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NEXT MEETING: SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2006

11 AM TO 12 PM – BOARD MEETING

1 PM TO 5 PM – GENERAL MEETING

Fashion Institute of Technology (F.I.T.)

David Dubinsky Center, 8th Floor

West 27th Street & 8th Avenue, NYC

GUEST FEE \$5.00

PROGRAM: UFO DAY (UnFinished Objects)

VENDOR: PRINTS CHARMING

QUILTER OF THE MONTH: TOM CUFF

WORKSHOP: MARY ANNE CICCOTELLI: HEXAGON FLOWER BAG

PROGRAM

Un- Finished Object Day. (UFO'S). Can you count more unfinished quilting projects about the house than flies at a picnic? Have you left a partially finished quilt in a dark corner only to discover that it multiplies faster than tribbles in Star Trek? Is there a box in the back of your shoe closet with an incomplete project from every quilting workshop you've ever taken?

Have the intended recipients of your unfinished baby quilts entered the first year of law school? Did your best friend divorce her husband before you finished their wedding quilt? (Continued on page 9).

WORKSHOP

Folded Flower Bag w/ Mary Anne Cicotelli 9:00AM-12:00PM before the regular meeting on January 14. There is a \$20.00 Kit available from Mary Anne (e-mail Mac1998ny@yahoo.com or 914-738-2783 \$27.

When Mary Anne, an Empire member, showed us her bags at last June's meeting, many members requested that she run a workshop to show us how. The time has come.

You are offered two versions: A or B. B has a wider flap. Use your favorite batiks to cut the hexagons (templates on the web site) and

come prepared to be delighted and instructed. And ready to be the perfect fashionista! Any questions? call B. Hull at 718-229-4895.

Workshop Supply List: Please pre-cut all hexagons due to time constraints. CUT 7" Hexagons batik fabric A: 17/B: 20 Note: Use a 'real' batik fabric for folded hexagons. Almost identical on either side of the fabric, they have a very tight weave. CUT 3" Hexagons from traditional or low-loft polyester batting A: 16/B: 20 100% cotton batt makes a VERY FLAT hexagon.

BRING:

oSewing kit (needles, scissors, pins, etc.)
oNeutral colored thread oThimble (optional)
oLead + chalk pencil oSharpie® permanent marker

To complete the bag after the workshop: Buttons or embellishment for each hexagon center A16 / B19 Coordinating thread for quilting lines. 1 yd cording for handle (optional). Magnetic clasp. **Complete kit: \$27.00** (includes 20 pre-cut 7" hexagons each from a different batik), 20 pre-cut 3" 100% polyester batting hexagons, 1 magnetic clasp.)
Batting/clasp kit: \$5.00 (includes: 20 pre-cut batting hexagons, 1 magnetic clasp)
Magnetic clasp only: \$2.00

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE:

Feb 4 - African Mosaics w/ Lisa Shepard:

\$75 includes Kit. Kits will be distributed at the January meeting. If not reserved before Jan meeting, call M. Butler@ 212-662-7771 after Jan 19 to order a kit.

March 12 - Cutwork with Anna Faustino: \$45 includes kit.

May 14 - Fabrics Folios w/ Leslie Levinson: \$ TBD. More info to follow.

June 11 - African Trails w. Dorothy Scalice: \$ TBD. More info to follow.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone. It's cold enough today to be January. Though I hurry to bundle up against the cold and wind, I have to admit it puts me in a festive holiday mood. I hope you all enjoyed our December Holiday Fundraiser Bazaar. I want to thank each of you who so generously donated items and then bought raffle tickets in hopes of winning something wonderful. Did any of you win back something you donated? (I did – some of those fat quarters). I'm happy to share that we raised over \$1,400 on Saturday.

We had a good turnout on Sunday at the "Gathering" – with a number of people showing up to learn how to make the New York Beauty block. Others brought projects they are working on, taking advantage of having lots of room to layout the pieces, or to baste a large quilt.

I'm so glad to see the response we've had to helping make this quilt and it's exciting to see the progress we're making. I know that the next 2 weeks will be pretty busy for many of us. But, if you took foundation and fabric to make 1 or more New York Beauty blocks, please bring the completed block(s) to the January meeting. Or if you want you can mail them to Paula Kenney. Our aim is to have the quilt top completed by the end of January so we can send it to be quilted.

