

Concord Piecemakers

PO Box 1381, Concord, MA 01742

November 2010

Marla Richmond, President

Kathy O'Toole, Editor

President's Message

Marla Richmond

The holidays are coming sooner than you think! Don't forget "We Can Cook, Too," the Concord Piecemakers cookbook makes a great gift. Within the guild it has been marked down to \$7.00, and is available at the New England Quilt Museum Gift Shop for \$10.00 (nice to have the manager of the gift shop in the guild!). All proceeds go to a Lowell area food pantry.

Where did the cookbook come from? At every pot luck dinner we put out an incredible spread. People always said we should do a cookbook. I talked about it for a few years. I finally sent away for information from every publisher I could find (in the back of craft magazines, sets of postcards that came in the mail, other cookbooks, etc). I talked to people who belonged to organizations that had published cookbooks (carefully ignoring "don't do it!"). I worked up a chart showing the prices from different publishers. Then I called the president and asked to be put on the agenda at the next board meeting. We discussed it and I got on the agenda (I think mostly because Suzanne Fuller liked the name). I presented my idea to the board assuring them that we could not lose money. We did not, the publisher would have bought back extra cookbooks to cover what we paid. Doing the cookbook was fun, and I was doing the lion's share of the work along with Ruth Flynn, our editor, who had to tell me "crapmeat casserole" was an unlikely recipe. It's a good book, buy a few copies.

Several members have given me great suggestions and told me to present them to the board. Concord Piecemakers belongs to all of us, but ultimate responsibility belongs to the Board of Directors. Give the board your ideas, they are more than welcome. However, please do us all a few favors:

- 1) You present your idea to the board. I don't have the enthusiasm that you have for your idea and I can't answer questions the way you can. Besides, the board shoots down half of my ideas and ignores the other half.
- 2) You do a little leg work first. It doesn't have to be a power point presentation. Just explain the idea and give a ball park figure of the costs. It doesn't matter how exciting the holographic lecture by Jini Beyer is, if it costs \$5,000 we are not going to approve it. Don't waste time saying how great it is if you don't know what it will cost.
- 3) If it's your idea, you've been nominated to carry it out. It's only fair. Or find someone to carry it out with you. You will have a chance to sell it to the guild after the board approves it.

We're all in this together. Give the guild your ideas. Volunteer your time. You'll have more fun and make more friends. Be part of this 160 member guild.

Hope to see you at our next meeting on November 17th.

Marla

P.S. So far 6 bags of clothes to Goodwill!

P.P.S. A survey is found at the end of this newsletter. For the November meeting please bring your copy of the survey completed. We will give raffle tickets to all who complete the survey. Also wear your name tag, but the incentive is to complete the survey.

Thanks!

Meetings

Fay Martin

As if we aren't all busy enough in the fall, as the holidays approach, we have big plans for November. Our guild speaker will be Trish Hodge of **Batik Tambal**, coming to us from West Hartford, CT. Trish will discuss the Indonesian technique of producing batik using Indonesian copper tjaps (stamps). And we will try our hands at this process using Shiva paintstiks as the wax medium. For this program, please bring small pieces of fabric to experiment with. Fat quarter size is great. You may bring lights and darks, hand-dyes or solids, whatever suits your fancy. This should be a fun and relaxing meeting resulting in usable takeaways. Trish will also be selling panels and copper tjaps and paintstiks for those who want to pursue this technique beyond the meeting. (Rumor has it she has simply awesome fabrics.)

FYI: Batik tambal is a traditional Indonesian batik pattern. The literal meaning of "batik tambal" is patches of batik. As late as the early 20th century, certain priests in Indonesia wore patchwork jackets which were believed to have magical qualities. In our own time Batik Tambal is a traditional design mode which imitates the clothing of priests.

So, join us in learning about and making some of this unique fabric.

Please consider joining us on the following Saturday, November 20 for a workshop, **Designing Your Own Batik Wall Quilt**. The workshop will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church in Sudbury, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm. Cost: \$40.00

It's just in time for holiday gift-giving or for the Emerson Hospital holiday fundraiser! Or just for fun and learning.

Trish will lead us in working with batik panels to design a small wall quilt. Many of us have acquired batik or other panels over the years, but have never managed to use them. This is our opportunity to learn effective techniques for setting panels, or other central design motifs into a cohesive work of art. Don't have panels in your stash? Trish will bring some to sell, as well as other fabrics to coordinate with the panels. We can also use our batik fabrics made at the guild meeting on Wednesday.

Other materials needed for this workshop include at least eight different fabrics, 1/4 to 1/2 yard pieces that will "coordinate" with your panel. These fabrics should echo some design elements and/or colors in the panel.

We have plenty of space in this workshop. Please contact Fay Martin to sign up or for more details.

As with all of our workshops, this one will be FUN. Don't miss out.

Wearables

Eileen Ryan

The program for January will be a fashion show presented by the Wearables group. There are several people in Piecemakers who are not part of the Wearables group, but who make wonderful clothing. We would be honored if you would join us in this year's fashion show. There will be a sign-up sheet at the November meeting in order that we may get an idea of how many people have things they would like to wear in the fashion show. We will also be doing static displays of aprons and bags during that show, so please sign up in those categories as well.

As you all know, there will also be a contest for the best decorated shoe. You do not need to sign up ahead of time for this. Take any shoe, new or old, and decorate to your heart's content. There is no theme, but you may dye, paint, stamp, be-dazzle, quilt, appliqué -- whatever you'd like to try. It does not need to be wearable. We will provide tissue paper to fill the shoe if the interior is not part of the design. You may write up a couple of lines about your inspiration to display with the shoe. Prizes will be awarded.

