



Silver Threads Quilt Guild



Meeting Date and Time: April 10th, 2008.

Social Hour 6:00 to 6:30

Meeting starts at 6:30

Meetings are held at the First Christian Church in Fort Walton Beach, FL

Website: <http://www.silverthreadsquiltguild.org>

From Your President:

Ladies, did you enjoy the program for March? I sure did. We had a great turn out, but if you missed the meeting, you missed a very enjoyable time. Well done Sandy! Now, would you all like to know who won the gift basket given by ToadUSew? Well.....read on and somewhere in this newsletter it will tell everyone who won-including the winner! If the winner finds her name and wants to pick up the basket before our next meeting, she needs to call me to set up a pick up time. Now no help from the other members! (Big Grin) How are those challenges coming? If you have any questions regarding the challenge rules, be sure to bring them up at the next meeting and we will address them. A few people have had some questions.

*Have you missed getting a Show and Tell pin this year? Want to earn one easily? If you attended the Pensacola quilt show and bought something-a new tool or gadget, a wonderful fabric or pattern, a book or ANYTHING else (even your admission ticket), bring it for show and tell and you will earn a pin. Now remember, you are limited to one pin a month, so if you have all three pins for this year, (Jan. Feb. and Mar.) your Quilt Show item can count for April. If you have missed a previous month's Show and Tell and have **less than three pins**, this is a chance to catch up. In other words, if you are behind, you can earn an April pin by bringing in a regular Show and Tell and another pin for a **previous month** for your Quilt Show item. **This is a make-up month.** I had to do some fast talking to get this past someone (we won't mention names here) so I hope you take advantage of this opportunity.*

Looking forward to seeing you next at the next meeting.

Jeanie's Blog

Have you ever needed to know how much to enlarge or reduce a pattern? Well, try this website.

<http://www.thequiltedsnail.com/scale.html>

Jeanie

Board Meetings:

Your 2008 board will be meeting just prior to our normal guild meeting on the second Thursday of each month.

Raffle Donations:

We want to thank the following for our April Donations:

Susan Beck

Shirley Ringleb

Terri Davis

Membership News:

We had 41 members present for our March meeting. We now have 61 members total. Please remember to sign in and indicate on the roster if you have completed your name badge. I think several of you have completed yours, but haven't indicated that they are complete on the sign-in sheet. I show that 16 members have finished their name badge, have you? Your old badge or a temporary badge will be available for rent for 50 cents if you forget yours or if you have not finished yours yet. The funds collected will be donated toward a charity, such as the church, charity supplies, etc.

Lyn Woods

Happy April birthdays to:

Anne Beaudoin

Patty Butcher

Jan McNiel

Cathy Messner

Sharon Murphy

Lyndell Simmon

Sara Steele

Programs:

April's Program will have the 4 local quilting shops providing a presentation about their shop and any programs they might have. Afterward, I will give a short presentation on the "Charming Strip Stashbuster" ruler. We will be using this ruler for our "Stashbuster" sewing session on Friday, May 9th from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the church. A sign-up sheet and more information will be available at the April meeting. Happy quilting!

Sandy

Charities:

The charities the board has chosen for 2008 are ones that we have worked with before and felt they truly appreciated all we have done for them.

- 1. Kid Comfort Quilts: These quilts go to young children with parents in the Guard or Reserve units stationed in Iraq or Afghanistan. This program is sponsored through the Armed Services YMCA and Addie Lowry is heading up this charity. Last year our guild members helped make approximately 45 of these quilts.*
- 2. Healthy Start: This program works to reduce the risk of poor birth outcomes among pregnant women, infants, and children up to age 3. Last year we gave this organization over 100 Christmas stockings, of which they used almost every one, and lots of baby quilts.*
- 3. Children's Home Society: The quilts we donated last year were used in their Group Home, as well as for other foster children. The workers keep extra*

quilts in their cars for when they must transport children. The quilts provide reassurance and comfort.

4. First Christian Church: The money raised from the bazaar items you donate goes mainly to local charities such as Sharing and Caring, Waterfront Rescue Mission, Shelter House, etc. Last year the items donated from the guild raised over \$200.00. This year we are also going to make a queen size quilt for the church to raffle at their bazaar. Since the bazaar is held in November, we thought a quilt made from Christmas fabrics might be nice. As you can see, we have our work cut out for us. There are a variety of charity things you can work on, from Christmas stockings, baby quilts, small quilts, twin size quilts, and contributing your time to making blocks for the Christmas quilt. We can find a use for anything you make! Kim and I would like to encourage you to find a quilting buddy or group and work on the quilts together. Let's pool our talents and share our skills. The quilts will truly be works of love and the more people involved the better. Nancy Allen is the winner of the gift basket from the March meeting and Kim has organized the donated fabric on hand. If you need a certain color or a backing or binding, we have it. Please don't let any personal finances get in the way of your contributions-we can always find the supplies and materials if you will just donate your time and talents.

