



Northern Star Quilters' Guild, Ltd.

P.O. Box 232 Somers N.Y. 10589

Joan Johnson - Editor

NEWS & NOTES

November, 1984

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear friends,

This year is truly flying by. Here it is November already. The boutique is almost upon us. I hope all of you who want to help at the boutique or sell your fabric items have already contacted Jean Sparacin. If not, there's still time. I am sure we will all have a good time seeing what everyone has made and working with other guild members to make the boutique a success. The Christmas music that will be playing in the background will add to the festive spirits of all who attend. Wear your apron from the quilt show if it's handy. I hope to meet you there on November 17th. A special thanks should go to Jean Sparacin for planning the boutique and also for getting those tickets for our members to see QUILTERS on Broadway. Everyone raved about the performance. It was truly a statement of the role quilting played to soften the hard lives of the pioneer women. I spied many a tear in the eyes of the audience and cast alike at the end of the moving performance. Of course, my view was a little blurry too! So "thanks" Jean for such a special treat.

I am sure we all would like to thank Linda Horton for our programs so far this year. Please read Linda's SUPPLY LIST of items needed for NOVEMBERS'S MEETING on shadow quilting. This meeting will be a good opportunity to sit down and get to know your fellow guild members a little better.

Special thanks to Terri reilly for planning all those Sandi Bard workshops and pot luck suppers. Besides eating well, everyone enjoyed returning to their childhood days surrounded by dolls and teddy bears. It was great fun! I hope to see all of these creations at November's show 'n tell. My Bruno Bear will want some company!

On a more serious note, I would like to inform all members of an important ruling by the

board. As noted in last year's 1984 January newsletter, the executive board unanimously passed a motion stating:

"There will be no commercial transactions for personal gain conducted at Guild meetings. To further clarify the aims of the guild in this area, the executive board this year unanimously passed an addition to this motion stating"

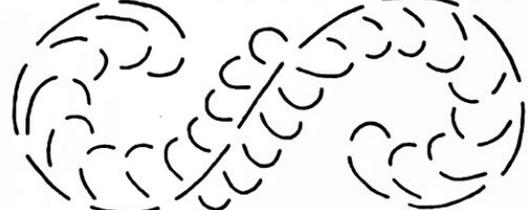
"There will be no displays concerning commercial transactions of individual guild members. Furthermore, the guild display board is to be used solely for posting of guild business. Any printed matter must be approved by the president PRIOR to distribution or posting at a guild meeting."

I hope all members will comply with these motions. Any questions should be directed to me and I will present them to the entire board for discussion and comment.

Thank you and see you soon!

Your President

Diane Durr



"In the country life of America there are many moments when a woman can have recourse to nothing but her needle for employment, In dull company and in dull weather, for instance, it is ill-manners to read, it is ill-manners to leave them - The needle is then a valuable resource".

Thomas Jefferson to his daughter-----

***** BOUTIQUE NEWS *****

Our annual holiday boutique will be held again. This year at Fox Lane High School in Bedford, N.Y. on Nov. 17 from 10 am - 4 pm. All craft items should be made by guild members of fabric or be fabric related. The Guild takes a commission of 10%.

If you are making crafts for the boutique, please do one of the following:

1. Drop your items plus inventory sheet at the school the morning of the boutique, preferable by 9 am. If you need inventory sheets, please call Jean Sparacin at 941-8422.
2. Drop your craft items by Nov. 16 with one of the following people:
Jean Sparacin, 194 Croton Dam Rd., Ossining, N.Y. 941-8422
Sandra Shapiro, Oakridge Road, Purdys, N.Y. 277-4292

Please call ahead to be sure someone will be home.

Please do consider participating in our boutique. It is a wonderful opportunity to make and sell crafts and meet other crafts people. We owe it to ourselves and the public to provide a worthwhile show. We are counting on you!!!

Jean Sparacin

THE QUILT

Within my cedar chest abides
a treasured, handmade quilt
of pieces worked by loving hands
that are forever stilled.

And many years ago when I
was just a little child,
I lay upon that brilliant cloth
and saw my world, and smiled.

And not so many years ago,
my daughter, newly born,
was wrapped within it, comforted,
upon her first bright morn.

My quilt is saved quite gently now.
the patchwork wearing thin,
but love and warmth are folded there
to wrap a grandchild in.

