

Concord Piecemakers

PO Box 1381, Concord, MA 01742

January 2011

Marla Richmond, President

Kathy O'Toole, Editor

President's Message

Marla Richmond

Welcome back to the normal world! The holidays are over and all we have to do is clean up, as if that wasn't enough! Don't forget to get a quilt top done for our annual Quiltathon February 26. Make something cheerful and warm to make the day of someone you don't know. As Kathy Miller says, give a quilter's embrace. We have a list of places that we donate quilts to. Check with Scena Proodian. She finds some very worthy causes.

Thank you to all the folks who filled out our questionnaire. I am still doing the numbers on them, but we have some great ideas. And that brought up a regular issue in volunteer groups: can you force volunteers to do things? The answer is no. You are volunteering your time and energy. However, volunteer groups cannot continue to function and grow without volunteers.

Concord Piecemakers consists of 165 members (give or take). This past year we have had programs only through the good graces of Fay Martin who retired from the program committee last May. I know, I gave her a thank you gift! We did not find anyone else to work programs. Fay and I are scrambling to set up a program for next year. Fay is the program co-chair of another quilt guild (with Anne Bonsett). She works, she quilts, she has a family. She managed to do it. Programs was my favorite job in Piecemakers. Don't worry, everyone is more than willing to tell you about someone they saw/heard/read about somewhere else. Finding speakers using computers is not difficult. I got an upset stomach the day of guild meetings for my first year because I was nervous about what I would get up and say. You all know how fast I got over that! Think about meeting quilt teachers you have heard about. It is exciting. Think about volunteering for the program committee. It really is possible to have a committee so there is not just one person doing all the work. All we need is volunteers.

Another place that needs volunteers is the Nominating Committee. Due to illness, we are down two members. Being on the nominating committee means that no one will ambush you and ask you to do a job. You know what is needed and all you have to do is think of someone else quick enough and you get out of it! Think about it! You can meet members you haven't had time to meet and get to know their abilities.

The neighborhood group list will be forwarded to the folks who signed up shortly. Another great way to meet more Piecemakers!

Stay warm! See many of you in Gardner!

Marla

Meetings

Fay Martin

We are having our January Fashion Show this month! Members of the guild will be showing things they've been making -- jackets, pants, shirts, whatever! There will be static displays of bags and aprons. The results of our shoe challenge will also be on display. There will be prizes! This will be a fun time to admire (and laugh?) at our own creativity.

Challenge 2010 -2011

Elana Schreiber

Sharon Laughlin

Go 'round

You will be making a quilt that is any size and with any materials (new or old, cotton through silk)

Size: Mini through king size

You may work alone or with a small group

Style: traditional, pictorial, abstract

Log cabin block: defined as any block that has strips that go around a center. The center can be any geometric shape with straight edges not necessarily a square. The center does not need to be in the center. It must have at least one strip attached to two sides that are next to each other. Examples of block names that would be appropriate are courthouse steps, white house steps chimneys and corners, pineapple etc.

Do you want to work in a small group? I envision this small group as meeting a couple of times; the group will decide. I would think that they would get together to talk about what they plan to do, meet the following month to see what they have done so far and maybe another time in the early spring to help each other with finishing ideas. If so you will need to fill out a sign up sheet. We will make your group so you can get to know some new people. The group will decide on a meeting time that works with the people's schedule. Please fill out the form at the end of the newsletter titled "Join a Challenge Quilt Group."

Getaway

Marian Bressel

Here's the scoop on Getaway Weekend 2011:

LOCATION: Colonial Hotel, Gardner, MA.

DATES: Friday January 14, Saturday January 15, Sunday January 16, and Monday January 17th (Martin Luther King Day)

PACKAGE: Dinner, a room, and breakfast. This can be applied to Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

STUDIO HOURS: Saturday and Sunday 8:00 a.m. 'til midnight; Monday 8:00 a.m. 'til 5:00 p.m.

The basic getaway is Saturday and Sunday. Meals included are: Saturday lunch and dinner, Sunday breakfast and lunch. If you want to stay late on Sunday but not sleep over until Monday, you will

have to buy your own dinner (should you be able to tear yourself away from your sewing). The Sunday night option includes dinner Sunday night, breakfast Monday, and a light lunch Monday. The Friday night option includes dinner Friday and breakfast Saturday. The studio will close Monday at 5:00 pm.

