

The Running Stitch

stitches bind us together

Newsletter of the Withlacoochee Quilters Guild Volume 38 Issue 7



From Our President, Chris Summers

Greetings Quilters!

Well, I'm absolutely covered up! There is so much going on and for some reason, it takes me forever to accomplish anything! My air conditioner is not working, my dishwasher is leaking, my computer is possessed by an alien, and my iron shuts off every time I start to use it. I have quilts to finish for the show, and the Quilts of Valor presentation, and my sewing/embroidery machine is in the shop. (Sigh)

Does it seem like it takes twice as long to get things done, to anyone else, when you retire? I know. No sympathy from you ladies and gentlemen, who are still working every day. Maybe you all should just skip to the next article or get out your violin. You should really preserve the illusion that you will have time to do the things you want to do, like starting and finishing a quilt in the same calendar year, having a clean house and a beautiful yard, and traveling!

Me now: "I just got back from vacation! I couldn't possibly be ready for another before 2025!" It's really sad. I used to be ready to go at a moment's notice. Now I would worry too much about the cat to go anywhere.

The answer? I guess just keep reminding myself to grab and savor the moments of joy in my life while they're happening. Just the same as when I was young.

- Chris Summers, President

July 2023



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FYI – If you like the table runners or blocks in these graphics, the Alphabet Soup book by Julie Herman of Jaybird Quilts includes the pattern!

Withlacoochee Quilters Guild Meeting Minutes — July 10, 2023

The meeting of the Withlacoochee Quilter's Guild was called to order by President, Chris Summers, 7:05pm.

May Birthday wishes were sent to Kathleen H., Dianne K., & Connie S.

Minutes: Marsha T. moved to accept the minutes. Connie S. seconded the motion. The motion was carried to accept the minutes.

Any changes in your contact information should be reported to Membership coordinator, Elsie Crane, who will let Christy Yates, the newsletter publisher, know to revise the mailing list. This keeps the most up-to-date information centralized with one person. *Please note*, membership rolls have been updated and the newsletter is only being sent to active members, those with dues paid and membership forms completed, based on the email addresses provided on the membership forms.

Committee Reports:

Treasurers Report: Patti McGuffin presented the treasurer's report as provided herein.

Withlacoochee Quilters Guild	
Treasurer's Report	
June 2023	
Balance Forward as of 5-31-2023	1824.53
Income	
Membership	40.00
Sit & Sew	75.47
Total Income	115.47
Expenses	
Challenge	100.00
Total Expenses	100.00
Balance as of 6-30-2023	1840.00

Refreshments: Ice Cream Sundae bar was provided by Dianne D, Joyce H and Christy Y

Hospitality: 24 members were present: Patti McGuffin, Jerry McGuffin, Judie Loveless, Marsha Tyson, Barbara Lindner, Chris Summers, Elaine Taylor, Heather Dixon, Kathleen Haehnel, Pat Hall, Barb Linares, Ann Bussey, Christy Yates, Ann Hoover, Connie Syford, Dianne Dees, Sandy Willis, Joyce Herrin, Patricia Hawkins, Lee Brooks, Teresa Lavind, Barbara Jordan, Gail Posey, and Hedy Parrish. No guests.

The door prize winners were Hedy P. and Judie L.



Hedy showed her completed Seahorse! The new owner of the "Round To It" is Joyce Herrin. Look for this logo on our Showed and Told pages to see Hedy's fine work!

Membership: Elsie was not present to report. Christy reported she had some corrections from Elsie. Members confirmed that deleting old emails and clearing out space in their email programs has resulted in receiving the newsletter files.

Jerry M. wanted everyone to know what a great newsletter we are getting – best he's ever seen from a guild – and a huge thank you to Christy was extended.

Community Projects:

Not Forgotten Initiative – No more tote bags are needed, but small quilts are still requested.

We will be *awarding Quilts of Valor* at our August meeting.

Christy Yates will be collecting period pads for *Victory Children's Outreach*, through our meeting on August 14th.

Workshops: Barb L. proposed bringing in a teacher for the Laura Heine collage technique. To read more about how this exciting opportunity came about, go to Showed and Told page 5. And look for a class sometime this fall!

New Business:

Retreats:

The fall retreat dates are October 13-15, 2023.

The spring retreat will be April 18-20, 2024.

The fall retreat next year is tentatively set for October 11-13, 2024.

Guild Quilt Show: The show is this year from August 3 thru September 16. Quilts will be hung on August 1, 2023.

Name Tags: Don't forget to wear your name tags. If you don't remember, add a quarter (or two), to the bucket.

Program of the Evening:

Chris S. showed several different ways to make "disappearing" blocks – FUN! See photos and article starting on page 6.

