

FEATURED MEMBER Hazel Bradshaw



How long have you been quilting? I took a quilting class 1985 and made my first quilt. The pattern was “Lover’s Knot.” I did not make another quilt until about 1998 after I joined the Michigan Quilt Network and local quilt guilds, and started exhibiting my quilts in shows and local galleries.

Who taught you how to quilt? My Mother and Grandmother taught me how to quilt at a very young age, but I was not interested in quilting at the time. I was more interested in making doll clothes.

What are your favorite quilting techniques? I like the design phase, and doing the finishing techniques of a quilt. Planning and choosing prints and colors, and finishing with free form quilting.

What are your favorite colors to work with? I like working with all colors, however, I use warm autumn colors a lot in my work; such as orange, gold, rust, bronze and brown.

What are your favorite fabrics to work with? I use 100% cotton in traditional or bed size quilts, and a variety of fabrics in an art quilt or a wall quilt depending on the design, texture and the finish look I’m going for.

What inspires you to make a particular quilt? I am especially inspired by nature. The flowers in spring and the changing leaves in the fall. Also, I get inspiration from quilt books and magazines.

What is your favorite quilting book or pattern? My favorite quilt pattern is “Court House Steps” a log cabin pattern. I have so many favorite books, such as “The Art of African Textile” by Duncan Clarke, “Art Cloth: A Guide to Surface Design” by Jane Dunnewold, and “Create your own Hand Painted Cloth” by Rayna Gillman. My absolute favorite publication is “Quilting Arts Magazine.”

Do you quilt your own quilts or do you send them out? I quilt the small quilts, wall quilts, and child size quilts myself. The bed size quilts are sent out.

What quilt-related item(s) are you working on right now? Currently I am working on quilts for my great-grand children. I have until July 2012 to complete quilts for all five of them.

What other hobbies do you have? Other than sewing, I enjoy reading, decorating, traveling and golfing.

Tell about one way that quilting has changed your life. Quilting allow me to unleash my creativity, and give me the freedom to create my own style without plans or patterns .

Are you on any committees with the CRQG? I am not currently on any CROG committees.

Feel free to tell us more about yourself and your family. I was born in St Louis, MO., moved to Arkansas at the age of four, and moved to Michigan at the age of fourteen. We lived in Michigan for fifty-five years, then retired and moved to Georgia's warmer weather (I love it) in order to have longer golfing seasons. I have been married forty-nine years, eight months to Billy. We have two sons, five grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren

Before moving from Michigan to Georgia in 2010, I was actively involved with a network of Quilt Artist, and Fabric/Textile Artist from all over the state of Michigan. Even though I am passionate about art quilting, I have not lost interest in traditional quilting. My desire is to connect with other artist in the Douglasville area with interest in Art Quilting, Fiber & Textile in hopes of forming a small Arts group in order to share and experience different techniques.