

# Concord Piecemakers

PO Box 1381, Concord, MA 01742

## March 2011

Marla Richmond, President

Kathy O'Toole, Editor

## President's Message

Marla Richmond

Latest update on my de-clutter campaign: I am working on the storage room. It may be a lifetime project. Among the piles of things going through the paper shredder I ran into checks with my Brookline address on them. I've lived in Westford for 24 years now. OK, so several years of the checks were written while I lived in Westford, the Brookline address was my parents'. I noticed one of the checks written February 6, 1989 to Ralph Jordan. The memo line said "quilting class". My second quilting class, the one where Sally Abbott got me addicted to quilting. The class was taught by hand and using templates. I made a sampler quilt in my favorite color combination for my father to use when he rested on the couch. I finished the blocks and set them in lattice work (all by hand) by the end of 1989. Both of my parents died by the time I finished, so I put the top aside. Last year for the UFO challenge I went through all my quilt tops. I am now hand quilting that top and will hopefully have it done for next year's quilt show. See, Sally, you did make a difference.

When did I start quilting? My first quilt was for my (now almost 30 year old) niece's birth. When did everyone in the guild start quilting? I have been going over the surveys that have been handed in. Hopefully the results will be posted on the website soon. Here's a little preview:

- 56 members responded to the survey.
- 47 of the respondents said they attended monthly meetings. (Yeah, that's who would respond)
- 22 have been members of our guild for six to ten years, 12 for each one to five and eleven to twenty. Seven for more than twenty-one years.
- 24 had been quilting for more than 20 years.
- We have some interesting hobbies. The highest responses were sewing and knitting. Did you know we have someone who plays the harpsichord?
- 48 of the 56 thought the most important aspect of membership was the lectures and trunk shows.
- 46 replied fellowship with other quilters. Yup, that's Concord Piecemakers.
- One reply was that we have "the best program of comfort quilts".

Wendy Smiley, who has moved away, wrote, "I would like to find another group as nice as Concord Piecemakers in Hudson Valley. Haven't found it yet. I keep thinking I'll move back one day." We're waiting for you, Wendy!

There were a lot of interesting suggestions for lectures and workshops. A lot of interest was expressed in seeing other members' quilts. This will be taken into consideration for next year. Not many folks said they would serve as an officer "when Hell freezes over", so we're hoping you put your time where your mouth is. We will be looking for you!

Stay warm. Quilt. De-clutter. And enjoy the fellowship.

Marla

## **Special Recognition of Our Members**

Congratulations to Valerie Maser-Flanagan for having a piece in the current exhibit at the New England Quilt Museum, "No Holds Barred".

When Laure Laconte heard about a mother's heartbreaking story of her son's battle with ALS from the owner Quilters Dream Batting, she sent a comfort quilt to the Hopes and Dream Quilt Challenge. The comfort quilts are given to ALS patients or used to raise awareness and research money for ALS. (We lost our own Bev Jenks to ALS.) Laurie's ocean bargello quilt was selected to hang at a special exhibit in Houston last October. Her quilt received a "People's Choice" Award. She donated the \$500 back to ALS and received \$500 in gifts. Congratulations Laurie! We are lucky to have such a talented machine quilter in our guild. To learn about the challenge <http://www.quiltersdreambatting.com/>

## **Meetings**

Fay Martin

Now that the Quiltathon is done for this year, we can turn our attention to next season's Quilt Show...and to get us thinking about those quilts we will be finishing, our March program will feature Patty Sawyer of B2B Quilting. She will present "How I Became So Judge-Mental", a spirited discussion of some of the fears and myths associated with judging quilts. Even though our quilt show is non-competitive, we will learn some of the finer points of quilt presentation and what judges look for in a quilt evaluation. Don't forget a pad if you want to take notes.

## **Special Vote at the March Meeting**

At the March meeting a vote will be taken of the membership. The article from the by-laws to be amended concerns the Fiscal year for Concord Piecemakers. The amended article will read:

### **VI. DUES**

A. The fiscal year is June 1st to May 30th.

This will be a change from "May 1 to April 30."

Please be present to vote on this amendment.

## **Challenge 2010 -2011**

Elana Schreiber

Sharon Laughlin

## ***How are you comin' round the "go 'round" quilt challenge?***

We will be showing them at our next meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup> or May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Just as a reminder, the challenge is any block that has strips that go around a center. The center can be any geometric shape with straight edges but not necessarily a square. The center does not need to be in the center. It must have at least one piece of fabric attached to two sides that are next to each other. Examples of block names that would be appropriate are courthouse steps, white house steps chimneys and corners, pineapple etc.

Currently I have finished a paper doll quilt that I made using an irregular log cabin block around paper dolls that were cut from paper doll fabric for a grand niece, or as Marla says, "niecelet." It is actually finished!

I finished a 10-year-old (at least) top using a snail's trail that I started on EQ 4, so that tells you how long ago that was.

Today I bought a pineapple ruler to begin yet another "go 'round quilt!"

## Outreach

Scena Proodian

The CPM Quiltathon on Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup> was a huge success! We received approximately 130 quilt tops with backings, tops alone and finished quilts. Several of the donations were from friends and past members.....and several members made numerous quilt tops. During the day we were able to "layer-up" a majority of the quilts and completely finished 33 quilts of assorted sizes and colors. Some members took quilts home to tie or machine quilt. The balance of the quilts in various states is residing at Joy Sussman's to be completed by the Comfort Quilt group. A huge thanks to everyone who supported this very important event...label makers, organizers, set-up, kitchen help, food, clean-up etc, etc!

