



NEXT MEETING:
Saturday, JUNE 13,
2009

LOCATION: Fashion
Institute of Technology
27TH ST. AT 8TH AVE. -
DAVID DUBINSKY
CENTER, Bldg. D, 8th
Floor

BOARD MEETING:
11:00A.M - 12:00P.M.

GENERAL MEETING:
1:00P.M. - 5:00P.M.
Guest Fee: \$10.00
Senior/Student: \$5.00

PROGRAM: "International
Quilt Study Center and
Museum Report" with
Lynne Grasz

WORKSHOP: No
Workshop in June

VENDOR: Member Flea
Market

**QUILTER OF THE
MONTH:** Anna Foss

FOCUS GROUPS: Will be
Back in September

BOM: "Tickle Me Pink"

This Month: Raffles,
Show & Tell, Library,
There will be NO share
table this month. Charity
Quilt Collection.

INTERNATIONAL QUILT STUDY CENTER AND MUSEUM REPORT WITH LYNNE GRASZ

The new world-class **International Quilt Study Center and Museum (IQSC)** opened on March 30, 2008 on the East Campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The museum houses the world's largest collection of *more than 2,300 quilts* and an international study center dedicated to the research, preservation and display of important quilts from cultures around the world. **Lynne Grasz** is president and CEO of **Grasz Communications** in New York City, and her firm had the exciting (and big!) job of coordinating the publicity efforts surrounding the museum's opening, and for the center itself. Few of us have been able to visit the new Center, but this is our chance to hear much more about the IQSC, its history and activities; the Museum and its collections; and the three-story 37,000 square foot groundbreaking "green" building.

And there's more! The museum presents several exceptional quilt exhibits each year. Lynne will talk about the exhibit on view June 19 – July 19, 2009 which includes selections from the **9th Quilt Nihon Exhibition** (Quilts Japan).

We are fortunate and happy to welcome Lynne as both a local New Yorker and an insider from the **International Quilt Study Center and Museum**. This program is the next best thing to visiting the museum itself, and will probably inspire several of us to plan our summer vacations to include a trip to Nebraska.

THE INTERNATIONAL QUILT STUDY CENTER

In June, Empire will host a representative from The International Quilt Study Center located at the University of Nebraska, in Omaha. She will speak about this very important American cultural institution, and what it means to all of us as quilt makers. Empire will be making a donation to the Quilt Center, and we will continue to raise funds for them in the next year.

Why should we care about a museum in Omaha, Nebraska? First of all, it is the world's largest publicly held quilt collection, encompassing over 2000 works from nearly 20 countries. The collection includes the Robert and Ardis James quilt collection, the Holstein collection of Amish and Mennonite quilts, and the Cargo collection of African-American quilts, as well as contemporary quilts by artists from around the world. As participants in an age-old art, we need to insure that the pieces of our past traditions are preserved for future generations to study and to enjoy, and The International Quilt Study Center is doing exactly this.

Their new state-of-the-art building, dedicated last year, will be host to important exhibits, workshops and conferences. Even if you can't go to Nebraska in person, the Center's website is an excellent resource for quilt research, with many digital images of quilts in the collection to study online.

One of our missions as a guild is to be an educational organization, and to further the knowledge and appreciation of quilting, here in the city and everywhere we go. Empire's contribution to the Quilt Center will give us a place on their guild wall, composed of plaques dedicated to fifty guilds, one from each state. We are their New York representative! This gives us a stake in the Quilt Center's future, and a place in the history of quilting as well. **Diane Rode Schneck**

For more information about the **International Quilt Study Center and Museum** visit their website:
www.quiltstudy.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dearest Empire Quilters members - after four years, this is my last message to you as President of the Guild. It has been an honor to serve in this role and feel the friendship, support and trust of so many remarkable people. I have had the good fortune and pleasure to work with excellent people on the Board over this time and to know that each person who volunteered has had in their heart a sincere wish to make everything Empire Quilters offers interesting, innovative and fun.

The Guild continues to grow in membership and in prominence in the greater NYC quilting community. On a day-to-day basis I'd have to say that our website is the most important tool we have, not only for informing our members about our activities, the accomplishments of our members and events of interest,

but for communicating to the rest of the world about our organization. I say 'world' because we know that folks from all over the globe have looked at our site – because many have written to us; some have even visited our meeting while on vacation in NYC. Because one member saw an opportunity and decided to put in the time to build and maintain the site, there is no doubt in my mind that we have a premier quilt guild site.

