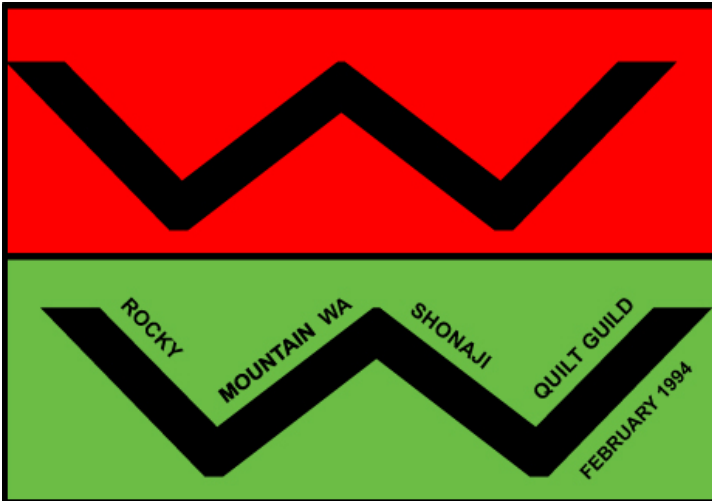


Rocky Mountain Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild

May 2022 Newsletter



A lot is happening with the Rocky Mountain Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild. We have exhibits, trunk shows, sewing projects, receptions, UFO sightings and more. Read all about it in the May issue of the Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild Newsletter !

Tighten Your Laces and Oil Your Machines!

It turns out that March's Jelly Roll Race was a false start - the Jelly Roll Race will be the May meeting activity! You will need to bring:

- A 40-piece jelly roll
- Sewing tools (see page 7)
- \$5 to participate (you need to be in-person to participate)

The winner will receive a special gift and be dubbed the Queen (or King) of jelly rolls!

If you don't want to participate in the Jelly Roll Race and want to spend time working on another quilting project, you are welcome to do that too. Spending time with fellow stitchers sharing your quilting skills is always fun.



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Welcome New Members for 2022!

Alisha Francis

and

Barbara Cohen

We are sew happy to have you in the Guild!

President's Piece

Wa Shonaji:

On April 2, 2022 we had our first meeting at CrossPurpose (3050 Richard Allen Ct.) and the staff were very welcoming. The room was very nice with updated video equipment. I hope more of our members will feel comfortable enough to attend the meetings in person. We wear masks and try to observe all COVID safety rules. We will continue to have hybrid Zoom meetings. However, only attending meetings in person will be able to take advantage of our classes, which take place after the General meeting.

Even though you do not attend meetings in person, please continue to create beautiful quilts and share them with the Guild through the online Show N' Share process managed by Linda White. Your creations inspire me and others to attempt new piecing designs.

Have a great month!

President - Geneva Lottie

On Point with the Exhibit Committee

“Words” Exhibit

Wa Shonaji has had a 12.5” X 12.5” quilt exhibit since 2018. It is a wonderful way to involve all the members. 12.5X12.5” is a manageable size, and it is a terrific way to try something new without committing to a large quilt or a technique.

The 2022 theme for the 12.5 X 12.5” quilt is “Words.” The theme was announced at the January 8 meeting and the quilts were due at the April 2 meeting. Members were encouraged to use their imagination and creativity to express themselves.

Thanks to everyone who participated. The pieces are brilliant. They will be on display for the in-person reception on Saturday, August 6 at CrossPurpose.

Questions? Contact the Exhibit Committee:

- Joanne Walton
- Linda White
- Marcia Walker
- Mary Lassiter

“Creating Connections”

The 2022 theme for the wall hanging and larger quilts is “Creating Connections.” The theme was announced at the January 8 meeting and the quilts are due July 9.

How do you Create Connections? Some ideas or suggestions that may strike a creative outlet for you are:

- Tell your story of family, friendship, new beginnings (during or after 2020, for example)
- Make a memory quilt
- Use photos
- Recycle – reuse – recreate
- Use personal items: wedding dress, bridesmaid dress, scarves, tablecloths, hankies, shirts, neckties, denim, baby clothes, old textiles (including marks, stains and tears) or a quilt fragment

Secretary's Scraps

Highlights from the March Meeting

- 27 people attended the meeting; 13 in person and 14 via Zoom.
- Linda White reported 42 renewal membership payments for 2022.
- Exhibit quilts will be shown in August at an in-person reception held at CrossPurpose. Guests are welcome.
- The 2022 Christmas Luncheon will be held at CrossPurpose. Joette is asking for catering suggestions.
- Joette is considering a Shop Hop to Fort Collins either July 23rd or 24th. She is thinking of visiting two quilt shops, enjoying lunch, and then returning.
- Brenda Ames will contact Glenda Brown from the Colorado Quilting Council and discuss scheduling Documentation for 2023.
- Monica Lynn requested help with the newsletter.
- Happy February Belated Birthday wishes to Geneva Lottie, Toni Reddick, Pat Moore. Happy March Birthday wishes to Joanne Walton, Linda Hernandez, Milinda Walker, Linda White, Barbara Robinson, Pennie Estrada, Susan Morrison, and Mary Lassiter.
- A get-well card was sent to Nanci Vaughn.
- Please inform Reniese of any Milestone Birthdays.
- Nanci Vaughn received three comfort quilts this year. There are 21 quilts in inventory.
- Joanne Walton thanked everyone who participated in the show at Red Rocks Community College. RMWSQG was invited to participate again next year.
- The Loveland Quilt Shop has asked us to do a demo for Juneteenth. More information to follow.
- RMWSQG has been invited to participate in the Jazz Festival in Evergreen, July 29-31st. The Board agreed to participate. Joanne estimates they may ask for 10 quilts. Help is needed to carry quilts and stands and to set up and tear down.
- Ann Worsencroft would like to demo forms of Guild communication, including Slack, Facebook and the Forum, at next month's General Meeting.
- [March's Show and Share](#) participants were, Julie Marsh, De Lois Powell, Joanne Walton, and Monica Lynn.
- Chris Jacques, VP of Programs for the Colorado Quilting Council, and a member of RMWSQG, screen shared a flyer depicting guest speaker, Valerie White (RMWSQG Honorary Member), at CQC on March 26th 10am via Zoom.

