

Crazy Quilters Quilt Guild

No. 307

www.crazyquilters.org

February 2017

From the President

Karen Hartzell

Happy New Year to all of you. It seems like it was just yesterday we were concerned about Y2K. Now that is in the distant past and we can look happily forward to new adventures in the quilting world.

This year promises exciting new ventures in quilting. We have Bethanne and her cast of volunteers, diligently working on the next raffle quilt. I'm sure it will be a beauty. The sit-and-sew events on Saturdays are becoming ever more popular. If you joined the guild recently, these events make for a great venue for meeting new friends, while longtime members can get caught up on extended projects and socialize with fellow quilters. Come out and enjoy. We also have an exciting new challenge to work on. I can't wait to see the works this challenge inspires.

With the new year also come New Year's resolutions. I found these inspiring resolutions on an internet blog some time ago, but unfortunately can no longer locate the blog to identify the original author. Let's see if her suggestions are as motivating to you as they are to me.

Doing something well is tremendously satisfying and fun. Doing something even better than you did it before is even *more* satisfying, and *more* fun. Fun is good. Success always feels better than failure.

1. Practice Makes Perfect. We've all heard this before. Repetition will certainly make you feel more comfortable with the process, and familiarity with the basics of quilting, through practice, can build a secure foundation for learning more complex skills. Practice is good, and you should practice with sufficient frequency that you can actually call yourself a quilter, but you need more. You need...

2. Feedback. Feedback requires evaluation of some sort, either by you or by a knowledgeable bystander. Feedback at the basic level is comparing the quilt you're making now to the one you just finished. Does it look better to you? Worse? How so? Feedback can be looking at the diagram in Step #4 of the pattern and checking to make sure yours looks like theirs. (And trying it again if it doesn't.)

The Crazy Quilters Quilt Guild

meets the first Tuesday of every month
except November at
The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit
3461 Cedar Crest Boulevard
Emmaus, PA 18049
7:00pm

info@crazyquilters.org

www.facebook.com/crazyquiltersquiltguildemmauspa

That redo often involves doing something differently. If you are tweaking the process, feedback is examining the outcome to see if there work in is a difference and if that difference is positive or negative. Feedback at the highest level is putting your the hands of a quilt judge who will evaluate your quilt against quilts made by your peers and against an established standard. Think of feedback as an awareness of where you are in relation to where you want to go. So where do you want to go? What would help *you* become a better quilter?

3. Define Better. You can't get better if you don't know what better looks like. You need to go out there and look at quilts! Find quilts that inspire you. Recognize them as examples of journey over time. You can't fix everything at once. More importantly, it's a journey that requires change.

4. Embrace Change. I know there is comfort in doing things the same way we have always done them. But, make quilts the same way, over and over again, and it is unlikely you will become a better quilter. Growth and learning require change, and change is risky. Try a different color combination; attempt a new technique; experiment with a tool you've never tried before. It could be wonderful, or horrible, or somewhere in between. The quilt could turn out less than you hoped for or better than you ever expected. Sometimes you just don't know until you try it. So, try! If the fear of failure is overwhelming, lower your expectations. Instead of making a prizewinner, make a baby quilt. Knowing the finished quilt will be barfed on might make it easier for you to risk experimenting with design, construction, color, or technique. So, step out of your comfort zone and give yourself permission to experiment.

(President's Report continued on p 2.)

5. Be Gentle With Yourself. Never before have quilters had so many opportunities to become better at their craft, nor more people telling them how to do it! Magazines, books, guilds, quilt shops, blogs, videos, quilt shows, workshops, television shows, list serves, newsletters, smart phone apps, webinars, and radio shows all tempt us with beautiful quilts, tools and techniques, patterns and advice. Take advantage of what is available, but don't let it overwhelm you. Seek advice, but pick your own path. And remember, it's nearly impossible to go from quilts you let the cat have her kittens on to Best of Show without experiencing a learning curve of some kind. Set reasonable goals and, above all, be gentle with yourself. Make sure your inner voice speaks to you with the same patience and compassion you would speak aloud to a young child learning the same skill. You don't want to be your own worst enemy. After all, *becoming* a better quilter is supposed to be as much fun as *being* a better quilter.

Reminders: The March membership meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. March 7. Bethanne's "Inkleque" program will follow our business session. The next meeting of the guild's board is set for 6 p.m. March 14 at Karen Hartzell's house.

Community Service

Kathie Laposata

Our February meeting will be devoted to making pillowcases. The Community Service Committee members had a fun day this fall getting the coordinated fabrics together to make kits that are ready to sew. February is always a fun meeting because you are up and about and get a chance to chat with other members while you work. Use it as a chance to get to know someone new. A few members are bringing sewing machines and sergers, but we need plenty of help for non-sewing parts of the process. If you aren't familiar with the 'burrito' method of making pillowcases, take a few minutes to watch the following YouTube video that shows how it is done.