August program – Quilt of Valor awards

September program – how to prepare your quilt for your longarm

Show and Tell: The following members showed their work: Christy Y., Ann B., Patricia H., Teresa L., Lee B., Hedy P., and Chris S. Please see the Showed and Told photos on the next page.

The meeting was adjourned by President Chris Summers at 7:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Linares, Secretary

When is the last time you...

Changed the needle on your machine?

Put in a new rotary blade?

Wiped off your cutting mat?

Cleaned your iron?

Oiled your machine (if your manufacturer recommends this)?

Cleaned out your bobbin case and surrounding housing?

Had your machine serviced?

Inventoried your consumable supplies so you'll know what you need if you see a sale (needles, bobbin cases, thread of a much used color, rotary blades, starch, a favorite cleaner, etc.)?

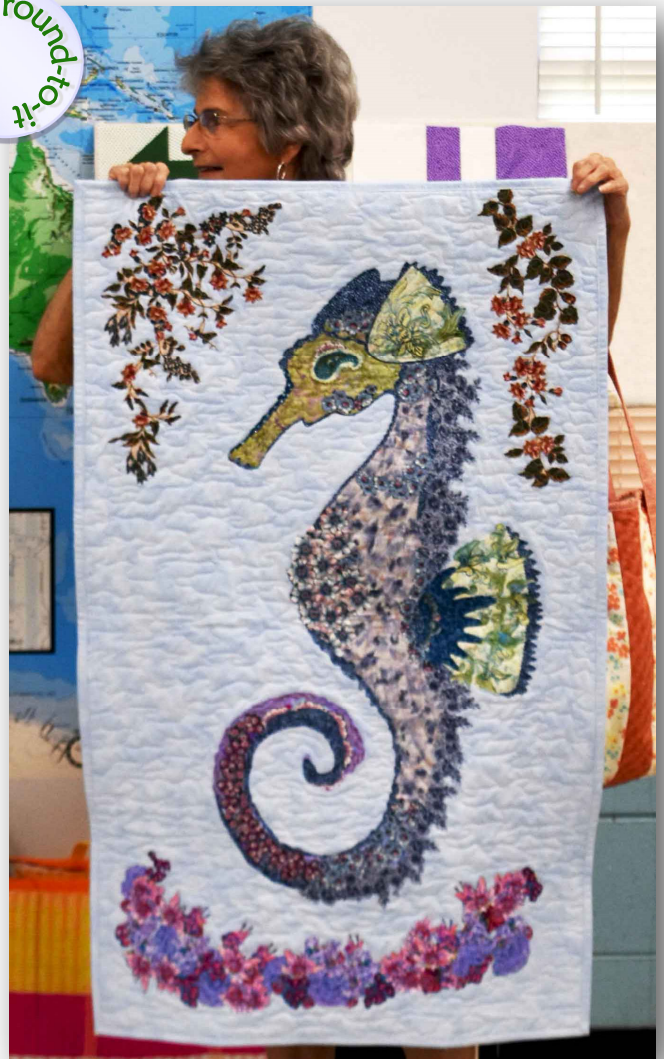
If you want to be really on top of things, print this list and jot down the date as you do each of these items.



These are all things we don't think to do until we are frustrated stitching and have to stop to do them... and once done, we often think "why didn't I do that sooner"? Now would be sooner.



getting a round of it



Having three members bring collage quilts fascinated the viewers and inspired a program possibility! Barb Linares shared that she has a contact who teaches the Laura Heine collage method and offered to research bringing it as a future workshop. Look for more information at a future guild meeting.

What is a “collage quilt”? We often think of collage as being done with paper and paint. The same process can be used to create a collage style quilt. Motifs or shapes are cut from a variety of fabrics and combined with other materials, then layered onto a fabric base to create a picture or design. The materials in the collage can be fused, glued or stitched in place as well as painted or embellished with a variety of different mixed media. Each quilt artist has a set of technique that works well for them. The collage style can be used on its own to create an entire quilt, or become an element in a larger overall design.

For more information on collage quilting:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKAalnMjuk>

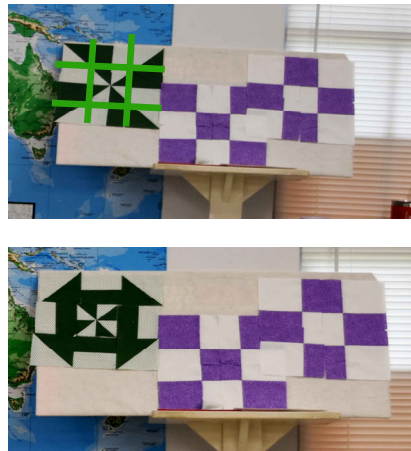
<https://www.fiberworks-heine.com/about-us.htm>

Disappearing Nine Patch Program (program facilitated by Chris Summers)

It may seem like sewing a quilt block just to cut it all up again is a little crazy. But taking a simple block, making a few cuts, rearranging the pieces, and sewing it back together can create complex and interesting patterns far more easily than stitching together lots of small pieces. Who doesn't like a time-saver that expands their creativity and reduces fabric-waste? That's just what the "Disappearing Block" technique can do!

