
EMPIRE NEWSLETTER

February 2010

President's Letter

Something wonderful happened at our last meeting. A group of members answered the call for volunteers for 2011 Show. When I arrived at the meeting Saturday morning, I was not hopeful that we would have enough volunteers to put a quilt show together. It was a pleasant surprise when so many of you stayed after the meeting to listen to Kitty Squire speak about the making of a quilt show.

For many of you, this will be your first quilt show. My first quilt show held in the Puck Building was soon after the 9/11 tragedy. My job was to recruit bus trips to the show. It was a horrible time for everyone and I felt ridiculous trying to encourage people to come to New York and attend our quilt show. The responses I got were of two varieties. The majority of people were quite nice, offering their sympathies and saying they would think about and get back to me. The other group were astounded that we were having our show in such a dangerous area. There were no bus trips that year, but we had a great show, a good crowd, and many vendors from different areas. The show went on despite the fears of us all.

Here we are again, many years later and the world is again in a precarious state. We need to approach our show differently, be mindful of costs and the way we spend our monies. I urge those of you who have taken leadership roles to use past chairs for help, and to bring issues to peoples attention before they become problems.

Those of you who didn't sign up last month you will have plenty of opportunities to do so. If there is a committee you are interested in make your interests know. There is much to do for all.

This month we have Members Teaching Members. This has been quite successful in many guilds These generous and talented members will be giving mini workshops on a variety of quilting subjects. If you have signed up, look to see what you need to bring. The share table will be open before the classes begin.

Have fun at the meeting, perhaps you will find a new skill that you can incorporate into a block or the theme for a Show Quilt. --Paula Kenney

MEETING FORMAT CHANGE THIS MONTH

This month, the meeting will run a little differently to best accomodate the focus groups. We will have our regular Business Meeting, followed by Block of the Month, Show & Tell and a fundraiser (this month the ever popular 50/50 fundraiser will return). We will then open the Share Table for *no longer than 30 minutes* to enable our members to pick up any last minute needs for the classes. We will then break up into the six groups with each class being taught in one of six different areas of the floor. Once the classes are finished, the meeting is over.



MEETING INFO

SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 13, 2010

TIME:

11am - 12pm: Board Meeting

12pm: Focus Group

12pm: 2011 Quilt Show Meeting

1pm - 3:00pm: General Meeting

LOCATION:

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

PROGRAM:

Members Teaching Members

VENDOR:

Printz Charming

QUILTER of the MONTH:

None

FOCUS GROUPS:

Elm Creek Sampler Club, 12pm

BOM:

Variable Fan

GUEST FEES:

\$10: Regular

\$5: Student/Senior

February Meeting

Members Teaching Members

PROGRAM - FOCUS GROUPS GALORE!

The February meeting promises to be something different! — we are going to have Members Teaching Members! Our guild is full of talented, experienced, and generous members who are always willing to share their tips and techniques with their fellow guild members.

If you didn't sign up for your preferred workshop at the January guild meeting, please contact Kitty Squire with your preference: kesquilts33@msn.com. You will also be able to select your choice of workshops at the start of February meeting — provided there is space available in the workshop.

Please Note: As the workshops fill up, people who didn't register ahead of time will be assigned to workshops with available space.

The six workshops/demos are:

Bags & Totes with Janet Randolph

A presentation on constructing a bag / tote to hold your needlework projects. Learn techniques for choosing various fabric weights, color combinations and sewing methods. Also we will discuss interfacing, batting, lining, zippers and trims.

Supplies: Bring pen and paper to take notes. Members are encouraged to bring any bags/totes they have constructed.

Cutting Edge with Mary Butler

A straight cut is a straight seam is a straight quilt. Pick up the pro tips on cutting using the rotary cutter, self-healing mat and quilter's ruler(s). You will learn angles from straight to all degrees and shapes. An explanation of the various rulers and their benefits will be included.

