



FIESTA NEWS!

ROSE HUGHES

As a lover of textiles, always, I was off exploring in the '90s when quilting found me. After that first encounter it took merely two months until my darkroom was transformed with a sewing machine. I was a quilter: and just a few years later I began to lecture, teach, and exhibit my quiltworks.

Quilting lets me express my vision of life's landscapes with stitched magic. I love using my Fast-Piece Appliqué™ method to transform curved shapes of colorful fabrics, and building my quilt tops layer by layer. I sprinkle these quilt tops of custom fabrics, rich silks, hand-painted and commercial cottons with texture, and add shiny magic with yarns, beads, and wool along with found and handmade embellishments.

For me it is the transformation of the ordinary into the extraordinary that keeps me wanting more. By using the techniques I have shared in my two earlier books, *Dream Landscape*, and *Exploring Embellishments*, and my new book *Design, Create, Quilt*, the stitching remains fast-fun and easy, giving me the gift of time to work on the long list of quilts in my head.

My quilt journey now stretches over 20 years, and I continue to love learning all the fabric magic I can find. On this journey, I have created and exhibited my work nationally and internationally, and back in 1996 I started, *Quilts on the Wall: Fiber Artists*, a group that continues to be a place where anyone interested in quilt art can come and learn and share.

My work has appeared in books, CD-booklets/videos and patterns where I share methods and ideas, and I am continually delighted by opportunities to share my love of transforming fabric. I have been a contributor to *Quilting Arts*, *Quilters Newsletter*, *Quilters Home*, *American Quilter*, *Quilts Japan*, and *Generation Q* magazines, and I had a blast sharing my techniques and my quilts while appearing on *Simply Quilts*, *The Quilt Show*, and the *Quilt out Loud* quilt programs. At any point you may see my quilts, as they continue to appear in solo exhibits, quilt festivals, galleries.

The passion of creating anew, creating something important to the maker is a joyful experience that I always try to pass on in my presentations and workshops. My lectures and workshops are designed to help quilters and non-quilters alike find innovated ways to express themselves while creatively exploring new techniques and building new skills.

Mostly, I love opportunities to share my love and excitement of all things 'stitched'.

2016 Calendar

Business Meeting:

Wed, Jan. 6, 9:30 AM

General Meetings:

Tue., Jan. 12, 7:00 PM

Wed., Jan. 13, 9:30 AM

Submission deadline for the February Newsletter:

Wed., Jan. 20

Articles should be sent to Newsletter Editor

Joey Nakagawa at

newsletter@tucsonquiltersguild.com

2016 Quilt Fiesta! Quilt Show meetings are at the Tucson Police Substation on the NW corner of Alvernon and 22nd Street. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Fri. Jan. 29 10:00 AM

Turn in quilts at meetings

Feb. 9 and 10

**2016 Quilt Fiesta! at TCC
Feb. 19-21, 2016**

President's Message

January 2016 President's Message

It's a new year! It's the start of really cold winter weather. OK, this is Arizona so it doesn't get that cold! But I'm confidently optimistic that there'll be snow on the mountain tops nearby. It's the beginning of primary season with all the commercials to help us choose a party candidate before electing a new President. It's also time to be finishing your quilts for our quilt show and I can hardly wait to see all the beautiful quilts that you have created. I get so inspired by what I see at each Quilt Fiesta that I have to grab paper to develop an idea and rummage through my stash of fabric to see what can be used in this design. Maybe I'll go to the quilt shop(s) to find just what I need to bring this new dream to fruition. Perhaps I'll need a book or a class or a tool or something else to finish this dream of a quilt. Maybe I will "have" to go to other quilt shows and their shopping malls to get what I'll need. Oh, the possibilities...that's what a new year really is...Possibilities!!!

Wishing you a Happy New Year filled with possibilities.

Roberta Sipes

Quilt-a-Thon

What exactly is Quilt-a-Thon? On August 13, 1997, the Tucson Quilters Guild began an experimental project that has since blossomed into a favorite annual event for our members. We spend the evening or day of our regular August general meetings in air-conditioned bliss, making as many quilts as possible.

