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253-927-1260

For info, email jillzquilts@hotmail.com

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- Eileen Peacher

Community Outreach

- Barb McClure

- Carol Berge

Email

- Mici Wiggins

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- Kay Ottick

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- Pam Elliott

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- Nita Leiser

Retreats

- Janine Walker

- Laura Coy

- Kathy Wyckoff

Scrapbook

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- Janine Walker

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- Colleen Linstead

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- Margaret Mortenson

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- Agnes Rischard

President's Pieces

Lines from Linda

Thank you very much for the beautiful rose quilt you gave me at the Mother's Day potluck for being President last year. I will cherish it forever. Please look over the quilt and be sure you signed your name on the front of your block. And if you did not have a chance to make a block, please sign somewhere on the quilt.

Have you tried a new quilt pattern or a color you don't usually use or a new tool lately? Are you experiencing a decrease in creativity? If so, it is time to step out of your comfort zone and try something new. Trying something new will help jump start your brain which will lead to new creativity which will lead to beautiful projects. I challenge each of you learn something new during the next few months. You will be glad you did.

Do you remember in my President's Piece at the beginning of the year when I said one of my goals for this year was to take a class or two? Well, I have now completed my third class this year. These classes were my way to jump start my creative spirit. I learned that I will probably never be an art quilter but Seminole piecing is something I really enjoy. I have started dreaming up new quilting ideas – but I have delayed making more than the class samples – I don't need anymore UFO's! However, the classes stimulated my creative spirit which started shutting down during the last few months.

I have been devoting a lot of my quilting time to one very complicated project (my son Thane's quilt). This has made me aware of two things. First, my creative spirit goes into hibernation when spending all my time working on this one project. Second, after several days of intense work, I have to spend some time doing something mindless to refresh my brain. Strip piecing fits this need. By the time I finish Thane's quilt I will probably have enough strips sewn together to make 4 or 5 strippy quilts complete with piano key strips for outside borders. What a great way to use up all those scraps that have been accumulating in the meadow. But can someone tell me how they keep multiplying?

We have thirty-two entries in the last year's UFO contest. I think those who entered will enjoy the prizes for the drawings. Prizes will be awarded May 27.

My writing muse seems to be done for this month. I'll have more for you next month.

Wishing you a month of stitching, stretching, and dreaming,
Linda

MSC emphasis for June will be peanut butter and jelly, as well as baby food. They are very low on baby food and would appreciate having some donated. Donating baby food at the business meeting in May instead of linens would be a good idea also.

General monthly donations should be baby items, candles, children's books, general food items, paperback books for adults.

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

THANK YOU



Newsletter Contributors

Linda Hill

Barb McClure

Pam Elliott

Jean Snedden

Eileen Peacher

Mici Wiggins

Carol Berge

Sue Hopper

Kathy Wyckoff

Laura Coy

Community Outreach, May – Barb McClure

Every year, Crazy Quilters demonstrates “How To Tie A Quilt” at the Puyallup Fair during the month of September. We demonstrate on the three weekends and another quilt club demonstrates during the week. The demonstrations take place on the 2nd floor of the Home Arts Building. There are two sessions each day. The morning group is 10 am until 1 pm. The afternoon group is 1 pm until 4 pm. Four volunteers each are need for each time period. Community service has finished the 14 quilts needed for demonstration at the Puyallup Fair.

Everyone that volunteers will receive a ticket for parking and one ticket for the entrance to the Fair for the day they signed up for. Make a “field trip” with a friend or family member. You can enjoy visiting all of the exhibits, eat lots of “good stuff” either before or after the quilt demonstration.

This year nine quilts were taken to Bates College in Tacoma to be worked on. Students helped measure and cut the backs and batting. They have had instructions on how quilts are made and this project allows them see what steps have to be taken in order to complete a larger project.

Have you ever wondered where these quilts we demo come from? The blocks have been sewn by our quilt members. Carol Berge is the chairperson for our Community Service “Block of the Month”. Every month Carol submits a pattern for the Newsletter with instruction and diagrams to make a block for the quilts that go to the Fair each year. Carol asks our members to return these blocks the following month at the 4th Thursday meeting. Some of these patterns are made into kits, or you can use your “stash” to make the blocks. Carol gives simple directions and an easy to read diagram with cutting instructions. **The most important requirement is for each block to measure from the raw edge to raw edge in the requested size by length and width.** Remember, this is a “skill builder” for every member. It’s very important because all of these block will be joined together, and with 10-20 people making the same block, they need to match up with all the other blocks. You can see how this makes it “counter productive” if all the blocks need the seams ripped apart and resewn! Who would want to volunteer for that job!

Thank you for the quilts we receive at each meeting for donations to the Multi-Service Center in Federal Way and also for the residents here at **Emeritus** (formally Evergreen Lodge).

That’s all for now, until next month! Thank you again for your continued support.

