

Threads That Bind

Issue No. 1

January 2012

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

Hope you all had a blessed Christmas holiday. Wheeeee!:: cookies, ham, turkey, shopping, wine, martinis, pie, candy, ornaments, wrapping paper, scissors, tape, kids so excited to see what Santa brought, paper ripping and flying, giggles, laughter, lots of smiles.....

What does this spell??? L O V E

Love for family, friends, and L I F E!

Wishing all of you a very blessed, healthy, prosperous New Year!

Time to put our thinking caps back on for a new project for the year. Calling out to all who would like to be part of our board—would you like to hold an office to give fresh new ideas to our guild? Nominations are coming up and anyone wanting to be nominated, PLEASE contact me so that I can honor your request. In February, we will be voting, and any nominations that come to the floor at that meeting will also be accepted.

So....

PLEASE, WE NEED YOU!!!!

Have you been wanting to add something or take away something from our guild? Well, here is the time to step forward. FRESH faces and ideas are SO welcomed! You can nominate yourself or a friend who might be shy.

See you at the meeting on January 16.

Have a SAFE and happy New Year! 2012!!!!!! An exciting year it will be!

Sincerely, Bridget, Co-President

ph# 209-722-0216, cell# 209-769-7913
email: nosemartinelli@sbcglobal.net



Guild Meeting—1/16
Challenge fabric
will be available
for purchase

Marie Strait
Workshop—1/21

Board Meeting—1/23



Meetings

When:

Third Monday of each month (unless otherwise noted)

Where:

Public Health Auditorium
260 E. 15th St., Merced

Time:

Setup - 6:30
Meeting starts - 6:45
Call to Order - 7:00

Come early for library tickets, membership items, chatting, etc.





Officers

Co-Presidents

*Bridget Martinelli
Lori Nelson*

Secretary

Judith Dake

Treasurer

Janetta Gibson

Membership

Diane Swenson

Programs

Susan Hammon

Information Services

Carol Berry

Quilt Show Chairman

Priscilla Hise

Opportunity Quilt Chairman

Louise King



Quilter's Embrace December Distribution

December is our BIG distribution month, saving quilts through the year so that we can give a "one-time" donation to certain organizations. These organizations are:

HyLond Health Care Center and Franciscan Convalescent Hospital, who each received 12 quilts and 50 wheel chair bags

Salvation Army - 20 quilts

Fresno Veterans Hospital - 12 quilts, two afghans and 50 wheel chair bags

One quilt was also given to a CIWP Client

Regular quarterly recipients received:

CPS - 15 quilts

Health Care Center New Mother Program - 10 quilts and one afghan

Mercy - 15 quilts, 20 receiving blankets, 26 premie blankets and eight premie hats

A lot of members have helped with donations, sewing and quilting and enabled QE to meet its quarterly donations. We thank everyone for all their efforts.

Season's Greetings ~ Kimberly and Virginia

**Quilt Sizes for
Quilters
Embrace**

Small Quilts: 40" x 50"
Larger Lap Quilts: 56" x 70"

All donations are greatly appreciated.
Finished quilts of all sizes always accepted.

Opportunities

Happy New Year, Quilters!

I'm looking forward to what the new year has in store for us: new members, new workshops, new visitors, new ideas, new Opportunity Quilt!

The Opportunity Quilt is another beautiful work of art. Although still in the making, it will be completed soon.

Once again we will be selling tickets and I think it will be another easy sell. We just need to think of some exciting places to take the quilt and sell lots of tickets. If you have a venue in mind that we can take the quilt to, please let me know, or if you want to take the quilt to a venue, I have the rack and other items used for selling tickets.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year! ~Louise

PROGRAMS

Dear Quilters,

It is hard to believe that it is 2012!!! We have some wonderful programs and workshops coming up in this new year. The program for the January and February meetings will be short workshop/demos; the same program was enjoyed by all last year. We need to have eight demos and I have six demonstrators signed up. If you have a short 10-minute idea that you would like to share, please call or email me. I have two spots I need to fill.

Marie Strait will be in town for a workshop on Saturday, January 21, to be held at our regular meeting place. The workshop will be from 9:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. Many of you have signed up, so I need you to send me a check made out to GQG for \$30 or bring it to the meeting on January 16th. I am going to put the supply list at the end of this report.

