

Executive Board and Committee Chairs

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	
- Sharon Meeds	253-941-0224
Vice President	
- Char Peterson	425-271-2370
Secretary	
- Kathy Wyckoff	206-824-3307
Treasurer	
- Janine Walker	253-941-4958
Membership	
- Jill Ellis	253-927-1260
Newsletter	
- Jill Ellis	253-927-1260

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Archives	
- Maddie Hall	253-293-9870
Audit	
- Diane Kellar	253-874-0537
Community Outreach	
- Tina McCarter	253-737-8122
Community Outreach BOM	
- Susanna Gantt	253-431-5659
- Maddie Hall	253-293-9870
Email	
- Mici Wiggins	360-519-3442
Hospitality	
- Rebecca Keller	253-219-6408
Liaison with Avalon	
- Sharon Meeds	253-941-0224
Public Relations	
- OPEN	
Quilt Show 2015 Chair	
- Linda Hill	253-661-9281
Raffle Quilt (2016)	
- Cheryl Belcher	253-278-2576
- Mary Ann Morris	206-353-6377
Raffle Quilt 2017	
- Marianna Garrett	253-347-1345
Retreats	
- Janine Walker	253-941-4958
Storage Unit	
- Janine Walker	253-941-4958
Sunshine	
- Peggy Pierce	253-750-0220
Telephone	
- Margaret Mortenson	253-839-0954
Webmaster	
- Lisa Martin	206-235-2701

President's Piece: Sharon Meeds

As I was driving on 320th the other day, headed west from 1st Avenue South, I had the surprise of my life (or at least one of the many surprises of my life)! There are trees whose leaves are beginning to change! Really?! It's the beginning of August! Summer lasts, according to my calendar at least, until September 23. I have way too much to finish this summer for the leaves to be changing already.

As I look at our Crazy Quilters year, I'm amazed at how few meetings we have left before we begin 2016. This month, we had a program of, "getting ready for The Puyallup Fair" and will a business meeting/show and tell. Then an October program meeting and the QUILT SHOW! Then a November program meeting (I'll miss out, but will think of you while I'm at Disneyland) and Thanksgiving (no meeting), then our December Christmas party/potluck and...it will be 2016!

Which brings me, in a very round-about way, to my real point. Beginning in January, we will have a Nominating Team looking for new officers. Remember, we vote at the February business meeting. We will be looking for a new President, a new Secretary, and a new Vice-President. Thanks to Janine Walker, we won't need to look for a new Treasurer this year. There might be "appointive" or "volunteer" positions that need filling, but those don't have to be elected.

It would be great if each of us would consider our willingness to help our CrAZy Quilters out and think about being an officer. It's a one-year term of office and is a great way for many of us to share our talents with our group. I'm pretty sure each of you is talented enough to take on one of these roles. Be thinking about it, please.

Multi-Service Center Donations:

School supplies for the new school year:

- Pencils
- Pens
- Paper
- Backpacks
- Markers
- Glue sticks
- Liquid glue
- Notebooks
- Folders
- Binders
- Highlighters
- Erasers
- Pencil boxes
- Lunch bags
- Crayons
- Calculators
- Ziplock-type sandwich bags
- Hand sanitizer.



Newsletter Contributors

Sharon Meeds	Sue Smith
Kathy Wyckoff	Linda Hill
Char Peterson	Lane Closure
Marianna Garrett	Janine Walker

This is YOUR newsletter. If you have something you'd like to contribute, please email (jillzquilts@hotmail.com) or mail (P.O. Box 4243, Federal Way 98063) it to me by the 15th of the month. Thanks! jill

Business Meeting Minutes – July 2015 – Kathy Wyckoff, Secretary

Old Business:

Minutes approved as written

Raffle basket signup for quilt show: There are still baskets to chose and it was noted that you can use your own basket idea if you prefer. This is a fund raiser for the guild so we hope you will all participate.

Marianna Garrett had pattern for new Community Service block and Susanna Gant had Block of the Month Community Service kits to purchase.