My Sewing Machine Adventure with the Treasury Department – Found at connectionsbykaren.blogspot.com

A friend had left her sewing machine at our local quilt shop to be serviced. Unfortunately, they didn’t pay their taxes, and the shop didn’t tell my friend before they were closed down by the IRS. On the day of the IRS auction, I arrived at the shop, looking for a Deputy Gillenwater, with whom I’d had previous contact about the sewing machine. There were about 100 people waiting to get an auction number. I walked up to the door and was quickly chastised for not getting in line. When I explained my mission, calm was restored. I handed the email from my friend to the man at the door. There was also a teacher there, hoping to get her class sample. When they let us in, I waited while the deputy dealt with the teacher. Unfortunately, she wasn’t successful at getting her class sample back, as her only proof of the quilt was a photo on her phone of her blog entry. Finally, a man came from the back of the store holding my piece of paper, demanding my driver’s license. Paperwork was filled out and one copy given to Deputy Gillenwater, who placed the sewing machine in the back of his squad car parked out front. Mission successful.

Lessons learned: *[and this is why I included this in the newsletter...ed.]*

1. Virginia had the serial number of her sewing machine, something I have never written down. I will in the future.
2. Label your sewing machine and case with your name in indelible ink.
3. Make sure all quilts have your name and contact info somewhere on them.

Why Machine Needles Break – found at SewingSecrets@DRGBooks.com

You have a poor quality needle. Use good-quality, polished steel needles.

- Pulling the fabric as you sew puts stress on the needle and bends it out of place.
- The needle is installed incorrectly. Check your manual and make sure it is inserted properly.
- The needle is too delicate for the fabric. Use heavy-gauge needles for sewing heavier fabrics like denim or leather.
- You hit a pin. If possible, don’t sew over pins. Pin so they don’t pass through the presser foot or remove them as fabric passes under the foot.
- The presser foot is loose. This will cause the needle to hit the foot and bend. There should be a screw with which you can tighten the foot.
- The needle plate is loose. Make sure it is secured tightly.



Fat-Quarter Exchange at Business Meetings – Marianna Garrett

Here is a list of what we'll exchange this month and throughout 2010:

May	Florals / pastels	Sep	Animals / autumn colors
Jun	Polka dots / yellow-to-orange	Oct	Halloween / darks
Jul	Stripes / red, white, & blue	Nov	Plaids / golds / browns
Aug	Anything	Dec	Red / green

Your name will be in the drawing for each fat quarter you bring, so the more you bring, the more chances you have of winning. Reminder: A fat quarter is 18x22 inches. If you're bringing more than one, please make them different, so we get a variety of fabrics.



DUES are due! If you have not paid your 2010/11 dues of \$30, this will be your LAST newsletter. Please mail a check to Crazy Quilters at the address listed on the front page of the newsletter. If you're not sure if you've paid your dues, please call Jill Ellis, 253-927-1260.

June Hospitality and Birthdays

Please bring hospitality goodies to guild meetings during the month of your birthday. In addition to bringing treats, you are responsible for helping with room setup and cleanup. Contact Pam Elliott, 253-941-9052, if you have questions or are unable to attend.



Happy Birthday!

Babe Geiger	2
Janine Walker	13
Chick Greenough	21
Barb Lobdell	23
Carol Berge	25



Quotable Quotes:

- Color gets the credit, but value does the work.
- Beauty is skin deep, but attitude is to the bone.

Residents of Emeritus are welcome to attend any and all meetings of Crazy Quilters, without being paid members. Please keep in mind we are meeting in THEIR home, and we are their guests.

Pillowcase Challenge



American Patchwork & Quilting® magazine is challenging quilters, crafters and sewers across the country to "Make a Pillowcase, Make a Difference." Local quilting enthusiasts will join the cause to help reach the goal of making and donating one million pillowcases to benefit local charities. Every pillowcase can make a difference in your community. A pillowcase can provide comfort for a cancer patient, hope for a foster child, encouragement for a battered woman, or beauty for a nursing home resident.

Throughout 2010, quilters, crafters and sewers across the nation will make pillowcases at their local quilt shops. The shops will then collect the pillowcases and donate them to a local charity of their choice and update the pillowcase counter at allpeoplequilt.com/millionpillowcases. The counter will track nationwide progress toward the goal of one million pillowcases. Laurie Malm, owner of Lollipops Designer Bindings, sees the One Million Pillowcase Challenge as a way to give back to the local community. "We can all make a difference in our community," she says.

Joining American Patchwork & Quilting in support of the One Million Pillowcase challenge are 2010 sponsors: BERNINA, AccuQuilt, Clothworks, Handi Quilter, Moda, Paintbrush Studio, Presencia, Red Rooster Fabrics, RJR Fabrics, Robert Kaufman, The Fabric Shop Network, and Timeless Treasures.

One Million Pillowcase Challenge information is available at www.allpeoplequilt.com/millionpillowcases, including a list of shows where you can turn in your pillowcases.

