



QUILT GUILD BY THE SEA NEWSLETTER

June 2017

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 6

June 13, 2017

GUILD MEETING

Guild Meeting

- Program: Johanna Felberbaum of StitchCraft
- Fat Quarter: Patriotic
- Show 'n Tell
- 50/50 Raffle

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear QGbtS Members,

Well, I guess summer is here... It's getting hotter and hotter! Perfect weather for sewing!

Last month's meeting was so much fun. So many members participated by showing/modeling their sewing creations. Our member fashion show was quite a success. If you were not able to be there, be sure to check out the pictures from the May meeting. Thanks also to everyone who participated in our Mini Challenge. Our winner took home an adorable pin made by our very own Johanna Felberbaum!



Speaking of Johanna, she will be our speaker at the June 13th meeting! Johanna just returned from Quilt Market; she will be able to tell us what new and exciting products/fabrics will be available in the near future. I am sure you will find her presentation fun and interesting!

As always, we are looking for some new volunteers to help us with various projects and board positions! If you are new to our guild or if you are looking for a fun way to actually make a difference, please think about giving a few hours of your time to QGbtS; you might find that you get more than you give!! Just think about it!!

Suzanne



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

QGbtS is in need of volunteers for the following positions:

- **QOV Backing Director—see page 9 for details**
- Longarm Quilters
- Webmaster

Guild Address:

Quilt Guild by the Sea
PO Box 64, Boca Raton, FL
33429

SEWING TOOLS AND WHAT TO DO WITH THEM!

Members,

Please bring your favorite quilting tool **(ONLY ONE!)** to the July Guild meeting.



CURRENT OFFICERS:

President:

Suzanne McGee
(201-207-7300)
sfmcgee@myacc.net

Vice President/Photographer

Linda Freyer
(954-649-0031)
mooncreat@aol.com

Treasurer:

Lee Hasse
(561-392-6866)
lmhasse@hotmail.com

Secretary:

Lisa Coles
(240-626-8906)
Mels.coles@gmail.com

Membership Director:

Ellen Heckler (561-245-8280)
Ellen.Heckler@gmail.com

Program Director:

Thyra Schubert
(561-371-5992)
Teawithfelix@gmail.com

Pat Lyons
(909-331-7549)
pjcreation@aol.com

Publication Director:

Deb Shoemaker
(954-629-1720)
DebShoemaker22@gmail.com

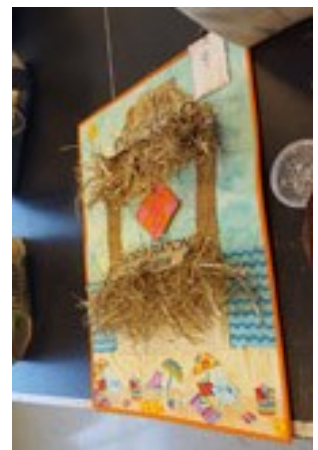
Historian:

Ann Ford
Ann.k.ford@gmail.com

QGbtS MINI- BAG CHALLENGE



First place for the
QGbtS Mini-Bag
Challenge goes to:
Deanna Giles



CLOTHING/FABRIC ACCESSORY SHOW:

Prizes for Clothing/Fabric Accessories go to: Linda Adamcik, Kristy Kristol, Pat Lyons, Diane Moss, and Frieda Toback





CLOTHING/FABRIC ACCESSORY SHOW:



CLOTHING/FABRIC ACCESSORY SHOW:





CLOTHING/FABRIC ACCESSORY SHOW:



EVENT CALENDAR:

June 13, 2013

Guild Meeting

- Program: Johanna Felberbaum of StitchCraft
- Fat Quarter: Patriotic
- Show 'n Tell
- 50/50 Raffle

June 14, 2017

- Cathedral Window Workshop: hand and machine finishing techniques by Ronnie Lubber

June 20, 2017

- QOV Workshop

June 28, 2017

- Comfort & Fidget Quilt Workshop

July 11, 2017

Guild Meeting

- Program: Sewing Tools and What to do with them by Freida Toback
- Fat Quarter: Bold Colors (solids/prints)
- Show 'n Tell
- 50/50 Raffle

