



Crazy Quilters Quilt Guild

We Are Crazy About Quilting

No. 347

www.crazyquilters.org

December 2020

From The President

Jane Merkel

Hello Crazy Quilters!

It is hard to believe that another holiday season is in progress. Time does not stand still for any of us! That in itself is not a particularly profound statement. But in these uncertain pandemic times with a second wave of illness happening, it changes how one approaches the holidays. How we handle the changes we will experience is more important than the changes themselves.

For sure, I will not bake as much and shopping will be limited mostly to on line, phone calls will replace cards, and attending church will be totally different than in years past. With so much being scaled back or not available at all, it also provides more time for reflection on the true meaning of Christmas. As you look back to past Christmases, which ones stand out as special? The ones where hustle and bustle prevailed or those that were different in some way. Perhaps a giant snowstorm kept everyone at home, or an electric failure kept the turkey dinner from being made and peanut butter and jelly was the substitute, or perhaps you were traveling, and everything was just slower and quieter.

However your holiday unfolds, please know that you are blessed and a blessing to others both in your family and among your quilting friends. Be safe. Be kind. Be at peace with whatever changes we must accept this year.

Pray for everyone,
Jane

The Crazy Quilters Quilt Guild
meets the first Tuesday of the month, 6:30 PM
Via Zoom until further notice

info@crazyquilters.org
www.facebook.com/crazyquiltersquiltguildemmauspa

Guild Officers

President: Jane Merkel
Vice-President: Samantha Cetrulo
Secretary: Suzanne Nelson
Treasurer: Kathie Laposata
Programming Officer: Sue Marin
Membership Officers: Phillis Walden and Kathy Moore

Guild Calendar

Monthly Guild Meetings:

December 1st, 6:30-8:00 Via Zoom



November:

I'm glad so many of you were able to view the "Pieced Together" documentary. It was an inspiring reminder of what we humans can accomplish, even when dealing with adversity. If you are interested in exploring barn quilts further or would be interested in traveling to see some in our area, please contact me. I am considering doing a workshop where we can create our own barn quilts when we can meet outdoors. If you'd like to try constructing one on your own, there are several good tutorials on YouTube, or you could purchase a kit through *Quiltfolk*.

December: Potluck Potpourri *NOTE TIME CHANGES!

The Guild Board members met in November and decided to make a slight change to this evening's schedule. **We will hold the business portion first, beginning at 6:45 PM.** Our Potluck Potpourri will commence at 7:00 so that we can enjoy a full evening of activities.

We now have over 30 items in the Silent Auction. You should have received the full listing before or shortly after Thanksgiving for the first round of bids to be submitted. This will allow time for the second round of bids in case of a tie. The second round was out two days prior to the meeting (Sunday, November 29) for duplicate bidders to choose whether to go higher or drop out. Once the winners have been announced on December 1, I will coordinate drop off/pick up for all the items. If the donor and winner live close to each other, I may ask that you finalize the transaction on your own. If an item needs special attention, I will arrange to handle it appropriately. Winners will have until December 15, 2020 to pay for their item(s). If payment is not received by then, the item will go to the next highest bidder. Please make checks payable to Crazy Quilters' Quilt Guild and note Silent Auction on the message line and send them to me.

In addition to the auction, we will have interviews with some founding members and former guild presidents, some games and prizes (please have three pieces of paper and a pen or pencil to participate), and music. Get into the spirit of the evening by participating in our first "Festive Notion Commotion." How many sewing notions you can wear? An example would be to use a measuring tape as a necklace or bracelet. Show your creativity! Make it as festive as you can. This one is just for fun!

In keeping with our holiday theme, our Show and Tell will highlight your favorite pieces made for the winter holidays. There is no need to limit yourself to quilts or to this current year. Please include wall hangings, stockings, placemats, pillows, etc. Due to time constraints, we are asking that you only submit two or three slides. You may include more than one item in each photo.

January 2021: – Our Flying Geese Challenge. **The deadline for submitting your entry/entries has been moved up to December 21, 2020** to allow sufficient time to get them posted on the guild's website for voting. See Judy Walker's Challenge article for more details.

NEW WORKSHOP ADDED!

