
EMPIRE NEWSLETTER

October 2010

President's Letter

During the September meeting I had the opportunity to chat with several members, some of whom had ideas regarding ways we could improve things. The Guild is a dynamic organization which tries to meet the needs of its members. We do listen and look for ways we can change or improve things. There are lots of things that we do well and that is through the hard work of the board members, the committee members and your president who spend many, many hours planning new programs, and trying to respond to your suggestions.

In an effort to welcome new members, I have asked Gail Lefton to continue to sit at a table for new members. There will be someone at the membership table to try and direct the new person to the new members table. Additionally the board is working on implementing a more individualized orientation. Give us a little time. The one thing I would ask of all our members is to say hello to the person next to you. Introduce yourself to those sitting where you are seated.

This month's fund raiser will have several wonderful prizes. We received a donation from Fiber Notion (last month's vendor) of four packages of gifts each with a retail value of \$50. There will be one of these gifts as well as some other prizes in each of the four raffle bags. The final prize will be the thirteen yards of batik fabrics, which could be the beautiful beginning of a show quilt.

We are coming close to our December Auction. This is a major fundraising event for the March Show. The Auction as well as the proceeds of our Subway Series Quilt will help to defray the costs of the show. There are donation forms on line, and we will bring them to the October and the November meeting, for you to fill out. Larry is unable to bring stuff home and back. Please send a picture to Larry Gifford at lawgifford@me.com. There will also be a Treasure Table for those little things you may want to donate, that would not be suitable for the auction. We appreciate your participation in these events, remember in order for this to be a success we need items that are sellable.

This year we will continue with our Holiday Gift Stocking and Teddy Bear donation to shelters for abused children and at risk mothers. Instructions and patterns for making these items on line. The Charity committee requests small items to include in the stockings. This includes toothpaste, toothbrushes, gloves, hats, scarves, as well as small toys. These children have very little and are very appreciative of our gifts.

I hope many of you are in the process of making your show quilts. If you have doubts or questions about how to do something, I urge you to attend the focus groups. This month's is on mitered binding, which is a problem for a lot of quilters. You will have time to ask questions and meet new people.

--Paula



MEETING INFO

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 9, 2010

TIME:

10:30am: Focus Groups
11am - 12pm: Board Meeting
1pm - 5pm: General Meeting

LOCATION:

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

SPEAKER:

Pat Pauly

VENDOR:

Mile Square Fabric Studio

QUILTER of the MONTH:

Susan Louis

FOCUS GROUPS:

Mitered Binding, 10:30am
Elm Creek Sampler Club, 12pm

BOM:

Stamp Collection

LIBRARY: 11:30am - 1pm

SHARE TABLE: 3pm

GUEST FEE: \$10

October Meeting

Pat Pauly: A Look at the Heritage of Traditional Quilts and their Influence in Contemporary Design

PROGRAM

Pat Pauly is an art quilter and designer known for her improvisational techniques. She uses bold color and unusual juxtapositions of printed and painted fabric in her contemporary quilts. Her pieces maintain the integrity of the traditional quilt coupled with modern interpretations and methods. Her work in fiber art, which began in the 1980s, stems from a background and love of art and design.

From her background as a curator of the exhibition *Quilts Uncovered: Treasures from Genesee Country Village and Museum* which considered the legacy of traditional quilts, Pat will give us an expansive look at the long history of quilt making, and its change and rebirth in the twenty-first century. Join us for this fast-paced look at the craft that has endured in America for nearly 250 years.

For more information about Pat Pauly visit her website: www.patpauly.com.



WORKSHOP

The Big Leaf: Using Freezer Templates for Design
Sunday, October 10, 2010
10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Location: 343 8th Avenue, at 27th Street

Cost: \$55

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

You will make a large graphic leaf, using freezer paper to form the design templates, which can be made as the final 24" x 24" piece, or combined with three additional blocks to make a stunning quilt. In this workshop Pat Pauly will show participants how to transform a line drawing into templates, how to choose fabric and color, how to iron freezer paper templates to fabric and how to assemble this "Big Leaf" quilt. At the end of this class you will

know how to translate your own designs using this freezer paper method.

FOCUS GROUPS

Double-Miter Binding
Group Leader: Janet Randolph
10:30 am - 11:30 am

Questions: janetrandolph@verizon.net or 610-874-3721

A hands-on group on stitching perfect double-mitered corners on binding. You never have to hand sew openings at corner miters ever again.

