TCQG Newsletter

March 2020

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Send submissions for future Newsletters to:
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PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Hello Quilters,

I wish I could say that I feel spring just around the corner, but I don't quite feel it yet. It's still very cold and, although the days are noticeably longer, I still have the urge to hunker down inside, all warm and cozy. If you're feeling the same and you want a little break from sewing, consider writing your "biography" for our newsletter. Peggy Dunlop suggested the idea and provided the first bio. It's a fun way for us to learn about each other and to share our lives both inside and outside of quilting. I'll look forward to reading all about you in upcoming newsletters.

Munna

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Birthday wishes this month go to: Karen Baum: March 4, Jane Converse: March 6, Amy Truman: March 7, Donna Faivre-Roberts: March 9, Steffi Lehman Green: March 10, Pat Costantini: March 12, Marcie Wyant: March 16, Joan Geiszler: March 20, Cyndi Slothower: March 24, Alice Linton: March 26.

All the best to all 10 March birthday guild members. Let's hope that this year will give you time and inspiration to make lots of quilts.

Do you want to be added to the birthday calendar? Email Aafke: aafrike@yahoo.com

Aafke Steenhuis

BAGS AND SEATBELT PILLOWS FOR THE CANCER RESOURCE CENTER

The Cancer Resource Center and the community members receiving the bags and pillows are very grateful for our efforts in making the bags and pillows. The last month I heard again how appreciative the people are receiving the bags, and even being able to choose one they like! The seatbelt pillows are a big hit as well. That's what this project is all about: we are making a very difficult time in someone's life just a little bit easier. Thanks to all of you helping out. Both patterns are on the TCQG website and I bring extra copies to meetings as well. I also bring kits to make bags and bottoms made out of corrugated plastic.

Aafke Steenhuis
MARCH MEETINGS

AAFKE STEENHUIS PRESENTATION
THERAPEUTIC QUILTS
MARCH 10TH

Aafke has been quilting for 48 years. During the last 20+ years she has experienced several transformative events that compelled her to express her feelings in quilts. Aafke will show these quilts and talk about the events that inspired them. Join us!

RAFFLE QUILT PROPOSALS AND VOTE

This is also the evening for presenting and voting on raffle quilt proposals for our 2021 quilt show. As of this writing there are 2 proposals on the website, each with a couple of alternative color/design suggestions. Check them out before the meeting and be ready to vote for your choice. You may also send your own design or pattern suggestion to Karen Kindle <karen.kindle@gmail.com> or Tracy McLellan <trcymclellan@gmail.com> and they will put it on our website for everyone to view.
Munna

SHOW & TELL
MARCH 24TH

Please bring quilts with shapes: circle, triangle, trapezium etc. Don’t bring in quilts with squares or rectangles unless the combination of the shapes brings out other fun shapes. However, we are not the quilt police, so if you think you have a quilt that deserves a Show & Tell, but it doesn’t quite fit in, bring it in anyway!

Suggestions for future Show & Tell’s are welcome! Contact Kathy kascey54@aol.com and/or Aafke aafrike@yahoo.com

Kathy Carman and Aafke Steenhuis

“FULL CIRCLE: BACK TO OUR ROOTS”
Call for Upcycling/Recycling Submissions

CHE’s Green Ambassadors will be curating “Full Circle: Back to Our Roots”, an upcycling/recycling exhibit, to be held in the Jill Stuart Gallery, Human Ecology Building from March 18, 2020 through April 10, 2020. We are looking for submissions from the CHE community, as well as local artists, so please spread the word. Installation will be on Monday, March 16. Artists should plan on dropping off pieces to the address below, as well as submitting titles and descriptions no later than Friday, March 13.

For more information, please contact Karen Steffy, ks247@cornell.edu
Graduate Field Assistant
Fiber Science & Apparel Design
T57 Human Ecology Building
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853
607-255-8605
With the success of the first “Quilted with Care” benefit in 1996 which was an afternoon of quilts, desserts, friendship, bidding and winning with the proceeds going to the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance, the guild voted to repeat the event in 2000. (You can see the story of the 1996 event in the August 2017 guild newsletter.) It took eight women and a year to plan, organize and publicize this second event. Members, friends, and the community were asked to make small quilts to be auctioned off. By the day of the gala 161 quilts had been donated.

Many of the details were already in place from the first go around. The event was at the Women's Community Building with desserts donated by area restaurants and flowers by local florists. Peggy Haine was again the auctioneer. Brigid Hubberman handled publicity, Cheryl Moore coordinated receiving the small quilts, Peggy Hill and Brynne Sigg organized the event day. Many other guild members played significant roles. Students from the local colleges helped at the live auction by taking quilts from the walls and holding them up for view.

“Gather in the Garden” was a beautiful quilt top that the owners of Quilts ’n Things - Lorraine Sack, Ruth Him, Judi Heath and Sally Kern donated and guild members hand quilted to be raffled. Wegmans was very generous to allow the quilts to be hung and bid sheets to be available so shoppers could do silent bidding for a month before the live auction occurred.

The day of the gala, the room was transformed into a quilt show and a hive of activity. Bidding was fast. Melissa Fowler's quilt “Perhaps They Are Not Stars” with words from an old Eskimo legend was the top dollar going for $895. By the end of the three hour event $25,000 was grossed for IBCA. What a magnificent day!

Next Month: Many Thanks to Our Show Chairs!
LIBRARY BOOKENDS

The library’s holdings list has been updated as of January 2020. Hard copies are located on the inside of the library cabinet doors and our “web masters” have updated the holdings list on our website. Please feel free to use these lists or ask a library committee member to help locate a book for you.