July 18, 2017

- QOV Workshop

July 26, 2017

- Comfort & Fidget Quilt Workshop

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS:

Cathedral Windows Workshop (including hand and machine finishing techniques) by Ronnie Lubber

Date: June 14, 2017

Location: Grace Community Church, Music Room

Time: 10 AM—4 PM

Fee: \$30.00



Mosaic Technique Workshop by Charlotte Knoll

Date: September 13, 2017

Location: Grace Community Church, Music Room

Time: 10 AM—4 PM

Fee: \$40.00



Mesh Tote/Beach Bag by Linda Adamcik

Date: October 11, 2017

Location: Grace Community Church, Music Room

Time: 10 AM—4 PM

Fee: \$30.00 (Additional \$5.00 for Mesh)



Embroidery Workshop by Jennifer Lee, Red Thread Studio

Date: November 15, 2017

Location: Grace Community Church, Music Room

Time: 10 AM—4 PM

Fee: \$40.00 (Bird House Kit—Additional \$12.00)



EVENT CALENDAR:

August 8, 2017

Guild Meeting

- Program: Big Quilting Bee
- Fat Quarter: Sewing
- Show 'n Tell
- 50/50 Raffle

August 17-19, 2017

- Stitcher's Paradise, Grand Hyatt, Tampa, FL (reservations required)

August 15, 2017

- QOV Workshop

September 12, 2017

Guild Meeting

- Program: Charlotte Knoll's Quilts Trunk Show & Presentation
- Fat Quarter: Blue (Any pattern)

September 13, 2017

- Mosaic Technique by Charlotte Knoll

September 19, 2017

- QOV Workshop

October 10, 2017

Guild Meeting

- Program: Long Arm Discussion Panel
- Fat Quarter: Travel/Florida

October 11, 2017

- Mesh Tote/Beach Bag Workshop by Linda Adamcik

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS (Continued):

Paper Piecing Technique Workshop by Linda Hahn

Date: January 10, 2018

Location: Grace Community Church, Music Room

Time: 10 AM—4 PM

Fee: \$60.00 (Actual kit pattern to be announced)



Sample

QGbtS FUNDRAISING QUILT

GET YOUR TICKETS!!

We will start selling tickets for our new fundraising quilt in May; the drawing for the quilt will be held during the August meeting.



EVENT CALENDAR:

October 17, 2017

- QOV Workshop

November 14, 2017

Guild Meeting

- Program: Embroidery Trunk Show by Jennifer Lee, Red Threads Studio
- QGbtS Elections
- Fat Quarter: 1930's-1940's

November 15, 2017

- Embroidery Workshop by Jennifer Lee, Red Threads Studio

November 21, 2017

- QOV Workshop

December 12, 2017

Guild Meeting

- Program: "What was I thinking " Sale
- Committee/Member Recognitions
- Fat Quarter: Party (New Years, Birthdays, etc.)

December 19, 2017

- QOV Workshop

January 9, 2018

Guild Meeting

- Program: NY Beauty/Paper Piecing Trunk Show by Linda Hahn
- Fat Quarter: Party (New Years, Birthdays, etc.)

"The Frank McGee Memorial QOV Workshop"

Upcoming QOV Workshops:

June 20, 2017 from 9:30 AM—3:00 PM at Grace Community church in the Music Room

Thanks to the generous participation of our members, we are producing a remarkable amount of quilts for our veterans. We would like to thank everyone who is doing her share, whether you are sewing at home or at the workshop, whether you are sewing stars, sewing strips, assembling tops, making pillow cases, binding, longarm quilting, etc..... Every little bit helps.

Bring your sewing machine with basic accessories, thread, and lunch.

Precut kits/fabrics will be provided.

For those unable to attend the workshops, prepared kits are available to pick up at the workshops and guild meetings.

LONGARMERS: We are in desperate need of longarmers for our QOV program. If you own a quilting machine, we will provide the batting for our tops. A simple all-over quilt design is sufficient.

A huge **THANK YOU** for your participation.



