

FEATURED MEMBER CATHY HANRAHAN

How long have you been quilting? Barely two years; I'm just a beginner!

Who taught you how to quilt? I took a class from a gal at church who taught us a block a month from Eleanor Burn's Quilt in a Day pattern and then I just started a couple of other quilts from patterns I liked. I really need more classes and enjoy learning so much at our guild meetings and from all the experienced quilters who are so willing to teach us.

What are your favorite quilting techniques? I'm too new at this to have a favorite technique and have mostly only done pieced work. There are many techniques to try in the coming years.

What are your favorite colors to work with? I love the teals, turquoise and blues; but I also enjoy the bright spring colors. I have much to learn about colors and putting them together as I am always amazed when I see some of the wonderful color combinations used by some of the guild members.

What are your favorite fabrics to work with? I've only worked with cotton but maybe someday I'll try something different.

What is your favorite quilt shop? I do not have a favorite quilt shop. I tend to go to the one that is closest or on my way to another destination. I have found it fun to stop at different stores as my husband and I travel. My husband has become a good sport about looking around quilting shops.

If you sew by machine, what kind(s) do you use? I own a couple of Bernina's, one I just purchased last year for the quilting accessories.

What inspires you to make a particular quilt? I like to look through magazines and enjoy the guild's show & tell. There are way too many ideas out there and I want to try so many of them; but there isn't time to do it all. Right now I look for more simple patterns and pretty colors.

What is your favorite quilting book or pattern? I enjoy looking at several books and magazines for ideas.

On average, how many quilts do you make in a year? So far, I've only made 4 last year. How do the other guild members find time to make 10 or more a year?

Do you quilt your own quilts or do you send them out? I am learning to quilt my own by machine and trying to get the hang of free motion.

What quilt-related item(s) are you working on right now? I have a butterfly quilt started for my granddaughter and then a couple of more patterns and material ready for 2011.

What other hobbies do you have? I enjoy sewing for my granddaughters, reading and traveling to new places. I also like to do volunteer work at my church and walking daily with a friend.

Tell about one way that quilting has changed your life. I have learned to think some outside my comfort zone in sewing and putting together patterns and colors. Also, I've enjoyed meeting other quilters and have learned to really appreciate all the time and effort that goes into any quilt.

Are you on any committees with the CRQG? I am on the Membership Committee for 2011.

Feel free to tell us more about yourself and your family. My husband and I are both from Southern California and met at college in Utah. We moved to Georgia over 20 years ago for my husband's job. We have three grown children, plus 1 son-in-law and 1 daughter-in-law and 7 grandchildren so far. Our lives center around our family and our church. I have started making quilts for the grandchildren and know that my daughters are waiting for one also. So I have plenty of future projects. My husband and I also have been traveling since his retirement and feel very blessed with full and active lives.