The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any.

- [Alice Walker](#), author of "[Everyday Use](#)"

Secretary's Scraps

Highlights from the April Meeting

- 33 people attended the meeting; 20 in person and 11 (+ 2 guests) via Zoom. Guests were Sharon Henry and Barbara Cohen.
- Linda White reported the Guild has 49 paid members.
- Di Nyce Brooks-Gough taught the Cathedral Windows class.
- All classes will be in-person only moving forward.
- 2022 Documentation was canceled and Brenda Ames is working with Glenda Brown from Colorado Quilting Council to see if it can be scheduled for next year.
- Monica Lynn is still hoping for someone to help out with the newsletter.
- Connie accepted the suggestion to go through the library books and identify books that the Guild should keep, give to members, store as gift for a new member or donate.
- The primary contacts for following through with the 501c3 will be Edith Shelton and Reniese Johnson. They have enough information to move forward with a draft.
- Happy Birthday Wishes to Kathy Kruckenberg, Cassandra Sewell, Monica Lynn and Marcia Walker.
- Reniese will send Joette a card on behalf of her retirement.
- The Trunk Show on March 31st at the Loveland Museum went well. There were 100 people in the audience and 15 members attended. The Guild received a \$200 check, and a book donation titled, "The Little Ghost who was a Quilt".
- April 24th is the speaking engagement at Theaterworks Colorado Springs.
- Linda White collected the 12.5x12.5 WORDS quilts today. The "Creating Connections" quilts are due July 9th.
- Ann reported the Forum is not being used and therefore will be removed off the website and the Board is discussing other means of communications that members can use between meetings.
- Joanne Walton reported the Guild's banner is in progress. She and Alan White are deciding on two designs and will present them to the Board.
- Luana Rubin announced that Mission of Love in Ohio is accepting lap/nap and small bed size quilt donations for Ukrainian refugees. The quilts may be dropped off at her office in Boulder or can be mailed directly to Mission of Love. Feel free to add a label with a message of encouragement or pin a note to the quilt. See her newsletter or [blog](#) for more information and updates. They are also taking financial donations for food and medical supplies.
- April's Show and Share in-person participants were Camila Edwards, Brenda Ames and Di Nyce Brooks-Gough. Luana showed images of the quilts that have been donated to Mission of Love.
- Linda Hernandez announced that the [Southern Colorado Regional Quilt Show](#) is in Pueblo from March 31 – April 9, 2022.

2022 Block of the Month

Congratulations to Edith Shelton, Brenda Ames and Joanne Walton for completing their quilt tops and De Lois Powell for finishing all her blocks.

If you are working on the block of the month, please send a note to Artie Johnson and let her know. When have finished your block, send her another note to let her know.

Artie encourages everyone to have fun with the project. The blocks are easy and neat.

The quilt size is 54.5"X64.5". If you wish to make it larger, just add more borders.

All instructions are on the internet: [I Love to Make Quilts - Fall Frolic Sew Along](#)

If you have questions, email Artie or call her at 303-364-7723.

Fall Frolic Schedule

Month	What you get to work on!
January	Cut out sashing
February	Block 1 - Swirling Fall Leaves
March	Block 2 - Pumpkins
April	Block 3 - Sweaters
May	Block 4 - Back to School; work on setting blocks
June	Block 5 - Windows Open
July	Block 6 - Apple Picking; work on setting blocks
August	Block 7 - Fairs, Football & Tailgating
September	Block 8 - Cozy Nights; work on setting blocks
October	Block 9 - Fall Flowers
November	Assemble your project
December	SHOW OFF YOUR BEAUTIFUL PROJECT!



Wa Shonaji Zigs and Zags

Upcoming Wa Shonaji Programs

- May 7: Jelly Roll Race, led by Mary Lassiter.
- June 4: The Alkebulan Reversible Tote, taught by Varna Nolen.

Comfort Quilt

Former Guild member Camille Gary called Karen von Phul for a quilt for a fellow minister in California who is battling cancer for 4 years. On April 10, Camille visited Jan Rowe and gave her the quilt in this photo as a prayer blanket. Brenda Ames constructed the quilt.



Wa Shonaji on Tour

So far this year, Wa Shonaji has been asked to display or present quilts at Red Rocks Community College, the Loveland Museum and the Colorado Springs Ent Center for the Arts. The Guild has at least two more events planned:

- July 29-31 - an exhibit at the Evergreen Jazz Festival
- September 12 at 10 am - a Trunk Show for the Monarch Quilt Guild in Poncha Springs

Wa Shonaji Retreat

The WSQG Retreat will be October 13-16, 2022, at the Highlands Presbyterian Camp and Retreat Center in Allenspark, CO.

