



North Pittsburgh Quilters Guild

Newsletter ~ January 2013

www.npqg.org



President's Message

Happy 2013 Everyone !!!

I hope that we all have a better year than last year ??

I would like to thank everyone who came to our fabulous, First Annual Christmas Pot Luck Dinner! And for bringing a wonderful array of tasty dishes! Loved it all! (Here is a photo of the very delicious cupcake cake brought by Carol Beck - there were many excellent desserts - but hey! - Penguins ! and not enough space to include pictures of all the great food!))



Thank you all for making it such a hit. At last count there were approximately 50 in attendance, about half our membership, and for those of you who had to miss it, you missed a great evening, with good friends and good food. I hope to see you all at the next event!!

As we look forward to another exciting New Year, Carol Hartman is in charge of the Program and has a great one planned for next week. The Business Meeting will be first (should be interesting since we did not have one in December), followed by Fat Quarter and Carol's Presentation. And Show 'N' Tell, so those of us who accomplished nothing (quilting/sewing wise) during the hectic Holiday Season can be inspired by those of you who did.

Jan Merritt, with lots of help, plans a great event for the February Meeting, and Louise Warner is busy with plans for the Community Service Meeting in March. (Please see following pages for more details).

Remember !

All of these meetings will be held **weather-permitting!** If there is a risk of snow, the meeting will be cancelled. It will be posted on the website in time to head off travel. **Or - check with a friend or - call Muriel (H - 412 366 3934 or Cell - 412 337 4048) or - call Jan (cell - 412 779 0284).**

See you all on Tuesday !!!
Muriel



The Gingerbread House was on display thanks to Patti Lisowski!



Fat Quarter ~~~~~

Here is a reminder for those who volunteered to supply the ever important refreshments!

Moira MacAvoy
Deb Thompson
Barb Turke
Lynn Noel
Sue Sebastian
Holly Panzera
Tricia McSorley

Thanks, Ladies!



Feedback in gratitude ~~~~~

*Dear North Pittsburgh Quilt Guild Members,
“Thank you” doesn’t adequately describe how overwhelmed I felt at our meeting in December.
The sheer outpouring of compassion, support, and love for the 3 mission opportunities the Guild chose to contribute to was **amazing!**
Your heartfelt caring and kindness in making so many contributions brought warmth and smiles to several families in need in our local community.
I am proud to be a member of such a wonderful organization who reaches out to those who are in need of assistance.
I remain humbled by your generosity,
Linda Williams*



And ~ don’t forget the Fabric Swap located on the back counter of the meeting room! Bring unwanted **fabrics/books/kits/magazines, etc.** from your stash to exchange for something **“new to you”!!!**

Any items left over will be donated to the Salvation Army for sale.

Thanks again for supporting this fun-exchange! ~~ **Linda Williams**



Also ~~~

These are some of the Hurricane Sandy Blocks that Cheryl McLaughlin sent to a project leader. She made special labels for the **70+ blocks** we made that said **“created by members of the North Pittsburgh Quilters Guild”** and these will be sewn to the backs of the quilts. Cheryl expressed her thanks and appreciation to all who participated.

Thanks again! **Loretta Crum**



Community Service Meeting ~~~

Our community service project for March will be journal covers for the residents on the **Mars Home for Youth**. The teenagers are required to complete journal entries as part of their continuing therapy. Black and white composition books are not very exciting. We will be making covers for them, and also providing the notebooks to be in the covers. I have requested one of the social workers from the facility to speak with our guild to explain about the facility and the programs it provides.

The students are both boys and girls, ages 9 - 17. Please check through your stash to see if you have any fabrics that are appropriate for this age group. It takes **1/2 yard** for each cover plus **1/8 yard** of one or two contrast fabrics. It also requires **1/2 yard** of flannel or lightweight batting. The covers can also be made of strips sewn together. Decorative stitching or stippling may also be added.

Our work session in the **March Meeting (March 5th)** will be in the assembly line style again.

We will be collecting fabric donations at the January and February Meetings so that preparations can be made for the work session in March.

~~~ **Louise Warner, Community Service**



**January 8th Meeting ~ Program to be presented by Carol Hartman.**

**Carol is preparing a meeting on the subject of Long-Arm Quilting.** Prepare to be enlightened and have your questions answered about this complicated process, by someone who definitely makes it look easy!

**February 5th Meeting ~ Quilting demonstrations ~ Jan Merritt and a Huge Supporting Cast !**

There are many things being planned here. In response to our ongoing desire to learn new things, we are trying to organize a system of educational tables where someone/anyone will be demonstrating assorted quilting and related techniques.

If you have any suggestions or requests, please feel free to contact me via email or I will have a suggestion clipboard at the January Meeting. If you are willing to be a demonstrator, please also let me know. I already have some volunteers, but will be soliciting a few more. The demonstrations do not have to be elaborate or long - there are time constraints.

**Also ~ we will be conducting an Orphan Block Exchange.**

by Orphan Blocks, I mean those random blocks we all have hanging around our sewing rooms - the ones you made, then somehow or other just couldn't get around to putting into a quilt? You couldn't give them a home? Or, maybe you inherited some from another quilter, or picked them up at a yard sale or flea market? You meant to do **something** with them but ..... At this time of year you don't need another resolution to finally get around to them cluttering your brain. And you can **never** throw them away!!

So, how about we set up a table and present an area where you can surrender your orphans, and adopt another? A fresh “face” may be a happy inspiration. Then you could go to the **Fabric Swap Counter** and rummage to your heart’s content for go-with fabrics? Could be a lot of fun!

If you are looking for more inspiration - we are researching the idea of using our Adopted blocks and turning them into lap quilts. I have been in touch with the VA and their inpatient setting welcomes the contribution of lap quilts gratefully.

I was told that they are having a special event on February 14 and would be happy to have lap quilts to present to the inpatients. It is too soon for our orphan quilts to happen, but anyone who is interested in preparing simple lap quilts for this event has plenty of time. I will have more information at the January meeting and I will be happy to collect and deliver them to the VA. I could collect at the February meeting and/or whatever other arrangements could be made.

A simple yet heart (and leg) warming endeavor to express our appreciation to our veterans, perhaps the loneliest ones - those confined to the nursing home....  
thanking you in advance.

Jan Merritt and Tricia McSorley



So, the plans are for everyone to be educated and inspired in some way in the next few months!!

Looking forward to seeing you at the meetings - weather permitting !

Happy New Year!!!