

# QUILT SCRAPS

Visit us on [Facebook](#) and [www.amgg.wildapricot.com](http://www.amgg.wildapricot.com)



**Board Meeting:**  
Tuesday  
December 19<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 pm  
Zoom Meeting

**Guild Meeting:**  
Holiday Party  
Tuesday December 5<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 pm Bring a Dessert!  
**Ryan's Sew & Vac**  
5011 San Mateo Blvd NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87109

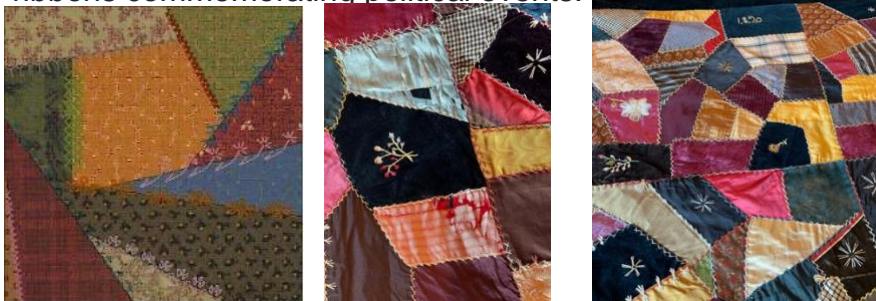
**Longarm group**  
First Saturday 9:30am-11am  
**Saturday Sew Day**  
Second Saturday 11am-  
4:00pm  
Zoom Meeting  
**Paper Piecers**  
Third Sunday 1pm-4pm

## Quilt History: Crazy Quilt

The Crazy Quilt is probably the oldest of quilt patterns. Early quilters used any scrap or remnant available, regardless of its color, design, or fabric type. Worn out clothing, women's calico dresses, men's pants and shirts, household linens, and other oddly shaped fabric scraps were fitted and stitched together. The result was a hodgepodge of color, and a quilt with a story behind each scrap.

Making utilitarian quilts fell out of favor in the late 1800's and early 1900's as America became more industrialized and technology brought improvements to the home.

The Crazy quilts or throws of this era featured rich colors and textures and were used to decorate the parlor. Skill in fine embroidery was emphasized. Victorian quilters filled their quilts with bits and pieces of their personal past; a piece of father's vest, a husband's tie, lace from a wedding veil, or ribbons commemorating political events.



## Upcoming Events:

**January (H) - Meet our Members**

**February (H) - Hot Chocolate and Conversation about Cleaning our sewing machine by Ryan Strauss**

**March (Z) - Batting class with Lyn Heilman of Battingsupersale.com**

**April (Z)- Sew Together Quilt shop - Heidi – New fabric lines, new product, and what is it like to own a quilt shop.**

**May (H) - Lemonade and conversation - Scraps**

**June (H) - UFO Trunk show (Members bring a UFO finished or not for show and tell – Discuss organization and tips to finish them.**

# Letters From the Board



We are delighted to present our inaugural newsletter for this holiday season. We understand that this time of year can be incredibly hectic, so we encourage you to take a moment for yourself and embrace the joy that the season brings!

Looking ahead, 2024 promises to be an exciting year for our guild. Judie, our Programs Director, has a myriad of enjoyable activities in store. If you have the capacity, consider volunteering and sharing your feedback about what you found enjoyable or not. Additionally, if you have any ideas or specific skills you'd like to see featured at our meetings, please don't hesitate to reach out to Judie.

Our theme for 2024 is "Just Keep Growing: New Faces and New Skills." We invite you to extend the warm embrace of our guild to friends and family by encouraging them to attend our meetings and meetups. Together, let's spread joy and camaraderie!

Lastly, it's that time of the year once more – time to renew your guild membership. We strongly recommend renewing early to ensure you don't miss out on all the exciting events and activities planned for the upcoming year. Join us in making 2024 a year filled with fun and growth!

Happy Holidays!



Your Board Members!

