## Bernando Quilters' Guild Newsletter

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021

#### President's Message



Dear Guild Members,

I know that many of you (and I) are anxious to get back to our monthly meetings and classes. With all that is going on with COVID, your board does not feel that it is in the best interest of our members. We are monitoring this very closely. With the vaccine being really slow to be administered only time will tell. Our corresponding lady (Barb Theriault) will send out an email the day we make a decision for our February meeting.

Please continue to work on your Challenge quilt that we are planning for the month of February. We want you to be ready to show them if we have a February meeting. If not February, we will show them at the first meeting we have. I'm anxious to see what you have created!

I am looking forward to our Retreat in March. We do have a smaller group and feel that with the steps that Lake Yale and our guild have taken it will be very safe.

Our first Mystery Quilt class went very well with 20 ladies attending. We were at The Quarry Enrichment Center and had 10 ladies upstairs and 10 downstairs. I would venture to say that there are already a handful of ladies who have already completed theirs! There were also 7 ladies who just ordered the pattern and I've already seen one of them. I think this is my favorite mystery so far!

Fondly, Karen Pilon

#### **REGARDING FAT QUARTER SCHEDULE DRAWINGS**

Since we did not have a January Meeting and not know yet on February, we will go back to our usual Fat Quarter Drawings when our meetings resume and not do the cumulative drawings advertised in the last newsletter. If we meet in February, the challenge will take up time we would need. So you would just bring your fat quarters for whatever month we are meeting according to the fat quarter schedule on the right.

#### Website: www.hernandoquiltersguild.com

#### 2021/2022 Officers/Committee Chairs

President 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres. (Programs) Secretary Treasurer

Quilt Shop Advertising Quilt Trips Block/Month 2021 Quilt Challenge 2021 Retreat (March) Fat Quarter Drawing 50/50/Food Bank Mystery Prize Membership Newsletter/Guild Advertising Communications/Web Liaison Sunshine Webmaster Karen Pilon Louise Isabelle Sandy Wesley/Penny Dyer Sharon Kenny Didden Raelee Russavage

Tekla Bell/Barb Theriault Tekla Bell Marilyn Ryder Pam Russavage Karen Pilon Judy Thew Sally Cosenza Ann Brock Alma Martin Barb Theriault Barb Theriault Bonnie DeFranco Dave Curtis

2021 Fat Quarter Schedule				
January	Red/White/Pink or Hearts			
February	Greens or Shamrocks			
March	Earth Tones: i.e. Browns/Tans,Golds, Burgundy, dark greens, etc.			
April	Florals or Pastels			
May	Batiks Only			
June	Red/White/Blue			
July	Black, Grey or White			
August	Neutrals: Beige/Tan/Cream			
September	Stripes or Plaids			
October	Fall Colors: (Golds ,Orange, Browns, Reds, Yellows)			
November	Christmas Theme			
December	No Exchange			

#### Happy Birthday

#### **JANUARY**

FEBRUARY Janice Parker 3 Marilyn Ryder 7 Roxanna St. John 9 Linda Blades 10

Gay Dillinger 15 Karin Brunner 19 Judy Thew 20

Bev Stewart 27 Mildred Hernandez 28

Kimmie D. Daniels 22 Pamela Douglas 22 Margie Mullarkey 24 Mary (Kay) Johnson 24 Renee Lowdenslager 25

Liesbeth Dekoning 1 Carol Dobson 2 Barbara Childress 6 Ava Rossler 7 Karole Adams 13 Darlene Livingston 14 Eileen Gorzelic 15 Nancy Jenkins 22 Raelee Russavage 26 Alma Martin 29



Raffle Block of the Month Schedule 202 <sup>2</sup>	
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	Kits	Raffle	Presented By	Pattern					
No Meetings yet which affected Block of Month									
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1	tativ		No Meetings Bloc	No Meetings yet which Block of Month					



See Marilyn Ryder to sign up

Meeting Type	Day	Date	Place	Time
Board Meeting	Wed	1/27/21 Cancelled	Enrichment Center	10:00
Guild Meeting	Thurs	1/28/21 Cancelled	Jerome Brown Comm. Ctr.	9:30
Board Meeting	Wed	2/24/21 Tentative	Enrichment Center	10:00
Guild Meeting	Thurs	2/25/21 (Tentative) Guild Challenge?	Jerome Brown Comm. Ctr.	9:30
Guild Retreat	Mon - Thurs	3/8 – 3/11/2021	Lake Yale	
Board Meeting	Wed	3/24/21 (Tentative)	Enrichment Center	10:00
Guild Meeting	Thurs	3/25/21 (Tentative)	Jerome Brown Comm. Ctr.	9:30
Board Meeting	Wed	4/21/21 (Tentative)	Enrichment Center	10:00
Guild Meeting	Thurs	4/22/21 (Tentative)	Jerome Brown Comm. Ctr.	9:30