Prior to the Quilt-a-Thon, patterns are selected, kits are assembled and packaged for sewing tops. The tops are constructed by member volunteers. Then, during the Quilt-a-Thon, we layer and tie the quilts. Last year, we produced 130 child-size quilts and collected 16 twin-size quilts, donated to Sister Jose Women's Center and the Banner University Medical Diamond Children's Center.

Although August seems far away, we are looking for help in three areas.

- 1) Committee volunteers. Help us select the recipient charity, host cutting parties, help out during the Quilt-a-Thon. If you work 9 to 5 or if you are a snowbird, you are welcome! We'll find ways you can help.
- 2) Charity selection. For practical reasons, most of the quilts we produce vary from 36" x 36" to 42" by 60". These sizes make nice children's quilts or lap robes for the elderly. If you know of an organization that could make good use of quilts in these sizes, please let us know. With hundreds of members, there have to be a lot of good ideas out there that we might not consider without your input.
- 3) Fabric donations (and supplies). Last year's successful Quilt-a-Thon made quite a dent in the Guild fabric stash. We are looking for yardage to make quilt backs, half yard cuts and larger for kits, even bags of squares neatly cut and packaged to make quilt tops. Please don't donate those bins of small scraps that you don't know what to do with but can't bear to throw away! Bright colors are always a winner. Whether we look for darker colored or novelty fabrics depends on the selected charity.

Please see Barbara Heiman (bjheiman@hotmail.com) or Paulette Worman (lavendarlady@centurylink.net) for more details or to volunteer.

QUILTING FOR OTHERS

Quilting for Others is so impressed by the Generosity of the Quilters in our Guild. For the second half of our year we have donated:

27 Quilts to Peppi's house
100 Pillowcases to Peppi's house
230 Stockings to Candlelighters

250 pillowcases to Candlelighters
5 quilts to Candlelighters
45 pillowcases to Family Loving Kare

45 Stockings to Family Loving Kare
5 quilts to Family Loving Kare

95 Dressed Teddy Bears
Half of them to the Muscular Dystrophy Association
Half to Holy Needles for under privileged children
15 Quilts to the VA Hospital

Thank you All very much for your generosity.
Kathy Harris and Mary Meserve
Quilting for Others Co Chairs

Subject: Gallery Talk Especially for Tucson Guilds

Internationally known fiber artist Claire Campbell Park invites you to a gallery talk especially for the Fiber/Textile Guilds of Tucson, in gratitude for our vibrant community. The talk will be at 11:15 AM on Saturday January 23, 2016, in conjunction with her exhibit of sixteen new Color Field weavings at the Davis Dominguez Gallery, 154 E 6th Street. Feel free to bring guests. For directions to the gallery see [directions & hours | \(davisdominguez.com/directions/\)](http://davisdominguez.com/directions/). For more information about Claire's work see [Claire Campbell Park \(www.sotolbooks.com/clairecpark/\)](http://www.sotolbooks.com/clairecpark/).

ATTENTION ALL TQG WORKSHOP ATTENDEES!

There will be a display of quilt samples from Tucson Quilters Guild workshops at the TQG Quilt Show in February 2016. I am asking for the use of any completed quilt samples from TQG workshops to display at the TQG Show.

I had quite a few people who volunteered their quilt samples from our workshops last year and I am hoping to get more this year. If you have such a quilt that you could lend me, please e-mail me at maryblount2@gmail.com. I would like to collect them at the November and January meetings. You can turn them in to the current Program Chairs, Connie German and Riley Zoda, at their table. Thank you and I look forward to hearing from many of you!