-by Virginia C. Boswel

FROM THE PROGRAMS CHAIRMAN - - -

NOVEMBER: Limber-up those sewing fingers and roll up your sleeves, the 20th we work! Eighteen Guild members have been asked to demonstrate shadow quilting. So, we're all going to break down into small groups and make a pillow top. The Guild will supply all the materials needed for the top, but you will need to bring a few of your own sewing supplies - scissors for both paper and fabric, quilting needles, white thread, a #2 pencil, thimble (if you use one), pins and a glue stick if you have one. The piece is a 10-inch square, small enough that a hoop is not needed. So...Sew, talk, create and be happy!

Linda Horton

From Membership:

The NSQG membership continues to grow. The count for this month, which includes old and new members is at 227. Work is progressing on the membership buttons and I hope to have them ready by the November meeting. Thank you for being so patient with me. A new, revised membership directory will also be available for each member at our next meeting.

In looking over our membership questionnaire returns, the following comments were made: Quilting is about as important as being happy, eating, therapy, caring for my family, reading, breathing, --no wait, quilting is better than a visit to a pschiatrist, better than sleeping, as I sometimes go without sleep in order to quilt. Quilting is the gravy, it tops all that is important with that extra rich goodness. The best thing about belonging to the Quilt Guild is sharing ideas, learning new techniques, making new friends, helping each other, being with other people who understand your love of quilting and being able to call "SOS" in an emergency quilting situation!!

A couple of epitaphs read: "My work isn't finished yet-send me back." "Quilting is Heaven." "Free at last to quilt all day." "The next one will be better." "Cover me with my unfinished quilt, Leave me thread, scissors and thimble, My times my own now, No dead-line to meet, St. Peter will know me by the "Log Cabin" symbol." "Gone to Pieces." "She died with a thimble on her finger and patches in her lap! Her friends and family well-supplied with quilts and soft sculpture (at the age of 105)." However, one

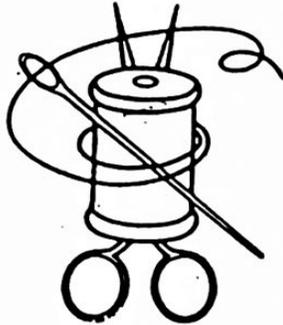
MEMBERSHIP (CON'T)- -

gal said, "I don't plan to have people in some cemetery reading my epitaph; I hope they're all at home snuggled under the myriad of quilts I plan to leave behind."

Many thanks to all who returned their questionnaires.

Pat Davis

THREADNEEDLE HOUSE



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PATTERNS: VOGUE*BUTTERICK*FOLKWEAR**

WORKSHOPS (con't)--

NAME: Braided Wreath
TEACHER: Ginny Watson
CLASS LIMIT: 6
DATE: Wednesday, Nov. 7, 1984
TIME: 10 am - 12 noon
SUPPLIES:
FEE: \$5.00
SEND CHECK TO: Ginny Watson
50 Hillside Ave.
Mt. Kisco, N.Y. 10549
FOR INFO CALL: 666-4257

NAME: Kitchen Angel
TEACHER: Joan Crawford
CLASS LIMIT: 6
DATE: Thurs., Nov. 8, 1984
TIME: 7 pm - 11 pm
SUPPLIES:
FEE: \$10.00 plus \$2.00 for materials
SEND CHECK TO: Joan Crawford
Deans Corner Rd.
Brewster, NY 10509
FOR INFO CALL: 279-3457

NAME: Folded Star Christmas Ball
TEACHER: Pat Davis
CLASS LIMIT: 10
DATE: Wed., Nov. 14, 1984
TIME: 10am - 12 noon
SUPPLIES:
FEE: \$5.00
SEND CHECK TO: Pat Davis
Richard Somers Rd.
Granite Springs, NY 10527
FOR INFO CALL: 248-7525

WORKSHOPS - WORKSHOPS - WORKSHOPS - WORKSHOPS

PLEASE NOTE: For all workshops a materials list will be sent to you upon receipt of your check. A teacher may cancel if the minimum number of reservations is not received.