# Let's Celebrate!

**Can you believe it?** The December holiday season is already here. In fact, you could say that December is a month packed with celebrations. It features major holidays such as Christmas, New Year's, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa. But that's not all – December also brings a wide array of national and international holidays. While some of them are tied to the season, others are simply quirky and fun, offering something special for every day. I've compiled a list of many (though certainly not all) of these unique holidays for your enjoyment:

12/01 – Eat a Red Apple Day, World AIDS Awareness Day, National Christmas Lights Day  
12/02 – National Fritters Day, National Mutts Day, Safety Razor Day, Special Education Day  
12/03 – National Roof Over Your Head Day, Let's Hug Day, Persons with Disabilities Day  
12/04 – Santa's List Day (hope you aren't on the "Naughty" List), Wear Brown Shoes Day, National Sock Day, National Cookie Day, World Wildlife Conservation Day  
12/05 – Bathtub Party Day, Repeal Day (21st Amendment ended Prohibition), World Soil Day  
12/06 – St Nicholas Day, Mitten Tree Day, Bartender Appreciation Day, Miner's Day, National Gazpacho Day, National Microwave Oven Day, Put on Your Own Shoes Day  
12/07 – Pearl Harbor Day, International Civil Aviation Day, Letter Writing Day, National Cotton Candy Day  
12/08 – National Brownie Day, Take It in the Ear Day, Pretend to be a Time Traveler Day  
12/09 – Christmas Card Day, National Pastry Day, National Llama Day, Weary Willie Day  
12/10 – Human Rights Day, Nobel Prize Day, National Lager Day, Dewey Decimal System Day  
12/11 – International Children's Day, National Noodle Ring Day, National Choral Day, Worldwide Candle Lighting Day, International Mountain Day, National App Day  
12/12 – Gingerbread House Day, National Ding-A-Ling Day, Poinsettia Day, Green Monday, National Ambrosia Day, National 12-Hour Fresh Breath Day  
12/13 – Ice Cream Day, National Cocoa Day, Violin Day, National Day of the Horse, US National Coast Guard Birthday  
12/14 – International Monkey Day, National Bouillabaisse Day, Roast Chestnuts Day  
12/15 – Bill of Rights Day, National Lemon Cupcake Day, National Cat Herder's Day, Tea Day  
12/16 – National Chocolate Covered Anything Day, National Ugly Christmas Sweater Day  
12/17 – National Maple Syrup Day, Wreaths Across America Day, Wright Brothers Day  
12/18 – Bake Cookies Day, Hanukah begins (date varies), National Roast Suckling Pig Day  
12/19 – Look for an Evergreen Day, Oatmeal Muffin Day, National Hard Candy Day  
12/20 – Go Caroling Day, Hang Up Your Stocking Day, National Sangria Day, Games Day  
12/21 – Crossword Puzzle Day, Forefather's Day, Humbug Day, Look on the Bright Side Day, National Flashlight Day, Winter Solstice (Shortest day of the year), Yule Begins  
12/22 – National Date Nut Bread Day, National Cookie Exchange Day, National Re-Gifting Day  
12/23 – Festivus – for the rest of us, Roots Day, National Pfaffians' Day  
12/24 – Christmas Eve, National Chocolate Day, National Eggnog Day  
12/25 – Christmas Day, No "L" Day, National Pumpkin Pie Day  
12/26 – Boxing Day, National Candy Cane Day, National Whiner's Day, Thank You Note Day  
12/27 – National Fruitcake Day, Make Cutout Snowflakes Day, Visit the Zoo Day  
12/28 – National Chocolate Candy Day, Pledge of Allegiance Day, National Card Playing Day  
12/29 – National Pepper Pot Day, Still Need to Do Day, Tick Tock Day  
12/30 – Bacon Day, National Bicarbonate of Soda Day, No Interruptions Day  
12/31 – New Year's Eve, National Champagne Day, Universal Hour of Peace Day

So, as you can see, in December every day is a holiday, a bizarre day, a wacky day or a special event of some sort. There are literally thousands of holidays, special events and observances, more than one for every single day of the year, with new holidays being created all the time – and some of them are pretty strange! But, hey – who cares?

**Let's celebrate!**



## December Birthdays

Naomi Schmidt  
Susan Leach  
Donna Viitanen  
Shawn Penman  
Dru Hammond  
Jan Couto  
Kay Welch  
Carole Fronk  
Holly Strasburg  
Sally Williams



## Welcome New Members



Sharon Prudhomme  
Linda Surran  
Kim Poper  
Roberta Levin  
Eva Bisailon



## Newsletter

Editor: Judie Pokakaa

Please send:

