

My Quilting Bio Albert (Al) Feldman

My family has had an intimate relationship to fabric. My grandfather, who owned a fabric store in Bayonne NJ, sold remnants that he purchased in the garment district of NY. My mother was an expert seamstress who worked in the garment industry and who did custom work in our home.

I am a retired physicist. In my youth I lived in Brooklyn NY where I attended elementary school and high school. I received a BS degree at the City College of New York and a PhD degree at the University of Chicago majoring in physics. Roz and I were married just before moving to Chicago. After graduate school Roz and I moved to the DC area where I worked at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, formerly the National Bureau of Standards. There I conducted research in solid state physics and materials science.

After retirement, I sampled various activities and eventually became interested in machine embroidery due to Roz's purchase of a computerized embroidery sewing machine. In order to produce my own designs I acquired two computer programs for digitizing machine embroidery. This led to my purchase of a commercial embroidery machine on which I produced mostly scientific and Judaic embroidered items, such as tee shirts and wall hangings. These I sold at various craft shows.

I became interested in quilting when Roz and I took quilting classes at Oasis, a senior learning program. After learning the basics, I decided to join some of the quilt guilds in the area, eventually settling on three. I now use my embroidery software to design my quilting and most of my quilts have been quilted on my embroidery machine. Most recently I purchased a computerized long-arm machine to more easily quilt larger quilts. In addition to my own quilts, I quilt for Roz.

My quilts fall into the category of art quilts and the quilt sew-out is computerized. I design all of my quilting patterns. The majority of the quilts I have made are whole cloth quilts although I have been employing a moderate amount of fused applique in my newer quilts. Most recently I have experimented by designing a panel quilt, having the fabric printed commercially, and then embellishing it with textile paint after quilting it.

I particularly enjoy showing my quilts at Show and Tell, at guild sponsored quilt shows, and at local and national quilt venues. My quilts have been exhibited at national quilt shows and have won several awards.