

Threadlines



Thumb Butte Quilters' Guild



March 2007
Volume 11, Issue 8

Mark Your Calendars

Next Meetings—March 12, 2007

9:30 AM at St Luke's

Exec Committee meets

March 14th at 9:15

Yavapai Hills Clubhouse

Newsletter deadline

March 20, 2007

March Hostesses

Jan Gallo

Linda Gergen

Beverly Ginnelly

Earlene Hanson

Kay Harlan

Colleen Harlow

Nan Hawley

Leigh Hay-Martin

Sharon Heilman

Dorothy Henry

Linda Hill

Happy March

Birthday

Judy Book

Fran Chadwick

Carol Kachur

Hazel Karetov

Sandy McGarry

Kristi McHugh

Carol Miller

Beverly Strissel

Bunny Troup

JoAnne Van Liere

President's Message – March TBQ News

Top O' the Mornin' to you, Quilt Lassies!!

March brings us St. Patrick's Day and the 'wearing of the green', when everyone is Irish for at least one day! On March 17th, I go by 'McEdwards"! ☺ Get out those green quilts to celebrate! I have a St. Patrick's Day wallhanging quilt top "in the works", but it's been that way for a long, long time. As are many of my UFO's, it's been "held up at the border" i.e., I need to add borders! I still love it and get it out every year...I know a time will come when the inspiration will be there to "just do it!"

Did you know that March 17th is also National Quilting Day! It gives us the opportunity to reflect with pride on the traditions of quiltmaking and the contributions quiltmakers have made to their families and communities for many generations. March 17th is a day to recognize and appreciate the quiltmakers, the skill, and the warm, and the results! Write "Gone Quilting" on your calendar, and treat yourself to a day in your sewing room! Or plan a quilting retreat with your quilting pals, or go on your own "shop hop"! Whatever you do, devote the whole day to your love of quilting! It's always an especially good day when I can write in my diary "quilted all day"! ☺

"Hats Off To" Mary Andra Holmes who is a blue ribbon winner at the Road to California quilt show. Her "Winter Memories" quilt won 1st Place in the Traditional Wall Applique Quilt category. Congratulations, Mary Andra!!

"Hats Off To" Jennifer Carpenter, Judy Eppler, Sandy Evans, and Connie Sieh for efficiently handling the kitchen duties during February's TBQ meeting, in the absence of our regular Refreshment Committee!

Housekeeping:

- The Nominating Committee was announced at the February meeting. They are Jean Ehlers, Linda Gergen, Nyla Paulsen, and Bunny Troup, plus the President in the capacity as advisor. These ladies know they have a big challenge ahead of them. They were chosen because they understand the qualities that officers of TBQ must possess to get the job done. If they call you, you should be thrilled! Serving as an officer creates a unique responsibility to your fellow Guild members, and a special bond to the other officers. Being in a Quilters Guild allows you, as members, to take advantage of the quilt speakers and workshops, to glean the inspiration and enthusiasm of other Quilters in their Show & Tell items, and to relish the friendship of Quilters! Being in a Quilters Guild also generates a responsibility to "work" for your Guild, to "give back" for all the benefits you have gained in Guild membership. Please give serious thought to any requests made of you by the Nominating Committee. A Guild cannot function without a team of leaders. Is it your turn?
- Every year, TBQ budgets \$300 specifically for the purchase of new quilting books for the Prescott Library. If you have a new favorite book, please share that title with Alice Obrenovich. Supporting the Library in one way or another has been an important part of Thumb Butte Quilters' Community Service activities since our beginnings!
- I hate to keep harping on the duties of the Hostesses each month, but if your name is on the Hostess list, please bring a goodie and arrive at the Church at 8 a.m. to help set up the room. Members are good about helping put away chairs, but Hostess duties also include returning the meeting room as we found it. We only ask you to do this once a year—please, please lend a hand! Many hands make light work!!!
- Did you know that TBQ pays \$600 a year for the monthly use of the meeting room, kitchen, and entry hall? This is a bargain, and we need to be thankful and appreciative of St. Luke's Episcopal Church's facilities. This "rental" is equal to the dues of 20 members.
- Quilts at the Prescott Adult Center will change on February 23rd. The 9-Patch Challenge, shared by the Territorial Quilters Friendship Group will come down. Going up will be a breathtaking display of appliqué quilts done by *The Appliquettes* Friendship Group. Be sure to stop by to see them (1280 Rosser Street). We plan to offer this community service to the Prescott Adult Center for several months. If you or your Friendship Group would like to hang your own quilt show, call me! We will display six large quilts and four smaller quilts every 4 to 6 weeks.

