



President's Piece February 2024



The Lunar New Year, or Spring Festival, is a time of celebration and renewal in the Chinese culture. It marks the transition from one animal sign to another in the Chinese zodiac. On **February 10, 2024**, we will enter the **Year of the Wood Dragon**.

The Dragon is a majestic and lucky creature in Chinese folklore, symbolizing bravery, creativity, and innovation. According to the Chinese horoscope, 2024 is a year full of potential and opportunities for personal growth, professional success, and social impact.

The Five Elements Theory, The Year of the Wood Dragon 2024

The dragon is also associated with one of the five elements: wood, fire, earth, metal, or water. Each element gives the dragon a different personality and destiny.

- The Fire Dragon (1916, 1976) is passionate and charismatic. He radiates energy, enthusiasm, and confidence in everything he does.
- The Earth Dragon (1928, 1988) is stable and reliable. He works hard to achieve his goals with practicality, diligence, and discipline.
- The Metal Dragon (1940, 2000) is noble and refined. He impresses others with his elegance, grace, and sophistication.
- The Water Dragon (1952, 2012) is flexible and intuitive. He adapts to different situations with versatility, resourcefulness, and creativity.

The **Wood Dragon** (1964, 2024) is the most creative and visionary of the dragons. They are optimistic, ambitious, and adventurous. They like to explore new ideas and challenge themselves. They are also generous, compassionate, and loyal to their friends. Therefore, the Year of the Dragon in 2024 is expected to be a time of visionary leaders, innovators, and problem solvers.

2024 is also predicted to be **a great year to start new projects, explore new opportunities, and create value for yourself and others**. The year of the Wood Dragon 2024 is special because it is a rare combination of the dragon's power and wood's creativity. It is a year of innovation, vision, and growth. It is a year to pursue your dreams, express your ideas, and expand your horizons. Maybe a dragon quilt would be a good future project. It is also a year to be generous, compassionate, and loyal to your friends. The next Chinese zodiac Year of the Wood Dragon will be 2084, which is **60** years from now.



February, 2024

Program

Janice D Pope—How Fabric is Made

Tuesday, Feb 20, 2024

6:30 PM social hour, 7 PM meeting

Patterson-Appleton Arts Center

Helpful Links

[Facebook Group](#)

DentonQuiltGuild.org

February Birthdays

Patricia Cary	2/1
Kathi Casey	2/1
Melissa Clark	2/5
Debbie Coates	2/5
Kathi Coatney	2/6
Martha Coburn	2/7
Sheila Connolly	2/15
Cassie Conway	2/16
Marna Crane	2/16
Diane Crawford	2/17
Linda Creagh	2/17
Linda Creamer	2/18
Joronda Crow	2/22
Karen Crozier	2/22

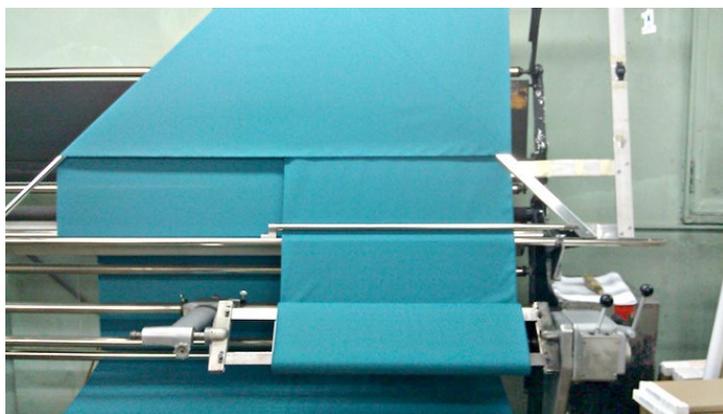
At a Glance

February Program

Meeting: Tuesday, February 20, 6-9 PM
Programs, Nonie Phillips, Kim Anger

Janice D. Pope—How Fabric is Made

From cotton in the field to a finished quilt, Janice will cover every aspect including designing fabric patterns.



Bring to the Meeting:

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

Workshop News Donna Gregory

February 2024 — **Seats Still Available!** Sign up with Donna Gregory at the Guild meeting Tuesday!