It's not too late to get things ready for any aspect or category of the guild's wearable program in January. We are looking forward to seeing what the imagination of all our guild members can produce.

Outreach

Scena Proodian

Thanks to all who have made and/or finished quilts for this effort. Your efforts and the results are truly appreciated. These are the lean month -- most of the finished quilts from the February Quiltathon have been delivered to me and I have forwarded them on to the various groups that we support. In addition, a few members have asked for a special quilt that could be raffled for a fund raiser.

The wonderful inventory of quilts for distribution is getting low. So, if you:

- still have a quilt that you took home from the Quiltathon
- found a UFO at the Yard Sale
- or have an quilt for Outreach

Please try to finish it and deliver to me for distribution. Thank you so much in advance for your help with this.

Yard Sale – October 23, 2010

Monica Natwig
Janice Allen

Our October 23rd yard sale went off without a hitch. After a very chilly start at 7:00 am, the weather co-operated nicely and helped in producing a great turnout of bargain hunters, sewers, and the generally curious. We sold everything from thread to sewing machines and made a wonderful profit. If you weren't able to make it, then you missed the surprise appearance of a life sized cow with quilting tendencies and wonderful selling skills. Photos should be available!

Obviously, there wouldn't have been a yard sale if we hadn't had tons of treasures and challenges to sell. We hope that all of your closets and bins are clear for new finds.

Many hands make light work, and we needed every single member that was there to pitch in. A special thank you goes to those who signed up for one block and ended up staying and working for the duration. We really needed you!

Laurie's promo work was wonderful and the signs were especially helpful. Letting people know what, when, and where is a basic requirement for success. Thanks Laurie.

Thanks to everyone who donated to, worked at, advertized, and otherwise contributed to the success of this year's sale.

Heartstrings Block Update

Maura Cain
Susan Monsegur

Since we started the Heartstring Blocks in January, we have received 189 blocks! We have several tops in the works that will be ready for tying at the Quiltathon. If you would like to make a block, stop by the front table at the next meeting to pick up muslin squares, red center strips, and directions if you need them. 'Thanks' goes to Eileen Ryan for sharing her 'String Quilt as You Go' technique. If you missed her demo last month, directions will also be available at the front table. Anyone who has completed string blocks, please bring them in!

Pillowcases

Maura Cain

Kits were made from adorable yard sale fabric. Stop by the table if you would like to make one for Conkerr Cancer.

Nominating Committee

Diane Payne

We are in need of a Programs chairperson! It's a fabulous job because you get to meet and work with famous quilters who also happen to be nice people. The first year is already set up so all you have to do

is introduce the speakers and get to work on the 2011-2012 season. Please contact Marla Richmond if you are interested.

Membership

Carol Hartman

Please welcome Jennifer Grimsley. She has rejoined CPM for a total of 138 members.

It was pleasant seeing the newer members at the Concord Piecemakers Welcome Party hosted by Laurie LaConte. The food was great and the conversation was informational. We saw some fantastic quilts in progress. Thanks to Laurie.

Don't forget to wear your name badges in order to participate in the raffle each month. If you have lost or misplaced yours, drop me an email and I'll have it for you at the next 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 1st and 15th and December 6th.

1. How many years have you been a member of Concord Piecemakers? _____

2. How many years have you been quilting: _____

3. What other hobbies do you have:

_____ machine quilting _____ appliqué _____ hand quilting
 _____ sewing _____ knitting _____ scrapbooking
 _____ embroidery _____ crochet _____ beading _____ buttons
 _____ felting _____ ? _____ ? _____ ? _____

4. The most important aspect of belonging to a guild for me.....is:

PLEASE CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY

- a. Lectures and trunk shows by known quilt artists.
- b. Entering my pieces in the quilt show.
- c. Workshops to improve/learn new skills.
- d. Fellowship with other quilters.
- e. Others: _____

5. Are you a member of another group that meets to quilt/sew/embroider?

- a. No and I prefer to work alone
- b. Yes: *(it would help us connect to other groups if we know we have members in them)*
 - i. We meet _____ times a week/month.
 - ii. Describe the group: _____

c. No, but I would like to be. I would be willing to host a group in my home.
yes no maybe

6. I attend monthly Piecemakers meetings - PLEASE CIRCLE CORRECT ANSWER

- a. Every month when possible

- b. About half the time.
- c. When the presenter interests me.
- d. When there is a party.
- e. I don't attend monthly meetings.

7. MONTHLY PROGRAMS - What/Who would you like to see in a monthly program?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

8. WORKSHOPS

a. What/Who would you like to see in a workshop?

- i. _____
- ii. _____
- iii. _____

b. Would you be interested/comfortable in presenting a min-workshop within the guild Yes/No

- i. If yes – on what: _____

9. Which of the following have you participated in? Check all that apply and if possible provide your level of support (chaired, member of, participated etc)

- a. Quiltathon
- b. Get away weekend
- c. Block of the month

- d. Quilt show
- e. Wearables Group
- f. Comfort Quilts
 - i. Daytime
 - ii. Evening
- g. Mystery Quilt
- h. Workshops
- i. Round robin
- j. Special interest or service groups
- k. Others: _____

10. A volunteer organization like us relies on its members to participate by taking a leadership position when they themselves feel able. Would you be willing to be on a committee, a committee chair, co-chair or officer? IF.....

- a. I were asked
- b. I were given a job description and records of what my predecessor did
- c. I got some help and training
- d. When Hell freezes over