So there you go! That's all I know for the moment! ☺ Let me leave you with this thought: "You are creating memories every day...make them good ones!" See you 'round the quilt frame!

~Carolyn~

Treasurer's Report: As TBQ does not publish financial information on the website, nor in the newsletter, the current Treasurer's Report is posted every month for your review in the Church Entry Hall. Check it out! Also, a copy is on file with the TBQ Secretary at all times.

The Mentors..... on Quilting on a Frame

Everyone is different, so the following is what works for us. Make changes as you find necessary, or what is comfortable for you. First of all, LOOSEN UP! Most people I have noticed have the quilt taut on the frame. After you have it set and all the fabrics seem aligned, back off 2 or more notches on your frame (assuming you have notches, or back off at least a quarter turn of the dowel). The quilt should be loose enough to hold your thread, glasses, scissors, and perhaps a cat or two with no chance of anything (or anyone) falling off. If your scissors tend to slip, back off some more. You should be able to manipulate the fabric enough to quilt comfortably. I can push my quilt up about 3-4" as I quilt (alone), so use this as a guide. For those of you with access to the website, there will be pictures, hopefully showing the slack in the quilt. If you are quilting with a group, the quilt should be even looser, as each person needs to be able to push the quilt up from beneath without interfering with the other quilters. This will make it much easier to do curves and odd directions, as most of us find it difficult to quilt anything but toward our bodies.

There is no problem with the alignment of the quilt with it being so loose. If you are using a 2 rail system, the quilt has already been basted. If you are lucky enough to have a 3 rail system, then the fabrics are aligned and ready to quilt. You should have a tension system for the sides (doesn't have to be pretty - muslin and safety pins work great), which will keep the fabrics from shifting even more.

Another factor to keep in mind is the height of the quilt frame from your waist. When sitting at the frame, your elbow should be slightly tilted UP when your arm is resting on the quilt....this will enable you to reach both over and under the quilt with minimal tension on your back. Again, this is a personal matter, but be mindful of your positioning as that will add to your distress over the hours. Don't be afraid to alter your frame height/tilt to get the perfect spot. When working with others on the frame, you will not have this option as the quilt will be level. Therefore, you might try bringing a seat pad or perhaps even a lower seat when working on a group quilt....do what works for YOU.

This also holds true for quilting on a hoop - loosen up and have fun with the process. When placing your quilt on the hoop (hand, lap or stand), push the top hoop over the bottom hoop and down 1/2 way. Now, place your open hand on the quilt and push gently until the top hoop is aligned with the bottom hoop. Again, your glasses, thread, scissors should sit there nicely when at an angle. There is also no need to tighten the screw on the hoop - it should be tight enough not to slip, but not so tight that it creases the fabrics. Again, watch your height in relation to the quilt. Get a comfortable chair and work with a comfortable tilt.

Lighting is of utmost importance, especially for those elusive small stitches. It is best to have a light DIRECTLY over your working surface, with the light under your line of vision so you don't have to contend with the glare. Have the light coming over your shoulder (opposite from your stitching hand) as close to the center of the work as you can get it if at all possible. Remember, keep the light LOW over your quilting, not up high. You only need to light up the section you are working on. If you find yourself doing a group quilt in a poorly lit spot, try one of those lights that hang around your neck. The best lights I have found do not have to be expensive - goosenecks or those ugly lights used by architects that reach out about 2 feet work great. I prefer the new screw in fluorescent bulbs as they do not get hot (also not as bright and "glary").

Sure hope this helps anyone wanting to hand quilt. If you have questions, call us. Pictures will be on the web showing the frame and hoops - and some ideas for lighting. Please check it out.

Margaret and Tina

Membership Musings

Hello Quilter's! TBQ is keeping very busy.

A new Friendship Group has been formed.