Certainly the 2007 and 2009 shows have also attracted admirable attention both locally and outside of NYC, and after each show our membership swelled. This came not only because we advertised the shows in a few places, but because one member of the guild thought of the idea, and followed through with reaching out to quilt guilds all along the mid-Atlantic and New England areas, informing of the show and helping some groups put together trips to the show. Further, for each show one member coordinated with media organizations that had an interest in having features about our shows. In 2007 there were internet Television shows, and for 2009 there will be a number of print and online publications featuring our raffle quilt and the work of many of our members.

Another form of outreach to the community that has taken on more significance is the charitable work of our guild. As a not-for-profit organization, part of our mission is giving back to the community, and an implicit responsibility of each and every member is to participate in the charitable work of the group. As you know, in addition to our annual charity quilt day, we now dedicate some of our time and holiday goodwill to a second significant charity activity – making or providing toys and other things for children who might otherwise have nothing at the winter holiday season. One member heard of a need and accepted responsibility to get the members engaged in this very special project.

Maybe you're starting to sense a theme here. One member – each and every member – can make a difference. This Guild continues because individual members are willing to volunteer time and thought and energy. This Guild will only continue if more individuals will volunteer to keep it going – on a day-to-day basis. There are many ways to help; many committees to participate in. You'll have a real sense of ownership and pride when you volunteer, and you'll become friends with some really extraordinary people. Thank you all for your caring and support. Have a great summer. **Jennifer.**

JUNE LIBRARY NOTES

Wow, nineteen members donated magazines and books to the Library. Over forty dollars were generated by the magazine sales in May. Donations from: Priscilla Blakemore, Gloria Bletter, Olga Botwinick, Helen Chin, Shirley Clark, Lee Ebs, Verna Fitzgerald, Betty Ford, Anna Foss, Melanie Hill, Andrea Homer-Macdonald, Judith Klein, Ulla-Britta McCarthy, Veronique Milliez, Sheila Molitz, Sara Niego, Kitty Squire, Dorothy Vasil and someone whose name we could not read.

Thanks loads, but do not bring any donations for the June meeting. We will only be picking up returns and overdue books. So Tina will only have to haul about twenty or so books back home. Over the Summer, the library committee will decide what books will go on sale and categorize any new books that will be available to borrow in September.

All of the Library Committee members hope that you enjoy the Summer. And don't forget to let us know if there are specific books or types of books we can get for our library. **Sylvia Hughes**

QUILTER OF THE MONTH

Annie Foss is a founding member of Empire, the one who foolishly volunteered, "We can meet at my place!" She came to quilting through classes offered by the Manhattan Chapter of the Embroiders' Guild which she had joined in 1978. Once Empire was formed in 1982 she started quilting in earnest. Annie likes doing quilts from magazines but with her own spin. Her favorite quilts are scrap quilts which she both hand and machine stitches – she takes them everywhere to work on. Annie has started 160+ projects with all sorts of methods and themes including: Dear Jane, summer/ocean, Christmas, autumn leaves, apples, and cherries. Annie is a "scrap-aholic", "scrap wonk" and "scrap goddess". Her quilter of the month presentation will all be of the scrap or charm variety.

EMPIRE'S NEW CHARITY PROJECT: QUILTS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

A few weeks ago New York 1 TV's New Yorker of the Week was Luis Guevara, who runs a homeless shelter for vets in the Bronx. For more info, check out www.Enphront.org. Empire plans to make a quilt for each of its 52 beds, twin size, about 72" X 90". If you have quilts, tops (partial or complete), blocks, or fabric to donate to this cause, please bring them to the June meeting or drop them off at my apartment. If you want to come to my home to work on these quilts during the summer, please let me know. Let's see how many we can finish by Empire's September meeting. Thanks! — Lee Ebs, EbsLee@msn.com (please include Empire in the subject line), 212-242-3438, 148 West 23rd St. #6K, NYC

THINKING ABOUT MAKING CHARITY QUILTS OVER THE SUMMER??

Below is a link with a tutorial for turning a simple nine patch block into a whole new pattern by cutting it apart and sewing it back together again. This was sent in by member Diane Paul who found it on the web and says it is super easy. Diane thought it would be very easy for charity quilts. It's worth checking out. Who knows, you may get hooked and turn in many quilt tops in September. Thanks Diane!

<http://quiltsatcs.blogspot.com/2007/04/disappearing-9-patch-tutorial.html>



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TIME TO RENEW!

It is that time of year again! Please renew your membership for 2009-2010. We are keeping the membership cost the same as for 2008-2009, but we really need everyone to renew to make this work! We have new leadership coming in and next year promises to be very exciting-between the programs, workshops, trips and vendors. Renew now, so you don't have to worry about it all next year! This is the only reminder you will receive. We do not mail renewals to members.