As of now, we have 13 participants for the 2022 Retreat in October. My goal is to have at least 16 participants or more. I would like for the guild to be made whole since RMWSQG made the deposit for us. If you would like to attend, please send a \$75 deposit ASAP to:

Rocky Mountain Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild
Attention Nannette Locke.
P.O. Box 370405
Denver, CO 80237-0405

The cost for the retreat depends on when you arrive:

- \$247 – Arrive after 9:00 am on Thursday, October 13; meals begin with lunch.
- \$231 – Arrive after 1:30 pm on Thursday, October 13; meals begin with dinner.
- \$175 – Arrive after 9:00 am on Friday, October 14; meals begin with lunch.
- \$164 – Arrive after 1:30 pm on Friday, October 14; meals begin with dinner.

An extra \$5 will be charged for arriving before 9:00 am Thursday morning. All prices include \$5 for a gift bag.

Refunds are available should you change your mind before September 10, 2022.

Contact Karen von Phul if you have questions.



Why quilters are rarely asked to mow the lawn

Wa Shonaji Zigs and Zags

Placemats for Meals on Wheels

Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild is making placements for Denver's Meals on Wheels program. The program serves 400 - 500 people. This is a great opportunity to try a new technique or practice quilting while providing a lovely extra to the meal recipients. Meals on Wheels suggests laminating placemat donations. Laminating a quilt is not terribly easy or practical, so be sure to prewash your fabrics - and use washable materials. Please do not buy fabric; use your scraps or fabric donated by Luana Rubin. Contact anyone in the guild if you need fabric.

Wa Shonaji is asking each member to make three placemats and bring them to the June 4 meeting. Placemats can be any shape so have fun with the project! Need some ideas for making placemats? Take a peek at these resources:

- [All People Quilt](#)
- [All People Quilt - Quilt-As-You-Go Pattern](#)
- [Pinterest](#)
- [Crafting News](#)
- [Missouri Star Quilt Company](#)
- [Sew Joy Company 9s a Charm Pattern](#)
- [Asian Placemats](#)

Thank you, Artie Johnson, for the Quilt-As-You-Go, 9s a Charm and Asian Placemats patterns!



Basic Sewing Supplies for Classes and Retreats

- Sewing Machine – cleaned and oiled, with manual, machine foot pedal, power cord and extension cord with surge protector
- Accessory feet, bobbins, new needles, cleaning brush
- Scissors for fabric, scissors for paper, small scissors
- Straight pins, quilting safety pins, pin cushion
- Good quality neutral thread: black, gray, white, tan, off-white
- Seam ripper
- Marking device for quilting, chalk, fabric eraser
- Pen/pencil and paper for note taking, pencil sharpener
- Tape measure
- Masking tape (blue painter's tape is best)
- Small traveling iron and ironing surface
- Stiletto
- Rotary cutter, replacement blades
- Rotary ruler(s); another small ruler
- Self-healing cutting mat
- Bag for trash
- Chair pad
- Task lamp
- Portable design wall or felt and a way to attach to the wall– bulldog clips or pins

Wa Shonaji Zigs and Zags

Wa Shonaji Trunk Show at the Loveland Museum

By Joanne Walton

Wa Shonaji's Trunk Show for the Loveland Museum's "Thoroughly Historic Thursday" program, was originally scheduled for February. Postponed due to inclement weather, "Stitches in Time: The Deep Roots of Quilt making in African American Culture" was rescheduled for March 24 and Wa Shonaji showed 45 quilts to a packed audience of about 100 people.

Jennifer Cousino, Curator of History at the Loveland Museum, was thrilled with the 100+ people in attendance and how engaged the audience was. Our contact person, Barbara Lambert, is the Martin Luther King, Jr. Loveland Events Chair.* She noted that at one point, the audience actually gasped when one of the quilts was opened on stage. Some other comments she heard were:

- "What a positive response there was to the program."
- "The variety and number of quilts blew me away!"
- "Very impressed with the whole event. I left that night motivated to start up on my quilt project again".
- "Oh, I have been to other trunk shows, but nothing like this. Oh, so many amazing quilts!"
- "I learned so much from the speakers!"
- "How did they make some of those intricate designs in only a month?" (No, they were not created in a month!!!)
- "When are they coming back?"

We certainly were pleased with the audience and the participation in the question and answer segment, as well as the comments heard after the Trunk Show. We met some



people who had seen our Trunk Show before and came to see it again.

Our Trunk Shows are well-oiled events. Marcia Walker does an AWESOME job of organizing the quilts and making sure the correct quilt comes out according to its place in the script. Those who hold and fold the quilts are AWESOME. Although the Chorus is not in place right now, Mary Lassiter did us proud by leading us in "Lift Every Voice and Sing" and "Wade in the Water." Brenda Ames did an AWESOME job with the delivery of her segment of the script for our Trunk Shows. Our president, Geneva Lottie, gave the introduction to the Trunk Show and talked about the Guild and our mission. Thanks also to those members and their spouses who were in the audience. If you read Monica Lynn's email about the Trunks Show, I'd say she summed it up with her "WORDS!"

Twenty-two Wa Shonaji members participated in the show. As I always say, without your quilts, there would not be a Trunk Show. We value your participation and willingness to be engaged in these Guild events.

*Barbara also donated "The Little Ghost Who Was A Quilt" to our Library.

Wa Shonaji Zigs and Zags

Wa Shonaji Trunk Show at Colorado Springs Ent Center for the Arts



The Guild was invited to participate in a panel prior to the Sunday, April 24 performance of “[The Bluest Eye](#),” a play adaption of the book by Nobel Prize and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Toni Morrison.

