

Executive Board and Committee Chairs

President's Pieces

Lines from Linda

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

- Linda Hill

Past President

- Janine Walker

Vice President

- Cathy Norgaard

- Pam Elliott

Secretary

- Kathy Wyckoff

Treasurer

- Nan Naubert

Membership/Newsletter

- Jill Ellis

253-927-1260

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Audit

- Teresa Koe

Block of the Month

- Eileen Peacher

Community Outreach

- Barb McClure

- Carol Berge

Email

- Mici Wiggins

Giggles

- Pat Down

Hospitality

- Pam Elliott

Liaison with Evergreen Lodge

- Barbara McClure

Librarian

- Susanna Gantt

Parliamentarian

- Nita Leiser

Retreats

- Janine Walker

- Laura Coy

- Kathy Wyckoff

Scrapbook

- Gail Woods

Storage Unit

- Janine Walker

Sunshine

- OPEN OPEN OPEN OPEN OPEN

Telephone

- Margaret Mortenson

Webmaster / Public Relations

- Agnes Rischar

Next month begins a new year for Crazy Quilters. I would like to take a minute to recap some of the highlights of the last year.

- Quilting skill building
- Fellowship
- Friendship building
- Laughter
- Business meetings with enthusiastic discussions followed by workable decisions
- Excellent, informative programs
- Extraordinary newsletter
- Block/Row in a Box
- Christmas stockings and gifts for residents of Evergreen
- Five Retreats throughout the year
- Summer picnic at Kathy's rose garden
- Potlucks with wonderful food
- Many Community Outreach donations
 - Raffle quilts
 - Organizations helping people in need
- Support of the MultiService Center
 - Gifts/decorations for Christmas House
 - Easter basket items
 - Clothing, food, baby items, books, etc.
 - Quilt for Auction
- UFO project
- Stash Basher project
- Fabulous show'n'tell
- Tying at the Puyallup Fair
- Many more that I can't think of right now

Take a few minutes to pat yourselves on the back because none of the above could have happened without you. Then thank all those people who made the above happen. Without their willingness Crazy Quilters would be just a humdrum organization with no real meaning. Our guild is successful because we have so many people volunteer for officers, committee chairs, and projects.

Please think of ways that YOU can make Crazy Quilters better in the coming year. I am sure there will be many opportunities. Each of us has something we can contribute. And don't feel shy or think that you cannot do anything. Helping each other is one of the great characteristics of CQ.

I would like to thank you for all you have done to make the last year fun for me as your president and I look forward to a new year with its blank slate waiting to be filled with new adventures.

Happy stitching and stretching.

May donations to the Multi-Service Center: household linens (sheets, pillowcases, towels, washcloths, etc.).

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

THANK YOU



Newsletter Contributors

Linda Hill

Barb McClure

Kathy Wyckoff

Mici Wiggins

Carol Berge

Sue Hopper

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

Fat-Quarter Exchange at Business Meetings – Marianna Garrett

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

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

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! The start of our year is May 1, so please see Jill Ellis to pay your membership dues for the 2010-11 year. The dues are \$30, payable to Crazy Quilters.

May 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!

Gail Woods	1
Mary Jo Knittel	1
Su Jaynes	11
Nancy Neff	25
Barb Angevine	27



.....
 • Quotable Quotes: Good friends are
 • like Quilts. They age with you, yet
 • never lose their warmth.
 •

Residents of Evergreen Lodge 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.

Community Outreach – April – Barb McClure

Happy Spring! The trees have blossomed and leaves are appearing. The sun is shining half the time (remember, we are in Washington). Most of the bulbs have burst into color, except the tulips we used to have in our back yard. We had a 4-legged intruder between Christmas and New Year's while we were on vacation visiting our family in Arizona. We believe a squirrel may have had a feast by digging up the bulbs. Maybe he thought they were "nuts". Garden soil was scattered everywhere. There were tunnels and gouges where the tulip bulbs used to be. We had planted three different kinds of bulbs, one of which was three dozen tulips. They must have been tastier than the other types of bulbs because they are missing now. Does this remind you of a fairy tale when you were young? The other two types of bulbs have bloomed and they are gorgeous! A few days ago I did spot a lonely survivor from the "Tulip Massacre". Ha-Ha Mr. Squirrel, you missed one!