The Ladies-In-Waiting consist of those on our waitlist and any member of TBQ that wants to join us. The delightful workshops are fun, interesting, and very informative.

It's a busy time of the year for the Membership

Committee too! Please check out your information

in the roster to be sure it's correct. We will begin

editing and getting the roster ready printing for the new Guild Year.

As the time to re-new membership draws near, consider

turning in your check early. It will be held until May,

but it will help knowing who is going to renew. If you do not plan to renew, we will miss you, and ask that you contact Earlene Hanson.

Upcoming Programs

March: Janet Carruth from Phoenix will do a power point lecture/trunk show on Penny Rugs. She will teach a half day class on Monday, March 12 at the Yavapai Hills Clubhouse, at 1 pm, following the regular meeting. The pattern will be a basket of apples. Janet will supply all the materials to complete this project for a kit fee of \$30. Participants are asked to bring cloth scissors, pins, and a pencil

April: Shelley Swanland will be doing a trunk show of approximately 40 quilts that represent work done over the last eight years. She has developed a technique for constructing Cathedral Window quilts using layered piecing techniques and featuring rolled bias curves. She states that although her patterns look intricate and complex, they are really fast and easy to construct. Her workshop will be on Tuesday, April 10, at the Yavapai Hills Clubhouse; set-up will begin at 8:30 am. The workshop will be a combination of her patterns Berries Jubilee and Parchment & Black Lacquer Table Runner. She will also have her patterns for sale at the meeting and at the workshop.

May: The Quilt Show Committee will present the program and will bring us up to date on the show happenings.

June: Our member Susie Martin will present a program on hand dyeing fabrics. She will also have two classes, with eight members in each; the classes will be on Tuesday, June 12 & Saturday, June 16. She has a technique of dyeing fabrics that does not require a lot of big pots, or buckets, but rather Zip-Loc bags.

July: Thumb Butte's Annual Birthday Party.

August: Our own Susan Smith will present a program on color and fabric selection.

September: Mary Stori will do a lecture and a half day workshop on Monday, September 10, after our meeting, and a full day workshop on Tuesday, September 11.

October: Pattie Krause, from The Quilters Store in Sedona, will do a lecture and trunk show on collages at our meeting, and a half day workshop on Monday, October 8, and a full day workshop on Tuesday, October 9.

Attention Guests/Visitors/Non-Members...

We have some exciting, nationally known teachers on the Agenda for the next couple of months: March = Janet Carruth (wool applique), April = Shelley Swanland (cathedral windows by machine). For information, check out the "Programs" section. To help defray costs, non-members will be asked to pay \$10 to attend these lectures.

Lost? Found!

Did you leave a charcoal, herringbone knit Liz Claiborne zippered sweater at January's TBQ meeting? If so, I have it! Let me know if it's yours!!
Carolyn Edwards

NEWCOMER'S GROUP NEWS (submitted by Pam Jones and Susan Smith)

We had a wonderful time together at Susie's Skyway Restaurant on Feb. 12th after the TBQ meeting. The five of us got to know each other that much better but still wished more could have been able to join us! You have another chance after the TBQ meeting on March 12th. We will be meeting for lunch at Manzanita Grill immediately following the TBQ meeting. It is located at Antelope Hills Golf Course, 3 Perkins Drive right off Hwy. 89. It is only a few minutes from our TBQ meeting place. Come join us. At the TBQ meeting, we will take a hand count of those planning to attend.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP NEWS (submitted by Pam Jones and Susan Smith)

This month we are highlighting The Featherweights.

This mini-group has been meeting together for well over 10 years. Although they usually work on their own individual projects, they have corporately made many quilts over the years. Their current quilt just finished is called Moon Over The Mountain. Each of the members made 4 blocks. Out of all the blocks constructed, a certain amount were chosen to be in the quilt. The raffle winner was Margaret Mecca who will also be doing the quilting. Nyla Paulsen won the extra blocks that were made. This very talented group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month from 9:30am - 2:30pm at each other's homes and for this reason, with a total of 14 members, are at capacity.

Community Service News

A total of 80 walker bags have been completed. Many men, women and several guild members have benefited from this project. Thank you Sheila Smith for taking home the last 7 bags to complete, and to all other guild members for making these and donating fabric.

