



Bits and Pieces

Brazos Bluebonnet Quilt Guild Newsletter

Volume 43. Number 5

President's Message: May 2021

As many of you already know, I will be stepping down as your President the end of December 2021 and taking over the lead position of the 2022 BBQG Quilt Show. That said, our guild is still in need of a President Elect who will become President of the guild in January of 2022. **There is no guild without a President**, so please consider taking on this position. It can be a lot of work, but also extremely rewarding, and a great way to get to know other guild members. (There will be a few other board positions available as well, so we need members to step up and take on a leading role.)

As to my new position, I almost always welcome a challenge. Fortunately, I called on Charles Gilreath, and he has accepted the role of co-chair with me. Thank you, Charles! I know you will be a wealth of information as I transition into this new role, and I am excited about this new opportunity because I believe a quilt show is the best way to showcase the wonderful talent of our guild members.

I am also extremely excited to tell all of you that earlier today I signed a contract with the Brazos Valley Expo Center for the 2022 BBQG Quilt Show. I am really "pumped" about this venue because it is a great space; large enough to include more quilts, more vendors, and a snack/lunch bar that will include seating. There will also be enough space for both the White Elephant booth, the Basket Blitz booth, and an area to showcase our guild Bees,

guild projects from classes, and a membership drive table. Since we are adding more space, we can also offer a spot for more quilts, and we plan to add a section for BBQG members only to display quilts, not in a judged category, but just for sharing their love of quilting.

All of this is exciting to me, but none of it will work without your help. We will need members to get involved and offer to work at the show for a few hours to make it a success. Yes, I know it is more than a year away, but be thinking about how you can help the show organizers as they ask for volunteers.

I would also invite the 2022 quilt show chairs to stay in close contact with me, so I can help with any needs you have for hosting a successful show. I know most of you are not new to your role, but I would ask you to let me help in any way I can.

Lastly, I want to tell you I am looking forward to an in-person meeting this July at the American Legion Hall Post 159. It is scheduled for the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm. I will be there early, so if you would like to come a bit earlier, and visit with your friends, you are welcome to do so. Be watching for more information coming soon, including a map showing post 159 location, so you can plan your best route.

Donna Bracewell

Brazos Bluebonnet Quilt Guild Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2021

The Guild met by Zoom Meeting on 4/13/21. 38 people attended the meeting. It started at 6:31 pm.

President's Message: Donna Bracewell conducted the meeting and opened with a message to help inspire all the members to get busy finishing up UFO's or other projects that have been started. Spring is a time to enjoy the beautiful spring days and get inspired to work on projects. Now is the time to get started on those quilts to enter in the 2022 Quilt Show next June.

Donna asked for a motion to approve the March Guild minutes. Sue Beasley made the first motion and Charles 2nd it.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Susan Beasley. Donna asked for a motion to approve the report. Sue Chrysler made the first motion and Donna 2nd it.

Membership report was presented by Nelda Cohan. We currently have 98 members who have paid their dues for 2021. She has posted on GroupWorks the membership list. The top portion of the list is all members who have paid their dues and the bottom portion is all the members who have not paid. Anyone that is 80 or above is exempt from paying dues but Nelda still needs a membership form completed and sent to her so that we can keep correct records and demographics.

NEW BUSINESS:

Laura North reviewed the latest information on the Quilt Show planned for June 2022. The Quilt Show committee met before the April Board meeting. They made a unanimous decision to move the quilt show venue to the EXPO Center. Laura will be meeting with the Expo management to finalize a

contract. Plans to have a concession stand at the show will hopefully keep visitors at the show longer instead of leaving for lunch and not returning. Another plan is to create a central hub where the White Elephant Sale, the Blue Bonnet Store and the Basket Blitz will all be held.

Laura also announced to the Guild that she is moving from Bryan/College Station to Kyle, Texas in June 2021. Therefore, she is resigning from her position as Quilt Show Chairperson. Donna has agreed to take over her position. Charles Gilreath has also agreed to help Donna with the show. Additionally, Charles will be taking Laura's place in the Round Robin. Sew Vac City has agreed to give the Round Robin groups a place to meet.

Denise Mackan is now program chairperson. Krista Moser is presenting a workshop on April 24. There are still some open spots for anyone interested in attending. The cost of the workshop is \$25. Contact Laura North if you are interested in attending. Other programs are listed on GroupWorks. Denise is still waiting to talk with the management person at the American Legion Hall to see if Friday workshops can be scheduled for the future.

Janet Kirkpatrick spoke about the progress of the Western themed raffle quilt. She has already received some of the completed blocks. She needs all the blocks to be completed by the end of June. Any extra fabric that remains after making blocks should be returned as it may be needed in another block. Judy Beskow volunteered to do applique on one of the blocks. Janet hopes to post pictures of completed blocks on GroupWorks and the website as she receives them.

A Raffle Quilt Person is also needed for the 2022 quilt. This person would be responsible for recruiting other volunteers to help take the raffle quilt to various places and sell raffle tickets. The

money that is collected for the raffle quilt goes toward scholarships. Additionally, the Board has approved the money for three scholarships this year. This is due to the excellent qualifications of so many applicants.

The Zoom Bee held their first meeting last month. The only participants were Donna and Denise. They will try having it again in April but if no one attends, then the Bee will be cancelled.

Donna also announced that she will not be President of the Guild next year. She has encouraged members to volunteer for positions that will be available on the Board. She emphasized the fact that a Guild without a president is only a Bee.