A little over a month ago, Kathy Wyckoff and I were in a sewing class and I was bemoaning the fact that the new owners of Evergreen Lodge were not giving the residents anything special for Easter. In the past years we have donated miniature toiletries to go with whatever the other owners were giving. Kathy and I began tossing ideas back and forth but we also thought that making anything at such a late date wasn't possible. A little while later Kathy came up to me and asked what I thought of "this"? "This" was a white felt bunny, very similar to a snowman, but this one had 3" long ears! She also had the idea of cutting a slot in the back of the lower body to insert a small shampoo or lotion bottle. Less than a week later I called Peggy Pierce and Kathy to ask if they could come over and help me finish the bunnies I had left to sew and decorate. Of course the first thing Kathy exclaimed over the phone was, "You what?" I told her the bunny she designed was so cute I couldn't wait until next year to start making them! Kathy, the hot glue goddess, Peggy the sewing whiz and I finished them in a few hours. Thanks to both of you! The only "bump in the road" we came across was the fact that the miniature soaps, lotions and shampoos we had were already donated to Multi-Services. I originally assumed we didn't need anymore of them until later this year. As usual, Crazy Quilters came to the rescue after a plea at the last moment for more miniature toiletries that allowed us to fill the bunny tummies and complete the Easter project for the residents at Evergreen Lodge.

Thank you again for your continued support.

2011 Raffle Quilt – Jean Snedden

This year we will be making an Indian Hatchet for our raffle quilt. I am asking that as many as possible make a strip out of scraps. Each strip should be 1.5 to 2.5 inches wide and 5 inches long. Using ¼-inch seams, make a strip approximately 10 inches long. These should be done and brought to the next two meetings. A work group will be set up to trim the strips and again they will be passed out to finish by adding two ends. Questions: call or email Jean Snedden, 253-761-0412, jsnedden@myway.com.

CQ Member Recipes

A few years ago, recipes were submitted for a CQ cookbook. At the February business meeting, it was decided to put the recipes on the website, and also to print copies for those who don't have computer access. Mici Wiggins will be accepting e-mailed recipes ONLY (so she doesn't have to retype them) to include in the cookbook. Get your recipes to Mici by the end of April. Her email is www.michelle.a.wiggins@boeing.com.

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.

May 21-24
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.

New Member...please make Sue feel welcome!

Sue Smith
2101 South 324th Street #207
Federal Way 98003
Phone: 775-354-5430
Birthday: September 5
email: quiltrgrandma@yahoo.com (no "e" in quiltr)

Member Update:

Jane Knudtson is now Jane Miller
New phone: 253-517-5323
New email: Karlandjane@comcast.net



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.

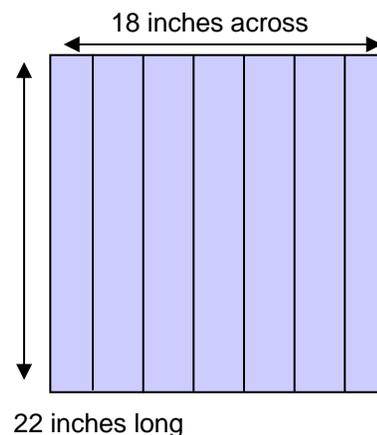
Joining American Patchwork & Quilting in support of the One Million Pillowcase challenge are 2010 sponsors: BERNINA, AccuQuilt, Clothworks, Handi Quilter, Moda, Paintbrush Studio, Presencia, Red Rooster Fabrics, RJR Fabrics, Robert Kaufman, The Fabric Shop Network, and Timeless Treasures.

