

SEW WHAT'S NEW

Vol. I Issue 8, September 1, 2004 Edmond Quilt Guild, P O Box 1843, Edmond, Oklahoma 73083

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Warm Fuzzy

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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

We are lucky to have so many talented members in our guild. Susan Masters is one of those people and she shared her insights and experience with us at the last meeting. Thank you, Susan, for stepping up and volunteering to give a program.

Congratulations to our 200th member, Pat O'Neil. We have grown so fast!

We have been moving right along in the guild and have some fun things coming up for the winter months. When spring arrives, we have BIG plans with shared speakers and special workshops. This will be a combined effort with several guilds and stitch groups. Because you are a member of this guild, you will have first choice of workshops and free admission to hear the upcoming national speakers. As the time grows nearer, we will have more information on these events.

Did you know that Hancocks offers a discount to guild members? Be sure to carry your membership card in your purse and show it to the cashier to receive a discount on your purchases.

Our own Joan Ballew has had her patterns published in a couple of national magazines, so it is no surprise that her method for making a log cabin quilt was selected by the House of White Birches as one of their featured designers in their latest book, *Creative Log Cabin Quilting*. If you would like to have a copy of this book, My Sister's Quilt will have a table set up at the back of the meeting room and Joan will have a "book signing" at the September meeting. Someday, you will be able to say, "Oh yeah, Joan Ballew, I knew her when...." Good job, Joan. We are proud of you.

I hope all of the winners of the 9-patches are working on their quilt tops. Mine is on the design wall and is slowly coming together. Let's see them in September!

Until then, here is keeping you in stitches....



Vice-President's Report – Judy Elliott

How many of us take quilt labeling, documentation and security for granted? I know that I do; and I suspect that the majority of us do. I admit I like to make fancy and unusual labels for the quilts I make but I don't go those extra steps that Susan Masters suggested and even encouraged us to take. I appreciated her sense of humor (the board has already put bids in for Keith), her enthusiasm, and her knowledge about quilt labels and security. She really brought home those things we intellectualize about, like fully documenting a quilt, but never seem to find the time to do.

Susan discussed types of documentation for quilts, showed the group examples, and gave us lots of reasons why we should be doing it for the generations to come. Imagine how happy anyone would be to stumble upon an antique quilt and know its complete history! Although I have only one of my grandmother's quilts, I have very limited information about it. I know it was well loved, well used, and passed down through two generations, but I have to guess who made it as my family historians are deceased.

Time moves along quickly and our generation is rapidly becoming the new family historians. We should remember that in two more generations, our own quilts could become those prized "antiques" found tucked away in a grocery store in Texas or crumpled up at some garage sale. Wouldn't it be nice if our children's children already had all the quilt's information at their fingertips? Maybe the quilts would be less likely to end up relegated to the garage as the oil rag. After all, I think it would be harder to put the quilt that grandma loving made for grandpa to celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary on the garage floor to catch oil than some nondescript, no history quilt. If nothing else, the guilt of using grandma's quilt in such an outrageous manner would be greater and weigh on that crazed grandchild's mind for much, much longer!

Along with suggestions for basic, minimal quilt label information, Susan provided some great ideas for quilt documentation

- -Include information in a pocket on the back of the quilt. She displayed a pocket label that contained letters, pictures, and other memorabilia relevant to her quilt.
- -Document what helped to inspire the quilt, whether it was a workshop, particular teacher or occasion.
- -Put the label upside down on the back corner so the "white glove ladies" can easily display it if you plan on showing the quilt.
- -Include your address and phone number on the label if you plan on mailing the quilt to shows, using it as a class sample, or displaying it somewhere not under your supervision. This way it shouldn't get lost in the shuffle.
- -Put quilt care instructions on quilts given to novice quilt owners.
- -Create a pillowcase for each quilt out of the scraps from the quilt; make extra blocks and include those in the pillow case. If your heirs need to make some future restorations, the extra fabric is right there and ready to go. Susan suggested washing the pillowcase whenever you wash the quilt so the two will weather together.
- -Include photos of the entire quilt on the label and/or in a quilt documentation notebook.
- -Start a notebook for a quilt record. Books are available commercially or you can create your own notebook. (Those who didn't make it to the guild meeting missed seeing Laura James' great notebook! She has a wonderful, thorough documentation system for her quilts.)
- -Get appraisals done on the extraordinary/exceptional value quilts. Appraisal should be done every three years as the market value can change. Appraisals are important as they document for insurance companies the true value of the quilt, establish a market value if you want to sell it, and may just give your grandchild another reason to not use your quilt on the garage floor!

