



Hands All Around Quilt Guild of Central Illinois

Newsletter

JANUARY 2020

President's Message

No UFO's Left Behind!

Happy New Year Members!

Winter officially arrived last month and the days will now be getting longer. Yes, I enjoy the sunshine longer and anxiously await the arrival of spring. I love watching the trees come alive again and enjoy watching the flowers bloom. But until that time arrives I will spend the time in my sewing room working on finishing my stack of UFO's. What about you? Will you be working on your UFO's in anticipation of the upcoming Quilt Spectrum? It will be here before you know it.

I am still needing a few members to volunteer for the nomination committee that will meet one time in January to contact members to fill the executive board offices that will be vacated this year. The guild will need to fill three positions on this board. They are the Vice President, which is a three-year commitment; secretary, which is a one year commitment; and treasurer, which is a two year commitment. Please consider volunteering for the committee or one of the vacant positions. We are a volunteer organization and it takes all of us to make it run smoothly. If you aren't able to be an officer, think about serving on the nominating committee. It is a one afternoon/evening commitment. If you are willing to serve on any of the above, please contact Sharon Rhoda or myself. Thank you.

The silent auction has been moved to be at the same time as the guild's salad supper in May 2020. If you have anything that you would be willing to donate, please leave it on the table by the kitchen with your name on it and maybe a beginning value for the auction.

Did you enjoy last month's speaker, Lisa Bongean? I enjoyed her lecture and was able to observe the Saturday workshop and it looked like everyone was having a great time.

The guild has one fleece vest left for sale. It is a size medium and will be \$38 at the January meeting. We also have two fleece jackets left, sizes medium and large, for sale at \$40. If you are wanting one, either please let me know through my email or purchase it at the meeting in January. This is the end of them and they won't be offered again in the near future.

Reminders

There will be a Quilt Spectrum Committee Meeting before the January Meeting. The meeting will begin at 5:30.

Don't forget to bring food items for the Church's shopping cart. We will be collecting items throughout the Guild year.

Please take a minute to fill out our Programs Survey

Members please keep in mind that the months that we have a speaker you are welcome to join the program committee on Friday evening for dinner for socializing with them. The Thursday evening dinner is for the Program Committee only to make sure they have the speaker needs for the weekend. Thank you for understanding and abiding by this.

Our speaker this month is member Pam Riss. She will be presenting the program that she had at the Quilt Spectrum in May. Then we will embark on our Winter Cruise retreat Friday and Saturday. Hope to see everyone at the January meeting or the winter retreat.

Please remember in case of inclement weather to check our Facebook page, website, or listen to WJBC for a cancellation. Also, if you don't feel safe coming out, please stay home where it is safe.

Connie Borth
President

Mennonite Relief Sale

The 2020 Mennonite Relief Sale will be held March 20th & 21st at the Interstate Center. Funds raised at the sale will benefit worldwide relief efforts and local food pantries.

If you would like to donate a wall hanging or quilt for the auction – or an item for the bazaar – please contact Mary Sanko for details. Donations will be collected at the March meeting. If possible, please include a photo of each auction item or email her a digital copy.

Quilt Spectrum

Our next committee meeting will be January 2nd at 5:30pm before the regular meeting. We are still looking for volunteers to make the ribbons for the show this year. If you are interested, please either reach out to me or come join us at the meeting on January 2nd. My hope is to have over 200 quilts entered this year so please consider entering one or two.

Silent Auction Change Date

The Executive Board has approved changing the date of the silent auction **FROM** January 2020 **TO** May of 2020. This will allow the Programs Committee more time to accept your treasures. Thank you for the lovely items we have received so far for the Silent Auction. Marking your items for the 'silent auction', is very helpful. We **can** tell the difference between scraps for the mystery bags and fabric for the auction, but we appreciate knowing so we only open the items for the mystery bags when we are sorting fabric. All clearly marked items for the silent auction may be placed on the counter outside the kitchen.

Programs & Classes

Our speaker for January 2, is our own Pam Riss. Her program is "My Quilting Evolution." She was our featured artist at our May 2019 Quilt Spectrum. Many of us were so busy "working the show"

that we might not have had a chance to see and enjoy her exhibit. This will be your opportunity to support her and view her artistic creations.

Pam's introduction to a sewing machine was in her junior high's home economics class in Decatur, IL. She enjoyed making her own clothes throughout her years at Stephen Decatur High School. In 1973, Pam started teaching math and science in Streator where she met her future husband, Gary. Then came the children and all the fun that comes with Easter, Halloween, Christmas and birthday outfit sewing.

Learning to quilt was a goal Pam set for herself when she retired from teaching in 2012. Her mother-in-law, a talented hand quilter, was her inspiration to begin this adventure. Pam's favorite quilting technique...wait for it...is paper piecing! She loves the exactness that can be achieved. (Must be her mathematical background.) Recently, Pam has developed an interest in machine embroidery and wool applique. Many of us would agree with Pam that there are just not enough hours in the day to learn all there is to learn!