Mary Blount

Advanced Notice for Gallery Exhibit

At the meeting of the Visual and Textile Arts of Tucson on October 30, Jeff DaCosta of the Tucson Pima Arts Council advised the group that there will be an exhibit in the Mayor's Gallery from May to October 2016. This exhibit is on the 10th floor of City Hall and the Mayor is encouraging local artists to submit a recent textile art for possible exhibit. Jeff will be handling the entries, and the general public will be informed of the call for submissions in January. We are being given an advanced notice. For more information, contact Jeff DaCosta at jdacosta@tucsonpimaartscouncil.org.

2016 Quilt Fiesta!

From the Quilt Fiesta Show Co-chairs

Happy New Year! We would like to thank everyone who generously entered their quilts in the 2016 Quilt Fiesta. **All the quilts that were entered are in the show, a grand total of 303 quilts.** So, you know what that means? Everyone needs to finish sewing those blocks together, finish up the quilting, put the binding on and don't forget the 4 inch sleeve, and a cloth pillowcase/bag that will fit your quilt comfortably. Get those quilts ready to be turned in at the February 9th and 10th Guild Meetings

The ID Tags for your quilt and cloth bag will be mailed out by mid – January.

Joan Swanson jbswanso@gmail.com

Betty Anderson bettyca@comcast.net

RAFFLE TICKETS

Thanks to all of you who have already returned your ticket stubs. To those of you who have not turned yours in as yet, please try to do so by the February meetings prior to the show. Since I try very hard to keep track of member sales vs show sales, waiting until the show to return stubs makes that task a little harder.

As always, you may call or e-mail me for additional tickets or you may mail your stubs and money to me and not wait for a meeting to do so.

Thanks again to all of you who have participated in this project to support this Guild.

MERRY MERRY, HAPPY HAPPY

PATTY KRUSE, 885-2069, krusequilter@yahoo.com

Kids Row

We are happy to report that we have 22 quilts with 19 kids participating in Kid's Row. Each entrant will be receiving an email by the end of January with instructions for dropping off their quilt to their chosen local shop. Quilts should be dropped off on or before February 10, 2016. Quilts should be placed in a bag (preferably a pillow case) clearly labeled with the maker's name and Tucson Quilt Fiesta Kid's Row. Quilts will be available for pick-up at the same drop-off location on the Tuesday after the quilt show.

For information contact: Diane Bach 745-6204 or Joyce Bott 349-6223

Or email: bachdiane@yahoo.com



2016 Quilt Fiesta!

Hanging Committee

We will be taking Sign-Ups at the January meetings.

We need 10 to 15 more helpers for Wednesday February 17th. This work starts mid- morning and we are usually finished by mid- afternoon. The work involves getting the black drapes ready, putting them on poles and handing them up to be hung, also hanging the Row Numbers and getting tables and such ready to receive the quilts the next day for Hanging.

We need another 20 or more helpers for Thursday February 18th. This is when we hang the quilts. We start between 8 am and 9 am and are usually finished by 1 pm. We do need some helpers that don't mind climbing ladders, but if you don't like ladders there are lots of other jobs you can help us with.

The more help we have the less it feels like work. Join us and make a new friend of someone on your crew, get to know some other members better and get to see the quilts before anyone else!

Information about job assignments and when to report to TCC will be sent out toward the end of January. And, Parking is FREE on Set-Up Days. You just tell the attendant you are helping set up the Quilt Show.

Thank you to everyone who has signed up so far.

Betty Anderson bettyca@comcast.net; Paulette Worman lavenderlady@centruylink.net
Chris Nelson, Jennifer Reynolds, Dianna Weeks, Reilly Zoda

Take Down Committee

We will be taking Sign-Ups at the January Guild meetings.

We need about 20 more helpers

Take down is Sunday February 21, 2016 beginning at 4 pm. We need some helpers that are comfortable climbing ladders. But if you and ladders don't mix, never fear, we have other jobs you can help us with. The floor must be clear and all equipment ready to be sent back to storage before we can start to return quilts. This is a safety issue. The more help we have, the smoother the take down goes and the sooner we can start handing back the quilts.

Information on job assignments and when to report to TCC will be sent out toward the end of January. Parking is FREE after 3 pm if you are helping with Take Down. Just tell the attendant you are on the Take-Down Crew.