On Sunday, April 24, Marcia Walker, Joette Bailey-Keown, Stephanie Hobson, Mary Lassiter and Joanne Walton, trudged down to the [Ent Center for the Arts](#) in Colorado Springs to join play director Lynne Hastings for a panel discussion on the tradition of quilting in Black American Communities, in context with the show and the scenic design. As part of the discussion, Wa Shonaji showed 28 quilts to an audience of about 20 people. As always, the Guild was well received. As a bonus, the Wa Shonaji group was able to meet and talk in depth with the cast and director.

The “Bluest Eye” is the story of young Pecola, who wants only to be loved by those around her. Instead, she faces ridicule and abuse. Blaming her dark skin, she prays to change, sure that love will follow. With rich language and bold vision, the story examines standards of beauty, a young Black girl’s coming of age, and the devastating events she endures as a result of the pain around her.



(Continued on next page.)

Wa Shonaji Zigs and Zags



The backdrop for the play is a series of patchwork quilts extending from the ceiling to the floor. A part of the floor is dirt. There is a dramatic scene where something extraordinary happens with the patchwork quilts that are extending from the ceiling. It is a must see in person, so head down to Colorado Springs to support this director and cast. The play, which runs through May 15, is just AWESOME!

On the way home, Marcia, Joette, Stephanie, Mary and Joanne were greeted with a snow storm that lasted from Colorado Springs to the edge of Denver.

“Life is a quilt made up of many shapes, colors, and threads that together tell one story.”

We all have a quilt and are part of a bigger quilt, a community. We bring everything that we are to that bigger quilt, everything that we come from...all stitched together. Some pieces are damaged, frayed, faded, worn, and, maybe, a little out of place, but they are all part of our wholeness. When you look at someone's quilt, make sure you see ALL of it, not just what you think is attractive, appealing, or comfortable. Take time to learn about the frayed and faded pieces of their quilt so you can understand who and why they are. When you do, you then become connected to them, and you add to your own quilt by taking pieces of that person with you. Seeing someone...really seeing someone, can change (or save) a life. - *Play Director Lynne Hastings reflecting on the significance of "The Bluest Eye" to her own experiences.*

My Mother Pieced Quilts

By [Teresa Palomo Acosta](#)

they were just meant as covers
in winters
as weapons
against pounding january winds

but it was just that every morning I
awoke to these
october ripened canvases
passed my hand across their cloth faces
and began to wonder how you pieced
all these together
these strips of gentle communion cotton
and
 flannel nightgowns
wedding organdies
dime-store velvets

how you shaped patterns square and oblong
and
 round
positioned
balanced
then cemented them
with your thread
a steel needle

how the thread darted in and out
galloping along the frayed edges, tucking
them in
as you did us at night
oh how you stretched and turned and
rearranged
your michigan spring faded curtain pieces
my father's santa fe workshirt
the summer denims, the tweeds of fall

in the evening you sat at your canvas
-our cracked linoleum floor the drawing
board
me lounging on your arm
and you staking out the plan:
whether to put the lilac purple of easter
against the
red plaid of winter-going-into-spring

whether to mix a yellow with a blue and
white and
 paint
the corpus christi noon when my father
held your
 hand
whether to shape a five-point star from
the
somber black silk you wore to
grandmother's
 funeral

you were the river current
carrying the roaring notes

forming them into pictures of a little
boy reclining
a swallow flying
you were the caravan master at the reins
driving your threaded needle artillery
across the
 mosaic cloth bridges
delivering yourself in separate
testimonies

oh mother you plunged me sobbing and
laughing
into our past
into the river crossing at five
into the spinach fields
into the plainview cotton rows
into tuberculosis wards
into braids and muslin dresses
sewn hard and taut to withstand the
thrashings of
 twenty-five years

