



Your Friends, Your Neighbors, Your Community

CCQ Member Biography

Name	Marcie Benveniste
Occupation	Dental Assistant
How might people in the community know you?	I am the CCQ President 2021-2022!

Quilting Background

When did you begin quilting and why?

My Grandmother was a quilter. The old school kind that sewed each and every stitch by hand. She would hand piece blocks and eventually assemble the entire quilt and then put that quilt on a wooden frame that was held together by wrought iron clamps that screwed closed and held the frame. The quilt top was painstakingly stretched and then pinned to the batting and quilt backing onto the frame. This frame was then balanced on dining room chairs and suspended above her dining room table. Several other family members and friends would come over and help her hand quilt the quilt. The women would sit and stitch with needle and thread while chatting away. As a child this was fascinating to watch!

I was taught to piece basic blocks when I was 4 or 5 years old and made many blankets for my dolls. It was not until I moved to Juneau and met Sandra Bleicher that I was drawn to take actual quilting instruction. Sandra and I were co-workers and we decided to take "Beginning Quilting 101" from Raintree Quilting and our instructor was Martha Morris. I have to tell you that Martha was NOT prepared for Sandra and I in her class. Let's just say Sandra and I were not the sit quiet and listen type of students!

I was immediately in awe of Martha and her superb quilting skills. From day #1, she challenged me to get better, more precise with my piecing and I have not looked back since. There were many times that Martha questioned if I would gain the patience to learn to take the time to become more precise in each aspect of the quilting process, while not fearing the unknown. Sometimes in quilting you just must be fearless and take a chance and try something new! My life's goal in quilting is to be a quilter like Martha Morris!

How do you like to express yourself through quilting?

My two favorite parts of quilting is challenging myself with new techniques and the amazing people you meet that are quilters! Quilting challenges you in so many ways and you are always learning something new! The most dear and wonderful friends in my life are mostly my quilting friends!

What do you do with your quilts?
Describe your first quilt and when you made it?

Most every quilt I make is a gift for a family member or friends.

My Very first quilt is called "Sunset" which I completed in September 2012 and is on display at this show.

This is a photo of one of my favorite blocks: the New York Beauty