THANK YOU LETTER

from QOV Quilt recipient on April 30, 2017

Diane,
It was a real pleasure meeting you and other members of the QOV organization. I can't thank you enough or praise the other wonderful people involved in making the quilts and organizing the event, high enough.

Dad may have not have heard your words today but he was visibly moved.

I spread the quilt out on his bed. The colors couldn't be more perfect and I saw a tear in his eye when he saw it. Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Marty Kunofsky

THANK YOU LETTER

from QOV Quilt recipient on April 30, 2017

Dear Ladies,

As a proud recipient of your beautiful quilt my heart was overwhelmed. The time and effort to complete each masterpiece is vividly displayed. As proud as I was to serve my country I was equally proud to receive your gift. Please accept enclosed donation with my deepest gratitude. I hope this will enable the ladies of the Quilt Guild by the Sea to continue this glorious service to our USA veterans. My quilt will be passed on to my great grandchild and the framed letter will always be a remembrance of Papa Bernie.

Thank you again.

Very Truly Yours,

Bernard Ruthberg

QOV QUILT PRESENTATIONS:

Students from Banyan Creek Elementary School's Samaritans Club 365, grade 4 and 5, hosted Quilt Guild by the Sea and Quilts of Valor during their last meeting of the school year. We awarded a Quilt of Valor to their beloved retired School Principal, Mr. Bill Fay.

The students asked many questions and were very interested in the process of making a quilt. They presented us with a Certificate of Appreciation and donations for us to continue making quilts for our military service members.

Thanks to Kristi for a wonderful presentation.



QOV QUILT PRESENTATIONS:

Kathy Louderback presented a Quilt of Valor to Raymond Gonzalez on May 29, 2017 at the American Legion Post 162 as part of the Memorial Day services.

Ray is a double Purple Heart recipient and served in Korea. This was a surprise presentation for Ray requested by Eddie Cruz former commander of Post 162. It was a great ceremony with the Legion officers.



COMING TOGETHER

Veterans honored with special quilts for their service

BY JUNETTE REYES
STAFF WRITER

A total of 56 veterans were recently honored in a unique way for their military service during the Journey Home Ceremony in Sunrise.

Each of the veterans received a patriotic quilt sewn by local quilting guilds, a symbol of comfort and healing from home. The servicemen and women represented deployments during wartime in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Grenada, Haiti, Somalia, Afghanistan, and Iraq.

Gerald Toomey was one of the veterans honored at the event. The Lauderdale resident served from 1967 to 1987 in Vietnam, Germany, Korea, and El Salvador. Toomey was a military advisor in Korea and El Salvador, as well as a linguist after having been trained in Spanish prior to being stationed in the latter.

"I felt very emotional when I received the quilt of honor," said Toomey. "I also felt very honored to be standing shoulder to shoulder with other Vietnam veterans, Korean War veterans, and WWII veterans, knowing each one of us have different yet similar

experiences."

The event was a collaboration between United Way of Broward County's Mission United, a program that supports U.S. military service members, veterans and their families, and Quilts of Valor Foundation, a national program that creates quilts for men and women that have served.

Sherrill Valdes created the ceremony in 2003 after military men and women were returning from deployments in Afghanistan and Iraq. Valdes wanted to create a tangible symbol to welcome veterans home by making them feel supported within the community. She then came across the Quilts of Valor program a year later and has worked with community quilting guilds since.

"I wanted the military men and women to have something special to remember that the country, community, [and] citizens cared," Valdes said. "My wish was to have the quilts represent our community, be made by our community guilds and be presented as a gift of love to the men and women who have served our country."

Aside from acknowledging and celebrating



STITCHED TOGETHER Dozens of veterans received a patriotic quilt sewn by local quilting guilds during the Journey Home Ceremony in Sunrise. courtesy

the military service members, Valdes' goal is to also educate the civilian population on the significance of community support.

Kenneth Jude, the interim senior director at Mission United, said expressing support within the community is always important, especially because not all veterans have been welcomed home warmly during previous conflicts.

With the ceremony, they now have the chance to receive the welcome and gratitude they deserve.