It's not too early to start thinking about our February Charity Quilting meeting. Visions of charity quilts are dancing in my head ever since I won the auction of the bag of fat quarters! When you need a break from the hustle and bustle of the holidays, you might enjoy escaping to a quiet spot and making a small quilt (or top) to donate. In my years with this guild I've been impressed and inspired by your generosity – and I have no doubt I'll be in awe again this year.

I look forward to seeing you all next month. Warm wishes for a loving and happy holiday season to you all.—**Jennifer**

QUILTER OF THE MONTH

Tom Cuff began collecting quilts 25 years ago. As he started to upgrade his collection, he thought it would be a good idea to see how a quilt was constructed. Tom took a class with Pat Yamin and started making crib quilts for his friends' babies. Now he has a lifetime collection of fabric.

Tom came to New York 37 years ago to study theatre at Columbia University, where he received a M.F.A. He supported himself acting in television commercials and on stage, but when he was offered a job at America Hurrah, a leading quilt dealer on Madison Avenue, he left show business. He now manages Naga Antiques, a leading dealer of Japanese screens and antiques.

Tom has been a guest lecturer and/or curator for the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the American Museum of Folk Art, the National Trust for Historic Preservation at Clivedon in Philadelphia, and the Sauder Craft Museum in his native Ohio.

SHOWS & EVENTS

At **The Bard Graduate Center** for Studies in the Decorative Arts, Design, and Culture. 18 West 86th Street, New York, NY 10024. Phone: 212-501-3000. | generalinfo@bgc.bard.edu

Current Exhibition: Friday, November 18, 2005 - Sunday, February 5, 2006

Wearing Propaganda: Textiles on the Home Front in Japan, Britain and the United States. 1931 – 1945.

For more information and directions, please call or go to their website.

At **The NoHo Gallery:** 530 west 25th Street, 4th floor, New York City. (212)-367-7063.

www.nohogallery.com or for more info on SAQA, go to www.saga.com

Hours: Tues – Saturday 11-6.

Current Exhibition: January 17 – February 4, 2006.

Exposed! Contemporary Art Quilts.

This exhibit, curated by **Dorothy Twining Globus, Museum of Arts & Design** will feature selected works by members of **Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA)**.

At the **New England Quilt Museum:** 18 Shattuck Street, Lowell, MA 01852. (978)-452-4207. Go to www.nequiltmuseum.org for more info, hours and directions.

January 21 – April 1, 2006.

Best of New England Guilds

This juried exhibit will feature selections from quilts made by the members of the quilting guilds of the six New England states not exhibited before in the New England Quilt Museum or the biennial Images show. Twenty-five to thirty quilts will be accepted for display.

At **The Garden State Exhibit Center:** Somerset, NJ. For more info, go to www.quiltfest.com

Thu – Sun, March 2 – 5, 2006

The Quilt Fest of New Jersey

This festival features over 400 quilts on display, a good merchants mall, workshops and lectures. Featured speakers this year include Melody Johnson, Jennie Rayment, Virginia Walton, and a many other famous names!

Empire Quilters will be taking a bus to this event. *Sign up early!* **See bus trip info on page 4 for more details.**

At the **Freeport Convention Center:** 130 East Merrick Road, Freeport, NY.

Sat - Sun March 25 – 26, 2006

2006 LIQS Quilt Show: “Seams Like We’re Going to Pieces!” Presented by Long Island Quilter’s Society.

Sat – Sun March 25 – 26, 2006

For more info, go to www.liqs.org.

This event can be reached by LIRR. Take the Babylon line to the Freeport Station. Convention Center is a short walk from station.

At the **Lancaster Host Resort & Conference Center:** Lancaster, PA. **19th Annual "Quilter's Heritage Celebration."**

For more info go to www.qhconline.com.

April 6 – 9, 2006

Empire Quilters will be taking a bus trip to this event. *Sign up early!* See **bur trip info on page 4 for more details.**

At **John F. Kennedy High School**, Rte 138, Somers, NY. **Sat-Sun, May 5 – 6, 2006.**

A World of Quilts XXVII presented by Northern Star Quilt Guild.

