
EMPIRE NEWSLETTER

November 2010

President's Letter

It seems that time moves more quickly this time of year. Perhaps it's the shortening of the days and that we instinctively know that the holidays will soon be upon us. I believe that despite one's religious or ethnic backgrounds we are approaching a very special time of year. However, this is also a very difficult time for many people. Here at Empire Quilters we ask you to become involved in the auction and holiday parties. It is our hope that you will be buoyed by the spirit of what we are doing and not just the fact that we are asking you for money — yet again.

Throughout the year Denise Walsh-Horowitz makes over 800 teddy bears. Many other members make stockings, hats and gloves. Many of us go shopping at the various discount houses to purchase in bulk the “necessities of life” that these children are without. Imagine not having a coat or hat on a winter's day. Regrettably we can not solve all the problems but we certainly can help with some of the little things. We ask that you bring small items toothpaste, soap, combs, brushes, or even an inexpensive hat, gloves and scarf. They are easily found at any street vendor.

You will find patterns for bears, stockings and other small animals at the membership table and available for downloading on the Service Page of the guild's website. There is also a limited amount of fabric available for you to pick up at meetings. We have purchased two bolts of felt for the stockings it will be cut and be waiting for you to take home and sew them.

Our December Auction should provide us with funds for our show and the other increases within our guild. Without a successful auction, the show will go on, but not the way we would like or that people have gotten used to. Empire Quilters has become a well known name in the quilting world. This did not happen by accident. We have worked hard to get where we are and must continue to work harder to remain so. So for the auction, open your closets and drawers and look for items to donate. One small caveat: if you think its junk, then it is junk, and please do not donate it.

November will be a busy meeting. Don't forget that our November meeting is on SUNDAY, November 14, 2010 We have a very popular speaker as well as the Members' Flea market. We will be eliminating all the tables in the back of the room except for the welcome table. At the October meeting there were people standing even with the additional chairs we procured. I do not like this either — but for now it's the best we can do. We have asked for additional coat racks — try to hang your coats up and keep the aisles clear.

I look forward to seeing many of your quilts in the show. Now it is cool enough to quilt. Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours.

--Paula Kenney



MEETING INFO

SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 14, 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:

Laura Wasilowski

VENDOR:

Members' Flea Market &
Laura Wasilowski

QUILTER of the MONTH:

Marilyn Korn

FOCUS GROUPS:

Mini Travel Bag, 10:30am
Elm Creek Sampler Club, 12pm

BOM:

Autumn Leaves

LIBRARY: 12pm - 1pm

SHARE TABLE: Closed

GUEST FEE: \$10

November Meeting

Laura Wasilowski: Chicago School of Fusing Guided Tour

PROGRAM

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. Press on!

Laura Wasilowski is a celebrated contemporary quilt maker, a creator of hand-dyed fabrics and threads, and an author of patterns, books and instructional CDs. Her pictorial art quilts, made from fused fabrics and machine quilted, are collected and exhibited internationally. This busy artist is also the owner of the dye shop, Artfabrik and she lectures and teaches across the country. We're delighted to welcome Laura to New York City!

You will have an opportunity to purchase items from Laura's Art Fabric store at the guild meeting. See a sampling of her wares online: www.artfabrik.com.

FOCUS GROUPS

Mini Travel Bag

Group Leader: Marian Webber
10:30 am - 11:30 am

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



A hands-on group to stitch a quick and easy mini-bag.

Supply list: hand sewing needle, thread (no white), scissors, few straight pins. Fabric/zipper supplied in class.

WORKSHOP

Object Lesson

Saturday, November 13, 2010

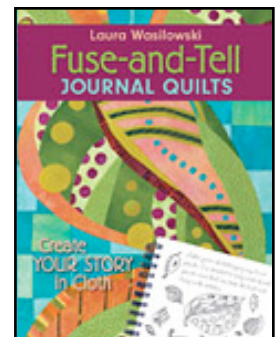
10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Location: 343 8th Avenue, at 27th Street

Cost: \$65 + \$20 kit

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

To truly make your own art quilts, begin by designing your own fabric. In this class you will make swatches of colorful fused fabrics like florals, checks, stripes, and dots. Using those fused fabric swatches, you can then create an art quilt illustrating a familiar object. It can be an object of personal meaning such as a teapot, chair, or birdhouse or possibly an abstract collage full of texture and pattern. Either way, it is an original quilt made with original fabric designs. (No sewing machine is needed.)



