



# Patchwords

www.manateepatchworkers.org

February 2025

## President's Corner

Hello Quilty Friends,

This cold air means one thing, stay home and sew! Amazingly, I am already working on my second quilt top of the year. I know that surprises everyone, but it will be even more amazing if I get them quilted.

Our board met on Jan 13. We have some great plans for this year with new speakers, classes, a beginning quilt class which is open to the public and plans for an auction. Of course, we are all looking forward to the Spring Blessings Retreat. Plans are being finalized, and I promise, this one is going to be hard to beat! If you didn't get a chance to have your scissors and knives sharpened at the quilt show, you will have a chance at the retreat. Fred also provides Featherweight machine services. More info to come. This is open to everyone, not just retreat participants. As usual, we will have some pop-up shops which are open to anyone wanting to shop.

Hopefully you will renew your membership. We will be removing unpaid-members from our membership list in February. Only members receive the newsletter and remain on our Facebook and web site private pages. Any questions or concerns, feel free to contact a board member.

Finally, we are still in need of a quilt show chair. We should be choosing a date and beginning to make plans, but without a chair, a 2026 show may not happen. Reminder to the 2024 show chairs, please work on your reports and plan to attend the meeting on Feb 3, at 5:00 prior to our regular meeting.

Happy Quilting  
Susan Fickey

*"A quilt will warm your body and comfort your soul"*

## February 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting

Our February meeting will feature a guild favorite on a return visit—Mary-Jeanine Ibarguen, who will bring new stash-busting ideas! Her class the next day is full, but you can put your name on the wait list. Often someone finds that they are unable to attend. The supply list is on the [website](#) and we'll have some at the meeting as well. Get ready for a fun evening! Don't forget your community-service projects, and there are new kits for pickup.

In March we'll have the Community Service fabric sale, which is always a fun event!

April's meeting brings us Michael Nardi from Bryn Mawr Quilts in Chicago, and the next day he's teaching a workshop on his [Connecting Ribbons pattern](#)! Follow Bryn Mawr Quilts on Facebook so you can see what he's all about. We'll need help after April's guild meeting to set up for his workshop the next day, so volunteers are appreciated.

We're also excited to announce the guild will be teaching a series of [Beginning Quilting classes](#) at the LWR branch of Manatee County Library starting April 11th. This is a FREE class, so tell your friends and come volunteer to help out! Registration opens March 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am. There is only room for 10 students, so it will fill up quickly.



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## Community Service

In January, our community service meeting had 13 in attendance. We were able to put together 30 quilts over the day. We had ladies matching backing to quilt tops, sewing backing and adding batting. It was a very productive day! Thanks to all who participated.

Also in January, we were able to donate 25 dog beds and 10 cat mats to the Humane Society. Our next community service meeting will be held February 12, 2025 10 am to 2 pm. We will be meeting at Fairlane Acres Clubhouse 819 49<sup>th</sup> Ave Terrace West. We will be working on adding Backing and batting to quilts.

Quilt tops to be quilted as well as dog bed covers will be available at the community service table before and after the meeting on February 3.

Questions????

Contact Janice Dentler 941-720-5403  
mamabear@gmail.com

Deb Teeling (seasonal member) 860-308-1012  
debteeling@yahoo.com

Debbie Magner 941-773-2449  
mam9969@outlook.com



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## 2025 Upcoming Programs and Workshops

**Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Mary-Jeanine Ibarguen lecture and Trunk Show

**Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>** – Mary-Jeanine Tweets workshop from 9:00am – 12:30pm

Oneco Hope Global Methodist Church at 2112 53rd Ave E, Bradenton

**Monday, March 3** – Community Service fabric sale

**Monday, April 7** – Michael Nardi from Bryn Mawr Quilts lecture and Trunk Show

**Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>** – Beginning Quilting Class Session 1 from 9:30am – 12:30pm

LWR branch Manatee Public Library, 16410 Rangeland Pkwy, Bradenton, FL 34211

**Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup>** – Beginning Quilting Class Session 2 from 9:30am – 12:30pm

LWR branch Manatee Public Library, 16410 Rangeland Pkwy, Bradenton, FL 34211

**Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>** – Connecting Ribbons Workshop with Michael Nardi, 9:30 – 2:00pm

Oneco Hope Global Methodist Church at 2112 53rd Ave E, Bradenton

**Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup>** – Round Robin skills demos (cancelled in October 2024)

### Workshop Registration

Register for workshops early! Use the form online and mail with your check to the PO box or bring to a meeting. Our workshops are open to all quilters, so to ensure your place, register early. Please use a separate form for each workshop.



