

Empire Newsletter



November 2011



President's Message

November has always been my most favorite month of the year. It brings to mind all the exquisite and vibrant fall colors. What wonderful quilts they would make, like little jewels. There is plenty of time to begin a small quilt for the December auction. Think of all the exquisite options you would have to choose from just with using the colors of this month. The quilt auction is our only fund raiser for December. If you can't make one, than perhaps you can purchase one. They make a great gift for someone special or treat yourself to a holiday gift.

I understand the Red and White show was great. Congratulations to the winners. I have been in touch with Shelly Zegart last month's speaker; she was delighted with her visit and thanks the members of Empire Quilter's for their support. The monies col-

lected from the sale of her tape will be donated to the Kentucky Public Broadcasting System. She has donated a copy to the Library. I encourage you to take it out, perhaps have a group of friends over and watch a couple of episodes. Don't be like me and watch all nine at once.

Remember that December is charity month. We ask you to bring in stockings and bears that you have finished. We will be collecting items beginning this month. We will be bringing in pre-made stockings, bears and other little animals for you to complete.

I hope to be able to attend November's meeting and wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving.

My best-

Paula Kenney, President

Thank You by Cindy Russell

My beautiful quilt from Empire Quilters just arrived, and I must say that I'm overwhelmed! The quilt is a memento of the time I spent with the guild website and guild photography, and it is very special. The blocks — most in the shape of a computer monitor or camera! — are personal and happy and are all done with care and thought. As a special treat, many of the blocks are signed. I will, of course, never forget the people who make Empire Quilters the superb guild that it is — you are the most talented and creative bunch I've ever known, and that creativity and talent is more than matched by your generosity, and kind and giving spirit. I had a blast working with you. I learned much about quilting and about friendship, and I will carry each of you in my heart forever. I'm very grateful to you all, and will cherish this beautiful quilt. Thank you.

Special thanks to Anna Foss for organizing the project, and to Diane Paul for turning the collection of blocks into such a fabulous final piece.

Fondly, Cindy Russell
(former guild webmaster and guild photographer)



NEXT MEETING

Saturday
November 12, 2011

NEW LOCATION

Church of
the Holy Apostles
296 Ninth Avenue,
(@ 28th St.), NY
Open 9:00 am-4:00pm

Focus Groups

12:00 pm-1:00pm
Charity Coach and Chat

12:00 pm-1:00pm
Elm Creek Quilters

Board Meeting
11:00 am-12:00 pm

General Meeting
1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Program
Stitched By Hand

Speaker
Betty Ekern Suiter

Vendor
Members Flea Market

Quilter of the Month
Larry Gifford

Block of The Month
Classic String Quilt

Scrap Table: Open
Show & Tell: Open
Library: Open

Guest Fee: \$10

November Quilter of the Month, Larry Gifford by Debra Levin

In the late 1980s Larry Gifford started to think about an art outlet. He had memory of going to antique shops and seeing the American quilts. Both Larry's grandmother and aunt were quilters. He thought it might be possible to use color and geometry to do an art piece. For a first project, Larry chose a Christmas wall hanging from a sewing magazine despite the fact that he did not know sewing lines, seam margins, or fabric selvage. Larry failed miserably. However, after a number of lessons he launched into a Hoffman challenge with success.

Over the next twenty years Larry completed a number of traditional quilts using a number of techniques including templates, strip piecing, and finally settled on his favorite, paper piecing. Larry made quilts for grandchildren, his mother, and for friend's weddings. Larry has participated in Empire Quilt shows since 2007.

Over the past six years, Larry has combined his sewing and quilting experience along with machine embroidery to enter in the making of religious items for both Christian and Jewish traditions. The Christian items have been made for The Church of the Holy Apostles and Saint Paul's Church, Paterson, N.J. This has included full sets of clergy vestments with companion altar pieces. Recently, Larry completed a chuppah, a canopy, for a Jewish wedding of a friend's daughter. Over the years I have made prayer shawls, tallitot, along with challah and matzo covers. The



shawls used during services and the covers at the dinner table.