There are a few spots left for our workshop with Janice Pope (anythingbutboring.com) She'll 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!



Tulip Purse Workshop:

When: Wednesday, February 21, 10 AM- 2 PM
Bring your own lunch and drink.

Where: Box Car Quilt Shop, Aubrey

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

Supply list will be sent out as fees are received. Contact Donna Gregory at dggworkshops@gmail.com, or sign up at the February meeting.

COMING SOON:

Dana Jones will be leading us in her **Geese over Manhattan** workshop.

When: Wednesday, March 20, 10 AM to 3 PM

Where: Box Car Quilt Shop, Aubrey

Geese Over Manhattan is a great way to showcase fussy cut images, use specialty fabrics that come with preprinted squares or find a home for large print fabrics. The flying geese borders that form the centers are perfect for scrappy piecing but can also be done in just one or several fabrics. You will learn multiple ways to fussy cut and/or piece the centers of the blocks, which finish at 7½ by 7½ inches. You will learn best practices when fussy cutting, foundation piecing of flying geese strips, sewing precise 1/4" strips for narrow borders and partial-seam piecing.

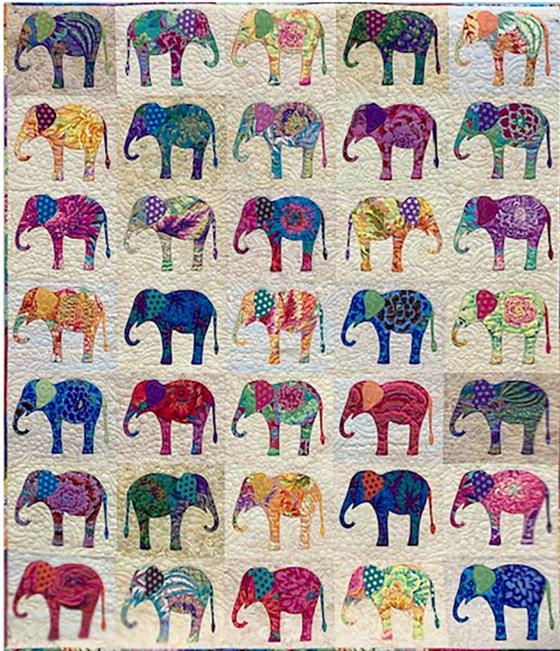


Vintage Quilt Repair

Any members interested in repairing several vintage quilts please contact Linda Perry located in Denton.

Cell phone #607-372-9495.

- April: **Diane Murtha**—Modified Quilt-As-You-Go: Cost \$42.50
- May: **Tammy Silvers**—Faux Curved Piecing: Cost: \$47 + \$12 Pattern
- *NOTE: The location of this workshop is the Administrative Courthouse (Room 2020).
- June: **Dorene Joyce**—Undersea Creatures Collage : Cost; TBD
- October: **Michele Markey**—Fabric Painting 101 and 102: Cost; TBD



Raffle Quilt

Raffle tickets are still available, 6 for \$5. The drawing will be held on **May 21, 2024**, at the Denton Quilt Guild monthly meeting. Contact the Raffle Quilt Committee at DQGRaffleQuilt@gmail.com, or any guild member if you'd like to purchase tickets.

This year's raffle quilt is entitled Elephant Walk, measures 57"x65", and is a whimsical beauty in luxurious Kaffe Fassett fabrics. This lovely quilt was made, pieced, and bound by many guild members, including Annette Johnson, Sandy Kristoferson, Marilyn McWilliams, Charlotte Rutland, Carla Hamm, Sarah Schermerhorn, and Terri Vogds, and beautifully quilted by Fran Dornan of **Fran's Gotcha Covered Quilting**.

Library News—Position Open

Marie Bloechle

Posted to our Facebook group, January 21, 2024:

"The time has come,' the Walrus said," after over a dozen years as the guild's Librarian, I am stepping down, effective immediately. If you're interested in the position, please contact the guild president, Claudia Kopel.

There's a great volunteer team in place to help you out; Assistant Librarian Dorothy Mathes, as well as library assistant Debbie Mangold.