Kathy and Kim

Show and Tell:

Well, as those of you who have attended previous meetings found out, you will be getting a small beaded pin each month that you bring Show and Tell. Now mind you, you only get one pin no matter how many items you bring. We have decided to allow **finished quilt tops** to be shown this year, because we understand that sometimes you have put a lot of effort into a project and it might have to be sent off as a gift before it is totally quilted or bound and also because Jeanie made me feel guilty about this! (Just kidding!) BUT, the **top should be finished** and just because we are allowing finished quilt tops to be shown, doesn't mean that you are allowed to let your UFO'S pile up. Since some members are unable to attend every meeting, we are considering a couple of make-up months. That means that in those months **AND ONLY THOSE MONTHS**, you may bring an additional item for show and tell and receive an extra pin. Those months will be announced at a later date. Let me just say that you need 13 beaded pins to complete the entire pin, so we need to see 13 show and tell items from each of you this year!!!! They don't have to be huge quilts, just something that you have made that relates to quilting or sewing.

Newsletter:

If you have any items that you would like to have mentioned in the newsletter, please contact Sheila Paxton at newsletter@silverthreadsquiltguild.org Please contact me with any questions or problems you might have with your newsletter. If you don't have your newsletter by the 3rd of each month, call or email me and I will try to get you a copy. Also, remember you can see the newsletter on the website (the address is located at the top of this newsletter).

Sheila

Silver Threads Board

President	Jeanie Johnson
Vice Pres	Cathy Messner
Secretary	Chris Maher
Treasurer	Patty Butcher
Membership	Lyn Woods
Programs	Sandy Sterman
Charity	Kathy Weathers
Charity	Kim Hann
Newsletter	Sheila Paxton

Challenge:

This year's challenge will be "My Round Robin". Normally a round robin quilt is passed from one person to another for each "round" that is added. However, this challenge quilt is made entirely by you. The rules are as follows:

- 1. Center: Your design-can be anything you like from a pieced block to a pre-printed block to just a beautiful piece of focal fabric.*
- 2. First Round: Your design, but must have "points" somewhere in this round.*
- 3. Second Round: Your design, but must have "circles" of some sort.*
- 4. Third Round: Your design, but must have "stripes".*
- 5. Fourth Round: Your design, but must have "curves".*

The challenge quilt can be ANY size or even a wearable art. There isn't a particular fabric that must be used. You can add additional rounds, but the first four rounds

MUST follow the above rules. If you have any questions, please ask a board member. Use your imagination! Prizes will be awarded for the top three choices.

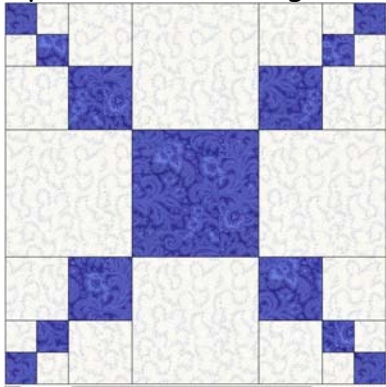
Buddy Blocks:

The Buddy Blocks will be exchanged twice this year. The first block will be exchanged in June and is a flower block in your choice of colors. The pattern is also of your choosing. The second block will be exchanged in December and should be made in fall colors. You pick the pattern for the block. Both blocks are 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ " unfinished. Please contact Sheri Easom for more information.

Block of the Month

We have been approached by several members about putting a block of the month in the newsletter again. We have discussed it and have decided to once again add a block each month. These blocks will be "common" blocks so that we do not infringe on any copyright laws. I will include only cutting directions and a picture of the block. I will try to keep the blocks fairly simple in construction. How you use the block pattern is up to you, however, we are asking that if you like the block and would want to make an extra one, we would love for you to donate it to the guild to be used in charity quilts. In the past we have used these to make quilts for our charity donations and it has worked quite well. You can use scraps of leftovers fabrics or if you like, you can coordinate fabrics for your blocks and at the end of the year, we would have 12 blocks to put together in a quilt. One of our members did this in the past and we were able to make a beautiful quilt that was donated to Hospice that was then raffled and the proceeds benefited Hospice. If you choose to coordinate your blocks, please let us know so that we can set those aside as we begin to assemble kits to be sewn into quilts. You will also need to fill out a slip of paper with your name on it each time you donate a block. These will be kept separate so that at the end of the year, a drawing will be held. The winner will receive-oh no, I can't tell you! You thought I would spill it didn't you? Sorry, that will be a surprise! With that said, here is our fourth block. You can make these blocks in ANY color, not just the color shown.

April Block- Building Blocks (Makes a twelve and a half inch unfinished block)



You will need:

- Light: Eight-one and one half inch squares
Eight-two and one half inch squares
Four-four and one half inch squares
- Dark: Eight-one and one half inch squares
Four-two and one half inch squares
One-four and one half inch squares

If you have a quilting or organizational tip to help us, please let Sheila know so that we can put it in the newsletter. Please don't assume that you have nothing to offer to someone else. Our guild is a learning and a sharing guild. You have no idea how you might inspire someone else with just sharing a little knowledge that you might not think is important. Your idea or tip might just be the ticket to what someone else might need to know.

Tip of the Month:

When you're sewing sashing strips and blocks together, stitch both sides of the sashing in the same direction. This will prevent those diagonal lines, also known as "fabric shear". Also, when you're stitching cotton fabrics, try using a denim/jeans 80/12 or 70/10 microtex needle and your straight stitch throat plate. Since universal needles are not sharp, they tend to just find the nearest spot between threads instead of actually piercing the fabric. The straight stitch throat plate should help reduce the amount of fabric that is pulled down into the throat plate hole. This should also give you straighter seams.