stretched out they lay
armed / ready / shouting / celebrating

knotted with love
the quilts sing on

Thought-Provoking Quilts Offended Bank Customers

By Julie Marsh

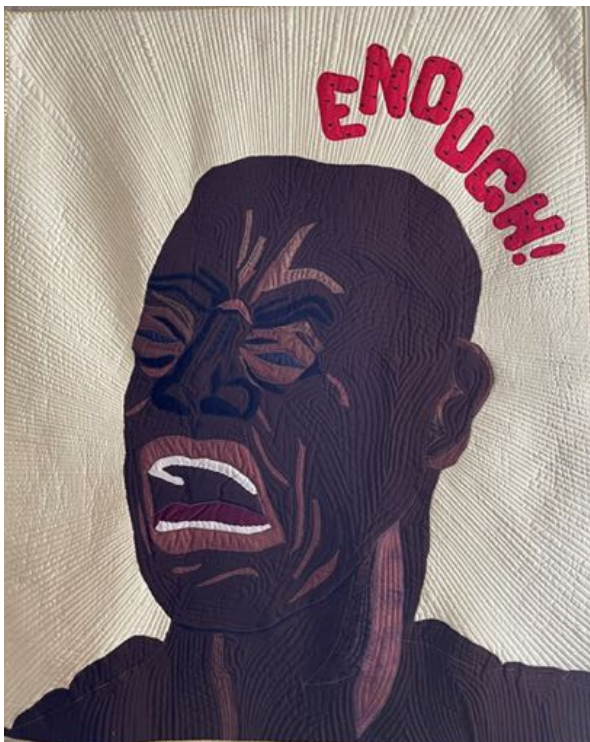
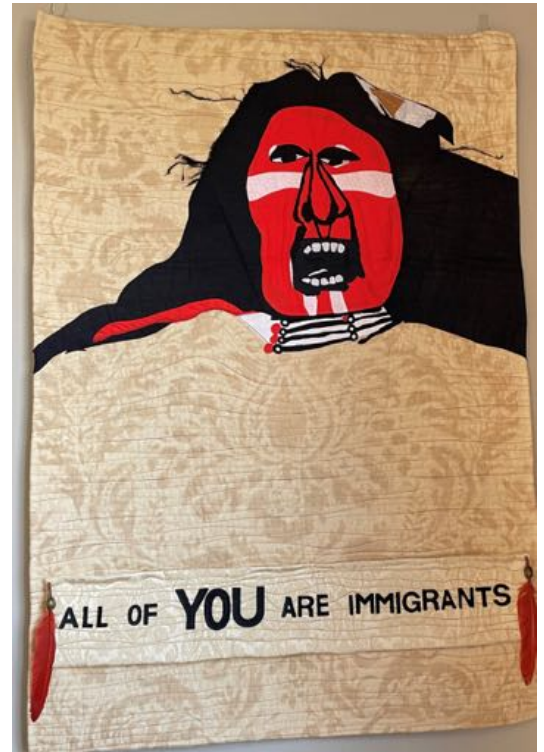
My husband and I visited friends for a long, warm weekend in Southern California. The “boys” had a vintage car exhibit in mind, but Gail and I weren’t sure what to do. The day before we arrived, she saw an intriguing newspaper article about a quilt exhibit. Gail is not a quilter, but she does appreciate them and knows how I feel about them.

Artist Allyson Allen’s exhibit, “Piece-ful Protest,” opened February 24 at the Wells Fargo bank branch in Laguna Beach. When we saw it on February 29, it had already been moved to a new location. Allen’s quilts address social issues such as civil rights, social justice, the women’s movement, environmentalism and partisan politics. Although Allen thought some of the pieces might be considered “edgy,” none are lewd or profane. When a few bank customers objected to the material as being “too aggressive,” the bank [closed down the entire exhibit after only six days](#).

The 36 quilts were accepted by the Neighborhood Congregational Church in Laguna Beach. Pastor Rodrick Echols said the church has been a longstanding venue for creative expression. [About 200 people attended the opening at the church](#). The Laguna Beach Independent said, “The bank’s decision to evict the exhibit has surely resulted in a far greater degree of attention to the social justice and civil rights issues addressed in the quilts than it could have prompted had it remained in the [bank’s] upstairs gallery...”

Allen explained that the images and text were taken from various protests over the past two years, but that some topics go back decades. “Unfortunately, they’ll probably still be issues of protest ten years from now,” she told a reporter. At the opening, she noted, “You don’t have to be afraid to look at any of these pieces, unless you’re afraid to look in the mirror.”

Allen’s quilts are exquisite. Her designs, color choices, techniques, and the way she makes her point are outstanding and an inspiration to see. And the messages are moving, some to the point of provoking tears. Even the “boys” appreciated Allen’s quilts.



Allyson Allen Piece-ful Protest

Artist Statement—Allyson Allen

PIECE-FUL PROTEST—Because unique and beautiful protest art gets attention and can inspire change. These quilts document some of the ongoing racism, xenophobia, and misogyny that was amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic. Each quilt focuses on an issue of social or global concern.

I am a former high school English and Special Education teacher. For thirty years I've been teaching quilting, doll making, and altered book art through state-funded programs in public and private schools, including three southern California Youth Authority facilities for seven of those years. I also teach at quilt shows, quilt retreats, for quilt guilds, and on multi-guild quilt cruises.

My unique, original story quilts are in a genre considered information art. My quilts combine art, craft, research, original design, history, and culture in traditional and contemporary pieces exemplifying a cross-disciplinary approach to quilt making. I use traditional materials to create unique, dimensional textile art, quilts, dolls, and handmade books. My work often references American history, social issues, African folklore, or Black history. Many of my quilts are created specifically for storytelling presentations. My handmade quilted journals usually incorporate recycled materials, fabric, and stitched paper elements. My work has been exhibited throughout the United States as well as in Canada, Europe, and Africa.

I am a multiple California Arts Council grant award recipient, twice nominated for NEA National Heritage Fellowship consideration, and have been recognized for three decades as an award-winning Master African American Quilt and Doll Artist by the state of California. I am a Special Exhibitor, lecturer, and instructor for Mancuso National Quilt Shows.