We want to welcome our three guests, Annette, Winn (former member who rejoined tonight), and Donna to our meeting..

Show & Tell: As per your usual display, what you created was fabulous. Thank you for sharing what you have created.

Diane Keller talked about the, "Row by Row," patterns you can pick up for free at quilt shops across the country. She is having fun collecting them and had several of them to show us.

Diane Kellar is a "Sew Fun Consultant" at Quality Sew & Vacuum. She invited us to come to see her at Quality Sew, August 17-29. Please check the website for times and location at the different stores.

The Covington Quilters guild show is at Cedar Heights on 272nd Street July 24-26. Check their website for times. (sorry I missed that part of the announcement)

Stitch & Pitch night with The Mariners, sponsored by Pacific Fabrics, is Tuesday next week. Purchase tickets at Pacific Fabric to get your packet gift, cost \$4.95 for the packet.

Name Tag Drawing: Peggy Pierce won. Congrats!

Block of the Month Drawing: Pat Bernard won. Congrats!

Tying Quilts at the Fair: Every year we tie charity quilts at The Washington State Fair in Puyallup for 6 days (2 weekends). You get a free ticket in and free parking, and your shift is 3 hours. Please contact Mici Wiggins (miciwiggins@gmail.com) to be scheduled. Thanks to all who come and work at the Fair.

At the August program meeting, we will be putting tops, batting and backing together for the quilts that will be tied at the Fair. If you have batting, you would like to donate to Crazy Quilters, we are in need of that. It was reported that Zora Buckenberger has some batting and Margaret Mortenson will pick that up, but we will probably need a lot more.

UFO Challenge (first mention of it this year: Get a form from Xenia McGowan for the challenge. You'll need the date you started your finished UFO, the date finished, and the measurements. Any questions please contact Xenia

October 2015 Quilt Show : Don't forget to submit your paperwork for quilts you plan to enter in the show. You can enter 3 quilts, plus anything that was part of a guild activity (Block in the Box, guild-sponsored workshop, ugly panel challenge, etc.). The Stocking Challenge project does not count toward those 3 quilts, either. Reminder: in order to have quilts in the show, you must work at least 3 hours, either before, during, or after the quilt show.

Next Quilt Show meeting is Tuesday, August 18, at the 320 Street Library, 7:00 p.m.

Places to Go . . . Quilts to See: Road Trip!



September 9-13: Annual Leavenworth Intimate Quilt Show, *new venue*, hosted by Family Events of Leavenworth WA. Info 509-548-5311, info@quiltersheaven.com or www.quiltersheaven.com

September 11-12: Harvest of Quilts, Town Toyota Center, 1300 Walla Walla Avenue, Wenatchee, WA. Info Arlene Crumrine 509-470-7706 or www.ncwquilt.org

September 18-19: "Starry, Starry Night," presented by Evergreen Quilters Guild, Birchwood Presbyterian Church, Family Life Center, 400 Meadowbrook Court, Bellingham, WA. Info www.evergreenquilters.org

September 18-20: Annual Quilt Show, Ocean Shores Convention Center, 120 West Chance A LaMer, Ocean Shores, WA. Info www.seapalsquilters.org, seapals1@gmail.com

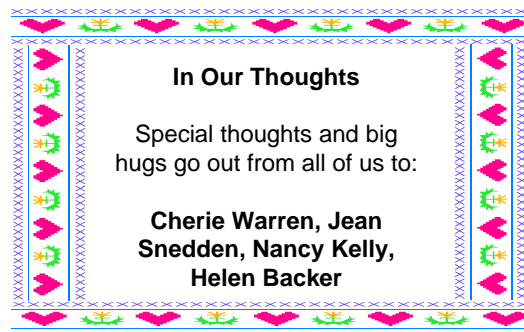
September 18-20: Walla Walla Valley Annual Quilt Show, Walla Walla Fairgrounds, 360 Orchard Street, Walla Walla, WA. Info info@wallawallaquiltfestival.org or www.wallawallaquiltfestival.org