Pam Hadfield will host a workshop for us featuring her "Red, White and Bloom" pattern. The workshop has been broken down into two segments. The first will be held on Saturday, January 16, 2021 from 9:30 – 11:30 AM and then completing the project on Thursday, January 21, 2021 from 6:30 – 8:30 PM. There are only **20 spots** available, (not 30 as noted on the webpage announcement) so sign up now. **The deadline to register is December 18, 2020.** There is no registration form. Simply send your payment of \$33.00 to me (address noted above) and note "January Workshop" on the message line. The cost includes registration, the pattern and postage. A supplies list will be forwarded to you upon receipt of payment.



February 2021: – Pillowcase Palooza. Community Service at its best! Due to the continuing rise in COVID-19 cases, Janet and Mercedes do not feel comfortable meeting in person to do our pillow palooza. And frankly, I do not think we will be able to find an open venue. It will still happen, but in a different format than we are used to. Specific details are provided in their article. Please note **TWO CHANGES to this evening's program.** We will welcome Michelle Banton at 7:00 PM who will provide a lecture on "Cotton to Consumer." Her presentation will tie in nicely by giving us the background of the materials we use to create the items we donate. In addition, Janet and Mercedes will follow up with a short presentation highlighting the various community service projects we support. You won't want to miss it!

March 2, 2021: – Toni Smith, AKA Quiltoni, will do a presentation on creating pixelated quilt patterns. **JUST ADDED!** A six-hour workshop spread across two days has been added on Saturday, March 6 and Saturday, March 13. Both sessions will run from 1:00 – 4:00. Cost is \$25 per member. Class size is limited to 30 attendees. **Registration deadline for this workshop is February 2, 2021.** Follow the same procedures as noted for the workshop in January but note "March Workshop" on the message line.

April 2021: – Dr. Leo McCormick and staff will present a lecture on Ergonomics for Quilters.

May 2021: – Heather Kojan returns and will share her tips for deciphering Quilt Math.

June 2021: - Mary Fons (of Fons and Porter) will do a trunk show and share her experience as editor of *Quiltfolk* Magazine.

July, 2021: – Cindy Orvacez, author of *Into the Garden: Realistic Three Dimensional Flowers Faster by the Strip* will talk to us about using embellishments in our designs.

August 2021: – Special **two-hour** presentation with Emily Taylor who will teach us the basics of collage quilting.

October 2021: - Robin Long of Robin Ruth Designs will do a program on creating the Mariner's Star using her strip piecing method.

All program information is listed on our website. Please check the Meetings and Events page each month for updates, details of the various programs and important messages.

May the gifts of this season – peace, joy, hope and love – be with you today and always ~

Sue Marin
Programming Chair

BLOCK OF THE MONTH CLUB – (BOM) starting about March 2021. See picture. If interested – contact Phillis Walden.

Quilt is: 67" x 79".

Unfinished blocks are 12-1/2".

Fabric requirements – 4 yards black AND one-quarter yard EACH of about 28 ombre (shading from light to dark across width) fabrics

OR

4 yards black and one fat quarter EACH of 28 different fabrics

OR

Use scraps from your stash.

Designer TK Harrison (BOMquilts.com) has granted Guild permission to use pattern so long as her copyright is acknowledged, participants agree to share photos of blocks and quilt progress, and TK receives information about guild which she can use on her website to reference groups using her patterns, etc.



Flying Geese Challenge for January 2021

Judy Walker

I have received several pictures of the challenge projects which have been completed. Hopefully, the rest of you are continuing to finish your projects and will send me two pictures of your project - 1 picture showing the whole quilt and 1 close up picture showing some of the detail by **December 21**. I've changed the date from the 28th to the 21st to give us a few days to get everything on the Web site.

The pictures of all the challenge projects will be on the web site from Dec. 29 through Jan. 5. This will give you a week to view the Challenge quilts and vote for one in the Large category and one in the Small category. Each challenge quilt will have a number on it and you should email me with your choices by **noon on Monday, Jan.**

4. When you email me, please put "Challenge Vote" in the subject line. I will acknowledge that I got your vote by replying to you that I got it.

Quilt Journey

Sam Cetrulo

Enjoy learning more about our members!

Please consider completing the questionnaire and sending to be included in a future newsletter.

Name: Kathy Moore

Length of Quilt Journey:

About 40 years, I don't actually remember the first time I tried it. Started sewing about 55 years ago.

How did you learn how to sew?

