

Bits and Pieces

Brazos Bluebonnet Quilt Guild Newsletter



Volume 35, No. 1, January, 2013

Anne Perry, Editor Michaele Jackson, Co-Editor

BBQG President's Letter – January, 2013

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone has had a wonderful and safe holiday season.

I look forward to serving as your new president and am looking forward to an exciting year of programs, trips, raffle sales, and our quilt show in September. I'm hoping that we'll have a good turn-out for the January meeting.

Sherrill Johnson
President, BBQG

Board Meeting Notice

The BBQG January Board Meeting will be held at Hobby Lobby on Monday, January 7, at 6:00 p.m. It is open to all members.

2013 Officers

President – Sherrill Johnson
President Elect – Norma Reel
1st VP Programs -- Susan Kelly
1st VP Programs-elect – Ann Bay (volunteered in December)
2nd VP Membership--Debbie Ginn
2nd VP Membership-elect – Brenda Brown
Secretary -- Betty Bugh
Secretary Elect – Maggie McGuire
Treasurer -- Charlotte Simpson
Treasurer Elect -- Pat Patterson

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Thank you from the Care Quilt Committee

The Care Quilt Committee would like to thank everyone who donated quilts (50) for Brazos Valley Hospice clients and supported the Committee throughout the year! In particular, Sue Sprott and her sister, Gloria, who have donated 130 quilts this year plus 32 more for Hospice in memory of their Mother. We appreciate everyone's support! If you donated in memory of someone, please email Laura North so your loved one can be recognized in the next newsletter. Thank you and Happy New Year!

BBQG Winter Retreat Reminder

Winter retreat is just around the corner! Don't forget that if you have signed up to attend the 2013 winter retreat in La Grange February 7-11, your final payment is due by the January 8, 2013 BBQG meeting -- no exceptions!!! The total cost of the retreat is \$230 for 3 nights or \$280 for 4 nights. The balance due in January is the total cost minus your \$50 deposit and any other interim payments you may have made. Also, please remember that you must have paid your 2013 BBQG membership dues before making your final retreat payment. If you have any questions, please call Jeanne Joham at 589-2191. Thanks for your cooperation!

Summer Retreat -- New Location

The Summer Quilt Retreat will be held Friday - Sunday, June 28 - 30, 2013, at Deep Woods Retaat Center in Smithville, TX. Registration will begin at the February 12, 2013 guild meeting. Cost this year is \$190.00. Also new this year, an extra day on Thursday, June 27 will be available for an additional \$65.00. A \$50.00 non-refundable deposit is required at registration.

The work area, meals and bedrooms are all in the same building. Each person will have their own 4 foot table and 1/2 of an 8 foot table, and an adjustable chair. Electrical plugs for you personal iron if you wish and your own 4 x 8 ft design wall is included. Plus there is a large ironing surface and several ironing boards with irons as well as several cutting tables in the room.

There are 6 bedrooms with 4 twin Denver mattress beds and pillows and ample storage under each bed, and shelving units and hanging racks for belongings. There is a ceiling fan in each room. Guest will need to provide their own sheets and pillow case, but towels, wash cloths and soap are provided. There are 6 bathrooms with showers (one Handicapped) and 2 powder rooms.

Meals and snacks are served in the adjoining dining room, or you may eat on the patio. There is a breakfast bar (eat when you want) and lunch and dinner are served buffet style. Meals include Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner, and Sunday brunch. There is a refrigerator for guest to store snacks and a microwave is also available.

The committee is excited to offer you these new changes. We are limited to 24 people so sign up early.

Rowena R, Deb D, Sue S and Peggy M
 Summer Retreat Committee

BBQG Christmas Party

The BBQG membership enjoyed a spectacular Christmas party on December 11 at the Brazos Center. The event was hosted by guild members Sue Sprott and Stephanie Fazzino. A lavish buffet featured pork roast prepared by Stephanie and dishes provided by guild members. Individual tables were adorned with mini trees decorated by guild members. The trees were judged and a prize awarded for best tree. The trees were then given as door prizes. Additional door prizes were provided by Marty Fuller and Terry Skrabanek from Lone Star Quiltworks.

Special guest, Daphne Hennessey (Volunteer Coordinator for Texas Home Health and Hospice), attended to accept 50 quilts and matching pillow cases donated to Hospice Brazos Valley and Texas Home Health. The quilts will be given to Hospice and Texas Home Health clients for Christmas. Thirty of the quilts and pillow cases were made by Sue Sprott and her sister, Gloria Warren*, and the remainder were made by other guild members.

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be straight, your stitches even, points pointed, corners matched, contrasts definitive not muddled, and your seam ripper unused. In other words, "Happy quilting!"

