



# Loose Threads

## HAPPY NEW YEAR 2024!!



The winter weather has definitely arrived! If it's bad enough that it threatens travel, we'll always post any program changes on the guild's Facebook page and website. Check those places first before leaving home.

See above for the links...



### January 2024

#### Program

#### Charlene Morrison—Trunk Show

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

6:30 PM social hour, 7 PM meeting

Patterson-Appleton Arts Center

#### Helpful Links

[Facebook Group](#)

[DentonQuiltGuild.org](http://DentonQuiltGuild.org)

### January Birthdays

|                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| Janice Carr             | 1/5  |
| Sher Harnish            | 1/6  |
| Sandra Sirignano        | 1/6  |
| Carol Morissey          | 1/8  |
| Sharon Brewer           | 1/10 |
| Deb Viso                | 1/10 |
| Ann Yale                | 1/10 |
| Jessalyn Matthews Frank | 1/13 |
| Margaret Thomas         | 1/16 |
| Terrie Fenton           | 1/19 |
| Linda Szydlik           | 1/19 |
| Diane DeFreitas         | 1/20 |
| Gail Wells              | 1/20 |
| Rhonda Zamora           | 1/21 |
| Donna Barshinger        | 1/27 |
| Diana Shenberger        | 1/28 |
| Annette Johnson         | 1/30 |
| Erika Flanery           | 1/31 |
| Cindy Bonkowski         | 1/31 |
| Tammy Kinley            | 1/31 |

# At a Glance

## January Program

Meeting: Tuesday, January 16, 6:30-9 PM

Programs, Nonie Phillips, Kim Anger

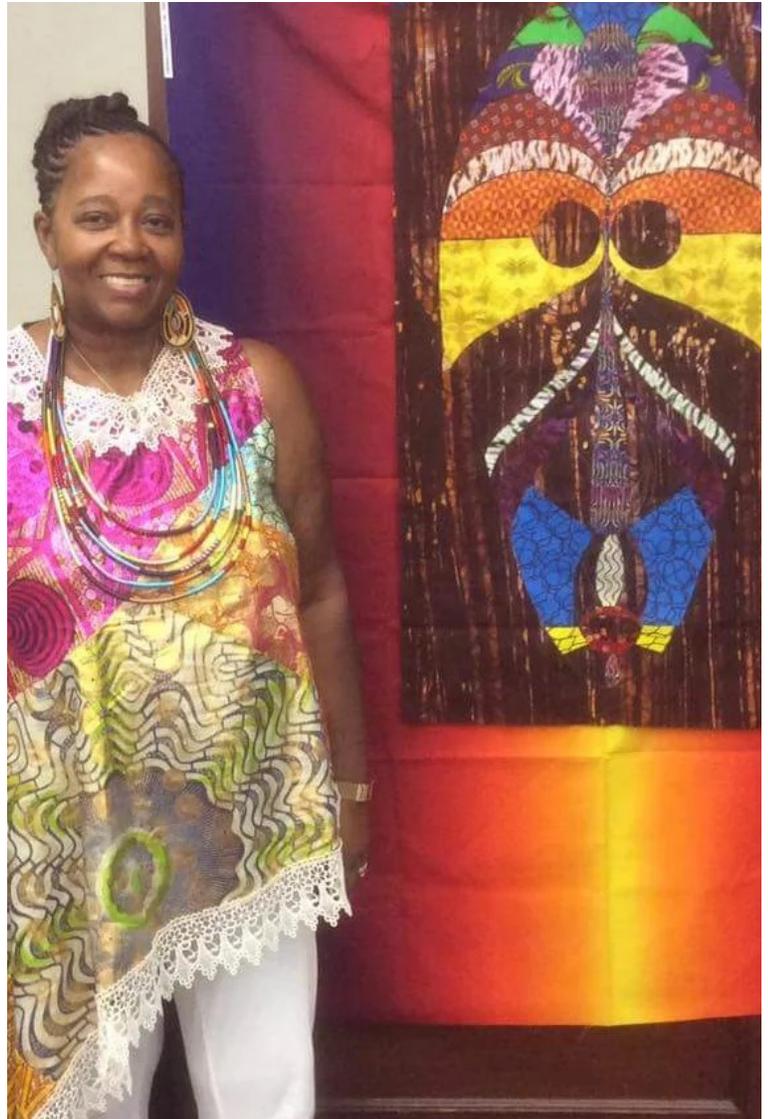
Charlene Morrison Trunk Show



In 2005, I was introduced into the world of quilting. Years of garment construction made it easy for me to get involved in quilting. Over the years, I have progressed from a novice to an advanced quilter.

I am continually perfecting my artistry by taking every opportunity to learn from prize winning quilters and quilt artists.