Renew your guild membership! 2009 – 2010 Empire Quilters Guild Membership Renewal

1. **Yearly Dues Category:** Regular \$45 Senior \$30 (65 and over) Student \$30 (with valid ID)

2. **Contribution:** Additional tax-deductible contribution (optional): \$ _____

3. **Newsletter:** Select *one* method to receive your newsletter:

Email to email address: _____ - OR - First Class Mail

Please consider receiving your monthly newsletter via email, and check that preference above. You will receive the newsletter in a more timely fashion, and you will save the guild printing and postage costs. Thank you!

4. **Contact Information:**

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ Cell: _____

_____ Email: _____

City, ST, Zip: _____ Birthday: _____

5. **Submit Form:**

Bring completed form to a meeting,
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- ▶ Enclose a check for your annual dues, payable to: *Empire Quilters*, or bring cash to a meeting (no credit cards accepted).
- ▶ Please pick up your membership card at the next guild meeting .
- ▶ *Memberships are not acknowledged by mail.*
- ▶ For more information see: www.EmpireQuilters.net

QUILT CITY, HERE WE COME!

What an adventure we had in Dixie! On Wednesday, April 22, 37 of us set off from NYC to attend the American Quilter's Society show in Paducah, KY. This is the second largest quilt show in the US after Houston. The biggest worry, the length of the bus ride, was surprisingly, not a problem. We made frequent stops throughout the night, stopping Thursday morning for a hearty breakfast, which energized us. We stopped by our hotel, which was a shuttle stop, just down the road from Hancock's of Paducah (HOP). We headed over to the Convention Center, the site of the show, and headed our separate ways. Some hopped on the shuttle and made a beeline for Hancock's; others made the short walk (short for a typical NYer) to the National Quilt Museum, and a few of us headed right into the show.

Paducah really *is* Quilt City USA. It's home to both AQS and the National Quilt Museum year round. Each April, the entire city blossoms into one big quilt show, from the restaurants, to the mall. It's the largest show in the area, bringing more than \$20 million to the area. Hotels from 60 miles around are filled to capacity. To my great surprise, there were people who grew up in the area and had *never* been to the show. The town suffered a damaging ice storm in January, and we could see evidence of the damage wrought as we traveled along the highways. I was told that a lot of the repair effort was directed at the areas around the show. Paducah has lured a number of artists to the area, including Eleanor Burns and Caryl Bryer Fallert; I learned there is some friction about this practice. The shuttle service (which left much to be desired), stopped in the downtown area, at many quilt show satellite locations (there were vendors all over town, which is a large area), and everyone's favorite destination--HOP.

Let's start with the show. There were 384 quilts on display; one piece after another of quilter's eye candy, one more delicious than the next. I have been to many shows over the years, large and small, and I've noticed the constantly increasing number of art quilts versus traditional quilts. This trend has increased to the point of seeing fewer and fewer traditional quilts at the major shows. This was *not* the case in Paducah. The best in show quilt was an extraordinary work of art, almost more a tapestry than a quilt. The artist, an Australian woman, spent 18,000 hours making her prize winner. Far more of the pieces were traditional quilts. There was a good selection of vendors (400!). The big show days are Thursday and Friday. In comparison, Saturday's attendance was light.

The National Quilt Museum holds a breathtaking collection of quilts. As part of the best in show prize, the NQM purchases the piece, and to celebrate the anniversary, they hung the 24 previous winners. As an additional commemoration, they published a book showcasing all the winners, and had most of the quilters available to sign the book. I learned that the museum was the first building in the country specifically built to house quilts. I learned that Gerald Roy (of This Old Quilt fame) served as a consultant for the building. I learned that the museum is transitioning from the American Quilt Museum to the National Quilt Museum, hoping to expand both the facility and its services.

I've saved the best for last. There is no way to describe HOP except to imagine a store the size of Costco, BJ's or Staples filled with fabrics and quilting supplies. **Everything** in the catalog is in the store. There are actually two buildings, one with notions, patterns, quilting and home-dec fabrics (cleverly on sale during the show period) and a second with precut fabrics, and remnants. It was overwhelming, and several travelers went back for a second visit. Amazingly, the store was well-staffed, and you were waiting very little time before your fabric was cut and paid for.