As a few of you know, I have family matters to attend to right now, plus we'll be moving out of state soon, but I'll gladly answer any questions you may have and show you everything you need to know. It's a fun job!

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



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.

Coastal Prairie Quilt Guild of Texas 2024 Quilt Showcase

Friday,
May 3rd,
2024
10 am - 4 pm

Saturday,
May 4th,
2024
10 am - 3 pm

Admission
\$12
Good both days



Fort Bend County Fair Grounds
4310 Highway 36 S.
Rosenberg, Texas 77471

Quilts
Vendors
Door Prizes
Food
Raffle Baskets
Quilts for Sale
QOV Ceremony
on Saturday

For more information, please visit our website at www.cpqgbc.org

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 completed tops or finished quilts for community outreach.

Kid Kwilt Challenge (KKC): 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)

For 2024, we'll be making Scrappy Slab Blocks. We presented a sample quilt at the January meeting with [instructions](#) available on the guild site afterwards (or below). These are so easy, many of you will be able to fashion slab blocks without instructions! Great stash buster!



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, it all just depends on your scraps.

Around the slab, piece fabrics from the same color family (blues, greens, oranges, etc.) using various sizes 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.

Updated Community Outreach Finished Quilt Size Chart

Community Outreach	Agencies	Recipients	Approx. Sizes	Recipients/other notes
Kids' Bee (Kid Kwilts) KK also organizes the Annual KK Challenge & our yearly Guild Initiative.	Woman to Woman Pregnancy Resource Center	New-borns	36x44" min up to 40x50"	Mothers completing health, childbirth, and parenting classes are given a layette set which includes one of our quilts.
	Community Partners of Denton County (CPS Rainbow Rooms in Denton, Lewisville and Carrollton)	1-12 yo	40x50" min up to 55x60"	Comfort quilts for those children first going into foster care.
	Cumberland Presbyterian Children and Youth Services	12-18 years Teens	Min. 50x70", up to 60x72". Twin size if possible, can be up to 70x90"	Longer term residential programs for older children, sometimes with families and single parents.
	National Adoption Day Nationwide, annual event in November.	1-18 yo	All sizes needed. We set aside 35-40.	Most adoptees are 2-10 years old, with a few tweens and teens. Equal distribution of boys and girls.
	Nursing homes & hospice agencies Hearts for Homes	Elders	40-45" square Lap quilts mostly Larger twins go to H4H.	Any larger get caught in wheelchairs. H4H supports low income, struggling elderly.
	Graduating Seniors in CPS Due in late March each year.	Late teens	Min. 50x70" Max. 65x80" ish	Teens in foster care who are graduating high school. Gender neutral colors and fabrics a must.
CASA Bee	Court Appointed Special Advocate caseworkers	1-18 yo, mostly 6-12 yo	All sizes, see above	For other adoptions occurring throughout the year.
Quilts of Valor Bees	Red-White-Blue Bee (also Vet Court) Lone Star Broads Bee (Our two Bees are recognized as official QOV providers by the national QOV Foundation.)	Military Veterans, all branches	Recommend size 60x80" * (*Min. 55x 65" Max. 72 x 90"*)	*The QOV Foundation has specific guidelines and sizes. Please go to their website for more details. https://www.qovf.org Do not have to be red-white-blue, though many vets delight in this.

Sizes are approximate, except for QOV. Community Outreach will gladly accept and distribute any quilts you have to donate.

Making a Difference – Where are your **Community Outreach** contributions helping?

Cumberland is one of our Community Outreach partners — they provide longer term residential programs for older children, sometimes with families and single parents. We dropped off 6 quilts just this week. This was just the beginning; typically we average **36** per year. Over the past 6 years, we've given **214** quilts to Cumberland, adjusting the size and themes as the age range has shifted.



February 16, 2024

Denton Quilt Guild
PO Box 611
Denton, TX 76202-0611

Dear Friends,

On behalf of Cumberland, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of 6 quilts, which we received on 2/15/2024.

