



Bits and Pieces

Brazos Bluebonnet Quilt Guild Newsletter

Volume 41. Number 3

Bonnie Piernot, Editor
Chris Deppe, Editor

From the President...

I am suffering from a serious case of confusion about the weather. Did you hear the one about the man who was new to Texas? He asked several old "bubba's" when was spring in Texas? Their reply was they thought it was on a Thursday last year! Funny, but so true.

A huge thank you to Sharon B for the thought provoking program and brain straining work shop last month. I know I will never look at borders again without wondering if they follow her guidelines. As I told Sharon, I was stunned when she said we spend more time on making the quilt rather than in the color combination and fabric choices. So, true.

We received a lot of positive feedback about the PIPPS challenge. Crowd control was a concern, so I am going to institute a small change. There will be a new sign in sheet where you will circle **PIPP** or **NOT A PIPP** by your name. That will help Kerry. There will also be a numbered clothespin on each line of the sign in sheet. Whatever number you sign to be part of Show and Tell, take the numbered clothes pin and pin it to something on your body. Then when it comes to line up time for Show and Tell, you can line yourself up according to your clothes pin. Yes, I was a kindergarten teacher.

The Dallas Bus Trip is next up and if you have not signed up, please do so. We will have to cancel if

we do not have enough to cover the cost of the bus.

For those of you not at the meeting, we are looking into the possibility of starting a third retreat. Both summer and winter retreats stay full and it is difficult to get a spot. A third retreat will give us a few more spaces. This is just in the planning stages and will not begin until 2019. We have the money necessary to cover the guild support budget line. More news to follow.

If you are on My Grove, but not receiving emails, let me know. I will come and help you at your home.

Maggie

February Meeting Minutes...

The meeting was called to order by president Maggie McGuire at 7:00 p.m. on February 13th at the Brazos Center. There were 69 in attendance, including two new members and five visitors.

Budget – Maggie reminded those attending that budget information is available in the newsletter.

Minutes – A motion was made by Linda Winder and seconded by Sharon Braunagle to approve the January minutes as published in the newsletter. The minutes were approved.

Programs - Lois Hallock will be our speaker in March. All those planning to attend her workshop need to get the handout of tasks to do in advance.

Carol Morrissey will be featured in April. There are still openings in her workshop on fabric postcards.

Dallas Bus Trip - The annual bus trip to the Dallas quilt show will be on March 10th. Linda Bridges reports that 26 members have signed up to go; we need 50 to fill the bus. She asks that everyone arrive at the Wells Fargo parking lot by 6:45 am. Cost is \$50 for members, and \$60 for non-members. This includes admission to the show, snacks and water. The bus will stop for dinner on the way home and should return by about 9:00 pm.

Scholarship – Marty Fuller reported that 2 scholarships will be awarded to area graduating seniors again in 2018, and that the application is available on the guild web site. She then announced that one of the scholarships will be named in honor of Luci Smith, to acknowledge her long years of service in founding and supporting the guild. Luci, who had several family members in attendance, received a standing ovation.

Brazos Center Window - Bunny Douglas announced that a collection of quilts by Judy Besko is currently on display in the Brazos Center window. If anyone is interested in having their quilts in future displays, they should contact Bunny. We are considering a “Christmas in July” window.

Care Quilts – Nicole Pavel reported that 4,714 care quilts have been distributed by the guild since Luci Smith began the program. Nicole read a thank you note from one of the patients at the cancer center.

Quilts of Valor - Marjean Neve thanked everyone who participated in the national sew in day. She reported that six tops were “almost finished”.

Old Business:

Plans continue for a review of our outdated guild bylaws. Denise Mackan will oversee the effort. She will be assisted by Maggie McGuire and Kerry Dwyer. Others are welcome to participate.

Maggie reminded members to list their volunteer hours on the meeting sign in sheets. Tracking the

hours is necessary for keeping our non profit, tax free status.

We still need a bee keeper for the Finishers Bee which meets at Our Savior Lutheran Church.

New Business:

Anyone interested should sign up to work at Washington on the Brazos March 3rd and 4th. We will do quilt education activities and demonstrations as part of the Texas Independence celebration.

Due to the popularity of both the summer and winter retreats, Maggie reported that the board is willing to support the addition of another retreat, and asked for a show of hands of those interested. It was decided that there is sufficient interest to explore this option. Diana DeFrancesco will coordinate.

Congratulations to Judy Besko! Her Crossing the Brazos quilt won its division at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

PIPPS – Projects in Progress Previously Started. Chair Kerry Dwyer drew the number “9”, as the project from participating member’s lists, to finish for show and tell at the March meeting.

Speaker – Sharon Braunagle gave an excellent lecture on Color and Design. She showed several of her own beautiful quilts to illustrate her points.

Show and Share:

Thanks to the PIPPS program and a successful Winter Retreat, there were 33 participants in Show and Share, many with multiple projects. It was an amazing display of the talent within our guild.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Ellen Hassold

Treasurer's Report....