A Short Road Trip: Mark Lipinski Lecture in Olympia, WA – Jill Ellis

Last month, Sue Hopper, Diana Rawlings, and I went to see Mark Lipinski speak. The Olympia quilt guild, Washington Stars, was rewarding themselves for the 10th birthday of their guild. They had two days of classes with Mark, the lecture, and an auction where he was the auctioneer...I bet THAT was fun! For those of you who don't know who Mark is, he quit a life as television producer (for shows such as Oprah, The Joan Rivers Show, Attitudes) to become a fabric and quilt designer, and he's the former editor of Quilter's Home Magazine. He quit over a controversial issue last year, one that JoAnn's Craft Stores refused to carry because it depicted quilts they deemed "inappropriate." These quilts were made by women trying to work through issues such as breast cancer, racism, and abuse. ANYWAY, Mark is billed as, "The Bad Boy of Quilting" and he is SO funny. He came out on stage and the first thing he said was...well, the FIRST thing he said was from the wings when they were introducing him and he thought they were taking too long: "I'm waiting!" When he got out and the applause died down, he said, "Are you surprised by how fat I am? I always have them PhotoShop my picture until I'm at my goal weight!"

I loved everything Mark said and his quilts were wonderful—he uses lots of orange. He said he always thought quilters were women who wore "fashions by Helen Keller." He said color is irrelevant, but your values and tones need to be clear. He said to use your quilts, or your family won't want them because they won't mean anything to them when you're gone. He looks at things such as tiles and walls and says, "There's a quilt in there" (I do that all of the time!). He told a story of wanting to look thin at a funeral where he would see former coworkers, so he bought a girdle. He found out putting a girdle on AFTER a shower is not a good idea, and neither is pulling it up over hairy legs. Mark showed his first few quilts, one of which had come apart at the seams because he didn't think a quarter-inch seam was necessary. Split pants when he wasn't wearing underwear (after leaving Puyallup's 2009 SewExpo), what happens when you buy lip balm in a Bath & Body Works at the airport . . . his stories had poor Diana laughing and coughing so hard I thought she might quit breathing. I thought I was going to literally pee my pants from laughing, but no way was I getting up out of my seat, as when a woman stood up to go to the bathroom, he said, "Where YOU going?" Even though he had a missing quilt for several years, which he eventually got back by looking at www.missingquilts.com, he never makes labels. The only label he ever made said, "Mark Lipinski 2005. If you steal this quilt, I'll kick your ass." That's funny, but I'm still making labels for my quilts. He talked about a product called "bistretch light interface," then said it used to be "gaystretch light." He jumped off the stage, came out and grabbed a woman's wrist, saying, "That's a gay joke, ma'am, didn't you get it? Okay, you have a pulse, you'll live."

Sue had already leaned over Diana and said to me, "He's the male Jill." Then Mark told a story about going to a quilt show with Kaffe Fassett, famous quilt- and fabric-designer. Kaffe looks at each quilt and examines it, thinks about it, looks some more, thinks about it some more. Mark said he runs through a quilt show saying, "Like it, like it, hate it, like it, like it, hate it, hate it, like it, like it, where's lunch?" Sue leaned over and said, "That clinches it!" (she's Mark, I'm Kaffe...it's awful for each of us to go to a quilt show with the other; she's shopping with vendors while I'm still looking at quilts in a row-by-row, orderly fashion!).

Mark Lipinski is smart, hilarious, and I love his fabric lines. He's got a couple of new magazines coming out ("Mark Lipinski's Create," "Mark Lipinski's Fabric Trends," and "Christmas 365") and I can hardly wait...Quilter's Home hasn't been the same since he left. You should read his blog about his SewExpo experience of last year (the split-pants-with-no-undies incident) at www.marklipinski.com. You'll have to scroll down a bit to get to the entry, but gracious, it's so worth your time. This is a man who was kicked off an online cross-stitch group because he was a rabble-rouser (his words); he was also kicked off an online "Dear Jane" list, but didn't say why. I'd love to hear that story!

When we got to Olympia, Diana, Sue, and I went to the Farmer's Market near the waterfront (second best in the Puget Sound area, right behind the Puyallup Market), then to Bayside (both stores, though the quilting store has moved into the fabric store since then), and to dinner. It was a great outing with my friends, and Mark Lipinski was the crowning jewel. If you ever get a chance to see him, don't hesitate for an instance...you will not regret it!

New Member

Carolyn Jones
2101 South 324th #150
Federal Way 98003
253-249-9513
Birthday June 2
No email

Recycled Members

Pam Pollinger
1464 South 302nd Street
Federal Way 98003
253-839-8561 home
Do not call after 9:00 p.m.
pampollinger56@hotmail.com
Birthday: July 21

Rebecca Keller
32617 Seventh Avenue SW
Federal Way 98023
253-661-2461 home
Do not call after 10:00 p.m.
RebeccaK56@yahoo.com
Birthday: June 28



Member Update:

Martha Lamerson now has email: lamer98003@earthlink.net
Barb Vander Weil's email has changed to: vanderweil66@yahoo.com

2011 Raffle Quilt / In-House Raffle / Skill Builder – Jean Snedden

We are off to a good start. I hope everyone has had fun going through their stash to participate in the effort. The plan is to get a good start at the work party that is planned.