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

2.5-inch Strips Exchange at Business Meetings – Jill Ellis

April will be the last month for the strip exchange....

Cutting directions: Lay your fat quarter down so the **18-inch sides are across the top and bottom**. Cut seven 2.5-inch strips from that fat quarter, so they will be 2.5 x 22 inches. Cut 10 fat quarters into strips, then put them into 7 piles of 10. Put your 7 bundles of strips into a large Ziplock or paper bag with your name on it and bring it to the business meeting. There are a lot of patterns calling for strips, and I'd be happy to provide info on some of those. You can also go to www.quiltville.com for good ideas on using 2.5-inch strips.



Stash Bash – Jill Ellis

Using only your stash, create something wonderful. You can purchase fabric for the four Bs (back, borders, binding, and batting), but the fabric for the rest of the top has to come from what you already have, using nothing purchased or given to you after June 1, 2009.

Each item will be measured along all four sides and the total number of inches will be on the slip put in the drawing box (I will provide a tape measure at each meeting). Those with the highest amount of inches at the May 2010 business meeting will be winners (number of winners to be figured out later). The item must be complete, which means quilted and bound, in order to count as a finished item.

Great Websites for Quilters

- This website has lots of fun stuff: tons of free patterns (Archived Patterns & Archived Patterns 2), weekly quilting hints, free recipes, tips from fabric manufacturers on how to care for fabric, even a weekly Cleaning Tip (I didn't even glance at that one!). Sign up for the newsletter and all of the free weekly hints will be emailed to you. www.stitch-n-frame.net/cgi-bin/Store/store.cgi
- Lots of free patterns here: www.fabricfreedom.co.uk/QuiltsAndProjects.html
- If you're into folk-art quilts, this is the website for you (free patterns): www.this-n-thatfabrics.com/free_pattern.htm

WEAR YOUR BADGE!! – Jill Ellis, Membership

In March, a new process was started. Please see me to sign in as you come into the room. There will be a drawing some time during each business meeting; if you are wearing your Crazy Quilters name badge, one made of fabric (not the plastic ones), and your name is called, you will win a prize! Signing in also satisfies the insurance requirement to know who is present in case of fire or other emergency. **The winner of the prize for March was Martha Lamerson!** If you need directions for making a badge, please see me.

Upcoming Events for Crazy Quilters

April 22	Business meeting, Evergreen Lodge 6-7 p.m., Social Hour; 7:00, start of meeting. Committee Reports, Show & Tell, last night to turn in UFOs for 2009-10 contest.
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 & table top ironing board, large cutting mat & some rulers.
May 13	Mother's Day Potluck: Evergreen Lodge, 6:30 pm (NOTE earlier start time than regular meetings) . Bring your favorite dish and your mother for a fun evening.
May 27	Business meeting, Evergreen Lodge 6-7 p.m., Social Hour; 7:00, start of meeting. Committee Reports, Show & Tell
June 10 & 24	The June meetings will be reversed: The Business Meeting will be the first meeting of the month (June 10) and the program meeting will be the second meeting (June 24). The program will be a High Tea at Kathy Wyckoff's house in her rose garden. More details will be in the May newsletter.

Minutes from March Business Meeting – Kathy Wyckoff

Colleen Linstead has been ill if you have a chance drop her a line to let her know we are thinking of her.

We are so sorry to hear that Peggy Burgess is moving back to Tennessee soon. Peggy, we will miss you terribly but we all wish you well. Because of her move she will not be able to take the VP position but I am sure we will find someone to take her place.

Committee Chairs: If you are not continuing as chairman of your committee you must find a replacement for your position. Just let Linda Hill know who your replacement is. Also please let me know so I can put an announcement in the minutes.

FINANCIAL REPORT: submitted by Sonja Parisi. Current balance in checking is \$2272.79. Current balance in savings is \$3605.33. Quilt Raffle, fund-raiser expenses were \$392.26. Ticket sales were \$1737.00, which left a profit of \$1344.

