

How long have you been quilting?

I've been quilting since 1962, but didn't get serious with it until around the mid-1970's.

Who taught you how to quilt?

I am mostly self-taught. Tried to do it on my own and made a lot of mistakes. Then in the 1970's, quilt magazines started showing up on the magazine racks and quilt shops started sprouting up around town, and the rotary cutter and mat was invented...and I learned to make quilts the quick way with my learned short-cuts.

What are your favorite techniques?

Applique, Red work Embroidery, and the Big Stitch. I prefer the hand-quilted look and the Big Stitch style goes really fast.

Favorite colors to work with?

I love all the bright colors, especially the jewel tones.

Favorite fabrics?

Primarily cottons, but occasionally I will use satins, velvets for my scrappy crazy quilts.

Favorite quilt shop?

Every quilt shop is my favorite! I think my best favorite is Quilts and Fixins in Jonesboro. Also Red Hen, so many shops..so little time...and money!

If you sew by machine, what kind(s) do you use?

I have a European White and I love it. But I hope to win that nice HuskyStar our guild is raffling off in December! If I don't win it then I might buy it. I'm tired of caring my heavy White to QTYW and to classes.

What inspires you to make a particular quilt most often?

The 1930's and 1940's colors, fabrics, and designs are very inspiring to me. I love the art deco and feedsack and any scrappy patterns from this era.

Favorite quilting book or pattern?

No particular favorite except I like the old timey patterns I see in books.

On average, how many quilts do you make in a year?

Maybe 3 to 5 quilts a year.

Do you quilt your own quilts or do you send them out?

I do my own quilting. Mostly by hand and once by machine but I prefer hand quilting. I love that pukery-look the old quilts have and try to achieve that look with my hand-quilting and no pre-washing for my fabrics.

What quilt related item(s) are you working on right now?

My queen size Yo-Yo quilt, a Mystery quilt and now I'm excited about quilting with wool.

What other hobbies do you have?

Some gardening and a few other handcraft type of hobbies like dolls and handbags, and scrapbooking.

One way that quilting has changed your life?

It's given me the freedom to express myself and I've learned to take time for myself to do what I enjoy.

Are you on any committees with the CRQG?  
This is an easy year, I'm on the telephone committee.

Feel free to tell us more about yourself and your family.  
I have a husband who enjoys photography and I'm lucky he doesn't mind photographing my quilts for me.  
My four children are grown now. I have 8 grandchildren, one great grandchild!

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [Dina Greer](#)  
**To:** [Irene Gardner](#)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 29, 2008 1:49 PM  
**Subject:** CRQG News Featured Quilter

Hi, Irene--  
I'd like to feature you in the newsletter in one of the months ahead, that is, if you are willing. I'm going to attach the blank set of questions. If you agree to do this, please fill in the questions as you see fit. I have saved it in a plain text format, so it shouldn't matter what word processing application you're using. I am sending these questionnaires to several members for future issues, so I don't know at this point in which issue yours would appear, but I would let you know in advance.

Thanks,  
Dina

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