The In-House Raffle (CQ members only) is off to a good start. Tickets will be available at the next meeting.

Skill Builder: I want to thank everyone who participated in this class and hope it was helpful. I will have more blocks in the future. If there are any blocks you're having trouble with, I can feature that skill; please let me know.

As I was backing my car up in the parking lot at The Quilt Barn in Puyallup, I noticed a license plate: "KY GAL".

I thought, "Why would you put that on your license plate?" Then I saw the frame around the plate: "Mississippi Man" was on the top and "Kentucky Woman" was on the bottom. That's the title of an old country song . . . I get it now.

However, I think the owner of the car should have used something other than the 2-letter abbreviation for the state of Kentucky. I thought she was saying she was a fan of a lubricant.

Summer Picnic/High Tea at the Wyckoff Rose Garden (19641 Fifth Avenue South, Des Moines 98148, June 24, 6:30 p.m.)

What to Wear....go crazy, make a wonderful hat, decorate it as you wish. You can wear period Dress, gloves etc. or wear jeans. If you are not into dressing up or wearing a hat...come and enjoy the party. Remember to wear sensible shoes...we are hoping for good weather and to have this outside.

Food to bring: cookies, finger sandwiches, cakes, any kind of food you think would be served at a High Tea. If you have a favorite tea, bring it. Bring along your favorite tea cup. Pray for good weather, all of you!

2010 CQ Retreat Schedule

Those who didn't attend the previous retreat may sign up first. Questions? Contact Janine Walker. Retreats are \$30 a night.

July 9-12

October 22-25

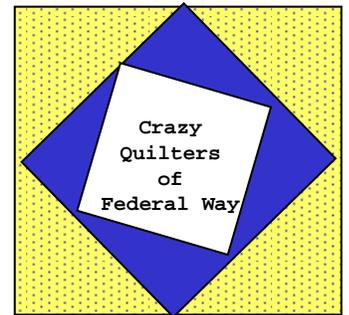
November 15-18



Reminder: if you'd like to attend a retreat, but find it to be a financial burden, the guild may be able to sponsor you. Contact Janine Walker.

Wear Your Badge! – Jill Ellis, Membership

At each meeting, please see me to sign in to the Membership Book. Signing in not only satisfies the insurance requirement to know who is present in case of an emergency, but you may also win a prize! At each Business meeting, I will draw a name from the members signed in, and if the person whose name is called is wearing her membership badge (one made of fabric, not the plastic one), a prize will be won! If I draw a name of someone not wearing her badge, there will be no winner for the month. **The winner of the prize for April was Margaret Roth!** If you need directions for making a badge, please see me.



Upcoming Events for Crazy Quilters

May 27	Business meeting, Emeritus (formerly Evergreen Lodge) 6-7 p.m., Social Hour; 7:00, start of meeting. Committee Reports, Show & Tell
June 10	Community Outreach sewing night June 10. Details will be discussed at the May business meeting.
June 24	Program Meeting: High Tea, Kathy Wyckoff's rose garden. See details this page.
Friday Friends (every Friday)	Join several club members every Friday, 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Milton Community Center, 1000 Laurel Street, Milton 98354 Bring your lunch, work on your unfinished projects or start a new one, and have fun with fellow Crazy Quilters. We generally do not meet the Friday before a major 3-day holiday such as July 4, Memorial Day, Labor Day, or if the Community Center is closed. Available for our use: iron and table top ironing board, large cutting mat and some rulers.

Project Cool for Back to School – Laura Coy

Project Cool for Back to School hopes to provide backpacks, school supplies, and gift certificates to 2000 homeless children in King County. For children with the uncertainty and chaos of homelessness, school can provide much-needed stability and consistency. When a child walks into their classroom on the first day of school equipped with the same supplies as every other student, they can feel more confident. By providing books, supplies, hygiene items, and gift certificates for new shoes, Project Cool works to make sure that children who are homeless are not stigmatized by their family's circumstances. There are two ways to help: donate money and / or donate school supplies.

Here is a list of supplies needed:

Crayola crayons, 24 count	Pencils, 12 count	Notebook paper, college- and wide-ruled
Crayola colored pencils, 12 count	Pencil pouches (flexible)	Index dividers for 3-ring binders
Crayola markers	Pink erasers	Small packets of tissue (Kleenex)
Highlighters	Two-pocket folders	Toothbrushes and toothpaste
Pens, black and blue	Spiral notebooks	Age-appropriate books

I will be collecting money and school supplies again this year. I don't have a deadline yet, but it will probably be the end of July. The state of local economy means that they cannot rely on some of the large contributions that local businesses have generously made to Project Cool in past years. They are prepared to deal with this challenge by relying greatly on community support to help bridge the gap.

If you have any questions, please call or email me. Laura Coy, 206-824-6087, quiltrose054@comcast.net. Thank you!