Articles

Photos

Group Updates

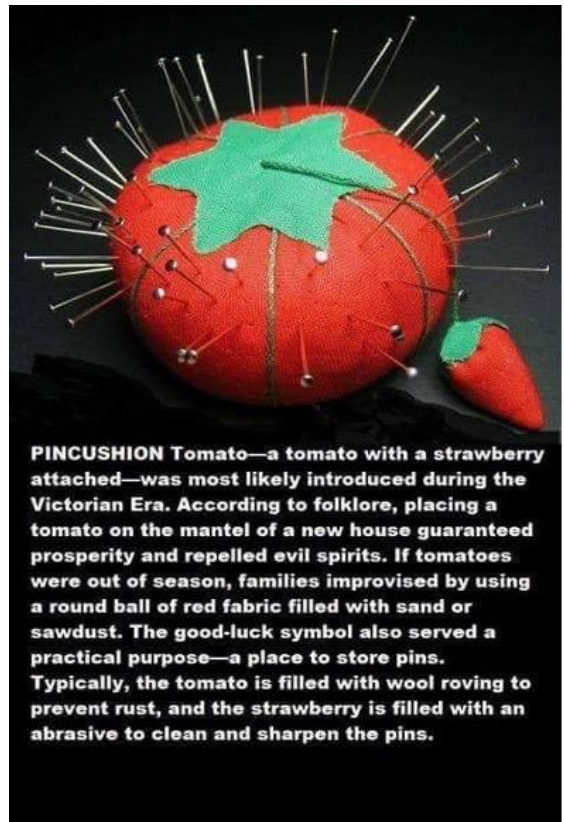
Member Ads

Special Events

to

[SewOdyssey@gmail.com](mailto:SewOdyssey@gmail.com)

By the 15<sup>th</sup> of  
the month



**PINCUSHION Tomato**—a tomato with a strawberry attached—was most likely introduced during the Victorian Era. According to folklore, placing a tomato on the mantel of a new house guaranteed prosperity and repelled evil spirits. If tomatoes were out of season, families improvised by using a round ball of red fabric filled with sand or sawdust. The good-luck symbol also served a practical purpose—a place to store pins. Typically, the tomato is filled with wool roving to prevent rust, and the strawberry is filled with an abrasive to clean and sharpen the pins.

# Community Service

## **Girl Scouts**

We will need volunteers to help teach Girl Scouts to sew and quilt. The first project will be a pillowcase. The next 2 projects will be an easy quilt, then a Christmas item. We will also need fabric donated.

## **Project Linus**

**See website for needed quilts and items. Bring items to the monthly meeting and they will be donated to the local group.**

<http://www.projectlinusabq.org/>

## **Ryan's Case for Smiles**

**Bring Pillowcases to the monthly meetings. Donations are made monthly to UNM Children's Hospital. Other needed items are quart size Ziplock bags. See website:**

<https://caseforsmiles.org/new-mexico/>

**Local Coordinator:  
Judie Pokakaa**

## Quilt Education

*Hi, quilters!*

### **Block Talk**

This month's quilt tutorial is called "The Chandelier Quilt". You can choose to make this top in any colors you wish, of course, but at this time of year consider holiday colors (so the chandeliers will look like ornaments). Here is the tutorial:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wy-sFNUwLNM> The pattern is free, too.

Here is the pattern:

<https://bit.ly/3F0n5dh>

### **Quilting Design Inspiration**

Here is a good tutorial that demonstrates how to quilt your quilts with an allover design called the elongated swirl. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRmA7vYp5hM>

### **"Stitch to This" Recommendation**

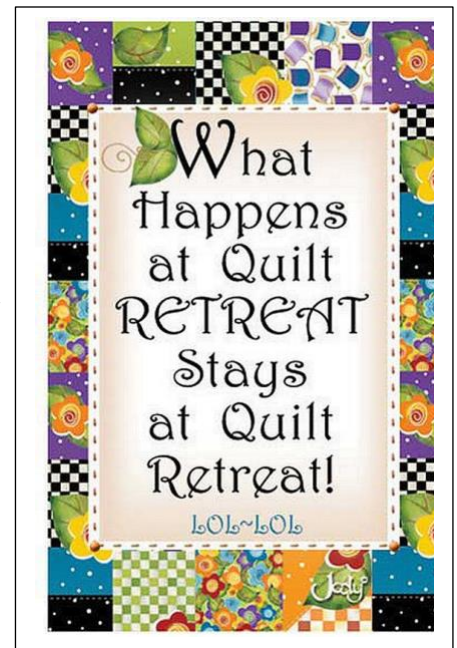
Try stitching to these awesome holiday concerts this month, as you work on your next quilting project: <https://tubitv.com/movies/673690/christmas-lights-holiday-symphonymusic?start=true>

Here is the second one: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XiBHbadRVBU>

Let's make something beautiful!