**NEWSLETTER:** Call or send any information, suggestions, correspondence, tips, or sayings dealing with quilting to **Barbara Theriault, 8181 Weatherford Ave., Brooksville, FL 34613;** e-mail: **btheriault1@tampabay.rr.com;** or call 352-597-8816 or Cell: 678-793-5335. Next deadline is **February 15, 2021.** 

Denise Jolliffe 28 Sue Gillespie 28 Please note that all trips have been cancelled so far and we hope to resume as soon as the board deems safe. We will keep you informed via email. If anything changes we will let

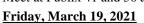
#### you know.

#### FIELD TRIPS

The Guild has tentatively planned the following trips for February and March. **(Tentative)** 

#### Friday, February 19, 2021

Trip to Sweet Darlings, Wesley Chapel Blvd. and Scrap & Sew 16541 Pointe Village Dr., Lutz, FL. Meet at Publix 41 and 50 at 9:30am



Trip to Bernina Sewing Center, 5405 E. Fowler Ave. Temple Terrace. Meet at Publix 41 and 50 at 9:30am

If you have any questions, call Tekla Bell Cell: (315) 254-1676

Let our new **SUNSHINE LADY**, Bonnie DeFranco (352-942-7336), or **sewingnurs118@gmail.com** know about the needs or illnesses of our members.



### **GUILD NEWS AND NOTES**



#### Suild Activities i.e., Board Meetings, Guild Meetings and Guild Trips and Classes

The Board met and decided that all functions will be cancelled until further notice and it is safe. That includes our Christmas party and any guild trips for our safety and to follow the State and Federal guidelines due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. We will continue to keep you informed as we know more.

- 2021 Membership Dues Our dues are normally due at the January meeting which was cancelled, so we will make an announcement regarding dues amounts as soon as we know when we are meeting again.
- 2020 Year End Charity Our charity for Christmas 2020 was \$300.00 for the food bank that would have been receiving our monthly donations from March to December 2020 because we could not hold any meetings due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.
- 2021/2022 New Officers The new officers were installed at a separate gathering at the Heather on January 8th. Our slate of new officers for 2021/2022 term are: President: Karen Pilon; 1<sup>st</sup> VP: Louise Isabelle; 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Programs: Sandy Wesley and Penny Dyer; Treasurer: Raelee Russavage; Secretary: Sharon Kenny Didden.
- 2021 GUILD CHALLENGE "Home Sweet Home" is the theme for the 2021 challenge. One of our favorite quilt blocks is the house pattern and you can base your entry around a house theme. The due date for this challenge will be at the February 25, 2021 Guild meeting. If you have any questions you can call Pam Russavage, our challenge coordinator for 2021. Entries will be judged in one category and again we hope to bring in an outside Judge. See page 5 for all the challenge details.
- 2021 LAKE YALE RETREAT MARCH 8 11, 2021 Karen Pilon and your retreat committee have secured our date of March 8 through 11, 2021 for our next Retreat. The Retreat will again be held at Lake Yale and the cost this year will be \$270.00 per person which includes a double room and all meals. All reservations and monies were due by January 30<sup>th</sup>. There are about 22 members and another group of about 8 attending the Retreat which totals about 30 ladies. The final count has been given to Lake Yale and we are now committed to that count. Lake Yale has gone from 75 employees to 12. They peroxide all surfaces in hotel rooms, sewing room, bathrooms and cafeteria. There will be no salad bar: The staff will serve our food; no special meals (gluten free). We will serve our own beverages and have only one case of water for you. We will not do a snack table this year also due to the danger of sharing. Ava Rossler will be teaching a quilt class at the Retreat called "Crosswalk" for anyone interested. A separate e-mail was sent out by Karen Pilon to Retreat Attendees with the details and a picture of the quilt.
- 2023 QUILT SHOW The Quilt Show has been changed to 2023 since we feel it would be difficult to start getting our committee heads together and having meetings for the show. This will also give us more time to make items for the Boutique, both craft items and quilting items. If you are interested in volunteering for a committee, please get in touch with Karen Pilon by phone (734-635-1560) or e-mail (tompilon@provide.net)
- GUILD WEBSITE If anyone is interested in seeing photos of our 2019 Quilt Show, you can view these photos under the Quilt Shows Category on our site. For new members who might not be familiar with our site it is: www.hernandoquiltersguild.com. Please check it out. You can also view all of our newsletters that I have done since 2008 when I started as your Editor. It's interesting to see the progression of our Guild from year to year.