Cost is \$8.00/day (\$7.00 for Seniors). This event can be reached by Metro North Harlem/Hudson Line. Get off at Golden's Bridge Station. There will be a free shuttle bus to the show all day. For more info go to www.northernstarquilters.com

At **The NJ Convention & Expo Center**, 97 Sunfield Avenue, Edison, NJ. **June 8 – 10, 2006.**

For more info, go to www.njqilts.org or e-mail: njqilts2006@aol.com

Sponsored by State Quilt Guild of New Jersey, Inc., this event features over 500 quilts in a judged competition, wearable art, workshops with John Flynn and others, a vendor mall, dinner lecture, luncheon fashion show, free lectures and demos, *and more!*

At **Tsongas Arena, Lowell Memorial Auditorium, and New England Quilt Museum**, Lowell, Massachusetts. **August 3 – 6, 2006. Lowell Quilt Festival....Citywide Celebration of Quilts** Presented by: New England Quilt Museum Auxiliary.

For more info, go to : www.lowellquiltfestival.org

Featuring **Images 2006:** Juried Quilt Show, Merchants mall, Live and Silent Auctions; **Antique Quilt Show** *Variations on a Theme,*

curated by Gerald Roy, and **Blending the Old and the New** at **The New England Quilt Museum**. For more information about the New England Quilt Museum, go to www.nequiltmuseum.org

EMPIRE BUS TRIPS

Quilt Fest of New Jersey: Somerset, NJ **March 4th, 2006. \$40.00** per person covers both the bus & admission.

We will meet at 31st Street & 8th Avenue at 9 am. Our return trip is scheduled to leave Somerset, New Jersey at 5 pm.

This is only the 2nd year that this show is being held. Last years trip was very popular and filled up fast, so if you are interested, contact me ASAP. The show will have over 400 quilts on display as well as a Merchant Mall (we noticed quite a few merchants last year from the south-eastern U.S. that came up after the Williamsburg show and usually do not frequent our area!). Go to www.quiltfest.com for more information on the show.

Quilters Heritage Celebration: Lancaster, PA. **April 8th - 9th, 2006 (overnight trip!)** Cost: **\$165** for a double room, **\$200** for a single. This covers the bus, room & tax, admission for both days as well as dinner on Saturday.

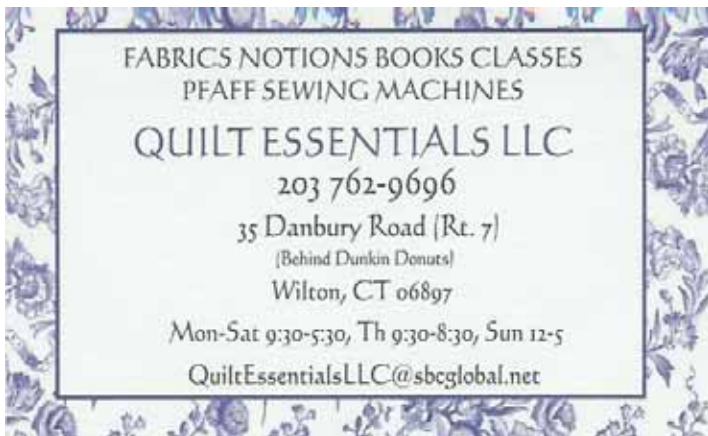
This trip is offered only tentatively. If not enough members sign up, we might not be able to afford the bus!

We will meet at 31st Street & 8th Avenue at 7:45am on Saturday. Our arrival for Lancaster is scheduled for 11 am. You are free to enjoy the show for the rest of the day. At 6 pm we will go to Shady Maple Smorgasbord for their all-you-can-eat Amish buffet for Dinner. Sunday morning is a good time to check out the vendors at our hotel as they

open earlier than the Host Inn. Our departure from Lancaster is planned for 4:30 pm. Check out www.qhconline.com for more information on the show.

If you are interested in either one of these trips, please contact me at 631-805-0621 or by e-mail at friede@optonline.net.