Supply List: Hand sewing needle, thread, scissors, few straight pins, pencil. Fabric/binding supplied in class.

Elm Creek Sampler Club
Group Leader: Lisa Belle and Lisa Kehrlie,
lbinnyc@yahoo.com or 212-962-0990
12 noon - 1 pm

For October, we are making the Wedding Ring block.

Six-inch block Wedding Ring found on page 75 of the SBS book. The 12-inch block Wedding Ring can be found on page 57 of the ECQ book.

Additional (optional) blocks: 6-inch Kansas Troubles found on page 42 of SBS. Note that this is not in the ECQ book, so a pattern was distributed at the September meeting.

QUILTER OF THE MONTH: SUSAN LOUIS

Sometime in the Mid- 1980's Susan Louis went for a tarot card reading. The woman reading the cards indicated that Susan would be doing what she was meant to be doing come April or May of the following year. Now, more than 20 years later, Susan is a very passionate quilting addict! She has traveled extensively on quilt related trips, taught in France and Russia as well as many venues here in the US. Susan has also exhibited her work here and abroad.

Susan is an eclectic quilter who likes to try many different techniques and experiment with color. Quilting has not only been a tremendous creative and social mainstay but has seen her through some very tough times. And quilting satisfies her need to collect fabric!

BLOCK OF THE MONTH: STAMP COLLECTION

This raw-edge mosaic collage block was inspired by a collection of blocks shown by Brenda from Canada on her blog: Scraps and Strings in July 2010. So, right away I made these two blocks to see if it would qualify as a BOM block. It would have to be fun to make, not too fussy, ingredients can be pulled from existing stash, and result in blocks that would make an awesome quilt. This block passes all 4 tests!

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

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



CHARITY

Hello everyone. Although the holiday season is still two months away, it is not too early to start making gifts for the children of New York, as we have done for the last several years. On the Empire Quilters website you can find patterns for small teddy bears and for holiday stockings. Further we are glad to collect other items for gifts for children of all ages. Finally, if you have patterns for other toys – such as small dolls, or tote bags for teenagers – we'd be so glad to share those with other guild members. At the October meeting, we will have available some donated Christmas fabric. The fabric will be cut and ready to become a Christmas stocking for a needy child this Holiday Season.

As you know, in addition to the special gifts Empire Quilters make for the holidays we also are proud to make small quilts and caps for premies all year long. Patterns and guidelines for these items are also on our website. Each month some people bring items to donate; some bring fabric to share with others to make charity quilts, and others take away finished items to donate to local organizations. Generally there are two or three people assisting with all this activity. But some months we don't have enough people to help. So, I'm asking anyone who would like to assist from time to time to let me or Denise Walsh know. You don't need to commit to working every month, but it would sure be helpful to get several members involved who are willing to assist even one time. It's easy work, and you'll feel really good about this. So please don't hesitate. Thanks to all those who generously donated quilts and other items in September. I look forward to seeing you in October. —Jennifer Bigelow & Denise Walsh-Horowitz

LIBRARY

The library was very busy in September. We sold \$40.80 worth of magazines, and there was also twelve dollars (\$12.00) in late fees. There are still three members who have not returned their books since June. I won't say who they are, but I know that the Northern Star Guild (Somers) prints the names of members who don't return books on time in their newsletter.

There were lots of donations—not surprising since members clean out their closets over the Summer (I know I do). Donations came from: Evelyn Berkowitz, Priscilla Blakemore, Lee Ebs, Verna Fitzgerald, Marge Geary, Joan Hellman, Sylvia Hughes, Kate Iscol, Barbara Jackson, Roberta Jacobs, Jan Jenicek, Judith Klein, Sheila Molitz and Sonia Rieber. A special thanks for our September speaker Terry White; she donated a copy of her book *All Beaded Up* to the library. That book has already been reserved to be borrowed in November.

Our annual sale will be held on October 9, all books are \$2.00 each. The sale will run from 11:30 am to 1 pm. Remember that last year the books sold out by a little after noon! We will have many more books for sale next month, but remember that early birds will still get the best bargains.

No decision has been made about continuing the library. But one possible way to run the library is that members who want to use the library will choose through the book list and Tina and I would only take those books to the meeting. Any suggestions about the library will be appreciated.

