

SEW WHAT'S NEW

Vol. I Issue 6, July 1, 2004 Edmond Quilt Guild, P O Box 1843, Edmond, Oklahoma 73083

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The Edmond Quilt Guild meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Memorial Road Church of Christ, 2221 East Memorial Road, Edmond, Oklahoma. Dues are \$20 per year or \$26 per year if you need the newsletter mailed to you. Mail your dues to the address above.



President's Report – Alice Kellogg

I am so pleased that we had a good turnout for Debra Reinhardt. Many of you know her and almost as many of you had fabric or blocks in her quilts. She is truly the “Queen of Trades” and we were so lucky that she volunteered to give us a program. Many thanks to my friend, Debra.

We will be offering our third workshop for this year. The project is a cute little tote bag and will be taught by Harriet Dedmon. I hope you saw the sample at the meeting. There is still plenty of room in the class. Cost is \$10 and will be offered morning and evening on July 16th (that is a Friday). If you didn't get a chance to sign up and you are interested in this workshop, give me a call and get on the list. My telephone number is 348-2233

I am looking forward to July's meeting. Until then here's keeping you in stitches....



Vice-President's Report – Judy Elliott

Those of you that missed the June meeting missed some great fun! Debra Reinhardt was an engaging speaker and it was fun to listen to her stories of all the various trades she has done over the years. She brought a wide variety of quilts all created from her trades. She introduced us to block exchanges, fabric swaps, themed exchanges, along with some guidelines for establishing exchanges and trades. A special treat was the guild members that have participated in trades with Debra – they brought their quilts for show and tell which added another dimension to Debra's trunk

Her presentation inspired several of us so much that we have decided to create some of our own fun for July! Read about the block lottery (no it is not considered gambling) elsewhere in this newsletter and join us for the fun at the July 20th meeting.

The **Road to Oklahoma Shop Hop** has been held since our last meeting, June 17th-20th. I'm certain lots of guild members are now sitting at home combing through all the great fabric purchases made while they traveled to these seven stores. I know I am. I completed the route for the first time and I was impressed with the variety in each of these stores. Each store had it's own personality and the selections of fabrics and supplies was impressive. I would encourage each of you to make the route at least once, to know what's available to you within a few hours drive. Even though the shop hop is over, I'm certain they would welcome your visit.

Our vendor for the June meeting was The Quilting Post from Perkins, Oklahoma. They were also a participant in the shop hop; thank you Darlene and Joyce for coming and vending for us while in the midst of getting ready for the stampeding hordes of eager quilters.

Remember to check out the Omniplex for the Quiltometry show there running to August 15th. We have guild members that have won prizes including Best of Show! Drag your family too- they can check out the Grossology exhibit while you check out the quilts!

I look forward to seeing everyone for the next meeting. Happy quilting!



Warm Fuzzy Report – Janet Noever

Our committee was just so very pleased with all of the wonderful donations so many of you made to help us in our work to give a "warm fuzzy" to those in need of a special hug. The outpouring of generosity from the guild members when we "passed the hat" was also extremely gratifying. If you weren't present at the June meeting, you can still help us with your cash donation at any future meeting. Make checks out to EQG and stipulate "Warm Fuzzy Committee."

By early fall, we will have kits for those of you who can't come to our "sew-ins" to "check out" to make a quilt and return it to the guild.

Next Warm Fuzzy Sew-Ins:

Bring your sewing machine and equipment:

Sun, July 18th St Monica's Catholic Church, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. 2001 N. Western Ave. Edmond. (Parish Hall, south of main bldg. Church ½ mile North of Danforth on Western)

Wed, July 21st. Ruth Denny's sewing studio, from 10-3. 1605 Mill Creek Road, Edmond (between Santa Fe and Kelly on Sorghum Rd) bring your sack lunch.



Program Report – Joan Ballew

July 16th workshop – Harriet Dedmon will be teaching a Tote Bag made from fat quarters. Two sessions will be offered on Friday, July 16th – 9 a.m. to noon, and 7-10 p.m. The cost of the workshop is \$10. Contact Alice Kellogg for more details or to sign up.

July 20th – Sher Harnish from Texas will be speaking about making banners, fabric choices, layouts, sewing techniques, hanging, etc.

August 17th – Susan Masters will give a program on quilt labels. I've taken classes from Susan and she's a lot of fun.

September - Janet Noever Seminole Patchwork: The Mother of Quick Quiltmaking

October – Cindy Harp from Colorado.

November – Trish Pate

December – Make and Take it Ornament Projects

January 2005 – We're planning a special activity to celebrate the New Year

February – Trish Stewart – Joint meeting with Norman Guild

March – Nancy Barrett

Dates to remember:

July 15th Board Meeting

July 20th Guild Meeting

July 27th Articles for August newsletter due

July 23-24	NAQG (Norman Area Quilt Guild) Quilt Show “A Quilter’s Expedition” Cleveland County Fairgrounds 615 E Robinson Starts at 9 a.m. Admission is \$3.
September 9-11	Green Country Quilters Guild Tulsa Convention Center, 100 Civic Ctr Tulsa, OK 10 a.m. Doors Open
September 25	Fairview Quilt Festival Blackledge Auditorium 206 East Broadway Fairview, OK 9-5 \$5 admission
January 13-15	OKC Winter Quilt Show Cox Convention Center, OKC

** Quiltometry exhibit at the Omniplex runs June 3 through August 15.

**Ongoing quilt display at the Oklahoma Historical Society called “Hidden Stories”.
Free admission. The quilts will be there until October.