September 24 - October 3: North Central Washington Quilt Shop Hop. Info: call Dianne at The Attic Window Quilt Shop, 509-888-2006, www.theatticwindowquiltshoppe.com

September 26: Annual Outdoor Quilt Show, "A Festival of Color," Main Street, Duvall WA. www.duvallquiltshow.com

Charitable Request – Marianna Garrett

I am collecting color/activity books and crayons for Children's Hospital in Seattle and Mary Bridge Children's Hospital in Tacoma. These books are usually given at holiday time. If we have a huge amount, they can be distributed earlier than December. The nurses insist on Crayola brand only for the crayons. I get my books at the Dollar store. I also find new ones at garage sales. So, you are shopping this summer, for children and grandchildren, perhaps you could remember the kids in the hospitals, too. Thank you!



In Our Thoughts

Special thoughts and big hugs go out from all of us to:

Cherie Warren, Jean Snedden, Nancy Kelly, Helen Backer

If you know of someone in need of a bit of sunshine, please let Peggy Pierce know. peggypierce@mail.com, 253-750-0220

ASK ME ABOUT QUILTING



New Members:

Winn Curry
4807 South 300th Place
Auburn, WA 98001
Phone 253-941-1768
quiltmaster007@gmail.com
Birthday March 16

Renee Pace
P.O. Box 891
Milton, WA 98354
Phone: 206-501-8302
reenepace1@msn.com
Birthday October 18

Change of Address:

Nancy Neff
6620 SE Aldercrest Court
Milwaukie, OR 97267
Phone: 503-786-8095 home
253-653-6004 cell

Change of email:

Agnes Rischard
rischard@gmail.com



Retreats – Janine Walker

Crazy Quilter's next retreat is October 16-19. The signup sheet will be at the August and September meetings. If you won't be at a meeting and wish to signup, please email or call me. The October retreat is usually very well attended, so don't wait or you might miss out. Future scheduled retreats are:

November 9-12 2015
January 22-25, 2016
May 9-12
October 14-17

April 22-25
June 17 - 20
November 7 - 10

Treasurer's Report – Janine Walker

Current Balance Checking: \$4,054.65
Current Balance Savings: 7,508.62

Quilt Show 2015: Boutique – Sharon Meeds, Boutique Co-Chair

Here are a few thoughts for our quilting friends as we draw nearer to our October Quilt Show!

The Boutique will feature both donated and consignment items, which includes handmade or gently used items

Donated Items: We would love to have many wonderful, handmade items donated for our Boutique Sale. Pincushions, cord minders, aprons, tote bags, gently used patterns and quilt books are just a few suggestions. The guild benefits 100% from the items sold in the “donated” category.

Consigned Items:

- People consigning items to the Boutique for their own sales will pay, in advance, \$25 to the guild, as a “booth fee.”
- Items consigned by our members will need to have sales tax charged at the Federal Way rate, which is currently 9.5%. Consigned items will need to have tax figured into the cost; if your item will be sold for \$10, you need to add the tax (0.95 on \$10), so it would be priced at \$11. We would like items rounded to the dollar or half-dollar (\$10.50 or \$11), with a note on the tag that says, “tax included.”
- Members consigning items will need to have a state-issued Temporary Business License; there is a temporary business license for special events, which has no charge. A “temporary business” is defined as no more than two events per year with each event lasting less than one month. Each certificate is good for only one event. You will still need to collect sales on any items you sell. The link is here. http://dor.wa.gov/content/doingbusiness/BusinessTypes/Doingbus_tempreg.aspx
- Consigners of their own goods will be given a number which must be on the sales tag of their item. This is to assure that you get the money due to you. You will be paying your own sales tax from the proceeds of your sales, after accounting is completed by the Quilt Show Treasurer.
- Items that are donated for guild sales will not have a consignment number, nor any designation other than the cost.