Peggy Martin from San Diego will be here for a workshop on March 3rd. Her workshop will be Quick-Strip Paper Piecing - New York Beauty. I have received a sample of her work to show you and I will have sign-ups for that workshop at our January meeting.

I hope all of you have health and happiness in this New Year.

Happy Quilting, Susan

**WORKSHOP
SUPPLIES**

Supply List for Workshop with Marie Strait - Pineapple Quilt

This supply list is intended to be a general guide to what you will need. It is built on a 30-block quilt, 60"x 72" before borders. You might decide to place your blocks on point or add borders which will change your finished size.

Choose a main fabric—2.5 yds. Choose a strong fabric that will set your color scheme and/or subject theme (i.e. food). Do not choose a stripe or a directional print that reads as a stripe.

You need scraps of light and dark value, the more fabrics the better. These strips are cut at 1-1/2". You are welcome to cut in advance of the class so you can start on block construction faster in class. If you want all of your lights from one fabric, plan on 1-1/2 yards.

Supplies:

A rotary cutting ruler with a 45 degree line marked on it
Rotary cutting equipment
Neutral thread
Sewing machine
Basic sewing supplies



Marie's Hawaiian Pineapple

Let the Sunshine In

If you know a guild member who could use a note of cheer, a get well wish, or has an occasion to celebrate, contact Jeanne Kimball, our Sunshine Chairman, at 358-4250, and she will send a card with our good wishes.



Sewing Epiphany

by Robyn Echols

Yup! I had one of those a couple of days ago -- an absolute insight!

It all started a couple of months ago when I got my sewing machine serviced. Just about the time I was ready to pay and leave, the repair guy fixed me with an accusatory glare and asked, "You aren't using one of those plastic tables with fold-down legs for your sewing table, are you?" Well, yes, I was. Or, more to the point, Yeah! It's a nice big work surface and is a lot more stable than my card table or a t.v. tray. "Get a sturdier table," he advised me. "Otherwise, the vibration on the table will knock your machine out of adjustment in no time at all."

That is all well and good, but where did I have a sturdy table floating around that would be the right height? The sewing cabinet with fold-out leaves I had purchased several years ago has a support bar across the bottom that does not allow my task chair to get close enough to the table surface. It does not take me long to develop severe back pain when I sit leaning forward at a 45 degree angle while sewing. That cabinet was quickly converted into a storage cabinet for my fat quarters and UFOs (unfinished fabric objects). My office desk was not available.

I decided a handcrafted computer desk we acquired would work. Very sturdy, a large work area, and some shelving for supplies and -- more UFOs. It took a major reorganizing my sewing area, but Buck and I got it in place.

There I have it, my sewing area, complete with obligatory sleeping cat and everything covered to keep the fur and dander off current projects so the area only needs a minor clean, not a major clean, anytime I want to sew. The only problem is that shelf hits me in the knees when the rest of me is about six inches away from the table. Buck is going to cut four inches out the shelf on the right, but until that happens, I find myself still leaning forward while I sew.



Where is the epiphany? I realized, after hours of pain from rolling my back that one of the reasons I could not sit up straight while stitching was not because I could not get my body close enough to the table. I could not see.

I have bifocals, but could use trifocals. I prefer to use an old pair of readers for my middle "focal". I need to lean forward to get my face mere inches above the presser foot for a clear view out of the close-up part of the lens. On the other hand, if I sit up straight, I cannot not see the detail clearly with the distant part of the lens.

I shoved my bifocals on top of my head, put on the old readers I usually use for computer work, and -- instant-presto! Problem solved.

The above article was reprinted from Robyn's blog: <http://robynsecho.blogspot.com/?v=0>

Library Book Review

Happy New Year to each and every one of you...health and happiness to you all and your families!

This month I do not have books to review but rather DVDs. Yes, DVDs...and they are terrific! I had a blast viewing them and learned a TON of tips. Can I say WOW?!



The first reviewed was "Pet Picture Quilts Made Easy" with Faith Cleary. This workshop took the seemingly difficult arena of pictorial quilts to easy. Using stabilizers and applique techniques to create quilt pictures of our furry friends is quite easy! So I tried it! And it is fun, fun, fun. Please, check out the DVD and see for yourself.

Now, many of us have been asking for help with our machine quilting...and "Creative Machine Quilting" with Elin Waterston is the DVD workshop to view. The help in this DVD is on a beginning level, using free motion and walking foot techniques. Again, the materials needed we have in our "studios".