Elm Creek Sampler Club

Group Leader: Lisa Belle and Lisa Kehrlie,
imbinnyc@yahoo.com or 212-962-0990
12 noon - 1 pm

For November, we are making the Bear's Paw block.

6-inch block: page 18 of SBS

12-inch block: page 54 of ECQ

Additional (optional) block: Birds in the Air

6-inch block: page 19 of SBS

12-inch block: pattern to be provided

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.

QUILTER OF THE MONTH: MARILYN KORN

Marilyn made her first quilt more than 25 years ago. It included scraps from her own and her daughter's dresses. Marilyn met members of the Empire Quilt Guild at a quilt show at one of the Hudson River Piers, and joined Empire in 1995. She makes quilts for herself, family members, and charity. Marilyn has taught focus groups about various types of quilts at Empire and QCNNY meetings.

Marilyn has served as co-chair of Empire's Library and Charity Committees and co-chair of the Judging Committee for the 2009 Quilt Show. In between, she was First Vice President of Empire for four years.

BLOCK OF THE MONTH: AUTUMN LEAVES

Are you an "old hand" at hand applique? Or maybe this will be something new. Either way, this bite-sized project will delight your creative spirit.

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

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



CHARITY

We would like to thank our wonderful members who so kindly contributed quilts, knitted baby hats, fabric and all the items for our Holiday contribution, food items and toys, games and books. We are once again offering holiday theme fabric for Christmas stockings and teddy bears (patterns are available on the website). To pick up fabric, please see either Denise Walsh-Horowitz, Jennifer Bigelow of the Charity Committee or Kitty Squire at the Membership Table at the next meeting.

We are once again asking our members to come through as they always do for our Holiday collection for children in shelters. In addition to the stockings and teddy bears that you can make, we are again asking for toiletry items such shampoo, conditioner, moisturizer, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, soap, playing cards, coloring books and crayons, small toys, stuffed animals, hats, gloves, mittens, socks, books and they must be new. Please do not contribute any opened toiletries or makeup, as we cannot accept them. Any food items that are donated must be individually wrapped so they can be distributed at the three shelters' holiday parties.

This year we will be providing zip-lock bags for the members to place their toiletry items into at the meeting, which will eliminate a great deal of work for the committee in assembling toiletries into bags/stockings. You can begin bringing in your contributions at the November meeting. Thanks to everyone for your continued support. We look forward to another successful holiday charity collection! —Jennifer Bigelow & Denise Walsh-Horowitz

LIBRARY

The library book sale was an astounding success, and I want to thank the people who helped make it such a success. There were over 225 books at Tina Barths' house that had to be moved to FIT. Tina's husband Paul and my friend Pat Henry each rolled a giant suitcase full of books down 28th Street to our meeting place. Marilyn Korn and Joan Hellman unpacked the books and set the books out for sale. When the sale began at 11:30, Marilyn, Joan, Pat were raring to go. Sandra Samaniego, arrived a little later allowing the earlier volunteers to take a little break. Thank you all!

The sale brought in \$378 to the guild, \$60 more than our previous high in 2008.

Donated books in October were from: Jennifer Bigelow, Meredith Dros, Renee Fields, Dominique Lebellier, Valerie Turer and two members whose names I could not read -- please print.

Some books available to borrow in November are: *Beasties, Mischievous Monster Toys/Dolls, More Softies: Lovable Friends to Sew and Crochet, Softies Only a Mother Could to Love, Knit & Crochet, Rose of Sharon: New Quilts from an Old Favorite, Appli-Curves: Easy Now-Sew Curves, East Quilts West II* by Kumiko Sudo and *Make Your Own Contemporary Quilts*.