It is my desire to teach African Americans and others the skills that has been prevalent in their history for centuries. Preserving the remaining historical quilts is a necessity.



Find Charlene on the Internet:

[Quilting My Way, Breaking All the Rules](#)

### Bring to the Meeting:

- \* Library books to return and exchange for new books
- \* Sweater or jacket in case the temperature gets chilly
- \* Completed Kid Kwilts or other outreach projects
- \* Your unwanted sewing-related items for the free table
- \* Snack if you are on the snacks list
- \* Show & Tell items
- \* Checkbook or credit card to sign up for future events

# Workshop News for 2024

## February 2024

Janice Pope ([anythingbutboring.com](http://anythingbutboring.com)) will be leading us in a fun-filled day of learning to make a Two-Hour Tulip Purse. The pattern (purchased from Janice) contains 4 sizes, 3 pocket styles, strap length and closure styles so you can customize yours to suit your needs. It is a fast and easy pattern (though the larger size may take a bit longer than 2 hours) that is ergonomically balanced so it won't turn over — no more losing your cell phone in the bottom of your bag!!

It's perfect for monogramming or embellishing and makes a great gift!

### *2-Hour Tulip Purse Workshop:*

When: Wednesday, February 21, 10 AM to 2 PM

Bring your own lunch and drink.

Where: Box Car Quilts shop , Aubrey

Cost: \$42.50 workshop fee (plus, \$12 pattern paid to Janice Pope)

Supply list will be sent out as fees are received.

To sign up or for further information:

Contact Donna Gregory at [DOGWorkshops@gmail.com](mailto:DOGWorkshops@gmail.com)

Or sign up at the January meeting.

### **Coming later in 2024:**

**March:** Dana Jones — Geese over Manhattan: Cost \$55 plus \$10 kit

**April:** Diane Murtha — Modified Quilt-As-You-Go: Cost \$42.50



If your name is on the snack list, grab something yummy to bring and share!

Treats don't have to be sweet! People really enjoy savory snacks, too!

Drop off your contribution at the snack table near the kitchen, and don't forget to sign the snack contributor list on the table for a chance to win the snack table door prize — just for those who bring goodies!



## JANUARY SNACK TABLE

Tina Hilton and Mary Ellen Mitchell

|                  |                   |                 |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Cheryl Amstutz   | Sharon Brewer     | Kathi Coatney   |
| Barbara Angel    | Laura Brown       | Martha Coburn   |
| Kim Anger        | JoEllen Brown     | Sheila Connolly |
| Beth Bailey      | Lee Burns         | Cassie Conway   |
| Donna Barshinger | Bette Burns       | Marna Crane     |
| Jeris Bashor     | Kathleen Carmona  | Diane Crawford  |
| Lynn Beckford    | Angelia Carpenter | Linda Creagh    |
| Cynthia Bickhaus | Janice Carr       | Linda Creamer   |
| Marie Bloechle   | Patricia Cary     | Joronda Crow    |
| Fran Bohling     | Kathi Casey       | Karen Crozier   |
| Cindy Bonkowski  | Emily Cavender    |                 |
| Debbe Brackett   | Melissa Clark     |                 |
| Sandy Brawner    | Debbie Coates     |                 |

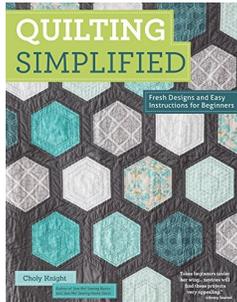
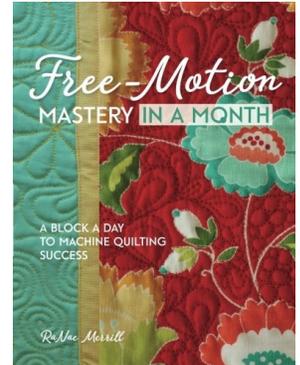
# Library News and Book Reviews

Marie Bloechle



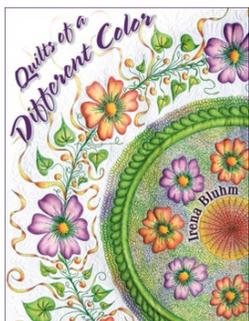
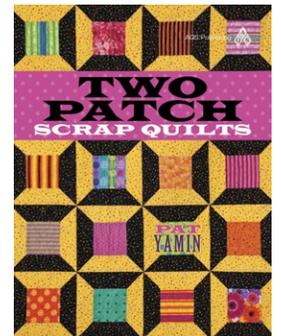
The first new title added to the guild's library collection this month is **Jelly Roll Bargello Quilts** by Karin Hellaby (2018, GEN-JE5). Bargello quilts are simply made up of rectangles of fabric and straight seams, so they are beginner-friendly and it's easy to learn how to create the optical illusion of curves with color and motion. Add to this the convenience of jelly roll fabric, and you have a winning combo. Sewing strip sets together and cutting the rows with a rotary cutter ensure a smooth and neat appearance. The author's easy to follow instructions are illustrated with plenty of photos for the numerous patterns, whimsically named after Italian cities.

