



SEPTEMBER 2014- Newsletter

MEETING:

It's September and back-to-school month brought out 29 members with lots of tales of summer adventures and kids graduations, weddings, and new jobs. Alisa had been to the Adirondacks where she bought more wool for her sweater making. She also went to the NJ Sheep and Wool Festival where she learned that Angora yarn comes from a fluffy bunny, and no, it does not hurt the bunnies when they blow on their fur to harvest the threads for yarn making. Alisa pointed out that there are just not enough hours in the day to do all the crafty things she wants to do and doesn't know where she can find the time to learn how to hook. Marcia has also been knitting and also reported that two of her kids are out of the nest on their own sharing a tiny apartment in Hoboken.

Betty told of a religious gathering of some 7000 women in Philadelphia where she felt a great sense of sharing and sense of community in a two day time of Bible study, singing and dancing. She also showed us a blue and yellow quilt that was almost done and she remarked that she had to be careful and "didn't have an inch to spare" as the shop where she had purchased the fabric burned down and she would not have been able to get more if what she had already was not enough to finish the top. A small padded finger pad she showed us generated enough interest that she will demonstrate how to make them at our workshop on 9/27 at Willow Grove Presbyterian Church.

There were reports that a number of folks are working on the Needle Nite charity quilts, some are making blue and cream blocks for the raffle quilt top, and some had Christmas quilts already in progress. Linda H is making a tessellation quilt and Lori took the pattern to work on one also. If any of you want to make one of these, and it looks like there may be enough to create a special category at the show, just contact Linda H via email. And Pat W's cathedral window just might be able to be seen at next meeting.

Marianne said that her mom picked out a modern pattern for Marianne to use in the making of a quilt for her. So again we see that the modern patterns may be here to stay. Just as we did last year, we are looking to have a small grouping of such modern patterns in the show. So if you would like to try a modern pattern quilt, this may be the time. Any of you who are interested could bring their modern pattern along to September workshop to share with others.

Andrea told us that she spent the summer with tendonitis in both arms and so her quilting was quite limited. She thought she was past the worst of it but when she returned to work, she found her hands tingling again. Cyndy spent much of the summer fighting Lyme's disease.

Linda B told us that one of the women who won a basket of fabric at last year's show wrote a note and returned the basket to us. The woman said she had enjoyed the fabric, had made a quilt for a new grandchild, and felt we might want the basket back to refill for another raffle in March. Linda also said

she is doing the quilting demo at the Lord Stirling Park in Basking Ridge on Sunday, October 5, 2014. She could use another one or two people to help out. It is a lovely family day with demos, food, etc. and the only thing you would have to do is sit and quilt all day from 10 am to 4 pm. Let Linda know if you can help her do this.

The Lord Stirling 1770s Festival

Return to the past and experience daily colonial life and craft industry at the annual Lord Stirling 1770s Festival. Colonial craftspeople ply their trades while a Town Crier announces the local news. A Revolutionary War Military detachment camps on the former estate lawn of Lord Stirling and conducts maneuvers. Stroll the grounds of "The Buildings" and tour Lord Stirling's personal 1762 wine cellar. The Lord Stirling 1770s Festival also features displays of authentic artifacts discovered on site by our archeological field project. Children of all ages enjoy the hayrides, clay crafts, stenciling, tin piercing, and colonial games. Experience what life was like here in the fall of 1770 and learn about our local Revolutionary War hero, Lord Stirling. Craft sales are prohibited to ensure an enjoyable and educational living history event. Snacks, lunch, and cold drinks are available. Suggested donation: \$5 per person. Sunday, October 5, 2014. 10:30am-4:30pm

We heard from member Carolyn in Texas this week and she is facing some health issues. Do keep her in your prayers and I will update with any news as it becomes available.

Lori just got back from a fabulous cruise to Alaska. And earlier in the summer, Linda G and her daughters took a trip to Italy. We learned that Renate will be away for five weeks in New Zealand at her brother's place there celebrating her mom's 85th birthday. Julia (Renate's daughter) is also in Israel right now and has discovered a fabric shop there.

Ellen went to Maryland to visit her son and daughter-in-law (baby is due in early October) as Ellen will be helping to run their bake shop after the baby comes. Well, they were so taken with things there that they will be renting out their Westfield house and have rented a cottage in North Beach, MD, to live in and this all is going to take place within the month. Ellen said, "It surprised us, too!" Tina suggested that we give the four Block of the Month blocks to Ellen as a going away gift.

Lynn took a two day workshop in New York City where she was introduced to using some different kinds of threads in her quilting. Lynn also may be the first to have finished her challenge, and her idiom was, "It comes with loose threads."

FALL WORKSHOP:

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 follows:

Last name starts with A to E - Please bring a salad

Last name starts with F to H - Please bring a dessert

Last name starts with I to Z - Please bring a casserole or dinner plate of sandwiches

SEW IN:

There will be a Sew-In this month on September 20 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, appliqué 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:

Next meeting: October 6, 2014 at the Chelsea in Fanwood.

Annual Quilt Show: March 28, 2014