Supplies: Bring a rotary cutter with 1 sharp new and 1 old blade, a cutting mat at least 26" x 12", any quilting rulers you want to practice with, and scraps of plain and printed fabric so we can practice fussy cutting.

Crazy Quilting with Beth Pile

This will be a color themed block. Learn how to use various fabrics of different textures and weights within the same color family as well as embroidery threads, cording, charms, buttons, laces, trims and beads.

Supplies: Bring a 12½ x 12½ piece of muslin; scraps of fabric in various textures and weights in the same color family (you can purchase additional scraps at the Scrap/Share Table before the workshop); hand sewing supplies including needles (embroidery or sharps), scissors, threads of color and seam ripper; embroidery threads (DMC, Caron, Novelty, Cording); charms and buttons; lace and trims; and beads.

Foundation Piecing with Jennifer Bigelow

Learn the basics of foundation piecing. There will be two blocks available. Beginners will make a Candy Box Heart pattern, and those with some experience may start on a

Mariner's Compass block (free design from Carol Doak). You must be comfortable with rotary cutting. Note: you probably will not finish the blocks in this short class time.

Supplies for either block: rotary cutting mat, rotary cutter, a small rotary cutting ruler, an "Add a Quarter" [inch] ruler — or one on which you can easily see to add a quarter inch, a postcard, scissors, hand sewing needles and a neutral color thread. Seams will be finger pressed.

Supplies for the Candy Box Heart: a fat quarter of 2 different red fabrics (medium and dark) cut into 3 inch wide strips, and one fat quarter for the background.

Supplies for the Mariner's Compass: 1/8th yard each of 7 colors — recommend you bring medium and dark, or light and medium for 3 colors (making 6 colors) and one other color. Also, a fat quarter of black or a dark for background.

Doll Making with Nancy Rabatin

Nancy will show you how to make and dress a simple cloth doll. Start a new craft obsession! Nancy will provide a paper pattern for doll and clothes. It is recommended that you sew your doll parts by machine (so you will not be able to complete it at the meeting), but Nancy will show you how to draw the pattern, as well as the sewing, cutting, turning and stuffing so that you can complete it at home.

Supplies: ¼ yard woven skintone fabric, template plastic or lightweight cardboard (at least 9 x 11), gluestick, paper scissors, pencil for drawing on fabric.

Tee Shirt Quilts with Aleeda Crawley

Learn how to turn your old tee shirts into a memory that will last forever! Aleeda will show you the various techniques needed.

Supplies: Pen and paper for notes. Copies of extensive notes will be available for all attendees.

FOCUS GROUPS

Elm Creek Sampler Club

Group Leaders: Helen Beall (htbeall@yahoo.com or 516-365-9257), Lisa Kehrle, and Lisa Belle
12 noon - 1 pm

We are now past the midpoint with seven blocks down and five more to go --- theoretically, that is. In fact, several members have worked ahead, while others have some catching up to do. But with a little help from our friends we all keep moving along. Blocks for February are Lancaster Rose for lovers of applique and Sjster's Choice, a pieced favorite. Then it's Hands All Around in March.

BLOCK OF THE MONTH - "VARIABLE FAN"

Once you get the hang of making these fans "by eye," you'll want to use them in many of your quilts. Then you will see why I call it the Variable Fan. These are quick and easy to make, and they really add a nice touch. This method is my own invention (Karen Griska) and I am really excited about sharing it with you. I hope you love it. It takes a little practice, but it's worth it!



Fabric Recipe: Choose one darker fabric and one lighter fabric so the finished quilt will have a "scrap" look.

For more details, visit: www.empirebom.blogspot.com.

--Karen Griska, Helen Beall, Lisa Belle, Shirley Clark, Lisa Kehrle, Nick Alves

LIBRARY

As usual, members are very generous with donations. In January, the library sold forty-four dollars in magazines. Thanks to Elizabeth Adorno, Priscilla Blakemore, Kate Iscol, Barbara Jackson (special thanks for the Easy Japanese Quilt Style book), Jan Jenicek, Nicole Kaplan, Ulla-Britta McCarthy, Kitty Squire and Anne Townley.