Checking	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Savings	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]



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Bee News...

Happy Scrappers are working on individual projects, and some members are working on a future donation quilt. A few members attended Winter Retreat.



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Applique and More Sewing bee continues to meet the first and third Monday's at the Arts Council on Dartmouth St at 1:00 pm. We were unable to meet in January because both days were holidays. The first meeting in January was great. There were nine in attendance working on various projects.....Applique, embroidery, and quilt



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Quilt 'n Peace Bee has over 30 care quilts nearly ready to turn in to the Guild. Football bowls made for lots of sewing time for many bee members. We will make a throw for each of the 4 graduating seniors at the Texas Baptist Children's Home in Round Rock. Our 5th Tuesday trip in May will be to deliver the quilts, meet the recipients and tour the facilities. We continue to have many women at our Tuesday morning bee and welcome anyone interested in fun, fabric and fellowship.

Number 9 was drawn for our next project on your list. Finish your number 9 and bring it for Show and Tell. Please remember to put PIPPS on the sign up sheet, so that I can get all the names entered into the drawing.

The following were the PIPPS participants for February:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Sally Robinson | Linda Winder |
| Rowena Reed | Mary Ann Durban |
| Rozan Coode | Janet Kirkpatrick |
| Nicole Pavel | Kathy Lofting |
| JoAnn Williams | Laura North |
| Charles Gilbreath | Maggie Mcquire |
| Bunny Douglas | Linda Novasad |
| Sue Idol | Suzanne Hinson |
| Fran Gray | Sharon Braunagel |
| Marjean | Linda Lyle |
| Donnice White | Barbara Mes |
| Nadine Stuth | Linda Bridges |
| Nancy Searcy | |
| Sue Chrysler | |



PIPPS Report...

Wow! I was blown away with all the PIPPS that were finished in January and shown at the February meeting. Over 20 projects were finished and shown during our Show and Tell. I am so excited with everyone's response. Keep up the good work and lets have even more to show at the March meeting. Linda Novasad was our winner for February. Congratulations, Linda. Everyone's name will go in to the pot for the BIG prize at the end of the year.

There is some confusion about what a PIPPS can be. Originally, I thought that a finished quilt would be the top finished, quilted, and bound. After much thought and discussion, I have changed the rules a little (that's what happens when you get to be Gladys). If you have a quilt top that has been started, and you complete the top, you can enter it as a finished PIPPS. It does not have to be quilted and bound. Of course, if you completely finish it, and renumber your list (YES, you can do that too), you can count it again as a finished PIPPS.

Happy Sewing.....Kerry (aka Gladys)





New Window at the Brazos Center...

We did it! Hung another window.

The lobby of the Brazos Center has been remodeled. To celebrate, we have Judy Barsto's stunning quilts hanging in our window. A must see for everyone!



Remember, YOU to can show off your lovely quilts. Call me if you are still interested. If you don't call me, I'll call YOU!

Bunny Douglas

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Luci Smith Scholarship

Luci Smith, founder of the Brazos Bluebonnet Quilt Guild, was honored by creation of a scholarship in her name. We are proud to fund annual college scholarships for Bryan/College Station graduating high school seniors!! These scholarships are awarded for higher education in the field of visual arts, family life sciences, career tech, or a related field at an accredited college or technical school.

Terry Skrabanek
Owner

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Dallas Bus Trip

If you have not had the opportunity to sign up for the Dallas Bus Trip, the TIME IS NOW!!!!!! We are short 20 people to break even on the trip. Unfortunately we are past the cancel point when we could get a minimal refund, so we are going!!!!!! Why don't you come with us????? We will leave from the Wells Fargo parking lot at 7am so be on the bus by 6:45. If you would like to go, please contact me (Maggie) as I am the new bus mom. If it would be easier for you to get picked up in Hearne, just let m know.



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Spring Break GetAWay

The Bluebonnet Shop Hop, April 12 - 14, 2018, is in its 20th year of operation. It is sponsored by a group of 8 shops which include A Quilter's Folly (Austin), B&B Quilting (Buda), Gone Quiltin' (Bandera), Memories By The Yard (San Antonio), Mesquite Bean Fabrics (San Antonio), Holly Dee Quilts (Luling), The Quilt Haus (New Braunfels) and Valli & Kim (Dripping Springs).

With this being the 20th anniversary there are some special features this year. There will be a free giveaway for each participant, individual shop drawings for a \$25.00 gift certificate...one per day during the shop hop extended shopping hours...Thursday, 9-8, Friday and Saturday 9-7 and the Challenge Block Contest with more chances for winning a prize by having your block judged. As a fun incentive for finishing the shop hop by going to every shop, the finishers will have their names put in a drawing for the chance to win one of 20 prizes and each finisher will receive a token gift.

In addition, there will be snacks and refreshments and each shop will be offering demos for learning new tools or techniques.

Next BBQG Meeting:

Tuesday, March 13th

Lecture: Lois Hallock -

"Creating the Perfect Quilting Space"

The Brazos Center: Assembly 4



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