

EMPIRE NEWSLETTER

June 2011

President's Letter

This quilting season closes with many unresolved issues. Most will resolve themselves quickly, but others will take time and serious thought. Two things are of great concern to me: finding the right person to take over running our guild's website and whether to hold a quilt show in two years.

Over the past seven years we have been extremely fortunate to have our website tended to by Cindy Russell. I always felt that whenever I went to our site, Cindy was there watching and waiting. It seemed that whenever I posed a question — there was an answer.

Several people have responded to our request for help with the website, and Jennifer Bigelow is the lead person on this project. If you have ideas, or know people who do web design for a living please contact Jennifer at jmbigelow54@yahoo.com. We do not have a great deal of time. There are a great many people in Empire Quilters — some I hope with web experience. Outside of our Empire Family there are many people we can pay to make this happen. What we need to do is join together and decide.

Cindy worked very hard for us. She put our website on the map. While we did not pay her, we can repay her by making our next version a site all of us can be proud of. On behalf of all Empire Quilters — THANK YOU and also THANK YOU to Ed Russell.

I would like to ask all members who have been reluctant to become involved in the planning of our past quilt shows to think about becoming involved in the planning stages. There is a definite rush of excitement in the early days.

This month's meeting features the ever popular Members Marketplace. It's a great time to clean out those drawers and closets and make a few dollars — and great way to support your fellow members by buying some of their treasures.

It's also time to renew your dues for the 2011-2012 guild season. Bring checks with you to our next meeting. Support the Guild by paying your dues early.

I look forward to seeing you in June.

—Paula Kenney

Membership for 2011-2012

It's here again — time to renew your Empire membership for next year! You will not want to miss the exciting slate of speakers and workshops scheduled for next year! You will find an easy to fill out form in this newsletter. Don't forget to include the extra amount if you want your newsletter mailed to you! Please send a SASE along with the form if you would like to have your membership card mailed to you.



MEETING INFO

SATURDAY,
JUNE 11, 2011

TIME:

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

LOCATION:

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

PROGRAM:

Lisa Shepard Stewart

VENDOR:

Members' Flea Market

QUILTER of the MONTH:

None

FOCUS GROUPS:

Elm Creek Sampler Club

BOM:

Hedge and Flowers

LIBRARY: Open

SCRAP TABLE: Closed

SHOW & TELL: Open

GUEST FEE: \$10

June Meeting

Program and Workshop with Lisa Shepard Stewart

PROGRAM — GLOBAL TEXTILE INFLUENCES

Plan to come early to get a good seat! Lisa Shepard Stewart is a dynamo, and is a very popular artist / speaker / author / teacher! She is the creative force behind Cultured Expressions and is an award-winning author and designer specializing in the use of African fabrics and world crafting techniques for decorating, sewing, crafts & quilting.

At this meeting, Lisa will present a fabulous trunk show exploring a variety of fabric techniques from around the world, the cultures that created them, and how to incorporate them into quilting and home decor projects. Explore block printing from India, sadza batik from Zimbabwe, Italian trapunto and many others. Based in part on Lisa's books *Global Expressions*, *African Accents* and *On the Go!*

For more information about Lisa, and about Cultured Expressions, visit the award-winning website: www.culturedexpressions.com.



WORKSHOP WITH LISA SHEPARD STEWART

Location: 343 8th Avenue, at 27th Street

Date/Time: Sunday, June 12 from 10 am - 5 pm

Cost: \$60

Sign up: Contact Mary Butler at citymary@aol.com or 212-662-7771

Shading with Thread: A Free Motion Machine Embroidery Workshop

We're delighted to offer this full-day workshop with artist and author Lisa Shepard Stewart. Participants will create a collage-style mini art quilt (18" x 24") with an African twist, using jacquard batiks from Ghana, bogolan (mudcloth) from Mali, and cotton prints, then add texture and surface interest with West African beads, decorative threads, yarns, brass and other accents. Come prepared to create with an abstract, freestyle, contemporary approach. Stitch by hand, by sewing machine, or a combination.

Workshop fee includes coordinated fabrics, fusible web, fusible interfacing and a variety of embellishments. Additional options will be available for purchase during the workshop, and you can also bring scraps of your own materials to incorporate into your piece.



FOCUS GROUP

Elm Creek Sampler Club

Group Leaders: Lisa Belle and Lisa Kehrle, imbinnyc@yahoo.com or 212-962-0990

12 noon - 1 pm

6-inch block: Stamp Basket, found on page 70 of *Sylvia's Bridal Sampler*. The additional (optional) block is Pinwheel 2, on page 58.

