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# EMPIRE NEWSLETTER

December 2010

## President's Letter

The holiday season is quickly approaching. Here at Empire Quilters plans are in progress for many activities. One of our high priorities is the need for TEDDY BEARS and STOCKINGS for the shelter children. Each year a stocking is stuffed with small gifts and a handmade TEDDY BEAR. This year we have lots of toiletries but few bears and stockings, so please folks, bring in those bears and stockings and make some unfortunate kids day a bit brighter.

The Auction Committee is hard at work procuring items to be auctioned, or used at the gift table. If you still have items you wish to donate please get in touch with Susan Knaster (212-662-8204 | [eskayr@gmail.com](mailto:eskayr@gmail.com)). Susan is keeping a running tally of donations to date and will log in your items so please contact her. It's not too late to check out your closets. Whatever you bring is appreciated as long it is in good shape. Susan has a few surprises for us so be prepared to have fun and spend money. Seriously, if you have budgeted for 5 dollars we would love for you to spend just that. For those with a larger budget then SPEND, SPEND, and SPEND. Cookies and cakes will be available, and the guild will provide soda, water, and juice. If you are looking for a small gift item, a 2011 Subway Series raffle quilt postcard with 2 or 3 chance books make a nice gift or stocking stuffer.

For those of us not caught up in the holiday spirit, it's a perfect time to work on your quilts for the guild's upcoming 2011 Urban Inspirations quilt show. The January submission date will soon be here. A photo of your quilt needs to be handed in along with the size and category. You will have the next two months to make it perfect. Please remember the President's challenge. I look forward to seeing what your favorite landmark is and how you depict it. Remember it must be a true landmark, easily recognizable, or you must use the landmark's name in your title.

We still need many volunteers to help with the upcoming show. Please contact Tina Barth (212-691-3108 | [volunteer@empirequilters.net](mailto:volunteer@empirequilters.net)) to secure your volunteer hours for the show.

It is not too early to think about your role in the running of the guild. There are many volunteer jobs at all levels. There are jobs opening up both in the executive level as well as chairs for several committees. If you think you want to get more involved in the guild please let us know. Early in January you may get a call from a member of the Nominating Committee, asking if you would be interested, or you might want to nominate yourself. There will be more information in the next newsletter.

My sincere wishes for a joyful Holiday Season and a big Thank You to those who helped make 2010 a good year for the guild. Stay warm and safe!

—Paula Kenney



### MEETING INFO

SATURDAY,  
DECEMBER 11, 2010

#### TIME:

11am - 12pm: Board Meeting  
12pm: Focus Groups  
1pm - 5pm: General Meeting

#### LOCATION:

FIT, David Dubinsky Center  
Building A, 27th St. & 8th Ave.

#### PROGRAM:

Auction and Holiday Gift  
Gathering

#### VENDOR:

None

#### QUILTER of the MONTH:

None

#### FOCUS GROUPS:

Elm Creek Sampler Club, 12pm

#### BOM:

Window Panes

#### LIBRARY: Closed

#### SHARE TABLE: Closed

#### SHOW & TELL: None

#### GUEST FEE: Free!

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# December Meeting

*Auction • Holiday Party • Workshop with Anna Faustino*

## AUCTION - COME ONE, COME ALL!

Our December meeting is traditionally a combination holiday party, holiday charity endeavor, and a fundraising event. This year our featured activity is going to be something extra special! Back at Empire Quilters by overwhelming popular demand — Auctioneer John McCall will lead us in a fundraising auction to help with our upcoming 2011 Urban Inspirations quilt show expenses.

It is not too late to contribute a donation to the auction. You can donate a service, bake a cake for a later date, donate a massage, or teach a quilting skill. One year Pamela Leonard Wexler donated hand quilting services for one quilt. There is lots of talent in this Guild! You can get a donation from one of your favorite neighborhood stores, a restaurant, gym, nail saloon, etc. In addition to the amazing donations that can be generated from your talents, perhaps one of your friends is a professional who would be willing to donate his or her services. For example, a lawyer who would donate making a will is a big dollar draw.

Remember the auction is about raising funds. So keep your donations coming and contact Susan Knaster (917-328-9940, evenings | [eskayi@gmail.com](mailto:eskayi@gmail.com)) with what you are donating. Also, if you would like to get a donation and do not know how, call Susan and she will turn you on to some possibilities. The auction's success is in all our hands — and what talented ones they are!