"Veterans are your neighbors, small business owners, family members, and other members within our communities," said Jude. "Understanding what a veteran has been through and what they have seen in war cannot

be truly explained unless you have seen it for yourself."

He said that the ceremony's personal touch of draping a quilt over the shoulders of a service member helps create a great sense of belonging.

"For quilters who make quilts of valor... there is the unique experience of sewing together patches of mostly red, white and

blue," said Stormy Schevis, a member of the Gold Coast Quilters Guild in South Florida. "While we don't know exactly who will receive the quilt we have made, we do know that it will be someone who has served and loves our country and has sacrificed far beyond what we can even imagine."

junreyes@trnc.com

PLANTATION & DAVIE/COOPER CITY FORUM
Wednesday, May 17, 2017



Quilter's Code

- WIP: WORK IN PROGRESS
- UFO: UNFINISHED OBJECT
- PHD: PROJECT HALF DONE
- PIGS: PROJECTS IN GROCERY BAGS
- NESTY: NOT EVEN STARTED YET
- PFC: PROFESSIONAL FABRIC COLLECTOR
- STABLE: STASH ACCUMULATED BEYOND EXPECTANCY
- WITHWIT: WHAT THE HECK WAS I THINKING?
- TIH: THERE IS HOPE

WWW.SOUTHERNFABRIC.COM



ANNUAL

MEMBERSHIP DUES

QGbtS annual membership dues for 2017 will be **\$35.00**.

'MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEGES'

Paid members of the QGbtS are eligible to:

- participate in Guild programs
- participate in workshops
- receive monthly newsletter
- place ads in the classifieds.
- **Guests are welcome to attend all of our meetings with a donation of \$5.00 per month, twice a year.**
- Dues are non-refundable.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Please submit changes, additions or deletions for the membership directory.

Send changes to Ellen Heckler via email: Ellen.Heckler@gmail.com

ATTENTION...

ALL MEMBERS

DON'T FORGET TO SIGN IN AT THE GUILD MEETING!

QOV IS NOW HIRING!!!

Our QOV program is growing rapidly and we have divided the work in many positions.

Meet our QOV team:

Diane Provost – QOV Team Leader:

Completed quilt tops from the longarmer are returned to me; I take care of them from there. As the leader of the of QOV team, I am also responsible for buying all fabrics, collecting all the sewn stars, cutting and preparing the kits for the tops, and leading the workshops.

Suzanne McGee - Star Manager:

Suzanne cuts and prepares all the star kits that members pick up from the guild meetings to sew at home.

Mitzi Halliday - Top Manager:

Mitzi brings the completed tops home to cut all the hanging threads and to press them nicely; she gets the tops ready for longarm quilting.

Kathy Louderback and Grace O'Donnell - Awards Managers:

Kathy and Grace organize most of quilt Awards presentations between the venues and the nominees.

Backing Director – open:

The description of this position:

measure the quilt top - length and width
add 8" to each, length and width measurements
select a fabric that harmonize well with the quilt top
cut and sew the backing
fill in the form on the QOVF site to request a longarmer
contact the longarmer to make the necessary arrangements
for the quilt top; this is usually done by email
prepare the mailing box
handwrite a note to the longarmer and include it in the box
go to the post office

Thank you to our QOV team and the members that participate in our program.

Looking forward to adding a "Backing" Director to our team. Please email or call me for more details if you are interested.

Diane

Paquinprovost@gmail.com

[561-409-3114](tel:561-409-3114)

CARING HEARTS



THOUGHTS & PRAYERS:

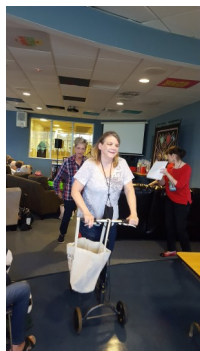
We are very saddened to report the death of Jim Kirkpatrick, Letty Covar's son. Our hearts and prayers go out to Letty and her family.

FAST RECOVERY:

Sharon Horn went to her granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah in Seattle and then an Alaskan cruise. On the last day of her cruise she fell and broke her left hip. Total hip replacement was 100% effective, and she is recovering nicely in Seattle and will be returning home in a few more weeks.