12-inch block: Mother's Favorite block with the Hatchet center. The alternate block will be the Mother's Favorite block with a Resolution Square center. The centers are found on page 83-84 of *More Elm Creek Quilts*, the Mother's Favorite is on page 84.

We are happy to announce that the Elm Creek Sampler Club WILL continue for the 2011-2012 season. Watch the September newsletter for details.

BLOCK OF THE MONTH: HEDGE AND FLOWERS

This simple "Hedge and Flowers" block is the perfect place to use that beautiful floral you have in your stash. Choose a green leafy print (or any green that you like with your floral) for the hedge.

This is a simple 5-minute block, so if you don't have much time, this is perfect for you!

For full instructions, visit www.empirebom.blogspot.com.

—*Karen Griska, Helen Beall, Lisa Belle, Shirley Clark, Lisa Kehrl*

**LIBRARY**

First thanks to all of the members who, over the last five years, have donated magazines and books to the Empire Library. At the May meeting, donations came from: Cathy Bancroft, Betty Belford, Renee Fields, Verna Fitzgerald, Mary Gillette, Carole Hoffman, Sylvia Hughes, Jan Jenicek, Millicent Lana, Debra Levin, Alice Palmer and Edna Ray.

Second I want to thank all of the members who made my job as Librarian an easier one: Cathy Bancroft, who ran the library until I was able to set up the system for the the library, Tina Barth, who stores the books in her house and always had tea and sympathy while we filed and organized books, Sandra Samaniego, who is always there at the meetings to help with the magazine sales, and all of the members and non-members who have helped with our annual book sales.

It's been a good five years, and I wish all the best to our new Librarians, Mary Cargill and Lisa Belle.

—*Sylvia Hughes, Librarian*

CHARITY

Thanks to all who donated so many quilts for charity in May, and to the ladies who took them to places that so gratefully accepted them.

It's not too early to start thinking about your charity activities for the next guild year. We will continue the work Denise started a few years ago and will make stockings and bears again for the holiday season. Patterns can be found on the service page of our website.

In September, the Service Committee will introduce a new monthly group that will meet prior the the main meeting, called Charity Coach and Chat. Look for an article in the Fall from Marilyn Korn describing this group's aims and plans in more detail. This group is open to all; we hope seasoned members as well as newbies will come to enjoy quilting together and getting to know each other. Have a good summer.

—*Jennifer Bigelow and Marilyn Korn, Service Committee Co-Chairs*

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 (quilterme@gmail.com | 212-242-3253) with questions or to have a copy mailed to you.

Treasurer's Reports as of 4/30/2011		
Guild	Month	YTD Total
Beginning Balance	\$ 68,859.69	\$ 56,807.78
Income	\$ 2,156.55	\$ 33,524.22
Expenses	\$ 4,044.28	\$ 41,474.19
Ending Balance	\$ 66,971.96	\$ 48,857.81
Show Income	\$ 2,546.11	\$ 63,840.99
Show Expenses	\$ 3,694.97	\$ 46,875.70
Grand Total	\$ 65,823.10	\$ 65,823.10

Upcoming Events

BUS TRIPS

Our first trip for the 2011-2012 season will be to the PA National Quilt Show at the Greater Philly Expo Center on Saturday, September 17th, assuming there are enough quilters interested. Because June will be our last meeting before the summer break, we have to make plans for the trip now. So, if you are interested in coming on this trip, please send Mindy a \$25 deposit or give her a check at the June meeting. After the meeting, contact Mindy to see if there is still room, and/or if there is a waiting list.

The date has been reserved with First Stop Charters; the cost of the trip will, of course, be determined by how many quilters are interested in going. The estimated cost will be in the \$35-55 range plus \$14 admission to the show. Pick up location will be diagonally across from the post office (31st Street and 8th Avenue) near Penn Station. We will leave at 8:00am and return 6:00-6:30 pm, leaving the Expo Center at 4:00.

Also, if there are any trips in which you are interested beginning in the fall season, please let Mindy know. Some possibilities are the Smithsonian in DC, Wintertur in Delaware, Lancaster shopping trip, a behind the scenes look at the Metropolitan Opera costumes, fabric restoration studios for the Metropolitan Museum, a fabric printing studio, quilt storage facilities at the Folk Art Museum, etc. Suggestions would be most welcome.