Items that sold well last time: books, patterns, pin cushions, cord holders for electric items (such as phone cords), aprons, fabric (please bag or have it banded together somehow), doll/preemie baby clothes, baby stuff, yarn (if you’re giving something like this, it needs to be useable to a “new” owner)

Things that didn’t go over very well: Potpourri pie thingies, garage sale-type stuff, tote bags (unless they’re like the feed-bag ones or crocheted plastic bag ones.

NEW Information: Fat Quarter Basket Raffle – Jill Ellis and Diana Rawlings

Jill Ellis and Diana Rawlings will be in charge of collecting fat quarters for a raffle “cake” at the quilt show. For every quilt-shop quality fat quarter you donate, you will receive a ticket to enter the drawing for the basket.

- A fat quarters is 18x22 inches. It is a half yard of fabric (18x44) cut in half.
- Please do not donate a quarter yard of fabric, which is 9x44. Those will not be accepted.
- Please make sure your fat quarter hasn’t had a chunk of fabric cut out of it for a project. 😊

Donate as many fat quarters as you like, but not 2 of the same (per person), please. Last date to donate is the September business meeting, 9/24. Thank you.



Quilt Show Raffle Baskets – Rebecca Keller

Below is an updated list of raffle baskets and who has signed up to do them. If you'd like to do a basket, contact me.

1. Mariners Basket- Jean Markl
2. Patriotic Basket- Rebecca Keller, Sonia Parisi
3. Cat's Meow Basket- Charlotte Rea, Diana Rawlings, Xenia. McGowan
4. Doggie Basket- Sharon Meeds, Kathy Wyckoff
5. Appliqué Basket - OPEN
6. Measure Up Basket - OPEN
7. Beginner Quilters Basket- Rebecca Keller
8. New Family Additions Basket – Maddie Hall, Elizabeth Darling
9. Borders and Beyond Basket - OPEN
10. Everything A Doll Could Want Basket – OPEN
11. Beary Friendly Basket - OPEN
12. Wildlife Basket - OPEN
13. Floral Fat Quarters Basket - Jill Ellis
14. Fat Quarter Takes The Cake – Diana Rawlings, Jill Ellis
15. Christmas Basket – Kay Thomas
16. Holiday Basket- Mary Bobbitt, Tracey Messana
17. Batik Basket - Jo Ann & Larry Undlin
18. Chocolate Basket – Connie Mayor, Diane Kellar, Peggy Pierce
19. Civil War - OPEN
20. Crazy Quilt Basket- Tina Mc Carter, Debbie Guthrie, Marianna Garrett, Anita Seigenthaler
21. "Make a Tote or 2" – Sharon Meeds (12 fat quarters, 3 patterns, 2 tote patterns, 1 checkbook/wallet pattern)

Quilt Show Update – Linda Hill, Quilt Show Chairperson

Our 2015 show is only two months away. Now is the time to get your entries completed and turned in to Sue Smith. You can either submit your entry via e-mail to quiltgrandma@yahoo.com or give her a hard copy that will be typed into our format. We need a separate entry form for each quilt you are planning to enter in the show.

Let me take a minute to explain what is the purpose of the entry form and why one must be completed for each quilt. Each quilt is unique and we need to be able to identify each quilt with the name of its maker, the name of the quilt, the size (so we can create a floor plan for displaying the quilts), the category (so like quilts can be displayed together), method of construction, artistic statement (so everyone knows the story behind your quilt—and we know each quilt has a story to tell), and an authorization for the quilt to be picked up after the show by the quilter—we want to be sure that you **get back your quilt**.

Remember, each member can enter three individual quilts, plus quilts that are the result of a guild activity, plus one quilt top. (See Sue Smith's description below).

Quilt Show Description – Sue Smith

This quilt show is about showing things our members make, not only completed quilts, but tops that haven't been quilted. At quilt shows there are lots of different skill levels of quilts entered.

