

### Executive Board and Committee Chairs

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Co-Presidents	
- Susanna Gantt	253-431-5659
- Sharon Meeds	253-941-0224
Vice President	
- Anna Hudson	253-905-7170
Secretary	
- Kathy Wyckoff	206-824-3307
Treasurer	
- Lisa Martin	206-235-2701
Membership/Newsletter	
- Jill Ellis	253-927-1260

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Archives	
- Maddie Hall	253-293-9870
Audit	
- Teresa Koe	253-845-1612
Block of the Month	
- Theresa Fancher	425-562-4149
- Gail Woods	253-344-1104
Community Outreach	
- Tina McCarter	253-737-8122
Community Outreach BOM	
- Marianna Garrett	253-347-1345
Email	
- Mici Wiggins	360-519-3442
Hospitality	
- Pam Elliott	253-941-9052
Liaison with Avalon	
- Sharon Meeds	253-941-0224
Public Relations	
- OPEN	
Quilt Show 2015 Chair	
- Linda Hill	253-661-9281
Raffle Quilt (2014)	
- Diane Kellar	253-874-0537
- Connie Mayor	253-921-1027
Retreats	
- Janine Walker	253-941-4958
Storage Unit	
- Janine Walker	253-941-4958
Sunshine	
- Peggy Pierce	253-750-0220
Telephone	
- Margaret Mortenson	253-839-0954
Webmaster	
- Lisa Martin	206-235-2701

## President's Piece: Susanna Gantt

"To ensure misery, strive to achieve perfection in all that you do." Julie Fei-Fan Balzer

The above quote is from an article in Cloth Paper Scissor November/December 2013.

I have been sewing for so many years that I forget sometimes how much I enjoyed it at the very beginning. I remember the first time I made a garment that fit and didn't look homemade—what a thrill that was! As I began sewing things for my first home and for my first baby, it was a time of pure enjoyment and satisfaction. Then, because of financial needs I began to sew for others. I still felt good when I produced a quality product (usually a garment, but also drapes, upholstery, pillows, dolls, etc.), but I can't say that it was an artistic experience. I got out of the habit of making something just because it was fun. When I first began making quilts, I felt creative again. Then, before you know it I was making things for bazaars, art shows, and other people. Instead of creating for the satisfaction and fun of it, I began to look at projects with the idea of selling them. I was spending lots of time making "inventory." Then I read this article by Julie Fei-Fan Balzer and it changed my perspective. The article is called, "Setting Goals."

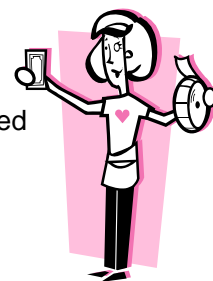
Two of her suggestions really spoke to me. Ms. Fei-Fan Balzer writes about, "making art for yourself." It is very easy to get caught up in schedules. When you take time to make art for yourself, you innovate, develop skills, and play. Since reading the article, I have stopped building inventory and started again having fun.

Another suggestion is to take classes. She remarks that even terrible classes are worth taking. They are opportunities to be nourished, by the instructor, other students, or the class project. And mostly you are giving yourself time to be creative. And remember that as you build your skills, you are opening up additional avenues for your gifts and graces.

So in closing, I would encourage you to build your skills and make lots and lots of art.

### 2014 Raffle Quilt – Diane Kellar / Connie Mayor

Raffle Quilt Tickets sales are going well. If you have not picked up your tickets please do so at the next meeting. Not much time left - the drawing is in January. Sell-sell-sell, everyone!



**Multi-Service Center Donations:** School supplies, personal items such as tampons, toilet tissue, Kleenex, disposal razors, bars of soap, small container of hand lotion; hair brushes/combs, hair accessories, etc. Connie Mayor is our volunteer who takes donations to the MSC. Thanks, Connie!

This is YOUR newsletter. If you have something to contribute, please email ([jillzquilts@hotmail.com](mailto:jillzquilts@hotmail.com)) or mail (P. O. Box 4243, Federal Way 98063) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. Thanks! jill

#### Newsletter Contributors

Sharon Meeds	Susanna Gantt
Mici Wiggins	Lisa Martin
Anna Hudson	Kathy Wyckoff
Marianna Garrett	Ted N. Buried
Barry M. Deep	Barry DeLive