Fran Riede



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LIBRARY NEWS

During 2006 there will be many interesting activities during our monthly meeting and the library hours will be from **12:00 to 1:00 pm** for the sale of our donated magazines and for signing out books. At each meeting we will bring a good selection of books, usually with a “theme”. If anyone wants a particular book or author please call Tina Barth to see if we have a copy available. These themes will be selected for the focus group activities, the guest speaker, and special events; In January the theme will be “quick and easy” techniques and patterns to prepare for our charity quilt day in February and the ‘holidays’ in February and March. A reminder: there will be no library in February so books borrowed in January will be due in March. Magazines will continue to be \$.25 and 1.00 for new and special interest ones. Only members may borrow from the library and you must be wearing your membership card. Our library members are Tina Barth, Pearl Chow, Regina



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Judith Klein, Myrna Williams, Dorothy Williams, Alicia Cruz, Denise Bradley, Lois Tamir, Diane Collier, Fannie D’Avino, Lea Williams Rose, Jennifer Cappeto, Anne Townley, Laura Burgess, Jane Kelton, Anna Faustino.

Nordquist, and Ligaya Siachongco. Sylvia Hughes will be the Chair and I will be doing the catalogue that we will put on the web site. Fines for failure to return books are 2.00 for each missed month. If you wish to renew a book please call before the meeting because someone might have reserved it.

FOCUS GROUPS

“Charity Day Head Start” (10:30 am – 12:30 pm)

In preparation for February’s “Charity Day,” we will be making poly fleece throws. They are quick and easy to make for those who don’t have the time to work on quilt tops this time of year. We have gotten many thank you letters in the past for this type of quilt.

Please bring two pieces of 60” wide by 1 yd long poly fleece cuts. This will be enough to make two quilts. Basic sewing supplies. Yarn will be provided for blanket stitch edging. Any questions, please call **Dorothy Arkell at (212)-675-2438.**

“On Going Crazy Quilt Group” (3:30 pm – 5:00 pm)

We will continue to work on our crazy quilt blocks plus learn new stitches. Natalie will teach us a new way to make a flower. Please bring fine tulle or organza fabric plus a sewing kit with thread to match the fabric you bring. New ladies always welcome. Questions call: **Natalie 212-877-4702 or Beth 631-286-5532.**

SUNSHINE/WELCOMING

We had several guests at our December fundraiser. I would like the new members who joined in November to see me at the welcoming table in January. I have a gift for you. Hope everyone had a pleasant holiday. Again, if you would like a card sent to a member, let me know. **Beth Pile 631-286 5532 or bpile@optonline.net**

FEBRUARY’S CHARITY DAY

Empire's Charity Day is coming up in just one short month. Our February meeting is dedicated to Charity. Please bring you ideas, sewing supplies as well as tops you have for charity quilts. Many of our members took fabric that was donated to the guild in October and November. Now is the time to bring back the completed tops. The charity committee has been saving large pieces of fabric from the scrap table, so we will do our best to match your top with a bottom. If you have fabric that you would like to donate for charity, please bring it with you. The more we have, the nicer the quilts will be. There are many needy New Yorkers in need of out quilts. Please bring your sewing supplies, scissors, pins, rotary cutters, etc. and be ready to have a very rewarding day, and maybe meet some new friends. We also need members who can bring their sewing machines along as well, to assemble the layers. Last year our guild donated 96 quilts to various charities, lets beat last years total. Thanks to all our members for your continued support. Check out the guild website for more ideas. This month, Barbara Hull donated a quilt for the guild - thanks Barbara.

City Quilter has agreed to donate our batting once again. We would like to extend a "**BIG THANK YOU**" for their generosity. We hope to see a big turnout in February.--**Denise Walsh-Horowitz, Alice Oberstein, Marion Webber.**

Empire Quilters, Inc. is a non-profit organization founded in 1982 to preserve and promote the tradition, culture, and history of quilt making, and to foster good fellowship among persons interested in the art of quilting in the greater New York area. The guild has a continuing commitment to raising the level of appreciation of quilts among the general public, to using our talents in service to our community, and to the exchanging of our skills, ideas, and visions with one another. NQA chapter 494. Old Chelsea Station, P.O. Box 1293, New York 10113. www.empirequilters.net

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Double, Twin size bed or smaller	\$20.00
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King Size bed to tapestry	\$50.00