We left Paducah very happy, although considerably poorer. After stopping for dinner, we made our way home. The trip was a must see for any quilter. We have posted a few photos on our site, (though not of the quilts, which is prohibited) and member Jackquelynn Jones had an opportunity to visit Caryl Bryer Fallert's studio and shares her adventure as well. I'd also like to note that these trips have often proved a way to meet new members in a smaller group. —**Aleeda Crawley**

A Visit to Bryerpatch Studio in Paducah, Kentucky

There were so many highlights to the Paducah trip. I am sure the 40 participants could each write a fabulous reflection. However, I wanted to share my high spot with the Guild members. I visited Caryl Bryer Fallert's Bryerpatch Studio, which is a gallery, shop, and workshop center. Upon entering I met Mary Butler, and a bit later, Wendi Higginbotham and Jacqueline Johnson. Bryerpatch is located in the Historic LowerTown Arts District of Paducah dedicated to homes, shops, and studios of hundreds of artists.

The Studio was bright, warm and welcoming – so very reflective of Caryl's hand dyed fabrics. Caryl herself greeted patrons and eagerly offered a tour of the studio, which is also her home. Each room is a work of art from the hand painted sky ceiling to her "stash room." Not only were Caryl's quilts on display, but pieces by other artists gracefully decorate her home. Two impressive examples were very early quilts by Hollis Chatelain. I was impressed with the lighting through the house, as well as the organized working space throughout the house: everything is boxed and labeled in large, black type. Two very large design walls revealed a peek at Caryl's latest design project soon to be available in all color ways in the fall. Benartex now reproduces her hand dyed fabrics.

After falling in love with the house, I later learned that Bryerpatch Studio offers workshops throughout the year by Caryl and if you are lucky you can rent one of the guest rooms at the studio. Bryerpatch is open for individuals, as well as for retreats. There is also a separate dye studio/classroom annex on the premises. My visit to Bryerpatch was truly inspirational!--**Jackquelynn Jones**

Jennifer Bigelow's Paducah Experience

I believe we all had a great time and well withstood the 18 hours each way on a bus. Once in Paducah, we were on our own. I know some folks teamed up, but several (including me) went off on our own. I took a class/lecture (at 7 a.m. on Friday) on quilt restoration. I saw the show, the museum, the railroad museum; shopped (tried to do just enough for the economy but not breaking my bank). Each evening I found someone from our guild to dine with. I ran into many people I know from other venues - most particularly quilting by the Lake. We found that there were some guild members (like May Eason) who got to Kentucky via Chicago (can't get enough of those quilt shows!). **Jennifer Bigelow**

SHOPPING TRIP TO LANCASTER — SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2009

We will head to Amish country on a fabric acquisition trip. Reserve your space early for this fun stash-building outing. We depart for Lancaster, PA at 7:00 am from the southeast corner of Eighth Avenue and West 31st Street, Manhattan. We will return 8:30–9:00 pm (approximate).

Cost: \$58 members / \$64 for non-members. **Fee includes transportation only.** You will purchase your own lunch/dinner (and fabric!)

A completed Trip Reservation form and payment in full must be received by June 13, 2009 (the day of our full guild meeting). Pay by cash, or check made out to Empire Quilters. Stops included (depending on time): Zook's, Sauder's Fabrics, Burkholder's Fabrics, The Old Country Store and a wonderful quilt museum (People's Place Quilt Museum) on the second floor, and Bird in Hand Country Store. We will stop for a buffet dinner before returning home. If you need more information or are interested in this trip, please contact **Aleeda Crawley**. Email: acquiltsv@yahoo.com or call her at **973-313-0844**.

Hints for better shopping ... Wear comfortable shoes, and bring a bottle of water • We suggest you bring a brown bag lunch • All stores accept cash and major credit cards • While there are some gadgets and patterns, fabrics are the specialties of these stores • There will be a time limit at each stop, so have your wish-list in mind • And finally — Sign up early to guarantee your space. This trip always fills up quickly.

QUILTERS OF COLOR NETWORK BUS TRIP

On August 1, 2009 Quilters of Color Network of NY will host a bus ride to Hershey, PA for the 10th Annual Quilt Odyssey show. This show will feature winners from the previous ten years, merchants and special merchandise to commemorate the anniversary. The cost is \$59 for members and \$68 for guests, which includes show admission. For info: www.gcnnv.org or contact **Aleeda Crawley**. Email: acquiltsv@yahoo.com or call her at **973-313-0844**.

ELM CREEK SAMPLER CLUB

Beginning in September we will gather at noon before the monthly meetings to "show & tell" our **Elm Creek blocks**. Each month we will be making a different block from Jennifer Chiaverini and Nancy Odom's book, "Elm Creek Quilts: Quilt Projects Inspired by the Elm Creek Quilts Novels" (C & T Publishing, Inc. 2002). We'll make new friends, have a project in common, support each other, and put a monthly group photo on the website. Plus...At the end of the year, we will each have our very own sampler quilt. The group leader for this club will be Helen Beall.