NOTE FROM LINDA EDDY:

I would like to thank everyone for their cards, phone calls, and help as I continue to recover from my injury.



There is still 6-8 more weeks of non-weight bearing activity before I can start therapy.

It definitely be a life-changing event for me, but I am optimistic in anticipation of a full recovery!

**2017 QGbtS CHALLENGE:
"WHO AM I?"**

We've had mug rugs, we've had tea towels, we've had mini quilts and log cabin challenges. Our 2017 challenge theme will be inspired by **YOUR INITIALS.**

Use your initials to depict the colors, the style, and the subject of your quilt.

Example: My initials are "SFC"

S could be used for the color---scarlet

F could be used for the subject---flower

C could be used for the style---crazy quilt

I would then have a crazy quilt with scarlet flowers.

or

"SFC" could stand for San Francisco, California. I could create a quilt depicting San Francisco. (Quilted example below)

CHALLENGE GUIDELINES:

The entry must:

- be any size up to and including 50" X 65"; the approximate size of a **Lap Top** quilt. Nothing larger.
- include at a minimum of two letters of your initials to inspire and complete your quilt as described above.
- use any quilting technique: pieced, appliqued, paper pieced, etc. Machine or hand quilted.
- have a 4" hanging sleeve on the back.
- have a label on the back right hand corner with your name, name of the person who did the quilting, the name of the quilt, and Quilt Guild by the Sea.
- be made and completed between December 1, 2016 and October 10, 2017. **No Exceptions or Extensions.**

A sign-up sheet will be available at the General Meeting.



IS SOMEONE WEARING A FLIP FLOP PIN?

If someone at the Guild meeting is wearing a quilted flip flop pin, introduce yourself and give them a warm welcome. New members will wear these cute pins to identify themselves to other members.



NEW MEMBERS:

Janet Hoffman
Diane Moss
Barbara Murphy

VISITOR:

Linda Bethune
Victoria, Pat Lyon's granddaughter

FAT QUARTER OF THE MONTH DRAWING WINNER:

Barbara Sutton

50/50 RAFFLE WINNER:

Jean Smith



IT'S A BEE!!!

Lincolnwood Bee: Meets 1st and 3rd Friday of the month at 10:00 AM-3:00 PM at Lincolnwood Clubhouse.



Any questions, please call Sarah at 561-620-2856.

COMFORT QUILTS

New Comfort Quilts and kits will be available at the June Guild meeting. Please stop by the Comfort Quilt table!

Comfort quilt size specifications are:

- ◆ a minimum of **38 - 42" wide**, and a minimum of **48 - 54" in length**.
- ◆ Any fabrics for women, men, and children are acceptable.



The next Comfort Quilts workshop is scheduled for **June 28, 2017**. Quilt kits to take home will be available at the guild meeting. There is something to do for everyone!

Please contact Cathy Baldwin at cathyb1911@comcast.net for information or with any questions.

FIDGET QUILTS

- The next Fidget workshop is scheduled for **June 28, 2017**.
- Bags with supplies are available for anyone who would like to participate in making a Fidget quilt.

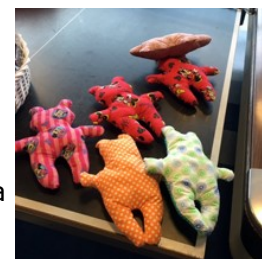
Any questions, please contact Linda Eddy: [561-376-3996](tel:561-376-3996) or email: eddylin-da1007@yahoo.com



COMFORT BEAR KITS

Comfort Bear kits complete with paper pattern, fabric, and ready-to-sew-on bear faces are ready to pick up at our next meeting. This is a quick and easy project that will make a child smile.

Bears are being given to Ryan's Face for Smiles. If you have additional suggestions of places to donate bears, please contact Johanna at Stitchcraftboca@gmail.com.





QGbtS LIBRARY



We have wonderful books!

Take the opportunity to look through or borrow a book, a DVD, or a magazine that interests you.

All books must be checked out and returned at the next Guild Meeting. Late fees will be charged when applicable.

New books and magazines are always accepted.

