

KENAI PENINSULA QUILTING GUILD



March 2023

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Presidents Report

By
Heather Johnston

The retreat was a smashing success this year. We were back in the swing of things and we ladies had lots of fun at Lands' End. We had several first-time retreaters this year sewing along with those who had been coming from the start.

The executive board had our first quarter meeting while at Lands' End and all is well, things are ticking along nicely.

Don't forget the Annual Meeting April 1st at Christ Lutheran Church in Soldotna.

I'll let Barb tell you about the classes we currently have lined up for this year.

I know we are all waiting for the snow and ice and sleet to disappear so we can get out for those spring and summer activities but don't rush out those sewing days just yet. Enjoy the process, enjoy the friends.

Heather Johnston
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V. P. Education Report

by
Barb Steckel

Your Education Committee has been hard at work trying to find teachers for classes for this year and next. We took the information from the meeting and are trying to work with both 2 day and 1-day classes to meet the needs of our members. If you were at Retreat you heard about some of the upcoming classes, but we want everyone to know what we have scheduled and what we are working on for the future.

PAM VENTGEN CLASS- Pam will be teaching "Abigail's Window" in a 2-day class. The dates requested from the church are July 6 & 7, 2023. Sign up started at the Retreat and for those who have paid, we will be sending out the supply list as soon as we receive it from Pam.



If you are interested in this class, please email Sue Magyar at Magyar@arctic.net and let her know. She will put you on the list, but you will not be registered until she receives your check. The 2-day class is \$90 and your check should be payable to KPQG. Her mailing address is P O Box 1617, Seward, AK 99664. If you have questions about the class, you can contact Sue or me at Bsteckel@aol.com. You can also register at the April Meeting.

NANCY MATHEW CLASS- "Crazy Eights" is the name of the table topper that Nancy will be teaching in August. It will be the 1st or 3rd Saturday in August, a 1 day class. The cost will be \$45 for the class. This table topper can be either 44" or 24" and will require you to do some homework before class for this to be a 1 day class. Registration for this class will start at the April meeting.



Your Committee is still working to schedule another class for this year, any suggestions are welcome.

NEXT YEAR we have Board authorization to work with **Deb Tucker** of Studio 180 Designs. We talked to her several years ago and her schedule would not allow her to come and teach. There are several members who have taken classes from her and she is an excellent teacher, great teaching boards to follow the steps and finished samples. Her classes will probably require some special tools, depending on what classes the Education Committee choose. Her tools work very good on other projects as well. Hopefully we will also have a trunk show.

Also, we have Board authorization to work with **RaNae Merrill** of Free Motion Mastery in a Month. She was suggested by one of our members and I had the opportunity to meet her at Road to California and she is very interested in teaching here next year. She insists by the end of a day we will be having fun doing free motion and be able to do feathers. She also teaches other classes. Her class will probably be in August 2024. We will try to make it 2 one day classes to allow everyone the opportunity to participate. We hope we can have a trunk show for this class as well.

We have had a few other suggestions which we are working on. Please be sure and give your suggestions to any member of the Education Committee - Kathleen Barkley, Donna Glenz, Sue Magyar, Cathy Howlett, Kris Rutledge, Lorraine Murphy. You can also share them with our President Heather Johnston or myself.

A big thank you to everyone who helps set up, take down, clean up when we have a class. It makes the job much easier with everyone helping.

Another important issue for your ongoing education program is a new Vice President of Education. The Nominating Committee is looking for a person that would like to serve on the Board and work to arrange teachers for KPQG. Please contact Sue Magyar, Kris Rutledge or me.

Hospitality

By Sharon Hale

A reminder for the annual meeting on April 1st at the Christ Lutheran Church in Soldotna, Central Peninsula members are reminded to please bring a main dish to share and Homer members please bring a dessert. Looking forward to seeing you all for a great meeting!

Homer News

By
Lee Bowman

Our group, averaging ten to twelve quilters, has met each Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm throughout the winter. We have been working on personal projects, as well as service quilts for fire victims and teddy bear quilts for Haven House in Homer. Recently, the group has completed two raffle quilts, one for the Mother's Day quilt show and one for the Pratt Museum.