No suggestions have come in regarding the library. Should we continue the library? Should the library be only for reserved books? Is there a member who wants to take over as Librarian? Responses via email and telephone are appreciated. —Sylvia Hughes

SHARE TABLE

As always, participation at the Share Table is amazing. Donations of fabric, and the subsequent purchases of this fabric, are really great. It is a fun but painless way to fund the Guild and so we extend a heartfelt thanks to all our members who join us at the end of the meeting. Please note that there will not be a Share Table the November or December meeting. We will re-open in January.

—Anna Krassy & Veronique Milliez

TREASURER'S REPORT

Guild	Month	YTD Total
Beginning Balance	\$ 60,010.01	\$ 55,864.88
Income	\$ 7,489.75	\$ 25,268.26
Expenses	\$ 3,025.43	\$ 21,327.34
Ending Balance	\$ 64,474.33	\$ 59,805.80
Show Income	\$ 900.00	\$ 6,362.50
Show Expenses	\$ 10,800.00	\$ 12,068.97
Grand Total	\$ 54,574.33	\$ 54,099.33

Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER MEMBERS' FLEA MARKET

We still have space available for the Member's Flea Market in November (November 14, a Sunday). All members are welcome to sign up to sell whatever they choose within a small or large space. The small tables will once again be \$10 with the large tables going for \$20. This is a great time to clean out some of your stuff before the Holidays! Please contact either Larry Gifford (lawgifford@me.com | 917-513-8351) or Kitty Squire (kesquilts33@msn.com | 718-541-5545) to sign up. As usual, it is first come, first serve.

DECEMBER FUNDRAISER

Our December Fundraising Auction on December 11 is starting to take shape. Don't forget that we will not be charging Guest Fees, so please plan to bring your friends! John McCall will again be our auctioneer and we are getting some terrific donations and should have something for everyone on your holiday list. Remember, the items do not have to be quilted and/or handmade items only. We would love to have everything from Broadway show tickets to manicures. We will also be having a table with smaller items, so don't think that you have to donate something huge-as long as the items are in good shape, we will find a way to make money on them!

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.

And finally, 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 Gift Table! The Guild will provide the water and soda, the members will provide the goodies. After all, we all need to refresh ourselves after the hard work of spending money at the Auction!

FEBRUARY PROGRAM: MEMBERS TEACHING MEMBERS

We have our workshop schedule for February set! It is going to be another exciting day. We have Sandra Samaniego talking about Art Quilts, Pauline Hazard will be teaching a workshop on felt appliqué, Diane Rubenstein will be instructing you how to do English paper piecing, Tina Barth will be showing how to do traditional appliqué, Renee Fields will be helping you design and make an embroidered label for your quilts and Naomi Shelnut will be discussing how to make a sweatshirt jacket. Once again, we have a wide range of classes for you to choose from! You can sign up for each of the individual workshops by contacting Kitty Squire (kesquilts33@msn.com | 718-541-5545). We will have more complete descriptions of the classes as well as the supply lists posted on line or at the January meeting. A big thanks to all of our intrepid teachers!

Urban Inspirations Show

MESSAGE FROM VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Volunteer Forms are important! How else will I know what you want to do? "I did it last time," you say. "I'll just do the same thing this time." But can one person remember what the other 200 did? Not likely. Help me out. Complete a volunteer form and send it in or drop it in the basket on the sign-in table at the monthly meeting.

Don't think you have a volunteer form? Did you look at the green sheets in your packet? There will be extra volunteer forms next to the basket on the sign-in table at the monthly meeting. Or download the [form](#).

Choose your favorite activity! Volunteer with your friends! Don't miss out! Sign up early! Help me out, I'm literally one among many. — *Tina Barth*

Notices

MEMBERSHIP

The Members Directory will be available in November. It will be emailed to those on the email newsletter distribution list. There will be hard copies available at the Membership table in November. Don't forget to pick up your copy!

SUGGESTION BOX

We only heard from one member this month. She liked the new chair set up. She felt that you are able to talk to more than just your table — encouraging you to expand your acquaintances. She would also like to see the speaker's quilts put in one of the Rooms on a regular basis so that members could go and see them in more detail without disrupting the meeting.

