



# Bits and Pieces

**Brazos Bluebonnet Quilt Guild Newsletter**

**Volume 43. Number 7**

## **From the President**

I am happy to say that I am well. For four months now, I have sheltered at my home and I am well. I hope that you are well also.

I have asked other Guilds how they are managing. They each have said they are not meeting. Some Guilds are meeting online. The pandemic has taken much of our social life. It has taken our guild gatherings and events. But we WILL be back together again. We will begin meeting face-to-face when it is safe for us to gather.

The BBQG Board has been meeting through Zoom. Based on the Brazos Health Department guidance, the Board feels that not meeting until it is safe is the right way to handle the Guild during this pandemic.

## **JULY EVENT**

Until it is safe we will have Zoom meetings when we can. On Tuesday July 14 at 6:30 we will have our first Zoom meeting. This meeting will be a show and tell. You will receive an invitation to attend. To make this Show and Tell a success please send pictures and information to Sue Chrysler at [sue\\_chrysler@hotmail.com](mailto:sue_chrysler@hotmail.com). Include why you made the item, any struggles or successes that you had during on it and any other information to make it interesting. Send anything that you have been working on during these last months. My submission is not quilted, but I am excited to have it at this point of completion.

Many thanks to those who have stepped up to assist with providing online events that our guild members can enjoy.

- Our own Norma Reel has advertised online classes with a discount for our members. I have signed up and I am excited to enjoy a class with Norma and other quilters.
- Sue Chrysler has come forward to pull together an online show and tell presentation.
- Donna Bracewell has a great idea for the mini quilt show. Details are included in this newsletter.
- And Laura North is working to provide online events as speakers cancel. Just this week Gloria Loughman canceled.

These kind of ideas and members stepping up to coordinate events, will allow us to continue to enjoy the talent and friendship that we love in our Guild.

Keep checking Groupworks for more information.

Denise

# Treasurer's Report

For the Month of May 2020

## Checking

Beginning Balance - Checking per bank

Deposits Made

Checks Cleared

Ending Balance per Bank

Less Outstanding Checks

Ending Balance - Checking per Register

## Savings

Beginning Balance - Savings per Bank

Interest Received

Transfers to Checking

Ending Balance - Savings

Total Cash Balance

\* Outstanding checks

1743

1746

1747

1749

1752

1756

1760

1761

1764

1765

Total



Submitted by Susan Beasley

### 2020 Scholarship Winners

Nancy Searcy donated both of the 2020 Scholarship Quilts. The quilt blocks were made by Nancy's 86 year old mother - in-law who is a retired Kindergarten teacher. Nancy sewed the blocks together and used a beautiful flower and leaf design to quilt them.



The Luci Smith Scholarship was given to Denae Kocman who graduated from Bryan Collegiate High School. She will attend Texas A&M and major in Public Health. She plans to go to Medical School and become a Dermatologist. Denae is a quilter and made a quilt which was the Grand Champion quilt at the Livestock Show.



Madelyn Moore is the 2020 recipient of the Joyce Blasi Scholarship. Madelyn graduated from Bryan High School and will attend Texas A&M University and major in Bio Medical Science. She plans to attend Medical School and become a surgeon. She is a very accomplished artist.

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## BBQG to the Rescue...of Scott and White

Due to the Corona Virus Pandemic, isolation gowns and masks were more costly and difficult to obtain. The Director of Surgery suggested that gowns and masks could be made out of Sterilization Wrap. This would allow them to be cleaned after being worn by doctors and nurses. Baylor Scott and White Guest Services Director, Kendall Parker, asked Kim DeBona for recommendations for this sewing project.



Mary Anne Durbin and Kendall Parker

Kim suggested that Brazos Bluebonnet Quilt Guild could possibly help. President Denise Mackan contacted a few members. Laura North coordinated the project. She drafted two patterns and copied them to 5-6 people, wrote and dispersed instructions to 6-7 volunteers, made 7-8 gowns as samples, and

then cut out 60 gowns for others to sew.



Mary Ellen Bell

When some of the gowns were delivered, Kendall Parker thanked the Guild and specifically each person who gave time to respond to their request. She said the effort was an answer to prayer and a blessing to their team.