If you have a top that hasn't been quilted yet, please consider entering it. Our message is to create interest in quilting. I think showing our creativity in both finished and unquilted tops will pique the interest of people, and maybe get some who do quilting, but don't feel like they are good enough to join a guild or enter a show.

Quilting is supposed to be about making things we love and that touch our hearts. Not a competition about who makes a perfect stitch. Please consider entering your quilts that touch your heart, and if you have an unquilted top, please enter one in the show.



Quilt Show: Challenge Stocking Update – Kay Thomas, Chair

Hello, all. I hope you have started, or maybe even finished, a stocking for the challenge project at our Quilt Show in October. If you haven't, don't get your knickers in a knot, as you still have time. Mine is started but far from done.

I will be asking how many plan to participate at our first meeting in August so I can start planning the display. The finished stocking will be due when the collection for all other entries are due (paperwork by September 1, stockings by October 8), along with a brief description of the intended use and inspiration for your stocking. For details on the requirements see a previous newsletter on our website.

I look forward to seeing what occasion your imagination plans to celebrate.

A Speech on Quilting

As you know, I'm a lawyer when I'm not sewing (or knitting). As such, I subscribe at work to e-mails that tell me of the latest decisions of the important courts here in Canada. There is one such e-mail prepared weekly by a local law firm. I always scroll to the end where, after the serious stuff, there is a section titled "Last Word". Today, it was about a speech given at a conference on quilting (Quilt Canada 2010) by Allan Fradsham, a criminal court judge in Calgary, Alberta, where the conference was held.

Here's the text. It's long but amusing, and so worth a read:

"When, some years ago, Gloria told me that she was going to build upon her years of sewing experience, and take up "quilting", I thought she was telling me that she was going to take up a new hobby or a new craft. I was completely oblivious to the fact that what she was really announcing was that she was taking up membership in a tightly knit (if you'll pardon the expression) group of individuals whose loyalty to one another makes motorcycle gang members seem uncommitted, and whose passion for quilting activities makes members of cults look positively disinterested. As is the case with many spouses, I was completely unaware that there existed this parallel universe called quilting.

However, to be completely unaware of a world-wide sub-culture operating right under our noses and in our homes is a bit obtuse even for husbands. But there it is, and here you are. And, most oddly, here I am. You might wonder how all this came to pass; I know I certainly do.

I cannot now identify what was the first clue I detected indicating that Gloria had entered the fabric world equivalent of *Harry Potter's Hogwarts*. It might have been the appearance of the fabric. Bundles of fabric, mounds of fabric, piles of fabric, towering stacks of fabric. Fabric on bolts, and stacks of small squares of fabric tied up in pretty ribbons (I later learned these were "fat quarters" which to this day sounds to me like a term out of Robin Hood). The stuff just kept coming into the house as though it were endless waves crashing onto a beach. And then, just like the waves, the most amazing thing happened: it would simply disappear. It was as though the walls of the house simply absorbed it. Metres and metres (or as men of my generation would say, yards and yards) of fabric would come into the house. It would arrive in Gloria's arms when she returned from a shopping excursion. It would arrive in the post stuffed in postal packs so full that they were only kept together by packing tape (these overstuffed Priority Packs are the equivalent of me trying to fit into pants I wore in law school). These packages would arrive having been shipped from unheard of towns and villages in far away provinces or states or overseas countries (I am convinced the internet's primary activity is not to be found in pornography; that is just a ruse, the internet's real function is to facilitate the trafficking and distribution of fabric). Wherever we went, be it in Canada, the U.S., Europe, wherever there was a collection of more than three houses, Gloria would find a quilt shop from which she would pluck some prize from some bin with the enthusiasm and unerring eye of an archaeologist finding a new species of dinosaur.