Women's Suffrage in Thurston County through Quilts, Textiles, and Traditional Women's Crafts

The Olympia League of Women Voters put on a celebration of women in Washington having the right to vote for 100 years (women got the right to vote in the United States in 1920, 10 years after Washington State). It was held in the Schmidt House in Tumwater; the Schmidt Family were the original owners of what became the Olympia Brewing Company. I went primarily to see the house (I love pocket doors, and surely a house built in 1904 has pocket doors!). The grounds of the house are beautiful. Women were strolling around in period dress (big hats, long sleeves, full skirts) and there were quilts circa 1910 hung in the downstairs rooms of the house. I made a beeline upstairs to look over as much of the house as was available for public view (sadly, only the 1st and 2nd floors, not the 3rd), then came downstairs in time for the program of the day, quilt appraisals by Beverly Dunivent, a quilt appraiser we've had as a speaker at Crazy Quilters. Bev had supplied the 1910-era quilts hung throughout the house, and her appraisals of what people brought were insightful and fun. It was a beautiful, sunny day. I got to see a lovely old house, beautiful old quilts, and went to three quilt shops before I went home (finally finding the exact material I was looking for at Gee-Gee's in Yelm) . . . my favorite kind of day!!!

Historic Quilts Celebrating Women's Political Issues Sought for an Upcoming Exhibit at the White River Valley Museum, August 11 through November 7

White River Valley Museum is a fully professional cultural heritage museum. They can provide transportation [*I assume this means they will pick up and return your quilt if you can't get there...ed.*] and insurance; quilts will be displayed out of reach of visitors and under the watchful eye of a guard. The gallery is maintained at a constant 70 degrees; lights are off most of the time and as low as possible during viewing hours; borrowed quilts are never in daylight.

Please contact Patricia Cosgrove (253-288-7437) if you have a quilt that celebrates women's political life; for example:

- Suffrage
- Women's political organizations
- Women's Christian Temperance Union
- Anti-war messages
- Clubs, unions, or other sisterhoods
- Patriotism, or other causes

Email an image of your quilt(s) to pcosgrove@auburnwa.gov by May 31. Anita Sheneberger, Guest Curator, will select up to 45 quilts for display. Emailed notification of her selections will be sent by June 8.

Questions? Call Patricia Cosgrove at 253-288-7437. They will photograph your quilt in the exhibit and return it to you with that image and label. Please share this request with other quilt collectors and quilt lovers!

Places to Go . . . Quilts to See!

How about a road trip? Near or far, there's a trip for you.



March 31- June 27: La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum, "Hardware" by the New Image Group Artists & "Collaborations" by Sharon Baker & Elaine Bowles. Meet Sharon Baker & Elaine Bowles at an Artist Reception April 10; 11- 2. Museum admission is \$5.00 per person, members and children under 12, free. Museum hours: April, 7 days/week, 10-5; May-June, Wednesday-Sunday, 11-5. La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum, 703 South 2nd Street, La Conner, WA 98257. Phone: 360-466-4288 or www.laconnerquilts.com

May 5-August 1: White River Valley Museum will honor the art and history of making lace with "Household Lace Adds Charm to Your Place: An Exhibit of Historic Bed, Bath, Table and Kitchen Lace." 918 "H" Street SE, Auburn. Open Wednesday through Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. Admission \$2, \$1 for seniors and children; free on Wednesdays and the 4th Sunday of the month. The Museum's number is 253-288-7433. www.wrvmuseum.org.

June 1-30: Comforters Quilt Guild's annual quilt show at the Puyallup Library. On June 10, there will be a free workshop from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., featuring quilt historian Jeannie Austin discussing and showing quilts from many different eras throughout American History. Puyallup Library, 324 South Meridian.

June 4-6: "Blast of Blooms," presented by Woolley Fiber Quilters. 200+ quilts, vendors, demonstrations. Admission \$3 donation. In conjunction with "Blast from the Past," Sedro-Woolley's premier downtown event: Live music, antique car show, street vendors. Downtown Sedro-Woolley; follow the signs, all on Metcalf Street. www.woolleyfiberquilters.blogspot.com.

June 12: Sun Country Quilt Festival, sponsored by Blockwatchers Quilters. Held in conjunction with Community Festival Days, Ephrata High school Gym, 333 Fourth Avenue NW, Ephrata. Saturday 10-6, admission \$2 donation. Over 250 quilts, demos, raffle quilts, door prizes, merchant mall, and food.

June 28: "Stuff or Stash Sale," annual sale sponsored by Evergreen Piecemakers. Ready to try a new hobby without a huge investment? We might have just what you're looking for! Remnants, notions, UFOs, collectibles, cross-stitch, scrap bags, tools, books, magazines, yarn, knitting, crocheting, treasures of all sorts. First Christian Church, 11717 SE 240th /street, Kent, 6 to 8 p.m. More info www.evergreenpiecemakers.com.

July 10: "Toledo Cheese Days Quilt Show," sponsored by Cowlitz Prairie Crazy Quilters. Toledo High School, 1200 State Highway 505, Saturday 10-4, Admission \$1.00. Raffle quilt, country store, special displays.

