



Quilt Talk

Gulf States Quilting Association Newsletter



Mary Gillette, Editor

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The President's Corner

Dear Quilting Friends,

“Remembering the Past, Looking to the Future” has been our theme this past year as GSQA celebrated 25 years of quilting excellence. We highlighted that theme at our terrific quilt show with its festive 25th birthday celebration, and at the general meetings with a display table full of albums, scrapbooks, and memorabilia. The teaching Seminar was fabulous, and the teacher selection committee has an impressive 2009 faculty lined up for March. Look for the Blue Book on our website now.

The October general meeting brought us to Belle Chasse, Louisiana. Thanks go to Mary Boudreaux, Lucy DeHarde and all of the New Orleans area guilds that helped to make this meeting a success. For our afternoon program, Lucy gave the members of the board a challenge to construct a quilt consisting of a minimum of three state blocks. Each quilt was to represent a history of our lives, and as the stories unfolded so did the significance behind the choices made. There were tears of joy and tears of sadness as the heartwarming, and sometimes hilarious, stories were told. Many of us included a block for the state that we evacuated to after Hurricane Katrina! In keeping with the year’s theme, we certainly remembered our pasts.

As we look to the future, please join us in Houma for the January GSQA general meeting. The newly elected 2009 GSQA Board officers will be installed, and Lucy has promised another special program for our afternoon enjoyment. At that time, I will leave you in the capable hands of Bonnie Foto and the rest of our dedicated board members. I still have one more year in my term in the capacity of past-

president, and am therefore head of the nominating committee. Your suggestions and recommendations for 2010 board officers are most welcome.

The New Year is a perfect time to reflect on the many blessings in my life, and I count all of my special quilting friends among those blessings. Your limitless creativity and generosity inspire me every day. I leave you now with a quote that my college friend and fellow quilter Beth always adds to the end of her letters:

*One of Life’s greatest treasures
That God in His goodness sends,
Is the love that binds hearts together,
In the covenant known as friends.*

*Happy Quilting,
Jane Ramee*

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General Meeting

January 24, 2009

Houma, LA

(Hosted by The Quilting Niche, LLC, Cane Cutters Quilt Guild, Les Bon Temps Quilters, South Lafourche Quilters, and Rumples Quilts)

General Meeting, 10:00am

Keep Those New Year's Resolutions!!

You WANT to make this meeting!! Overwhelmed by your stash? Can't find anything? This is the meeting for YOU! Professional organizer and avid quilter, Linda Griffith, will be sharing her practical tips to have an efficient, organized sewing area. You'll leave ready to go home and revamp your sewing space.

Location: Grace Lutheran Church, 4222 Valhi Blvd., Houma, LA 70360

Directions:

- **FROM** New Orleans, take Hwy 90 West, Exit 200, Hwy 311 South. **Travel** 8 miles to St. Charles Street, **Turn** right at the light and travel **6/10ths** of a mile. **Turn** left on Valhi Blvd, drive **6/10ths** of a mile to Grace Lutheran Church on the left.
- **FROM** Morgan City, take Hwy 90 East, Exit 200, Hwy 311 South. **Travel** 8 miles to St. Charles Street, **Turn** right at the light and travel **6/10ths** of a mile. **Turn** left on Valhi Blvd, drive **6/10ths** of a mile to Grace Lutheran Church on the left.

Lunch will be offered...Soup, Salad, Sandwiches...for \$5.00, which will be collected the morning of the meeting.

Ways and Means News

A big thank you goes out to Calcasieu Cut-Ups for doing such a good job designing and selling the lotto blocks at the last two meetings!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Lotto Block winners:

Aunt Grace/30's	Lucy DeHarde
Civil War Reproduction	Elaine Gosselin
Batiks	Pat Mueschke
Black/white	Lucy DeHarde
Asian	Lucy DeHarde

Drawing for Bernina sewing machine donated by Village Fabrics in Baton Rouge.

Winner -- Glenda Hughes

Another thank you to Village Fabrics of Baton Rouge for graciously donating the Bernina for the raffle

We still have plenty of those hot-selling GSQA 25th Anniversary pins.

Stay tuned for some new GSQA merchandise for next year.

Starting in 2009 at our first general meeting, GSQA will be offering to sign you up for Fons and Porter's **Love of Quilting Magazine** for \$20 a year. If you already have a subscription we can renew it at the same price. I will be taking your name and address at the next meeting, and forward your check in for you. Please stop by the Ways and Means table to sign up. By the way, last year, they offered 2 free spools of thread and two free booklets to each person who starts new or renews their subscription! I wonder what freebies they'll send this coming year?

*Nina Delaune
Ways and Means Chair*

Membership News

Please make a note of an address change for one of our member shops. Three Notch Quilt Shoppe has moved to 161 W. Valley Street in Andalusia, AL, with the zip now being 36420. Her email is

Sharon@threenotchcottage.com and the web site is www.threenotchcottage.com.