## QUILT SHOWS/CLASS SCHEDULES

Jan 22-23, 2021 Quilt Show in The Villages – CANCELLED

#### ✤ March 21, 2021 Bus Trip To Lakeland CANCELLED

Sew Happy's board decided that a bus trip was not in our best interest to sponsor due to the current status on the pandemic and lack of enough vaccines. Sandy has been in contact with the bus company and the Expo to obtain a refund. We are currently awaiting the funds. When we do receive them she will be emailing everyone and requesting information to enable us to issue refunds.

Any questions anyone may email or call Sandy. 352-232-1788 <u>swesley816@gmail.com.</u>

- November 5-6, 2021 Ocala Quilt Show "On Top of the World" to be held at Circle Square Cultural Center, 8395 SW 80<sup>th</sup> St., Ocala, FL 34481
- November 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 QUILT SHOW IN TAMPA Quilters Workshop of Tampa Bay, Florida. Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm; Saturday 9:00am to 4:00pm. www.quiltersworkshoptampa.org
- November 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> 2021 QUILT SHOW IN LAKE COUNTY The Lake County Quilters Guild will hold it's annual 2021 Fantastic Quilt Show on; <u>Friday, November 12th</u>, 9 am -4pm and <u>Saturday, November 13th</u>, 9am - 4pm. NEW Location: Venetian Center, 1 Dozier Court, Leesburg, Fl. Judged quilts, Boutique, Vendors, Raffle Quilt, Demonstrations and Quilts for sale Admission \$ 10.00 For more information call (407) 917- 1575
- ✤ Jacksonville Quilt Show Moved to March 2022.



2021 Calendar of Classes



All classes were cancelled throughout the summer and fall due to the virus. We hope to resume our classes as soon as we feel it is safe. We will keep you posted as time goes on. Class fees will still be \$5.00 per class and you would still sign up at the Program table up front when meetings resume. We did have our first Mystery Quilt class run by Karen Pilon, which went very well with 20 ladies attending. We were at The Quarry Enrichment Center and had 10 ladies upstairs and 10 downstairs.

#### Class on February 23, 2021 Continuous Binding at the Quarry – with Ava Rossler

There will be a Continuous Bias class on Tuesday, February 23rd, 10-3pm at The **Quarry** in Brooksville. Since there will be no meeting before this, members wishing to participate in the class can email Penny Dyer at (**pjdrn28@yahoo.com**) or text/call her 317-987-8447, to be added to the class. There is a **limit of 8 students**, so Ava can give each attention and maintain Covid precautions. We will email the participants the supplies needed.

#### Class on April 13<sup>th</sup> at the Quarry – "Seeing Spots" with Karen Pilon

Karen will be sending out an email to all our members about another class she will be teaching on April 13th. It will be at the quarry and start at 9:00am and those interested will be sending me the class fee of \$5.00. The quilt name is **"Seeing Spots"** and it will have a **limit** of **20 ladies**.

## Guild Challenge - 2021

2021 Hernando Guild Challenge – Home Sweet Home

Dear Guild Members,

Your challenge committee hopes you are all well and happily using your isolation time sewing. In the event we are unable to gather at a guild meeting until this summer, or if you're a snowbird that has already flown north, Pam Russavage will mail your "Home Again Houses" fat quarter. The cost to mail will be \$6.50. (\$5.00 for the fat quarter (see challenge rule below), and \$1.50 for shipping).

Please send your check written to Hernando Quilt Guild for \$6.50 to Pam Russavage at 11044 Via De Rosa Ln, Spring Hill, FL 34608. Make sure you include your correct mailing address if it isn't the one listed on the check. Pam can also be reached at (402) 990-6578 or <a href="mailto:psrussavage@yahoo.com">psrussavage@yahoo.com</a> if you have questions.