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=Free+Pillowcase+Instructions&&view=detail&mid=59DABE9F05DA0DA0970359DABE9F05DA0DA09703&FORM=VRDGAR>

We'll also collect any pillowcases you've made at home. Remember to wash the completed pillowcases in unscented detergent. If you don't have that, simply return them unwashed to me and I will see that they are washed and packaged. Thanks.

At the January meeting, Lorraine Bujnowski distributed directions for making blocks for two veterans' quilts. Please return the completed blocks to Lorraine at the February meeting, or the March meeting at the latest. If you took directions, but are unable to make a block, let Lorraine know so that we can make a replacement.

Finally, it is never too soon to start work on Camp Erin quilts (about 50 x 70 inches) for kids attending a bereavement camp this summer. Collection for them will be at the May meeting.

Programs and Workshops

Julie Davidovich and Donna Gasser

COMING on January 3, 2017

Bethanne Nemesh, Inkleque Demo and Mini Workshop

Bethanne will present examples and demo this "oh-so-fun" fabric dying technique. After the lecture/demo, participants are welcome to try their hand at a small project. Kits can be ordered at the February meeting for \$15 (see Robin Steinhof).



2018 UFO Drawing

Julie Davidovich

Do you have a project that you started prior to 2016? If so, dust it off and get it done by the January 2018 meeting. What does “done” mean? It means it is quilted, bound and ready to be shown at the **January 2018 UFO No-More Shown & Tell**. The quilt must be at least 12” square.

To keep you focused, fill out the attached pledge and return to Julie Davidovich via email at julia.davidovich@volvo.com or in-person at the March 2017 meeting. Pledge must be received by me no later than March 31, 2017. This pledge and your completed number of UFO(s) will become your ticket(s) for a drawing to win an edge-to-edge longarm treatment for up to a twin size quilt top (valued up to \$130). Each completed UFO = one ticket. The drawing will take place at the January 2018 guild meeting.

Hospitality

Diana Defanti

Thanks to the following members (several were very new to the guild) who provided a very healthy refreshment spread for the January meeting. They were Judy Warmkessel, Wendye Anttila, Leah Gehman, Nancy Ayers, Valerie Lee, Mercedes Gurniak, and Jane Merkel. Hospitality is a great way to meet and chat with members new and old.

February volunteers are Kim Orndorf, Cindy Fantasia, Julie McDonell, Maria Hance, Betsy Golden, Diane Pesola, and Paula Jacobus. A reminder will be sent by phone or email the week prior to the meeting.

Library

Michele McLaughlin

No report.

Blocks and Swaps

Kathie Laposata

Denise Riemer won the January 2017 drawing for the blue and white Twin Sisters blocks. Fifty blocks were made by nine members. Thanks to everyone who participated. The 2017 Blocks and Swaps will not be a lottery style like the past few years, but will be a swap among members who have signed up to make blocks for each other during the year.

Honey Bees

Jackie Leipert

The Honey Bees will be hibernating this winter.

Worker Bees

Jackie Leipert

The Worker Bees will be hibernating this winter.

Quilters Studio

Julie Borden

No Quilters Studio in February.

Membership

Roberta Whitcomb and Judy Walker

We welcome four new and two renewing members! Our new members are Nicole Folino, Tina Middlecamp, Samantha Cetrulo Miller, and Janet Tryson. Wendy Anttila and Judy Warmkessel renewed their memberships.

Nicole Folino is a long-time seamstress, traditional and modern quilter, and has owned an online fabric shop—1choice4quilting.com—for 5 years, with Moda, Aurifil, and Creative Grid. **Tina Middlecamp** works for MP Outfitters as an embroiderer and loves quilting, crafting, crochet, and embroidery, and looks forward to CQ community service.

Samantha Cetrulo Miller fits in her two dogs, reading, sewing, walking, punch needle and other crafts after her busy days as an office manager. **Janet Tryson** is brand new to the LV from 25 years near Albany, NY, and 15 years with a guild where she was on nearly every committee there! Loyal to her second-hand Bernina 1530, she still fondly remembers her 70s Singer Genie. **Welcome all!**

Special thanks go to Valerie Lee, Laurie Murray, and Karen Hartzell for making sure the membership table went smoothly in January, when 63 attended the meeting, and a weekly agenda diary, direct from the Houston Show, was won by the lucky name tag wearer!

February Birthdays: Enjoy your special day!

Feb. 5 Marsha Heimann
Feb. 8 Cindy Christman
Feb. 8 Linda Schmoyer
Feb. 12 Debbie Heeps
Feb. 14 Valerie Johnson
Feb. 17 Shawnda Weida

Feb. 18 Kimberly Orndorf
Feb. 18 Ruth Skinner
Feb. 20 Janet Yandrisevits
Feb. 21 Robyn McBrearty
Feb. 23 Pam Gardner

Show and Tell

Diane Pesola

January show and Tell participants were Donna Gasser, Karen Hartzell, Nancy Skok, Pat Piasecki, Lizzie Riccaboni, Lorraine Bujnowski, Sharon Yurkanin, and Robin Steinhofner.