—Mindy Wexler-Marks (212-874-4290 | mindywexlermarks@yahoo.com)



Renew your guild membership! 2011 – 2012 Empire Quilters Guild Membership Renewal

1. Dues for Guild Meeting Season Sep 2011 – Jun 2012: \$55.00 (all ages)

2. Contribution: Additional tax-deductible contribution (optional):

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

- Email to email address: _____
- First Class Mail: **\$5.00 additional annual fee to cover mailing costs**

4. Contact Information (please print):

Name: _____ Telephone: _____
 Address: _____ Cell: _____
 _____ Email: _____
 City, ST, Zip: _____ Birthday: _____

Membership Dues: \$	\$55.00
Contribution: \$ (Optional)	_____
1st Class Mail Fee: \$ (n.a. for email)	_____
Total Enclosed: \$	_____

5. Submit Form:

Bring completed form to a meeting,
 or mail to: **Empire Quilters, Inc.**
 Old Chelsea Station
 P.O. Box 1293
 New York, NY 10113

- ▶ 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*. If you want to have your membership card mailed to you, **please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope**.
- ▶ For more information see: www.EmpireQuilters.net

Member News

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS!!

Joyce Morici Fischer is an AQS Certified Appraiser!

Congratulations to guild member Joyce Morici Fischer! After studying for four years, Joyce recently took her written and verbal test in Paducah and received her Congratulations! letter from Gerald Roy. Joyce is now an official American Quilter's Society Appraiser of Traditional and Non Traditional Quilts.

We're all so pleased for Joyce and wish her well on her quilt appraising journey.

Darlene Donohue wins award in Paducah

Congratulations to guild member Darlene Donohue for her spectacular award (for her spectacular quilt!) at the recent American Quilter's Society Quilt Show in Paducah, Kentucky. Darlene's quilt Red and Green Revisited was awarded the Second Place Prize in the Bed Quilts: Longarm/Midarm Machine Quilted category.

The 27th Annual AQS show took place April 27-30, 2011. For additional information about the American Quilter's Society and any of their contests and shows, please visit their website: americanquilter.com

LOCAL SHOW INFORMATION

Noriko Endo's Impressionist Quilts

June 16 - August 6, 2011
The Art Quilt Gallery NYC
133 West 25th St, New York, NY
[Art Quilt Gallery in NYC](#)

35th Vermont Quilt Festival

June 24-26, 2011
Champlain Valley Expo, Essex Junction, Vermont
www.vqf.org

Maine Quilts 2011, Pine Tree Quilters Guild

Fri-Sun, July 29-31, 2011
Augusta Civic Center, Augusta, Maine
[Maine Quilts](#)

Soulful Stitching: Patchwork Quilts by Africans (Siddis) in India

Open through June 30, 2011
Latimer/Edison Gallery, Main Exhibition Hall,
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, NYC
[NYPL Website](#)

A Stitch in Jewish Time: Provocative Textiles

Open through June 30, 2011
Brookdale Center, One West 4th St, New York City
[Hebrew Union College](#)

SUPERSTARS:

Quilts from the American Folk Art Museum

Open through September 25, 2011
American Folk Art Museum
Branch Location at 2 Lincoln Square, NYC
www.folkartmuseum.org



The AAQ invites you to join us for a fabulous weekend of quilts, fabric, fun and fashion. To showcase its dynamic programs, and help pay for them too, the Alliance has put together a fun collection of three related but separate events: "Quilters Take Manhattan." Tickets are sold a la carte, so you can tailor a program to your own tastes and budget.

Modern Stories:

Documenting the Modern Quilt Movement

Friday, August 5, 2011, 7 - 10 pm

Marianne & Jay on the Runway:

A Quilter's Alliance of Fabric & Fashion

Saturday, August 6, 2011, 1-6 pm

NY's Ultimate Block Party:

Cocktails at The City Quilter

Saturday, August 6, 2011, 7:30 - 9 pm

For a full list of prices and activities for the Quilters Take Manhattan benefit weekend, visit our website, www.AllianceForAmericanQuilts.org.

Notices

WEBSITE MASTER/MISTRESS NEEDED

After many years of extraordinary effort Cindy Russell is stepping down in June from managing the Guild's website. First, thanks to Cindy for all the hard work done over the years. Second, we need to find members who are willing to take over the work of managing our website. Cindy has informed us that we need to upgrade our website - that is there have been improvements in the software technology that would make managing our website and its content easier in the long run.

I have worked with Cindy as website liaison over the last couple of years and have agreed to organize a group to discuss and plan the future Empire Quilters website. I am looking for members who are willing to participate who have a keen interest in the website, and certainly want some who have experience either in developing and maintaining sites, or who have had sites built for them. We need to look at various alternatives, understand the costs associated with building and maintaining a site, and most importantly identify someone (or a few someones) willing to be responsible to maintain the website on an ongoing basis.