A memorable project has been the design and construction of an AIDS memorial quilt for Congregation Beth Simchat Torah, the gay and lesbian synagogue in NYC. This is a replacement for their panel which had been included in The Names Project quilt displayed in Washington, DC and was lost.

Larry emphasizes that it has been a great pleasure to be a member of Empire Quilters Guild and to participate in the organization of the Guild and its biannual shows.

October Quilter of the Month, Maxine Townsend-Broderick

Maxine Townsend-Broderick learned that slaves used quilt blocks as a means to communicate escape plans during the Underground Railroad era 7 years ago while working as a New York City public school art teacher. The use of art as an instrument of resistance to social and political injustice sparked a personal interest in quilt making. Maxine's sister-in-law, a long time quilter, inspired her to use her training as a multimedia artist and professional photographer in order to learn the technical aspects of quilting. After mastering the basics Maxine began creating her own original patterns and unique designs.

Her websites: www.maxinesclassiccreations.com and www.liblackartists.com/maxine_townsend.htm



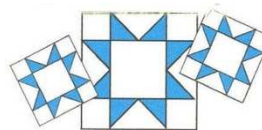
Treasurer's Report



September 2011

Guild	Month	YTD Total
Beginning Balance	\$ 70,245.71	\$ 57,090.66
Income	\$ 6,707.61	\$ 26,495.98
Expenses	\$ 3,077.51	\$ 9,513.00
Ending Balance	\$ 73,875.81	\$ 74,073.64
Show Income	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
Show Expenses		\$ 197.83
Grand Total	\$ 73,900.81	\$ 73,900.81

A detailed version of the report is available on the website, or by contacting Anna Krassy, quilterme@gmail.com (or at 212) 243 3253 to have a copy mailed to you.



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Block-of-the-Month

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Call for details

Anna Faustino is Back for the December Workshop

Anna Faustino is back! This time she offers a stunning silhouette of the city skyline with her famous woven base to support the spires. All who follow her work will be delighted with this new design and for those who have always wanted to study with Anna, this is your chance.

Anna Faustino is a multi-award winning quilt maker, designer, fine artist and author. For more information about Anna Faustino visit her website: www.newtechquilts.com or see her Quilter of the Month page.

You will need the following supplies for this workshop.

- Cutting board
- Rotary cutter
- Ruler 18" +
- Pencil
- Red marker
- Scissors
- 90 pins
- Iron with extension cord
- Craft Knives with new

Sign up: To reserve your place in this workshop, send a check made out to Empire Quilters to Mary Butler. Contact info@empirequilters.net if you need Mary's address.



City Scape Silhouette

Instructor: Anna Faustino

Date: Sunday, December 11, 2011

Time: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Location: 343 8th Ave, (near 27th St)
New York, NY 10001 [Map]

Cost: \$75.00 (includes kit)

Charity Coach and Chat

First, we want to thank all the members and friends of the guild who so generously donated finished quilts, baby hats and fabric – both for the holiday and for our ongoing charity quilt work. Further, we have already started getting holiday stockings, handmade stuffed animals and other small items for our holiday collection for children in New York City shelters.

Second, I want to remind all our members that our holiday charity work is one of our largest single service activities for the year. We are again asking members to make as many stockings and toys as you have time and willingness to make. At the November meeting we'll have fabric and patterns available for stockings and several types of stuffed animals. **But you don't need to wait for the meeting to start making holiday gifts. Patterns can be found on the Service page of the website – and nearly every one of us has a stash to dig into for fabric. A fat quarter is all you need for any animal. Two fat quarters is enough to make a stocking.** To pick up fabric at the meeting, please see Jennifer Bigelow, Marilyn Korn or Tina Barth at the Charity Coach and Chat-tables, or Kitty Squire at the Membership Table.