# 2024 Retreat

There are 2 retreats in the planning stage. One will be local and the other will be a weekend away. If you would like to volunteer for the retreat committee, please email Judie at [sewodyyssey@gmail.com](mailto:sewodyyssey@gmail.com). You can also call or text at 702-202-9560.



# Caring for your Thread

By America Patchwork & Quilting Editors

Piecing and quilting thread can last 50+ years. But if the thread has not been stored correctly, that time length significantly goes down. Thread should be stored out of sunlight, as light can fade and weaken the fibers. If it was stored in a humid place, such as garage or attic for a period of time, it can get sticky or too thick from moisture intake. Similarly, if it was stored in a very dry or cold climate, the fibers can become brittle and break.

Generally, if you've bought thread or own thread that's covered in dust, it's a good sign that it hasn't been stored properly. Here are other important factors that clue you in to whether the thread is still good:

- The quality of the thread (cheap versus a more high-quality thread)
- The coating on the thread (a polyester thread won't deteriorate as quickly as a cotton one)
- The materials of the spool (plastic spools help threads last longer than wood or Styrofoam ones)
- Date it was made (older threads weren't made with the technology we have now, so they don't last as long as threads you buy new in the store today)

Here's a quick test you can perform on a spool to see if it's in good shape for your next quilt! Cut a 12"-piece of thread from the spool. Tie a knot in the center of the thread. Then gently pull the thread from both ends – if the thread breaks or tears in any way, it's too old to use.





# Fiber Arts Fiesta 2024

*"Save the date"*

April 12 and 13 2024

10 AM - 5 PM

Manuel Lujan Building

Expo NM

general admission - \$10

Expo parking additional cost

- Exhibits
- Vendors
- Classes



presented by

ALBUQUERQUE  
*Fiber Arts Council*

For more information visit:

[www.abqfiberartscouncil.org](http://www.abqfiberartscouncil.org)

an all volunteer

501 (c) (3) organization





# CALL FOR ENTRY

[Click here for Fiber Arts Fiesta Page](#)

**we would love to see ABQMQG represented**



## Membership

Please invite friends and family to the meetings. We want to grow the guild's membership! More members mean more friends and fun!

At the meeting in November, we had 40 members, 2 guests, and 0 new members, a total of 32 attendees. Our guild has 114 members!

We are planning a new member event in in 2024. Stay tuned for further information.

Please update any changes to your contact information or birthday in your profile.

Remember to renew for the 2024 ABQ MQG Quilting year. Just \$40. Check your email for your renewal notice.

Holly Strasburg is our membership coordinator. Please see her with any questions.



# Block of the Month

A great way to get involved in ABQ MQG, is to participate in the Block of the Month (BOM) program. It's a great way to try out different techniques, work in a variety of color ways, learn about different modern designs, and maybe even win a few prizes!

But you might be wondering...

## **How does Block of the Month work?**

- Each month at the ABQ MQG Meeting we will show you the next BOM block. (We also post it in the Newsletter and on social media.)
- The first will be a modern quilt block. The first block will be in January 2024.
- Go home make the block; make one, make two, make more... (by participating you are learning a new skill, trying a new block, or stretching your creativity)
- The second will be a traditional quilt block that you will reimagine it in a new way. Change the colors, move around the pieces, make the block, and cut it up. It is all up to you how you will reimagine a traditional block in a modern way!
- If you like, take a picture of your block, and share it on social media (i.e.: Facebook, IG) using the suggested hashtags. We would love to see them, and it encourages the rest of us.
- Bring your finished blocks to the next month's meeting for show and tell and get an extra ticket to the prize drawing.
- You can also upload your block on the website.

## **So WHY participate in the Block of the Month program?**

There are many points of entry and levels of engagement guild members can choose to partake in. Some come to guild and don't know how to really get involved or get the most out of their membership.

## **This program is great for people who:**

- Want to learn more about modern quilting.
- (Each month is a different technique or aspect of modern quilting).
- Want to work on their sewing skills and learn new techniques they can test out on a block and then try again on their own quilts.
- Want to be a part of something bigger: make a second or third block to trade with other guild members!
- Have fun with the BOM.