Another new title added to the guild's library collection this month is **Free-Motion Mastery in a Month** by RaNae Merrill (2016, REF-FR4). The author brings you a simple, effective way for learning or improving your free-motion quilting (FMQ) skills. She refers to it as her "FMM30" system because the learning process is broken down into 30 easy daily lessons that combine 3 teaching elements: tracing, drawing, and quilting. The tracing exercises help you imprint the muscle memory into your hand movements that you'll use at your sewing machine when it comes time to FMQ. Drawing then teaches your brain how to guide your hand to form the pattern you want to quilt. To learn more about FMM30, watch the videos on her site at: <https://ranaemerrillquilts.com>.



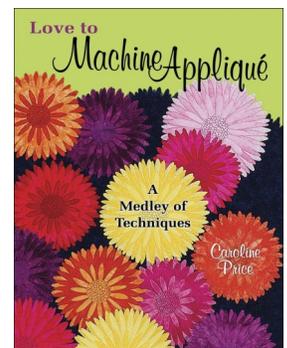
The third new title added this month is **Quilting Simplified: Fresh Designs and Easy Instructions for Beginners** by Choly Knight (2015, GEN-QU26). If you're new to quilting, this is the place to start as it is promoted as the ultimate beginner's guide. The author guides you through creating your own unique handmade quilt. You are shown everything you need to know, with a further 8 simple projects that let you quilt as you learn. The author has been sewing since she was 13 years old, mostly cosplay costumes and plush toys, and she was drowning in fabric scraps, so it was a natural progression for her to start making quilts. "I loved how quilting turned a random pile of fabric into an intricate collage with so much depth and texture."

The fourth new title added is **Two Patch Scrap Quilts** by Pat Yamin (2011, GEN-TW4). The book includes 21 classic patterns made up of 2 patches. The beauty of 2 patch quilts are that they are quick and easy to learn. Directions for either machine or hand piecing are covered, plus each pattern is given in 3 different sizes (sample, twin, and queen). Handy tips and full-sized templates are given throughout the book, as well as suggested fabric layouts for easier cutting.



The fifth title added this month is **Quilts of a Different Color** by Irena Bluhm (2008, GEN-QU25). The author makes wholecloth quilts and cleverly adds definition using dry colored pencils to the quilted design to emphasize the gorgeous quilting. No piecing involved! Her painted-surface quilts are then sealed using fabric medium. You'll love the unique quilts you can make with the author's guidance.

The sixth title added this month is **Love to Machine Appliqué** by Caroline Price (2008, APP-LO1). This extensive handbook has the information and inspiration you will need for learning machine appliqué whether you are a new quilter or have lots of experience. Explore the techniques as you make a heart sampler quilt, following the hints and variations provided. Comprehensive information is given on the tools to gather, suitable stitches to use, and the best ways to prepare your shapes for machine appliqué. Special techniques, including working with bias strips, 3-D appliqué, and reverse appliqué, are also explained.



Look through the list of the guild's extensive collection online to search and locate titles, at: [www.dentonquiltguild.org/libraryinventory.html](http://www.dentonquiltguild.org/libraryinventory.html). If you have questions about the library or a title, send a message to [DQGLibrarian@gmail.com](mailto:DQGLibrarian@gmail.com).

# Community Outreach Plans for 2024

**Kids' Bee meets First Mondays at Minding My P's & Q's.** For newcomers, we meet 10a-4p and make tops for donation quilts: sometimes from scratch, other times by consolidating UFOs or unfinished kits donated to the guild. We're masters of design when it comes to scraps! It's an open bee, meaning anyone can come and join us, stay as long as you can or just drop by to check us out. It's a perfect time to drop off tops or finished quilts for community outreach.

**Kid Kwilt Challenge:** YES, we will be having a KK challenge this year, with prizes and a drawing for a sewing machine from Denton Sewing Center at the end of the year. This will be different from our usual challenge. Instead of receiving a fabric FQ that has to be included in a finished quilt, participants will receive a simple pattern. Using your own fabrics, you'll be able to adapt the pattern in numerous ways, then use your own fabrics (yeah, another scrap buster) to generate a donation quilt approx 45x55. The basic pattern is well suited for beginners, but easily upgraded for more advanced quilters. We'll provide ideas for adaptation as well as display some samples at the February meeting.