A few people approached me at the May meeting expressing interest, and I'll be setting up meetings (probably teleconferences) to start the work. We must keep in mind that as of June, our current site will no longer be updated by Cindy - so we need to move quickly, but prudently, to our next level. Please contact me at jmbigelow54@yahoo.com and let me know you are interested. Put "New EQ Website" in the subject and please include relevant contact information (phones, e-mail address). I look forward to working with you on this.

—Jennifer Bigelow

SUGGESTION BOX

One member suggested that we have a monthly focus group for people interested in Dear Jane quilts and techniques.

Guild board member Kitty Squire replies:

Our focus groups are organized and scheduled by guild member Janet Randolph who tries to teach a variety of skills during them.

In addition, Guild members are welcome to start other their own monthly sewing groups, either at the meeting or outside of it. For the past two seasons we have had a group meeting to work on Elm Creek quilts, and next fall we are starting a new group on various sewing techniques and making charity quilts.

Any guild member(s) interested in starting a new group (like a "Dear Jane" group!) should notify the guild's Board of Directors so that appropriate location space can be arranged. To spread the word about your group, we encourage you to place an article in the newsletter to solicit other interested members, and we ask that you send information to info@empirequilters.net to have your activity listed on the guild website.

NEW GUILD PIN

A new Empire Quilters guild pin has arrived! This elegant gold and black pin was available for purchase at our 2011 Urban Inspirations quilt show and can also be purchased at guild meetings.

The pin is 1¼" wide and is being sold for the bargain price of \$5.00 (while supplies last). If you did not purchase your pin at our recent show, stop by the membership table at our next meeting.



Summer Projects

RED & WHITE CHALLENGE

Diane and I walked around the Red and White Infinite Variety Show together at the Armory in March. We were both in awe of what was displayed. There were so many quilts and other items made in red and white. The makers of the quilts had explored so many different possibilities. We both thought we should have a challenge for the members of Empire Guild.

The challenge is to make something red and white. It can be any quilt related item but does not have to be a quilt. We want to free you and for you to have fun with the challenge. The only rule is whatever you make it should be in red and white. No other colors. We will display what the members make at the October meeting at the Church of the Holy Apostles. We will have the items judged by viewer's choice ballots. Plus as an added bonus we will have prizes. If you make something that needs special attention for display please contact us before the October meeting. If you would like to be involved to help, contact Beth Pile bpile@optonline.net or Diane Rode Schneck at bleujello2@aol.com. We think this will be a good project to work on this summer. Have fun!

—*Beth Pile and Diane Rode Schneck*

ENGLISH PAPER PIECING

Bring your Hexes...would each of you who took Diane Rubenstein's class (and anyone else who is working on hexes) bring them to the September meeting. You have all summer to work on your projects!

There has been an explosion of popularity for this hand piecing in every size and style. There are many pictures to see on the web. It would be nice for those of you who are working on this to bring your project to the September meeting and share it at Show & Tell. It does not matter if it is not complete; we all would like to see what you are doing.

—*Diane Rubenstein*

QUILTS WANTED!

Is it too early for us to think about our December fundraiser? We don't think so! This is your opportunity to have fun designing and making a small quilt and the Guild benefits! It is easy! We are looking for members who want to make a small (no more than 24" x 24") quilt with a Holiday theme to be auctioned off. These do NOT have to be just Christmas, Hanukah or Kwanzaa quilts — we hope to get them all — Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Easter, Passover, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Halloween, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving as well as any not listed! The quilts can be any shape as long as the total outside circumference does not exceed 96". This is a great opportunity to use that themed fabric that you just had to have, but cannot find a use for, AND raise money for Empire!

Yes, it is early, but we thought these would be fun to work on over the summer. If you have any questions, please contact either Kitty Squire (kesquilts33@msn.com) or Lisa Kehrlle (lisank94@aol.com). There will be more detailed information in the fall!

—*Kitty Squire and Lisa Kehrlle*

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**Enjoy your summer!
See you in September!
-Empire Quilters**

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Reminders!

* **Membership for 2011-2012:** We are now accepting new and renewal memberships for the 2011-2012 guild season. Stop at the Membership Table and complete your form or complete the form on page 4 and mail it in over the summer.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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

2011-2012 Calendar

September 10, 2011

Dalen Keys

October 8, 2011

Anna Hergert

November 12, 2011

Betty Ekern Suiter

December 10, 2011

Holiday Fundraising
& Charity Gift Collection

January 14, 2012

Leni Wiener

February 11, 2012

Members Teaching Members

March 10, 2012

Charity Work Day

April 14, 2012

Rayna Gillman

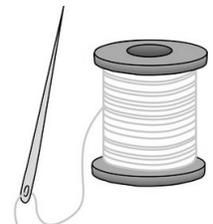
May 12, 2012

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