Chris Summers presented a program, complete with example blocks (shown below) to introduce the technique to the guild, and remind those of us who have seen it what we might be missing out on if we haven't used it in awhile. The concept is simple. Sew a basic block, sub-cut it, flip some or all of the sub-cut pieces to create a new block layout, then resew. Viola! A whole new block, and often one that creates a repeating pattern that can join together to make a larger scale motif when combined in a whole quilt. See the photos from Chris's presentation below, and then follow the links provided to explore more on your own. Hopefully we will see some future completed projects during Showed and Told as guild members are inspired by this technique.

The green pinwheel block was sliced into a nine patch and then the new pieces were flipped about to make a whole new pinwheel inside a church dash block!



The purple nine patch block was subcut and flipped. Placing colors in different patterns on the nine patch can create unique designs.



Want to explore more disappearing blocks?

The link below will take you to a site that explains the basics of making a disappearing block and shows examples of using nine patches, four squares, and pinwheels as your starter blocks and then the possible rearrangements that you can achieve. It's a fun way to maximize creativity with a basic block!

<https://www.quiltingdaily.com/quilting-magic-tricks-for-disappearing-blocks/>

The link below provides access to 8 videos that show how to create a variety of different disappearing blocks and variations within each type.

<https://tulipsquare.com/patterns/tag/disappearing-blocks/>

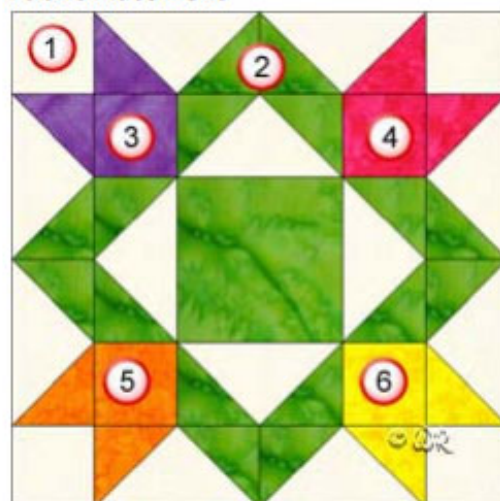
Patchwork Square

Free Quilt Block Pattern

Four Flowers

12" finished quilt block

Fabric Placement

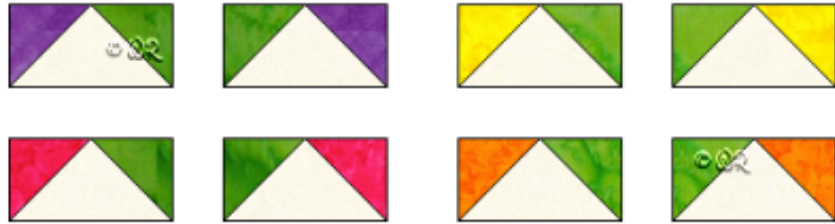


How-to Notes	
	Bisect square on one diagonal
	Bisect square on both diagonals
*All seam allowances are 1/4" unless noted otherwise	

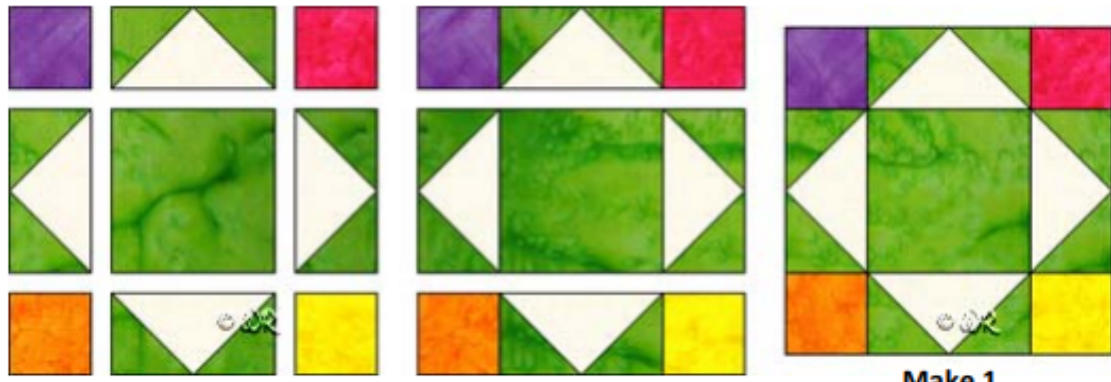
1		Background fabric 1 Cut 4 squares 2 1/2" Cut 3 squares 5 1/4" and bisect on both diagonals
2		Fabric 2 Cut 8 squares 2 7/8" and bisect on one diagonal Cut centre square 4 1/2"
3		For each of Fabrics 3 to 6 (flowers) Cut 1 square 2 1/2" Cut 1 square 2 7/8" and bisect on one diagonal
4		
5		
6		