Busy Bees met infrequently in December. They have volunteered to make the raffle quilt for 2014 so that will be their major project for 2013

Happy Scrappers are working on individual projects that include care quilts and Dear Jane quilt blocks. The range and choice of colors for the Dear Jane blocks are interesting. Other bee members continue to work on bibs and the wheelchair/walker bags to be donated. Debbie G. is the new reporter for the Happy Scrappers.

Material Girls are ever busy with various projects ranging from big and small quilts to pajamas, knitting a scarf that was worn in the Arts Council Building, and making banners for birthday grand daughters. Jane C. hasn't been busy at quilting but was pictured hanging out with the famous "Johnny Football" at the airport as he went through her security post.

Last Tuesday they had a Christmas meeting at Mar-ijane's. Her husband furnished door prizes- a wood turned watch and seam ripper. The small gift exchanges initiated an impromptu challenge to make something for next year with the two matching fat quarters all received.

Quilt 'n Peace members were occupied with family members or personal surgeries in December so meetings were cancelled. Carol L had a hip replacement and Rowena R. knee repair and Peggy M was out of town with her daughter. They plan to resume in January.

ThumbleBees began the month of December with an enjoyable trip to Galveston for Dickens on the Strand. Later in the month, they celebrated Christmas with a luncheon at La Riviera Restaurant followed by dessert, coffee and a gift exchange at Linda Novosad's home.

Beginning in January 2013, the Thumblebees will meet the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month.

Peggy
 The Beekeeper

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Following the dinner and presentation of the Hospice quilts, many of the guild members participated in a Chinese gift exchange. Although many gifts were "stolen" and not everyone went home with the gift they really wanted, no friendships were lost and everyone left smiling.

"The party was a nice ending to the year. Thank you to Sue, Stephanie and everyone else who helped make it such a success." The party was a nice ending to the year.

* Gloria Warren, was made an honorary member for 2012. She was nominated by Jo Ann Williams for this privilege because of her many contributions to our guild.

Betty Bugh
 Secretary

"A big THANK YOU to all at the Christmas party who brought things for the Brazos Food Bank! We took the bounty the next morning & the crew there was most appreciative. My car looked a lot like Santa's sleigh with the bags piled in!"

Sue Sprott
 Christmas Party Committee Chair

Bee News

This, my last column, is being written during the longest night of the year. Ordinarily I think of the winter solstice as the shortest day, but I read an article emphasizing the long night. Whether you are a night owl or a morning person, we all have 24 hours each day to do with as we choose. As a quilter, I prefer the brightness of day to do my sewing.

Christmas 2012 will be history when you read this and it may already be 2013 so I'll convey my wishes that are echoed from those of the Bee Leaders or Reporters - "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year." May your seams



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BLOCK-OF-THE-MONTH 2013

Amish-style quilt blocks have been chosen for the 2013 Blocks-of-the-Month. We have researched Amish quilts and find that only the Amish can make Amish quilts! Therefore, We "English" must call our blocks Amish-style quilt blocks!

You are encouraged to make a Block-of-the-Month each month for the BBQG drawing, and a block for yourself. At the end of the year you will have contributed to a BBQG tradition (making a quilt block and putting your name in the "pot" for a drawing at each Guild meeting, at which time one member wins all the blocks). You will also have twelve Amish-style blocks to make your own Amish-style Sampler Quilt.

Amish-style quilts are made of solid-color fabrics (prints are considered worldly!). Amish-style quilts typically feature two or three dominant colors. An inner border is added to frame the quilt; a second border (twice as wide as the first) is added. Additional borders may be added as desired. A color already in the central design of the quilt is used in at least one border. Light colors and white are rarely used in Amish-style quilts. We have chosen to use black as the background color for BBQG blocks, which is typical of Amish-style quilts. However, you may chose to use another dark color for the quilt blocks you make for yourself: dark brown, dark maroon, dark green, navy blue, etc.

We are planning to begin in January with a very simple Amish-quilt block. The instructions will be distributed at the November BBQG meeting. As the year progresses, quilt blocks will have added techniques.

Kona cotton is a good choice for Amish-style quilts. Solid-color fabrics are becoming popular once again so you should have no problem finding fabric.

As we begin making Amish-style blocks, any questions may be directed to Linda Winder, Chair, Connie Harrison, Peggy Mobley or Rowena Reed.

Happy Quilting!
Linda Winder
BOM Chair



Above, Laura North, Daphne Hennessey (Volunteer Coordinator for Texas Home Health and Hospice), Luci Smith, Gloria Warren and Sue Sprott. Ms. Hennessey accepted quilts donated to Hospice Brazos Valley.

APQS Ultimate II Longarm for sale

A real honey used for home quilting not commercially used. Made in the USA and currently resides in Caldwell, TX with Donna. Included with machine: 12 foot wooden table, 20" throat, micro-handles for close work, various feet (including 1/4" for ruler work), extended base for ruler-work, 2 dozen extra bobbins, spare bobbin case, separate bobbin winder, extra light bulb and black light bulb, front & back handles, oil, thread, needles, and original manual.

