

## Concord Piecemakers

PO Box 1381, Concord, MA 01742

### January 2008

Susanne Fuller, President

Kathy O'Toole, Editor

### President's Message

Susanne Fuller

Happy New Year! Now that the busy-ness of our holiday celebrations is behind us, and the snow keeps piling up, it seems like a good time to do some serious quilting. Maybe get started on the Challenge Quilts?

I was pleased and impressed to discover that the members who attended our December meeting put the finishing touches on 130 fleece hats, 75 pairs of fleece mittens, 44 scarves, and 9 hooded scarves which will be donated to Open Table of Concord, the Boys and Girls Club of Maynard, Rosie's Place, and the nurses of the Lowell school district. Furthermore, we made the news - in the Concord Journal - complete with a photograph!

Remember that the next meeting, on January 16<sup>th</sup>, is for members only due to the anticipated high attendance for the speaker, Ruth Mc Dowell. Also remember that if Concord Public Schools are closed that day, our meeting is cancelled, so watch the weather reports and school closings.

And please note that we have no general meeting in February. We meet again at the Quiltathon on Saturday, March 1st. And the next regular meeting is on March 19<sup>th</sup>.

### Meetings

Jan Wilhelm and Fay Martin

Our speaker for the meeting on January 16, 2008 will be Ruth McDowell. She has titled her talk "New Work." This program is open to members only. Please use the main entrance of Harvey Wheeler. If there are any members who have tall quilt racks we could borrow for Ruth McDowell's talk, please let Jan know or Fay Martin as soon as possible.

Please note there is no meeting in February. Our speaker for the March meeting will be Elin Noble. She will need a PowerPoint Projector for her presentation. If you have one she can borrow, please contact Jan Wilhelm or Fay Martin.

Anyone interested in more information about Karen Eckmeier and the April workshop can check her website [www.quilted-lizard.com](http://www.quilted-lizard.com). Please sign up at the January meeting. After January, the workshop will be opened up to the general public.

## **Quiltathon**

Marilyn Brownlie

The Quiltathon won't be held until March 1 this year. That gives us two whole months to check our stashes for fabric and put together 1 or 2 quilt tops. We especially need crib and twin-bed sizes, but all will be utilized. If you don't have the time or inclination to do the patchwork, there are many cheater cloth patterns available. We are asking for pillows again this year. Keep them around 30" in size. Also save your odds and ends of batting for stuffing them.

The Quiltathon is a wonderful way to get better acquainted with each other and to do a very special service for our communities. Alice Wiggin has reported that we have more requests than quilts, so let's all pitch in and make it a record-breaking day!

## **Getaway Weekend**

Marian Bressel

There is still time to sign up for the GetAway weekend. This year the weekend is February 9 and 10, with an option to stay on until Monday the 11th. PLEASE NOTE: final payment is due to Marian Bressel on or before the January meeting. We also have openings for a Sit and Sew day for \$50 which includes lunch but not dinner or breakfast. Prices are:

Saturday and Sunday	\$160 each person, double occupancy
	\$190 person, single occupancy
Sunday through Monday	\$135 each person, double occupancy
	\$165 single room
Friday night	\$75 each person double occupancy
	\$150 single room
Friday plus weekend	\$235 each person, double occupancy
Friday plus weekend plus Monday	\$370 each person, double occupancy
Weekend plus Monday	\$295 each person, double occupancy
Sit and Sew day	\$50, no dinner

Sew many options!!

## 2007-2008 "Keep-it-Small" Challenge

Sue Reeps

Elana Schreiber

This year's challenge will be to create one or more small pieces each of which has a perimeter that does not exceed 50 inches. It doesn't have to be a "miniature" with small pieces, like the ones that George Siciliano showed us at the November Meeting. It just has to be small in overall size. For example, you could just do a single block that you've been interested in trying that finishes at 12 inches by 12 inches (total perimeter 48 inches) with borders. You might also want to try a small rectangular landscape quilt (8 by 10 inches - perimeter 36 inches) using Karen Eckmeier's "Accidental Landscapes" technique. (She'll be speaking at the April Meeting but you can check out her website for ideas.) You could also choose to do a group of small quilts with a common theme or color scheme that you would intend to hang together. A triptych of three long narrow pieces, each being 6 by 18 inches (total perimeter of each individual piece being 48 inches) could be interesting. Or... you could make multiple pieces, each a different size and shape that blend together in some way as long as each individual piece does not exceed the 50 inch perimeter limit. Plan to present your creations at the May Meeting! If you have questions, give one of us a call. Website for George Siciliano is [www.georgesiciliano.com](http://www.georgesiciliano.com). Karen Eckmeier's website is [www.quilted-lizard.com](http://www.quilted-lizard.com).

## **Membership**

Joan Kerpelman

Remember to sign in and pick up badges, membership cards, Yearbooks, and Fabric Place cards when you arrive at the monthly meeting. If your name is highlighted on the check-in sheet, we have something for you. There is one new member for you to add to your yearbook.

## **Comfort Quilts**

Alice Wiggin

Almost all quilts that came in were distributed to Emerson Hospital Bethke Center, Concord Family Services (Adolescent homes), wounded veterans, and soon to The Sharing Foundation which helps care for children in Cambodia via Dr. Nancy Hendrie. We need more to give out, so I hope everyone is making lots of tops and even finished ones. Any size is welcome. Thank you!

We received lovely thank you notes of appreciation from the recipients, including the ones for the sewing kits for the California fire victims.

## **Quilts of Valor**

Bella Dvir

Bella would like to know who is working on, planning to work on or finished a Quilt of Valor. These quilts are given to soldiers who have been wounded. The quilt should be at least 50 x 60 inches and no larger than 72 x 90 inches. Bella is trying to get a representative from the organization to visit us and take the quilts.

## **Comfort Quilt Group - Evening**

Sue Reeps

Evening comfort quilts is held at 7:00 pm at my home, on either the first or second Tuesday of the month, depending on my work travel schedule. I send out email (or call if you have no email!) to let you know which night we are meeting. If you are interested in joining us, even on an occasional basis, just let me know and I'll include you on the notification.

## **Comfort Quilt Group - Daytime**

Joy Sussman

The daytime comfort quilt group will meet only once this month. The meeting took place on December 5<sup>th</sup>. We will resume our usual schedule again in January. We have been meeting at Joy Sussman's house. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 1:00pm. We had a very productive year last year sandwiching and tying quilts. More people are needed so please join us.

## **Daytime Machine Comfort Quilt Group**

Eileen Ryan

There is a new group making comfort quilts by machine. It meets on the first Friday of each month from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm at the West Concord Assisted Living facility in West Concord. The group offers the opportunity to learn new quilt patterns and learn, as well as to practice, machine quilting techniques.