Thank you to everyone who has signed up so far.

Betty Anderson, Karen Fisher, Gretchen Galbraith, Char Gasker, Carolyn Lytle, Kathie Miller

2016 Quilt Fiesta!

Vintage Quilt Turning

It is getting closer to the time to view the 16 varied quilts! Quilt owners will be notified by Sue (email) when and where to take their quilts for the 2016 show. They also will receive from Sue, by snail mail, their quilt tags and other information needed before their quilt submission.

Committee members have worked hard on the narratives. As noted last month, each narrative is allowed about 150 words! Sue now has them for the final edit and “flow” assessment. You will be happy to learn more about the quilts, ranging in age from circa 1840 to the 1950s!

Sheryl Verts, committee member, has filled some slots for narrators and turners. However, more are needed. Remember that, *newcomers always are welcome*. If you'd like to join the fun for the first time, please notify Sue or a committee member. Any of the group would be happy to explain the process.

Please contact Sue Franklin, chair, at 520.490.4721) or suevette63@comcast.net, or committee members Judy Breneman at judyanneb@cox.net, Eileen Mechling at jemech@comcast.net, Kathie Miller at kmmiller@hotmail.com or Sheryl Verts at ksherylv@yahoo.com with questions.



DVD's

Save 15% by pre-ordering your 2016 Quilt Fiesta! DVD at either the January or February Guild meetings. The DVD contains high resolution pictures of all the quilts entered and slideshows (that can be viewed from your TV or computer) of all the quilts plus Vintage Bed Turning, President's Challenge, New Member Challenge and Kid's Row.

At the Quilt Show the DVD will sell for \$12. See Alice Wilder by February 10, 2016 and reserve your copy for only \$10.



Tucson Quilters Guild

PROGRAM NOTES

Program Co-Chairs Connie German and Reilly Zoda encourage you to go to the Guild website under Future Speakers to see all the exciting speakers coming to our Guild until early 2016. Listed are dates that each speaker will be lecturing and teaching at the Guild along with the workshops offered and their website. Just click on the website address to look at the workshops in detail. Most websites will also have the Supply Lists needed for the class. The 1 day classes are \$50 and the 2 day classes are \$100. The classes are from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM each day and they are held at the St. Francis Cabrini Church, 3201 E. Presidio, Tucson, AZ 85716 in the large multi-purpose room (the same location as the lectures). These workshops are a great opportunity for you to learn new quilting skills at a very reasonable price from professional quilters from all over the United States!

Upcoming Programs:

2016

January 2016 - [Rose Hughes](#)

January 12&13 Lecture: "Embellishment Scavenger Hunt"

January 14&15 2-Day Workshop: "Dreamin' Up Landscapes" 7 openings

February 2016

February 9 & 10: last minute information about the Quilt Fiesta! - February 19-21, 2016

Quilts to be turned in at meetings

March 2016 - [Vikki Pignatelli](#)

March 8&9 Lecture: "Nurture Your Creative Spirit"

March 10 Workshop: "Crazy About Curves: The Basics" [Supply List](#) 17 openings

March 11 Workshop: "Adding Dimension and Manipulations to Quilts: The Basics" [Supply List](#) 16 openings

April 2016 - [Bonnie McCaffery](#)

April 7&8 Lecture: "Inspiration & Development of a Quilt Artist"

April 9 Workshop: "Painted Face for Beginners" [Supply List](#)

April 10 Workshop: "Doodle Zen Dot Z" [Supply List](#)

Sign-ups opened December 2015

May 2016 - [Rita Verroca](#)

May 12&13 Lecture: "Travel Through Quilt History"

May 14 Workshop: "Flower Bouquet" [Supply List Image](#)

May 15 Workshop: "Monarch Butterfly" [Supply List Image](#)

Attend both classes, project: Flowers for Martha [Supply List Image](#)

Sign-ups open January 2016

June 2016 - [Gail Garber](#)