Next reviewed is "Machine Stitching and Painting Quilts" with Ana Buzzalino. Ever thought you might like to try your hand at painting on fabric? This DVD shows us how unbelievably easy the process is. And shows that any one of us can do it...just let go of the preconceived notion that we are not talented enough...and the demonstration of the quilting techniques shows that the blending of the traditional and the "art" can be had by each one of us.

"Print, Design, Compose" with Lynn Krawczyk is just waaaay too much fun. She shows us how to let go and open the mind to design possibilities. She demonstrates screen printing, soy wax batik, and the use of freezer paper stencils. By demonstrating these she allows us to figure out how to use what we have readily available in our homes for design elements. She uses several different types of fabrics as a base for the quilts. And even shows us how to affix quilts to fabric covered canvas as well as different hanging methods.

The next workshop DVD is "Design, Paint, & Stitch" with Judy Coates Perez. This workshop is a slightly advanced discussion and demonstration of wholecloth art quilts from beginning to finish. She discusses the materials needed, the proper tools for the best results, with a review of types and uses of paints. And, finally, she demonstrates the planning, marking, and quilting techniques she uses to garner her award-winning status. This is a great DVD workshop.

Last but not nearly least, "Designing Landscape Quilts" with Judith Trager. Oh my goodness this DVD is compelling and I could not take my eyes off it. Even had to view it multiple times! Ms. Trager shows us how she plans her quilts, reviews important aspects of landscape quilts: how to sandwich your quilt, how she appliques on her quilt, how she free form quilts her pieces, how she thread paints. And then she discusses adding the hanging sleeve and finally binding the quilt. Mystery solved...

All of these DVDs are filmed on the set of "Quilting Arts TV" and provide us with even more inspiration as the set is beautifully arranged but not so fussy as to take away from the demonstration.

I hope you enjoy these DVDs. They will provide us with yet another aspect of the quilting experience. They will be available at our next meeting on January 16, 2012.

Love your quilting experiences!!
Carolyn Ghearing
artquilter1950@yahoo.com
209-756-0878 cell phone

Quilters Embrace Contribution/Donation List—January to December 2011

Thank you all for donations of your time, energy and money to such a worthy cause in our communities. Apologies if we have left off anyone's name. Please let us know and we will update our records.

Kimberly and Virginia

Sew Days (Feb/May 2011)

Judith Dake
Robyn Echols
Carolyn Ghearing
Janetta Gibson
Priscilla Hise
Sara Martindale
Lori Nelson
Linda Royal
Janeen Salvadori
Celeste Simonsen
Janet Swartz
Virginia Wagner
Mabel Willmon

2011 Quilt Show QE Volunteers

Barbara Blodget*
Priscilla Bridges*
Mary Brown
Carolyn Ghearing
Alexis Sullivan*
Virginia Wagner
Shirley Williams*
*Non-Guild Members

Kits/Quilt Tops Completed

Nikki Aldrich
Susan Anderson
Sherry Boyer
Mary Brown
Eleanor Carlos
Etta Jean Costa
Judith Dake
Ida Escola
Carolyn Ghearing
Janetta Gibson
Melba Hamlin
Kim Heyer
Priscilla Hise
Claudia Kalmin
Dorothy Kielty
Jeanne Kimball
Marcia McCarthy
Linda McCollister
Dianna McGinnis

Sara Martindale
Jane Matthews
Pauline Mayo
Darby Minturn
Linda Royal
Janeen Salvadori
Barbara Scott
Celeste Simonsen
Janet Swartz
Dale Wagner
Rhoda Williams
Mabel Willmon
Kathleen Yowell

Finished Quilts Donated

Susan Anderson
Ilene Craig
Pat Fryer
Janetta Gibson
Marcia McCarthy
Lori Nelson
Linda Royal
Marie Strait
Dale Wagner
Kimberly Walterscheid

Fabric Donations

Cheron Adrian
Carol Berry
Phyllis Boyle
Susan Dowhaniak
Robyn Echols
Margaret Freed
Carolyn Ghearing
Melba Hamlin
Susan Hammon
Claudia Kalmin
Barbara Keeton
Dianna McGinnis
Sara Martindale
Jane Matthews
Paula Miller
Karen Mous
Lori Nelson

Joan Rodriguez
Linda Royal
Janeen Salvadori
Alison Scott
Marilyn Scott
Billie Shewey
Celeste Simonsen
Virginia Wagner
Kimberly Walterscheid
Lora Wheeler