Any comments, please drop them in the box at the Membership table.

BUMBLE BEANS QUILTS WILL PROVIDE WINTER WARMTH FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES

On November 11th, forty families who are living in transitional housing will receive unique and colorful quilts handmade by well-known quilter and founder of Bumble Beans, Inc., Victoria Findlay Wolfe, and others from various parts of the US and Canada. The quilts will be presented to the families at 1564 St. Peter's Ave (between St. Raymond's and Glebe Avenues) in the Bronx, one of the sites of housing for homeless families operated by BASICS/Promesa Systems, Inc.

MOJO WITH MARK - A REVIEW

A RADIO quilt show? Are you crazy?! Quilting is so visual. Only Mark Lipinski would consider pulling it off and, amazingly enough, he has!

The beauty of the concept is that you can stream the radio show on your iPad or laptop at your convenience. Consider alternating this internet radio show with the usual books on CD for entertainment as you quilt. Frankly, I don't think I could be a quilter (weaver, beader, knitter or crocheter) without the background mental stimulation. I love the belief that I am multiple-tasking.

Mark's broad experience in television, publishing, teaching and quilting come together to make this wacko concept an unqualified success. Every segment of his first program on September 22nd spoke to me, and I found applications to my real-world responsibilities. For example, Mark's interview with Dr. Eric Meizel, author of 30 books, including *Coaching the Artist Within*, focussed on the importance of positive statements. Over the past two months, I've been "coaching" my mother during her rehabilitation after a fall. When I have other obligations, I'll leave daily uplifting notes with her physical therapist in my absence - calligraphed cards would be a tangible reminder that she was making progress! Thank you, Mark and Eric!

The next to be interviewed was Sylvia Rossi, a psychic - how fun! Then an analysis of personalities within a guild dynamic when psychotherapist Elisabeth Card suggested we let go of other's expectations, allowing us to leap over negative vibes in order to head off in our own creative directions. Further, Penelope Taylor, Editor of Knit 'n' Style magazine talked yarn.

I laughed inwardly when Mark stated that he could be on the Hoarder television show (if you haven't yet seen it Mondays at 9 & 10 P.M. on A&E, do). He explained away his shopping compulsion: he is "buying for retirement." Speaking from experience: it does not stop at retirement - you have more time to shop and there are more new tools to buy. Good luck on that, Mark.

Next time you have a quilt binding to stitch, go to <http://toginet.com/shows/creativemojo>, and let Mark keep you company! It's a live broadcast every Wednesday from 3 until 5 pm and listeners can call in their questions and comments. But if you miss the live show, you can download it from toginet.com & iTunes! —JoAnne Powell

Opportunity for Quilters and Appliqué artists

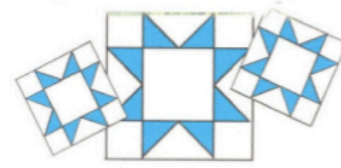
The Great Remember is a start-up business that makes mementos of children for their parents using the child's clothes. Parents will order online. The website is currently in development, launching in November.

We are looking for skilled people to help with production

Qualifications:

- Outstanding skills in both machine and hand appliqué work
- The ability to work quickly and to meet deadlines
- Excellent color, design and print sense
- A 10-20 hour a week commitment, especially during November and December
- Payment will be per piece from \$150-\$400 depending on complexity of the work

If interested, please contact Lisa Waltuch at:
lisa.waltuch@gmail.com



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Reminders!

- * **November Flea Market** - There are a few spaces left--sign up for your table now! Tables will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis. See page 4 for more details.
- * **December Newsletter Deadline** - Submit your articles for the December newsletter by Wednesday, November 17, 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

December 11, 2010
Auction

January 8, 2011
Gwen Jackson

February 12, 2011
Members Teaching Members

March 5, 2011
Charity Day & Show Judging

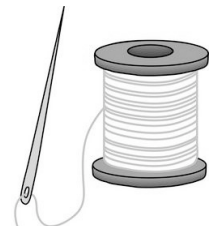
March 26-27, 2011
Urban Inspirations Show

April 9, 2011
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