June 9&10 Lecture: TBD

June 11&12 Workshop: TBD

Sign-ups open February 2016

July 2016

Round Robin

Tucson Quilters Guild Grants Program

Are you a member of another quilting group that might benefit from receiving a grant to get a quilting project started? Perhaps you are in a bee or a church quilting group that just needs a little extra money to help with a project. Check out the new information and application process found on the left side of our main web page to see if your project might qualify for a grant from the Guild. We encourage you to apply for grant money for your group. - Sally Dickinson,



Arizona Quilt Documentation Project – Tucson

By Sue Franklin

In November, the team held the second Public Documentation of the year at the *Arizona History Museum*. Similar to *Museum* documentations, a public documentation is like Christmas as one never knows what fabulous quilts will be seen. This time, 23 quilts were brought by 15 people. Two were from the heart of Amish country, including a lovely Amish *Lemoyne Star Medallion*. The owner, who collects Amish quilts, vowed to return in April for the next public documentation with two more from her collection. She was impressed by the knowledge of the team.

Other quilts were well loved family heirlooms such as *Friendship Star* and *Double Z*. We had a second *Double Z*, it looked quite different. Another owner, her third time at a public documentation, was having family quilts documented in order that her children had a good record of their inheritance. She brought *Scrappy Trips Around the World* and *Dresden Plate*.

One quilt was made to honor an individual, while still another, *My Southwest Rhapsody*, was a prize winner for its owner. There were two *Maple Leaf* quilts, but they didn't look at all alike. Also, there were two *Dresden Plates*; for one, the owner simply called her quilt, *Grandma's Quilt*.

Most quilters have made *Log Cabin* quilts. Have you ever seen a *Pink Log Cabin* quilt? The team documented one. Also, a silk *Log Cabin* beauty was done as well. That quilt included a kimono over 100 years old!

Reading this, a reaction might be, public documentation is the cat's pajamas...well, guess what, *Phil's Pajama's* were documented. This quilt was made entirely of Phil's pajamas when he was a child. Others included *Family Tree* and a *Quadruple Irish Chain with Embroidered Flowers*.

The team is open-minded, but the group that documented a gorgeous *Hawaiian* quilt were amazed a man did it! I was called over to inspect the tiny stitches and also to explain, that indeed, the person who made it was a man, even though it was registered under his wife's name. It helped that I knew the couple.

Ending our day, we had a *Texas Star*, a *Fan*, and a *Double Wedding Ring*. Now, the team waits patiently for more *Museum* or public documentations to see what treats await!

If you have questions about quilt documentation or would like to join the Tucson team, please either call or email Tucson liaisons Sue Franklin, (520.490.4721; suevette63@comcast.net) or Terry Gryzb-Wysocki, (520.749.9326; terry-gw@mindspring.com). New members are welcome. Also, if you'd like to just come to watch and view the process; that is possible, too. Training sessions are held monthly from 9:30 until 12:30 at the *Ellie Towne Flowing Wells Community Center* on Ruthrauff Road.

HQ Sixteen long-arm quilter with laser pointer, frame, two tables to hold it, instructions & numerous plastic templates included. Machine was only used one month. Free delivery.

Originally purchased for \$8,000.

Asking \$4,000 or OBO.

Please call Roberta at [520-234-7164](tel:520-234-7164).

Selling inherited machines, etc. from two fanatic sewing aunts!! New Babylock Ellageo (purchased 5 days before Aunt Miri died) \$1950
Bernina 1260 \$750
ConSew Blindhemmer \$200
Madera Sewing Chest \$300
36 Embroidery Design Software \$25 each
Machines have been lovingly cared for and in impeccable condition. Phone Janalyn (520-306-7627) for a test drive or for more information. You may also email me at: janalynl@centurylink.net

BEES, BEES, BEES—Updated!