Security was the other topic that Susan covered in her presentation. As we are all aware, over the past several years, quilts have definitely been experiencing a renaissance. They no longer reside solely in our hope chests and bedrooms as they have made their way to company boardrooms and private collections. Non-quilters are recognizing the value of quilts and the quilt industry is thriving like never before. While it's wonderful to see the resurgence of quilts, it also has brought the drawbacks. Quilts now have value of a different type to those not so well meaning.

I certainly recall the sense of anger and dismay I personally felt when I learned of the theft of the quilts from the 2002 Houston International Quilt Show. I was in the midst of planning for the COQG 2003 Quilt Show and a theft so many miles away even created strong ripples for this much smaller show in Oklahoma. Although we cannot always prevent theft, we can certainly take some basic steps to limit the risks and actually make our quilts less appealing to a thief (and, no, I'm not talking about our choice of fabrics or patterns!)

Suggestions made by Susan that address the security of our quilts included;

- -Sew the label on the quilt backing BEFORE the quilting, and quilt over it so the label can't be easily removed.
- -Piece the label right into the quilt backing, again so it can't be removed.
- -Label the front of the quilt in permanent ink (Didn't our mothers and grandmothers frequently write their names, dates, etc. on the front of the quilt? When did we relegate ourselves to the backs?)
- -Place a hidden label on your quilt; place your name address, number, etc at the same place on each quilt you make, whether it's under the sleeve, on the seam edge under the binding, or on the seam edges of a particular corner on the top back. This will be unknown to the thief but may help you reclaim a stolen quilt through proof of ownership.
- -As already mentioned, get appraisals for all extraordinary and exceptional value quilts.
- -Get insurance floaters to cover each quilt based on their appraisals. It won't stop the loss of a quilt but the sting will be less if you have a valuable quilt covered by insurance. Remember that most household policies consider quilts to be "blankets" and will reimburse as such unless you prove otherwise.
- -Make certain you understand your insurance coverage for your quilts once you get it: are the quilts covered in your car when traveling to shows or classes, while hanging at shows, in the mail, if Aunt Maude wants to hang your masterpiece at her house for her formal dinner party?
- -When mailing quilts, carefully choose what agency will do your mailing: don't use someone that drops and runs. Require an adult signature for receipt, get additional insurance up to the appraised value, put mailing labels inside the package, wrap the quilt in plastic in case the box gets wet in route and put mailing labels in the plastic bag too, and make sure there is a tracking system and track your quilt. You will probably not get reimbursed through the post office if your quilt gets lost, but all the extra steps you took when mailing it will come into play with your homeowners insurance and the floater you have taken out on the quilt.

Susan presented a lot of great and important information (which is probably why my article is longer than usual this month!) I plan to begin taking these extra steps for documentation and security. I would encourage others to start also. If nothing else, keep your quilts safe and document them well enough to keep them off the garage floor in the years to come!

By the way, our vendor for the August meeting was The Quilting Post from Perkins; thank you to Darlene and Joyce for coming. Our quilt-mercial was given by Anita Nethercutt of Redbud Tours.

Our program next meeting will be about Seminole patchwork so remember to bring your quilts that may augment Janet's presentation.

Till then, happy quilting....and remember to document!



Program Report – Joan Ballew

September – Don't miss Janet Noever - Seminole Patchwork: The Mother of Quick Quilt making. If you have examples of Seminole Patchwork – please bring them for show and share.

October – Cindy Harp from Colorado. She has promised a humorous talk on "Quilting Rules". She'll also be offering a workshop on "Las Vegas Wedding Ring". It looks like a lot of fun.

November – Trish Pate will be giving a lecture on "Road to Iowa". She has piqued my curiosity.

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

.**If any of you are interested in how we make connections with quilting teachers – locally and around the country, have internet access and are willing to surf, please let me know. My term of office ends with the December 2005 meeting, but we're hoping to "break in" a future program director in the next few months.

Dates to remember:

September 16	Board Meeting
September 21	Guild Meeting
September 28	Newsletter Articles Due
September 9-11	Green Country Quilters Guild Tulsa Convention Center, 100 Civic Ctr Tulsa, OK 10 a.m. open doors
September 25	Fairview Quilt Festival Blackledge Auditorium 206 East Broadway Fairview, OK 9-5 \$5 admission
October 8 –9	Watonga Cheese Festival- Heritage Quilt Show
January 13-15	OKC Winter Quilt Show Cox Convention Center, OKC

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



Membership Report – Trish Pate

We signed up our 204th member at the August meeting. Ninety-two ventured out into the hot summer evening to attend our guild meeting and to vie for some great door prizes. We just get more great things to give away every month.



