

8-20-2020

Final draft

## Cotton Boll Quilt Guild Zoom Meeting Minutes

Meeting was orchestrated by Cory Unruh and participants started trickling in around 6:30.

Meeting called to order at 6:45.

### Participants:

Cindy Grisdela - Guest speaker	Cathy Mc Vay	Flavin Glover
Beth Anderson	Harriet Haughton	Deborah Filmer
Cory Unruh	Becky Berry	Myra Utter
Laura Goudreau	Carol Bradshaw	Susan Peterson
Cindy Reinke	Linda Hayes	Ruth Cope
Debbie Rollins	Kim Scarborough	Brenda Gerbec
Teresa Bookwalter	Mary Ann Hampton	Irene Nelson
Rebekah Crawford	Lola Newman	Michelle Kloeti
Sandy Johnson	Charissa Keller	Doretha Smith

Introduction of Speaker - At 6:45, our guest speaker was introduced - Cindy Grisdela from Virginia. She is a teacher, artist, and creator of original quilt designs without patterns. Cindy grew up in Florida within a family in which many members were creative with a needle. However, there were no quilters. Cindy is a self-taught quilter and has been quilting for 40 years. She was introduced to quilting in college and found herself attracted to the colors, fabrics and textures.

The focus of her presentation was on Improv Quilting. Improv Quilting has no pattern, no template, and self-directed rules or guidelines (with respect to color, size, and style).

She spoke of many ways to use color in her quilts. Her favorite "recipes" for color are:

- Monochromatic - one color family
- Analogous - Two or more colors next to each other on the color wheel
- Complementary - Two or more colors opposite each other on the color wheel
- Anything Goes! - All the colors.

Cindy recommended putting all your scraps in color coded baskets on the cutting table. She also said to keep any leftover blocks. These can become the focus of a future quilt.

There are three ways to design an Improv Quilt. Cindy said one could use one repeating block, units, or a whole quilt approach. There is also no way to make a mistake in an Improv Quilt. According to Cindy, you may make a block that doesn't "fit" or you don't want to use it. Then simply save for a future quilt. Another one of her tips is to ask yourself, "What if?" when arranging on the design wall. The design wall is a very important tool for an Improv Quilt. It is important to step back from your work and look at it. You could even take a photograph and study it that way. Don't be afraid to let it "marinate" for a while.

How to know when your Improv Quilt is finished? Improv quilting is not a quick process. Look for interesting shapes and lines. Also look for balance in design without heavy dark areas or light areas that

can create "holes" in the design. The quilt should have a clear focal point with enough space for it to shine. Repetition of colors and shapes tend to draw the eye around the design. Look for variety in colors and lines. Ask yourself, is the design too predictable, or do you have an element of surprise?

Cindy presented a plethora of information about Improv Quilting. For more information, you can always refer to her website at [www.cindygrisdela.com](http://www.cindygrisdela.com).

After her presentation, she opened the floor to receive questions. After questions were answered, meeting came to a close. Goodbyes were said.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Irene Nelson  
September 4, 2020