CENTRAL AREA:

Himmel Park Contact: Ruth Campbell, 792-1639

Where: Himmel Park Library; When: Third Wednesdays, 6:30 PM

EAST SIDE:

Art Quilters Contact: Laura Steiniger, 465-9100

Where: Quilters Market; When: Third Wednesdays, 10 AM to Noon

Charity Bee for more information call Susan 747-8458

Where: Quilters Market

When: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm

Evening Eastside Bee Contact: Connie Weigel, 760-7728 or xuxala@msn.com

Where: Unity Church of Peace, 1551 S Eastside Loop

When: First Thursdays, 6:30 – 9 PM

The Evening Eastside Bee does not meet during the summer.

UFO Bee (Bring your own UnFinished Objects) Contact: Mary Meserve, marymes@aol.com

Where: Quilters Market

When: Tuesdays, 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Pacific Rim Quilting Bee Asian fabrics, donation quilts

Contact: Annette Meyer, shelbymeयरaz@cox.net; Susan Owara

Where: The Quilt Basket When: First Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. – noon

East side Saguaro Needlers Bee Contact Joan Gilbert 722-3822.

Meets third Wednesday 1:00-4:00 in members homes.

GREEN VALLEY:

Hexies Bee English Paper Piecing, Contact: Carole Sullivan, 520-762-8652

Where: Friends Indeed Community Center, Green Valley, AZ

When: First Wednesdays, Noon – 3PM

North of the Border Contact: Babs Phillips, 393-6557

Where: M & I Bank, 270 W Continental, Green Valley; When: Thursdays 9:30 – Noon

NORTHWEST:

Mona Lisa Bee on the Northwest side is now open. They are looking for new members. They meet at the Foothills Community Church at 3301 Overton Road on the 2nd Mondays of the month at 9:30 a.m. Anyone who is interested can contact Claudia.

Contact: Claudia Colton [520.395-2628](tel:520.395.2628) cwcolton@comcast.net

SOUTH:

Quilts of Valor Bee Contact: Beth Glass, 241-0359

Where: Eagles Wings Quilting, 3949 E. 29th Street, Tucson, 85711

When: Third Thursdays, 1:00 – 4:00 PM

SOUTHWEST:

Southwest Side Bee All are welcome. Contact: Marie Morris, 520-403-6208 or 520-623-0123.

Where: GracePointe Church, 2555 W. Valencia Rd., Tucson

When: Mondays, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.



Please contact the Guild Beekeeper, Laurie Mullins at MLauriel@hotmail.com to add, change or correct information about Bees. Open Bees are listed in the newsletter. The closed Bees list is on the TQG member website.

Tucson Quilters Guild

The Guild Basics

Who:	All Members
What:	Business Meeting —First Wednesday of every month in the Church Classroom. General Meetings - Second Wednesday of the month in the morning or the Tuesday evening preceding the second Wednesday - in the Parish Hall.
When:	Business Meeting — 9:30 AM ~ 10:30 AM General Meetings: Tuesday Evening —7:00~9:30 PM Wednesday Morning —9:30 AM~12:00 PM
Where:	St Frances Cabrini Church 3201 E. Presidio Near Fort Lowell and Country Club
(How): Parking	Guild members are asked to refrain from parking in the spaces in front of the Parish office; the Church wants these spaces to remain open for Church members who have business to attend to in the office. This is the small building to the east of our meeting room. PARKING NOTICE: Tuesday evening attendees: The Church's Family Classes are in session again, so PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE FRONT LOT. Use the side or back lot.
Why:	Come to get involved with all aspects of the Guild, to make new friends, learn new quilting skills, share, but most of all, to have FUN . But please, do not wear fragrance to meetings .
Cost:	Members (\$30/year, due in March) and Guests (\$5.00/meeting with guest speaker)

LIBRARY INFORMATION

Tuesday Evening Meetings: Open from 5:30 PM to 7 PM only.

Wednesday Morning Meetings: Open from 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM and during the break.

