

EMPIRE NEWSLETTER

April 2011

President's Letter

By the time you read this the Urban Inspirations 2011 Quilt Show will be nothing but a memory. During the March meeting I heard people comment on the beauty of the quilts. The judges commented about the workmanship of the quilts. Writing this, I can hardly wait to see them.

At the March meeting, it was my pleasure to preside over the President's Challenge judging. Assisting me were Lauren Dieterich and Jo Ann Gatch. Seventeen quilts were submitted and each one was more wonderful than the other. The imagination displayed in various quilts reflected the great diversity of New York and the people who live here. It was very difficult to choose the "winners" as they were all winners. However, after much back and forth discussion, we were able to reach a consensus. My hope for future shows is that more of you will take a chance and enter the President's Challenge.

My sincere thanks to all the people who made the quilt show happen. A show cannot happen without the hundreds of hours of dedicated work from a wide variety of committees. The show co-chairs, Jo Ann, Mindy and Lisa, were helped out by former chairs, and current committee heads who persevered and got the job done. This year we were assisted by three people who are well versed in the art of computers. Special thanks to Betsy Vinegrad, Aleeda Crawley and Sandi Howell who made the quilt submission process quick and easy. Kudos to Jane Adler and her daughter, Stephanie, who did an incredible job designing the show's poster and program book.

We had a good group of quilters busily working on charity quilts on that Saturday, and I believe we had about one hundred completed quilts. There were plenty of unfinished quilts to take home and work on for the next meeting. The end of this season is rapidly coming to a close. I hope that many of you will continue to make charity quilts during the year.

We will be having a special raffle in May for thirteen yards of Japanese fabrics. The tickets can be purchased at the April and May meetings. You may also donate a yard of Japanese fabric for the raffle and be eligible for two free tickets. The winner will be chosen during the May meeting. You have plenty of time to look through your stash and find a yard to donate.

We expect there to be a large crowd in April, so please get to the meeting early to secure a seat.

Looking forward to seeing you in April! —*Paula Kenney*

Volunteers for 2011-2012 Guild Committees Needed!

There are still a number of open positions on Guild Committees for the 2011 - 2012 year. Please contact Paula Kenney for more information. Elections will be held in May.



MEETING INFO

SATURDAY,
APRIL 9, 2011

TIME:

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

LOCATION:

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

PROGRAM:

Roberta Horton
and Mary Mashuta

VENDOR:

Mile Square Fabric Studio

QUILTER of the MONTH:

Diane Rubenstein

FOCUS GROUPS:

Good, Bad and Useless, 10:30
Elm Creek Sampler Club, 12pm

BOM:

House Blocks

LIBRARY: Open

SHARE TABLE: Open

SHOW & TELL: Open

GUEST FEE: \$10

April Meeting

Program and Workshops with Roberta Horton and Mary Mashuta

PROGRAM — DOUBLE EXPOSURE: SHARED EXPERIENCES...DIFFERING VIEWS

Sisters Roberta Horton and Mary Mashuta share a love of quiltmaking, fabric, and color. They also share common genes. Their shared visions are filtered through different minds and expressed by different hands. Hear how these sisters share a home (with two quiltmaking studios, of course) and manage to produce quilts that express their own perspective and talent.

Both Roberta and Mary are prolific quiltmakers, designers and authors. For more information about Roberta Horton visit: www.robertahorton.com and for more information about Mary Mashuta visit www.marymashuta.com. You will find samples of their work, and lists of their many popular publications on their websites. We are delighted to have both of these talented and engaging artists with us in New York City!

WORKSHOPS

Location: 343 8th Avenue, at 27th Street

Date/Time: Sunday April 10 from 10 am - 5 pm

Cost: \$60 (either class)

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

We have something unique this month—two workshops! Roberta Horton and Mary Mashuta will each be teaching a workshop on Sunday. Sign up for the one you are most interested in by contacting Mary Butler and sending a check immediately.

Workshop One: Amish Color in Quilts with Roberta Horton

Do you feel uncomfortable when it comes time to make color choices? Gain color confidence by studying the Amish use of color. No need to attend art school as the answers are available right in this part of our quiltmaking tradition. You will have a hands-on experience working with both the Pennsylvania and Midwestern palettes, each with its own rules and restrictions.