Happy Halloween



**September Business Meeting Minutes – Kathy Wyckoff, Secretary**

- Our meeting was called to order at 7:20 pm, we welcomed 4 new people this evening. We welcome you all.
- Minutes were accepted as written.
- Financial Report was read by Lisa Martin, Treasurer.
- Block of the Month: \$1.50 per kit. Theresa Fancher presented the new block, a soft pink, raw-edge appliqué.
- Marianna: Crossroad to Jericho is the new block. Marianna was able to put together five quilt tops from Community Service Blocks, to be given to our guild and the teen cancer ward.
- Show and Tell: What a night, such beautiful quilts to look at. I wish I could get something done to show, but life keeps getting in the way of my sewing time...go figure! Part of the show & tell was some of the people who won ribbons and awards at the Washington State Fair in Puyallup. Really wonderful quilts and congratulations to all who entered and won. Great Job!
- Badge drawing: Theresa Fancher won.
- Raffle Quilt tickets: 1120 tickets have been given out for the 2015 raffle quilt. If you haven't gotten your required 20, or need more to sell, please see Connie Mayor.
- Retreat: The October retreat is full. There are still openings for the November 10-13 retreat, which is Monday-Thursday.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Xenia McGowan challenged us to make a monochromatic, color-specific quilt, 21x21 inches, quilts to be hung at Avalon in their wall display boxes. This is for the residents to enjoy during the year. Xenia made 24 packets with paint chips and instructions. The people who took the packets need to have their quilt finished, with a sleeve for hanging, by the January 2015 business meeting. Having 24 small quilt allows Xenia to display two quilts at a time for each month next year. The color you chose can be used with either black or white; no other color can be put with the color on your paint sample. It will be a small quilt in any technique you wish—pieced, appliquéd, combination—whatever you want to do, but JUST your color and either black or white (NOT BOTH)! I got bright green and I know Jill got orange, which of course made her very happy [it was destiny! jill]. I have been shopping for fabric to match my color, found some awesome fabric but quickly realized it has a little blue in it or pink or whatever, needs to be a true color that matches your paint chip (which has 4 shades of your color on it), solids or tone on tone. Be sure you have your name on the label so Xenia can get it back to who made it. NOTE: there will be an in-house judging at the January Business Meeting.
- Block in the Box Challenges (appliquéd and pieced): Because we don't have business meetings in November or December, due to the holidays, the box you pick up at the business meeting in October will be due at the November 13 program meeting. The box you pick up at the November 13 program meeting will be due at the December 11 program meeting.
- Program meeting for October: our speaker is RaNae Merrill...we are looking forward to her program.

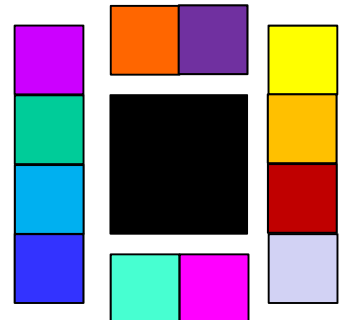
**Community Outreach Block – Marianna Garrett**

Repeat of a block, using different sized squares this time.

**Cut**

- 12 3.5 x 3.5-inch square s, assorted scraps
- 1 6.5 x 6.5-inch square, dark center

Sew two 3.5-inch squares together, then sew to top of the 6.5-inch square.  
 Sew two more 3.5-inch squares together, and sew to the bottom of the 6.5-inch square.  
 Sew together two sets of four 3.5 squares each and attach to the sides of the block.



**Upcoming Events for Crazy Quilters**

November 13 (There is no business meeting in Nov/Dec)	Program meeting: Nancy Goldsworthy, lecture on thread play and quilting. Nancy will have handouts, as well as a trunk show of her quilts. There will be a workshop on November 14, learning how to use a variety of threads on your sewing machine; Anna Hudson has details and will present them at this week's business meeting.
Future Programs	February 12: Patricia Belyea, "The Alluring World of Japanese Yukata Quilts"
Friday Friends (every Friday)	Join several club members every Friday, 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Milton Community Center, 1000 Laurel Street, Milton 98354 Bring your lunch, work on your unfinished projects or start a new one, and have fun with fellow Crazy Quilters. We generally do not meet the Friday before a major three-day holiday such as July 4, Memorial Day, Labor Day, or if the Community Center is closed.

**Members' Sale Table – Jill Ellis**

Every business meeting, you have an opportunity to sell your good stuff to good people. You'll go home with money, they'll go home with bargains, the guild gets 10% of what you made, and everyone's happy! If you'd like to sign up to sell your STUFF, please contact me. [jillzquilts@hotmail.com](mailto:jillzquilts@hotmail.com) or 253-927-1260.