As always, I'd like to remind our member guilds to notify the Membership Chair when your GSQA contact changes. The contact person must be a current GSQA member.

*Therese Springer
Membership Director*

GSQA Circuit Teachers

I would like to thank the membership of GSQA for allowing me to serve these past two years as your Circuit Teacher Chair and to tell you it has been great. I encourage each of you to take an active role in GSQA and serving on the board is very rewarding. The circuit teacher program will be handed over to Kathy Ayme at the General Meeting in Houma and I encourage everyone to welcome Kathy to the board.

As you begin the New Year think about your guild inviting one of our great teachers to your area for a fun sewing day. We all like to get together with friends and sew, and what would be better than sewing with a friend and learning something new.

I am off to finish some UFO's, hopefully. Happy quilting.

*Linda Pourciau
Circuit Teacher Chair*

GSQA 2010 Quilt Show

Greetings, Quilting Friends. The holidays are over, time to exhale and start thinking about the quilt show in June of 2010. Donations of charity quilts and silent auction items are trickling in. Have you started your quilt yet? My top is done and will be off to the quilter soon. My local guilds have started working on our entries.

I am sure that some of you have heard that Houston did not accept 2 person quilts this year. This will *not* be the case at the GSQA show. So if that stopped you from entering your quilt in Houston, please consider entering it in the next *Treasures of the Gulf States* show. As you know our location has changed and the new facility will have plenty of room to hang **all** your lovely quilts. Prefer not to have your quilt judged, no problem. Just let us know.

This will be our first show of GSQA's second quarter century. So please plan on participating. We can use all the help we can get. Again I would like to remind you that all profits help off-set seminar expenses and provide for other educational programs. So get involved. Sell opportunity tickets, make quilts, volunteer; attend the show with family and friends.

Keep your eye on this spot for more information as it becomes available. Thanks in advance for your support,

*Bonnie Foto and Elaine Hartman
Quilt Show Co-Directors*

P.O.E.

(Pursuit of Excellence)

Cindy Champagne will demonstrate a bag made of squares and it's reversible. She designed the bag herself and they are really pretty. They can be sewn up in a couple of hours. Be sure to plan to stay and watch. Cindy will have hand-outs for you to take home so you can make one for yourself and maybe a few as gifts. See ya there!

*Laura Robertson
POE Chairman*

Seminar Report

Our Seminar is coming up very soon; you'll be able to get the Blue Book from our website the week after Christmas. I will be ready to start receiving your registration forms to start our scheduling process. Remember our deadline for registration is January 28th.

We still need help in getting the goody bags for seminar and the angel pins for the people who help our teachers at each class, any help will be much appreciated. Hope to see you at Seminar in March.

Daniel LeBlanc
Seminar Co-Director

Note To Member Guilds

GSQA guilds: The annual roll call will be at the January general meeting. Be sure your contact information is correct with our Membership Director, Therese Springer at 228-223-1033 or email springerstc@bellsouth.net.

*Therese Springer
Membership Director*

And the winner is:

Congratulations to **Joyce Reed**, the 2009 Marion Maerke Scholarship Award winner. The Scholarship includes Seminar registration and class fees, room at the Marriott and an allowance for meals and travel.



Joyce Reed lives in Mobile, AL, and was nominated by the Azalea City Quilter's Guild of Mobile. The guild says, "She is an organizer, a creator, a leader and a worker. She is the member every guild wants and needs. She works with a bee that has made over 50 Project Linus quilts." She has been the guild's quilt show chairman for 2007 and is the chairman for the 2009 show. Joyce says, "My love of quilting began as a child when I slept under grandma's feed sack butterflies quilt." Her home is the meeting place for the Old Sew & Sews bee who make quilts for the Quilts of Valor and Project Linus programs. She is Azalea City Quilter's representative to GSQA, coordinating car pools to meetings and Seminar.

Joyce says, "I am definitely glad that I have discovered quilting and can merge my quilting with my volunteer work." Her goal in making quilts for others is to make a child smile or lift the spirits of a worried parent.

Congratulations also go to **Kathleen Chauvin** who was selected as "Alternate." She will receive her first choice of classes at the 2009 Seminar.

Kathleen Chauvin lives in Lafayette, LA, and was nominated by the Quilter's Guild of Acadienne' in Lafayette. "Kathleen was nominated because of her love of teaching quilting. She has worked on the Children in Need Committee, National Quilt Day, Home of the Brave project, Alzheimer's project and the annual retreat." Kathleen said after 20 years of teaching clothing construction, a life-changing event began after attending the Houston Quilt Festival. Quilting has been a major part in her care-giving times with her mother and in the loss of her husband, who was her biggest cheerleader.

Her quilting journey has taken her to Lafayette's sister city in France. She has a quilt on tour which was selected from the Marques de Lafayette Quilt show.

Every year since 1994, one of our members has received this scholarship to attend the GSQA Seminar. This scholarship, the highest tribute awarded to a GSQA member, is given in memory and honor of our Founder **Marion Maerke**.

