

1116-K5-2496 **Mary D. Shepherd*** (msheprd@nwmissouri.edu), Maryville, MO 64468. *Drunkard's Path and other quarter circle quilting patterns.*

The folk art of quilting includes some beautiful mathematics. Most quilt blocks, the building blocks of quilt tops are squares and involve straight line seams. An interesting variety of quilts are ones with portions of circles and have seams that are not straight lines. One of the older types of block, called Drunkard's Path, involves two contrasting colors (red and white, or blue and white being very common), one color is a quarter circle (in one of the corners of a square block) and the other color is the remainder of the square block. A second type of block is actually called in mathematics circles, a Truchet tile. It is a square with two quarter circles joining midpoints of adjacent sides. This Truchet tile block is considered a variation of the Drunkard's Path block. This past summer, while investigating and attempting to understand and classify quilt patterns using the Drunkard's Path blocks, I found a quote about a specific quilt in the pattern called "Snake in a Hollow Maze" that used the Truchet tile block. The quote stated the directions for setting the blocks in a maze pattern were carefully hoarded and passed from quiltmaker to quiltmaker. This talk will classify Drunkard's Path quilt patterns and demystify creations of the maze patterns using a Truchet tile block. (Received September 22, 2015)