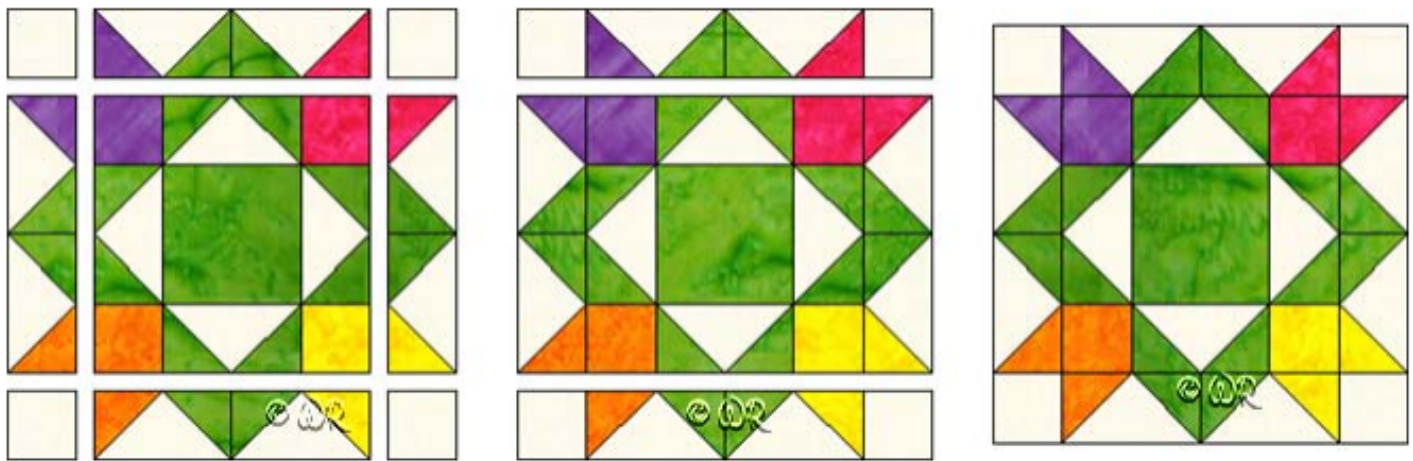
Make 4



Make 1 of each colour combination



Make 1





Homemade Hot Fudge Sauce (Becky Coons—Christy Yates Mom)

- 1 stick butter
- 3/4 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 can evaporated milk
- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla

Melt 1 stick butter over low heat.

Add 1 can evaporated milk and 2 cups powdered sugar, stirring to combine.

Bring to a boil.

Cook 7-8 minutes at a boil, until rich and thick, stirring constantly.

Remove from heat and add 1 tsp vanilla.

Can be stored on countertop in well sealed container if used within 2-3 days, or in refrigerator.

Tip – Be sure to reheat slowly or sauce will “break” and become grainy. If you microwave, it’s best to do 30 seconds at a time and stir between rather than do a minute or more at once.

This is a family tradition served with homemade ice cream, but I enjoy it best the next day... not reheated but spooned in all its fudgy goodness right onto a fresh banana!

About Our Guild

The Withlacoochee Quilters Guild is a non-profit organization for those interested in quilts and quilting. This guild was organized to preserve and promote the art of quilting. Monthly meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 6:30 pm at Grace Bible Church, 401 East Park Avenue, Valdosta, Georgia. Guests are always welcome!

Dues, renewable by January 1st each year, are \$20 per year for

adults. Youth membership (ages 6-16) is \$10. After June 30th, dues are one half the regular fee for the remainder of the year.

Questions about the Guild?
Please contact a Board Member.

Withlacoochee Quilters' Guild
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2023 WQG OFFICERS

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Chris Summers

Vice President
Damaris Lane

Secretary
Barb Linares

Treasurer
Joy Bass

Assistant Treasurer
Patti McGuffin

Members at Large
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