Crazy Quilters 2017 Challenge - "A Solid Challenge"

Denise Wagner

We will again celebrate friendly competition with our annual display of member challenge quilts at our September 2017 Pot Luck meeting. We will move our meeting to Faith Presbyterian Church on 2nd & Cherokee Streets in Emmaus. Faith's Fellowship Hall has a much better venue to display our quilts.

Guidelines:

Create a quilt using at least two colors that are of true solid fabrics.

The quilt must measure 30" wide by 39" long.

Your quilt must be quilted.

A 3" hanging sleeve is helpful but not required.

Quilt Creation/ Raffle Quilt 2017

Bethanne Nemesh

No report

Trip News

Jane Merkel

Ladies, please give careful consideration to joining us for the AQS New Fall Quilt Show to Paducah. So many of you over the last few months have expressed a desire to attend a show in Paducah AND the right arrangements have fallen in place. I suspect it will be a spectacular event though it will not have all the bells and whistles of the April show. But the whole town is behind this event and there will be much to do. I do not do these trips every year so if you were holding off, reconsider. Also, I need to give a non refundable deposit to the hotel by the end of Feb. or lose all the rooms, thus I need you to commit to the trip by Feb. 1, 2017 (that is before our next meeting). We will make stops going down and returning as well as schedule activities while there. Feel free to share this info with your other quilting friends. Contact me with any questions. Hope to hear from you.

Twenty-fifth Anniversary Gifts

Judy Walker

There are 16 of these gifts leftover from the Sept. Anniversary party. If you did not attend the Sept. meeting and would like to have one of these gifts, which were given to all members who attended, please see Judy Walker at the February meeting. (First come, first served.)

Calendar of Events from the editor

February 23-26, 2017, Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival – Mancuso, Hampton Roads Convention Center Hampton Roads, Virginia
<https://www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/mid-atlantic-quilt-festival/>

March 2-4, 2017, View over 100 quilts to be sold at the Pennsylvania Relief Sale, proceeds benefit Mennonite Central Committee, Shop Quilters' Corner, MRC Warehouse, Material Resources Center, 517 W. Trout Run Road, Ephrata, PA.

March 2-4, 2017, The Quilt and Sewing Fest of NJ, Garden State Exhibit Center, Somerset, NJ,
www.quiltfest.com.

March 18-19, 2017, Quilt Expo 2017
Baltimore Heritage Quilters Guild
Baltimore, MD 21208, baltimorequilters.com

March 24-25, Homemakers Country Quilters, "Quilts of Many Colors" Quilt Show, Montgomery County Penn State Extension, Collegeville, PA,
www.homemakerscountryquilters.com.

March 29- April 1, 2017, AQS Quilt Show, Lancaster, PA, Convention Center, www.QuiltWeek.com.

March 31- April 1, PA Relief Sale Quilt Auction – Harrisburg Farm Show Complex, www.pareliefsale.org

March 21-24, Lancaster Quilt Show, The Continental Inn, www.lancasterquiltshow.webs.com.

April 26-29, 2017, AQS Quilt Week, Paducah, www.quilt-show.com.

April 27-29, 2017 Three Rivers Quilters 2017 Quilt Show, Washington, PA 15301

Penn Oaks Quilt Guild Quilt Show, For the Love of Quilting IX, May 5-6, 2017, www.pennoaksquilters.org.

Guild Calendar from the editor

Tuesday, February 7, 2017 - **Guild Meeting**, 6:30p.m., LCHS.

Monday, March 14, 2017 - **Board Meeting**, 6pm, Karen Hartzell's house.

Guild Officers

President: Karen Hartzell
First Vice-President (Programs): Judy Davidovich and Donna Gasser
Second Vice-President (Membership): Roberta Whitcomb and Judy Walker
Secretary: Ann Lineberger
Treasurer: Sharon Pieller



Committee Chairs

Blocks/Swaps: Kathie Laposata
Challenge: Denise Wagner
Community Service: Kathie Laposata
Historical: Marlene Dorman
Honey Bees: Jackie Leipert
Hospitality: Diana Defanti
Library: Michele McLaughlin and Barb Seely
Membership: Roberta Whitcomb and Judy Walker
Newsletter: Kathy Schuessler
Phone Chain: Diane Pesola
Programs/Workshops: Julie Davidovich and Donna Gasser
Publicity: Kathy Schuessler
Quilters Studio: Julie Borden
Raffle Quilt Creation 2017: Bethanne Nemesh
Show and Tell: Diane Pesola
Sunshine and Shadow: Sandra Mugridge
Website: Nancy Scholz
Worker Bees: Jackie Leipert