### **Live Auction Rules:**

When you arrive at the meeting, sign in and receive a paddle with your special number. Purchases from the live auction can be paid for by cash or check at the conclusion of the auction. Items are sold as is so come early and take a look at the items that will be on display for the live auction

### **Other Fun Opportunities:**

**President's Table** — A table filled with treasures you supply or donations that are not going into the live auction or onto the Quick Fix board. This table is a first come, first choice cash/check and carry table. Sales will be opened before the live auction. Please bring items for the table or bring cash/checks to purchase!

**Quick Fix Board** — A bulletin board filled with gift certificates at great discounts. No Bidding! No Haggling! Items include hair cuts, dry cleaning, pizza, restaurants, clothing store, etc. This is a first come, first serve table. Quick fix is paid on the spot with cash or checks (separate from the live auction). Items will start at \$10.00 for a \$20.00 certificate. Prices will depend on the items available, but we are guessing \$15, \$20 or 4/\$5. Quick fix will be open before the live auction for twenty minutes.

**50/50 Raffle** — The 50/50 raffle should bring in a lot of money for a lucky winner. You can't win it unless you are in it! Bring dollar bills. Bring your friends and their dollar bills.

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## CHARITY - TEDDY BEARS AND STOCKINGS

In addition to our major auction, we will be finishing and assembling holiday items for children. We're asking for as many teddy bears and stockings as you can make.

The patterns are easy, and are available on the website for downloading. Stockings can be decorated with batting on the top, or with holiday cookie-cutter decorations, or with ribbons. If you are uncertain about embroidering or drawing the face on the teddy bear, just bring it to the meeting, and the Service Committee will paint the face on for you. Please do not use buttons on the bears (for child safety reasons).

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## HOLIDAY PARTY

And last — but certainly not least! — what would a holiday party be without FOOD! Once again we ask that all our bakers get busy that week and bring in goodies for us to share. We would also love a few food donations for the Auction or the President's Gift Table! The guild will provide the water and soda, the member will provide the goodies. After all, we all need to refresh ourselves after the hard work of spending money at the Auction!

## FOCUS GROUP

**Elm Creek Sampler Club**

**Group Leader: Lisa Belle and Lisa Kehrle,**  
[imbinnyc@yahoo.com](mailto:imbinnyc@yahoo.com) or 212-962-0990

**12 noon - 1 pm**

The Elm creek Focus Group sews on, conquering the perils of paper piecing tiny triangles. Our format consists of a group where everyone tackles the same block assignment each month, and then we discuss the results, both good and bad. Newcomers are welcome, we are open to all skill levels.

For December, we are making the following:

6-inch block: King's Star on page 44 of SBS.

12-inch block: Carpenter's Wheel on page 56 of ECQ.

Additional (optional) block: Grape Basket

6-inch block: page 37 of SBS

12-inch block: pattern to be provided

We will be meeting monthly in 2011 and working in the same format: 6 inch and 12 inch blocks. We decided at the November meeting to continue with the 6 inch blocks from Sylvia's Bridal Sampler ("SBS") and will begin using the More Elm Creek ("MEC") for the 12 inch blocks. Both books are by Jennifer Chiaverini. The 6 inch block for January will be Indiana Rose (appliqué) and the alternate block is Hunters Star (paper piecing), see the index in SBS for page numbers. The 12 inch blocks will be a Mother's Favorite block with the Peace & Plenty center. The alternate block will be a Mother's Favorite block with a Pinwheel center from the New Year's Reflections Quilt on page 80 of More Elm Creek.

SBS: Sylvia's Bridal Sampler from Elm Creek Quilts by Jennifer Chiaverini

ECQ: Elm Creek Quilts: Quilt Projects Inspired by the Elm Creek Quilts Novels by J. Chiaverini and N. Odom.



## BLOCK OF THE MONTH: WINDOW PANES

The December block is quick and easy. These wonky "plus signs" will look like windowpanes when all the blocks are sewn together.

For full instructions, visit [www.empirebom.blogspot.com](http://www.empirebom.blogspot.com).