**Bank Balances –  
Lisa Martin, Treasurer**

Checking: \$1715.43  
Savings: \$7497.40

Income: \$ 219.00 raffle tickets  
0.09 interest  
52.50 membership dues

Expenses: \$ 307.46 Raffle quilt (2015) fabrics  
19.80 postage to mail Fair tickets

**In Our Thoughts**

Special thoughts and  
big hugs go out from  
all of us to:

**Helen Backer  
Jean Markl**

If you know of someone who needs a sympathy card, a get-well card, or any other kind of card, please let Peggy Pierce know.  
[peggypierce@mail.com](mailto:peggypierce@mail.com)  
253-750-0220 home

**New Guild Members:** We had four new members join at the September business meeting. Please introduce yourself and make our new friends feel welcome! (We also have one address change.)

Char Peterson  
18829 161<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE  
Renton 98058  
206-909-1510 cell  
425-271-2370 home  
[tolep8n@comcast.net](mailto:tolep8n@comcast.net)  
Birthday: December 28

Anita Seigenthaler  
10824 SE 260<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kent 98030  
253-852-0342 home  
206-794-0229 cell  
Birthday: August 10

Carol Anfinson  
37301 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue South #30  
Federal Way 98003  
253-332-0975  
[frogleeper@comcast.net](mailto:frogleeper@comcast.net)  
Birthday: June 27

Karen Wheeler  
935 South 295<sup>th</sup> Place  
Federal Way 98003  
510-386-4156 cell  
[klwheeler@yahoo.com](mailto:klwheeler@yahoo.com)  
Birthday: May 18



Address change:  
Maddie Hall  
30024 Eighth Place South  
Federal Way WA 98003

**November Hospitality and Birthdays**

Please bring hospitality goodies to guild meetings during the month of your birthday. In addition to bringing treats, you are responsible for helping with room setup and cleanup. Contact Pam Elliott, 253-941-9052, if you have questions or are unable to attend.



Debbie Guthrie	1	Tracey Messana	14
Sonya Parisi-Gray	11	Beth Tays	26
Connie Mayor	13	Barbara Olson	30
Lisa Poncelet	13		





## Near or Far, There's Always a Quilt Show to Attend!

**October 10-26:** 2014 Washington Road Trip, a shop hop of southwester Washington. There are 30 quilt shops participating, with prizes and a featured fabric. It's pretty much the same as the June Shop Hop, but localized to southwestern Washington, and shops will be open their regular business hours—no extended hours—so you'll have to check each store to see what days they're open and their hours. You have to visit all 30 shops to be entered for the prizes, which include a 3-day retreat, a sewing machine, a \$250 gift card, and a bunch of quilt-related baskets. For more information, go to [www.washingtonroadtrip.com](http://www.washingtonroadtrip.com).

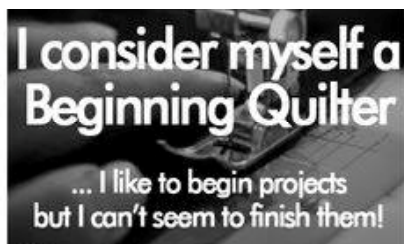
**November 7-9:** Block Party Quilters annual show, Issaquah Community Center, 301 Rainier Boulevard South, Issaquah. Fri & Sat, 10-5, Sun 10-4. Admission \$6 donation. 200 quilts, tea room, merchant mall, boutique, demos, door prizes. Featured artist is Janet Fogg. Info [www.bpquilters.org](http://www.bpquilters.org)

**November 13-15:** Quilt, Craft, and Sewing Festival, Puyallup Fairgrounds, like Sew Expo but smaller. Hours, Thurs-Sat 10-5. Admission \$10 for entire 3-day run. Make & take workshops and free educational seminars. Visit the website for a discount coupon: [www.quiltcraftsew.com](http://www.quiltcraftsew.com)



### Here are The Fons' Top 10 Tips for All Quilters – Contributed by Lisa Martin, who went to see Marianne & Mary Fons on October 11, lucky woman!

1. It takes a long time to finish a quilt when you are not working on it.
2. Never make a quilt to match wallpaper you hate.
3. Sewing on and off a scrap of fabric, when machine piecing patchwork, saves a lot of thread.
4. If you can afford it, sort through your fabric stash every so often and put the fabric you just don't like in the Goodwill bag (or bring it to a guild meeting!). You may be helping a quilter with a tighter budget than your own.
5. Think of your sewing machine as a power tool.
6. Relax. It's a quilt!
7. Find a sewing buddy. Many hands make light work (and more cookies).
8. Make a sample block first. Don't cut up all of your yardage before you know if you have a winner.
9. Slow down.
10. Give it away.