Please remember that all books borrowed in September must be returned in October! —Sylvia Hughes

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Budget for the year 2010 - 2011 has been prepared. It will be presented to the membership at the October meeting for voting on its acceptance.

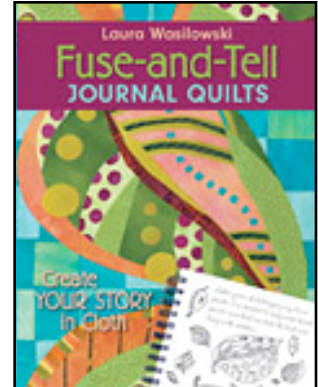
Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER PROGRAM AND WORKSHOP: LAURA WASILOWSKI

Take a campus tour of the famous Chicago School of Fusing. This mythical university is devoted to the promotion of the fine art of fusing, a non-traditional method of assembling quilts with fusible web. Laura Wasilowski, Dean of Corrections at the School, guides you around the campus buildings, introduces you to the fascinating fusing curriculum, and shows you the exciting campus life of the student fuser. Included in the presentation is a review of the fusing processes, a display of actual fused art quilts, and Laura's own rendition of the Chicago School of Fusing fight song.

Laura will be conducting a day-long workshop on Saturday, November 13, 2010. The cost is \$65 + 20 for the kit. Sign up with Mary Butler (citymary@aol.com | 212-662-7771).

Laura will also be our Vendor of the Month this month, so you will have an opportunity to purchase items from her Art Fabric store at the guild meeting. Visit Laura's online Art Fabric Store for a sampling of her wares: www.artfabrik.com.



NOVEMBER MEMBERS' FLEA MARKET

It is that time of year again! We will be holding a Member's Flea Market at our November meeting (remember it is on Sunday, November 14). All members are welcome to sign up to sell whatever they choose within either a small or large space. The small tables will once again be \$10 and the large tables will be \$20. This is a great time to clean out some of your stuff before the Holidays! Please contact either Kitty Squire (kesquilts33@msn.com), or Larry Gifford (lawgifford@me.com) to sign up. As usual, it is first come, first serve.

DECEMBER FUNDRAISER

Are you ready for a terrific December meeting? Empire Quilters is here to make your gift buying a cinch. We are once again having a fundraising auction (on December 11) to raise money for the show. John McCall will once again be our auctioneer and we hope to have something for everyone in our selections. We will not be charging guest fees, so please invite all your friends and family to come along to bid on our spectacular offerings.

To make this auction really work, we need all of your help in collecting items for it. These do not have to be quilted items only-if you can contribute Broadway show tickets, visits to spas, manicures, pedicures, plants, candy-we will use them all. We are also hoping to have a table of smaller gift items for sale as well.

As you collect donations, you need to let Larry Gifford (lawgifford@me.com | 917-513-8351) or Kitty Squire (kesquilts33@msn.com | 718-541-5545) know so that they can keep a record of them. Please see the donation form (available on the website or at the meeting), which should be filled out and either emailed, mailed or dropped off in the suggestion box at the October meeting. The form will be available at the meeting or online.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM: MEMBERS TEACHING MEMBERS

This February we are once again having members teaching members. We have a few workshops set for you-Tina Barth will be teaching you how to "Stitch from Your Backside"--traditional, hand appliqué. Sandra Samaniego will be leading a group on Art Quilting. Diane Rubenstein is going to show all of us how she makes those wonderful Grandmother Flower Garden quilts with a workshop on English paper piecing. There will be more details as well as supply lists for these available closer to the meeting. In the meantime, we are still looking for two more workshops. If you have any suggestions, or if you want to volunteer, please contact Kitty Squire, kesquilts33@msn.com.

Classified Ad

Houston: Is anyone interested in going to the show?
And sharing a room?

--Mary Butler (212-662-7771 or citymary@aol.com)

Notices

BATIK RAFFLE AT OCTOBER MEETING!

We will be holding a raffle for a beautiful array of 13 different batik fabrics at the end of the October meeting. Tickets will be available for only \$1 each at the Membership Table.

The collection of fabrics includes a wide variety of colors and styles. Each piece is about a yard, so that's 13 yards of fabric! Look for the collection to be on display at the Membership Table. The fabric can easily be incorporated into a new quilt or stashed away for a special quilt — perhaps one for the March show! These beautiful fabrics were donated by several of our members. Please show your support of the guild and the upcoming show by purchasing tickets.