## 2021 Hernando Quilt Guild Challenge

#### Home Sweet Home

One of our favorite quilt blocks is the house pattern. Since the pieced block is technically simple, there is ample opportunity for experimentation. Our theme for 2021 is Home Sweet Home. Let your imagination run wild! Build your entry around the house of your dreams, the house of your childhood, a holiday house (don't get stuck on the standards – think about "Take your Pet to the Vet Day", Ground Hogs Day, Arbor Day, National Donut Day, etc.). How about your favorite house to visit, a haunted house or even your "today" house? Feel free to add activities, landscaping, pets, automobiles, hobbies, flora, fauna and/or other embellishments. You may use a purchased pattern, design one of your own, or use one of the blocks suggested by the committee. Don't limit yourself to a quilt or a wall hanging. Perhaps a pillow or a bag or a fabric basket.

As part of the challenge each participant must purchase a fat quarter of "Home Again Houses" fabric for \$5.00 as an entry fee (see Pam Russavage or Shirley Kerstetter). This fabric must be visibly incorporated into the quilt top, although it's not necessary to use the entire fat quarter. To reclaim your entry fee, you must turn in your project for display and judging at the end of the challenge. Any entry fee not reclaimed will be donated to the guild to be used in one of its charities.



Categories: Entries will be judged in one category.

Judging: We will again try to bring in an outside judge who will choose "Best of Show", 1<sup>st</sup> place, 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Guild members will vote for the winner of "Viewer's Choice".

Composition: You must have the fabric "Home Again Houses" visibly included on the quilt top.

Quilting: You must have hand or machine quilting on your entry.

Size: No smaller than 16X16 and no larger than 45x60. If your entry is smaller or larger than the specifications, **your entry will not be judged**.

Due Date: February 25, 2021 – Guild Meeting

Rules: You are not allowed to use a project that has been made previous to this challenge. It must be made between March 26, 2020 and February 24, 2021. There will be a sign-up sheet when you turn in your entry. You must label the back of your entry with your name and the entry title.



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## THIS & THAT



### The Best Sewing Advice Facebook Readers Have Received

Sometimes a simple tip has a big impact on your sewing life. We asked our Facebook fans what lesson has stuck with them, and here are their answers!

- My great-grandmother was a seamstress and passed down to me these wise words: 'The making is in the pressing.'" --Nancy B.
- My mother always told me you should be able to wear your finished product inside out. In other words, the inside should be as neat and finished as the outside." --Cathy Z.
- "Pin each intersecting seam before sewing. Press, do not iron all seams. Quilting is about love, not perfection." --LouAnn C.
- "Always buy a little bit more fabric than the pattern calls for." --Coline S.
- "Trim all your threads as you sew so the underside of your quilt doesn't look like a rat's nest." --Susanne W.
- "Rulers are not created equally! Stick with the same ruler throughout the project." --Kristina G.
- "stop when you get tired, that's when you make mistakes, tomorrow is another day.'" --Emily S.
- "If things are not going well—turn off the machine and the iron, leave the sewing room, and go get wine." --Donna L.
- "Don't decide to not use a fabric because it is too special, or because you might need it later or because you might not have enough. Use it, enjoy it, then go buy something new and different." --Terry H.
- "Don't compare your worst with some one else's best!" --Paula S.
- "Never sew a stitch smaller than your smallest seam ripper." Sally L.
- "Buy the best fabric and tools that you can. You put a lot of time and effort into making a quilt." --Carol V.
- "Close the rotary cutter after every cut." --Cindi M.
- "From my Mom...Never sew over a pin, pull it out when it gets close to the pressure foot. I didn't one time and the pin broke in half, flew into my face, about a 1/2 inch from my eye." --Janice S.
- "Always remember, people who never do anything...never make mistakes!" --Stella B.

# Pioneer Quilt Patterns & the Stories of Their Names

"That any quilts survived the trip West is remarkable. It attests both to the durability of the quilts and to the loving tender care so crucial to that survival."

#### Meaningful Names on Pioneer Quilts

Quilts were precious to pioneer women for many reasons. They not only warmed the weary travelers at night but also brought memories of old friends and hopes for a good life in the new land. Sometimes friends and family made a friendship quilt giving a pioneer woman a precious memento of loved ones so far away. Women also made quilts in anticipation of the journey. It's only natural that some quilt patterns favored by pioneers have names related to the journey and to their faith in God.