—Karen Griska, Helen Beall, Lisa Belle, Shirley Clark, Lisa Kehrle



## WORKSHOP WITH ANNA FAUSTINO

**Butterfly with Anna Faustino**

**Sunday, December 12, 2010, 10 am – 5 pm**

**Sign up: Contact Mary Butler at**

[citymary@aol.com](mailto:citymary@aol.com) or 212-662-7771

**Location: 343 8th Avenue, at 27th Street**

**Cost: \$70**



The ever-popular and talented Anna Faustino is back with another fabulous workshop! Participants will make a butterfly wall hanging, pictured above. This butterfly is based on Anna's award-winning quilt (Best of Show, New Jersey Quilt Fest, and First Prize in Houton!) Butterfly Dance (pictured left). This is a great opportunity to learn some of Anna's special techniques. You'll come away with a beautiful butterfly, and ideas galore to put to use in your next projects. The workshop fee includes a kit with all the fabrics needed for this wall hanging.

*Supplies:* Large cutting board (min 18" x 24"), rotary cutter, 18" ruler, pencil, craft knife with blades, iron with extension cord, ironing mat, scissors.

**CHARITY**

We would like to thank the Empire Membership for once again stepping up to the plate and helping the kids and Moms in our City Shelters this Holiday Season. At the November meeting we received some beautiful hand knit items and hat and mitten sets, crayons and pencils, toys, and lots and lots and lots of toiletries. But so far we have collected 150 stockings, and only 25 teddy bears. For all the members who took fabric to make a teddy bear or a stocking, please be sure to bring them to the December meeting. If you are unsure how to draw on the eyes, nose and mouth, don't worry about it — it will be done for you.

The Holiday collection started a few years ago with teddy bears and stockings, and this is our claim to fame. The toiletries and games, coloring books, etc. were a welcome addition and have gone over very well, but we need our teddy bear makers in full force. You only need (2) 12 inch pieces of fabric to make a bear — it takes little time to sew and brings so much joy and happiness to a child who may be in a situation where they had to leave a favorite toy behind or just have no toy at all. In the past, I have left copies of thank you notes from Moms in the shelters and the kids themselves thanking us for not forgetting them, so Empire Quilters, let's not forget them. Please make your bears so we can help make kids happy this year. If all our members just make one bear, think of the joy it will bring.

As a reminder, any food items that are contributed must be individually wrapped and will be used for the shelter holiday party when the gifts are distributed. Empire Quilters is responsible for the holiday party and gift distribution for three shelters. That is an extraordinary effort and our membership must be congratulated for a great job. We put the smiles on the faces of so many kids and assure them that they have not been forgotten this holiday season.

And don't forget that the patterns for the teddy bears and stockings can be found on the [website](#). We hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving, and thank you for all you do! —*Jennifer Bigelow & Denise Walsh-Horowitz*

**LIBRARY**

There is no library in December, and our last regular library was at the November meeting. Beginning in January, we will only bring books to the library that have be requested by individual members. There is a list of books on line on our web site; books are listed by book title and by author. There is always a list at the Members table for members who don't have access to our web site. Books need to be requested one week before the meeting. Our January meeting is January 8, 2011 (in the Great Hall), so books must be requested by New Year's Day. You must still show us your most current Empire ID in order to take the books home. Books can be borrowed for one month. We will continue to sell used magazines at the Library table, the hours remain 12 Noon to 1 PM. After our June 2011 meeting, we will then reevaluate the Library's function.

Donations in November: Jennifer Bigelow, Alice Brody, Sylvia Hughes, Kate Iscol, Joan Hellman, Karen Monath and Sara Niego. And RaNae Merrill donated at least forty magazines as well as a copy of her new book, *Magnificent Spiral Mandala Quilts*. —*Sylvia Hughes*

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Due to space limitations, the Treasurer's report is condensed. A complete version is on the website, or you can contact Anna Krassy at [quilterme@gmail.com](mailto:quilterme@gmail.com) or 212-242-3253 to have a copy mailed to you.