Workshop Two: Foolproof Machine Quilting with Mary Mashuta

Be more creative with the walking foot than just stitching in the ditch. Create your own designs for blocks and borders by paper folding simple shapes. Mary will teach her no-marking method to stitch designs with heavy threads, and participants will also learn to add decorative stitching to their work. This class will have an emphasis on handling stripes.



FOCUS GROUPS

The Good, the Bad, and the Useless

Group Leader: Marcia Schulman

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

10:30 am - 11:30 am

A round table discussion. Members are invited to bring a quilting/sewing tool or notion that fits a category in the program title: Good, Bad or Useless. Learn what items receive a thumbs up from quilters, and what deserves a definite thumbs down. Share your experiences and learn from others!

Supply List: Bring paper and pen to take notes.

Elm Creek Sampler Club

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

12 noon - 1 pm

6-inch block: Jacob's Ladder, found on page 41 of *Sylvia's Bridal Sampler*. The additional (optional) block is Rosebud, on page 64.

12-inch block: Mother's Favorite block with the Wandering Foot center. The alternate block will be the Mother's Favorite block with a Memory Chain center. The centers are found on page 82 of *More Elm Cree Quilts*, the Mother's Favorite is on page 84.

QUILTER OF THE MONTH: DIANE RUBENSTEIN

Diane Rubenstein started quilting around 2003 after going to the City of New York Museum and seeing some of Empire's members in a working exhibit. Diane was invited to come to an Empire meeting and decided to attend as she thought that quilting would offer her a creative new way to work with color and fabric since her current passion, rug hooking, was becoming too hard on her wrists. Diane's career background was textiles—working with fabric prints and yarn dyes.

Although she was in the textile industry most of her working years, Diane had never collected any fabric. She has since made up for that, amassing a large stash that has taken over her living space. For that reason, most of Diane's work remains in top form unless destined for a future home. Diane prefers to work with bright clear colors and tends to collect and store fabric in groups waiting to be worked on. She never knows which pile will call out "make me next," but she has well over 50 quilts waiting their turn.

Diane mostly makes traditional quilt patterns—some with a bit of embroidery—most hand quilted and many whimsical in feel. One of the things she really enjoys is naming her quilts. Having fun is the main reason that Diane quilts—she is not obsessive about perfecting techniques but rather loves quilting for the pure joy of the process!

BLOCK OF THE MONTH: HOUSE BLOCKS

Design your own house block. Here are some examples. Let's "tie them all together" by including something RED. Anything goes: prints, solids, novelty prints, batiks, anything. 12" x 12" blocks will be a good size (11 1/2" square in the finished quilt), but if you want to make a multi-story building, yours could be 12" wide x 24" tall ... or 36" tall. You might want to add embellishments, appliances, a car in the driveway, a bird on the roof, flower boxes at the windows, ivy on the walls... Build using your imagination!

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

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



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) to have a copy mailed to you.

CHARITY

We would like to thank all our members who attended the March Charity Day meeting. We were able to complete 100 quilts on Saturday, with many more gone home with members in various stages of completion to be returned within the next few months. We would also like to thank City Quilter and Fairfield Processing for their donations of batting. Charity is a very big part of our Guild activities, and our membership once again stepped up to the plate and created a very beautiful array of quilts this year.

By the time you receive this newsletter, the Show will be over and we will be on to our next Charity venture, Beads of Courage. This is a program that awards kids with beads when they have completed various phases of treatment for cancer, or any other disease they are combating. Beads of Courage is reaching out to quilting guilds to make bags for the kids to keep their treasure beads safe. More information about the guild's participation in this project can be found on the [Notices](#) page of our website. Detailed instructions for making the bags are available in a printable format (PDF). We have collected 5 bags so far, so for any member who would like to be a "bag lady," this is a great project.

Thank you all again for making Charity Day a great success. See you in April.

