

GALA Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2023

Past-President Linda Walker called the meeting to order in the planned absence of President Bettyanne McGlinchey. 28 members and 1 visitor were present.

Program: Getting Quilts Ready to Quilt presented by Rosemary Dekker

- 1) Once a top is pieced, Check Your Seams
- 2) Trim threads off the front that have come through the top
- 3) If Free Motion Quilting the backing needs to be 2 1/2" to 3" larger than the top on all sides.
If Long Arm Quilting the backing needs to be 4" larger than the top on all sides.
- 4) Batting should be the same size as the Backing
- 5) Layer the Backing, Right Side Down, then the batting, then the Top, Right Side Up. Pin starting at the center.
- 6) Roll onto Pool Noodles or Cardboard Tubes or other such gadget.

Some Tips for layering:

- If using spray adhesive go outside
- One possible way to use spray adhesive is to attach three layers of cardboard to a garage wall. Then spray the backing and stick to the cardboard; spray the batting and stick to the backing; and spray the exposed side of the batting and stick the top to the batting.
- Dixie Whitt has a recipe for Spray Adhesive she will share.
 - The Recipe:

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3 cups water

1 teaspoon salt

3 heaping tablespoons flour

1 cup rubbing alcohol (or vodka)

Spray bottle

Combine 2 cups water and 1 teaspoon salt and bring to a boil. Meanwhile, combine 1 cup water and 3 heaping tablespoons flour in a jar and shake to mix. When the water and salt boils, turn down to a gentle boil and add flour and water. Cook on medium until the mixture thickens like gravy (stir it so it doesn't stick). Remove from heat and let cool to room temperature. When the mixture is cool, pour it into the spray bottle and add 1 cup rubbing alcohol. Shake well to mix.

How to use

I have used this on about 6 quilts, including king size. Lay out your backing on a non carpeted floor and using masking tape tape it down to remove any wrinkles. Next lay your batting on top, then fold it in half. Spray a section of your batting at the fold line or center of your quilt. Press down your batting by unfolding enough of your batting to cover this section. Continue this process until you have reached the end and then finish the other half in the same manner. The same process is used to apply your quilt top to the sandwich. Leave overnight. To sandwich a king size quilt takes about 1 and 1/2 of the recipe. It is amazing to use and completely holds the quilt together so that I can then free motion quilt it together.

For those with carpet I would buy a roll of plastic from Home Depot that painters use and still use the above process.

Types of Batting and possible uses:

Consider who the quilt is for and where they live.

- Fairfield Batting is NOT GOOD. Don't use it.
- Hobbs Thermore (Poly) Ultra thin is good for table runners and wall hangings since you want those to lay flat against a table or wall.
- 100% cotton will look like what Gramma made 100 years ago.
- 80/20 is 80% cotton and 20% Poly
- Washable Wool is more expensive but warmer
- Using a layer of 80/20 and a layer of Washable Wool is good for quilts that will be used "Up North" where the weather is much colder.

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- Bamboo is good if allergies are an issue. It is more expensive. It drapes well.
- Quilter's Dream brand has several types of batting including Dream Puff Polyester that looks the same after washing. Puffy.

Additional tips for quilting:

- Wear gloves like:
 - Garden gloves with finger tips cut out.
 - Playtex gloves. Disposable after a few months.
- Use Quilting Hoops like Martelli Rings
 - 8" and 11" circle
- Glycerin was suggested by Susan Denison

Types of Thread:

The higher the number, the thinner the thread.

50 wt is commonly used

60 wt can be used in the bobbin

70wt silk is something you really must know what you are doing to use.

Quilter's Select 50 wt is a good one to use.

Hugo is clear tape that sticks only to itself.

Rosemary will do another program later with more tips.

Treasurer's Report by Audrey Bergeron:

There are currently 46 paid members.

We took in \$429 from item sales at Fort Mitchell plus \$226.50 from item sales to Guild Members at the May meeting, and \$424 from the Quilt raffles.

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Our current balance is \$7,024.87.

The members present voted to spend GALA funds to purchase a roll of cotton batting. Audrey will order the batting.
Frances Thomason has access to two rolls of polyester batting that she will donate to the guild.

A motion was made, seconded and passed:
Non-members (have not paid \$25 yearly dues) may attend and participate in Saturday afternoon workshops for a fee of \$10 per workshop.

Update on T-shirts: (Linda Walker)

Several design options and shirt styles were shown. T-shirts that are a Cotton/Poly blend will cost around \$11. T-shirt sizes were requested from each member at sign in to get an idea of what might be needed.

A new design was voted on to go on shirts.

Juanita Christian has been in touch with Mr. Frank Brown of Mother Mary's Mission. They are working on a grant and need a letter from GALA outlining the value of items we donated to them. It was agreed that our donation included 34 quilts worth \$150 each, 40 tote bags filled with personal items worth \$40 each, and bulk sanitary items worth \$200.

Secretary, Beth Hickman, will draft a letter and get it to Juanita.

Vice-President's Report:

Upcoming Workshops:

- The Kitchen Sink on July 29 has two more seats available at \$10 each for GALA members. Any unfilled seats after the July GALA meeting will be open to non-members for \$20 each.

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- A sign up sheet to help set up and clean up was circulated.

-We will have a pot luck lunch. (Soup, Sandwich, Salad and Dessert)

-Time: 10:00 - 4:00 Location: First United Methodist Church, 1600 5th Ave. Phenix City, AL

- Toni Steere on September 23, 2023 is an all day workshop. The cost of materials is \$50 per kit. You will leave with a completed wall hanging. Sign up and pay Glenna Shephard.
- Location: First United Methodist Church, 1600 5th Ave. Phenix City, AL

GALA Programs and Workshops:

- July 10 from 9:30 - 1:00 ish is the next day to help sew Quilts of Valor from last year's BOMs.
- We will have an Ice Cream Social at lunchtime at the July Guild Meeting. Members are asked to bring cookies and toppings. The Hospitality Committee will oversee set-up and clean-up.
- The July Skill Builder Workshop is Half Square Triangles led by Audrey Bergeron.
- August Program is Continuous Binding led by Agnes Grimes. She has a sign-up list for anyone who would like to order a Strip Ticket that will be useful. \$5.
- August Workshop is Dresden Fans.
- October Workshop is 3D fabric snowflakes.
- Juanita Christian will lead a Round Robin Panel Quilt project starting in January.

A request was made to have an Agenda for each meeting sent out during the week before Guild Meetings so that members can print a copy to bring and write notes on.

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Becca Chester showed the Block of the Month due back in July. It is a Strawberry.

Block of The Month drawing winner was Audrey Bergeron. She won the Tulip pattern blocks

Drawings for Name Tag and Sign in were done.

Show and Tell included 15 Quilts of Valor that are finished or under construction.

One of the Show and Tell quilts was a Signature Block quilt that was done several years ago. Trina Walker will head up this project next year.

Next year's Quilt Show at Fort Mitchell will have a special category: Monochromatic Quilts in place of Children's Quilts.

Brown Bags were given out for that project. To participate put three fat quarters in the brown bag along with your name and a list of things you might like. Seal the bag and bring it back to the July meeting. All the bags will be gathered and each participant will draw a bag. You are to make something for the person whose bag you draw using the material in the bag (and adding from your stash). Wrap the thing you make as a Christmas gift and bring it to the December guild meeting.

The meeting was concluded.

The afternoon workshop led by Juanita Christian was attended by 7 members. Quilted placemats with vinyl ironed on to one side were made into boxy zipper bags.

Respectfully submitted:

Beth Hickman