

Some inspirational thoughts from Peggy Barkle...

I am a quilter, designer, teacher and long arm machine quilter. This wonderful art form possesses me, expresses me, inspires me and sustains me.

I named my business "*A Collective Effort Quilting*" because I believe none of us make it through each day or find the time to do what we love without the "Collective Effort" and support of many we know and some we have yet to meet... whether they feed us when we forget to eat, live with the layers of dust on the furniture and the laundry overflowing in the washroom. Some may ask a question that makes us think and reflect which can then lead you down a path of unexpected design, or perhaps they share some of their work with us and through their use of cut, color, and design... their work, in turn, inspires ours.

When first learning, we all focus our energy on learning all the "right" procedures for quilting, perfecting our quarter-inch seam, keeping our points sharp and our seam intersections in the same hemisphere. These are the building blocks that enable us to explore all kinds of quilting and to take risks in expressing our *creative visions*... and we all express ourselves creatively when we quilt. Even if we choose a traditional block, every time we select a fabric we express our creative vision in what we are making.

I want to *support* you, I want to *inspire* you and I want to *challenge* you. I want you to stand *proud* of everything you make and offer no apologies, because the work we did yesterday will inspire our work today and, in turn, will nurture our work tomorrow. Whether you're a beginner or an advanced quilter, when we stop learning we stop being. I *believe* one of the most cherished parts of a quilt is the *memories* created in every stitch, the *friendships* we value and care for, the world's problems we solve when we're together, and the legacy we leave behind when we're gone.

I hope you have found some support in my words and some inspiration in my quilts. I hope we will have the pleasure of meeting one day, but until then, just remember "*Always Enjoy the Journey*", because it's all a journey.