Some teachers may charge a fee for materials. Please remit by mail with the following information written on a sheet of paper:

- a. workshops name, date and time
- b. your name and address
- c. your telephone number

NAME: Woven Heart Ornament
TEACHER: Alice Dokken
CLASS LIMIT:
DATE: Thurs., Nov. 15, 1984
TIME: 10am - 12 noon
SUPPLIES:
FEE: \$5.00
SEND CHECK TO: Alice Dokken
9 Orchard Lane
Katonah, NY 10536
FOR INFO CALL: 232-4279

WORKSHOPS (con't)-----

NAME: Christmas Dove with Roses
 TEACHER: Carol Saltzman
 CLASS LIMIT: 6
 DATE: Tues., Nov. 27, 1984
 TIME: 10am - 12 noon
 SUPPLIES:
 FEE: \$5.00 plus \$5.00 for supplies
 SEND CHECK TO: Carol Saltzman
 3 Wood Ave.
 Nelsonville, NY 10516
 FOR INFO CALL: 265-3297

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The Fabric Shoppe is a complete quality store for all your sewing needs. Our expert sales staff is very knowledgeable in all areas of quilting, fashion sewing, crewel, knitting, etc. Come in today and let us assist you in all your sewing needs.

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 corner of Rt. 6 & 118 (914) 628-8338

Want to advertise in our Newsletter: Deadline for copy for the next issue is November 26. Inquiries as to space, rates, etc. should be directed to:

Joan Johnson 424-3214
 Snake Hill Rd.
 Garrison, NY 10524

SHOW BUSINESS.....

In order to maintain the high quality quilt show, for which the NSQG is known, a lot of people do a lot of work! Some of those people have been at work ever since last May. Others have been doing a lot of thinking and others will be starting soon.

Treasurer, Joan Crawford, just didn't even get a breather between World of Quilts V and VI. Claire Oehler, last year's show chairman, got all of six weeks off before starting work on a judging program which will enable us to judge our own show. There were lots of summer hours spent in research, planning, writing and practice judging. Claire and her core committee judged the Warwick Valley quilt show in August. Penny Black has the speaker schedule almost complete. Watch for the December Newsletter for the whole list! Cary Lou Canfield has been corresponding with the vendors who are a vital part of the show.

Pat Wiley is ready to hand out the quilt block kits for the raffle quilt. Special thanks to Don Headen of Stretch 'n Sew for the Bernina 910 Sewing Machine which will be the Grand Prize. That has been a big plus for raffle sales. (\$5,331. in '84) Do you remember the lovely Cranberry frames and quilting hoops from last year's show? Iris Lord from The Little Quilt House, Woodbury, Ct. will again give us a quilting hoop on a stand as second prize. Three cheers for Don and Iris!!!!
 Irma Shore and Carol Sterk are compiling the list of guilds and quilt shops to contact about discount bus rates. There were seven buses last year and others have been added to the list.

.....and that's not all! It will take another two months to introduce the others who have or will be joining the committee. Oh, yes,.....we will be doing the aprons....which were such a smashing success last year. More about that too.

Mark that '85 calender....May 4 & 5.....

Ginny Watson, chr
 World of Quilts VI





* * * HUMBLE BEGINNINGS * * *

When the wind howled around the corner of the old farm house in Ohio, we needed lots of comforters to keep us warm. Each fall my mother would order pretty calicos and prints that looked like quilt patterns from Sears or "Monkey" Wards (as my father called it). She sewed pieces together on her old treadle machine for a top, used flannel for the back and stretched out bundles of wool batting for the filling. We had sheep then and after the wool had been sent out to be cleaned and carded, we always kept some to use and the rest was sold.

The comforters were put together on a large diningroom table. Then we got to help tie it together using large balls of cord and big eyed needles. Sometimes we had to pull the needles through with pliers. My mom had a real neat way of making the knots and could tie lots faster than we did. One comforter would be all finished in an afternoon, except to bind the edges. Usually she just brought the back over the front and sewed it down.

With four brothers, then five sisters younger than me, I had lots of chores to do and got first hand experience learning to cook, sew and take care of babies, garden, etc. We had a big wood stove in the kitchen, an ice box in the dinningroom and a hand pump in the attached "summer" kitchen where we ate when it wasn't too cold. When it got cold the pump had to be primed in the morning and let down at night. We huddled around a pot bellied stove in the dinningroom when it got really cold. The livingroom was shut off and so was the upstairs, so you know why we need the wool comforters.

Each spring and fall the closets were emptied and everything taken outside in the sun to air. I remember using a carpet beater on the rugs (do you know what one looks like?). We made tents with the comforters and had lots of fun. Then there was one special quilt that was aired, then carefully folded and put back into the closet. It is the "Temperance Tree", made around 1900 in days of prohibition by my grandmother and my mother's aunt.

