

Honoring Past Presidents: 2010 ~ 2019

Special Edition ~ Volume II

Past Guild Presidents

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A Little History

It was February of 1999 when a handful of enthusiastic women met together to form a little neighborhood quilt guild. At first, more of a fun ladies' social group, meetings would include talk about quilts, books, or just a night out. Fast forward TWENTY years later, the guild has become the premier forum in the Heber Valley for quilters

to meet together monthly to learn new quilting techniques; to teach quilting and related sewing skills to one another,

“Sew & Tell” projects and ideas, and to have the opportunity to give charity service to the community. Guild members have helped make and donate hundreds of quilts for several charity organizations including Project Linus, and for many years assisted the Wasatch High School FFA in producing quilts for area hospitals and homeless shelters. Membership includes quilters from beginners through every level of quilting interest and expertise. The one common thread that binds this group together is sharing the joy of quilting!

Tricia Mathis ~ 2010

Tricia was born and raised in Ogden, Utah. She began sewing at age eight when her Dad gave her an old Singer sewing machine for her birthday, and has been sewing ever since. As a teenager, Tricia worked at *House of Fabrics* and continued while attending Utah State where she received her Family & Consumer Science degree and also met her husband, Rex. They moved to Heber City and Tricia taught Home Economics at North Summit High School and Junior High until their first child came along. She and her husband now have six children.

Tricia's theme for her year as HVQ guild president was *A Time & A Season*. Tricia's “Timely Tips” and “Timeless Treasures” projects were shared each month, and she also designed four seasonal wall hanging quilts specifically for the guild. You can now find them on her Etsy shop: www.etsy.com/shop/quiltbugcreations

When her kids were young, Tricia volunteered as a 4-H teacher, and all three of her daughters have become accomplished quilters themselves. Currently Tricia is working as the Wasatch County Extension Agent over 4-H, teaching sewing and quilting to youngsters, and also hosts several quilt classes for adults. Tricia enjoys sewing for her home and family, and quilting with her girls. Tricia reports that joining the quilt guild changed her life, and that quilting has become one of her great passions.



Rachel Harvey

~ 2011 and 2019

I grew up in Lyman, Utah on a little farm learning how to work hard and appreciate what you had, and how to make the most out of everything. My mom despised sewing but my grandma, who lived next door, did not. I used to get little undies and slips she made for Christmas. My mom had an old Singer sewing machine she bought from someone who needed an extra \$100, so when I was in middle school taking Home Ec, I used to play around with that machine. The tension was all screwy but my mom didn't know how to fix it, so I was never super successful with it. I did enjoy handwork though, and I would embroider and cross stitch a lot throughout middle and high school.

I went to Snow College and there was a quilting class offered. I wanted to take it so badly, but I



didn't. I didn't have a machine and I truly wondered where I would find the time for that class. I made a lot of fun tied quilts during the school breaks. I went to Utah State University and after graduating there, I went to Oregon State University with my first husband, Matt. I needed a new hobby since I had graduated and Matt was still studying. My mom gave me a sewing machine for Christmas that

year, a \$100 Brother. I started sewing as much as I could because poor college kids can't really afford much fabric. I made scrub tops for my sister, skirts for myself, and then I found quilting.

I moved to the Heber Valley in 2002, joined the Heber Valley Quilters in 2005, and have loved coming to guild meeting to learn and enjoy everyone's company. The first year I joined the guild, I would come home from our meetings and stay up until 2 or 3 am sewing, trying out the new techniques I learned, testing the tricks I learned, and basking in the happiness of my new found group of friends and knowledge.

I have 6 kids, ages 7 to 17. Most of them love to sew, thankfully. I just wish there were more hours in the day to do it! I am married to Heath, a fabulous man who knows a good gift for me is a quilting item gift. We live in Midway and plan on living happily ever after.

Michele Murdock ~ 2012

Michele Murdock had never really noticed quilts growing up, probably due to the fact that her grandma was a prolific afghan maker. When she was eight, her grandma taught her to crochet a granny square pattern. Understandably, the first bed-sized blanket she made was an afghan.