## Denton Quilt Guild 2024 Initiative:



### Scrappy Slab Blocks

(inspired by designs from [www.cherylarkison.com](http://www.cherylarkison.com))

Pat yourselves on the back for making Bow Tie blocks last year. We were able to make 4 twin-sized quilts for graduating seniors in foster care, plus 6 throws for our Kid Kwilts partner agencies. In addition, members turned in 4 other Bow Tie quilts they had made from start to finish! For 2024, we'll be making Scrappy Slab blocks. We'll present a sample quilt at the January meeting with instructions printed in the newsletter afterwards. These are so easy, many of you will be able to fashion slab blocks without instructions! Great stash buster - come see!

**Block Size:** 12½" unfinished

**Block Description:** Each block should have 1-2 white or cream colored "slabs" somewhere in the block. Slabs can take up very little space within the block or a lot of space – you decide.

Slabs, the white blocks, are about 2"x 3-4", maybe smaller, maybe longer and skinnier, depends on your scraps.

Around the slab, piece fabrics from the same color family (blues, greens, oranges, etc.) using various size of scraps, from tiny to large, square to rectangular, until your block measures 12½". Six to 8 different background fabrics will make your block nicely scrappy. Design and color mix of your blocks is up to you and your scrap pile.

**No rules, just fun.**

The white slabs will be separated by the background colored fabrics, so that the slabs stand out within each block.

**Timeline:** Turn in your blocks at the Kid Kwilts table during guild meetings or at Kids' Bee throughout 2024; Kids' Bee will assemble them into finished donation quilts.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH TOTALS FOR 2023

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Kid Kwilts                                | 541 |
| CPS Rainbow Rooms                         | 248 |
| Cumberland Youth & Children Services      | 38  |
| CPS Graduating Seniors                    | 16  |
| Woman to Woman<br>(57 Quilts/12 flannels) | 69  |
| National Adoption Day                     | 25  |
| Nursing Homes                             | 100 |
| QOVs                                      |     |
| Red White Blue Bee                        | 105 |
| Lone Star Broads Bee                      | 54  |
| Hearts for Homes Auction Quilt            | 1   |

**Total Quilts Donated in Denton County:  
716!**

# Sunshine and Shadows Dorothy Mathes

We have several with health concerns: Mary Martin, Kathleen Francis, and Dorothy Hodges. Cathy Poethke lost her sister-in-law in Germany, in December.

We've had good things too. My grandson, Cole, is now engaged to his longtime girlfriend, Hailey. The wedding will be in September in a local venue.

Tonya and John Littmann visited with past Denton Quilt Guild member, Grace Johnson, and reports she is doing well!

Also, Cynthia Bickhaus reports brain waves are functioning as noted in her last pacemaker MRI scan and Virginia Stone is doing very well. Fran Bohling was able to attend her granddaughter Mackenzie Frances' marriage to Travis Frederickson of Corinth.

## 2024 Retreats—Updated Registration Process

Please download the [2024 Retreats Registration Form](#) for additional information and registration instructions for the guild's FOUR retreats for 2024. Additional information about the retreat may also be available by contacting [DQGRetreats@gmail.com](mailto:DQGRetreats@gmail.com).

**Note:** the form has been updated since the initial announcement last week, clarifying registration for individual days.

The Denton Quilt Guild is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to furthering the art and science of quilting, and to further the ideas and abilities of its members. We work to foster an interest in quilting, and act as a forum where members can exchange ideas and interact with both local and international experts through both talks and workshops.

Membership is open to anyone interested in quilts or quilting and runs from April 1 to March 31. Annual dues are \$35. Members receive 12 newsletter issues per year, a directory, have use of the guild library, and enjoy monthly meetings and special events.

*Loose Threads* is the newsletter of the Denton Quilt Guild. It is published the first week of each month. The deadline for submissions is the 3rd Sunday of each month.

We welcome your contributions of short articles, helpful hints, news about our members, or anything of general interest to our membership.

Contact the newsletter at [newsletter@dentonquiltguild.org](mailto:newsletter@dentonquiltguild.org)

Editor: Juliet Thomas

## TWITCH BROADCAST

If you can't make a guild meeting, now we are sending out a professionally produced live video stream for you to watch online.

Much easier than Zoom, this is available on a simple website. You can access it from any browser (even on your phone or tablet).

Our professional video streaming producer is Kyle Denton, and the internet service is called "Twitch." It's very similar to a live YouTube.

Just go to: [twitch.tv/dentonquiltguild](https://twitch.tv/dentonquiltguild)

Keep in mind that the Twitch stream is meant for our guild members only — please don't post the link in a public forum.

# December Meeting in Pictures

## Christmas Party







**COMMUNITY OUTREACH TOTALS FOR 2023**

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
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|  | 716          |
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