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TREASURER'S REPORT

11/14-12/14

Income as of 12/14	Month	Y-T-D
December Fund Raiser	\$1,493.00	\$1,493.00
Fons and Porter		\$15.00
Guest Fees		\$75.00
Katrina Auction		\$200.00
Library Income	\$43.00	\$112.00
Membership	\$625.00	\$4,170.00
Monthly Raffles	\$124.00	\$391.00
Newsletter Advertising	\$373.00	\$2,547.70
Share Table	\$90.50	\$333.50
Vendor Sales	\$98.50	\$302.50
Workshops	\$1,290.00	\$1,355.00
Total Income	\$4,137.00	\$10,994.70
Expenses as of 12/14	Month	Y-T-D
Fons and Porter		
Subscriptions	\$0.00	\$80.00
Insurance		\$1,122.00
Newsletter Expense	\$353.35	\$1,179.60
Newsletter Mailing	\$133.80	\$661.60
Printing and Reproduction		\$16.23
Postage-Show		\$58.85
Post Office Box		\$48.00
Raffle Quilt-Show		\$64.13
Refunds on Membership		\$75.00
Rent	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00
Speaker	\$375.00	\$575.00
Speaker Expenses	\$715.81	\$778.27
Stationery		\$396.88
Website	\$21.95	\$87.80
Welcoming Committee	\$19.52	\$49.66
Workshop Expense	\$1,115.80	\$1,515.80
Workshop Teacher Fees	\$600.00	\$800.00
Total Expenses	\$5,835.23	\$12,508.82
Current Bank Balance as of 12/14/05		
Quilt Show Checking	\$12,760.49	
Guild Checking	\$19,112.19	
	\$31,872.68	

Program ... continued

Have you confided to your sister that you have incomplete quilts older than your lease? Your job? Your children?

Of course, you have answered "yes" to most of the above questions. Every true quilter has at least one UnFinished Object.

Happy New Year, Quilters! Welcome to 2006 and a fresh set of resolutions. Clean those closets...now! Let Empire Quilters help you turn over a new leaf. EVERY MEMBER SHOULD BRING AT LEAST

ONE UFO TO THE JANUARY 14TH MEETING.

Be prepared to tell your UFO story at your table and share the laughs. Every table picks the most outrageous UFO story to share with the members. **We don't care how many pieces it's in; how much you hate it; how old it is; or whether you plan to keep it or finish it. JUST BRING THEM!!!**

Prizes will be awarded to the wildest /funniest tales, to the ugliest fabric of the day, and to the member who brings the most items.

Commiserate with other quilters. Share the laughs. Wonder why anyone ever bought the Puce paisley in the first place. But clear your closet of at least one UFO. Be prepared to trade, donate, slice, dice, embellish, discard, sew or ??? you decide...

One member's UFO could be your prize winner at the next show.

HOSTESSES NEEDED

Over the years, Empire Quilters has been blessed with several members who have hosted visiting quilt artists/lecturers/teachers in their own homes. Many teacher are delighted to visit with Empire members in a city as large as New York. And our hostesses have enjoyed the experience, too. We have had access to corporate facilities on several weekends due to the kindness of Empire members, too. Over the years, these generous members have saved the Empire treasury thousands of dollars.

Right now, we are without any hostesses on the Empire roster which has a major financial impact upon the guild's treasury. In addition, NYC is undergoing a shocking rise in hotel rates even at the most modest of places.

Here's three ways that you can help your guild to continue quality programs:

First: If you can be a hostess, let us know. Contact Jennifer, the executive board, or the program chair. Out-of-town visitors need a

separate quiet room, a place to park their quilts, and a warm welcome from New Yorkers.

Second: We need to create a roster of affordable places for out-of-town visitors to the guild meetings as well as our coming show. I need the help of 2 or 3 members with experience in hotels or tourism who could sit down with me to help establish written budget guidelines and a list of vendors/locations that meet our needs. (Contact Jennifer, executive board, or me. Be sure to include the phrase "empire quilters" in the subject line of an e-mail.)

Last: Please share any tips you may have for reasonably priced accommodations in Manhattan. You may have a secret cozy inexpensive location where you put up Aunt Tilly. Remember, we're all members of the quilting family. Lend us a hand.

Barbara Hull – Program Chair

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE BASTING TABLES

Is your sewing room tight on space? Your dining room table too small to hold a full size quilt? Did you just mutter "What dining room?" under your breath?