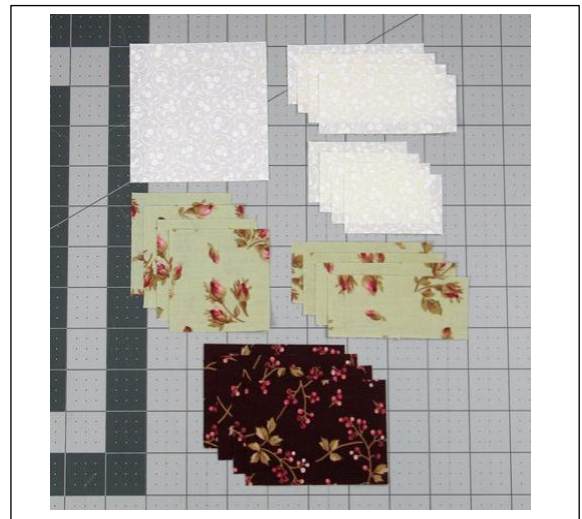
## Strips and Squares

This month's block to reimagine is **Strips and Squares quilt block** that Nancy Page first published. The pattern has been around a lot longer though due to the number of names it has goes by - Hand Weave, Handcraft, Handwoven, Interwoven, Over and Under, to name a few. It's popular - it's easy and produces a nice interwoven design when blocks are sewn together.



### Fabric Requirements for a 9" Finished Strips and Squares Quilt Block:

- Light/Ivory: 1 - 3.5" square, 4 - 1.5" x 3.5" rectangles, and 4 - 1.5" x 2.5" rectangles.
- Medium/Green: 4 - 2.5" squares, and 4 - 1.5" x 3.5" rectangles
- Dark/Burgundy: 4 - 2.5" x 3.5" rectangles



The directions aren't necessary because you will reimagine this block. How can it be updated to a modern quilt block? Change the color? Move the pieces around? Do what your heart desire.





## 3-Ingredient Holiday Swirl Fudge

1 bag (12 oz) white vanilla baking chips  
(2 cups) 1 container Betty Crocker™ Rich & Creamy vanilla frosting Betty Crocker™  
green and red gel or blue gel food colors.

Line 8-inch square pan with foil, leaving foil overhanging at 2 opposite sides of pan;  
spray foil with cooking spray ~or~ use Reynolds non-stick foil & skip the spray.

Microwave chips uncovered on High 1 minute. Spoon frosting over chips. Microwave on  
High 30 seconds; stir. If necessary, continue to microwave in 15-second increments  
until mixture can be stirred smooth. (BTW, it usually necessary; I microwave in 1-minute  
increments!)

Divide fudge in thirds. Tint 1/3 green and 1/3 red. Leave 1/3 white.

Drop heaping tablespoons of green, red, and white fudge mixture in bottom of pan to  
create random pattern. Pull table knife through layers for marbled design. Refrigerate  
uncovered until set, about 1 hour.

Alternative method. Leave all white and add sprinkles on top.

Remove from pan and cut into 8 rows by 8 rows. Store covered in refrigerator.