Dues Increase: It was discussed and voted on that our dues be increased by \$5.00 a year. This increase will be added to the Speaker/Program Fund and used only for that. Annual Dues are now \$30.00 due by the end of May. We currently have 81 members.

Elections of Officers: Slate of Officers, President= Linda Hill: Vice President=Cathy Norgaard and (person to me named); Secretary= Kathy Wyckoff: Treasurer= Nan Naubert. PASSED by Acclimation.

Several people are interested in starting another Block in a Box Challenge. Approximately 10 people are interested: Marianna Garrett and Gail Woods will chair this and we will start in May.

Multi Service Center: April donations= items for the Homeless, personal items, razor, toothbrushes and tooth paste, Can openers, Plastic spoons and forks, Tea lights, candles, High energy foods, small soap, small shampoo, foods that don't need cooking and of course anything you wish to add to the list is appreciated too.

There (was) a Board Meeting April 15 at Mici's House; 6:30pm-for officers and committee chairs (last years and this years')

Quilts to be displayed at the Knutson Family Theater, June 30 to October. You will be without your quilt for 3 months while they are on display. Quilts must be to Linda Hill by May.

Jennifer Beach Foundation (child advocate) has requested four quilts for the children in the program Children from 5 to 12 years old are in the program both boys and girls. Cheryl Belcher is chair of this project. Thank you Cheryl. Cheryl reported on her conversations with foundation people and a plan is in place. Jill donated 100+ yards of fabric for this project; Jill.....many thanks from all of us for your generosity. Such fun and bright fabric, I know the kids will love it.

Next Retreat is May 21-24. See Janine Walker to sign up.

Summer Picnic is scheduled for June 24 at Kathy and Jeff Wyckoff's Rose Garden (again) this year; we will pray for better weather and more roses. The event will be a HIGH TEA and Hat Parade. Mici called it a GIRLY THING! If you choose to participate in the Hat Parade, participants will wear their beautifully decorated hats (and gloves) as in Olden times. You can decorate your own hats in any fashion you wish and we will all enjoy the show. Food for this Event will be finger foods, such as Hors d'oeuvres, finger sandwiches, cookies, relish trays, petit fours, cake/desserts, fruit...anything you can easily eat. Of course, if you want a FULL-ON Banquet Buffet, we can discuss it further.

New Block of the Month: Diane Kellar did embroidery in center square to go with pieced blocks. They are \$1.50 each this month. (Thank you Diane, for your extra effort this month....WOW!)

Community Outreach: Pattern in Newsletter. Black and White blocks.

Drawings: Block of the Month, won by Jill Ellis; Community Outreach, won by Pat Larson; Fat Quarters, won by Peggy Pierce

SHOW & TELL: Once again I was blown away! Thank all of you for bringing in your treasures for all of us to see.

Jill Ellis brought up the idea of a Secret Pal program. Secret Pals would give their pals card for special occasions and small gifts if they want to. Reveal at the Christmas Banquet. Jill will write up something for the newsletter to see if there's interest.

UFO Challenge ends in April.....make sure your projects are done and noted.

Mothers Day Pot Luck is in May (program meeting).

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

April 1-30, "Of Your Hands" Quilt Show, all Pacific Fabrics stores. Here's your chance to enter a Quilt Show! Whether you're a quilting veteran or newbie, the Pacific Fabrics & Crafts "Of Your Hands" quilt show is a nice, friendly way to show off what you've made. Quilts are displayed in the stores, customers do the voting and you might win a prize! Quilts will be accepted at each store for entry March 22-29; voting and display will be April 1-23; winners will be on display April 24-30.