At the last board meeting, the issue of when to start meeting in person was discussed. It has been decided that physical meetings will begin in July 2021. The meeting will be at the American Legion Hall on Highway 21. Meetings will be held on the second Thursday of the month (July 13). The meetings will also continue to be Zoomed for those who do not want to attend a physical meeting. We are all excited about our new meeting place and hope that the membership will be happy with the changes also.

To conclude the meeting, Sue Chrysler presented a nice slide show with pictures of projects and quilts that were made by our guild members. A lot of sewing has been going on since Covid!! Beautiful work!!

The meeting concluded at 7:40 pm.

Minutes submitted by Gwen Koval, Secretary.

Treasurer's Report

For the Month of March 2021

Checking

Beginning Balance -

Checking per bank

Deposits Made

Checks Cleared _____

Transfers to Savings

Ending Balance per Bank

Less Outstanding Checks _____

Ending Balance -

Checking per Register _____

Savings

Beginning Balance -

Savings per Bank

Interest Received

Deposits Made

Transfers to Checking _____

Ending Balance - Savings _____

Total Cash Balance _____

Submitted by Susan Beasley

Norma's Embroidery & Quilt Studio

310 Stoney Hills Court

College Station, TX 77845

Long Arm Quilting Magic

Norma Reel

586-770-7166

normajeankilts@gmail.com

www.njbestquilts.com

Bee News

QUILT IN PEACE BEE made 15 Fidget Mats for patients in Memory Units in local facilities. As usual we used only donated materials. The mats were approximately 18 x 24 inches and decorated with a variety of sensory fabrics - slick, fuzzy, smooth, corduroy, fringe, tassels, as well as wooden beads, spools, velcro, buckles etc. They were fun to make.

Nine members made our quarterly "5th Tuesday" trip on Friday March 27 to LaGrange. We toured the Quilt Museum, and shopped at the Quilted Skein and the Fabric Barn.



Virtual can be a good thing

Zoom offers opportunities that would not have been possible in January 2020...when everyone thought we could "see clearly now." But things changed. With change there are some good things that just might give each of us inspiration for the next quilt.

Many quilt instructors are now offering quilt classes online via Zoom...not to be confused with YouTube videos or other recorded media. Road to California offered all their classes online. Individual

instructors like Nancy Prince or Elizabeth Eastmond at OP Quilts have adapted their in person classes to the virtual format. The live zoom workshops offer group instruction and personal assistance in the convenience of your own sewing room.

Nancy Prince states this in her most recent newsletter: "I have taken surveys after each Zoom workshop and about 95% prefer virtual workshops over on-site workshops. That number totally surprised me! Many have remarked on not having to haul the supplies and machine to the workshop, no leaving required items at home and no weather concerns were just a few of the reasons for the preference for a Zoom workshop."

Search for virtual quilt classes to see if your favorite instructor is offering a live zoom class.

And there are also Virtual Quilt shows available. There is a Mancuso show beginning April 28 and continuing through May 1. Available 24 hours per day. [Online Quilt Festival » Mancuso Show Management](#)

And finally for those who are GroupWorks users...GroupWorks has a special offer.

Thank you for your support of GroupWorks! You have helped us to become the vibrant and fun community we are today. To show our gratitude, we are excited to offer all GroupWorks users access to virtual clubs and classes through our parent company, Element3 Health.

We have instructor-led virtual clubs in categories from dance to painting & drawing to crafting and photography. Depending on your health plan, these virtual events will be completely covered or, as a loyal GroupWorks member, we are able to offer you free access for 90 days.

To get started, please visit element3healthgroups.com/member or contact 844-974-0494

To date this is the status of the quilt.



Instead of Build-a-Bear its Build-a-Quilt (Donation Quilt)

Janet Kirkpatrick is spearheading the effort of our new donation quilt. Each month Janet will be providing a newsletter update of the quilt's progress.



The end result should look similar to this completed version depending how Janet and her team decide to position the completed blocks.

Terry Skrabanek
Owner

Exquisite Fabrics
Notions, Patterns, Books, Classes
Authorized BabyLock Retailer
Handi Quilter Rep

LONE★STAR
Quiltworks

4301A S. Texas Ave.
Bryan, TX 77802
www.lonestarquiltworks.com

(979) 595-1072
FAX (979) 595-1074
lonestarquiltworks@suddenlink.net

Soldier Squares Update

Kitty Ard has been faithfully making Soldier Squares to be included in care packages to our Military. Below is a recent picture sent by MSG Be Fenner who received a box from Post 159.



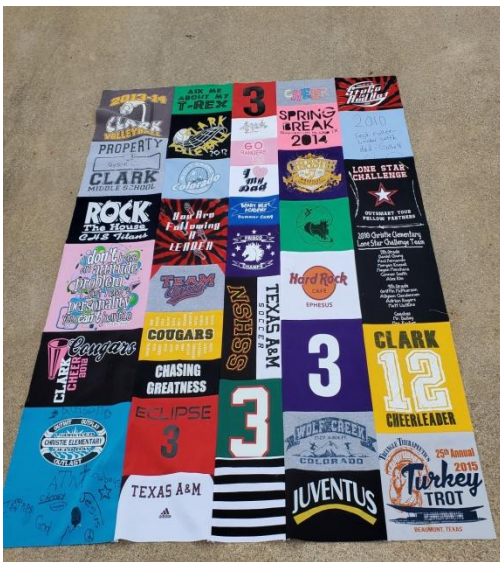
Show N Tell



Wedding gift panel quilt by Janet Kirkpatrick



Added checkerboard borders to make a rectangular quilt - Janet Kirkpatrick



Tee Shirt quilt by Janet Kirkpatrick

Paper Pieced stars for Books and a Blanket - Alma Fonseca