During the day, Lucy Maiullari, a representative from Project Linus, visited the Quiltathon and Barbara Kozenko made a presentation of quilts to her. Lucy was very impressed by the number of people and level of effort. She later sent this message

*The Linus Angel strikes again....*

*On Saturday I was invited to the Concord Piecemakers Quiltathon. They presented us with some beautiful quilts. One in particular took my breath away. For the last week I have been searching for a blanket for our dear friend's grandson. Our friend passed away on Sunday morning after a long battle. He was a firefighter and very close to his grandson. We wanted to give his grandson a Project Linus blanket to comfort him during this very emotional time. My eyes filled with tears when this fire fighter blanket was presented to me. This is a perfect example of The Linus Angel hard at work. Thanks.*

Again my house is filled with colors, patterns and wonderful designs to be delivered to those who need warmth, comfort and a smile. Thanks again for your support for this very important CPM event.

Please let me know if you have a new organization that needs quilts. If any guild member is interested in helping with the outreach efforts - just give me a call.

## **Quiltathon**

Sue Colwell, Fay Martin, Nanette Moffa, Susan Ostberg, Jan Wilhelm and Joanne Williamson

Over forty-five CPM members helped assemble and complete more than 135 quilts at our annual Quiltathon. Thanks to all of you who helped in this huge undertaking. Every step in preparing the quilts is important from sandwiching the batting, backing and tops to pinning, stitching, tying and labeling. Thanks to those who brought their sewing machines and stitched from morning to late afternoon. The hum of the machines reminded us that we were one step closer to a completed quilt.

The donated goodies throughout the day energized us and kept us on track. Thank you to all who brought special treats to share. The provided lunch was a great break allowing us to stretch tired muscles and clear our heads before heading into the afternoon.

A representative from Project Linus visited in the afternoon. She watched with interest as our process was explained and took a hand at tying a quilt. She left with a bagful of newly finished quilts to pass on to children in need.

The morning might have started out cold and icy but things quickly warmed up inside St Mathews at our Annual Quiltathon. A huge thank you to all for making this year's event a huge success!!

## **Heartstrings Block Update**

Maura Cain

Susan Monsegur

At the Quiltathon this past weekend, we (Concord Piecemakers) contributed 224 string blocks which made 9 quilts for charity. Congratulations and thanks to all who made blocks or provided strips of fabric! For a change of pace, we decided we would change our center strip to YELLOW. So anyone who would like to donate some yellow fabric, please bring it to the string table at the next meeting.

## **Pillowcases**

Maura Cain

Thank you for the **40** pillowcases received at the January meeting. There is always a need for them! Please bring in your washed pillowcases to the meeting.

## **Nickel Squares**

Kristin Bartelson

Starting this month we will be collecting nickel squares to be sold at the quilt show. Squares should be cut to 5" out of current fabric. In March we will collect blues and greens, April yellow, red and orange, May purple and pink, June browns and any you forgot to bring in at other meetings. Continue to collect your squares as you work on projects over the summer and we will have one final collection of any color in September! Feel free to contact me with any questions.

## **Membership**

Carol Hartman

Please welcome two new members, Linda Merwin and Judy Cotton. Also, Theresa Guthrie has rejoined our guild. It's great to have new and old faces at our meetings.

With this newsletter we begin the membership renewals for the 2011/2012 season. Check the Bylaws in the Yearbook for adherence. The membership registration will be attached to this newsletter or it can be downloaded from the website. When filling out the form please fill out the photo release section and sign it. Add any new information about email addresses, phone, etc. Mail it with your check to Concord Piecemakers, PO Box 1381, Concord MA 01742, or hand them in at an upcoming meeting.

## **Library**

Sheila Macauley

Janet Rich

If any members would like to suggest some books that they would like the library to purchase this year, please email Sheila with the names of the books and she will put them on the list to purchase.

## **Daytime Machine Comfort Quilt Group**

Eileen Ryan

On the first Friday of the month, a group of quilters meets at West Concord Assisted Living to work on machine pieced and quilted charity quilts. We share quick quilt patterns, quilting ideas, and get lots of work done while we improve our quilting techniques. We'd love to have you join us. Call or email Eileen Ryan for more information.

## **Comfort Quilts**

Joy Sussman

A small group of us meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 1:00 pm. Our mission is to complete the quilts from the last February Quiltathon by doing the tying. We meet at my home. Please join us if you would like. We will meet November 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> and December 6<sup>th</sup>.

## Concord Piecemakers Membership Registration

Dues: \$25.00. According to our by-laws, "Dues are payable by the Annual Meeting".

-----  
If you wish to be an Associate member check here \_\_\_\_\_ . Associate membership dues are \$15.00.

Associate membership is available at a reduced fee for those who do not plan to attend meetings. Associate members will be included in the yearbook under that title, receive the monthly newsletters and email as long as they have a current email address, and receive any discounts offered to guild members. Associate members may enter quilts in the guild's bi-annual quilt show if space is available. They may attend a meeting by paying the guest fee as long as space is available. Associate members will have no voting rights on guild business.

-----  
Make check payable to Concord Piecemakers and return it with this form at the annual meeting in May.

--OR--

Dues and the form may be mailed to the Membership Chair, c/o Concord Piecemakers, PO Box 1381, Concord, MA 01742-1381

Please print clearly.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### **Photo Release: Please check one:**

- I give the Concord Piecemakers Guild permission to post photograph(s) of me and/or my quilts on the Concord Piecemakers website or other publications.
- I do not give the Concord Piecemakers Guild permission to post photograph(s) of me and/or my quilts on the Concord Piecemakers website or other publications.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
**ONLY fill in the following information if it has changed from last year's yearbook or if you are a new member.**

Street \_\_\_\_\_ P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail. Please print clearly \_\_\_\_\_