There was a picture of this quilt in "Quilt" magazine Spring 1983 and it was in the Firelands Quilt Show in Oberlin, Ohio called "Quilts & Carosels" in June 1983. I made one square of this pattern enlarged to 12" and entered into the Nutmeg Christmas Wall Hanging contest last year. It was one out of six

winners. Of course you know I have wanted this quilt for as long as I can remember. It was hard to imagine anyone sewing together those tiny triangles, matching up the seams and then quilting every inch with machine precision.

When I wanted to try my hand at sewing, my mother gave me a newspaper to make a pattern and a couple of feed bags and let me do my own thing. I dyed the bags pink and cut out 3 size of hearts to make an apron; a large one for the bottom, medium for the top and a smaller one for a pocket. It was all outlined with ric rac. She made most of my clothes up until then, so by 7th grade I started to make some of my own.

One year of Home Economics was mandatory then, but I only took one year. I already knew how to can tomato juice and peaches, cook a meal, darn socks, etc. That was one of the lessons - to darn socks; and when I finished the teacher said I should be teaching instead of her. The second semester we sewed, but when she cut the armhole larger than the sleeve and thought maybe I could draw it up enough to fit I was more than ready to give up home ec. One year was enough.

At one time I thought I would like to design clothes. I made my own clothes for many years and always altered patterns, mixed one with another and added my own touches. After moving to Mahopac I was asked to model some of my clothes in a "Sew It Yourself" fashion show at the Presbyterian Church on the Hill. I did this for at least 3 years and had my two daughters in the show also. Materials were beginning to accumulate since I had made maternity clothes, creepers for the children, curtains, etc. I knew I would use them someday.

In 1974 I took 4 of my 5 children on a trip to Old Sturbridge, Mass. The oldest one was already in college. That day I bought my first (one of many) quilting books. I had taken an adult-ed craft class with Jackie Watsch that had one week of quilting and I was ready to try it. I made a few pillows, then took a quilting class with Gladys Boalt at Putnam Arts Council. I was really ready, so I jumped in and started on a king sized dresden plate quilt. I made the plates, appliqued them on muslin squares and then quilted each square as in "quilt as you go". I got side tracked making a "gingham Dog & Calico Cat" crib quilt for my expected first grandson that summer. I learned to enlarge patterns, applique, add sashing and borders, quilt in the ditch and make patterns for quilting. I knew I wanted a cable design to quilt on the border of my dresden plate quilt, but I looked for two years to find a pattern. When I finally found one, it was not accurate and the corner pattern did not match

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS (con't)---

the rest. I had to re-design it after all. It took me 5 years to finally complete that quilt, but I use it all the time.

I learned to make "Cathedral Windows" & "Folded Stars" and about trapunto. I made a duck wall hanging and when I quilted the background, my duck puffed up and I ended up stuffing Him (trapunto style). By this time I was teaching some of my friends to quilt and about then the Quilt Guild was just forming and I was there ready to join.

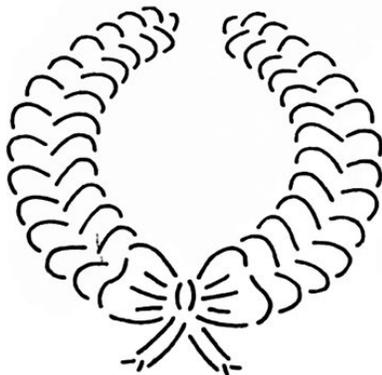
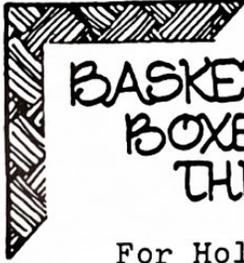
Aloyse Yorke demonstrated string piecing at one of the first quilt shows and I went home and made a vest. I watched Gloria Hartley do quick piecing and used it to border a wall hanging. I truly enjoy going to quilt shows, attending classes and learning new techniques. Teaching quilting is fun too! The Quilt Guild has helped me through a very rough time in my life.

At the Berkshire Quilt Show, I saw a poster that said "She who dies with the most fabric-Wins!" and I'm sure I am in the running.

Pauline Joseph

Thank you Irene Nappi and Pauline Joseph for your terrific articles. I'm sure I speak for everyone when I say it has been wonderful reading them.

See how easy it is. There is a story in all of us - so let's hear it. Call Irene Nappi and let her know how you got started in quilting or maybe you know of someone else with an interesting story. Give Irene a call (737-2409) and she will give you some ideas on how to approach it.

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Christmas Legacy Designs

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