As always we appreciate the generosity of our members. Though our focus is on toys and stockings, we realize that there are so many other things that the children need and would appreciate. So, for those who would rather buy a gift (or more than one) here are some of the things we are permitted to include in the stockings: toiletry items such

as shampoo, conditioner, moisturizer, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, soap; playing cards, coloring books and crayons; paper and pencils or pens; other small toys, stuffed animals; hats, gloves, mittens, socks; books for all ages of children. Please donate only new items (not used or hand-me-downs – they won't be accepted). Do not contribute any opened toiletries or makeup, as they won't be accepted. Any food items that are donated must be individually wrapped so they can be distributed at the three shelters' holiday parties. It will be helpful if you place toiletries in Ziploc bags, 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.

Finally – we're asking for members to help put together the stockings and gifts following the December meeting. We will have a 'workshop' space (details to be provided by Mary Butler) on the Sunday after the meeting. This is a FREE workshop! In the past Denise did all the work herself (I think she borrowed helpers from Santa). This year we know we need helpers from Empire Quilters. Please let us know that you'll be joining us. It will be fun and we'll all feel so happy.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support. We look forward to another successful holiday charity collection!

—Jennifer Bigelow, Marilyn Korn and Tina Barth

Empire's November Workshops, Don't Forget to Sign Up.

Half Day (Morning): Hand Quilting

Instructor: Betty Ekern Suiter
 Date: Sunday, November 13, 2011
 Time: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
 Location: 343 8th Ave, (near 27th St)
 New York, NY 10001 [Map]
 Skill Level: All Levels
 Cost: \$45.00 (+\$10.00 kit fee)

Sign up: To reserve your place in this workshop, send a check made out to Empire Quilters to Mary Butler. Contact info@empirequilters.net if you need Mary's address.

Preserve the art of hand quilting. Learn to mark a quilting design as well as the different types of batting. Betty will show you how to achieve even stitches by rocking your needle. Also how to save your fingertips while doing it! Kit provides fabric, batting and needle.

Half Day (Afternoon): Blooming Flowers

Instructor: Betty Ekern Suiter
 Date: Sunday, November 13, 2011
 Time: 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm
 Location: 343 8th Ave, (near 27th St)
 New York, NY 10001 [Map]
 Skill Level: Beginner to Intermediate
 Cost: \$45.00 (+\$20.00 kit fee)

Sign up: To reserve your place in this workshop, send a check made out to Empire Quilters to Mary Butler. Contact info@empirequilters.net if you need Mary's address.

You will work on a 12"x12" base to create perfect needle turn curves and sharp points. Betty will show you her easy way for skinny 1/8" stems. Flower centers are stuffed to add dimension while embroidery enhances the effect. Kit includes hand dyed fabrics, background square, use of thread and # 12 applique needle.

Library Notes.....

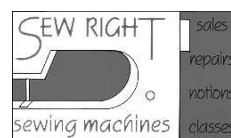
The library sale was very successful, and raised \$360 for the guild. Thanks go to donations by Diane Rode-Schnek, Sandra Samaniego, Robin Berson, Peggy McGeary, Melanie Hill, Diane Rubenstein, Verna Fitzgerald, Sheila Moltz, Pricilla Blakemore, Mildred Castro, Syliva Hughes, and others whose names I didn't get, and of course to all the members who purchased books and magazines.

Our November speaker will feature hand applique and quilting, and here are some books in the library that members might find useful.

- Applique Basics: Flower Wreaths by Karen K. Buckley
- Applique in Bloom by Gabrielle Swain
- Applique Guide to Hand Applique by Elly Sienkiewicz
- Hand Applique with Alex Anderson
- Loving Stitches by Jeanna Kimball
- Choosing Quilting Designs, edited by Jane Townswick

If you would like to borrow these or any other books in the library (the link to our collection is on the guild website), please email either Cargill@columbia.edu or lmbin-ny@yahoo.com at least a week before the November meeting.