To renew books:

Call Donata Pfisterer the day before the meeting at 733-9557 or email her at:

donatap@photonengr.com

EMAIL LIST

The Guild now has an email list for easy communication with the members. Please log into the protected area of the website and put your name and email address into the box at the top of the page. After doing this, you will receive an email. You must click on the link after making the link into one long line. If this works, you will receive another email saying you were successful. If you have any problem with this, email me at quilter@tucsonquiltersguild.com.
Meg Silvern



Tucson Quilters Guild and Tucson's Quilt Fiesta! is now on Facebook! Since this is FREE publicity for our Guild and our show, ask your friends to 'like' the page. What can be better than free?

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Tucson-Quilters-Guild-Tucson-Quilt-Fiesta/121887434544473>

Advertising

Members: \$5.00 for small want ads for Quilting/sewing related items

Quilt related businesses:

\$25 business card size

\$50 1/4 page

\$100 half page

TQG BOARD AND COMMITTEES

President	Roberta Sipes	rfsipes@gmail.com
Vice President	Elaine Romanelli	Romanellielaine@gmail.com
Endowment/ Donations	Sally Dickinson	749-9815
Membership	Mary Meserve	465-2785
Member at Large, Evening	Kay Hendricks	325-4509
Member at Large, Morning	Evelyn George	325-0166
Programs	Connie German	germanconnie@gmail.com
Programs	Reilly Zoda	sekmet73@cox.net
Quilt Show Co Director	Joan Swanson	jbswanso@gmail.com
Quilt Show Co Director	Betty Anderson	bettyca@comcast.net
Secretary	Barbara Heiman	bjheiman@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Kathy Barton	kathrynbarton@sbcglobal.net
Bears	Christine McCollum	748-9165
Bees	Laurie Mullins	Mlauriel@hotmail.com
Corresponding Secretary	Mary Meserve	465-2785
Finance	Marie Morris	623-0123
Guild Pins	Diane Bach	bachdiane@yahoo.com
Guild Publicity	* open *	
Historian	Cathy Dargel	746-9246
Holiday Block Exchange	July Gilmartin Colleen Babcock	jgilmartin@msn.com cjquilts@att.net
Hospitality	Christine McCollum Marie Luongo	748-9165
Library	Donata Pfisterer	760-0309
Library	Kathryn Wald	749-4772
Newsletter	Joey Nakagawa Diane Hartman	JoeyKiomi@gmail.com dhartman69080@gmail.com
Pattern of the Month	Evelyn George	quilter4ever@cox.net
Quilt A Thon	Paulette Worman Barbara Heiman	lavenderlady@centurylink.net bjheiman@hotmail.com
Quilting for Others	Mary Meserve Kathy Harris	465-2785 615-0541
Raffle Quilt 2016	Terry Gallegos	749-3424
Raffle Quilt 2017	Colleen Babcock	cjquilts@att.net
Record Keeper	* open *	
Website	Meg Silvern	meg@silvern.com



Pattern of the Month - January 2016

By Evelyn George

Denim Market Tote

~12" x 7" x 14" tall

If your New Year's resolution is to cut down on the number of plastic bags you use, here's a quick way to make a very durable and useful tote you can take to the supermarket. You'll want to keep a couple of these in the car—they also come in handy at the Farmer's Market, Street Fair, or any number of places where you find yourself needing a good strong bag. Whether you repurpose a pair of cast-off jeans, or use new fabric, you'll soon be on your way to saying "No thanks" to the "Paper or plastic?" question!

This standard size grocery bag uses 1 pair men's size 42 wide-leg jeans. **(Or, 1 yard of 48" WOF fabric is enough for 2 bags.)* Use any sturdy, washable fabric that your machine can handle. You'll also need a fat quarter of lighter weight fabric for trim; jeans thread or other strong thread, such as Coats and Clark Dual Duty XP (regular or heavy duty); and a #90/14 jeans or topstitch needle.



(Suggestions: Test your fabric/needle/thread combo first; increase stitch length slightly, to about 2.8; and if presser foot is adjustable, experiment with reducing pressure a little; remember to put it back to normal afterward.)