Long-Arm Quilting Machines

Merry Quilters (Mary Ann Dailley and Mary Lou Dryssen)
Lori Nelson
Pat Skaggs

Binding

Susan Anderson
Carolyn Ghearing
Janetta Gibson
Marcia McCarthy
Jane Matthews
Lori Nelson
Ardene Shaeffer

Receiving Blankets/Preemies

Janet Swartz

Other Quilt Tops Donated

Susan Anderson
Phyllis Boyle
Judith Dake
Janetta Gibson
Lori Nelson
Dale Wagner
Virginia Wagner
Lora Wheeler

Miscellaneous (quilters, cutting/
binding prep, kits, etc.)

Mary Brown
Carolyn Ghearing
Janetta Gibson
Louise King
Pauline Mayo
Lori Nelson
Linda Royal
Janet Swartz
Dale Wagner
Virginia Wagner

Wheelchair Bags

Dudie Arzamendi
Phyllis Boyle
Mary Brown
Kimberly Farnham
Janetta Gibson
Susan Hammon
Dorothy Kielty
Louise King
Jane Matthews
Lori Nelson
Joan Rodriguez
Linda Royal
Janeen Salvadori
Barbara Scott
Celeste Simonsen
Virginia Wagner

Volunteers – Non-Guild Members

Phoebe Benjamin – finished quilts, fabric donations
Vicky Eisenhart – fabric donations
Patrice Elrich – finished quilts, fabric donations
Fred Farnham – sew days, cooking
Kimberly King – kit prep
Betty Viorel – kits, binding prep, quilting, binding, fabric donations
Susan Walker – Cloth & Quilts long-arm quilter, binding prep, batting and fabric donations

Interest Groups—open to all members

Happy Stitchers

Contact Dorothy Kielty for information about Happy Stitchers.

Handquilting

Contact Janetta Gibson for information about this group.

MEMBER NEWS

Welcome to 2012 and welcome to new member Faye Sutton. Faye joined the guild after meeting so many friendly quilters at our 2011 quilt show. Faye likes to read, quilt, cross stitch, tat, knit, crochet, and needlepoint. Whew! She would like to learn how to spin and make dolls.

We wish you all a Happy New Year and lots of quilting fun.

Diane Swenson



Money Matters

2011 has just ended and we're beginning to think about receipts for income tax reporting. We're not the IRS, but I hope you are also thinking about any expenses you incurred on behalf of the guild. Our financial year will close the end of February and I will be preparing to turn over the books to your new treasurer. I'd really like to have it all spunky clean so she doesn't change her mind about accepting the office. So please take a minute to think about things you may have purchased for the guild and gather up any receipts or bills that need to be included in this past year's business. It's easier to record it now than after the books are closed. You may send them to me via email, regular mail, or bring them to the next meeting.

Janetta Gibson, Treasurer

February Birthdays

Mary Brown	2-Feb	Debbie Lineaweaver	16-Feb
Mary Kaplan	8-Feb	Janice Scerbo	18-Feb
Dianna McGinnis	8-Feb	Yvonne Jackson	21-Feb
Kim Heyer	12-Feb	Louise King	23-Feb
		Mary Ann Dailey	26-Feb



CLASSIFIED

ADS

PAGES 7 AND 8



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209 / 722-3593
FAX 209 / 722-9912
dougmcnamarasports@sbcglobal.net

Gateway Quilters' Guild

PO Box 3793

Merced, CA 95340

E-mail: newsletter@gatewayquiltersguild.org



Classifieds



701 W Olive Ave.
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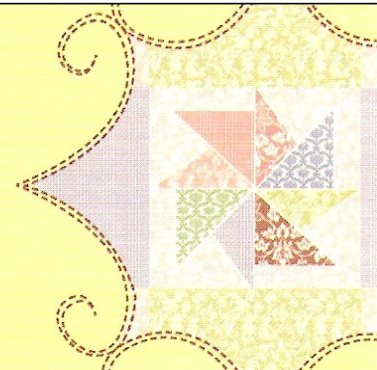
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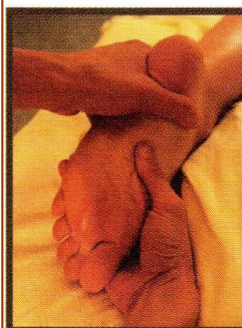
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