Those are the statistics, what the group has produced. Who we've become, I think, is much more striking. Our group of a dozen talks and laughs, sharing helpful hints, history about ourselves, silly stories and maybe most important, support when one of us is hurting. In short, we've been there for each other, and we would rather not miss a Thursday.

KPQG Challenge Blocks for 2023

Theme: "Picking"

Size: 15" X 15"

Timelines:

- Finished blocks due at April 2023 meeting.
- Blocks will be displayed in various venues on the Peninsula.
- Blocks will be returned to creators at October 2023 meeting.

Construction:

- Blocks may be finished any way you choose.
- Each block is an individual quilt.
- Any quilting technique is encouraged.
- Feel free to use embellishments, dyes, stencils, and/or stitching to add interest.
- Simple pieced traditional patterns will work fine or create your own design.
- No sleeve is required.
- Please label your quilt block with the creator's name, title of quilt block, location, and year on the back.

If you have questions contact committee members Jan Wallace, Debbie Standefer, Janet Bacher, Heather Johnston

Book look

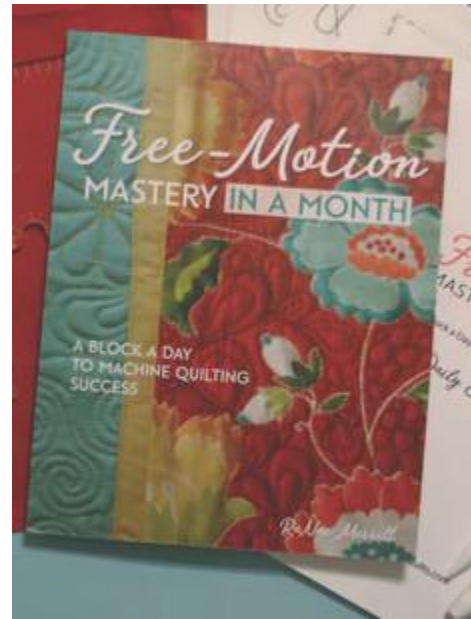
By
Kathleen Barkley

Free - Motion
MASTERY IN A MONTH

A BLOCK A DAY
TO MACHINE QUILTING

Author: RaNae Merrill

Published by
RaNae Merrill Quilt Design
370 West 118th Street, #2D
New York, New York 10026
www.FreeMotionMasteryinaMonth.com



Free - Motion
MASTERY IN A MONTH (FMM30) is RaNae Merrill's fourth book. Professional quilter, instructor, and vendor, RaNae, in addition to writing books, has designed fabrics for Blank Quilting and is published in a variety of quilt magazines. One of the best take-aways from this book is that the reader will learn a new way of machine quilting that works whether you quilt on a domestic sewing machine, a frame mounted arm or along arm. According to RaNae, FMM30 works on any type of sewing machine. For those experienced quilters, the tools RaNae demonstrates will help improve your quilting and assist quilters in perfecting new patterns in a timely manner.

According to RaNae, the first step in mastering free-motion quilting is getting comfortable with the 6 basic shapes in quilt design and developing muscle memory and parallel motion. RaNae demonstrates how to quilt line, c-curve, circle, teardrop, s-curve, and spiral designs.

RaNae teaches methods that help your body coordinate the movement in patterns and the building blocks of quilt designs. The FMM30 lessons are laid out in a 30-day plan and the free-motion quilting combines 3 skills; machine control, muscle memory, and a mental map. Each skill is practiced separately and then put together to complete the quilting process.

Following RaNae's introduction is a Gallery of quilts using her FMM30 system. Each page shows the whole quilt as well as the detailed quilting. Fabric do's and don'ts are discussed as well as thread, batting (RaNae recommends double-sided fusible batting, Hobbs' Heirloom Fusible 80/20 because it is repositionable even after being used, doesn't release fumes when ironed, and will not gunk up your sewing machine), fabric selection, quilt yoga, and the importance of tension.

Thanks to Lois Daubney for recommending RaNae's book. It is chockfull of pertinent information for both the beginning and experienced quilter. The Education Committee recently approved a recommendation for entering into a contract with RaNae Merrill for a two day class in 2024.

