

Concord Piecemakers

PO Box 1381, Concord, MA 01742

March 2008

Susanne Fuller, President

Kathy O'Toole, Editor

President's Message

Susanne Fuller

Despite our near record setting snow falls, I think we can truly see signs of spring in the distance. The days are longer, the sun is warmer, and daylight savings time begins March 8th. I hope this leads to a record turn-out for our delayed Quiltathon.

Thank you to Marian Bressel for organizing yet another terrific *Get-Away Weekend*. All who attended had a wonderful time sharing tips and artistic advice, and eating great meals.

Thanks also to Laurie Laconte, who quilted Beverly Jenks' quilt, to Ann Marchmont for attaching binding, and another (unknown to me) member who made the label for it.

Our next regular meeting is on March 19th. See you then.

Meetings

Jan Wilhelm and Fay Martin

Our speaker for the March 19th meeting will be Elin Noble, a dyer and painter of threads and fabric. She has titled her lecture "Adventures in Dying Cloth; Influences and Investigations." She will be vending her hand dyed fabrics and thread as well.

There will be a double-header **More Before** at the next meeting on March 19th. Maura Cain and Marian Bressel will demonstrate how to make professional looking pillowcases. Those who attended the *Get-Away Weekend* know how beautiful these are.

And Joy Sussman will explain the construction of the blocks for the raffle quilt.

Looking ahead to April our speaker will be Karen Eckmeier . She will speak about "Layered Curves and Peaks." This will be a slide and trunk show.

There are still a few spaces available for Karen Eckmeier's workshop on April 17th titled "Accidental Landscapes: Fabric Inspired." The fee is \$45.00. Please contact Jan Wilhelm.

Anyone interested in more information about Karen Eckmeier and the April workshop can check her website 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 will be held on March 8th. It 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!

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. Karen Eckmeier's website is 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.

Raffle Quilt

Joy Sussman

The pattern has been chosen and the fabric bought. Now it is time to make the blocks. I will be doing a demo/explanation of the needed blocks as a More Before at the March meeting. Please join me and have fun contributing to this fabulous quilt. The blocks are paper pieced and due back at the April meeting. If you are not comfortable paper piecing I need 4 people, who can sew a good seam, to make four-patches for the borders.

Comfort Quilts

Shirley Weinberg

Last month I passed on to Nancy Hendrie a batch of lovely crib quilts for her orphanage in Cambodia. She is delighted to be able to deliver a little possession to her kids who "have never owned anything". Here is her thank you. It's fun for us to know how the Comfort Quilts get used.

Dear Concord Piecemakers,

Thank you so much for the gorgeous --- every one different -- children's quilts for me to take to Roteang orphanage in Cambodia when I go on February 4th. We have 73 young children there currently and they will be thrilled to have something totally their own. These are truly beautiful, with animals, birds, and flowers --- they will love them. I will bring back pictures of children with the quilts by mid-March. Thank you so very much for thinking of us.

Nancy Hendrie. President
The Sharing Foundation

It's fun for us to know how the Comfort Quilts get used.

Pillowcases Needed

Maura Cain

ConKerr Cancer is an organization that donates colorful pillowcases to children battling life changing illnesses. To date, they have donated 22,000 pillowcases. At the Getaway, 31 cases were made for the newly created Boston Chapter which is dedicated to helping the children at Mass General and Children's Hospital. If you've never made one, they are very easy and fun to make. Marian Bressel will do a "More Before" demo on a magic cuff pillowcase. Visit their website for directions: <http://conkerrcancer.org>. If you would like to donate a pillowcase, please bring it to the meeting. For additional information, contact Maura Cain.

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 in Acton, 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

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.

"Housekeeping"

Bonny Kusik, Treasurer

Our treasurer, Bonny Kusik, requests that you send her all receipts for reimbursement in a timely fashion. All receipts must be received no later than May 15, 2008.