I started sewing doll clothes for sister's Barbie doll on my Mom's Kenmore sewing machine down in the basement. I didn't know how to change the thread so I used whatever was in the machine, as in white thread on black fabric. My Mom taught me the basics but most of what I've learned has been on my own. The first quilt I ever made was before rotary cutters. I took a class and we ripped strips to make a log cabin. I've done lots more garment sewing in the past but since retiring I've done more quilting. I don't need more clothes and quilts use lots of bright pretty fabrics.

How would you describe your quilting style?

Variable. I love bright colors and I've experimented with paper piecing, applique, landscape, standard blocks, one sort of modern quilt and lots of scrappy ones.

Has it changed over time?

Yes, how could it not. Fabrics and techniques have changed so I've tried new ideas and been influenced by the changes in the industry.

Who is your favorite fabric designer and why?

I don't have a favorite designer as I don't pay too much attention to the names. I do love batiks and I don't care who designs them.

Do you pick fabric or pattern first?

Pattern

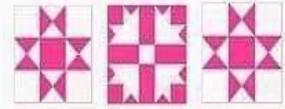
What is your favorite part about quilt making and why?

Picking out the fabrics and doing the piecing. I love seeing blocks come together to see what they look like.

What is your least favorite part and why?

The actual quilting, I still struggle with that whole process. Most of the quilts I've finished were gifts for people as I need a deadline to complete a quilt. I have a stack of tops that are ready to quilt waiting for inspiration or the perspiration required to get them completed.

Give a lady a quilt and she has
a cherished, priceless gift.



Teach a lady to quilt and she
will buy fabric, a sewing machine,
needles, thread, seam rippers,
bobbins, quilting rulers, pins, pin cushions,
cutting mats, rotary cutters, batting, patterns,
and more fabric!

What other things do you sew? Lately, not much, but in the past I've made lots of shirts, pants and shorts with pockets (because that way I get pockets), random Christmas gifts, including aprons, Raggedy Ann dolls, pot holders, decorated sweat shirts. I've also done a bit of cross-stitch, needlepoint, and embroidery.

What is your favorite sewing saying?

Probably 'the one who dies with the most fabric wins'. I try to keep that in mind when tempted to purchase yet more fabric as I have more than enough.

What other hobbies do you enjoy?

Reading, running (really slowly), travel, baking, a bit of gardening and very mediocre photography.

Name: Michele McLaughlin

Length of Quilt Journey: 40 plus years

How did you learn how to sew?

My grandmothers mostly and then friends shared techniques later.

How would you describe your quilting style?

Simple

Has it changed over time?

Sure. It went from simple to more elaborate patterns and now I'm back to simple patterns again.

Who is your favorite fabric designer and why?

I'm not sure. I go in phases.

Do you pick fabric or pattern first?

Fabric

What is your favorite part about quilt making and why?

Combining colors and prints. I also love binding and finishing the project.

What is your least favorite part and why?

Cutting fabric.

What other things do you sew?

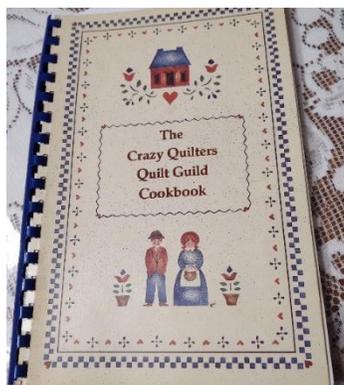
Embroidered items but mostly just quilts anymore.

What is your favorite sewing saying?

"Some days I amaze myself. Other days, I look for my scissors while holding them."

What other hobbies do you enjoy?

Writing, Gardening, Embroidery, Reading History, Photography



HOLIDAY SQUARES

1 ½ C sugar, 1 C butter, 4 eggs, 2 C flour, 1 T lemon juice, cherry pie filling
Gradually add sugar to butter/cream at medium speed until light and fluffy. Add eggs one at a time. At low speed add flour and lemon juice. Pour batter into well greased 15 x 10x1 inch jelly roll pan. Mark into squares. Place a cherry filling into the center of each square. Bake at 350 degrees for 35 minutes. While warm sprinkle confectioners sugar over cake. Cut into squares. Recipe from Anne March

SOUR CREAM COOKIES

1 C brown sugar, ½ C margarine, 1 egg, ½ C sour cream, 1.4 tsp salt, 2 C. flour, 1/2 tsp baking powder, 1 C. nuts, raisins, or both