Pam quilts with several groups in Streator. Her husband is a blacksmith, her daughter is a dancer and sews, and her son is a woodworker. In Pam's words, they are a family of "makers."

LOOKING AHEAD

February's speaker/teacher is Christa Watson. Both of her classes are full and have a waiting list. Those registered for her classes will receive the supply list from Pam Riss or find it on our web.

Her program **Thursday, February 6, 2020** is: **How Do I Quilt It?** This is a preview of her presentation.

Most quilters understand how important it is to practice machine-quilting designs on small fabric samples, but they often have trouble applying those designs to an actual quilt. In this informative lecture, Christa will share her secrets for machine-quilting success which include: adequate basting, choosing the right thread colors, thinking about how to divide and conquer each task, and learning how to create rich texture with little to no marking of the quilt. Christa will also discuss the importance of making a quilting plan, so you can figure out the best path around the quilt with the fewest stops and starts. Once you see how easy and stress-free her methods can be, you'll feel empowered to quilt your own quilts! Christa Watson is an award-winning quilter who loves to perform all of her own "stunts" on a regular home sewing machine. She's a fabric designer for Benartex, and author of three books on machine quilting. She loves to empower others to quilt their own quilts and have fun doing it!

February 7, 2020 class: Walking Foot Wonders

February 8, 2020 class: Free Motion Favorites

LOOKING W A-A-Y AHEAD

Our speaker/teacher for March, David Gilleland, has openings in both classes. Please visit his web site, www.vectorquilts.com and type in Equinox and Star Voyage in the search window. Equinox will help to teach you the skills needed to progress to intermediate and advanced foundation piecing patterns. Star Voyage, along with the instructions and follow along videos, will also teach you the skills needed to progress to intermediate and advanced foundation piecing patterns. Perhaps this will interest you to sign up for a class. The Program Committee would like to see more members participating in his classes.

March 5, 2020-David Gilleland Program: Foundation vs. Traditional Piecing
March 6, 2020 class: Equinox
March 7, 2020 class: Star-Voyage

2019-2020 Programs & Classes

January 2, 2020-Pam Riss

Her program is ""My Quilting Evolution?"

January 3 & 4-2020 Winter Retreat

Theme is "Caribbean Quilt Cruisin"

February 6, 2020-Christa Watson

Lecture: How do I quilt it?

Workshops: Walking Foot Wonders & Free Motion Favorites

March 5, 2020-David Gilleland

Lecture: Foundation vs. Traditional Piecing

Lecture: Content, Concepts & Quilts

Workshops: Picnic Petals & Hawaiian Inspired

Applique

May 7, 2020-May Salad Supper

HAAQG Quilt Display at Normal Public Library

Quilts made by members of the Hands All Around Quilt Guild will be on display at the Normal Public library during the months of April, May, and June of 2020. Judy Bennington needs members to help with the planning and display set up during the duration of the display.

You can volunteer using SignUpGenius on the Volunteer page of the website or by contacting Judy Bennington. Times and dates will vary.

Please contact Judy for additional information.

Survey Launched

In this month's newsletter, there is the link to the survey created by the Programs Committee. We have waited until now to share it thinking our members would have more time to participate and complete the survey after the Christmas festivities. Super Bowl Sunday may be an option! Please click on the link and complete the survey online by January 31. The survey will take about 10 minutes to complete. We appreciate your time in completing the survey.

Press the Control key and click on the following link to enter the survey

[Programs Survey](#)

Members who receive the newsletter by US mail may pick up a printed copy at the January meeting from a member of Programs.

Silent Auction/Scrap Bags

You have done a fantastic job of labeling your contributions accordingly. Please continue to mark your donations appropriately and place them on the kitchen counter. At this time, we cannot accept the very small scraps that Trisha uses for dog beds. Hold on to them until March when she returns. Both categories will be accepted through the March general meeting. Thank you.

Ary Anderson
Programs and Classes

Mentor Program

Our guild is large and has many wonderful groups from which to choose. Whether you are a new member or have been in the guild for many years, you are welcome to come to the mentor class and meet quilters who enjoy quilting and learning new skills just like you.

December – No mentoring class

January 15, 2020 – Sewing for your sewing room

February 20, 2020 – Twister Pinwheels

Kay Bowen, Deanna & Richard Bilyeu
Mentor Program

Library

I'm so glad the three newest library books were so popular. I barely glanced at the books so when I saw Organic Applique by Kathy Doughty at Bloomington Public Library, I quickly checked it out.

Organic Applique: Creative Hand-Stitching Ideas and Techniques is filled with color, design concepts, and 8 projects, including Spring Pots, an applique and flower arranging quilt in the Jan/Feb 2020 issue of Love of Quilting.

Though Organic Applique might be outside the box for some, check it out and maybe venture outside your quilting box.

We will continue to take new or renewal subscriptions to Fons & Porter Love of Quilting magazine. Please be sure to pay with personal check, payable to Love of Quilting.

If you have books or magazines to donate to Library, please be sure to contact Mary Weakman before bringing to a Guild meeting due to the very limited storage space we have available.

Connie J Carstens
Library