With the Focus Groups Galore program we are having in February, the library will have some books available that may be helpful as members learn or improve skills taught by other members. Years ago when I first joined Empire Quilters, for me, one of the best part of the meetings was the focus groups. I learned to draft and make a Mariner's Compass and learned to make a Reversible Log Cabin (taught by Marie Annoual). And of course, in addition to learning a new skill was the camaraderie that grew month by month as you got better and better. I can't wait for February's program.

--Sylvia Hughes, Librarian

CHARITY

We were very pleased to see such an excellent turnout for Janet Randolph's focus group on making quilts for charity. There was wonderful enthusiasm and lots of material for folks to chose from. We look forward to seeing lots of tops and finished quilts at the March Charity meeting. Meanwhile, let us thank the following folks for their donations delivered at the January meeting: *Jan Jenicek*, fleece and other fabric; *Elizabeth Adorno*, 10 Baby hats; *Rita Reid*, 1 fleece blanket; *Freida Hoyett*, 1 child quilt; *Nicole Kaplan*, fabric; *Ethel Campbell*, 1 baby quilt (one sample from the focus group!); and anonymous, box of fabric. Please keep warm, and keep making quilts and caps for donations. Remember, we have many patterns with instructions on the Empire Quilters website. --Denise, Pam and Jennifer

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 or 212-242-3253 to have a copy mailed to you.

As of January 9, 2010		
Guild	Month	YTD Total
Beginning Balance	\$ 49,571.79	\$ 42,802.30
Income	\$ 2,242.50	\$ 35,112.09
Expenses	\$ 3,966.28	\$ 30,066.38
Ending Balance	\$ 47,848.01	\$ 47,848.01

Upcoming Events

MARCH MEETING - CHARITY DAY

Our March meeting is our annual Charity Day! Please start working on those charity quilts or quilt tops, and collecting batting and backing fabric to donate. Hopefully the January Baby Quilt Focus Group gave you some ideas!

LANCASTER BUS TRIP

On Saturday, March 27, Empire Quilters have the opportunity to participate in a bus trip to the AQS Lancaster, PA show. We will leave NYC at 7:30 am and depart from Lancaster at 4:30 pm, aiming to arrive back to NYC by 7:30 pm. The cost is \$72 for members, \$80 for guests, and includes your entry ticket to the show. This trip is tentative until we have at least 24 people to sign up AND PAY by our February meeting. Monies will be returned if the trip is cancelled, however if the trip proceeds and you cancel, your payment is non-refundable unless we find someone to take your place.

As of January 10, we have 14 people; we need ten more people to sign up by our February meeting. We are holding all payments until the trip is confirmed. You can register by mail prior to the February meeting by sending a check (payable to Empire Quilters) and the trip form (available on the website) to Aleeda Crawley. If you have any questions, please contact Aleeda. --Aleeda Crawley, acquiltasy@yahoo.com, or 973-313-0844

JUNE FLEA MARKET

Mark you calendars! The next Members' Flea Market will take place at the June 12, 2010 guild meeting. Guild members may rent table space and sell their wares. Members may set up their space however they like, but they must keep their wares within their allotted 4- or 8-foot space. Please note, we need to keep things off of the floor for fire-safety reasons. There are no restrictions on what can be sold, so clean out your stash, your closet or your bookcase!

The cost for the selling space is \$10.00 for a 4-foot table space, and \$20.00 for an 8-foot space. We are taking reservations now! To reserve your space, contact Kitty Squire at kesquilts33@msn.com or 718-541-5545.

