



AUGUST 2014 - Newsletter

MEETING:

August is hot but inside the Chelsea, we were cool as cucumbers and the only hot thing was the inspiration and creative energy we got from each other. So we showed, told, and shared quilts and quilt related information. 25 folks were in attendance. A special guest brought her 20 year old son to the meeting to show off a T-shirt quilt she had had Sue make for him. It was a T-shirt quilt using Ts from many concerts the mom and son had been to together.

We displayed over 20 blocks that had been made for the raffle quilt which have now been added to the 20+ blocks made at the workshop. We need 81 all together, so there is still some work to be done. We do need all the blocks by the September meeting so we can gauge our readiness to put the top together at the fall workshop so if you have blocks done make sure you get them to Tina or Norma if you cannot get to September meeting.

Amazingly, while some members said they had been busy with assorted other things, many showed completed tops and quilts, some that had been a long time in the making. Betty, Norma, Janet G, Ann Marie, Nancy E., Tina, Nancy B., Ellen, Marianne, Lori, Kathy K., and Janice all had colorful pieces to share. And Peggy had four pieces although she had challenged herself to see just how small she could go in the making of a quilt. Looks like there will be a very nice display of doll size quilts at the show.

Diane F shared some information about Escher designs and we will be looking for some quilts using such tessellations as well as math driven designs for a grouping at the March show. Alisa noted that she taught a group of youngsters how to make tote bags out of old T-shirts this summer and Renate told us that Julia taught some teens how to make T-shirt quilts during her summer at Camp Hoover.

Folks have mentioned that there are still ideas floating out there for idiom ideas for our challenge (see below for those instructions). Ellen reported that her smoke damaged blue and white snowflake quilt may yet be salvaged. Hanging it out on a clothesline for many days has helped it lose much of the smoky smell but to wash the top and backing, all quilting will have to be removed and the quilt will have to be taken apart in a sort of "reverse quilting" step. This may be a very time consuming project.

Over the summer our members have visited quilt shops in DE, PA, and NH. Seems like whenever our folks are away, they look up shops in the areas that they visit. Renate told us about a product called Quilting Paper. It is available at <http://www.goldenthreads.com/> or Connecting Threads. She was very pleased with how she was able to get her quilting design into her quilt by using this paper. Lori also told us that she used a "magic binding" method on the binding of her scrap quilt. There is a tutorial available on the internet - <http://www.freequiltpatterns.info/free-tutorial---susies-magic-binding.htm>.

Keep in mind that next meeting will be held on the 2nd Monday of September (8th) - not the 1st.

Fall workshop will take place on September 27, 2014, from 9 am to 3 pm at Willow Grove Presbyterian Church in Scotch Plains. Code for what to bring for pot luck luncheon will be in September newsletter.

SEW IN:

There will be a Sew-In this month on August 16 from 9 am to 1 pm at Cedarcroft Bible Chapel, Kenyon Avenue, South Plainfield. Bring along your sewing machine or any project you want to work on. Also bring a brown bag lunch for yourself. Coffee is provided. This is a great place to work on Block of the Month, do some cutting, or have the space to pin your quilt sandwich together to prepare it for the quilting. There will be a Sew In each month on the 3rd Saturday through the summer and fall.

CHALLENGE GUIDELINES:

"Sew to Speak" (originally a challenge by the Arlington chapter of Quilters Unlimited of Northern Virginia in 2012)

Make a quilt that interprets an idiom. An idiom is a figure of speech. It's a phrase whose common meaning differs from a literal interpretation of the words.

e.g. A duck is seen relaxing in a chair with his remote. Hence he is a "Sitting Duck."

The challenge is to illustrate an idiom literally or figuratively through piecing, appliquéd or embellishments. Ideally, the visual interpretation would be amusing or offer food for thought. Size: 100" or less perimeter.

Shape: your choice

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Sew In – August 16 at 9 am at the Cedarcroft Bible Chapel, Kenyon Avenue, South Plainfield

Next meeting – September 8 at 7 pm at the Chelsea

Workshop – September 27, 2014- 9 am to 3 pm at Willow Grove.