Guild Librarians:

Joan Cohn & Delli Krebs

Library Hours: 9:30—10:00 AM during every Guild meeting.

FRIEND US!

QGbtS now has its very own **FACEBOOK**.

Send in your pictures, comments, etc. to Joanne Miller at:

Barniesmom123@gmail.com



FAT QUARTER OF THE MONTH: A NATION'S SONG—THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER

Our Nation's flag proudly waves in the mist of the words from "The Star Spangled Banner". This fabric in sky, marine and navy blues, magenta, pink and white, will mix beautifully to create a quilt that honors our country and our men and women that have served with pride. Larger flags are about 5 ¼", from the 'A Nation's Song' collection by Studio 8 for Quilting Treasures.



BOOK REVIEW:

The Art of Machine Piecing
by Sally Collins

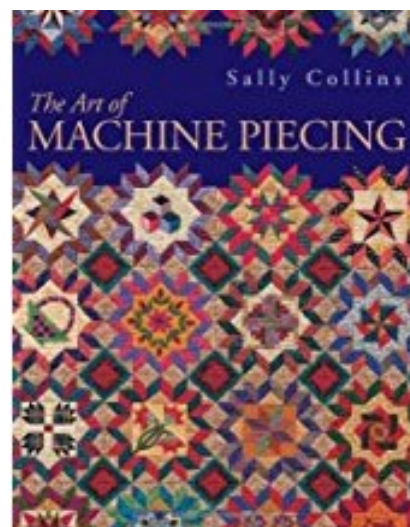
The longer I piece, the more I realize how much I don't know about the intricacies and techniques needed to get the results I want.

Sally Collins specialty is super accurate piecing of tiny elements to create what appears to be a difficult block. She covers many aspects of quilting, English Paper piecing, applique, Y-seam construction, sew and flip tools, color, and workmanship.

In this book, Sally Collins shows us how to achieve that "quality" block by including photographs, diagrams and charts. She includes many of the blocks we love to sew using her techniques and ideas.

It's great reading written by an exceptional quilter.

Submitted by Joan Cohn





* QGbtS *
* Winter *
* Wonderland *
* Retreat! *

Sleigh bells ring! Are you listening?
In Duncan Center snow is glistening!
A beautiful sight, we'll be happy these nights,
Quilting in our Winter Wonderland!



November 7-10, 2017

Duncan Center, Delray Beach

* Cost of retreat: \$230 due in full with registration
(Registration begins at June Guild meeting)

* Cost for rooms: \$80 per night - single
\$40 per night - double

Additional information: * Melinda Schwartz *

Mail check! registration to: Melinda Schwartz
melindaschwartz83@gmail.com
* 5675C Spindle Palm Court
Delray Beach, FL 33484



**QUILT GUILD BY THE SEA
WINTER WONDERLAND RETREAT
DUNCAN CENTER
November 7 – 10, 2017**

Name _____ Date _____

Email _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Emergency Contact & Phone No. _____

Dietary Restrictions _____

There are rooms available at \$80 per night.

Double room (#nights _____) Roommate _____

Single room (#nights _____)

RETREAT COST: \$230 and includes Lunch & Dinner Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Lunch on Friday.

A check must accompany this form and is nonrefundable. Please bring both to a regular guild meeting or mail to Melinda Schwartz, 5675C Spindle Palm Ct, Delray Beach, Fl. 33484.

WAIVER FOR QGBTS RETREAT

I, _____ voluntarily acknowledge & confirm that I fully understand that there is no liability insurance going to, during, or returning home from this Retreat. I agree not to make claims for any damages to personal property, theft, or personal injury against anyone or any entity connected with this Retreat under any circumstances.

Signature: _____

Date: _____



FABRIC AVAILABLE IN NEW PRE-CUT FABRICS Courtesy of The Quilting Board

There are new fabric packets available at your local quilt shop and at online quilt stores. Besides regular kits for a specific project, there are jelly rolls, charm square packs, fat quarters, fat eighths, and quilter's candy. We will discuss some unique fabric marketing packages that are available today at your quilt shop or at online quilt stores.