April 10-11, Purge Party Fabric Consignment Sale. Hours 10-5:00., Warren G. Magnusen Park, Workshop 30 (adjacent to Hangar 30), 7400 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle 98115. Cost: **FREE**

April 16-18, "Fabric of the Forest, "Rainfest 2010 sponsored by the West Olympic Council of the Arts (WOCA). Forks High School Auxiliary Gym, on Spartan Avenue across from Bank of America (Forks is small, so apparently they don't need addresses; interesting note: the brochure says, 'Home of *Twilight*.') Quilt classes and lecture by Roxanne Carter; must preregister for classes, held at Dept of Natural Resources Conference Center. The vendors look interesting. Quilt show hours Fri 12-6, Saturday 10-6, Sunday 12-4. Info www.piecemakerquiltclub.org

April 24, Quilter's Auction. Celebrate Washington Stars Quilt Guild's 10-year Anniversary. This auction fundraiser supports their ongoing missions of education, charity, and fun. Fun items for everyone! Dozens of baskets filled with treasures from the home and garden, with celebrity auctioneer, Mark Lipinski. Thurston County Fairgrounds, 3054 Carpenter Road SE, Lacy. Info www.WashingtonStars.net.

April 24-25, Hollywood Premiere Quilt Show, presented by Stray Threads Quilt Guild. The Hollywood Schoolhouse, 14810 NE 145th Street, Woodinville. Hours Saturday 9-6, Sunday 10-5. Info www.straythreads.org.

April 25, Project Linus Blanket Bee, Pacific Fabrics. If you can quilt, sew, knit, crochet, or tie a knot, go to a Pacific Fabrics store and help stitch up donated fabrics into blanket and quilts for Project Linus. They promise lots of fun, a chance to meet new friends, treats and the lasting smile you'll take home knowing that you made a difference in the life of a seriously ill or traumatized child. Noon to 5:00 p.m., any Pacific Fabrics.

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.

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 & Saturday 10-7, Sunday 10-5. Info www.wsqspokane.org

You Know You're a Quilter When ... – Contributed by Sue Hopper, from www.thequiltshow.com

You know you're a quilter when . . .

...you have more sewing machines than pots and pans!

...your kid is the only one in school with a homemade lunch bag.

...when you are on vacation and see the entire experience as examples of "that would be a great quilt" comments.

...when you reach in your purse and there are more sewing supplies in there than money.

...when you go out to dinner with your husband and he is the one with thread in his hair.

...when you have closets full of fabric instead of actual clothes.

...you try to convince your husband that a long-arm machine would be a good purchase and the perfect place to put it would be the living room in place of his big-screen TV!

...when you miss a meal while quilting and don't notice you are hungry.

...you look at a floor or a wall and moan because you don't have your camera with you AND your husband understands just what you mean and reminds you to use your phone to take the picture.

...you look at your computer screen and see 14 quilting-related icons.

...when you're working on a quilt and a new idea pops in your head, so you take a break from quilting to quilt.

...when you have made the cover for your racquetball paddle from a new quilting technique, just to try it.

Community Service Block of the Month – Carol Berge

I would like to thank the members who have been assisting in putting the community service blocks into quilt tops. Big thanks to Barb Lobdell, Su Jaynes & Kay Thomas.

Jean Snedden has volunteered to begin some skill-building quilt blocks for our guild. This month's block will be distributed by Jean. There will be a limited number of kits available to check out this month. Please give Jean a big hand for jumping in helping to enhance our sewing & quilting skills. Thanks, Jean.

Community Service – Skill Builder: Accurate ¼-inch Seams First in a Series to Enhance our Quilting Skills – Jean Snedden

Fabrics needed:

- print with red
- plain rust
- brown and yellow print
- yellow
- dark brown

Each piece should measure 2.5 x 10.5 inches

- Sew 1 to 2;
- Sew 1 & 2 to 3;
- Sew 1, 2 & 3 to 4;
- Sew 1, 2, 3, & 4 to 5.

How to get an accurate ¼-inch seam:

1. Measure from needle to ¼ inch on the right and put a mark, or mark with a piece of tape to the right of needle.
2. For best results, use a ¼-inch foot.
3. Draw a line on the wrong side of the material if necessary.