Earlene Hansen and I completed 12 pillows at the Quilt and Sew Connection in Prescott Valley on Monday, February 19. When the last 8 are completed the guild will have made and donated 50 pillows to the Family Advocacy office in Prescott Valley. Montez Deputy, our contact at that office, has told me heart warming stories about what these pillows have meant to children and women who have been able to choose one. Our guild members have made this possible.

In March I will have patterns and background fabric to complete the 16 block quilt to go with the book, No Dragons On MY Quilt. The quilt and book will then be donated to an elementary school in Prescott. What a great introduction to the importance of and appreciation of quilts to children. If you love to applique I do hope you will consider making one or more of these blocks.

For those who are interested in making an Ott light cover or a sewing machine cover to be sold at the quilt show along with the pot holders, I will have the patterns available at the March meeting. If enough members are interested, I can arrange another work day at the Quilt and Sew Connection in Prescott Valley, or we can get together at my home to sew.

The sharing of Civil War Quilts with a history class at the High School has been postponed until next October by the request of the History Department.

Keep on Quilting.
Alice Obrenovich

Look at this special Subscription Offer!!!

TBQ has received a special offer from Fons & Porter's *Love of Quilting*. Through a special arrangement with Sulky Thread, anyone interested can get a one-year subscription (six issues) to *Love of Quilting* with FOUR FREE BONUS GIFTS: *Bernina's 101 Best Quilt Tips* booklet, *Keepsake Quilting's Block Buster* booklet, and TWO FREE spools of Sulky Blendables thread! How great is that?! This offer is only good through April 30, 2007.

Your cost is only \$20—and TBQ gets to keep \$5! Make your check payable to Thumb Butte Quilters and give it to Jane Holland (Treasurer) at the March or April Guild meeting, or mail it directly to her. She will need your name and address along with your cash or check. If you are a current subscriber to *Love of Quilting*, your subscription will be marked as a renewal. Please provide your name and address exactly as it now appears on your subscription label.

Be sure to take advantage of this special subscription offer! You'll be treating yourself to something wonderful...AND adding a bit to TBQ's coffers! ☺

Quilt Show Boutique

Start cranking those machines to get your creations ready to sell in the Boutique! We are again providing the "Ye Olde Shoppe" Boutique for those of you interested in marketing your wearables and/or quilts. Once again we will be disbursing 90% of the sale price back to you, while 10% will go to the guild. If you've ever investigated "splits" in consignment shops, you realize that this is an excellent percentage of return.

Since we found in the past that jewelry doesn't sell well, we've eliminated it from our stock this year. We do recommend that you price your items reasonably, to facilitate their sales. A suggestion was made that if you are going to make placemats, that you make eight rather than four. As a whole, table runners and placemats were not big sellers. We will not be accepting potholders or any other items that are in competition with the Ways and Means Committee sales.

We have provided the instructions (A) and entry forms (B and C), as well as the price tags (D), on our web site. We have included an example of how to fill out the price tags, and have also provided a new form, Supplemental Sales Form (C). This is a new form for multiple items to which it wouldn't be appropriate to attach individual price tags.

Pricing your items is always a challenge. I had several calls regarding this subject and I found it very difficult to decide what price was appropriate. My advice today is the same as it was then: Price your items as reasonably as you can afford to do.

Happy sewing, and I hope to see many entries this year!

Pat Armstrong

Spirit of the West Quilt Show 2007

New Boot Pins for the Quilt Show are available for purchase for \$3.00 at the TBQ Meetings. They are red and white this year, and very attractive.

Jean Ehlers, Potholder Chairman, has asked each member to make 4 potholders for TBQ to sell at the Quilt Show. These always sell well; and bring in a nice financial addition in during the Show. Please use "Insul-Bright" TM, to reflect heat. This product can be purchased at the Jo-Ann store, at the fabric cutting area. At least one layer of batting should also be used.

Linda Gergen, Publicity Chairwoman

A Quilter's Dream



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Information about advertising in Threadlines:

Any member or vendor may place a camera-ready display ad for quilting related business in this newsletter.

- Quarter page (305 x 4).....\$20.00
- Sixth page (2.5 x 4).....\$15.00
- Business Card (2 x 3.5)\$10.00

Prices are per issue; 12 issues per year. Discount of 10% for
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