The countless hours were definitely appreciated and promoted community participation along with a Baylor Scott and White VALUE "IN IT TOGETHER". The following are those who responded to the "sew" request with the number of completed gowns (when known) in parenthesis:



Alma Fonseca

- Maryellen Bell (52 gowns)
- Donna Bracewell (20 gowns)
- Peggy Dunn
- Denise Mackan (100 masks)
- Emily Musgrove,
- Peggy McKenzie
- Laverne Ondrasek (64 gowns)
- Rowena Reed
- Luci Smith (93 masks)
- Alma Fonseca (6 gowns)
- Mary Anne Durbin (50 gowns and 133 masks),
- JoAnn Williams (72 gowns)



Rowena Reed

Submitted by Mary Anne Durbin



## Virtual Mini Quilt Show Entry Guidelines

Hello fellow BBQG members! I know many of you (myself included) have been busy constructing gowns, face masks, and head caps for the hospitals and other medical and assisted living facilities. Face mask construction has also been completed for ourselves, family, and friends.

Now it's time for some fun! Think about constructing a charity quilt for the Virtual Mini Quilt Show. This is a time you can use your imagination to create a one of a kind quilt your recipient will love. Your quilt may inspire other quilters to step out of the box, and have fun with design and color. Almost anything goes as far as your choice of construction, but please make sure everything is carefully secured, as it may go to a young child. It can be pieced, appliqué (hand or machine), fused and thread painted, and other techniques, or a combination. Make sure it is at least 42" X 42".

The only rule is your quilt must make a nod to the LOG CABIN. This can be a traditional log cabin block quilt or a log cabin variation such as pineapple, courthouse steps, corner log cabin, rhombus log cabin, hexagon log cabin...you get the idea and the list is long. You can also include blocks other than the log cabin, as long as your log cabin design is the dominant block. You can also take "log cabin" literally, and appliqué or piece an actual log cabin...just go with it! We are excited to see what you come up with.

Just a bit more:

- As in the past, the quilts are donated to the guild, to be used for community service.
- The top three winners' quilts: Will be auctioned off to the highest bidder. (guild member)
- Top three winners: Receive a ribbon and a prize
- New category BBQG Board Choice: Winner will receive a ribbon.
- Deadline for entry is August 9th at 11pm, but the earlier you turn in pictures and entry form the better, as we have to complete a slideshow for virtual voting.
- Those members without computers will be mailed an entry form with a return address.
- Virtual voting for quilts in the slideshow will open after the July Virtual BBQG meeting.
- The completed slideshow will be presented at the Sept. meeting, and the winners will be announced.
- Watch for the procedure for the auction in a later BBQG Newsletter and on Groupworks.

GO TEXAN quilts are also part of the Virtual Mini Quilt Show. A winner will be chosen in a separate vote, and the winning quilt will compete in Houston. This quilt is NOT a donation or auction item. To enter, simply add "GO TEXAN" in

parenthesis after your quilt name on the entry form for the Virtual Mini Quilt Show. These quilts will be added at the end of the slideshow as separate voting item/s.

Submitted by Donna Bracewell

### **Bee News...**

The **Thumblebees** have been using the extra time at home the last few months to clean out sewing rooms, sew face masks and care quilts, and work on various individual quilting, knitting and weaving projects. We have kept in touch through phone calls, emails and ZOOM meetings and are looking forward to our first face-to-face early morning bee meeting at Tanglewood Park pavilion where we can safely meet outdoors and social distance.

Unfortunately, because of the Covid 19 shutdown, the church where **Wednesday Bee** meets lost it's minister. This makes it more difficult to access the meeting room, and we are now a very small group, with a few choosing not to meet at all because of health issues. I will inform you if things change.

The **Franklin Praying Piecers** are finally meeting again after our long Covid19 hiatus. We are now meeting at Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Franklin on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month from 9am until around noon. We have also set up a Facebook page to keep each other informed of happenings in the bee. Our Facebook page is Praying Piecers of Franklin Texas. At our meeting this week we shared many of the quilts we were able to complete during our "incarceration." For more information please contact Benita Ebel at [benita.ebel@gmail.com](mailto:benita.ebel@gmail.com) or call 979.828.3878

**Quilt in Peace** has met twice on June 9 and May 26. It was great to see some members even if briefly and wearing a mask. Most women came by to get more supplies or drop off care quilts to be quilted or even a finished product. Several Quilts of Valor were completed as well so QnP will have lots to contribute whenever the BBQG meets again.