After sewing first seam, iron seam toward print with red.

After 2nd seam, iron seam toward print with red.

After you have three logs sewn together and ironed, with right side up measure the middle log. It should measure 2". If it does not then you will need to make an adjustment to obtain the required ¼ seam.

A scant ¼-inch seam is suggested to obtain the best results.

After you have obtained an accurate ¼-inch seam, continue to sew the logs together, ironing and measuring after each log is sewn on.

The finished block should measure 10.5 x 10.5.

Limited block kits will be provided at the meeting by Jean Snedden.

This month's block was contributed to the Community Outreach committee by Jean Snedden.

Secret Pal and Quilt Buddy Programs – Jill Ellis

I would like to start a Secret Pal program at Crazy Quilters. This is something we did when I first joined the guild and it was a lot of fun. Participants will fill out a survey of their interests and favorite things, and that info will be used by their Secret Pal every month. 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 6 months they have enough for a wall hanging! Secret Pal gifts would be brought to each business meeting. I'd like to start this in June, have it continue for 6 months, and have the reveal at the Christmas party. Let's discuss this at the April business meeting, and in May, I'll have forms for those who want to participate.

I would also like to start a Quilt Buddy program. 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!!**

World's Biggest Hexagon Quilt Update (by Judie Bellingham, quilting editor, www.bellaonline.com)

The organisation for the World's Biggest Hexagon Quilt has become "bigger than Ben Hur", and I mean that literally. I had the utter pleasure to be treated to a peak preview of the quilt as it has been created so far and it is absolutely mind blowing.

Last Tuesday, Gail Chalker, the Leader in Chief, addressed the monthly meeting of the Queensland Quilters Inc (*Australia*), and gave us an update on how the quilt is growing and expectations of a final size.

The original plan was to have a quilt that would measure approximately 15 metres (that's about 49 feet in imperial measurement). That's a pretty big quilt would you agree? Well, up to last Tuesday the 9th February, the anticipated finished length will be 120 metres (393 feet) and will weigh approximately 120 kilos (264 pounds)!! That's completely massive! Little did Gail and her team realise the response they would receive, not only from quilters in Queensland, or Australia, but around the world. Word has travelled through many blogs and websites and it has been totally overwhelming the number of rosettes that have been received from just about every nook and cranny around the world.

More than 11,000 rosettes have been received. The youngest participant to date is a little girl aged 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ years of age. The oldest participant to date is a 92-year-old young lady who resides in a nursing home. There has only been one male to participate (as far as they can tell), a 17-year-old young man who made a hexagon with his grandma.

So, how is the group going with putting these received rosettes into a quilt? Well, Gail has her core team of 5 stitching feverishly away, and to supplement them, has invited any quilters who can, to travel to her quilt shop in Gatton, Queensland, and spend the day putting some rosettes together. Gail will happily provide morning and afternoon tea, as well as a hearty lunch to those who volunteer their time and skills.

Many customers have been absolutely enthralled with the stitching party going on at Sew Creative throughout the day and have volunteered to join in for an hour or two. Gail has also "out-sourced" some stitching to various groups that have offered their services.

Some of the countries that have taken part in this event include USA (all states but Hawaii), China, Chile, Cyprus, The Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Uruguay, Montevideo, South Africa and of course, Australia. Aren't you all simply fantastic to participate world-wide. That's quilters for you, always keen to have a go!

Once the quilt has been official recognised by the Guinness Book of Records, and has been shown around the country at various quilt shows, it will be delicately resized into single-bed quilts and offered to nursing homes, hospices and various individuals around Australia. For related article and more pictures, go to <http://www.bellaonline.com/articles/art4580.asp> and click on "Related Articles" as the bottom.

A partial picture of the World's Largest Hexagon Quilt



Note these ladies have the quilt folded in half LENGTH-wise.



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.
Send material by email or call:
Jill Ellis

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
Crazy Quilters of Federal Way
P.O. Box 3002
Federal Way, WA 98063