<b>Treasurer's Reports</b>		
	<b>10/31/10</b>	
<b>Guild</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD Total</b>
Beginning Balance	\$ 50,366.52	\$ 56,807.78
Income	\$ 4,632.44	\$ 25,785.70
Expenses	\$ 3,997.10	\$ 25,410.15
Ending Balance	\$ 51,001.86	\$ 57,183.33
Show Income	\$ 2,049.00	\$ 7,936.50
Show Expenses	\$ 392.85	\$ 12,461.82
	<u>\$ 52,658.01</u>	<u>\$ 52,658.01</u>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<u><u>\$ 52,658.01</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 52,658.01</u></u>

# Upcoming Events

## JANUARY PROGRAM AND WORKSHOP - GLORIA HANSEN

The previously scheduled program featuring speaker Gwen Jackson has been CANCELED. The new program will be with Gloria Hansen. Details on the replacement program will be printed in the January newsletter and will be available on the guild website. Please remember this meeting will be held in the Reeves Great Hall, not in our usual location.

# Urban Inspirations Show

## SHOW UPDATE

Ladies and Gents have you been keeping an eye the schedule for our 2011 Urban Inspirations Quilt Show? The holiday season is upon us and the completed forms, photographs, and the \$20 entry fee are to be handed in at the **January 8, 2011** Empire Quilters guild meeting, or mailed to: Empire Quilters, Old Chelsea Station, and P.O. Box 1293, New York, NY 10113. Please review the Submission Procedure and Schedule you received in your show packet. The information can also be found on the guild [website](#). Our committees have been working very hard to make this a really exciting and memorable show. We have been extremely encouraged by people interested in coming to our show from other states, Ontario, Canada and even Australia. Don't miss out on this opportunity to be a part of this and show off your talent and beautiful quilts. January 8, 2011 is closer than you think. We look forward to receiving your completed forms, photographs, and your entry fee. This first step enables us to begin a very important part of the process: defining the layout.

As part of the participation agreement each member submitting a quilt *must* volunteer 4 hours as Tina Barth mentioned in the last newsletter and spoke about at our November meeting. Please fill out you volunteer forms as soon as possible.

Times flyin'! Can't wait to see your fabulous works!

—*JoAnn Gatch, Urban Inspirations Quilt Show Co-Chair ([quiltsbow@empirequilters.net](mailto:quiltsbow@empirequilters.net))*

## SHOW BOUTIQUE UPDATE

Now that the holidays are almost upon us, please keep in mind the 2011 Empire Quilt Show Boutique as you sew, knit and craft your holiday gifts. Ideas to work on over the holidays and into the cold months of winter include the following: baby bibs, adult bibs, lap quilts, baby quilts, sets of place mats, napkins, table runners, pot holders, tote bags, handbags, wall quilts, sewing cases, cell phone holders, eyeglasses cases, pin cushions, stuffed toys, fabric bowls, fabric trays, fabric boxes, jewelry, animal items such as cat or dog toys, or cat or dog outfits, doll outfits, doll quilts, dolls, ornaments and holiday items. Please remember that items must be hand-made or hand-crafted by Empire members. Your boutique form should be turned in at the January meeting or mailed by January 31st. Items are due to FIT on Friday, March 25th by 1 pm. Members with items in the Boutique are required to work four hours in the Boutique during the Show.

We'll be having a Show Boutique meeting on Saturday, January 8th at 12:30 pm before the start of the General Meeting at 1:00 pm. Attendance is not mandatory but we'll be able to answer any questions you may have.

Any questions, please contact Lisa Belle (646-610-1452 | [lmbinnyc@yahoo.com](mailto:lmbinnyc@yahoo.com)).

## HELP WANTED

The Show Committee is looking for someone willing to co-chair the set up and take down committee for the show. This person would have to be available on Friday, March 25 and Sunday, March 27. This is a physical job and requires someone who is organized and able to delegate. If you are interested, please contact Lisa Kehrle, Mindy Wexler-Marks or Jo Ann Gatch at [quiltsbow@empirequilters.net](mailto:quiltsbow@empirequilters.net).

# Notices

## SAD NEWS



With extreme sadness we report that long-time guild member Hildegard "Gardy" Nadler passed away last week after an accidental fall. She was 69. Private arrangements by Nesbitt Funeral Home, Englewood, New Jersey.

Gardy was an inspiration to us all. She was incredibly creative and talented. She was warm, caring, soft-spoken, and was very involved in the charitable activities of our guild. She supported each of us in our individual endeavors — with kindness and enthusiasm.

