

## A. New Member Information



## Southwest Florida Quilters Guild (SWFQG)

**Welcome!** We are so pleased that you have joined SWFQG. SWFQG is a non-profit, educational corporation whose mission is to promote quilting through education and fellowship. Our members include a wide range of ages and quilting skill levels.

### The Purpose of the Guild

- Preserve the heritage of quilting
- Be a source of information and inspiration for quilters
- Encourage excellence in quilting
- Be of service to the community
- Provide fellowship to people with a common interest

### About the Guild

The Southwest Florida Quilters Guild was founded in 1993 and traditionally has over 150 members from at least five Southwest Florida counties.

SWFQG is run by a Board of elected officers. Board meetings are generally held on the Saturday preceding the monthly Guild meetings. SWFQG members are welcome to attend Board meetings.

Our annual dues are \$30 and our year runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Nonmembers pay \$5 a meeting,

We request that you wear a name tag (available through membership) at all Guild meetings and activities.

Each member receives a Membership Directory. Other information such as newsletters, upcoming classes, bylaws, etc. are on the website [SWFQG.com](http://SWFQG.com) Password (Terrypark) w/a capital T.

### Membership Benefits

- The Patchwork Primer, a monthly newsletter (via email) detailing all the activities meeting topics, workshops, and events
- The “Blip”, another email for distributing time-sensitive information
- Guild workshops often provided by national teachers
- Knowledge and experience shared with fellow quilters

- A membership card for discounts at some area quilt shops
- A yearly retreat
  - 1) During the Quilt show year, there is a UFO retreat with no national teacher but where members may work on their own projects.
  - 2) In the year following the quilt show, a national teacher is brought in to teach classes for which the cost is covered by the Guild and there are special requirements to attend.

### **Activity Opportunities**

- Attend monthly Guild meeting with programs and fellowship
- Make and donate quilts for children and adults through our Community Service program
- Enjoy educational workshops and programs
- Participate in the Front Porch Quilters. Guild members have the opportunity to sit on the porch of the Edison home the last Saturday of each month and work on personal quilting projects
- Showcase your works in our biennial Quilt Show
- Participate in ongoing activities such as Block of the Month, fat quarter exchanges, etc
- Borrow books from the Guild library
- Attend Fun Day, held from 9:00am – 4:00pm, on the Saturday preceding the monthly Guild meeting

### **As a member of the Southwest Florida Quilters Guild, in addition to paying your annual membership fee, you are encouraged to:**

- Participate in the education programs offered by the Guild. Education is the Guild's way to encourage, promote and preserve the art of quilting
- Support and uphold the Guilds by bylaws and policies
- Volunteer to make at least two comfort quilts per year. These quilts are donated throughout the year to various community organizations that work with people in crisis.
- Be a part of fund raising efforts that the Guild sponsors. This includes selling tickets for the Guild's opportunity quilts, making items for our quilt show boutique and sometimes includes other fund raisers
- Participate in the Guild's quilt shows. You will be asked to sign up for at least one task at the quilt show, such as assisting with judging, setup, breakdown, or manning the show in two hour shifts etc. You are also encouraged to show your work in the Quilt Show, but you are not required to do so
- Take an active and interested part in Guild affairs.
- Observe courtesies.

**The Southwest Florida Quilters Guild** is made up of many people with many personalities and skill levels. The Guild makes every effort to encourage inclusion and

friendliness. We hope that we have made you feel welcome and that you will soon feel comfortable enough to engage members in conversation, take a class, join a committee, and be an active part of the Guild.

So once again welcome to the Southwest Florida Quilters Guild. We hope you will be with us for a long, long time. If you have any questions please feel free contact any of the officers or committee chairs listed on the attached sheet.

**WELCOME to SWFQG!**