There are two new issues of the periodical “Quiltfolk” available for circulation. One volume features the state of Minnesota with, among others, articles about free motion quilter Karen McTavish, quilts paying tribute to the singer/songwriter Prince, and the quilts made by Gwen Westerman honoring her indigenous peoples heritage. The other volume features Hawaii with articles titled "History of Hawaiian Arts", "A Field Guide to Hawaiian Quilting" and the Ka Hui Kapa o Waimea Hawaiian Quilt Guild.

A bit of trivia: Quilting was introduced to the indigenous people of both Minnesota and Hawaii by missionaries.

Joan Geiszler
Library committee

DAYS FOR GIRLS

Friday, March 6 and Saturday, March 7
Parish Hall at All Saints in Lansing

We will make kits that contain 8 reusable feminine fabric products and 2 shields. Each fabric bag kit also has a washcloth, soap, 2 ziplock bags and 2 pairs of underwear. The kits are distributed in third world countries, as well as in the US and Canada. Reusable feminine products make it possible for girls to stay in school when they have their period.

We are switching from the ZipLock bags to more reusable Pull bags. It will be a learning curve and addition to all the other items that we make for the kits, but we will not leave any used plastic behind.

The kits are distributed in third world countries, as well as in the US and Canada. Reusable feminine products make it possible for girls to stay in school when they have their period. Check out the website and you'll be inspired to come and sew: <www.DaysforGirls.org>.

Please bring your sewing machine and/or serger, sewing supplies including polyester thread, please. If you don’t have polyester thread, don’t worry we have some for you to use.

Bring a snack to share, and several of us usually make a big crockpot of soup for lunch. Everyone who has been to one of these events returns. It is so nice to sew and chat together and make up these kits.

Also, thanks to everyone who took “homework” home to finish the liners so they won’t unravel when used. I still have several bags with unfinished liners and will take them to our Guild meetings.

Any questions, contact Aafke 277-4057 or <aafrike@yahoo.com>
MEMBER BIO

Would you like to know more about your fellow Guild members? If you would like to share your story (it can be as long or short as you wish), send it to me anytime and I will be happy to include it in the Newsletter. If you're worried about your writing skills, I would be happy to edit it for you.

Thanks to Munna for providing us with this month's bio!!

Cathy cmiller2000@twcny.rr.com

MUNNA RUBAI!

My parents met at Cornell, I was born in Rochester and I grew up in Cortland, so I definitely consider myself a central New Yorker. I have broad roots, though: my mother's parents are Eastern Europe Jews and my father, who was raised Muslim, was born in Baghdad, Iraq. Growing up, I thought it was unusual to have both Jewish and Muslim parents, but my Dad said it was pretty common in the Middle East before WWII.

I have a BS from Cornell in Environmental Science and an MS from the College of Environmental Science and Forestry (at Syracuse) in Resource Policy and Management. Unfortunately, it didn’t really occur to me until after I had the degrees that if I really wanted to work in Policy I would likely have to go to Albany or to Washington, DC. Not interested in doing that, I fell into a job with the NY State Division for Youth (later the Office of Children and Family Services). In its current incarnation that’s the state agency that does pretty much everything (except education) for kids: it runs the juvenile justice system, the adoption system, the child abuse hotline, the foster care system, day care licensing, gives money to youth bureaus and runs the commission for the blind and visually handicapped. I had a great career there – managing regional training centers for employees of the agency. I really enjoyed it…. until I didn’t – so after 32 years, I retired in 2017.

I didn’t really grow up with much art or craft although I’ve been trying to develop an artistic sense since retirement. My great-grandmother crocheted and my grandmother knitted and crocheted but my parents were pretty much pure academics. Although I recall some forays into leather working and ceramics as a kid, we weren’t what I would consider “handy” people. In fact, with some sense of propriety, my mom sent me off to college with an iron (surprising, since we rarely ironed our clothes at home) – I promptly burned myself on it and never used it again until I took up quilting.

After college, I did learn to knit from my grandmother. I made a sweater for everyone in my family then stopped and haven’t knitted a stitch since. I have no idea why I wanted to learn to quilt. Maybe some romantic notion about making a quilt for everyone in the family; more likely, I just liked the colors and patterns. In my typical, “I don’t want to admit what I don’t know” fashion, I figured I would make a quilt or two on my own (well, with the help of a book) then I would take some classes. I did have a sewing machine, although I can’t fathom why. So, I began making log cabin blocks. I laid them out on top of my bed and stopped when they started falling off the sides. I sewed them together and was confounded when they formed a tiny, 2 – 3 foot square “quilt” – oh yeah, that’s when the concept of seam allowances hit home for me. A couple of huge borders solved that problem and I was on my way. I hand quilted that first quilt and really enjoyed the process. After that, I took some classes and I’ve been quilting pretty steadily since.

I do have a slight tragic connection to sewing: My mother’s father’s uncle (does that make him my great-grand uncle?) was a traveling Singer sewing machine salesman in the early 1900s in Eastern Europe. He went off on a selling trip around the time of WWI and was never heard from again. I have an early Singer machine in my living room and I think of this relative who I never knew almost every time I look at the machine. Maybe that’s the source of my interest in quilting….
QUILTS OF VALOR 2020 BLOCK DRIVE

The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor.

I will be collecting blocks for Quilts of Valor from now through next fall. If we collect enough blocks and there is enough interest, we may put together a whole quilt!

For more info and the pattern for the block go to Quilts of Valor Foundation at qovf.org.

Thanks! Jayne Port

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS

March 10th  Aafke Steenhuis - Therapeutic Quilts Presentation
                      Voting on the Raffle quilt design for 2021 Quilt Show

March 24th  Social Meeting, see Show & Tell info on page 2

April 14th  Cathleen Wiggs - The Teller of Quilt Stories
                      Story and Trunk Show

April 28th  Business Meeting