Guild Member's News

Cane Cutters Quilt Guild made and donated 37 quilts with matching tote bags to MacDonnel Methodist Children's Home, 13 quilts to The Haven (battered women's shelter), and 4 lap quilts to local nursing home in Houma.

If you would like to add news to our "Guild Member's News", please forward your articles to the Quilt Talk Newsletter Editor.



PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGE

On November 29, 2008, a committee assembled from the Board met to review and recommend changes to the GSQA By-Laws and Policies. The following is a recommendation for change to Article VII, Section 13, which now reads:

“The *Pursuit of Excellence Chairman* shall plan and coordinate schedules of bimonthly educational classes for members; inform members of these activities through displays at general meetings, Quilt Talk and/or letters to chapters two weeks prior to the classes; keep a permanent file of all materials, supplies and reports pertinent to that office to be transferred to successor.”

The proposed article is:

“The *Pursuit of Excellence Chairman* shall plan and coordinate educational classes for members to be held quarterly; inform members of these activities through **Quilt Talk** and at quarterly meetings, and keep a permanent file of all the materials, supplies, and reports pertinent to the office to be transferred to his/her successor.”

This change will be brought to the floor at the January 2009 General Meeting for a vote. If you have any questions, please bring them up at the meeting or notify me prior to the meeting.

*Donna Downing
Historian*



Dear Quilting Diva's, in an effort to go green and save a tree, which seems to be on everyone's mind these days, we are asking that you send your email address to mary.gsqanewsltr@yahoo.com. The newsletter editor is collecting addresses for the sole purpose of the GSQA Newsletter mailing list. We hope to be able in the near future to offer you the newsletter via email as soon as it is available instead of having to wait for your mailman. In addition to this allowing us to be environmentally responsible we should be able to save hundreds if not thousands of dollars each year which will then be used to offer exciting new programs, classes and lectures for our membership. Many of you have made this suggestion and the board has been listening. Thanks to all of you who help keep the board on our toes with your wonderful ideas of ways to serve you.

*Bonnie Foto
President-Elect*

Spotlight on our GSQA Member Shops.....

Sew Can You
Traveling Vendor
Stonewall, LA
318-925-1780
star619@bellsouth.net

Sew Can You is a cottage industry owned and run by Debbie Stair of Stonewall, LA. While primarily an Alto's Quilt Cut -2 representative and educator, she also carries Kai scissors, quilting items (Alto rotary blades are the BEST!), patterns, books and kits by Bold Over Batiks and Toad U Sew. Based out of her home at 334 Deer Crossing, Stonewall, LA 70178, she travels to quilt shows and guild meetings in Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, East Texas and Alabama/Florida. She has taught quilting classes in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas. You can contact her at 318-925-1780 or star619@bellsouth.net. So look for her at local quilt shows/seminars. She has the best quality tools and loads of inspiration!

Scrap-Happy Quilter
2546 Williams Boulevard
Kenner, LA 70062
504-463-0094

Scrap-Happy is a warm and friendly shop with over 2500 bolts of fabric, a large majority, batiks! We also carry the entire palette of Moda Marbles. Classes are offered four (4) days a week, and, if you are interested in a technique not currently on the class list, our teachers will work with you in creating a special class. All of our classes are relaxed and laid back. You will find all of the teachers' samples simply gorgeous and extremely motivating. It's worth a trip just to check them out. We are always glad to offer advice and assistance whenever we can, so bring that UFO that has you puzzled, or that pattern that you can't figure out, and we will do our best to have you stitching again in no time. We, at Scrap-Happy, want all of our customers to feel like old friends the minute they walk through the door, and want you to feel comfortable and at home whenever you stop by.

Gulf States Quilting Association Membership Form

Membership Fees..... \$20.00 per year

Name: _____ phone: _____

Address: _____ email: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Are you a member of a quilt group in your area? Name _____

If you are interested in finding out about a local group, please indicate your geographical area.

In what aspects of quilt making are you interested? _____

Send membership form and check payable to GSQA to: **Therese Springer, Membership Director**
 8338 Kahala Drive
 Diamondhead, MS 39525-4023

April Newsletter deadline: March 7, 2009

Mark Your Calendars

<u>January 24, 2009</u>	General Meeting, Houma, LA
<u>February 7, 2009</u>	Golden Triangle Quilt Guild Luncheon and Quilt Auction, Beaumont, TX
<u>March 11-15, 2009</u>	Seminar, Marriott Hotel, Baton Rouge, LA
<u>April 18, 2009</u>	General Meeting, Birmingham, AL
<u>April 22-25, 2009</u>	AQS Quilt Show, Paducah, KY
<u>July 25, 2009</u>	General Meeting, Lafayette, LA
<u>October 15-18, 2009</u>	International Quilt Festival, Houston, TX



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Return Service Requested

DATED MATERIAL - DO NOT DELAY