Fabric Kits: Some fabric kits are made up especially for specific patterns. These kits will contain strips, fat quarters, or one yard cuts and larger depending on the patterns specifications. Usually they are priced comparably to purchasing cut to order fabric. Generally, these kits simply include the fabric needed to make the project, very seldom are the actual pieces cut for the quilt.

While these kits are good value the fabric is chosen and cut for a specific pattern you are usually limited in your individual design choices. When you purchase some of the other fabric choice alternatives you have much more opportunity to make a project that is more individualized.

Five Yard Packets: Some quilt shops are choosing five coordinating fabrics and cutting one yard lengths and bundling them together in a five yard package which can be a spring board of a new quilt or by adding a few more fabrics a unique and interesting quilt of your own design. Some shops supply a pattern for a simple quilt that uses five fabrics in one yard cuts. Some shops carry patterns that can be purchased to use with the five yard bundles.

Pillow Case Kits: Almost every quilt shop sells a pillow case kit. Pillowcases in different fabrics and colors are very popular with children, teens, and adults alike. Novelty fabrics are chosen for the main fabric with coordinating solid like fabrics for the decorative band. Pillowcases are very simple to make and make a quick and inexpensive gift.

Fat Quarters: A fat quarter is a quarter yard of fabric that is cut 18" x 22" rather than a traditional quarter yard cut that is cut across the width of fabric for a piece that measures 9" x 22". A full yard of fabric is cut into two half yard cuts and then again on the fold line to make four fat quarters. A fat quarter is a more useful cut than a long quarter unless you need to cut strips the width of fabric, then you would want a regular quarter yard cut.

Groupings of fat quarters are available in a color coordinated selection or a fat quarter selection could be specifically planned to make a specific project. Fat quarters are usually bundled together with ribbon or string and can be in a set of two or three and as many as the entire line of fabric -- Generally quilt stores sell packs of fat quarters that contain four to 8 fabrics. Part of this is to keep the price in line with an amount the average quilter is willing to spend on an impulse purchase.

Many books and patterns are available that are "fat quarter friendly". Fat quarter quilts are very popular and many shops carry patterns to make them.

Fat Eighth's: A fat eighth is a piece of fabric that is 9" x 22". It is a quarter yard cut on the fold line. Or a fat eighth can be a piece of fabric 10 1/2" x 18 which would be a half yard cut on the fold and in half again on the lengthwise grain. Either cut is still an eighth of a yard. A fat eighth is a lot more usable piece of fabric than a traditional eighth yard cut that is a piece of fabric cut 4 1/2" wide by the width of the fabric.



Fabric Available in New Pre-Cut Packages (Continued)

Fat eighth sets are readily available and purchasing a set of fat eighths would yield a small amount of many different fabrics that would be useful for any scrappy project.

Jelly Rolls: The jelly roll is such a cute name for a fabric purchase -- a jelly roll is formed from multiple strips of fabric cut 2 1/2" wide by the width of fabric. Forty strips are rolled together and tied with a ribbon or string. When packaged this way they have the appearance of a large jelly roll. The colors of fabrics are rolled together and make a unique jelly roll appearance. Jelly Rolls have the appeal of a bakery jelly roll with zero calories.

If you do the math a jelly roll of 40 cuts 2 1/2" wide is equal to one hundred inches or 2 3/4 yards of fabric. At the suggested retail price of thirty dollars that makes your fabric almost eleven dollars a yard. Obviously you are paying a little extra for the convenience of having this large of selection already cut. The beauty of this type of packaging is you receive one or two strips -- 2 1/2" wide of all or most of the different fabrics in a particular fabric line.

Charm Square Packs And Samplers: Charm squares are usually 5" squares that are pre-cut most often including one square from each fabric in a particular line. One manufacturer features charm squares in a small flat tin box and includes a pattern to make a small project using the fabrics.

Charm square patterns have proliferated in the past few years and there are many available to choose from. Some patterns require more than one set of squares so you need to choose a pattern that is compatible with the number of squares in your charm set.

Some patterns are as simple as stitching the squares together and in some patterns the charm squares are cut in a way to add interest to the quilt. When choosing a pattern check to make sure you have enough squares in your set to make a specific pattern.