#### Names Related to the Journey and Nature

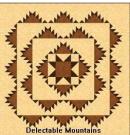
There are names that refer directly to the pioneer experience like Rocky Road to Kansas, Road to California and Oregon Trail. Others relate to nature and the new life they would be living like Log Cabin, Bear's Paw and Pine Tree. Some blocks represented the journey including Wandering Foot and Prairie Queen as well as various wheel patterns and star patterns.

#### Quilt Making as a Creative Endeavor

Quilts were not just made out of necessity. Many pioneer women expressed their creativity through quilt making. For example Dorinda Moody loved quilt making and managed to find time for it in spite of her rigorous pioneer life. "Dorinda obtained ideas for her quilts from her own creative mind and from the trees, plants and natural objects around her. She always kept a notebook and pencil on the table next to her bed. When a quilt design occurred to her, she would light her coal-oil lamp and draw out the design."

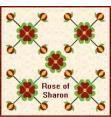
#### Names Reflecting Religious Faith

Perhaps the most meaningful to these women were names that reminded them of their devotion to God. They knew the trip west would be fraught with danger and sometimes their faith was all that kept them going. A quilt made with blocks named from the Bible would be a source of comfort.



In keeping with this importance of religious faith to these women the first quilt pattern in this series is the "Delectable Mountains", a name inspired by the book, "Pilgrim's Progress".

The Rose of Sharon, a Bible based applique design, was sometimes used to make a quilt for newlyweds who were about to embark on the journey west.



## Quilt History (Continued)

## Notes From The Frontier

In frontier America, quilts were a way for women to gain immortality. Quilters often called their quilts "diaries" or "albums" because they told stories and were tangible evidence of how a woman had lived her life, cared for her family, built a home, and took pride in her work. Since women were often left out of written history, a quilt was a tangible legacy of her life that would remain on earth for generations after she was dead. A quilt was her book, her needle was her pen.

Quilts not only played a role in personal histories, but in national history, as well. They documented the Civil War on both sides, struggles on the trail west, settling frontier homesteads, as well as the abolition movement, the suffragette movement, and the prohibition movement.

In 1800s America, women and girls of every age, class, racial and ethnic background sewed. Sewing and quilting were synonymous with womanhood and central to the role as woman of the house. And, because time was so precious and work never ended, even socializing among women often took place around quilting bees, so women could sew and socialize at the same time.

Between 1840 and the Civil War, an era of great foment, loss, and movement of Americans to the West, friendship quilts were created in great numbers as commemorations of loved ones lost, of those who left to go West, never to be seen again. Sometimes many women would work on a friendship quilt together for one woman and they would all sign their names on the quilt as a lasting remembrance of their friendship. Westering pioneer women on wagon trains who made friends with fellow travelers often made quilts for each other.

The first 1,000 miles of the main trail West were traveled by both California-bound and Oregon-bound pioneers until they reached a point called "The Parting of the Ways," just past the Continental Divide at South Pass. Then wagon trains split off going south to California or north to Oregon. Women had a thousand miles to create friendship quilts for dear friends on the trail, since they most likely would never see them again once they'd gone their separate ways. Such quilts often had visual motifs of the journey, such as Winding Way, Wagon Wheel, Wandering Foot, Snail's Trail, Wild Rose, Indian Trail, Evening Star, Road to California, and Friendship. The Pin Wheel design reflected the power of the constant prairie wind that blew against the cloth-covered wagons.

Some were more freeform and chronicled events they experienced on the trail: births, deaths, passing milestones along the way. Signatures were inked in with dates, place and heartfelt words and sometimes embroidered over the ink.



### Notes From The Frontier (Continued)

Willa Cather, the famous Pulitzer Prize winning writer who captured so poignantly life on the frontier in "O Pioneers!" and "My Antonia," wrote of women quilters on the trail. She called quilts "good bye hugs in cloth" and "broken Hallelujahs" when they swaddled dead children and loved ones for burial on the trail. She added: "People live through such pain only once. Pain comes again—but finds a tougher surface." Quilts meander through her writing like stitchery:

At the beginning of the Oregon Trail, the wooden wagon could take a load of a ton and a half ...A toolbox on one end, water bucket on the other, and a grease bucket in between. Lying on the bottom... heavier supplies like a plow, spinning wheel, stove, bags of seed and a chest of drawers... The top layer displayed the daily necessities: flour and salt, water keg, cooking pot, the Family Bible, a rifle, an ax, and a stack of handstitched, neatly tied, scrappy patchwork quilts."