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Around Town...

MAKE IT THURSDAY



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Space is limited.
Purchase tickets online at
www.folkartmuseum.org/makeit.
To reserve member tickets, contact
Elizabeth Kingman at 212. 265. 1040,
ext. 346.

Come to the museum each Thursday for hands-on workshops and discussions with leaders in the DIY community. Enjoy a glass of wine, meet fellow craft enthusiasts, and spend a creative evening with us!

- 10/27 Craft Activism: The book and the movement
- 11/3 Make Your Own iPod Case with Mathmystic
- 11/10 The Knitted Worlds of Anna Hrachovec
- 11/17 Making Wearable Accessories with Fabric Scrap Rosettes
- 12/1 Origami Star Books with Esther K. Smith
- 12/8 Diana Schoenbrun's Beasties
- 12/15 An Evening with Burda Style

Lineups subject to change

American Folk Art Museum

2 Lincoln Square (Columbus Avenue at 66th Street), New York City

Tuesday-Saturday, noon-7:30 PM • Sunday, noon-6 PM • closed Monday
212. 595. 9533 • www.folkartmuseum.org • admission is free



Newark Museum:

Patchwork from Folk Art to Fine Art

There is still time to see the exhibit at the Newark Museum which opened on September 14th and will run through the end of the year.

Accompanying this exhibition is *The Global Art of Patchwork: Africa and Asia*, showcasing work of patchwork traditions outside the world of quilts, also drawn from the Museum's holdings.

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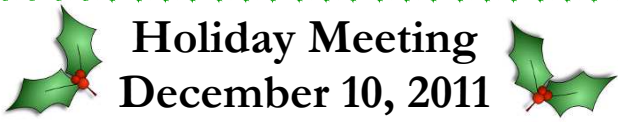
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Holiday Meeting December 10, 2011



You have one month more to finish your holiday themed small quilts for donation to our fundraising auction! Based on any holiday, these quilts will be auctioned off starting at \$20 each to raise funds for Empire's ongoing projects. The quilts should be based on any holiday you can think of-we don't want to stifle your imagination! They should be no more than 96" in circumference (24" x 24" or any combination thereof). I look forward to seeing the results in December. In addition, we will be having a bake sale, so please think about what you want to make to donate to the Guild to sell. With the coffee and tea service, we should have a great time with all of these. If you have any questions, please contact either Kitty Squire (kesquilts33@msn.com) or Lisa Kehrlé (lisank94@aol.com).

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Don't Forget Its Flea Market Month

November is Flea Market month! Don't forget to bring your cash to buy, buy, buy from our members who are selling their treasures. Please support your fellow Guild members!

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Sewtime.com

Empire Block of the Month Squad by Earamichia Brown

I remember the first time I heard about Empire's block of the month. I was intrigued and rushed to go online to find out what I needed to create for that first meeting. The idea of making a block, pinning it up on a wall, receiving a raffle ticket, and waiting ever so un-patiently to find out if I was the lucky winner., is truly a great concept.

Then I began to wonder who was behind the BOM squad. Was it one person that came up with a BOM for each meeting. No, it was an entire "SQUAD". Meet the lovely BOM Squad consisting of Karen Griska, Chair and squad members, Lisa belle, Lisa Kehrle, Helen Beall, and Shirley Clark. These ladies do a wonderful job every month. They come up with a block and post a how-to on the blog to help you. (www.empirebom.blogspot.com)

Don't forget to bring your completed block or blocks to the meeting. (Remember the more you make, the more chances you have to win.) This is truly a great way to meet people and feel more connected with the group, as you enter to win the blocks that were created by your fellow guild members.



Empire Quilters BOM Squad:
Karen Griska, Chair.
 Email: bom@empirequilters.net
Lisa Belle, Lisa Kehrle, Helen Beall, Shirley Clark

November Block of the Month (BOM) - Classic String Quilt

For November we'll whip up some blocks to make a classic string quilt. Choose blues, greens, and black & whites. Cut strips about 1 1/4" wide - 1 3/4" wide. Cut them long enough to fill the space under the 6" template. Continue building until the block is bigger than the template. The strips can be various widths.

