

Buddy Program Overview

A number of people who responded to the NSQG survey suggested that the guild set up a buddy or mentor program. Some felt this would be a good way of connecting new members with older members and making them feel more at home. Others suggested that this type of pairing would give newer, less experienced quilters a chance to learn from quilters with greater skill. The board has approved the idea of setting up a buddy program. A lot of thought has been put into considering the best way to begin this adventure.

We have established a few basic expectations of those who choose to sign up to be a buddy:

1. Invite your assigned buddy to sit with you at three, preferably consecutive, meetings. Introduce her to your friends, get to know her and involve her in your conversations.
2. If you can't be at a meeting, ask one of your friends to substitute for you.
3. Email your buddy in between the first and second meetings and, again, between the second and third meetings.
4. Any additional efforts you might make to include her in your guild or non-guild related quilting activities are up to you.

For those who would like to be assigned to a buddy:

1. Please be considerate and let your buddy know if you won't be able to attend a meeting.
2. Participation is not limited to members who have joined over the past year. It's open to anyone one feels they haven't had an opportunity to meet other members and become a part of the guild.

Contact me if you would like to be a buddy or would like a buddy, crsterk@gmail.com.

This is a new idea with much potential. At the same time, any new program goes through growing pains, and there will be many opportunities to learn from our mistakes/experiences. I encourage you to email me any suggestions that you might have or any help you can offer as to how we can grow this program and make it better.

Carol Sterk, crsterk@gmail.com
Chair, Member Retention Committee