If your membership form and dues of \$35 have not been received by February 15th you will be dropped from the guild membership until they are paid. This means you will be dropped from both the web and Facebook sites as well. You will find the membership form on our website. If there is any update the guild needs to make to the membership list, please circle it so that will see it and the Membership Committee can make the required changes.

Thank you

### Tips and Tricks

Buy a pool noodle that has a big hole through the middle, saw off a chunk (a bread knife is perfect for this) and slide/tug/push it on. It will bring the knee lift edge closer to you, and you won't have mismatched thighs! Bonus: One pool noodle will get you three or four pieces so share with a friend!

## 2024 Board of Directors

Susan Fickey, President

Kim Hodge, Vice President

Judy Bennett, Treasurer

Lora Lechmanick, Secretary

Sue Baker, Membership

June Cannon, Communications Newsletter

Judy Evans, Communications Website

Katherine Vance, Communications Facebook

Janice Dentler, Community Service, mamabear229@gmail.com

Debbie Magner, Community Service, mam9969@outlook.com .

Deb Teeling (seasonal member) Community Service, debteeling@yahoo.com

Email contact: manateepatchworkers@gmail.com

# Cottage Groups

**Cottage-group coordinator: Jennifer DeVivo**  
Please contact Jennifer should you want to join an existing group or create a new cottage group.

**Cottage groups mean fellowship, friendship, and accomplishment! We would like to encourage our snowbird members to form a cottage group which will meet during the fall and winter months.**

**Your cottage group should be mostly members but can include others—think of it as a recruiting tool!**

**Sew its Friday** All are welcome. Meetings are held at Lakeside South clubhouse 3817 40th Ave. W. in Bradenton on the second and fourth Fridays at 10:00 am. Please contact Carolee Cuba 585-739-1896 or Maureen Dimmick 941-730-3836.

**In Stitches** St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, Lakewood Ranch. Meet Thursday at 10.00 am; teaching and learning all the time. Please join us. Posy Havens is the one to call for information at 941-752-4812.

**Quilters Gatherings** Braden River Library 1-4 p.m. every second Tuesday.  
Contact June Cannon 941-405-5365 for information

**Seaside Quilters** We meet at Christ Church at 4030 Manatee Ave. W. In Bradenton on Mondays from 9:00-12:00. Mondays from 9-12. All are welcome. Contact Mary Lewis at manateepatchworkers@gmail.com for information.

**Sewcialites** South County Library, Bradenton on the 4th Saturday 9a.m.-2p.m. Contact Shelia Walker at 941-275-7899

**Spirit Quilters** Toale Brothers Celebration of Life Center, 4310 Solutions Lane  
Meet 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month from 9:30 – 3:30. Free sew, maximum of 15 people. Contact: Sue Baker

**Fair Lane Stitches** Fair Lane Acres Clubhouse every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday from 10am – 3pm. The Clubhouse address is 810 49<sup>th</sup> Ave Terrace, Bradenton.  
All are welcome. Contact: Rita Wright. 847-226-8201



Claire Zazitski  
Deb Teeling

Feb 10  
Feb 19

*Everyone will appreciate your cell phone being placed on vibrate or turned off during meetings and*



*If you know of a guild member who needs some sunshine or special recognition, please let Jeanie McLaughlin know so she send a card.  
mjijetoo@aol.com*

*We encourage support of those who support our guild with their advertisement in our newsletter and web pages!*

*Please avoid using scented products on meeting nights to help our members with allergies breathe a little better.*

