



# Datchewards

www.manateepatchworkers.org

February 2026

## President's Corner

Hello Quilty Friends,

What an amazing meeting we had in January. Thank you, Michael Nardi, for again bringing us a wonderful program and workshop. We all learn so much and I can't wait to receive my fabric order but am especially excited for the release of your Christmas fabric.

One issue the board sees at our meetings is that we just don't have time for everything! For February, we will NOT have a Show and Tell. I know how much we all enjoy seeing each other's work, but we need to give plenty of time to our visiting speakers. The board is looking at solutions.

I recently had a quilt custom quilted for the first time. It is gorgeous, but during the process, it was discovered that I had a boo-boo. Deborah offered to try to fix it, but I decided to leave it in. I said I wasn't going to point it out to anyone, and I doubted anyone would notice.

While people were admiring the quilt at the meeting, it was so very hard not to point out the turned block. Why do we do that? I am the first to point out my seams that don't match or any other area that I feel is less than perfect. I guess that is just our nature, but I am going to strive to stop pointing out the flaws in my quilts (or myself!) My quilting goal, other than finishing quilts, is to stop pointing out the flaws.

Let's look at our accomplishments this year, not our imperfections!

Happy Quilting!  
Susan Fickey



**"If you can't see it from a galloping horse,  
it's perfect!"**

## February 2nd Meeting

Can't believe it's February already! This month we welcome Elissa Ziccardi as our guest speaker. She'll be giving a trunk show and workshop. Unfortunately, the workshop is sold out, but you'll want to catch her presentation Monday night! Fun Fundraiser!

We're doing a Barn Quilt Painting "Painting with a Twist" Fundraiser for our Guild on Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 5917 Manatee Ave W, Bradenton, FL 34209. Canvas \$40 and Pine back \$47. Painting with a Twist will donate a portion back to the guild for each person attending this event! We will also have a raffle and giveaways. Sign-up will be directly on the Painting with a Twist website (as soon as they set it up).

Deb will have more information at the meeting to sign up. [Feb 22: Painting with a Twist - Barn Quilt Painting - Fill out form](#). In March, we'll welcome Julia McLeod. She'll be presenting a lecture on quilting-making with unusual and reclaimed textiles, which will be followed by a half day workshop on March 3rd, 9:30am - 1:30pm. Class Fee \$25 for members, plus \$15 kit fee - [March 2026 - Julia McLeod - Piecing the Pineapple - Fill out form](#)

April brings us Susan Brown, AKA "Cutting Corners Quilt Queen," Susan has revolutionized quilt education with her innovative techniques and her specialty rulers. Susan will be teaching a workshop the following day using the Binding Tool Ruler. Both workshops will fill up fast, so please register ASAP. Class Fee \$35 for members. [April 7 - Susan Brown - Geese in Motion OR Binding Tool Star Quilt - Fill out form](#)

Stay Salty!  
Deb Phillips & Kim Hodge



# Community Service

February is here and the guild is glad to have our winter members back for the season.

In January the guild donated 15 dog beds to the Humane Society of Manatee County and 25 quilts of various sizes to Tidewell Hospice in Bradenton. The quilts were very much appreciated, and we look forward to continuing to help support this wonderful cause. We also donate quilts to Guardian Ad Litem, Beds for Kids and His Disciples.

At our January community service gathering we had 12 members who participated. We had fun and were able to sandwich 39 quilts and 2 quilts were completed. We also cut and make dog beds for the future. Our next community service meeting will be held on February 11 at Fairlane Acres located at 819 49<sup>th</sup> Ave Terrace West in Bradenton. We will continue to sandwich quilt tops that have been donated

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the following members:

Janice Dentler 941-720-5403 [mamabear@gmail.com](mailto:mamabear@gmail.com)

Deb Teeling (seasonal member) 860-308-1012  
[debteeling@yahoo.com](mailto:debteeling@yahoo.com)

Debbie Magner 941-773-2449 [mam9969@outlook.com](mailto:mam9969@outlook.com)



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# 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!**

Jessica	Anderson	2/3
Claire	Zazitski	2/10
Carlotta	Miller	2/19
Deborah	Teeling	2/19

**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.

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

**Sewcialites** South County Library, Bradenton on the 4th Saturday 9a.m.-1p.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  
The Clubhouse address is 810 49<sup>th</sup> Ave Terrace, Bradenton.  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday from 10am –3pm. All are welcome. Contact: Rita Wright. 847-226-8201