MEMBERSHIP

Don't forget to renew your membership by October 15! This will ensure your inclusion in the Membership Roster for 2010-2011 as well as enable you to have a quilt in Urban Inspirations in March 2011. There is a membership form available on the website. There will also be forms at the Sign In/Membership table in October.

SUGGESTION BOX

It's the beginning of a new year and we have some new suggestions. We encourage everyone to give their suggestions and comments by putting them in the Suggestion Box or emailing them directly to the newsletter (newsletter@empirequilters.net). Here are the suggestions (and Board Member Comments) received in September:

- Make up packs of note cards like the donation cards Renee is sending.
Comment: We are looking into using the blocks of the Subway Series Raffle Quilt to do this and hope to have them soon.
- Go back to having each individual who needs to speak do so for themselves at the general meeting.
- We had a suggestion that the Donor (from the new Donation Card Program) and the person being honored be listed in the newsletter.

Responses to previous suggestions:

- On Meeting Length: "Our meetings end too early even though we pay FIT until 6:00 p.m..."
Comment: We actually have the space at FIT from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., not 6. In addition, we are supposed to be completely out by 5, not just ending the meeting.

OLDIES FRIENDING NEWBIES AND VISITORS

If you've been a member since our last quilt show, you know enough about Empire Quilters to friend a new member or visitor through their first meetings. We have more than enough members to friend once a year newbies or visie (new word!) that come to EQ during the year. It's easy:

1. Arrive at the meeting between 12:00 and 12:30 pm and tell the people at the Membership table you're ready to be a friend. They'll call your name out when you are needed.
2. Introduce yourself and tell her/him about EQ and how you came to join; ask how she learned about EQ and her quilting background.
3. Tour the room: sign-in table (which also has show and vendor circulars); membership table with EQ collectibles; raffle table; block of the month display; vendor area; charity quilts; library table; share table; focus groups.
4. Sit with the newbie through the meeting and answer any questions.
5. Exchange emails and/or telephone numbers and follow up before the next meeting to see if there are questions and encourage a return visit.

In short, be the quilt friend you would want to meet if you were the newbie.

DYCKMAN FARMHOUSE DEMONSTRATIONS

On Saturday, October 16 from 11 am - 3 pm Empire Guild members are invited to the Annual Quilt Fest at the Dyckman Farmhouse Museum. They will demonstrate quilting and talk to visitors. Any questions call or e-mail Mary Butler at 212-662-7771 or citymary@aol.com. Come one, come all.

Directions: Take the A train to 207 St (back end of the train) and walk back down Broadway to 204 St and The Farmhouse.

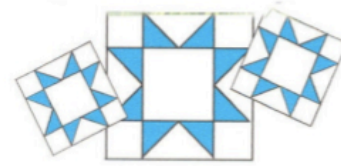
URBAN INSPIRATIONS SHOW

MARCH 26-27, 2011

Guild members at the September meeting picked up 175 packets for the 2011 show in March. We hope the balance will be picked up at the October meeting. If you need additional raffle tickets, please see Kitty Squire, Paula Kenney or any of the show committee chairs at the next guild meeting. Larry Gifford announced that 18 vendors had already signed up for the show and we probably could have more vendors if we had more space.

The New York Empire Quilters Guild quilt show is becoming a major event on the quilt show calendar. We are planning to have a show program and are looking for volunteers to sell advertising. A very well attended focus group led by Mary Butler and Janet Randolph demonstrated how to create different quilt borders so keep working on the quilt you plan to submit for the show.

Deadlines will be here before you know it!
--JoAnn, Mindy and Lisa



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Reminders!

- * **Empire Quilters Membership** - It is time to renew your membership if you haven't already! More details are on page 5. The membership form is available [online](#).
- * **November Flea Market** - Sign up for your table now! Tables will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis. See page 4 for more details.
- * **November Newsletter Deadline** - Submit your articles for the November newsletter by Wednesday, October 13, 2010. Late submissions will not be accepted. Email submissions to newsletter@empirequilters.net.

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

2010-2011 Calendar

November 14, 2010 (Sunday)

Laura Wasilowski

December 11, 2010

Auction

January 8, 2011

Gwen Jackson

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

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June 11, 2011

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