**“Tweets” Class with Mary-Jeanine Ibarguen  
February 4, 2025, 9:00-12:30  
Oneco Hope Church, 2112 53rd Ave E, Bradenton**



**For our first class of 2025, join us for a morning whimsical bird quilt class that will be an easy and fun project that will appeal to anyone! We'll have the supply list available at the January meeting, and it will also be posted on the website for download.**

**Questions? Email Mary Lewis at  
[lewismarys57@gmail.com](mailto:lewismarys57@gmail.com)**



# “No Two Tweets are the Same” Quilt Top

## Supply List

Instructor: Mary-Jeanine Ibarguen  
Contact Info: [mjibarguen@outlook.com](mailto:mjibarguen@outlook.com)

Have fun creating improvisational birds that will scoot across your quilt and bring a smile to your face! My sister-in-law has a PhD in birds (ornithology) and she was the recipient of my first quilt, which was huge because I couldn't stop making the cuties. You can make a few for a pillow/tote/ablerunner, or more for a wall-hanging like my sample, or have a blast and make a flock.

Because this project is improvisational, we don't have to worry about perfect quarter inch seams or things lining up. Whew! Just lots of fun with fabric selection and adorable compositions.

If you've ever taken a class with me, you know I give you your money's worth in great ideas and solid quilting techniques you can use for all types of projects.

Prior to Class purchase (or gather) the following:

□ Pattern: PLEASE PRINT the pattern for FREE here: [tinyurl.com/MJBirdBlock](http://tinyurl.com/MJBirdBlock) (pay attention to upper case)

Fabrics: use the “Fabric Guidelines” in the pattern for your FOUR fabric choices (I recommend small prints, small plaids and stripes and dots, etc. Legs are so fun in various black and white stripes and prints.)

## Supplies:

Regular sewing supplies: thread snips, pins, seam ripper, etc.

If you're buying pins, please don't buy the “Quilting Pins” with the big yellow heads. Look for Clover “Silk Pins Boxed” (Art No.2501) They are the best!

Medium grey sewing thread

Diagonal Seam Tape from Cluck Cluck Sew

Rotary Cutter, mat, ruler (one big (6x24), one medium (8.5x8.5 or similar)

Extra rotary blade for your size cutter

If you have a clapper, bring it. If not, you can borrow mine.

Your SEWING MACHINE, don't forget the foot pedal, quarter inch seam foot



Like most people my sewing journey started when I was 7 years old. my grandmother put a needle in my hand and began to teach me everything she knew about sewing by hand. I learned how to sew by hand using my coloring books. She would tear out a page and make me sew in the lines practicing stitch length.

Throughout the years I have worn many different hats, trying to find my place in this wondrous world. 13 years ago, I was lost. I was starting over for the first time in my life, having lost everything (talk about a complete failure of my life). I was lying in bed crying and trying to figure out what I wanted to do during what at the time felt like the darkest moment in my life. I was surfing YouTube when I discovered Jenny Doan from Missouri Star Quilt Company! It was her ultimate quilt binding video. You know that moment in your life where God just puts someone in your path to make things click for you? Well, she was my moment! The crying instantly stops and 2 hours later, video after video, I had a plan.

The next day I went to Joann Fabrics on Elston Ave in Chicago IL. to sign up for a learn to sew class. At this point I had never used a sewing machine in my life! I went one to take more classes and quilting became my whole world! I was so successful that my mentor Marilyn Baker who was the Education Director hired me as her Assistant Education Director only 8 months into my training. She taught me everything I know when it comes to using a sewing machine. Thanks to Jenny Doan and Marilyn Baker, two of the strongest women I know brought me out of my darkness. I owe my journey to them!

13 years later I'm a pattern writer, I have been published and continuing to be published for my quilt pattern, and I'm a successful quilt instructor. Who knew that an Italian boy from the South-side of Chicago would end up where I am? I thank God every day for shining his light on me through this amazing craft. Someone asked me once why quilting and I said, "Because through quilting I found myself again."



The Food Pantry at the Church needs the following items:

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Hugs and chocolate, Sheila

PS Remember, one of our mission statements is Community Service.

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