**Saturday Stitches** Flash, Sew & Quilt,  
935 N Beneva Rd, #201, Sarasota. Open sew. Every 3rd Saturday from 10:30 - 3pm.  
Maximum of 15 people. Contact: Kim Hodge 509-993-4937

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



**If you know of a guild member who needs some sunshine or special recognition, please let Susan Taylor know so she send a card.**  
catlady0319@gmail.com

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

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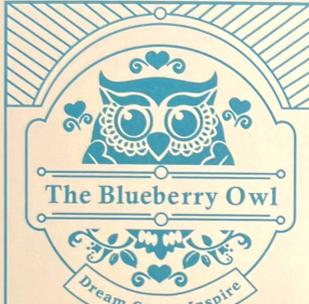
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**Tips and Tricks**

Use small squares of double sided fusible web to baste quilts. Place squares every square foot or so between the backing and batting using an iron, and repeat the technique to fuse the batting to the quilt top.

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## 2026 Upcoming Programs and Workshops

<b>Mon, Feb 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Elissa Ziccardi Presentation
<b>Tue, Feb 3<sup>rd</sup></b> Time 9:30 – 5:30	<b>QUILTED SNEAKER WORKSHOP</b> with Elissa Ziccardi Braden River Library, 4915 53rd Avenue East, Room 205 (West Wing) Bradenton, FL 34203 ~ Doors open at 9:15
<b>Sun, Feb 22<sup>nd</sup></b> Time TBD	Painting With A Twist
<b>Mon, Mar 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Julia McLeod presentation
<b>Tue, Mar 3<sup>rd</sup></b> Time 9:30 – 1:30	<b>PIECING THE PINEAPPLE HALF DAY WORKSHOP</b> with Julia McLeod Venue TBD
<b>Mon, Apr 6</b>	Susan Brown presentation
<b>Tue, Apr 7<sup>th</sup></b> Time TBD	<b>BINDING TOOL WORKSHOP</b> with Susan Brown Venue TBD
<b>Mon, May 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Round Robin Demos

### *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.

### *2024 Board of Directors*

Susan Fickey, President  
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 Deb Teeling (seasonal member) Community Service, debteeling@yahoo.com  
 Email contact: manateepatchworkers@gmail.com

## Meet Julia McLeod at our March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting!



We are proud to welcome Julia McLeod to our guild in March! She is a quilt maker living and working in northern California's San Francisco Bay Area. She specializes in making quilts from rescued textiles, particularly silks. Neckties, saris, kimono and furnishing fabrics all find their way into her quilts.

Born and raised in England, Julia worked as a menswear textile designer in the woolen- and worsted mills of Yorkshire and Scotland, and later for a company on Savile Row, in the heart of London's bespoke tailoring industry.

She moved to New York City in the early 1990's, and America has been her home ever since. Julia enjoys lecturing and teaching on the subject of quilting-making with unusual and reclaimed textiles. She is also a trained quilt judge. Her book 'Patchwork Luxe' is published by C&T Publishing.

Julia will be teaching a half day workshop on Piecing the Pineapple on Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Space is limited to 24 students, so you'll want to register early!



<https://www.facebook.com/JuliaMcLeodQuilts/>



<https://www.instagram.com/juliamcleodquilts/?hl=en>

Learn more about her at <https://juliamcleodquilts.com/>

## Piecing the Pineapple

A half day fabric foundation piecing workshop with Julia McLeod

Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9:30 am – 1:30 pm ~ Location TBD

Cost: \$25 for members, \$30 for nonmembers, plus \$15 kit fee

Piece the traditional Pineapple block using a uniquely lightweight, printed foundation made by EZ Piecing exclusively for Julia's classes. This light-as-a-feather product adds no extra weight or bulk to your blocks and is suited to working with all fabrics, especially silks and other fabrics that tend to slip and fray. We'll discuss color choices and careful color placement through fussy cutting. Use your stash of neckties, saris, kimono and more, or make this block using regular quilters' cottons.

### Supply List



There is a \$15 kit fee for the foundation pack of 12 pineapple blocks by EZ Piecing. You can either purchase this kit from Julia prior to the workshop (recommended, no shipping fees) or you can order it from

<https://ezpiecing.com/products/pineapple-kaleidoscope-by-julia-mcleod>.

