

NORTH PITTSBURGH QUILTERS GUILD

JANUARY 2014 NEWSLETTER

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Hello All,

I hope you are enjoying the holidays and plan to party hearty for New Years. Did you get all your sewing/quilting gifts finished or have you given a few IOU's like I did? For some strange reason, my family doesn't appreciate half-finished projects.

I want to thank Cheryl Kirchner again for making the great article in the McKnight Journal possible. She got Laurie Rees to come to our auction and write such an informative and heart-warming story about us. We hope to get her back before the quilt show. Thanks to all of you whose input made the article so interesting.. Hopefully, we will get some new visitors at our next meeting as a result.

Speaking of our next meeting, if the weather is bad enough to cancel a meeting, we will be sending out an email or phone call to those of you without email. We have some very knowledgeable guild members doing our January program. We are off to a great start for the coming year.

See you at the meeting! Donna

Community Service – Betty Kania

Thanks to all who have turned in your star blocks and donated fabrics. I would appreciate the remaining stars to be turned in at the January meeting. New kits will be available for Step 2 in finishing the blocks before the quilt tops are completed. The March meeting will be our workshop and hopefully we can compete our tops at that time. Thanks again.

Brrrrrrr – it's cold outside – Can't believe another year is gone!!!

Programs –Loretta Crum

January meeting: Lisa Sauer will talk about scrap quilting and share tips for organizing one's stash of scrap fabrics (remember the picture that Vivian Benton shared with us?); Carol Hartman will discuss how judges evaluate quilt show entries and what they look for in those award-winning quilts.

February meeting: Given the success of last year's round-robin, the Executive Committee thought that another one would be great this year. So far, I have three volunteers who will share techniques and tools with us. If you have a special tip or a new tool that makes your quilting work easier – or if you know someone who does but is too shy to come forward – please let me know. Email is loretta.crum@verizaon.net and phone is 412-366-1609.

New quilt shop: Marilyn Wilson (Wilson's Calico Corner) was a vendor at our 2012 show. While she wanted to participate in 2014, she has a prior commitment that conflicts with our new show dates and cannot be with us. She does want to remain on our list for 2016.

Marilyn has been in the Harrisburg area but has now found a permanent location for her shop in our area and has it pretty well up and running. She is now located at 1075 Main Street, Volant, PA 16156. Shop hours are Wednesday thru Friday, noon until 5:00 pm. Saturday hours are 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. If those times do not work for you and you want to make special arrangements to shop, call Marilyn at 610-730-5622.

Personal thought from Clarice – January's agenda gave me the reason I needed to leave all those plastic boxes, Macy boxes and plastic bags full of scraps just wherever they are. After learning Lisa's system for organizing, I will search the house from top to bottom and get organized. I am sure I am going to be surprised at what I gather.

Hospitality – Barbara Turke

The Hospitality Committee is requesting an Hors d'oeuvre or dessert for our Fat Quarter in January. Please send an email to Barbara.Turke@gmail.com if you can provide a food for our January 7th meeting. We're hoping for 10 contributions. Thank you in advance.

A gentle reminder – are you working on your quilt show quilt?

Sewing Advice

THEN	NOW
Prepare yourself mentally for sewing.	Wake up.
Think about what you are going to do.	Always keep a good stash of fabrics, patterns and notions ready so you can sew whatever you want, whenever the mood strikes.
Never approach sewing with a sigh or lackadaisically.	Save that attitude for housework.
Good results are difficult when indifference predominates.	Indifference is great when mending, repairing zippers, or shortening pants. If the results aren't good, people will stop asking.
Never try to sew with a sink full of dirty dishes or beds unmade.	This is good advice only if you sew with your machine in the sink or on the bed.
When there are urgent housekeeping chores, do these first so your mind is free to enjoy your sewing.	There are no urgent housekeeping chores. Just enjoy your sewing.
When you sew, make yourself as attractive as possible.	Never buy a sewing machine with a mirror in it.
Put on a clean dress.	You may sew in your jammies, but wear slippers. Otherwise, your feet will get dusty.
Keep a little bag full of French chalk near your sewing machine to dust your fingers at intervals.	What?
Have your hair in order, powder and lipstick put on.	Brush your teeth, if time permits and you remember.
If you are constantly fearful that a visitor will drop in or your husband will come home, and you will not look neatly put together, you will not enjoy your sewing.	Lock the door and don't answer the phone. If your husband comes home, you really can't refuse to let him in, but leave a number where he can order takeout.

Above submitted by Carol Hartman – Thanks!

Items needed for the January meeting:

Cup and a quarter

Quilt of Valor squares (turn in to Betty Kania)

Snacks – if you volunteered to bring for January meeting

Items for the Raffle baskets

Raffle Ticket returns



What a great time we had at the auction

Hello Everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and are ready for the New Year and all its promises. Thank you all for a very successful Christmas Auction – the proceeds will enable the Guild to finance some excellent programs and workshops in 2014, featuring some of the most talented quilters in our area and beyond.

And, speaking of raising money, once again it is Cup and a Quarter month, so bring those beautiful cups and fabric and help us increase our treasury in our own special way. See you in the New Year! Marilyn