Her first introduction to quilts was in 2000 when her mother-in-law, Barbara, signed her up for a square in a square class at Whimsy Cottage. It was love at first sight! When she got home from the class, she felt compelled to keep cutting and sewing until the quilt was completed a few days later. Unfortunately, she didn't



Michele Murdock, *continued*. take the second half of the class that taught the proper way to put on a border. As a result she ended up just sewing a piece onto the edge and cutting off the extra. As a result, the edges of her first quilt were wavy!

Michele served as guild president in 2012 and chose “Quilting \$en\$e” as her theme. The monthly guild meetings were based on the idea of making the best use of your fabric. She conducted a yearlong study on the effects of direct sunlight and machine-washing on different qualities of fabric. At the end of the year she brought the fabrics used in the study and showed the results against the same fabric that hadn’t been exposed to washing and sunlight. Some of the lesser quality fabrics were vastly different in just one year’s time of being exposed to the sun. The biggest take-away was how important it is to keep your fabric and quilts out of direct sunlight. Also, the quality of fabric makes a big difference in keeping your quilt true to color over time.

Some of the things she has loved over the years are learning the correct way to do things in order to make a more perfect quilt, being inspired by the quilts others have made, and most importantly, the friends she has made along the way! Michele is currently a member of the Heber, Midway and Utah Quilt Guilds. She loves to make many different styles of quilts, and her current fascination is with “low volume” backgrounds.

Beth Wegner ~ 2013

Beth was born and raised in Portland, Oregon, where she met her husband, Mike. They moved to Rexburg, Idaho, where her husband attended Ricks College, and Beth found herself working at Porters - a local bookstore/craft store. Midway became their home in 1991, where they raised four children.

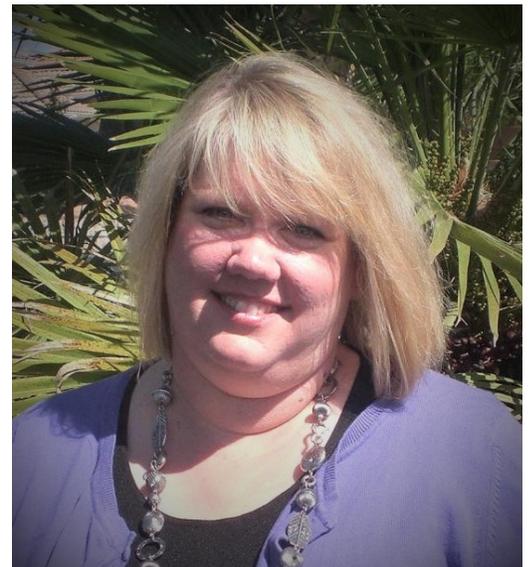
Beth has many fond memories of playing with cousins under her grandmother’s quilting frames while the Moms and Grandma quilted. She started hand-quilting at a very young age helping where she could. As a teen, she made a lot of her own clothes. When her children were young, Beth made little dresses for her girls, but didn’t really enjoy it. Later, a friend got her hooked on

cross stitching, which she really enjoyed for several years, until her last baby. She cried when she realized that she had to make another cross-stitched Christmas stocking.

Beth completed her first “I made it by myself” quilt in 1990. She particularly loves the piecing part – putting the puzzle back together. Almost all of her quilts are hand-quilted unless they are small enough for her to machine quilt. Serving as president both of the Heber Valley Quilters and previously with the Midway Heritage Quilters, Beth enjoys the enthusiasm amongst guild members, and getting to know new people. Her theme for 2013 was “Hoo’ll Quilt With

Me?” and each month participants could earn “Owl Bucks” to spend at the block auction at the end of the year by making a monthly themed quilt block.

Beth currently lives in Rexburg, Idaho again and has found a new



Beth Wegner, continued... circle of friends that meets together weekly at each others' homes to sew all day and have lunch together. She really enjoys learning new skills and the

friendships she's made, though she has made a point of coming back to the HVQ Retreat each year to sew with her old friends once again! Beth's other interests include going

on walks, hiking, camping, reading, singing in choirs, card-making, scrapbooking and spending time with her family, especially her two grandchildren!

Amber Sisson ~ 2014



Sally Siggard ~ 2015

I was raised in a small town in Wyoming. I attended BYU as a music major where I met my husband Michael. We have six beautiful children, three boys and three girls that we have raised in Mississippi, Colorado, Hawaii and Utah. We now just have our two youngest daughters who are both in high school at home with us. We have 6 beautiful granddaughters.

I have had a wonderful life and have met wonderful women everywhere I have lived.