EMPIRE QUILTERS BLOCK OF THE MONTH FEATURE for 2009-2010

The Empire Quilters BOM Squad is working overtime to bring you some dynamic new projects in 2009-2010. Each block takes under 20 minutes to complete, and they're easy as pie. New quilters will learn some valuable piecing methods, and seasoned quilters will enjoy some new ideas too. Visit the above blog. That's where you'll find all the photos and simple instructions. Post any comments or questions you may have. There will be something for everyone: reproduction style, solids, African style, 1930's prints, even a quilt featuring clothing labels! There are no Quilt Police here; this is a Stress-Free Zone! So join the fun. The blocks for September thru December are already posted on the blog spot. Empire Quilters BOM Squad: **Karen Griska**, Chair; with **Nick Alves**, **Helen Beall**, **Lisa Belle**, **Shirley Clark**, **Lisa Kehrl**.



SEPTEMBER BLOCK OF THE MONTH - "CANDY STICK"

This will be the first block brought to you by the BOM Squad for the 2009-2010 Guild Season. The pattern and detailed instructions with photos can be found on the link below. The link can also be accessed from the Block of the Month page on the website. There are also photos of a quilt made with this block. Any questions, please contact **Karen Griska**. E-mail: karengriska@optonline.net or call her at 914-948-3187.

Empire BOM Blog: www.empirebom.blogspot.com

GUILD WEBSITE NEWS

What a year! Thank you to everyone who submitted items for the guild website throughout the 2008-2009 season. The website is a group effort and is a valuable resource for guild members and for anyone interested in our activities. It is *the* place to go for up-to-date information about the guild, and about quilting activities and exhibits in the metropolitan region – and beyond! Be sure to check the website often throughout the summer. Information about the 2009-2010 programs, workshops, focus groups, trips and other activities will be posted as the plans develop, allowing everyone to see what will be happening throughout the year. We also keep the listing of shows and events in the region updated. There is always something interesting to see.

The website address is www.empirequilters.net. You'll find pictures of our Show Quilts and Show & Tell presentations along with many links to quilt organizations, supply sources, major quilt shows, quilt artists and teachers. There is also extensive information from our guild's Service Committee for ideas of projects for charity. We hope everyone will spend a little time this summer doing a project or two for the Service Committee to distribute to the charities we support. If you need ideas or instructions, visit the Service page of the website.

If you have news items, pictures, or simply want to pass along information about a good needle-art exhibit, please send those items to info@empirequilters.net and they will be posted on the website. Have a good summer! — **Cindy Russell**, Website Chair.

SAD NEWS

The guild would like to express it's condolences to the family of long-time member Mrs. Wanda Janicke who passed away in March, 2009 after a long illness.

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A 20 YEAR RETROSPECTIVE

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Friday-Sunday
June 19-21, 2009

Friday: Noon-8pm; Saturday: 10am-6pm;
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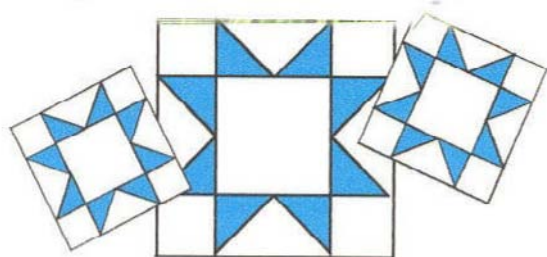
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NEWSLETTER NOTICE The deadline for the September 12, 2009 newsletter will be **Wednesday, August 12, 2009**. Lauren Dieterich is our new Editor and she requests that all articles be turned in by that date. Any articles **not** received by then, will **NOT** be published in the September newsletter but will be held for inclusion in October, if they are appropriate to the time. Please send information to Lauren at: newsletter@empirequilters.net.

Treasurer's Reports 5/10/2009

	Guilid	Show	Total
Beginning Balance	\$40,947.04	\$24,232.47	\$65,179.51
Income	\$10,322.92	\$1,435.00	\$11,757.92
Expenses	\$4,323.65	\$4,363.91	\$8,687.56
Ending Balance	\$46,946.31	\$21,303.56	\$68,249.87

Due to space limitations, the Treasurer's report is condensed
A complete version is on the website or you can contact Kitty Squire to have a copy mailed to you.



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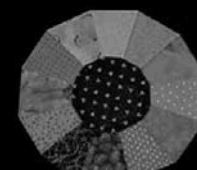

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