### Contributed by Sharon Meads

The National Quilt Museum in Paducah, Kentucky, is seeking quilts for the 2015 Quilts for Quilting Campaign. This campaign is their fundraising effort and driven by passionate quilters like you. The program is simple & everyone can participate - sew a new creation or give an antique AND it can be any size. The Museum is a 501c3, so your donation is tax deductible.

Last year the Piecemakers Quilt Guild of Brandon, Florida made 25 quilts of all sizes for the campaign. The quilts donated will be auctioned or sold at one of the several fundraisers over the course of the year. The majority of them end up in the live and silent auction in April. The proceeds from the sale of these quilts (and in the picture the truly are all sizes - from potholder-size to table topper size) go directly into the Museum's general fund and to put toward the programs that promote the Museum's mission to advance the art of today's quilters by bringing it to new and expanding audiences worldwide.

You may assign a value to the quilt; however, as most quilts will be auctioned they cannot guarantee that the assigned value will be met. There is no limit to the number of quilts you can donate to the campaign.

If possible, please donate by April 1, 2015. To donate your miniature or full-size quilt to the "Quilts for Quilting" campaign, please include your name, address and contact information and send to: The National Quilt Museum, Attn Quilts for Quilting, 215 Jefferson Street, Paducah KY 42001.

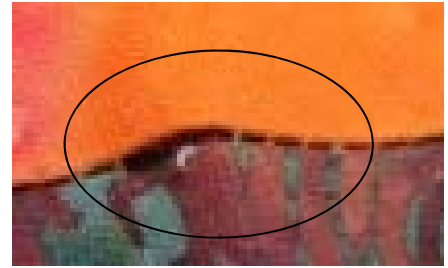
## Seams Pressed Open or to the Side? – found at [quiltwithmarcibaker.com](http://quiltwithmarcibaker.com)

I have always heard that a seam pressed to one side is stronger than one pressed open. It kind of makes sense, but does it matter? With many modern quilters promoting pressing seams open, I felt compelled to test the theory.

I made this 6x9 quilt sample, half with seams pressed open and half with seams pressed to one side. Note that there are some seams that are with the grain of fabric and others that are bias, but not as bias as possible. Then I pulled and tugged on opposite sides, opposite corners, and any other way possible to mimic “using” the quilt. Stitches broke as I would have expected though only on the diagonal seams and diagonal quilting.



Here are what the broken stitches look like on the part with seams pressed to one side. Not too bad. It did not get much worse with more pulling and tugging.



Here are what the broken stitches look like on the seam pressed open.



Wow! That is a lot of batting showing. And it opened up significantly when I stretched and pulled even more. Also, there were more breaks in these seams than there were in the seams that were pressed to one side.

So with this quick test, I KNOW which way my seams are going.

Here are just a few of the pros and cons that I know and have heard about each type of seam.

Seams pressed to one side:

- Simple enough to press (especially if using flannel on the ironing board)
- Seams lock (butt up against each other for easy matching of points without pinning)
- 2.5 mm stitch length is reasonable (10 stitches per inch)
- Allows stitch-in-the-ditch quilting for quilting lines that are functional but not visible (to me this quilting style requires time, patience, and skill so I only use it when necessary)
- Appears that this seam is stronger (I used cotton thread, but I know polyester will also break with the stretch of a bias seam. That is why in garment sewing, the curved seams that have the most stress or tension are double stitched, trimmed, and not pressed open.)
- Seams can be bulky where many fabrics come together making it difficult for quilting and may wear faster at that point (there are easy methods for flattening these points)
- Shadowing caused by seams pressed one way add depth and dimension that is part of the feel of a traditional quilt

Seams pressed open:

- Seams are flatter and do not create dimension to the overall design (desirable for miniatures and wall hangings).
- Intersections are not as bulky because seams are pressed open and seam allowances are evenly distributed.
- Seams flow through some machines more easily because the layers are pinned and not as likely to shift because the number of layers is same throughout without shifting from top to bottom fabric (requires pinning for points to match).
- Can be challenging to press seams open. Using a dowel, pressing sleeve, or other tool makes it more readily accomplished.
- Use a smaller stitch to accommodate bias seams (takes more time to stitch the seam and harder to seam rip when needed).
- Stitch-in-the-ditch is not an option for quilting, so the quilting will have to show.

I hope my thoughts and research on the subject will help you make an informed decision as to when you want seams pressed to one side and when you want seams pressed open.