August 12-15: Association of Pacific West Quilters (used to be Association of Pacific Northwest Quilters) Summer Symposium. Evergreen State College Campus, Olympia. The Pacific West Quilt Show will be held in 2011, rather than this year; the new home will be the Tacoma Convention Center. info www.apwq.org or email info@apwq.org.

October 15-17: "Women's Voices," Celebrating the Many Ways Women Express Themselves, sponsored by Washington State Quilters Spokane Chapter. Over 600 quilted items, merchant mall, hourly demos, boutique of handmade items. Spokane County Fair & Expo Center, 404 North Havana, Spokane Valley, WA. Admission \$7 for all three days. Hours Friday and Saturday 10-7, Sunday 10-5. Info www.wsqspokane.org

Grandmothers Quilt – Found at www.bellaonline.com

Blocks of yellow and red and blue,
And brown and checkered and figured too
Pieced in a pattern prim and straight
Section to section, a perfect mate
Never a seam with a slighted space
Never a ruche or gathered place
Carefully wrought, and fair to see
Grandmother's quilt comes down to me.

Stitches even, short and fine
Set in a straight unbroken line
Each thread knotted with zealous care
Each seam fastened to hold and wear
Work of a wrinkled trembling hand
But carefully fashioned at first was planned
Fraught with a message may it be
Grandmother's quilt that comes to me.

Just a whisper of quiet days
Of humble duties and lowly ways
Of life as selfless and fine and true
As these wondrous blocks of brown and blue
Of something better than social foam
The quiet hours in a well kept home
Of lasting worth, may they teachings be-
Grandmother's quilt, come down to me

(from Grace Richard's Grandmother's Scrapbook,
over 100 years ago)

This is the stairway at The Harbor Star in East Tawas, MI.
Oh my, the ideas this gives me—like ripping out carpet!!



Minutes from the April business meeting – Pam Elliott (in place of Kathy Wyckoff)

Evergreen Lodge has changed its name to Emeritus.

Linda Hill announced she would not be assuming responsibility for any suggestions that were brought up. If you suggest an activity, then you assume responsibility as Committee Chairman. If you raise your hand that you like the idea, then you're acknowledging that you're willing to be part of the committee or work on the project.

The 2010 budget shortfall was discussed. There was a suggestion to have an auction this year. We voted to raffle the secondary quilt made from the remaining material from 2009 raffle quilt. Raffle will be for members only. Janine Walker will be chairman. It will be open for 3 months (May, June and July). Tickets will be \$5 each and the drawing will be at the July business meeting.

Reminder that annual dues (\$30) are due by the end of May. It was discussed and voted on that we reverse the decision to designate the \$5 increase in dues to the Speaker/Program fund and instead place it in the General fund.

Dee Lord reported it wasn't going to be possible to have the bazaar at Edgewood Grange. The decision was to not pursue it any further at this time.

Eileen Peacher volunteered to take the quilts to the Puyallup Fair for tying. Mici Wiggins will arrange to get the tickets and distribute to everyone signed up.

Colleen Linstead has volunteered to take over sunshine. Pam Elliott (me) was voted to be Vice President with Cathy Norgaard.

Summer flower garden and tea/picnic and business meeting for June will be swapped. Business meeting will be June 10 and picnic will be June 24. No restrictions on hats for the contest.

If you would like to be a part of the Block in a Box or the Corny Rows, please contact Gail Woods. The list will be distributed at the May business meeting.

Cheryl Belcher presented four quilts to the Jennifer Beach Foundation. They were extremely grateful and commented on how beautiful the quilts were. Thanks, Cheryl, and everyone who worked on the quilts.

Jill Ellis will have questionnaires for anyone wishing to be part of the Secret Pals. She also has a sign-up sheet for anyone who would like to be a mentor to a new member.

Drawings:

Block of the month – Colleen Linstead

Community Block – Pat Larson

Fat Quarters – Connie Mayor

Badge – Margaret Roth

Show & Tell – it was impressive to see the creativity of everyone and inspiring, as well.

Stash Bash – Jill Ellis

May 27, the winners of the Stash Bash contest will be announced, with the list posted in the June newsletter (I don't want to give it away before this week's Business meeting!). We will also determine if we want this to be an ongoing challenge, and perhaps change the rules a bit.

Quilt Buddy Program – Jill Ellis

I've had a few ladies volunteer to be a mentor for the Quilt Buddy program, and a few people who've said they would be interested in having a Quilt Buddy. Thank you for volunteering, Crazy Quilters!

So far we don't have anyone waiting for a Quilt Buddy. I would like to have a few names, though, of people who would "buddy" new members, so we have some ready when they join. Every new person who comes into the guild would be assigned one person who would be their go-to woman. The senior member would tell the newbie how things work, such as retreats, Block of the Month, when to bring treats, etc., plus introduce them to other members and include them at your table at the meetings. It's hard to join a group when you know no one, and this would help new members feel more welcome and get them into the swing of things quickly.

