

## FEATURED MEMBER RACHEL PHANEUF

**How long have you been quilting?** I started my very first quilt at the tender age of 16, and I finished it while I was still 16. I must admit that I don't always finish them in the same manner any more.

**Who taught you how to quilt?** My mom taught me to quilt, bless her heart. It was a work of love I am sure as I was an "interesting teenager." Her nickname for me was "SAS-AMO." Does that give you any idea? SMILE

**What are your favorite quilting techniques?** I love to do exact piecing. Crazy quilting makes me a little crazy because it is created by guess and by golly. I need a plan.

**What are your favorite colors to work with?** As most of our students would say, pink/rose and moss green.

**What are your favorite fabrics to work with?** I love fabric. Wool is wonderful to work with. Silk is beautiful but difficult to keep from crawling everywhere. But I believe cotton is the easiest to tame for me.

**What is your favorite quilt shop?** That is a hard question to answer. Charlie will tell you that I try to visit every quilt shop very often so that each one will become my favorite. SMILE

**If you sew by machine, what kind(s) do you use?** I began with a real treadle sewing machine, then took on my mom's Golden Touch and Sew. When Charlie and I married 41 years ago, his wedding gift to me was a Viking with all the bells and whistles. We still use that machine on occasion. I have used a little Brother for a number of years, but just this December, Charlie found that he was having to make appointments with his new Baby Lock machine because I was always on it. So. . .after buying himself a new Janome, he graciously gave me the Baby Lock to call mine.

**What inspires you to make a particular quilt?** I look for something I have never done before. I love a challenge and rarely choose the same colors that the original creator used.

**What is your favorite quilting book or pattern?** I very often refer to a "quilting encyclopedia" called "The Quilter's Ultimate Visual Guide," Ellen Pahl, editor. It is available at JoAnn Fabrics.

**On average, how many quilts do you make in a year?** Including all sizes, I make about 20 quilts a year.

**Do you quilt your own quilts or do you send them out?** We have been blessed to own a Gammill quilting machine. Her name is Molly and she is pampered with heat and air and oil by the quart. She has her own set of cleaning brushes and her very own quilted cover. She is a very good girl.

**What quilt-related item(s) are you working on right now?** We are preparing several samples for our classes starting in February. I am hoping to get all 6 finished before then. We are also working on a beautiful black and white quilt for our 15-year-old granddaughter's birthday.

**What other hobbies do you have?** I love to teach!!!! I will jump at most any chance to teach about something I enjoy doing. But, my favorite thing to teach is God's Word. It is real! It is relevant! It has the ANSWERS!!

**Tell about one way that quilting has changed your life.** Quilting has always been great fun for me, but when Charlie began to quilt, it changed to be so much more fun!!!! We work together on quilts. We steal (borrow) each other's fabric, and we get to shop for more together. And. . .we still like each other. SMILE

**Are you on any committees with the CRQG?** I currently have the honored privilege of serving a second term as the president of the most wonderful group of men and women quilters in the entire world.

**Feel free to tell us more about yourself and your family.** I have been blessed all my life to have quilters in my family: grandmothers, mom, and a husband along with a daughter and daughters-in-law. It is a great joy to now be passing on the tradition of quilting to our grandsons and our granddaughters. I AM SO BLESSED!!!