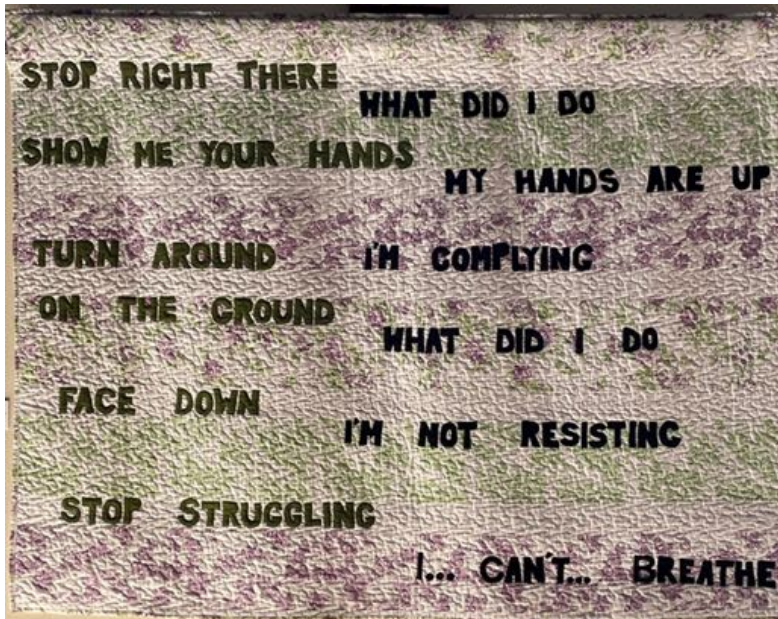
Allyson Allen Piece-ful Protest



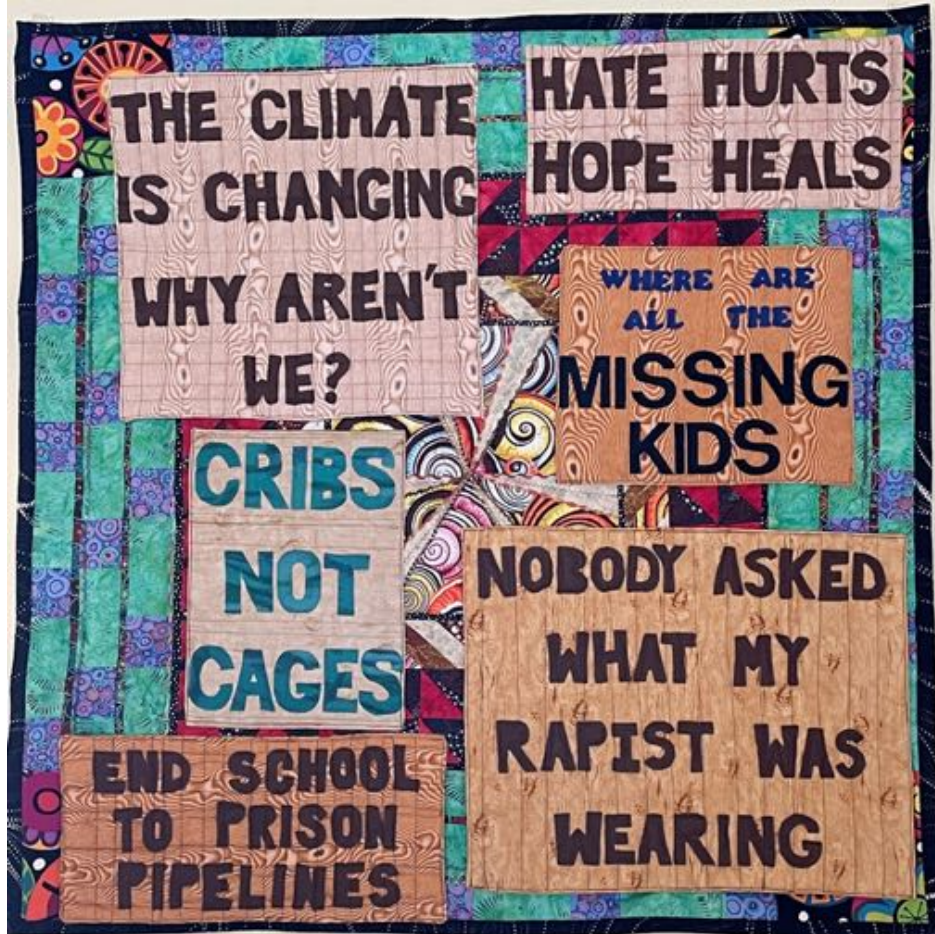
Allyson Allen Piece-ful Protest



Allyson Allen Piece-ful Protest



Allyson Allen Piece-ful Protest



UFO Sighting

By Edith Shelton

UFOs - we all (most of us) have them. The quilt top is finished and put away until we find the perfect backing. Or our attention is caught by a gorgeous quilt in the magazine we just received. However it happens, that unfinished quilt is put away and the next one started. A few months or years go by and suddenly you realize there are five, ten, twenty neatly folded and safely stored quilt tops of various sizes languishing and longing to be finished. Since this picture was taken I've discovered two more finished tops, one with the backing folded with it. Maybe we should have a contest to see how many of our needy quilt tops can be completed! Of course, that means we will have to resurrect all those stitched tops. How many do you have?



Little UFO Quilt Block

By Monica Curry from cutstitchandpiece.blogspot.ca

Here is a [pattern](#) for an adorable and easy UFO project that you can finish in an evening. Finished quilt size is 12"x12". It's a great project to practice a simple New York Beauty and simple appliqué. I wonder what a Wa Shonaji fleet would look like?



May Recipe

I hope this edition's recipe takes you down memory lane and lands you in a happy place from the past.

When I was growing up, late at night I watched a zillion old movies that took place in New York City. Young people would order a drink called egg cream at the soda counter. The drink seemed to be synonymous with NYC (we thought a cherry phosphate was a special treat to order on a hot and humid summer day at Shapiro's Drug Store in Cincinnati). I never really knew anything about it except that it did not have eggs in it.

A few years back, I wanted to make something different for my younger son and decided to make an egg cream (instead of a root beer float). In doing a little research (the internet sure comes in handy) I discovered how to actually make an egg cream and we fell in love with it. Now, I understand the original may have been a drink that included an egg, but the egg was eliminated in the poorer neighborhoods (also known as boroughs). Thus, the eggless egg cream. And, if you read to the end you will find another variation you may find even more pleasing.