I began my sewing career at the feet of my grandmothers - very literally. I used to sit under my grandma's sewing table as she worked on cute little outfits for me. I remember going to the fabric store with each of my grandmothers. I loved looking at all the beautiful prints and colors. We would always feel the fabrics to see which ones were the

softest. (Which I still do to this day!)

My mother is also a very accomplished seamstress and I grew up sewing. I made myself a lot of clothing, including blue jeans with fancy pockets.

As I got older I wanted to learn to piece quilts. I was intrigued with the beautiful color combinations and endless possibilities. I used to spend hours looking at my grandmother's quilting books.

I finally got to begin my quilting journey in 2009 when I joined the Heber Valley Quilters. Sherron Watson was president that year. I was teaching her flute lessons and admired a beautiful quilted bag she brought to her lessons. She encouraged me to join the guild. She and Cat Beckstead created a quilt that taught us a new technique every month. Beth Wegner helped Timpi Williams and I master each technique. I learned so much that year and every year since.

I was president of the guild in 2015. I created a Row Quilt for that year and had fun teaching a variety of techniques. Deonn Stott helped me with creating the pattern and writing up instructions each month. It was a lot of work but great fun.

I owe most of my quilting skills to the women of the Heber Valley Quilters who share their knowledge and talent so freely. It has been my great pleasure to be part of this guild and I treasure all the friends I have made. I consider myself very lucky to be part of this wonderful guild.

Amy Defa ~ 2016

best!

Barb Murdock ~ 2017

About 20 years ago, my sister took me with her to Houston to the International Quilt Show. I was dumbfounded by what I saw, it was incredible! Up until that point I had only tied quilts.

It did not take long to get me hooked on quilting! I don't make fancy quilts at all, but I do enjoy sewing and making things for family and friends. Volunteering is part of my life and I cannot imagine not doing it.

In my mind I am super young, but my body tells me otherwise. My mother died when I was 22, and I have so missed sharing my life with her. I was an EMT with Wasatch County EMS for 25 years and loved being a part of that group serving others (nope, no retirement pay from that job). We have 4 children, three live near us and the other one lives in Alaska. We have 16 grand children (2 married and one soon to be) and one great granddaughter. All of our kids picked great mates and also love volunteering.



I have been president of the Utah Quilt Guild, Utah Valley Quilt Guild and the Heber Valley Guild, in addition to holding many other positions in those guilds. I'm also a member of the Midway Heritage Quilters and the Kamas Quilt Guild.

I am currently the Summit/Wasatch Area Rep for the Utah Quilt Guild, Secretary for the Kamas Guild and just finished my assignment as Retreat Hostess for this year's Utah Valley Quilt Guild 5-day Retreat at the Zermatt Resort. I love animals, camping, the woods and being with family and friends. I love my quilting friends, they are the best!

Kandy Adams ~ 2018

I grew up in Pennsylvania and as a little kid, I'd go with my mom visiting teaching. We had a long way to go from lady to lady, to visit. All of these women were quilters. I'd watch them, and they were always quilting. Every time we went to visit, they would be quilting. Quilting, quilting, quilting!!! I decided that as I got older I was never going to quilt. It looked so tedious and never-ending to me. I didn't have either grandmother around as a kid to show me a love for quilting...that would come later.

I moved from PA to Utah when I was 17. I met a few people that quilted but I certainly didn't want to....too slow. So I learned to play racquet ball. Then I got married a while later. Seems everyone I met then was a quilter, but I was still not wanting to quilt.

When my daughter Sarah was a teenager, she wanted to make plans for an upcoming

conference. Of all things, she wanted to make a baby quilt for someone we knew that was having a baby. That certainly wasn't my first choice. I tried to convince her to let me teach her to crochet. She was not excited for that. So I went looking for a pattern and how to do this. We made our first quilt. OOOOOOh....it was so sad. I couldn't feel good about giving that to anyone! So we decided we'd make a new one. That was the beginning of what I call my

"lovely obsession". My favorite quilt designs are the Irish Chain and the Dresden Plate. Put those two together and it's the perfect quilt!

I've learned to love good fabric and absolutely love making quilts for my family. They love them and I know they go to good homes to be used and loved. And I LOVE that feeling. I have seven grandchildren and another is on it's way—time to think about making another quilt!