There are several patterns and books devoted entirely to projects to be made using jelly roll strips and charm squares. Baby quilts, wall quilts, lap quilts and many other projects are available to make with jelly roll strips. There is even a book for a strip "project of the month" with a seasonal or holiday theme for each project.

Quilter's Candy: Quilter's candy is a charm square that is folded and rolled and wrapped in cellophane or simply tied with a small piece of ribbon. They look like a small piece of wrapped candy and a dish of them setting on a table in your studio would add interest and fun to your quilting and non quilting visitors.

If you find a pattern that calls for charm squares or jelly rolls, you can still cut your own squares or strips from your stash. The difference is that you are doing all the cutting. So you need to consider the amount of labor involved in cutting your own squares and strips when considering the purchase of a jelly roll or charm square set.



Fabric Available in New Pre-Cut Packages (Continued)

While some of the pre-cut fabric kits may be a small percentage more expensive than purchasing fabric the pre-cut strips or squares give many design possibilities especially if you wish to use a lot of fabrics or an entire line of fabric. You need to keep the time saving convenience of having all your strips or squares cut against the small increase in price...purchasing jelly rolls and charm squares are like purchasing convenience foods -- consider them as convenience fabrics.

Pressing Your Patchwork : Pressing is different from ironing. For ironing the iron is moved back and forth across the fabric. Ironing with a sliding motion can cause distortion of fabric pieces, especially bias edges of triangles. In pressing the iron is lifted and placed down on the fabric. When pressing simply press the iron firmly on the seam area. Lift the iron and place it in another spot. Don't iron by moving the iron back and forth.

Most books and quilting teachers recommend that each seam be pressed after stitching. Keep your iron next to your machine on a small table. After stitching a seam, be sure to press before joining blocks together. When you are finished stitching and joining sections, turn your block to the right side and give it a good press.

I press with a dry iron set on wool or cotton. I seldom use steam. The only time I use steam is if I am piecing eight or sixteen pieces to the center. When there are many pieces coming together in the center a little hump or "volcano" forms. I still do not put water in my iron. I use a simple inexpensive spray bottle and spritz the area and then press by lifting and pressing and lifting and pressing. Do not slide the iron. The spritz of water makes enough steam to set the seam allowances.

A note caution - If you do not pre wash your fabric do not use a steam iron to press. The steam may shrink your fabric in one direction more than the other causing distortion of your pieced project.

I also finger press and use a small wooden tool purchased at the quilt shop to press. To finger press place the side of your thumbnail on the seam allowance and move it across to set the seam allowance to one side. The wooden tool does the same as finger pressing but is simply a tool to use rather than your fingernail. If you are doing a lot of piecing at one time a tool will help save on your thumbnail.

Make a small ironing pad by covering a cardboard bolt board with batting and then tightly woven cotton fabric. Tack it down with thumbtacks or duct tape. Ask for a bolt board at your local fabric store. They usually throw them away and are glad to give them to you. Or purchase a small ironing pad and place it on a small table next to your sewing machine.

Pressing a quilt top is important and you should press as well as possible but don't obsess about it so much that it makes you not enjoy the quilting process.

HOLIDAYS IN JUNE

- June 2: National Donut Day**
- June 4: Hug Your Cat Day**
- June 8: Best Friends Day**
- June 9: Donald Duck Day**
- June 12: Red Rose Day**
- June 13: Sewing Machine Day**
- June 14: Flag Day**
- June 17: Eat Your Veggies Day**
- June 18: Father's Day**
- June 21: International Yoga Day**
- June 23: Take Your Dog to Work Day**
- June 27: Sunglasses Day**
- June 29: Camera Day**
- June 30: National Meteor Day**



*Happy
National
Donut
Day!*

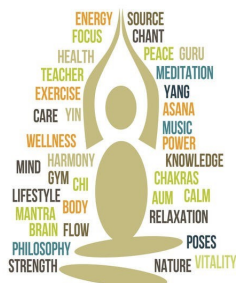


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3065 Eagle Drive
Delray Beach, Fl. 33444
561-272-0458

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