—Denise Walsb-Horowitz and Jennifer Bigelow, Service Committee Co-Chairs

Treasurer's Reports as of 2/28/2011

Guild	Month	YTD Total
Beginning Balance	\$ 60,207.65	\$ 56,807.78
Income	\$ 837.64	\$ 30,433.17
Expenses	\$ 1,254.54	\$ 35,854.16
Ending Balance	\$ 59,790.75	\$ 51,386.79
Show Income	\$ 8,877.25	\$ 30,375.88
Show Expenses	\$ 574.92	\$ 13,669.59
Grand Total	\$ 68,093.08	\$ 68,093.08

Member News

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS!!

Betsy Vinegrad Wins at Quilt Fest of New Jersey

Congratulations to guild member Betsy Vinegrad for her award at the recent Quilt Fest of New Jersey VII. Betsy's quilt Midnight Flight received the Second Place Overall award.



Bethany Morelli Wins at Quilt Fest of New Jersey

Guild member Bethany Morelli received two awards at the show! Bethany's quilt My Eldon received both the Best Machine Workmanship award and the Viewer's Choice award.



Mary Anne Ciccotelli's work featured in Quilting Quarterly

Mary Anne Ciccotelli has a multi-page article in the Spring 2011 issue of Quilting Quarterly, the journal of the National Quilting Association. Detailed instructions are provided for making Mary Anne's beautiful Midnight Jewels quilt (shown on page 20 of the magazine). Also included in the article is a wonderful step-by-step tutorial on how to create Mary Anne's famous folded fabric hexagons.

Notices

ASIAN/JAPANESE FABRIC RAFFLE

At the May meeting, there will be a special Fabric Raffle of thirteen one-yard pieces of Asian/Japanese fabric. Tickets will be sold at the April and May meetings for \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00.

SUGGESTION BOX

One member requests that when members are saving seats for friends who are not present or are temporarily doing something else, they put something in the seat to claim it. In addition, if you see an empty seat that has something in it or on it, you should not move the items and take the seat without verifying that it is free.

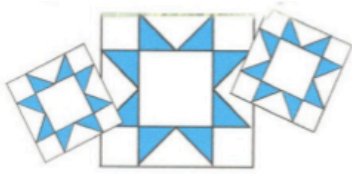
We have also had a detailed request regarding the Financial Statement. Although it is available on line, many of our members do not use computers easily or are unable to access the Treasurer's report. Therefore, when the Guild has a major event such as the Auction, the Treasurer should submit an article to the newsletter detailing the results of the event. For instance, with the December Auction, there was no breakdown in the newsletter of how much money the live auction, President's table, tote boards, Chinese Auction, etc brought in. For those who donated items and were not able to attend in person, the best they could do was search on line to see if their items were featured in photos. Members like to know that what they generously donated has helped make the events a success.

Also, this member would like to know if it is possible to find out how each of the meeting vendors has done and what monies they have earned for the Guild.

THANK YOU JUDGING WEEKEND VOLUNTEERS

We thank all the volunteers who helped during the Intake, Judging and Return of Quilts on Saturday, March 5 and Sunday, March 6. Without you there would be no judging of quilts for the show.

Extra special thanks go to the many volunteers who came to work on Saturday in the wee hours of the morning (at least to us it was the wee hours!) and worked until the job was done. Most of the Saturday volunteers put in much more than the required 4 hours of volunteer time. Your work ensured that the quilts were labeled correctly and that the judging went smoothly. AND an extra round of applause to those of you who volunteered and did not have a quilt in the show. Members like you make the guild a GUILD! The Judges thanked us for the competent and wonderful volunteers that helped make their job easier! Thanks again, Emily & Barbara



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Urban Inspirations 2011 Quilt Show

Pictures of all the quilts in our recent show
will soon be posted on the guild website:

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Reminders!

- * **May Newsletter Deadline: April 13**
Submit your articles for the May newsletter by Wednesday, April 13, 2011. Late submissions will not be accepted. Email submissions to newsletter@empirequilters.net.
- * **Library Books Deadline: April 5**
For the April meeting, please be sure to order your library books by April 5.

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
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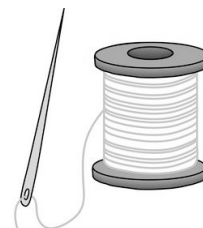
2010-2011 Calendar

April 9, 2011
Roberta Horton & Mary Mashuta

May 14, 2011
B.J. Adams

June 11, 2011
Lisa Shepard Stewart

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