We have two large basting tables for members to use either before or after the Empire meetings at FIT. Come early on Saturday morning. Gather your tools and a few friends. Baste that UFO that you stowed away over the holidays. First come, first served. It's just one of the perks of Empire membership. And who knows, it might become your prizewinner at the next show!

“HAPPY NEW YEAR”

NOTICES

NEW LIBRARY HOURS: Starting in January, 2006, the Library will be open 12:00pm - 1:00pm only! Our hard-working Librarians want to participate more in the

guild meetings and programs, and they have determined that most library check-in and check-out can be done in an hour. So if you have books to return, or want to check out new materials, come early.

NEW MEMBERSHIP CHECK-IN HOURS: Starting in January, 2006, the membership check-in process will take place 12:00pm - 1:30pm. Please come a little before the meeting starts to check-in. The membership table is information central for the guild - you can update your mailing or email address, sign a slip for Show & Tell, look at the board meeting minutes, and pick up various flyers from vendors or upcoming events. The membership table will close when the guild business meeting is finished so that everyone can hear the main speaker or presentation.

HELP WANTED -- NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Several board positions need to be filled for next year. Please contact Sylvia Hughes if you are interested in being on the board, or if you could help by being on the nominating committee. See the membership directory for Sylvia's contact information, or email info@empirequilters.net and you will be put in contact with Sylvia. Please consider helping with this important job! With the guild Quilt Show scheduled for March, 2007 (it's sooner than you think!) we need a full slate of officers. Thank you.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

February 11, 2006 (Charity Quilting Day)
March 11, 2006 (Rhonda Johnson—copy right issues)
April 8, 2006 (Leslie Levinson)
May 13, 2006 (To be determined)
June 10, 2006 (Joy Saville-“The Creative Process”)

BOARD MEETING MINUTES ON WEBSITE

Our board meeting minutes are posted on our website at:

WWW.EMPIREQUILTERS.NET They can be found on the Committees page of the website and are in .pdf format. A password is required to open the file.

If you've forgotten the password, e-mail info@empirequilters.net. When your membership is verified, the password will be e-mailed to you. Additionally, the minutes can be perused at our meeting; they are to be found at our membership table.

Joan Hellmann, Secretary

SHOW & TELL

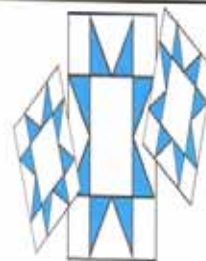
The following members shared their projects with us at the December meeting:

Dreidel Quilt—**Mary Levins**, Roundabout Stars Stack ‘N Wack—**Barbara Rose**, Hanukkah—**Sheila Molitz**, Lightning—**Barbara Hull**, Night Watch, Quilter’s Wreath—**Anna Faustino**, Crop Circles—**Carole Hoffman**, Christmas Mini Sampler, Christmas Tree—**Sylvia Hughes**, Hanukkah Candles, Christmas Tree, Hanukkah Wreath, Christmas Stars, Hanukkah Stars—**Judy Issacs**.

If you missed the meeting, you can see these works on the guild website. Look for the **Show & Tell** link.

Bring your quilts and other fiber projects to Show and Tell to share with other members. It’s great to see what other members are working on.

Show and Tell is a great source of inspiration for everyone.



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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the February, 2006 newsletter is: **Wednesday, January 18, 2006**. Please send information to: Linda Lee Kelly, 950 Oaks Drive, Franklin Square, NY 11010 or e-mail: **LKELLY20@OPTONLINE.NET**.

For the latest up to the minute info about what's going on in the guild, go to the Empire Quilter's Website at: WWW.EMPIREQUILTERS.NET



New York Disaster Interfaith Services (NYDIS) has opened a Katrina Evacuee Clothing Mart at St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church on Church St between Barclay and Vesey. (The A/C/E to Chambers St. or the 2/3 to Park Place.). They will accept the donation of new quilts **Monday-Saturday, 10 am-6 pm**. Their number is **347-387-3678**.

Katrina/Rita Hurricane Relief: Quilts still needed for pre-k to 6th grade. They have over 2,000 student evacuees in Alexandria. Quilts to be sent to: **Rapides Parish School Board 619 Sixth St., Alexandria, LA 71301 Attn: Karen Lafargue, District Superintendent 318-449-3109** Any questions, you can contact **Teresa Vega at: (212) 942-9310**

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