Membership Report – Trish Pate

Happy Birthday everyone!!! Have a happy and safe 4th of July and sew a lot.

July Birthdays

1 st	Cheryl Franklin
5 th	Debra Reinhardt
6 th	July Elliott
7 th	Barbara Tobin
11 th	Pat Sherman
15 th	Brenda Esslinger
15 th	Karen Hugo
17 th	Sheila Ferris
21 st	Tori Swenson
21 st	Dorothy Wingfield
25 th	Laura James
25 th	Renee Ross
30 th	Brenda Williams
31 st	Susie McCown



Special Report – Judy Elliott

What the heck is a “Swap”? Webster’s defines “SWAP” as “*the act or process of exchanging one thing for another*”. In the case of quilters, swaps can include the exchange of blocks, fabric, or even the quilt’s actual completion, as in round robins.

Block swaps and trades depend on the guidelines and instructions provided by the organizer. It is these guidelines that form the foundation and rules of the block swap. Guidelines can be general, simple instructions such as “make a basket block in any technique, 9 inch finished size” or a theme such as “rabbits” which leaves a lot of room for developing some fun, creative blocks. Do you want to do appliqué, paper piecing, patchwork, fused, batik fabrics, reproduction fabrics...and so on. Simple instructions can leave questions that the participant must answer for themselves (what colors, what techniques, how detailed, etc.) which can result in a wonderful variety in the blocks exchanged. It also forces the creative juices of the block recipients – how do you put together appliqué batiks with paper pieced reproductions or how to put together blocks of significantly differing prints? Participants of swaps with limited guidelines and instructions should feel comfortable with not knowing what will arrive while feeling excited about the possibilities!

Other swaps have more specific instructions to provide more guidelines for the participants. These instructions can be as formal as instructions about washing the fabric before sewing to specific color placements on blocks, such as a “9 inch log cabin block with burgundy in the middle and rotating colors of dark navy and light greens, each fabric being tone-on-tone or reading as solids, no two color prints” Specific instructions like these do increase the likelihood that the blocks will all look the same, although some surprises still do occur.

So, overall, the instructions for a swap depend on what the final outcome is to be and the participants involved. When four quilters are swapping blocks, they can maybe work with less guidelines; however, if 24 quilters are exchanging blocks, more guidelines may be a necessity to get the task done.

Some rules do apply though and should be remembered whenever doing a swap:

*Try to use good quality fabrics. We all get fabrics from Wal-Mart at times, but with swaps, participants should try to use better quality fabrics; having participants use better quality fabrics increases the ability of the blocks to better blend together. By this I mean, shrinkage, raveling, thread counts, etc are more similar, resulting in an overall better finished product.

- Depending on the size of the finished product, you still need to make all the required blocks. For example, if the finished quilt has 24 blocks, you still need to make 24 blocks. You may exchange away 20 of those blocks, but you will get 20 blocks back from your other participants.
- Have fun.

So, now that we have some basic information about swaps, why do we swap? Are we just not happy with our own fabrics or blocks? It obviously doesn't save time as we still need to do the same number of blocks as if we did it our self. So what's the draw to doing a swap?

Personally, I like swaps because it forces me out of my standard quilting mode. If left alone, I tend toward particular styles and fabric choices. Swaps have forced me to broaden my view of quilts and look at fabrics and blocks with new eyes. They force me to develop other quilting skills to keep up with the other participants. I don't tend toward watercolor quilts but completing a watercolor exchange has made me learn those skills; I may never make a watercolor quilt for myself, but I fully understand the workmanship and skill that goes into them. The same for brights – completing an exchange with neon bright colors has created a new appreciation for this color palette that has carried over to other quilts I've since made.

Swaps bring us together as quilters. They are opportunities to get to know other quilters around a shared fun task. They can establish new friendships. When can anyone have too many friends?

Swaps are always fun!

Now that everyone has read up on swaps and exchanges...let's take the plunge and have our first block exchange as a guild!!

This will be a **BLOCK LOTTERY**, Which is a variety of an exchange. For a block lottery, you can make as many blocks as you like. Everyone who made blocks puts their name in a hat. If you make 5 blocks, your name would go in 5 times; if you make 1 block, your name goes in once; you make 25 blocks, your name goes in 25 times. Get the picture? Depending on how industrious you choose to be depends on your chances to win. One name is drawn and that person is the winner of all the blocks. Now, if we end up with 50 blocks, we can draw for more winners, so that spreads the chances around even more.

The block parameters are as follows:

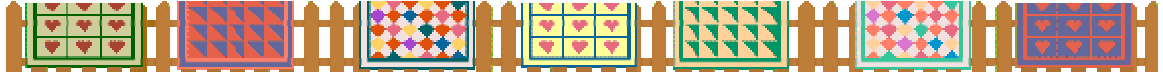
9 inch finished block (which means 9 ½ inches when you include the seam allowances)

Nine-Patch pattern in reds, whites, and blues that generally read as solid-ish colors. (We thought we would be patriotic since it is July)

Colors should be in middle and corners, with the side squares white. If you choose to use all three colors in one block, consider using the red in the middle point, and the blues on the corner points.

That's it! Once you make your blocks, remember to bring them to the July 20th meeting. We will have a table to drop off blocks and sign up for the drawing, which will be done during the meeting that night. So, someone should be able to go home with the makings of a great patriotic quilt when they leave that night.

Any questions, feel free to give me a holler. If you email me, make certain that you put EQG in the subject line or my computer will delete you as spam!



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