Your gift makes an incredible difference in the lives of the vulnerable children and families we serve, many of whom have experienced significant neglect, abuse and trauma. Your donation supports programs that foster hope and healing and allows us to give opportunities to transform lives. The need for our services is critical, across the nation, and especially in Texas, where members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church have been partnering with us in ministry since 1904. Because we recognize the uniqueness of every resident's experience, you help us ensure that our therapeutic treatment and programs can be tailored to meet the needs of those who call our facility home.

In May 2023, more than 11,000 children were in foster care in Texas. For the past three years, more children have entered care than have found forever homes. And, according to the Texas Department of Family Protective Services that trend is likely to continue, with an estimated 800 more children entering foster care annually.

Thank you for sharing our commitment to quality care for foster children ages 11 to 17, extended care for young adults ages 18-22, and transitional housing for single-parent families. Your gift demonstrates that you believe in our residents' success as much as we do!

With sincere gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Courtney Banatoski'.

Courtney Banatoski
President & CEO

The Cumberland Youth and Family Services is classified by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) organization. Your contribution is tax deductible, as allowed by law. The estimated value of any goods or services provided in return for your donation is \$0.00. Please keep this written acknowledgment of your donation for your personal records.

909 Greenlee Street • Denton, Texas 76201 • cumberlandservices.org • (940) 382-5112

Save the Date — Day Retreat Fund Raiser

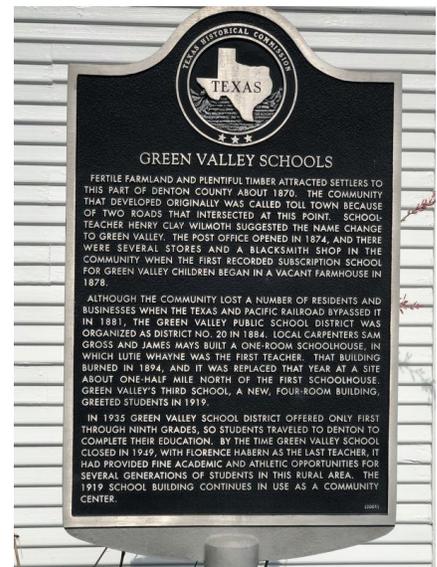
Fund raising day retreat for the Green Valley Historical Society, and their restored schoolhouse that allows volunteers to work on Quilts of Valor.

June 6, 7 & 8, 2024.

For information contact:

Cathy Poethke: 214-763-9514 or Shareen Howard: 940-902-4789

[Green Valley School Restoration \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com)



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 retreats may also be available by contacting DQGRetreats@gmail.com.

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

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://www.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.

Sunshine and Shadows Dorothy Mathes

Terri Vogds has a brand new grandson!

Hi! My name is Reid!

I was born on 2/2/24 at 1:42 AM.

I'm a big boy weighing 8 lbs. and 11 oz.
and am 22.5 inches long!



Karen Crozier had a knee replacement and is doing very well. The other knee is to be scheduled in a few months if all goes well.

Sher Harnish's foot surgery has her in a boot, but other than that, she's doing well. Also, **Tonya Littmann's** quilts are on exhibition at Denton City Hall and the Pilot Point Coffeehouse on the Square.

Please remember **Dorothy Hodges, Kathleen Francis, and Mary Martin** with their on-going health concerns.

Open Board Positions

The Guild's fiscal year runs from April 1 through March 31. Executive Board positions can only be held for 2 consecutive years. Other board positions also change. That means some of our important jobs will be opening up next month (or already have!). If you're interested—consider volunteering—it's a lot of fun, and you get to have a bigger role in steering what we do as a guild! Join us!

Open positions (now or starting in April) include: Programs Chair, Librarian, Photographer and Raffle Quilt Coordinator. Speak with our Guild President, Claudia Kopel!



President’s Piece (cont. from pg. 1)

Chinese New Year of the Dragon 2024 Traditions

Wear new **red** clothes and give red flowers on Chinese New Year’s Day. Avoid white or black clothes and flowers. Elders give money in red envelopes to the young.

