

Quilt: #188 Mariner's Compass

Quilter: Joy duBois

Sponsors: Joy & Jere duBois

A Mariner's Compass quilt block is installed on the shores of Lake Hartwell, on the wood-working shop of Jere duBois at 880 Cartee Road, south of Seneca, SC. The original quilter is the accomplished Joy duBois, whose workshop lies in the walkout basement of their beautiful retirement home. Her quilts decorate every room of the spacious home and are a sight to see and enjoy.

Joy relates that her husband has always hankered after a Mariner's Compass, but for years she told him, "No, that's too hard." Not after she took a class at Heirlooms and Comforts with her friend, Judy Lardiere. They did their first paper piecing and each of them made a beautiful Mariner's Compass quilt. Joy gave hers to Jere for his birthday.

Joy is now hooked on piecing, and applique, and color selection, and 1930s reproduction fabrics! Sounds like a quilter. Visiting her workspace is a delight to the eyes, with many quilts in various stages of production.

Moving south from St. Charles, Illinois forty-seven years ago, Joy and Jere opened a convenience store on Old Clemson Highway in what is now a fraternity house. They lived upstairs, while Joy ran the business and Jere worked as a real estate broker for Coldwell-Banker. After moving to South Carolina, Joy decided to make a quilt for her daughter from old dresses she wore as a child. She planned to gift the quilt to her for her high school graduation, but shares that it was actually completed for her graduation from university. She did discover the Heirlooms and Comforts Quilt Shop during that time, and took many classes there throughout the years.

Joy has been an inspiration to the Trail. You can see reproductions of her beautiful quilting at Six Mile Park, the Greater Pickens Chamber of Commerce and Q Salon on East Main Street in Pickens. Joy has worked with many quilters in the area.

For more information on the history of the Mariner's Compass pattern, refer to quilt #67.