- One block can be completed using about ten neckties - 5 light, 5 dark. Other silks from scarves, furnishings and clothing are also suitable. Avoid very sheer fabrics. If using quilters' cottons you will need about 1/4 yard each of one light and one dark fabric - or make it scrappy. Bring plenty of fabric so you have choices. Expect to make one or two blocks in a day.
- Standard sewing supplies: sewing machine, cord and pedal, bobbins, regular presser foot or walking foot
- Thread in a neutral color
- Scissors, thread snips and seam ripper, rotary cutter with a good blade
- Cutting mat and ruler
- Add-a-quarter ruler - optional but not essential
- Iron and ironing surface
- Pins
- Notebook/Sketchbook and pen/pencil

Questions? Email [juliamcleodquilts@gmail.com](mailto:juliamcleodquilts@gmail.com)

## Meet Susan Brown at our April Meeting!



We are so thrilled to welcome Susan Brown as our April speaker! Known as the "Cutting Corners Quilt Queen," Susan has revolutionized quilt education with her innovative techniques. Her templates and tools work for beginners and experts alike. Quilters who buy her rulers use them not occasionally, but consistently. They become as important as your rotary cutter or pin cushion. Susan is the founder of the TQM Rulers Company, home of the popular Binding Tool Ruler, and has spent the last 10 years leading quilt retreats at the Missouri Star Quilt Company.

During the evening meeting, Susan will present a trunk show featuring her inspiring quilts, she also has many tips and tricks to offer to those who attend her lecture. Susan will offer her signature rulers and tools for sale following the lecture and trunk show.

Susan will be teaching a Binding Tool workshop that is perfect for beginners or anyone looking to make something that goes together quickly with great results. You can choose between the Binding Tool Star or the Geese in Motion quilt. Participants will receive a Binding Tool, a pattern and interfacing.

 <https://www.facebook.com/susan.p.brown.73>

 <https://www.instagram.com/quiltersmercsusan/#>

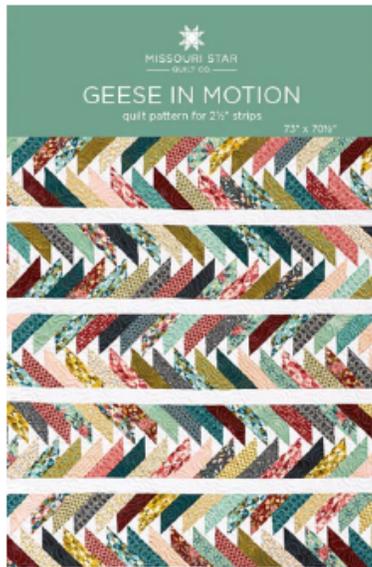
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## Binding Tool Workshop with Susan Brown

**April 7<sup>th</sup>, Time and Location TBD**

**Cost: \$35 for members, \$40 for nonmembers**

Join us for a fun and exciting workshop with Susan Brown! Susan's Binding Tool workshop is perfect for beginners or anyone looking to make something that goes together quickly with great results. You may choose between the Geese in Motion quilt or the Binding Tool Star quilt. Each participant will receive a Binding Tool, a pattern and interfacing.



### **Supplies for Geese in Motion 73" x 70 1/2"**

- Standard sewing supplies: Sewing machine, rotary cutter & mat, iron, ironing mat, rulers, marking pen, thread, needles, pins, wonder clips, etc.
- 1 Roll of 2 1/2" Strips
- 2 Yards Background Fabric Includes Inner Border
- 3/4 Yard Binding
- 4 1/2 Yards Backing - Vertical Seams Or 2 1/2 Yards 108" Wide Backing



### **Supplies for Binding Tool Star 77" x 77"**

- Standard sewing supplies: Sewing machine, rotary cutter & mat, iron, ironing mat, rulers, marking pen, thread, needles, pins, wonder clips, etc.
- 1 Roll of 2 1/2 Inch Strips
- 2 1/2 Yards Background Fabric (A strong contrast to the Strip Roll)
- 3/4 Yard Inner Border
- A Charm Pack for the Outer Keyboard Border
- Backing - 4 1/2 Yards - Vertical Seams Or 2 1/2 Yards 108" Wide Backing

Questions? Email Susan Brown [Quiltersmerc@aol.com](mailto:Quiltersmerc@aol.com)

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## **Save the Dates!**

**Sunday, February 15- Thursday, February 19, 2026**

**Our third Retreat at DaySpring Conference Center,  
Parrish, FL**

**Meet other passionate sewists, have meals prepared for  
you and enjoy cozy cabins!**

**Registration forms will be available November 1, 2025.**

**We hope you can join us!**

**If you have any questions, email [jackie@sgcasg.org](mailto:jackie@sgcasg.org)**



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