One pioneer woman who settled in Texas in the 1830s recalled "quiltin' bees" where women might try "to out-rival each other in the daintiness of their stitches, but they also helped each other in every way. They helped each other! Perhaps this justifies the whole of a pioneer woman's suffering."

Since Colonial times, women had created quilts for benevolent societies, the poor, church raffles, and social reform movements. As early as the 1830s abolitionist quilters were making anti-slavery quilts and holding handcraft fairs to raise money for the cause.

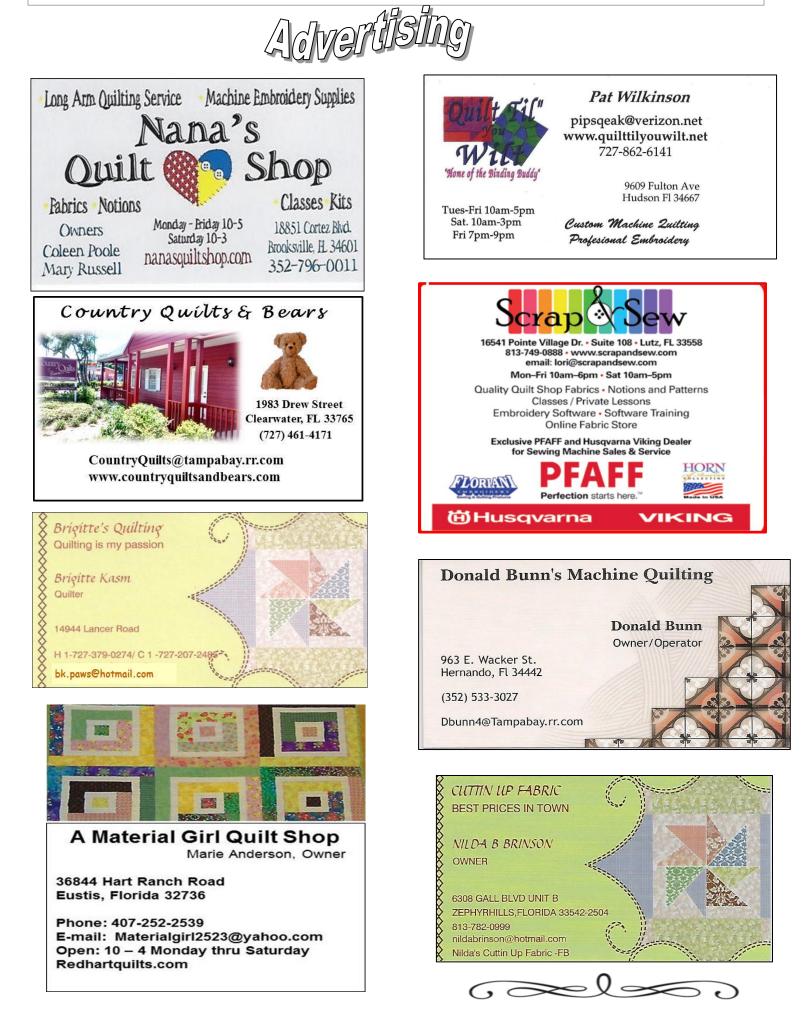


The first Anti-Slavery Fair was held in Boston in 1834 and was so successful the idea spread throughout New England, then to the Midwest.

The abolition movement brought quilting to a heightened art form not only in the anti-slavery narratives white quilt-makers told in their stitches, but some historians believe that black slaves sewed secret codes into their coverlets to navigate the Underground Railroad. Certain patterns like the Wagon Wheel, Tumbling Blocks, and Bear Paws, it is believed, contained secret messages that conveyed to slaves means of escape, routes, places of safety. Likewise, white quilt makers hung certain quilt designs to indicate messages to runaway slaves. A Log Cabin quilt hanging in a window with a black center for the chimney hole was said to indicate a safe house. A variation of Jacob's Ladder gave cues as to the safe path to freedom.

The Civil War activated women to rally for their respective causes, making quilts for wounded soldiers and hospitals. In the North, the U.S. Sanitary Commission called for quilts for hospitals. Their efforts were so prodigious, more than 300,000 quilts were created; one out of six Union soldiers was kept warm by a handsewn quilt!

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