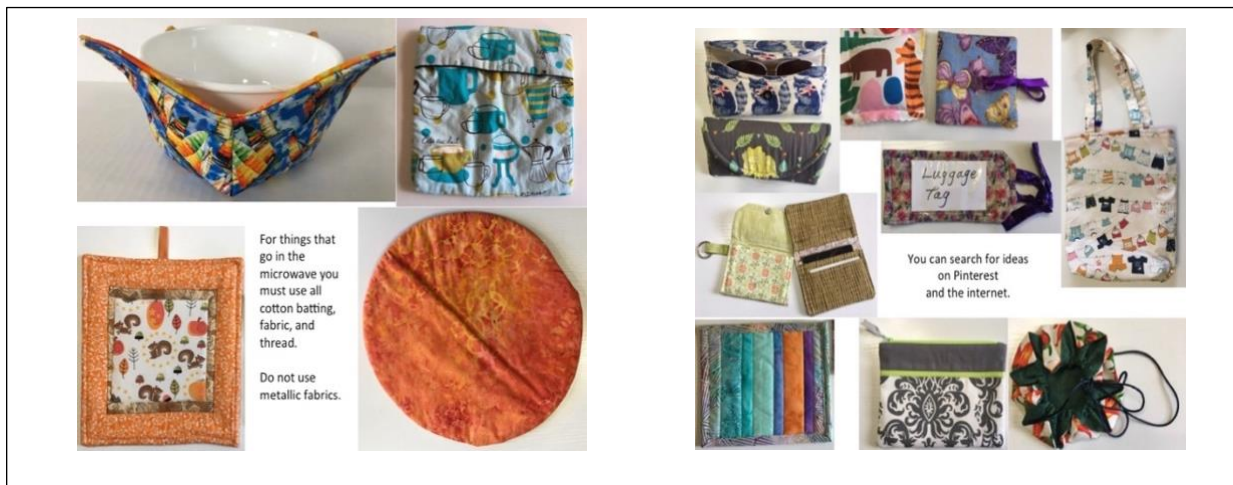
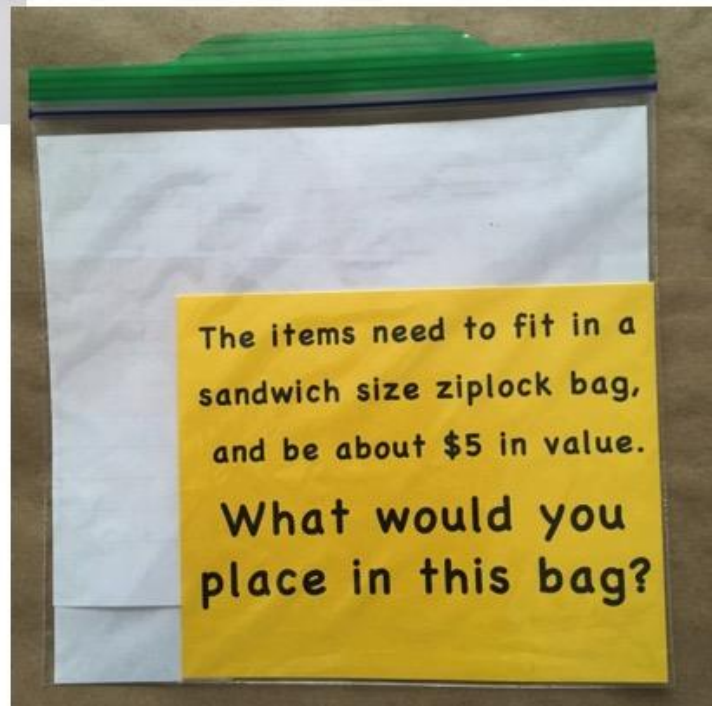


# Doo Dah collections in January



A DooDah is a small handmade fiber item that fits in a sandwich or quart ziplock bag and be about \$5 in value.

People will donate \$5 for each DooDah they choose. The more DooDah's the like the more money they will donate to Watermelon Mountain Ranch Animal Center. New Mexico's Largest No-Kill Animal Shelter for Dogs and Cats.





## Longarm Quilting by Tisha Cavanaugh

Edge-to-Edge and Hand Guided Custom

505-453-1557

Quilticing@gmail.com



**Mention this ad to get 25% off batting for quilts dropped off in December.**

## Advertise your business in Quilt Scraps!

Newsletter Advertising Rates for Quilt Scraps

Effective January 1, 2024

Size	Dimensions width X height	1 month	3 months	6 months	12 months
<b>Business Card</b>	3.5X2	\$10	\$30	\$50	\$100
<b>Quarter Page</b>	3.5X4.5	\$20	\$60	\$110	\$200
<b>Half Page</b>	3.5X9.5	\$50	\$150	\$290	\$500
<b>Full Page</b>	7.25X9.5	\$100	\$300	\$550	\$900

Quilt Scrap is published around the 20th of the preceding month (i.e., May is published around April 20th). Our newsletter is public; anyone can access it by going to:

<https://amqg.wildapricot.org/>

It is also emailed to over 300 people a month!

Please email Judie at [Sewodyssey@gmail.com](mailto:Sewodyssey@gmail.com)

if you have any questions or want to place an ad.





Show and Tell from 2023



'Twas the night before Christmas as I sat by the tree,  
wondering what Santa would bring just for me.  
Paintbrushes, Mod Podge, cardstock and lace  
"Or a new sewing machine," I thought with a grin on my face.  
Suddenly I saw him, "Hi, Santa." I said.  
He snickered, "Good little girls should be in their bed."  
"Oh, Santa forgive me, I know I've been caught,  
but I was just so excited to see what you've brought."  
"Well, let's take a look around this room where you work."  
He shook his head quickly, then turned with a jerk.  
I heard him exclaim as he put it in gear.  
"You've got enough crap, I'll see you next year!"