If you'd like to be a Quilt Buddy, please let me know. I think it will be a rewarding experience for new and old members alike!!

Quilts and Other Comforts – Jill Ellis

When I first started making quilts in 1990, there was a quilting catalogue called, “Quilts and Other Comforts.” That phrase has been running through my head for the past few weeks. I found myself thinking it as a kind of mantra, “quilts and other comforts, quilts and other comforts, quilts and other comforts.”

On April 22, 30 minutes before I left for the Crazy Quilters Business meeting, my mom called to tell me the lump she'd found while on vacation in March had indeed turned out to be breast cancer. That “C” word is scary enough; combine it with “breast” and it's the fear of every woman. I asked questions, listened as Mom told me of upcoming appointments with the surgeon and that she thought she would end up deciding to have a double mastectomy, just to be safe. Mom wasn't being emotional, so I wasn't either. When I hung up the phone, I thought about crying my eyes out, but I had an obligation, so I blanked my mind and I went to the business meeting. I remember discussing certain things and I remember voting for certain things, but at one point, I looked around at a bunch of hands stuck up in the air and thought, “What the hell are we voting on now?” Mici leaned over once and said, “Did you hear that? That was so funny!” I had no idea what she was talking about. I do remember telling Eileen my mom had breast cancer, and I remember telling Beth, because Beth went through a lumpectomy a few years ago and she's my mom's age, and I wanted to cry with my mom, but I was going to be strong for her, so I cried a bit with Beth. Anyway, the next week, I emailed Linda, our president, and asked her what I needed to put in the newsletter, because I hadn't taken notes, and I had no clue.

My usual go-to thing for comfort is food. I'm sure you've all noticed I've gained a lot of weight in the past three years, and that's because I always turn to food when something stressful happens in my life. I turned to food this time—chocolate is always my first choice—but I also turned to my quilts and my fabric. Mom made me a quilt my senior year of high school, out of scraps from clothes she made me in junior high...I put that on the bed immediately. I stayed up to 11 most nights, sewing, even though I get up at 4 a.m. on work days. I made a baby quilt from leftover blocks from four years ago, and I pieced the back, but I haven't put the quilt together. I sewed strips from our 2.5-inch strip exchange, for hours on end. I ironed them and cut them into blocks, but I didn't put them together into a top...that would have meant stopping to think, and I couldn't do that. I sewed 9-patches together, from our exchange of several years ago. I can't make up my mind as to what pattern to use, so I'm using four patterns and will put them all in one quilt. I worked on two of those patterns, sewing 9-patches together for hours, but I didn't make the blocks...no thinking, no thinking. I searched for solids to make a quilt from Kathy Wierzbicki's book (when Kathy was our program in March, she said her last name sounds like ‘Where's Becky?’ and I kept thinking that over and over, ‘where's Becky, where's Becky’...that made me smile inside). I pieced a back for a two-year-old UFO. I arranged blocks for two other UFOs. I took out the center of a top I'd made after noticing two blocks were turned wrong; that required concentration, so no thinking about anything else. I ate M&Ms and Hershey's Kisses and Mint Chocolate Chips and lots of cheese. I cut scraps into 1.5-inch squares for a project I've been working on for awhile. I cut 2.5-inch squares from scraps. I sorted bobbins, organized fabric, looked through quilt books, refolded quilts. I cut strips from scraps and made 10 blocks for the raffle quilt, sending them to last weekend's retreat via Sue Hopper to give to Jean Snedden.

I was supposed to go to the retreat, but Mom's double mastectomy was two days prior, so I canceled. Plus, my aunt Ella was coming on Friday to help Mom for two weeks, and I couldn't be gone the first two days she was here. Aunt Ella lives in Florida and is a nurse, and I was so grateful she came, even though my mom didn't want to be a burden and told her to stay home (Mom, Mom, Mom!!). Saturday after Aunt Ella got here, I spent the entire day at my parents' house, trying not to admonish Mom for being a stubborn patient. Sunday, I stayed home, doing laundry, working on this newsletter, catching up on all the things I put off this past week.

At first, I only told a few people about Mom's surgery, but eventually told more friends, as I really believe good thoughts floating through the air help. I was astounded by the outpouring of prayers and love and well wishes from my friends, a lot of whom had never met my mother. I'm not religious, but I do what I call “channeling good thoughts,” which included putting the quilt Mom made on my bed, and wearing the ring my grandmother gave me when I was 15, because Nana had breast cancer when she was 75 and survived another 17 years, passing away last year of good old-fashioned old age. The power of positive thinking, the love of my friends, the ability to lose myself in the MOUNTAINS of fabric and projects in my sewing room helped me tremendously during the past month. I was weepy all month, sometimes at the oddest moments, but never in front of Mom, never showed her how scared I was. She's doing great, will start chemo next month. Barbara Ellis is strong, practical, and stubborn, and it's never entered her mind she won't get through this and come out fine.