Cutting:

Starting with a large pair of jeans, cut off the lower legs, measuring 18" up from the hem. Remove inseams, but leave the side seams and hems. Trim each leg piece to 20" wide; the hems will become the top edge of the bag. It's best to avoid using the thick, flat-felled inseams, because they are hard to stitch over; but the side seams are usually OK, and are straighter, as well.

**(If using yardage, cut one rectangle of denim fabric 35" long x 20" wide, for each bag.)*

Cut 2 denim strips 3" x 15" for handles.

From trim fabric, cut 2 strips 2½" x 15" for handle trim.

From trim fabric, cut 2 strips 2" x 18" for binding side seams; one 2" x 15" strip for binding bottom seam; and two bias strips 2" x 8" for binding bottom corner seams (optional).

Optional Pocket: Cut desired size + hem and seam allowances, from denim or trim fabric.

The jeans hems will be used as the top edge of the bag. At the lower corners of each bag side, mark a 3½" square, with two sides of the square being the cut edges of the rectangle; cut out squares. This will shape the box bottom of the bag.

**(If using yardage, fold piece in half so center is at bottom and cut a 3" x 3½" rectangle from both thicknesses at the fold, with the 3" measurement on the raw edge and the 3½" measurement on the fold. After attaching handles, skip bottom seam, and go directly to side seams.)*

(If you are adding a pocket, now is the time to sew it to the center of one side of the bag.)

Make and Attach Handles: Press each denim handle strip so that raw edges meet at center of the strip, with right sides out. Press each strip of trim in the same way, raw edges meeting at center. Lay trim strip on top of handle strip so all raw edges are inside, and a little denim shows at edges. Stitch trim to handle, stitching close to folds. Trim handles to equal lengths, about 14" to 15" each. Cover raw edges of handle ends with a 3" square of trim fabric, folding under raw edges and stitching down to cover ends of handles.

Measure to find center of each side of bag at upper edge (if there is a seam, it might not be exactly in the center). On outside of bag, center and pin handles in position 2" below upper edge of bag, with 5" of space between them, one handle on front of bag and one on back. Make sure handles are not twisted, then stitch onto bag, stitching a 1" square with an X in the center, at the end of each handle.

Construct Bag (*note: Use $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowances throughout*)

Bottom Seam: Align the two bottom edges of bag, wrong sides together, and stitch a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam. The seam will be on the outside of the bag; press it open, with steam, to make it nice and flat. Press raw edges to meet in center of each 2" wide binding strip, with right sides out. Center a strip of binding over flattened seam; tuck folded edges of binding behind denim seam edges, to completely cover them. Pin in place, and stitch close to fold through all thicknesses along both edges, stitching binding and seam to bag. This reinforces the bag, and the binding also makes a decorative trim on the outside of the bag!

Side seams: Stitch in the same manner, starting with wrong sides together, so when binding is applied, it will form a decorative trim on the outside as it did before. Add trim in the same way, folding binding edges under the denim seam edges; and extend the trim strip about 2" above the upper edge of bag. Stitch through all thicknesses to bind and trim as you did at bag bottom; fold 2" end of strip over top edge to inside of bag, turn end under and stitch in place about 1" below top of bag. The second side will be more difficult, as you will be sewing down into the bag, but just check carefully, making sure binding is covering seam evenly, and flattening out bag as you go, to make sure you only sew what you intend.

To make the box bottom: Turn bag wrong side out. At one lower corner, bring the bottom seam to the side seam, this time right sides together, matching seams at center; stitch together, using a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam. It will be thick, so stitch slowly and carefully. Repeat at other corner of bag. These short seams can be covered with a raw edge 2" wide bias strip, wrapping it over the entire stitched seam to cover it, and stitching through all thicknesses close to the original seam line. If this is too much of a challenge for your machine, omit the binding, or add it by hand. This is a utility bag, after all!

**Notes: It's easy to vary the bag size depending on your preference and the jean sizes available. Thrift stores may be a good source for larger pairs of jeans or skirts, yielding a good amount of usable denim.*