And of course, the reason that there are quilt shops everywhere is because there are quilters everywhere, and I mean EVERYWHERE. A few years ago, Gloria had been visiting her sister-in-law in Kelowna. While there, she found and purchased a *Featherweight* sewing machine. I understand that making such a find is a matter of such joy that it may eventually attract government taxation. When it came time to fly back to Calgary, Gloria worried about what the people at airport security would have to say when she tried to take the machine onto the plane. She need not have been concerned. Now, airport security takes pride in preventing me from carrying onto a plane a small squirt of toothpaste left in a rolled up toothpaste tube if the tube in which it is lodged did at some point in the distant past, contain a prohibited amount of toothpaste. My spot of toothpaste is a national security threat. However, when it came time for Gloria to go through security with the *Featherweight*, which is made of metal and has needles in secret compartments, airport security came to a standstill. Why? Were they about to confiscate the machine, and detain the person who dared to try to board with it? Of course not. They gathered around it in awe and admiration, asking Gloria questions about where she had found it, and expressing admiration for her good fortune in finding it. And why did Gloria get such warm treatment when I am shunned for trying to maintain some degree of oral hygiene? Well, the answer is obvious; the assembled airport security staff were all quilters, complete with the secret handshake.

Maybe I should have twigged to what was happening when the washing of all this fabric led to having to replace our washing machine, which was clearly not designed for such industrial use. Now, let me pause here. I understand that there is an intense debate within your world about whether or not fabrics should be washed upon purchase. I do not wish to be caught in any cross-fire between the two camps, for all I know, as an outsider, I may not be authorized to even know of the controversy. I do suspect that if men were making the decision, quilting would involve lot less fabric washing and a lot more beer drinking.

I did eventually discover where all the fabric went. It went into drawers, cupboards, shelves, and, eventually it completely filled up a closet, which took up one full wall in Gloria's newly built "sewing room". What we now call Gloria's "sewing room", we used to call "the basement".

I have discovered that one of the art forms mastered by quilters is the ability to purchase container loads of fabric, conceal it in the house, and camouflage the purchase so that it slips right under the nose of the unsuspecting spouse. As a loving and obedient spouse, I have on many occasions found myself in quilt stores where I serve two useful functions: I can reach bolts of fabric stored on top shelves; and I can carry numerous bolts of fabric to a cutting table. However, I have also started to listen to what is said in quilting stores, and one day, in a little quilting shop in the heart of Alberta farming country, I heard something that made it clear to me that quilters are so clever and, dare I say, devious, that there is really no sport for them in fooling we naive husbands. Gloria had decided to buy some fabric (which is similar to saying that Gloria had decided to breathe), and had gone to the till to pay for it. Upon running through Gloria's charge card, the clerk quietly said, "Now, when you get your credit card statement, don't be alarmed when you see an entry for our local feed store. We run our charges under that name so that if a husband looks at the credit card statements, he will think that the entry is just something he bought at the feed store for the farm". That sort of financial shell game would make Goldman Sachs proud. I knew at that moment that there had been a major and probably irrevocable shift in the world's power structure. I concede it is basically over for the non-quilting husband.

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As you have been told, I sit as a criminal law judge, and as such I often find myself sitting on drug trials, or issuing search warrants in relation to drug investigations. I must say that the more I learned about the quilting world, the more I started to see similarities between that world and the drug world. It has caused me some concern.

We all interpret events from our own perspectives using the lessons we have learned through life. When I saw the extent to which Gloria's collection of fabric was growing, I began to worry. In the law relating to drugs, the amount of a drug one has in one's possession is an important factor in determining the purpose for which the person has the drug. For example, if a person is in possession of crack cocaine (to use a drug with an addictive power equivalent to fabric), one look at the amount of crack the person possessed. If the amount exceeds the amount one would realistically possess for personal use, then one may reasonably draw the inference that the purpose of the possession is not personal use, but, rather, it is for the purpose of trafficking the drug. So, you can imagine what I thought when I saw Gloria's collection of fabric grow to a point where she readily admitted that she could never use all that fabric in several lifetimes. I reluctantly concluded that I was married to a very high-level fabric trafficker. Mind you, in order to qualify as a trafficker, one does have to part with fabric, and I see very little evidence of that happening.

