

1982 - 1987 Allatoona Quilters Guild History

August 1982 - Annie Ruth Davis and Pat Prewett were the proprietors of a business located at 5570 Old Stilesboro Road, Acworth, GA called Annie's Workshop - Fabric n' Things. As a way to encourage more quilters to come learn and share, Annie Ruth and Pat advertised in the local paper about a meeting to start a quilting group. The first meeting was held at the First Federal Bank in Acworth, GA in August 1982. In attendance were: Annie Ruth Davis, Pat Prewett, Margaret Van Hutton, Jean Hallinan, Dorothy Young, and Cora Bates. Shortly after, this group was invited to meet regularly at Annie's Workshop. The group became known as the Allatoona Quilt Guild. Charter Members included: Annie Ruth Davis, Pat Prewett, Jean Halinan, Margaret Van Hutton, Dorothy Young, Cora Bates, Hunter Jones, Barbara Hand, Sandy Kellogg, Janie Arant.

August 1983 - Annie Ruth and Pat had originally planned on buying and renovating an empty church in Acworth for use as a quilt shop, community gallery and education center for quilts. However, upon the advise of their husbands, they did not buy the building, instead opting to rent a house at 3760 Southside Dr. Acworth, GA for the new shop. Annie's Workshop then became incorporated and renamed Allatoona Quilt Shop, Inc and dealt exclusively with quilts.

The Allatoona Quilters Guild voted member Jean Halinan to become First Guild President in 1983. The Guild was growing with new members (including Rosie Wade, Delores Ingram, Mary Knowles, Sara Waldrep, Alease Robinson, Kay McKinder, Lois Paden, and Dot Morgan), teaching and giving demonstrations of quilting, and doing community service projects. The Guild also was asked to make an original quilt in honor of Cobb County's 150th birthday. With the help of quilters all over the county, the quilt was presented to the County to hang in the County Administration Building in Marietta GA. The quilt was designed by Allatoona Quilters Guild President Jean Hallinan and Dona Cole with quilting help by Billie Crumly and Loyce Shurling among many others. The quilt is appliqued with the shape of the county, and scenes and landmarks that represent the best of Cobb County. Bordered in green, it is hand appliqued and hand quilted. and is 77" x 82".

1984 - Allatoona Quilters Guild keeps growing! By August 1984, the Guild had 36 members. The first Guild quilt show was held on August 11, 1984 at the Cobb County Civic Center with close to 350 quilts on display. This quilt show was the first ever national quilt show in the Atlanta area. 1984 Officers were: President: Debbie Harvey, VP: Margaret VanHutton, Secretary: Kay McKinder, Treasurer: Mary Knowles. There were monthly meetings that included refreshments and a block exchange. Founders Annie Ruth Davis and Pat Prewett publish their 45 page book "Georgia Quilting on my Mind", a collection of 20 state related block patterns with information on Georgia quilting history. Cost of the book is \$3 plus 75 cents shipping.

1985 - President: Margaret Van Hutton. One project this year was community service oriented. The guild had been supporting the Allatoona School House Landmark Restoration Project since 1983. This building, a one room schoolhouse located on County Line Rd, just north of Mars Hill Rd, was specified as a historical landmark but was in desperate need of repair. As the Guild's first large community service project, it was decided to make a raffle quilt to raise funds needed to renovate the structure. This Sampler quilt, made in 1985- 1986, had tickets sold for it as one of the fundraisers for the Restoration Project. However, just about the time the restoration was to begin, a fire destroyed the schoolhouse. A plaque now marks the location. Because of the involvement of the Guild in this project, it was voted to adopt the Schoolhouse block as the Guild's logo. No other information about this year survives.

1986 - President: Ann Andrews. No other information about this year survives.

1987 - President: Ann Andrews (Jeannine Hartman VP, served as Acting President all year in Ann's absence). Very little history survives from 1985 - 1987 due to the Allatoona Quilt Shop being destroyed by fire in November 1987. All newsletters and most photos from these years were lost, as they were stored at the shop. The only other info comes from a note in the Jan 1998 newsletter referring to the

December 1987 Christmas Party. Santa was a surprise visitor and outgoing Acting President Jeannine handed out a hand painted pin to each member. Annie Ruth Davis was the winner of the Christmas Squares. Secret pals were revealed and new secret pals were drawn for 1988.