APQS said the Ultimate II was manufactured between 1993 and 2003 and that all parts are available. Does not have a stitch regulator. Purchaser is responsible for pickup, transportation, and set up costs. Price: \$6,000; Telephone: 979/315-4626 Email: donnabquilts@yahoo.com

Below, Sue Sprott with her sister, Gloria Warren, and Luci Smith. Gloria and Sue contributed 35 of the quilts donated to Hospice and have made extensive Care Quilt contributions through the years (150 quilts this year alone).



AMISH-STYLE QUILT

You are encouraged to make a block-of-the-month for the BBQG and a block for yourself. At the end of this year you will have 12 Amish-style blocks to make your own Amish-style Sampler Quilt. Amish-style quilts are made of solid color fabrics. Amish-style quilts typically feature two or three dominant colors. An inner border is added to frame the quilt; a second border (twice as wide as the first) is added. Additional borders may be added as desired. A color already in the central design of the quilt is used in at least one border. Light colors and white are rarely used in Amish-style quilts.

Kona Cotton is a good choice for Amish-style quilts.

Mitering is rare in Amish-style quilts, as is bias binding.

BLOCK OF THE MONTH: SHEEPFOLD

JANUARY, 2013

Cut:

- 4 – 3 ½" squares of medium blue fabric
- 1 – 6 ½" square of medium blue fabric
- 4 – 6 ½" x 3 ½" rectangles of black fabric

Sew: *Stitch a scant ¼" seam.*

Stitch a 3 ½" blue square to each end of 2 black rectangles.

Press toward black.

Stitch a black rectangle to each side of the 6 ½" blue square.

Press toward black.

Stitch block together as shown in picture.

The block should measure 12 ½" square.



If you are the winner of the BBQG blocks, and the blocks vary in size more than ¼", add 2" borders to each block and re-cut to desired size.

**BRAZOS BLUEBONNET QUILT GUILD
MEMBERSHIP FORM 2013**

Membership Forms must be updated annually. If you have revisions to this information at any time throughout the year, please notify the membership chairman, either at the guild meeting or through email so that we can update your information. Updates for inclusion in the directory must be made by the March meeting.

The membership year is from January 1 through December 31. **Dues are \$35; if over 55, dues are \$30. Members over 80 years of age (who have been continuous members of the guild for the previous 5 years) are exempt from dues; they become honorary members.**

**Make checks payable to BBQG. Forms and checks should be mailed to:
BBQG, Attn: Membership, PO Box 9497, College Station, TX 77842**

Please Print Clearly **Date** _____

Name: _____

New Member _____ Renewal _____ Honorary _____ Amt. Paid _____ CK _____ M _____ MO _____

Complete Following: ALL MEMBERS:

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell or Work Phone: _____
(Please * preferred phone #)

Email: _____ Birthday (Month & Day) _____

I would be willing to participate in following activities or committees (please circle all that apply):

- | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Bookkeeping | Care Quilts | Library | Raffle Quilts |
| Bee Keeper | Challenge Contests | Membership | Retreats |
| Block of the Month | Door Prizes | Newsletter | Scholarships |
| Bluebonnet Store | Education/Quilt Demos | Programs/Workshops | Social/Hospitality |
| Brazos Ctr. Window | Habitat for Humanity | Publicity | Soldier Squares |
| Bus Trips | Historian/Photographer | Quilt Shows | Sunshine & Shadows |

I would be willing to chair _____ Committee.

I am interested in serving as guild officer: _____ Yes _____ No

(Please circle all that apply):

President, VP-Programs, Secretary, President-Elect, VP-Membership, Treasurer

Bee Survey

Name: _____

I am currently a member of the following BBQG Bee(s): _____

If interested in joining a bee, please indicate your preferences below:

Location: Bryan _____ College Station _____ Other _____

Day of Week: Mon _____ Tue _____ Wed _____ Thu _____ Fri _____ Sat _____

Time of Day: Morning _____ Afternoon _____ Night _____

Meeting Place: Private Home _____ Church or community center _____

Suggested Meeting Place: _____

Quilting Survey

Please check all that apply

I am a: Quilt Admirer _____ Quilt Collector _____ Quilt Maker _____

Quilt Judge _____ Quilt Teacher _____ Long Arm Quilter _____

My skill level is: Beginner _____ Intermediate _____ Advanced _____

My preferred quilt technique is: Appliqué _____ Piecing _____

My preferred quilt style is: Traditional _____ Contemporary _____

My preferred method of piecing is: Hand _____ Machine _____

My preferred method of quilting is: Hand _____ Machine _____