Retreat news

By
Jan Holland

The 26th Kenai Peninsula Quilting Retreat had 52 participants! We sewed, laughed, admired quilts, and enjoyed good food and wonderful company during our time at Lands' End in Homer!!!

Central peninsula ladies have already started planning for Retreat 2024. It will be the third weekend of February.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped with all the retreat planning, making of gifts, and the willingness to jump in and help in the making of a wonderful successful retreat!!!

Seward News

By
Sue Magyar

It was such a great time at Retreat this year, thanks to our Retreat Chairs and their able assistants. So inspiring to see what everyone is working on and catch up with our quilting friends from all over the Peninsula. The good roads made it so much easier - we've all seen so much worse!

Seward Area Quilters started off the year right with January 1st Social Sharks sew along. We are into week 7 with 4 or 5 dedicated sewers and a number of dabblers. We've had one January Retreat and another one is scheduled for March.

The UFO Contest deadline in March is approaching. Since 2017 this fun contest has helped many to finish off those projects that need a little (or a lot) of help getting it done- that extra "Oomph" or the proverbial kick in the pants. You get a rah-rah email each month with encouragement and sometimes organizational tips. If you would like to join in the fun send an email to hmj.seward2015@gmail.com for more information.

We continue to enjoy our new sewing home- the views are amazing, and we see a lot of birds and a few otters. Our sewing numbers may rise and fall depending on who is in town that day, but we always enjoy great food come mealtime. We even did a New Year's Day Sew and watched the fireworks in style.

Our ongoing project, Veteran Quilts, we have delivered over 150 Red, White, and Blue quilts. With each quilt go our heartfelt thanks for their service.

“What’s Happening?”

By
Jan Wallace

2023

April 1 KPQG annual meeting. Challenge Blocks due. “Picking”. 15 x 15
Christ Lutheran Church Soldotna

May 12-14 Mother’s Day Quilt Show
Homer Elks Lodge
Friday 3-8pm
Saturday 10 am- 8 pm
Sunday 10 am- 4 pm

July 1-31 Soldotna Quilt Tour
Local businesses display a Quilt
Passports provide opportunity to win wonderful prizes

May - August Challenge Blocks “PICKING” on display
Throughout the Peninsula
Check website for updates

Check This Out: www.textileartist.org
“A place for textile and fiber artists to be inspired,
learn from the best, unite their work and
communicate with like-minded creatives.”





Snowflake
12" Block
2 Fabrics

Cutting:

Blue:

1 square @ 4 ½"

1 square @ 5 ¼"

5 half-square triangles @ 4 ⅞"

White on White:

1 square @ 4 ½"

1 square @ 5 ¼"

5 half-square triangles @ 4 ⅞"

Piecing:

Half-Square Triangle Square:

Make 3 Half-Square Triangle units from 3 sets of 4 ⅞" Blue and White on White Triangles

These measure 4 ½" after sewing.



Three-part Square (also called a Y-Block):

Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of the 5 ¼" White on White Square.

Layer right sides together with the blue 5 ¼" square.

Sew ¼" away on each side of the drawn line. Cut on the line and press open toward the Blue.



You will have 2 Half-Square Triangle Blocks. These look like the previous blocks but they are just a bit larger and should measure 4 ⅞".

Layer these Half Square Triangle Blocks with right sides and opposite fabrics facing.

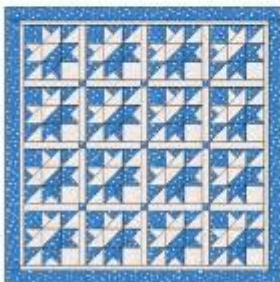
Do **NOT** mark a diagonal line on this unit.

Lay your ruler on a diagonal line corner to corner, perpendicular to the seam.

CUT along this diagonal. You will have 4 half-square triangles – two with the Blue on the left, two with the Blue on the right. Following the diagrams below sew these units to the 4 remaining 4 ⅞" triangles. They will measure 4 ½" after sewing.



Following the block diagram at the top of this page, lay out your units into a nine-patch. Sew units into three rows, then sew the rows together.



With no sashing and a little rotating of blocks, you can get a completely different look for your quilt.

Enjoy your block,

Grace