- *Netta Toll*

Egg Cream Recipe

Ingredients

- Fox's U-Bet chocolate flavor syrup or any chocolate syrup
- Cold whole milk or half-and-half
- Ice-cold club soda or seltzer water

Directions:

Pour 3 tablespoons of chocolate syrup and 1/4 cup of milk or half-and-half into a 16-ounce glass. While beating vigorously with a fork, slowly add club soda until the glass is almost full. Add a straw and serve very cold.

Extra:

To make a dirty egg cream, add 1 1/2 ounces of rum or vodka to the chocolate sauce.



Sunshines!



May Birthdays

20 May - Adrienne Bryant

21 May - Iris Hawkins

May Birthday Fun Facts:

May was named after Maia, the Greek goddess of fertility.

People born in May, the National Smile Month, consider themselves to be the luckiest people! They are more optimistic than people born in the rest of the year and optimism has been scientifically proven to be associated with happiness and maybe even a longer life.

The least common birth date is May 22. Supporting the data, Iris Hawkins missed it by one day!

In any given year, no month begins or ends on the same day of the week as May begins or ends.

The May birthstone is emerald and the flower is lily of the valley.

May days of note include Hug Your Cat Day (May 3), Star Wars Day (May the Fourth) and Memorial Day (May 30).



June Birthdays

4 June - Steve Bowley

8 June - Helen Stubblefield

8 June - Netta Toll

8 June - Annie Mabry

8 June - Mary R. Davis

11 June - Erna (Jeanette) Sanderson

11 June - Helen Kearney

26 June - Camilla Edwards

June Birthday Fun Facts:

June is named after the Roman goddess Juno, the goddess of marriage and childbirth.

In any given year, no month begins or ends on the same day of the week as June begins or ends.

People born in June are considered social butterflies because they are charismatic, talented and good-looking. They are intelligent, inquisitive and great communicators and can easily draw everyone's attention.

June birthstones are pearl and alexandrite and the flower is the rose.

June days of note include Father's Day (June 16), World Environment Day (June 5) and the Summer Solstice (June 21).

Quilting Threads

Around the Neighborhood

[Quaking Aspen Quilt Guild.](#)

- May 19, 12-3p m. General Meeting. In-person meeting at Boulder Valley Christian Church. [Kate Colleran](#) presents “Modern Traditional Quilts.”
- June 16, 12-3 pm. General Meeting (virtual). [Teresa Duryea Wong](#) presents “Japan 2.0, The Next Gen Quilters.” Meet the next generation of Japanese quilt artists who are creating original, modern quilts with a global eye while still managing to reference the Japanese aesthetic.

[Colorado Quilting Council.](#) May 21, 10 am. Luana Rubin discusses “International Quilt Trends.” In-person & Zoom options. Email cqceditor@gmail.com for information or a link.

[Arapahoe County Quilt Guild](#)

- May 12, 6:30pm. In-person meeting at First Plymouth Congregational Church. [Mary McCauley](#), a mixed media fiber artist, will present a trunk show of vessels and pop-up pages in quilted form. Please [register!](#) Guest fee \$8.
- May workshops: “Fantastic Fusion” with [Lisa Walton](#), who will be online from Australia. Two online sessions - May 14 and May 21, 6-9pm. Sign up [here](#).

Upcoming Quilt Shows

[Quilt, Craft and Sewing Expo.](#) May 26 - May 28. Castle Rock, CO.

[Dolores Mountain Quilters Quilt Show.](#) August 19 - August 20. \$5. 400 Riverside Ave., Dolores CO, 81323. Over 100 entries plus a raffle quilt.

[Houston International Quilt Festival.](#) October 30 - November 5.

Bookmark this [blog from Rona the Ribbiter](#) for a complete list of 2022 quilt shows!

[Columbine Quilt Guild.](#) Meetings are held at 6:30 pm at Denver Church of Christ in Arvada and are open to the public. \$5 guest fee.

- May 9 meeting will be held at the Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum. Speakers, including Columbine members Rita Meyerhoff, Sandy Reinke, and Pat MacMillan, share personal stories about the museum. Current Museum exhibits will be available for viewing. \$5 guest fee.
- June 13. [Diane Murtha](#) presents “Accept the Challenge,” an informative and humorous perspective on her quilt challenge experiences, including a trunk and slide show plus lessons learned, other ways to challenge yourself, and sources of inspiration.
- June 18, 9:30 am - 1:30pm. Workshop with Diane Murtha. Registration required. “Fabulous Feathers, Wings, and Flowers.” Learn to embellish your quilts with 3-Dimensional petals and leaves using Murtha’s floral wire technique. Cost is \$35. For a supply list or questions, contact [Caryl Thompson](#).

Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum Happenings

Current Exhibits (through July 16)

- “Evolutions.” Artists in fiber and mixed media showcase the evolution of their art quilting journey.
- “What did Ming Miss?” [Kathy Suprenant](#) presents her newest works

Fabric and Friends Auction. May 7 at the Denver West Marriott Hotel. Purchase tickets at the [RMQM website](#).

Sunday at the Museum. May 8, 2 pm, via Zoom. A delightful Mother’s Day Tribute to Ming (Even Clams Have Mothers) by Kathy Suprenant.

Sister Stitcher - Wedding Bell Blues



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 talking about wedding gifts and unwelcome “requests.”

