend less time hunting for her rotary cutter and more time cutting her fabric. Sister would have more time for careful measuring, resulting in more accurate cutting, and her pieces would actually fit together. Less clutter on her floor would mean more space in her head for ideas, inspired by fabric, thread, or trim that she can put her hands on, ideas that will become quilts. Our Guild Sister **Valerie C. White** says that keeping her tools organized supports her creative process. You see where she is?

And of course, Mr. Stitcher would find curved needles within five minutes of entering the sacred



sewing room, reducing stress for them both. (**Artie Johnson**, Sister sees you nodding.)

Tidying up has already revealed the gift Sister intended for the annual Mrs. Wright Exchange and a great thread for a UFO. Let's revisit this throughout 2021, and see if Sister is holding firm to her resolutions:

Put it away.

Straighten up as you go.

Keep small heaps from becoming major messes.

Happy 2021, RMWSQG!

IF 2020 WAS A MATH PROBLEM

If you're going down a river at 2 MPH and your canoe loses a wheel, how much pancake mix would you need to re-shingle your roof?

Wa Shonaji Plans for Houston Quilt Festival

I would like to say that I am excited about the 2021 Houston Quilt Festival. Some things I would like to mention:

1. One room is available for Oct 28 thru Oct 31. If you're interested, please let me know.
2. The money is NOT due for three to six months. The hotel does not want to collect the down payment and have Covid 19 surge

- again so they would have to return the money. They are doing a wait and see kinda thing.
3. Show entrance tickets are sold at the door. I will contact Sharon, who is a member and works at the festival, to get info on how that works.

—Karen von Phul
720-301-9237

Thoughts about Sewing Machines from Edith Shelton

Last week I had to have my sewing machine serviced. The shop that I use had a six-week backlog of machines needing help, so they recommended a repairman who does house calls. He was prompt, efficient, and very knowledgeable. It seems he has recently serviced sewing machines manufactured in the 19th century, and those machines are still, after servicing and getting new belts, doing the job they were built for.

That fact made me think about when I learned to sew on my Mother's treadle Singer. The most difficult thing was to keep the treadle going at a good speed. My Father converted that treadle sewing machine to electric and it was smooth sailing from then on. When I bought my first machine it had a zigzag stitch. Wow, what a wonderful thing. Now I have a machine that embroiders

and has multiple stitches. It is complicated and requires a technician for maintenance. So it seems that a good backup plan, in case of massive power outages would be to have a 19th or early 20th century treadle sewing machine. No special needs except the belt. Some things never die.



January, February Birthdays

Di Nyce Brooks-Gough, Jan 12 Pat Koerner, Feb 8
Marta Barron, Jan 14 Geneva Lottie, Feb 13
Carolyn Somerville, Jan 24



LET YOURSELF REST

If you're exhausted, rest.

If you don't feel like starting a new project, don't.

**If you don't feel the urge to make something new,
just rest in the beauty of the old, the familiar, the known.**

If you don't feel like talking, stay silent.

If you're fed up with the news, turn it off.

If you want to postpone something until tomorrow, do it.

If you want to do nothing, let yourself do nothing today.

**Feel the fullness of the emptiness, the vastness of the
silence, the sheer life in your unproductive moments.**

Time does not always need to be filled.

You are enough, simply in your being.

Jeff Foster



Keri Mills' Quilts Chosen for Virtual Exhibits

Two quilts by Wa Shonaji member Keri Mills are currently on exhibit online.

“Soar to the Light” is one of 20 entries now showing in a SAQA (Studio Art Quilt Associates) virtual exhibit. Curator Katherine Wilson chose the theme “Waiting” to “explore the universal nature of waiting, a common situation in our daily lives.”



Keri explained, “I am a new member of SAQA and saw this call for entry to this juried show. I had just finished this piece as part of my Survivor Series and thought it would go with the show theme, Waiting.”

She described how her quilt suits the theme: “Many of us keep waiting for the rest of the coun-

try, the world, to catch up and put an end to racism in their hearts. This summer it was particularly tough to watch those videos. Plus, during the riots, my own son was harassed by police at a Home Depot store. It just made me connect emotionally to the mothers who have lost their children. In empathy I used one of my paintings, originally created about moms in Uganda whose sons were taken and forced into an army as children, to create this quilt. We have to continue to rise up in the face of hatred, as we wait for true equality and freedom for all.

“That is the story of this quilt. I have written a short statement to go with it:

Sometimes it is when a light passes from this world onto the next, that change and growth are the impact and end result—but what high price! This piece is about the mothers that have survived the loss of their children. Inspired by Picasso's Weeping Women series, this is a portrait of perseverance!”

The exhibit will be available through Feb 28, at www.saqa.com/art/online-galleries/waiting-saqa-virtual-gallery

Keri's quilt “Shattered Ceilings” was accepted into a show at Stola Contemporary Art Gallery in Chicago. The exhibit celebrates RBG: Rest in Power—The Life, Legacy & Mission of Ruth Bader Ginsburg. It can be viewed online until Feb 7: <https://stolacontemporaryart.com/>

Caution: You are entering an artistic zone. This is not Clutter—this is Creating. These are not pajamas—it's my work uniform.



Goodbye
2020!



Good riddance!

If 2020 was a car



If 2020 was an Ice Cream truck

If 2020 was
a slide...



If 2020 was a
pizza



News Bits 'n Pieces

Visit Rocky Mtn Quilt Museum Safely

The Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum celebrates its 30th Anniversary through Jan 16, 2021: Crazy Quilts and Art Quilts. Crazy Quilts–Victorian Quilts, an extraordinary collection from the RMQM Permanent Collection and from collections from Patty and Allen Brown, Rita Meyerhoff, and Kelly Gallagher-Abbott.

In the Northeast Gallery, see “Through A Lens,” a solo exhibit by Kathy Suprenant, winner of the 2019 RMQM “Evolutions” Exhibition. For a taste of her work, visit Kathysuprenant.com.

RMQM is strictly following all Covid-safe strategies. It is open 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday through Saturday at **200 Violet Street, Suite 150, in Golden, CO**. Visit rmqm.org or call 303-277-0377 for details on all museum events.

SAQA Archived Textile Talks Available Online

These lectures that cover a nice variety of fiber arts and quilting are available in taped versions at www.saqa.com/resources/textiletalks and www.youtube.com/c/SAQAArtquilt Sponsored by 6 quilt/fiber groups.

“Attend” Several Major Shows Online

Take advantage of these opportunities to “go” from home, take classes/lectures, shop—all with some of your favorite artists. For a general show list, visit www.quilts.com/quilt-festival/.

Road to California

This large show near Los Angeles goes virtual Jan 20–23, 2021. Check out options, take classes/lectures, etc. at www.road2ca.com. Small fee.

Quilt Con—Feb 18–22, 2021

If you are interested in Modern Quilts or want to explore that genre, this is your chance with no travel expenses.

There will be a virtual quilt show, lectures, classes, chats, all at a minimal cost. Visit www.quiltcon.com/about-quiltcon for details. Visit their website at themodernquiltguild.com for more information.

Quilt Con has photos of previous winners here – click on “quilt show” then “Quilt Con winners.” www.quiltcon.com/previous-quiltcon-winners

Much of this info is provided by Barb Gardner, GardnersDelights.com





Linda White asks, "How many of you sew in pumps?" She's afraid she's been doing it wrong!

Thank you to Geneva Lottie, Christine Jacques, Artie Johnson, Mary Lassiter, Linda White, and especially "associate editor" Joanne Walton for their contributions to this newsletter.
Editor Julie Marsh,
juliemarsh11@comcast.net