In fact, the more I thought about the parallels between the quilting culture and the drug culture, the clearer the similarities became. Consider the jargon. I have learned that this vast collection of fabric, which is stored in our house, is a "stash". Well, drug dealers speak of their "stash" of drugs. Gloria speaks of doing "piece" work. In the drug world there are often people who bring together the crack cocaine dealer and the buyer; think of a real estate agent, but not as well dressed, through perhaps somewhat less annoying. Those people speak of breaking off a "piece" of crack as payment for bringing the parties together. Sounds to me like a type of "piece work". Those who transport drugs are often called "mules"; I have frequently heard Gloria refer to me as her mule when I am in a quilt store carrying stacks of fabric bolts (or did she say I was stubborn as a mule?). Well, it was something about mules. And I should think that this whole conference is a testimony to the addictive qualities of quilting.

In my role as a Sherpa, I have accompanied Gloria on various quilting expeditions, and I have been impressed by many things. One is, as I have mentioned, that no matter where one goes, there will be a quilt store. The proliferation of quilt shops makes Starbucks outlets seem scarce. One day Gloria led me into a hardware store, which seemed odd to me, that is until I discovered that, as I walked towards the back of the store, the store had become a quilt shop. The metamorphosis was extraordinary, and very crafty (if you will pardon the pun). At that moment, I knew how Alice felt as she followed that rabbit down the rabbit hole. Suddenly, one was in a different universe.

Another thing I have learned is that the operators of quilt shops have great business acumen. In one of Gloria's favourite shops, upon entry I am greeted by name and offered a cup of coffee. If the grandson is with us, he is allowed to choose a book to take home. It is all so friendly that I don't even notice that I cannot see over the growing pile of fabric bolts which fill my arms. I wish that my doctor did such a good job of distracting me when it is time to do a prostate exam.

I have learned that quilting is both international in scope and generous in spirit. I have learned that quilters are quick to assist those in need, and that they have always been prepared to stand up for what is right. For example, I think of Civil War quilts, which often conveyed messages about the Underground railway for slaves escaping to Canada. I think of the One Million Pillowcase Challenge, and the Quilts of Valour project. At one point, I thought of suggesting the creation of an organization akin to "Doctors Without Borders", but decided that an organization called "Quilts Without Borders" would indeed be illogical.

And of course, there are the resultant quilts. We have quilts throughout the house. They adorn beds, chesterfields, the backs of chairs. They are stacked on shelves, they are stored in drawers, they are shoved under beds, they are hung on walls. There is even one on the ceiling of the sunroom. They compete for any space not taken up with the fabric, which will eventually result in more quilts. I live in a cornucopia, which disgorges quilts instead of produce. I have decided that quilts are the zucchini of crafts. But who can complain? Quilt seriously, each one is a work of art, and an instant family treasure. While family members and friends are delighted to receive them, I churlishly begrudge seeing them go out the door.

Though I tease Gloria about the all-consuming nature of her obsession, I am constantly amazed at the skill necessary to create those works of art. I stand in awe as I watch her do the mathematics necessary to give effect to (or correct) a pattern. When she quilts, she combines the skill of an engineer, a draughtsman, a seamstress, and an artist. Her sewing machines require her to have, as she does, advanced computer and mechanical skills. She knows her sewing machines as well as any Hell's Angel knows his Harley. She uses measuring and cutting tools and grids, which would challenge the talents of the best land surveyors.

In short, I am very proud of what Gloria does, as each of you should be proud of your own skills and creations. They are impressive and very evident at this Conference. On behalf of those of us who wouldn't know a binding from a batting, I simply ask that when you finally and formally announce that have already taken over the world that you find some simple tasks for us to do to justify our existence. You might call those tasks... the QUILT PRO QUO.

Gloria and I very much appreciate your warm hospitality this evening.

In closing, the hotel management has asked me to remind you that those found cutting up the table cloths for quilting fabric will have their rotary cutters confiscated and forfeited to the Crown."