- Cut and [wash your hair before](#), not on, Chinese New Year’s Day. Don’t use scissors or knives.
- Clean before, not on Chinese New Year’s Day. A broom is bad luck.
- Open windows to let old energy out, new energy in before Chinese New Year’s Day.
- [Eat lucky foods](#): Dumplings (wealth), noodles (longevity), fish (abundance), citrus fruits.

To make the most out of this year, you need to adopt the Dragon’s mindset and attitude. Pursue your goals with confidence and enthusiasm, be smart, flexible, and adaptable. Be prepared for change, be ambitious, proactive, optimistic, and sociable. And most importantly, be yourself because you are **awesome**, just like the Dragon.

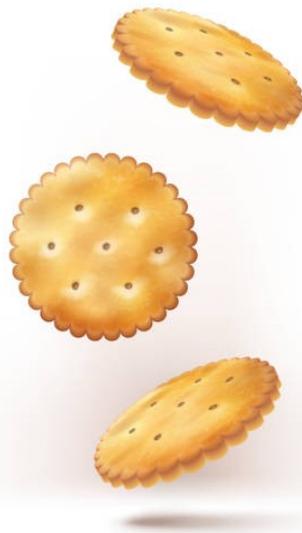
FEBRUARY SNACK TABLE

Tina Hilton and Mary Ellen Mitchell

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!



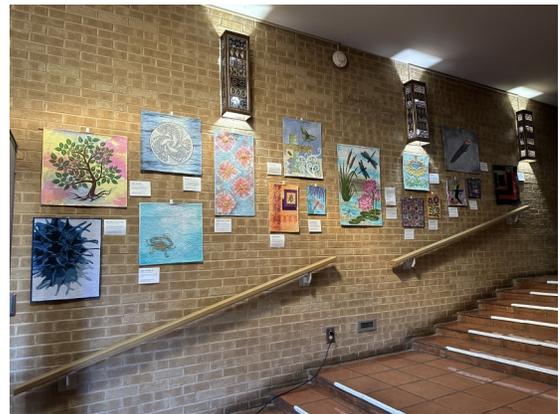
Diane deFreitas
 Karin Denton
 Kyle Denton
 Sherry Denton
 Nancy Dierker
 Fran Dornan
 Carolyn Duff
 Dawn Dunning
 Hope Edwards
 Vickie Ehley
 Nancy Endres
 Anita Erno
 Shirley Farrar

Terrie Fenton
 Erika Flanery
 Jeanne Fletcher
 Kathleen Francis
 Jessalyn Frank
 Fran From
 Mickey Frushour
 Noreen Geer
 Belva Gibson
 Cynthia Gill
 Zita Graffenreid
 Nancy Gray
 Donna Gregory

Roxanne Gross
 Luanne Guditis
 Iris Halverson
 Jazz-Riche Halverson
 Carla Hamm
 Sher Harnish
 Anita Hart
 Cynthia Hawkins
 Elizabeth Herman
 Sandy Hestes
 Tina Hilton

Exhibitions

Tonya Littmann has 25 Art Quilts on display in the halls of **Denton City Hall**, 215 E McKinney Street, next to the main post office. The exhibit will hang through the end of February. City Hall is open to the public Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM. I hope you will stop by to take a look.



Stop by the **Pilot Point Coffee House** on the square in Pilot Point for a QUILT SHOW and a delicious coffee, London Fog tea, blueberry muffin, or panini sandwich. The quilts will hang until March 16.

Tonya Littmann has four quilts in this show.



Exhibitions (continued)



February is Black History Month and our Storybook To Go quilts collection has 10 books related to aspects of Black history. Two of them are featured at the **North Branch of the Denton Library** this month. The Children’s librarian, Rebecca Ivey, has done a fantastic job setting up the display. They are displaying “Under the Quilt of Night” and “Stitch by Stitch”.

Tonya Littmann made new signs for the displays which include the QR code that takes any interested viewers directly to the list and pictures of all our storybook quilts and directions on how to reach our Storybook Quilts Coordinator, Sarah Schermerhorn.



The **Emily Fowler Library** also has two of our Storybook quilts on display for Black History Month. They are displaying “Pink and Say” and “The Patchwork Path”.