By the way, if you have a loved one undergoing cancer surgery, don't have a job interview the same morning. I think I conducted myself okay, but I don't remember any of the questions, nor the answers I gave. I don't think I'm getting THAT job. And after all that cutting and sewing and ironing, I now have a whole new pile of UFOs to deal with.

I saw these two words on Facebook, describing someone's quilt, and I loved them!
“Quiltabulous!” and “Stitchtastic!”

Community Outreach Block of the Month – May – Carol Berge

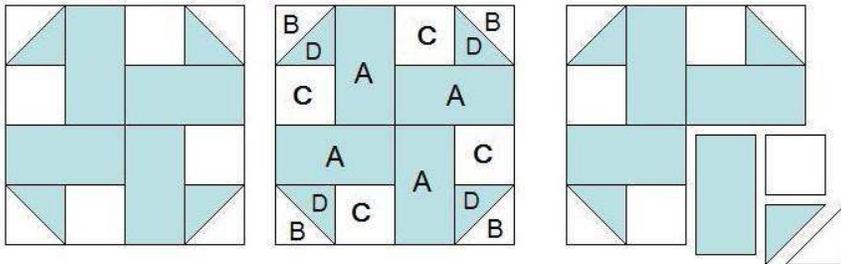
I personally want to thank the CQ members who are willing to support the community service program for our guild. Any and all help is wanted and appreciated. Su Jaynes has volunteered to help sew the CQ BOM tops together. This is quite a task at times, so thanks, Su.

Special mention to our long-armers who have given their valuable service in quilting the quilts. Just to mention a few, Barbara Lobdell, Diane Kellar, Michelle Bunker, Kay Thomas, Suzanna Gantt, Eileen Peacher & Sally Gillman. A special thanks to those that I have forgotten to mention {or not aware of}. These special quilts are generally used for auctions or raffle quilts that are requested by various area service organizations throughout the South King & Pierce County area.

Jean Snedden is volunteering to assist the guild in "skill building". This will build our quilting skills and correct our quilting sewing errors. Thanks, Jean, for helping the guild in this task.

For assistance in constructing the CQ BOM for this month, please contact me at 253-859-8913 or carol_berge@msn.com.

Community Service Block – May 2010: Zig-Zag Block – Due back June 23

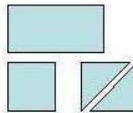


Please call Carol Berge, 253-859-8913, if you need assistance constructing your block.

Solid Green

A: Cut 4 $3\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$

D: Cut 2 $3\frac{7}{8}''$

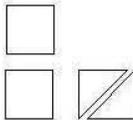


- Construct half-square triangles (HST) with B & D units. Square these units up to 3.5 inches.

Blue Print

C: Cut 4 $3\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3\frac{1}{2}''$

B: Cut 2 $3\frac{7}{8}''$



- Sew HST to C square.
- Sew B&D + C unit to A rectangle. Make 4.
- Construct as shown to form your block.

Found at chucklebros.com – Contributed by Sue Hopper



Secret Pal Program Starts in July – Jill Ellis

The way this will work is you will bring a gift for your Secret Pal to the Business Meeting, starting July 22. You don't have to spend a lot of money on your pal: fabric from your stash, a small packet of note cards, a small potted plant of their favorite flower, maybe even make a block a month so at the end of the six months they have enough for a wall hanging! We'll continue until the January 2011 business meeting, when we'll have our Big Reveal. At that meeting, you would bring the person who had your name a small thank-you gift. We used to do this in Crazy Quilters, and I've done it at other guilds, and it's a lot of fun.

If you would like to participate in the Secret Pal program, please fill out this questionnaire and get it back to me by the end of June. Since the newsletter is in PDF form and you can't modify it in any way, if you would **like an emailed copy sent to you, let me know** (jill.d.ellis@boeing.com). I will have paper copies at the June meetings, too.

Remember: This is not about how much money you spend, but about doing something to make someone happy, and about getting to know a fellow guild member! This will be so much fun!

Crazy Quilters Secret Pal Program – July to January

Name:

Email:

Address:

Birthday:

Name of spouse/significant other:

Anniversary:

Kids' names & ages:

Pets?:

Favorite colors/themes to use in quilts:

Least favorite colors to use in quilts:

Favorite quilting techniques (appliqué, piecing, paper-piecing, etc.):

Favorite flowers / plant:

Other hobbies, interests, how you like to spend your spare time (continue on back if necessary):

Anything else you'd like your Secret Pal to know (continue on back if necessary):

Reminder: Our newsletter and guild are only as good as our guild members' contributions to them!

Published by Crazy Quilters of Federal Way 11 times per year.
Jill Ellis
Send material by email or call:

THREADS

The four-fold purpose of Crazy Quilters is to:

- ~ Promote the art of quilting and quilt making by workshops, lectures, and exhibitions offered to members and the general public;
- ~ Preserve the heritage of quilt making and quilt appreciation;
- ~ Provide an information base for those interested in quilt making and related arts, and encourage excellence in those areas; and
- ~ Provide a source of inspiration and fellowship for quilt enthusiasts.



Threads
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