An award-winning quilter, Gardy was generous in sharing her talent, and for that we are grateful. As a quilter she showed great diversity in her work.

## SUBWAY SERIES QUILT

Don't forget to get your extra ticket books before the holidays! Chances on our wonderful quilt make a terrific Hanukah or Stocking gift. You can get extra books either from Kitty Squire (718-541-5545 | [kesquilts33@msn.com](mailto:kesquilts33@msn.com)) or at the December meeting.

## CRAZY CAT LADY SEEKS CAGE BLANKETS...

...to bring comfort to NYC's shelter animals. I am now coordinating Empire's Cage Comforter project. We're making small quilts and blankets to line the cages at NYC animal shelters. When shelter pets (both cats and small dogs) have soft beds to sleep on, they're happier, less stressed, and healthier, which means they're adopted sooner. This helps to reduce the overcrowding at NYC's shelters. Some shelters even let the pets take their blankets with them to their new homes.

You can either sew, knit or crochet a cage comforter. The only requirements are that they be at least 12" x 18" (but they can be larger) and that they be machine washable. If you'd like instructions for sewing a comforter, or patterns for knit or crochet, please email me at [Blaujello2@aol.com](mailto:Blaujello2@aol.com). I won't be at the December meeting, but email me and we can work something out. There is no time limit on this, I'll be doing it all year long. —*Diane Rode Schneck (aka the Crazy Cat Lady)*

## MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER QUILT AUCTION

MD Anderson Cancer Center will be running their third quilt auction to raise money for ovarian and other gynecological cancers in November 2011. Quilts need to be received by May 1, 2011. You can find complete information at: <http://www.mdanderson.org/departments/ovarianquilt> or contact Diane Paul (718-625-6449 | [funnylady93@earthlink.net](mailto:funnylady93@earthlink.net)).

## MEMBERS' WORKS IN LOCAL GREEN QUILTS SHOW

There is a fabulous quilt show in our area! — Prospect Park's 19th Annual Quilt Show Green Quilts. The show is being held through the end of 2010, and is on display in December at the Prospect Park Boathouse.


From the show's brochure: This year's theme is draws inspiration from recycled materials, nature, traditional quilt patterns, or simply the color green. The quilts explore global, regional, and sometimes deeply personal interpretations of what it means to "be green."

We are proud that several Empire Quilters members are participating in this meaningful exhibit, and we encourage all our members to visit the exhibit. Details (the when/where) can be found on our Shows & Events page, or at the Prospect Park website: [www.prospectpark.org](http://www.prospectpark.org)

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Check our website every Monday for updated our  
class schedule and weekly specials!

## Reminders!

- \* **Bring your Teddy Bears and Stockings** - Please bring your finished items for our holiday collection for NYC children. See pages 2 and 4 for details.
- \* **Auction Donations** - If you have items to contribute please contact Susan Knaster immediately. See page 2 for details.
- \* **January Newsletter Deadline** - Submit your articles for the January newsletter by Wednesday, December 15, 2010. Late submissions will not be accepted. Email submissions to [newsletter@empirequilters.net](mailto:newsletter@empirequilters.net).

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

**President: Paula Kenney** 212-982-8043 - [pdkenney44@aol.com](mailto:pdkenney44@aol.com)  
**First VP: Alice Brody** 212-865-0163 - [alicebrody@aol.com](mailto:alicebrody@aol.com)  
**Second VP: Beth Pile** 631-286-5532 - [bpile@optonline.net](mailto:bpile@optonline.net)  
**Treasurer: Anna Krassy** 212-242-3253 - [quilterme@gmail.com](mailto:quilterme@gmail.com)  
**Secretary: Denise Walsh-Horowitz**  
 718-454-1944 - [lazydogz1@verizon.net](mailto:lazydogz1@verizon.net)

## 2010-2011 Calendar

**January 8, 2011**  
Gloria Hansen

**February 12, 2011**  
Members Teaching Members

**March 5, 2011**  
Charity Day & Show Judging

**March 26-27, 2011**  
Urban Inspirations Show

**April 9, 2011**  
Roberta Horton & Mary Mashuta

**May 14, 2011**  
B.J. Adams

**June 11, 2011**  
Lisa Shepard

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