Each method has valid reasons. Knowing what makes sense for your project will help you be more confident in your work and help you achieve long-lasting, desired results.

## Why the Hell did Somebody Make Me a Quilt?!? – found at <http://danajoforseth.com>

It seemed like just an ordinary day. Ok, maybe it's your birthday. Heck, maybe it's only Thursday. In any case, this unexpected ... package ... shows up at your door. You didn't order anything. You suspiciously eye the layer of packing tape that has encrusted what you're pretty sure was once a cardboard box. Being ever so careful, you saw through it with the nearest razor blade, and little by little, the mystery—and the gift—starts to unfold.

It's something made of fabric. Hot pink and zebra print fabric, to be exact. It's not awful—at least, it wouldn't be if you were a 12-year-old girl....other than, perhaps, yourself at twelve years old...

As you pull it out of the packaging, you realize....someone has given you a quilt. You don't understand. How did this happen? WHY did this happen? And what could possibly be an appropriate response?

Chances are, you are the loved one of a creative person. Many people might receive such a gift from an aunt or grandmother, or in some cases a distant cousin or friend. (If the gifter was your Mother, I certainly hope this doesn't need to be explained to you.) In any case, what you have received, whether it is spot-on, or a million miles away from being, exactly, "you," is a gift of love. It may not feel like it right now, but allow me to explain.

Today, quilting is big—among quilters. Everyone else is in varying strata around the quilters, ranging in levels of understanding from "I totally get it!" to...."So....why on earth would you cut fabric apart and....and....and....sew it back *together*?" Like many creative endeavors, but maybe in some ways, more so—quilting quickly becomes an obsession. Almost an addiction. It's visual, it's tactile, and it's a way to create things—lots of them—all different, all with your own personal stamp, and all over the country and world. It's hard to explain if you're not involved. But, once you're a quilter, it's all you want to do.

So, let's tie this affront to your eyeballs back to where it came from.

First, the quilter has an innate desire—a NEED—to create, and spends plenty of time doing it. She also does not have unlimited storage space where she can hang onto her work for the rest of her natural life. That said, a quilt takes a good amount of time and monetary investment to create. You were chosen as a recipient NOT because you "didn't have one yet." If you have received a handmade gift from its maker, you are very special to that person, and are considered worthy of such an investment of time. Most quilters know and love a lot more people than they ever have the resources to make a gift for—even in their lifetimes. Often, they do this kind of work for hire, which limits their "recreational quilting" even further.

"Seriously though....can you at least explain the zebra print?!?"

When someone sets out to make you a quilt, they do it with you in mind, start to finish. A lime green scrap in the border might remind her of the dress you wore to prom in high school. The zebra print was included because it kind of looks like that fuzzy thing hanging from the rearview mirror in your car. The violet section in the middle is there because she remembers how much you love purple, and while she was stitching it, she thought about how Halloween is your favorite holiday, and wonders which haunted houses you'll be hitting this year—if she doesn't already know.

She remembers the decor in your living room, and thinks of how well the chosen color scheme will go with it. She added that wine bottle print to the backing knowing how much you love a good Cabernet, and thinking about how much this gift will lift your spirits to receive while your new husband is overseas. While she's sprawled out on the floor, pinning the top, batting, and backing together, she is thinking about that four-hour dinner you had at Chili's when you first became friends.

Making a quilt for someone is not just work of the hands, but of the mind. Whether or not it actually shows in the piecing or fabric choices, this was a journey for the quilter, and one she took with you. She is now handing it over into your care, and hoping that you'll understand this is the best way she can give herself to you in her physical absence.

Quilting sometimes becomes the language at which the creator is her most articulate. It isn't meant to create any sort of obligation for you, (if you boiled it down to dollars and cents, it could be the most "expensive" gift you'll ever receive), but more an expression of gratitude. A quilt made especially for you may just be the quilter's way of thanking you for your presence in her life, and letting you know that who you are, and what you are or have been to her is valued....nothing more or less complicated than that.

So, this piece of art before you...you don't have to put it on your bed, or display it proudly in a prominent place if you really aren't fond of how it looks. This isn't about what it looks like. (Remember, the earliest quilts were made from partially worn-out clothes and other fabric scraps, for function over beauty.) So use it to curl up under when you're watching a movie in the dark. Snuggle under it with your fur babies (but please, PLEASE don't turn it into a full-on dog bed). Take it to a football game to warm up a cold seat on the bleachers, and wrap yourself in it when you're having a bad day and need to feel loved. If someone has given you a quilt, you certainly are.