LOCAL SHOW INFORMATION

York College Community Commemorative Quilt Committee Art and Quilt Exhibit

Open January 10 - February 7, 2010
York College Performing Arts Center,
94-45 Guy R. Brewer Blvd., Jamaica, NY
www.york.cuny.edu

Banners of Persuasion: Demons, Yarns & Tales: Tapestries by Contemporary Artists

Open through February 13, 2010
James Cohan Gallery, 533 W 26th St, NYC
www.jamescohan.com

The Allure of Lace

Open through February 28, 2010
Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art,
600 Main St, Hartford, Connecticut
www.wadsworthatheneum.org

American Beauty: Aesthetics and Innovation in Fashion

Open through April 10, 2010
F.I.T. Museum, Seventh Ave at 27th Street, NYC
www.fit.edu/museum

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2011 Show

QUILT SHOW CO-CHAIRS ANNOUNCED

We will be having a show in 2011! Mindy Wexler-Marks, JoAnn Gatch and Lisa Kehrle have all volunteered to co-chair. We had over 50 members who attended our initial meeting after last month's program and have filled many of the crucial chairs. However, it is NOT too late to volunteer to co-chair one of the committees.

QUILT SHOW MEETING: FEBRUARY 13, 2010

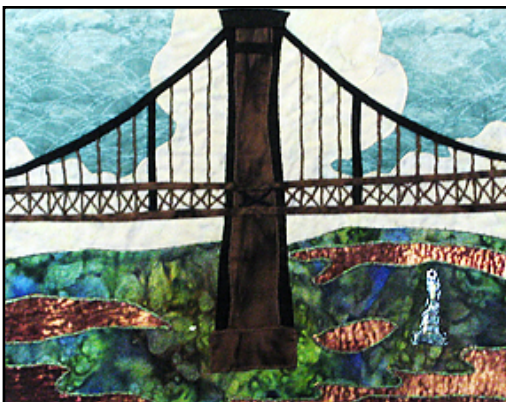
We will be having another meeting on February 13, 2010 at 12:00 noon in the lounge area of our normal meeting place: the David Dubinsky Center, Bldg A, 8th Floor, at F.I.T. To find the lounge area, turn RIGHT when you come out of the elevators on the 8th floor (you normally turn left to go to the big meeting space). We welcome anyone who wants to volunteer to either co-chair one of the committees or just to work on one.

There are many positions available for participation in our next quilt show. Putting on a show is a lot of fun (and takes a lot of work by many individuals). If you want to be involved in the behind-the-scenes details, please take a look at the job descriptions on the website, and let us know your favorite task. Thank you!!

2011 SHOW FUNDRAISING QUILT

Mary Cargill showed the almost-completed Subway Series Quilt top at the January 9, 2010 guild meeting. It will be a magnificent quilt and deserves a magnificent show. With all of the help of our members, it will be! Thank you all.

Here is just a taste of what is in store for the Subway Series quilt:



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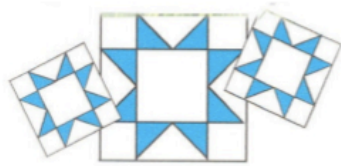
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Reminders!

- * **Lancaster Trip** - You must sign up and pay by our February meeting! See page 4 for more details.
- * **March Newsletter Deadline** - Submit your articles for the March newsletter by Wednesday, February 17, 2010. Late submissions will not be accepted. Please send articles to lauren.dieterich@gmail.com.
- * **June Members' Flea Market** - Reserve your space now! See page 4 for more details.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

- President: Paula Kenney**
212-982-8043 - pdkenney44@aol.com
- First VP: Alice Brody**
212-865-0163 - alicebrody@aol.com
- Second VP: Lauren Dieterich**
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- Treasurer: Anna Krassy**
212-242-3253 - quilterme@gmail.com
- Secretary: Gail Lefton**
718-762-5499 - glefton@idesco.com

Calendar

- March 13, 2010**
Charity Day
- April 10, 2010**
Betty Pillsbury
- May 8, 2010**
Trish Chambers
- June 12, 2010**
Judith Larzelere

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