Trim as shown below. Block size is 6". (The block size in the finished quilt will be 5 1/2".)



November 19 Bus Trip to Lancaster

The total cost for this trip is \$50.00 and we are still about a half a dozen members short of covering the cost of the bus. So if you've been thinking about joining us, now is the time to let the trip committee know. I understand the prices for fabric in the stores we are planning to stop at are half the price of what is available locally and don't forget, there's the promise of a smorgasbord dinner at the end of the trip for all who are interested. Please contact mindywexlermarks@yahoo.com as soon as possible.

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Things to Remember....

Quilters of the Month Needed

We are looking for Volunteers to be Quilter of the Month. What is Quilter of the Month? It's a short (10 minute) presentation of your work that you present at the monthly guild meeting. Typically we do the presentation after the guest speaker or after Show & Tell. Presenting 10 - 15 pieces works best. They do not have to be finished -- tops are fine. You can show a range of your work or a group of themed pieces. The work can be quilts or quilting/sewing related. We aim to have five Quilter of the Month presentations this year and are looking for volunteers. There are openings in 2012. If interested, please contact Debra Levin at deblevin@verizon.net

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- 10% Discount on 5 Yards
- 15% Discount on 10 Yards
- 25% Discount on 15 Yards or More

Wanted: Holiday Themed Quilts

We are going to be having a small fundraiser this December, auctioning off small quilts donated by our members. This is your opportunity to have fun designing and making a small quilt and the Guild benefits! It is easy! We are looking for members who want to make a small (no more than 24" x 24") quilt with a holiday theme to be auctioned off. These do not have to be only regular holidays. If you can think of a theme, you can come up with a holiday to match, such as: Japan Day, Arbor Day, etc. We live in New York and have parades and holidays for everything under the sun!

The quilts can be any shape as long as the total outside circumference does not exceed 96." We will start the bids at \$20 and go up from there. The more quilts donated, the more money the Guild will raise!

If you have any questions, please contact either Kitty Squire kesquilts33@msn.com or Lisa Kehrlé lisank94@aol.com.

Sewing Bee for Charity Saturday, November 19, 2011

On Saturday November 19, City Quilter is hosting a sewing bee for us to work on stockings and animals for our holiday charity events. Starting at 6 pm and going until 10, we can make stockings and animals to our hearts content. We just need bodies to do the cutting, sewing, decorating and stuffing. Please bring any fabrics you wish to donate as well as your sewing kits. We will have the store's machines to work with as well as their cutting tables and Nancy Rabatin will be available if you see something you absolutely must buy. Wine and noshes will be available, but feel free to bring your own as well. Because of the size limitations, please let Kitty Squire (kesquilts33@msn.com) or Jennifer Bigelow (JMBigelow54@yahoo.com) know if you plan to attend. Thank you, Cathy Izzo and Nancy Rabatin for this terrific opportunity to have fun and do some good at the same time.

**For Advertising Contact Us at:
advertising@empirequilters.net**

2011-2012 Calendar

November 12, 2011

Betty Ekern Suiter

December 10, 2011

*Holiday Fundraising
& Charity Gift Collection*

January 14, 2012

Karen Gibbs

February 11, 2012

Members Teaching Members

March 10, 2012

Charity Work Day

April 14, 2012

Rayna Gillman

May 12, 2012

Ranni Kim

June 9, 2012

Linda Warren

November Newsletter Deadlines
Ads: November 25, 2011
Article Submission: November 26, 2011

Empire Quilters encourages members to write articles about quilt related subjects — even to toot their own horn if they've taken part in a show — and to send them to the Editor: newsletter@empirequilters.net

**Questions? Contact Us at:
Info@empirequilters.net**

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