Cream the margarine and sugar. Add egg. Mix dry ingredients and add them alternately with the sour cream. Add nuts and raisins. Drop on greased baking sheet and bake in 350 degree oven for 12 to 15 minutes. Recipe from Rachel Tamm

DROP A PIES

¾ C unsalted butter, 1 ½ C sugar, 2 ½ C flour, ½ tsp baking soda, 1/3C dairy sour cream, 2 eggs, pinch of salt
Cream butter and sugar until light and fluffy in a medium size bowl. Add eggs and beat until thoroughly blended. Sift flour with baking soda and salt. Stir into batter gradually, alternately with sour cream and stirring well after each addition. Drop from teaspoon onto a greased cookie sheet. Bake in 350 degree oven for about 10 minutes or until cookies are crisp and sand colored. Cool slightly before removing from cookie sheet. Makes about 5 ½ dz cookies.

These cookies were first made by Ann Page, a well known local cook, who used to stamp her initials A.P. on the cookies, thus giving hem their name.* Recipe from Joan Diane Roth

- I was curious about the reference to Ann Page naming this cookie AP. There was a most interesting story regarding this and also referencing Apie Cake. The "history" can be found at www.aocalcrackerinthekitchen.com 2020/08/06 apie-cake-ap-cake-apeas-cake. The article also mentions The Morning Call, June 12, 1954.



Community Service

Janet Yandrisevits and Mercedes Gurniak

Thank you to everyone who participated in making placemats for Meals on Wheels! A total of 368 placemats were delivered to Meals on Wheels with much appreciation expressed. A wide variety of styles and colors will definitely bring many smiles this holiday season.

There will be a drop off/pick up of pillowcase and preemie kits opportunity for Guild members on Saturday, December 5 from 1000-1100 in the parking lot of Holy Spirit Church in Emmaus. We hope to see many of you at that time. Mercedes and I remain available at other times as well; please contact us directly.

It is with a heavy heart that we have decided that it is not possible to plan on the indoor pillowcase sewing session during the February 2021 meeting. We will provide a slide show and tell of the projects completed by our members during the February meeting to compliment an additional program arranged by Sue Marin. We thank her for pitching in to help us as the overall pandemic situation continues to force us to make changes and help each other.

Sunshine and Shadows

Jackie Leipert

Get well wishes and Thinking of You notes were sent to Judy Walker, Marsha Heimann and Roberta Whitcomb. For the rest of us who need a little cheer during these stressful times I wish you joy in your stitches. If you have any news to share email me at jackie.leipert@gmail.com or call 610-398-2173

Show and Tell

Lorraine Bujnowski

For the month of December it has been suggested that we do a showing and telling of our holiday themed quilts, i.e. red/green, etc. new and or old. Please send photos to me lbujnowski@verizon.net before November 29.

Membership

Kathy Moore and Phillis Walden

We had 40 members attend our November zoom meeting. We currently have 85 members including our newest member.

Her name is Vicki Pedde and she was referred by Jane Merkel. She is an intermediate quilter and a retired New Jersey school superintendent. She is married with 2 children and 2 grand-children. She enjoys sewing, embroidery and reading and is a member of other quilt guilds.

Please remember to be sure your name is displayed on our zoom meetings so that we can track attendance and also so new members can learn who we are. Please use your first name and at least a last initial so I can tell which Nancy or Linda you are (our membership includes 4 Linda's and 5 Nancy's).



December Birthdays

Pat Wolfe	December 8
Cindy Fantasia	December 10
Karen Hartzell	December 10
Linda Green	December 15
Ruth Hoffman	December 28
Bethanne Nemesh	December 30
Nancy Skok	December 30

Committee Chairs

Challenge: Judy Walker

Community Service: Janet Yandrisevits and Mercedes Gurniak

Communication Chain: Diane Pesola

Historical: Rhonda Moore

Hospitality: Diana DeFanti

Library: Michele McLaughlin and Dawn Martrich

Newsletter: Karen Rush

Publicity: Linda Wojciechowski

Quilters Studio: Julie Borden

Retreat: Sandy O'Conner

Show and Tell: Lorraine Bujnowski and Roberta Whitcomb

Sit & Sew: Helen Hanton

Sunshine and Shadows: Jackie Leipert

Website: Nancy Scholz



Deadline for the next newsletter is December 21st.