The **Material Girls** have been busy. Mary Jane is doing UFO's and kits that have been sitting awhile. Nancy has been cleaning her sewing room and doing quilts. Sue Idol made a baby quilt waiting to close on new house. Susan Beasley Has been making quilts for family. Jeanne Rierson Has finished her Aborigines quilt and a baby quilt as well. Some have been in the garden and some have really been quilting. Be a shame to lose all this free quilting time. Hope all are staying safe and quilting on. Pictures to come.

Submitted by Jane Riggs

*Terry Skrabanek*  
Owner

Exquisite Fabrics  
Notions, Patterns, Books, Classes  
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## Norma's Live Virtual – Sew at Home

Norma Reed teaches locally for Lone Star Quiltworks and the class rooms are not open quite yet --- so Norma is providing everyone with an opportunity to enjoy a quilt class right from home using the Zoom format. Here is a List of Up and Coming Classes with Photos. Lone Star Quiltworks has all the supplies for each of these classes ready for all class enrollees.



**Braided Twist Table Runner - June 27th – 1:00-4:00pm**



**Wonder Flutters- July 1st 1:00pm-4:00PM**



**Triangle Tricks – July 10th**



**Moroccan Vibes (2 Sessions)- July 11th & 18th – 10:00am – 12:30pm)**

Special Bonus for Guild Members Only – Norma is offering a 10% Discount on all her classes, you must contact her personally at [normajeankilts@gmail.com](mailto:normajeankilts@gmail.com) to receive the discount so she can sign you up, the discount is not on her web page, only through Norma. You can view the classes and class descriptions on her web page along with cost, dates and times [www.njbestquilts.com](http://www.njbestquilts.com).

**Norma's Embroidery & Quilt Studio**  
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## **Bits and Pieces**

**Mary Ellen Bell...** "Being a senior and living alone, I enjoy sewing for charity projects. The gowns were definitely a different project. I'm glad I answered Laura's call for help. Right now I've been at home 11 weeks as high risk by the Dr. and these projects have kept me busy. Charles kept me busy with kits for Books and a Blanket after my 7th knee surgery. He would bring me kits and pick up the finished products. Right now I have 17 "blankets for books and a blanket" and 1 Quilt of Valor for the veterans ready to go. Hopefully, I will be able to start attending meetings when they start again. "

**Laura North...** "I made 20-25 face masks from scraps (material provided by SW) And 175 more masks and gave them to friends and businesses. Made 30 surgical caps from my own fabric in response to Marjean Neve's request (her daughter works for SW). Made 390 caps from my own materials to send to my son, a nurse in Washington DC at the hospital where he was born. Made 60 more caps from fabric donated by Quilt n' Peace Bee and buttons donated by By Mary Ellen Bell."

**Kathy Loflin...** "I've taken several classes since we've moved here and I am a fairly new quilter. My favorites tend to run towards the more modern quilts and into the "Art Quilts" area. I have a couple of RaNae Merrill's books and when the Guild signed her on to teach a class, I quickly signed up. I was not disappointed. She has a bubbling personality and seemed to keep those of us who attended very interested in what she had to say. She taught me to bring together fabrics I never would have ventured putting next to each other, much less in the same quilt. Her teaching methods were such that the 2-day class passed so quickly I felt even a 5-day class would only have touched upon the tip of the iceberg in her knowledge of putting together quilts. The time she spent working with individuals was very surprising since, as a student, I didn't expect her one-on-one help. I loved the class and would take another with her if she ever teaches another pattern."

**Anonymous...** Did you reprioritize your UFOs? "No - just dug them out so I can better stare at them..."

**JoAnn Williams:** What is the most unique item in your sewing space? "Lots of jigsaw puzzles", Who is your favorite quilting teacher? "Becky Goldsmith and Eleanor Burns"

**Laura North...**Who is your favorite quilting teacher? "Luci Smith"

**Pam Unnasch...**What is the most unique item in your sewing space? "A brand new magnifying light that is two months old and still in its box. Unique that I haven't opened or used it yet."

During the quarantine did you find a really useful tool that you didn't know you had? " Yes, a Clover bias tape maker. Has been used solely to make mask straps. Invaluable. "

Other...list some....."drank morning coffee every day, never sewed my finger even though I was sewing so so very fast, bought a new sewing chair with money made from masks, and WISHED for a quilt retreat! I'd be happy quarantining with 6-12 friends. "

## Show and Tell

From Alma Fonseca



From the February Guild Meeting



Vickie Carpenter



Nancy Searcy



Kim DeBona



Sue Chrysler



Care Quilts