It's wedding season, Sister! Beaming parents, most of whom I'd call acquaintances, stop me at church, at the grocery store, and everywhere to admire pictures of The Ring and the happy couple. I admire the pictures, I say congratulations. Then they take a step closer to me. And do you know what that means, Sister? The beaming parent is going to ask me to make a quilt for the happy couple. Queen size, or king size, in the bride's colors. It would be such a lovely wedding present! But no pressure, no.



I suppose I got this name as the “quilt lady” when my sister asked me to make one for her foster child. I was happy to sew for that dear girl, who still comes to Thanksgiving every year. I made quilts for my children when they got married, for my best friend's son, and for some other special children when they jumped the broom. It's easy to make a quilt for someone I love. It's harder to get excited about someone I don't rightly know.

The request usually hints at a wedding invitation, and comes wrapped in “quilt guilt.” Just today, one of the ladies in my walking group sidled up to me, and whispered “Jasmine's always felt so close to you. She just can't wait to see you at the wedding! Now, when can she have her quilt?” Sister, I haven't seen much of Jasmine since I bought Girl Scout cookies from her! Where did her mother get the idea that I'm making her a quilt?

I'm flattered that people like my work so much. But honestly, Sister, I quilt because I want to, not to make quilts for my postman's third cousin's stepdaughter. Plus, it's more than I can spend on a wedding gift. But how can I say no? I don't want to be rude.

Not Another Double Wedding Ring

Dear NADWR,

“No, I'm afraid I won't be able to do that.”

That's how you say that you won't be making a quilt for the happy couple. Next question?

Sister Stitcher Cont.

Suppose Jasmine's mom asks why?

Now that's a rude question. Sister hopes that Mother of the Bride's mother raised her not to ask why no gift is coming. But if Jasmine's mom didn't get the memo, try heaving a deep sigh, then say something like "There just isn't enough time to make the kind of quilt I'd want to give her."

Suppose I'm invited to the wedding?

A quilt is truly a gift from the heart. Your time, your effort, and your love go into a quilt. If you're not moved to sew one and you want to give a wedding gift, see about those gadgets on the registry, or make a pillow. Embroider some dish towels. No one ever has enough dish towels. Your gift does not have to be a quilt.

Suppose they offer to pay me for making the quilt?

Oh, this will be fun!

If you're walking with Jasmine's mom, stop dead in your tracks. Then stagger a little and put your hand to your heart. Widen your eyes, give a little gasp, and exclaim loudly, "Are you asking me to SELL one of my quilts?"

This will communicate that you have been wounded deeply, *deeply*, by the mere thought that you would exchange your heartfelt gift for filthy lucre. You're not that kind of girl.

(Sister knows that professional quilters will forgive you this bit of theater. Miss Manners would agree: Desperate times call for desperate measures in etiquette.)

Recommending a trustworthy quilter will soften the blow, NADWR. Before your next walk, arm yourself with some cards from [Mary Davis](#). Beautiful quilts for broom jumpers are available! Just not from you.

You quilt because you want to quilt, NADWR. You don't owe anyone your time or your joy. Say no gracefully, and get on with your sewing.



Tips 'n Tricks

Will Your Fabric Bleed?

Spray a small square of fabric with water, put a paper towel on top, and iron until it's dry.

If you get color on the paper towel, you know it's going to run.

- Linda White

Getting Actual Blood Out of Fabric

While binding a baby quilt for a friend, I pricked my finger and it bled enough to leave a little blood stain on the quilt. Gross! I googled "how to get blood out of fabric" and it turns out there is an easy way for little spots of your blood. Use your own spit - the spit and blood have to be from the same "owner." There is a protein-breaking feature of saliva (an enzyme) that breaks down the blood. Also gross, but I washed the quilt prior to delivery. I've heard that hydrogen peroxide works as well, but I was worried I'd end up with a bleached spot

-Monica Lynn

Moisturize Your Thread?

I'm doing overall quilting on a panel quilt—to finish it fast! Ha!—and it's the first time I've done a lot of free motion quilting on my new machine. So many loops on the top threads, tons of eyelashes underneath. So frustrated! I called Sew n Vac, which sold me the machine. They said I should slow down and use a quilting needle. Didn't help. So I schlepped the machine to their store where the lovely young lady tried it. She suggested I use NEW THREAD! What a difference! Did you know that in Denver's climate, it's suggested you keep/use thread for only four years? It dries out! Still not perfect, but I'll finish this fast quilt tomorrow!

- Julie Marsh



Don't Let Your Fabric Bleed

I love dying fabrics and using batiks - both of which have a tendency to bleed. Don't yell at me if this doesn't work for you, but I use Shout Color Catchers all the time. I throw all kinds of fabrics together in the

wash, along with vinegar and Synthropol. Overkill? Maybe, but I have never had a fabric get ruined in the wash. That combo, along with Oxi-Clean, seems to work for me.

- Monica Lynn

Fixing Fabric Bleed

- [From Alderwood Studio](#)

Do not put a quilt in the dryer if the dye has run! Here are a couple of solutions to try if you have had some bleeding:

- Soak quilt in hot water with Synthropol.
- Apply Dawn Ultra Pure Dish Soap liberally to the spot, let it sit for a bit and then wash.
- Rewash with Shout Color Catcher
- Apply a mixture of equal parts hydrogen peroxide (3%) and Dawn dish soap. Let it sit and then rewash.
- If it is just a little, you might try spotting the pesky areas with hydrogen peroxide.

Do you have a favorite tip or trick? Have you come across a new one? Please [share](#) so we can all learn it!