

FEATURED MEMBER PHYLLIS CARPENTER

How long have you been quilting? I took my first quilting class in the early 1990's. There were a few years when I didn't work on any and after I retired I wanted to start again; thus, I joined the Guild.

Who taught you how to quilt? I still hadn't actually quilted anything by hand until this last year when I started the machine quilting. Mostly I have worked on piecing tops. I had a class at two different quilt shops in the 90's, but only finished those quilts lately. I do have 3 cross stitch quilt tops with one finished.

What are your favorite quilting techniques? I am just enjoying learning the many ways and like the challenges.

What are your favorite colors to work with? I find I lean toward the blues, purples, and pinks. I am trying to do different things and explore the other colors.

What are your favorite fabrics to work with? Cottons are best, but I recently inherited a large box of feed sack fabrics and some beautiful silk that my parents bought in Japan that I look forward to doing something with in the future.

What is your favorite quilt shop? I really don't have a favorite shop. I enjoy exploring all of them.

If you sew by machine, what kind(s) do you use? I have a Bernina 440.

What inspires you to make a particular quilt? I do a lot of projects that the Guild does. I have so many ideas that I don't get many of them finished.

What is your favorite quilting book or pattern? I don't have any favorites, I just love learning new things.

On average, how many quilts do you make in a year? I have a very low finish record. There are lots of tops and started projects, but little is finished.

Do you quilt your own quilts or do you send them out? I have only finished 1 or 2 on my own, and I have several to be quilted. I haven't decided how to finish them. I have a regular quilt frame, a large round one, but have never used it.

What quilt-related item(s) are you working on right now? My challenge quilt, 2 of the 6-point table toppers, binding a quilt my mother left for my sister, and binding a baby quilt my mother made 50 years ago.

What other hobbies do you have? I love reading, crochet and knitting, embroidery by hand as well as by machine.

Tell about one way that quilting has changed your life. Joining the Guild has given me a chance to get involved with people who love quilting, and I love learning from them and getting to know everyone. It gives me a little push to do something instead of being lazy.

Are you on any committees with the CRQG? Now I am the day secretary and hope to help in another way next year.

Feel free to tell us more about yourself and your family. Howard and I celebrated our 50th anniversary on June 11th while we were in Ohio. My mother passed in July and I have had to take care of her condo and am working with her estate. We have 4 children, 9 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. Paul, wife Lori, live in St. Louis. Paul's first son, Paul, lives in West Virginia with Dawn and 2 of our great-grandchildren, Ryan and Halianna; 2nd son, Christopher, is in the Air Force and is in Iraq. Sue lives in Pittsburg and has 3 sons, Keith of Pittsburg, Brad with a daughter Kalie in eastern Ohio and Jeremy in Ohio also. Karen has 3 children: Taylor, Victor and Julie; they live here in Georgia. Our son Philip and wife Lisa with granddaughter Hallie live in Monroe, Louisiana. They are the joy of our lives.