September 2	Mary Foutch
September 3	Shirley Suttle
September 5	Deborah Knight
September 13	Linda Howard
September 15	Sharon Lancaster
September 16	Yvonne Hill
September 18	Terry Dean
September 20	Beverley Estlinbaum
September 21	Linda West
September 22	Joan Ballew
September 26	Susan Tripodi
	Carolyn Vanarsdel
September 28	Laura Beaver
September 30	Barbara Buettner
	Neva Hestand

PAT O'NEIL - OUR 200TH MEMBER!!!

Cathy Dawson, one of our charter members, has been acquainted with our 200^{th} member since 1987. Cathy and Pat took a quilting class together recently and during the class, Cathy invited Pat to come take a look at our guild. At the July guild meeting, Pat decided to become a member and she became our 200^{th} member. What a thrill to have so many interested quilters come

together from many different communities to share experiences and learn more about the art of quilting.

Pat O'Neil is a very accomplished seamstress. She is the mother of three daughters and has been married for 35 years. Both Pat and Cathy were honored at the August meeting and were given a supply of quilting treats. Some of the treats included a 2004 quilting calendar with full size patterns for each month, a fat quarter bag – complete with fat quarters, a little ruler on a chain, more fabric and a couple of books, including the book for next month's book signing, "Creative Log Cabin Quilting" featuring our own Joan Ballew. A big round of applause surrounded them as they buried their heads in looking at their goodies.

CONGRATULATIONS to both PAT O'NEIL AND CATHY DAWSON!



Warm Fuzzy Committee Report – Janet Noever

Over the last quarter the Committee has completed 16 baby/children's quilts. We have 26 finished tops – ready to be quilted. We have quilts that can be checked out to finish. Either you can take one to quilt or take a kit to make the top only. The sew-ins will resume this month on September 19th and September 22. This quarter we will be sewing quilts for the elderly and wheel chair occupants. Thanks everyone who helped this quarter by sewing, quilting, or donating to our baby shower.

**Special Interest Report – Nancy Bowers

I am part of a group call OP MALE (Operation Make A Life Enriched). We are all volunteers and are all over the United States. Our purpose is to provide support to our troops. We do this in lots of ways from being pen pals to sending them things whey they request them. This summer, I have been making neck cooler/cool ties/cool collar—pick a name. The group is attempting to make a quilt to send. It seems that is gets very cold in the desert at night. Someone has volunteered to put the quilts together, so what I would ask from our guild members is a 12 ½ unfinished block at the October meeting and then I would be willing to be in charge of shipping those to whoever is assembling them. No restrictions on color or pattern for the block. All 12 ½ inch orphan blocks would be great – providing our service men/women with something from home and reducing your stash at the same time. Please give these to me at the meeting.

SEPTEMBER BLOCK LOTTERY - CHURN DASH PATTERN - Judy Elliott

For those who attended the guild meeting, you already know that another block lottery is in the works. The first block lottery was so successful that the board thought we should try it again. Keeping in mind that some members of our guild are fairly new to quilting, we chose the first block with simple, straight seams. This time around, we wanted to introduce some new elements without getting too advanced in techniques. We also chose this block because it's a great old favorite of several of us!

The block chosen was the "Churn Dash". We'll stay with the 9 inch finished size (which means 9½ inches when you include the seam allowances). This time we will work with 2 colors – cream for the background and a fall color of your choosing. "Fall color" means any of those great colors typically seen during the fall...reds, oranges, burgundy, deep purples, browns, golds, along with the great fall prints available, leaves, etc. Prints or solids are okay for this block as long as they represent our fall colors.

Remember the lottery guidelines. For every block you bring, you will get your name put in the hat. Five blocks means your name goes in 5 times.

Blocks are due at the September 21st meeting.

By the way, for those of you that already received the instructions for the block at the guild meeting, I made a typo...this is not an exchange as was typed in the header, but a lottery. Look for the instructions on the Churn Dash Block on the Web Site, just click on Quilt Patterns.

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Outdoor Quilt Show, 5 Quilt Shops Overnight at Green Country Inn 2 breakfasts, scenic drive

Houston International Quilt Festival November 3-6, \$300

Charter bus transportation, 3 nights at Holiday Inn, Festival tickets for two days, 4 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 1 evening meal, Transportation to and from Festival