Costs are:

	SINGLE	DOUBLE (TWO PEOPLE SHARING A ROOM)
Friday night (includes Friday dinner, a room, and Saturday breakfast)	\$125	\$75 per person
Saturday night (includes Saturday lunch, dinner, a room and Sunday breakfast and lunch)	\$170	\$151 per person
Sunday night (includes Sunday dinner, a room and Monday breakfast and light lunch)	\$170	\$140 per person
Sit and Sew	\$65 (lunch only)	

A downpayment of \$25 secures you a space.

If you have any questions, please contact Marian Bressel.
See you there!

Quiltathon – February 26th

Joanne Williamson

Tie a string on your finger!! Mark your calendar!! Do whatever it takes to mind you of the guild's annual quiltathon. This year's event happens on February 26 at St. Matthews Church, Central Street, Acton from 8:00am to 4:00pm. A wonderful lunch will be served mid day to refresh and restore. Please bring your finished quilt tops with a backing, if possible. Mark the size of the quilt top on an index card and attach it to the quilt top. We will be sandwiching, stitching, tying and completing the quilts making them ready to give to those in need.

A sign up to bring sewing machines will be at our January meeting.

Any questions please contact: Sue Colwell, Fay Martin, Nannette Moffa, Susan Ostberg, Jan Wilhelm or Joanne Williamson

Outreach

Scena Proodian

I have a big favor to ask everyone from last year's Quiltathon.....if you took home quilts to finish and they are still on your "To Do" pile, please try to finish and bring them to the January meeting or the Quiltathon. I have a limited inventory of quilts on hand but that will change in mid-February.

When you are making your quilt top for the Quiltathon, remember lap sized quilts are most needed (40-50 X 50-60 inches) in all colors, patterns and design for adults, teenagers, children and babies.....both male & female; bright, cozy, plaid, subdued, wild, contemporary, traditional....whatever!!!!

Heartstrings Block Update

Maura Cain
Susan Monsegur

Anyone who has completed string blocks, please bring them to the meeting. We will be working on putting the blocks together for the quiltathon.

Pillowcases

Maura Cain

Please bring in your washed pillowcases.

Nominating Committee

Diane Payne

We are in need of a Programs chairperson! It's a fabulous job because you get to meet and work with famous quilters who also happen to be nice people. The first year is already set up so all you have to do is introduce the speakers and get to work on the 2011-2012 season. Please contact Marla Richmond if you are interested.

Membership

Carol Hartman

Please remember to wear your name badges and check in at the membership table when you arrive. Pick up any materials that are highlighted by your name. Welcome our newer members with a smile and perhaps invite a friend to join us.

Library

Sheila Macauley
Janet Rich

If any members would like to suggest some books that they would like the library to purchase this year, please email Sheila with the names of the books and she will put them on the list to purchase.

Daytime Machine Comfort Quilt Group

Eileen Ryan

On the first Friday of the month, a group of quilters meets at West Concord Assisted Living to work on machine pieced and quilted charity quilts. We share quick quilt patterns, quilting ideas, and get lots of work done while we improve our quilting techniques. We'd love to have you join us. Call or email Eileen Ryan for more information.

Comfort Quilts

Joy Sussman

A small group of us meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 1:00 pm. Our mission is to complete the quilts from the last February Quiltathon by doing the tying. We meet at my home. Please join us if you would like. We will meet November 1st and 15th and December 6th.

Join a Challenge Quilt Group

Name: _____

When would you like to get together?

Daytime, Saturday or Sunday daytime, weekday evening

Experience level:

Beginner Intermediate Advanced

Do you want to be involved as a scrap or exchange?

Reference: A New Look at Log Cabin Quilts by Flavin Glover

1. How many years have you been a member of Concord Piecemakers? _____

2. How many years have you been quilting: _____

3. What other hobbies do you have:

_____ machine quilting _____ appliqué _____ hand quilting
 _____ sewing _____ knitting _____ scrapbooking
 _____ embroidery _____ crochet _____ beading _____ buttons
 _____ felting _____ ? _____ ? _____ ?

4. The most important aspect of belonging to a guild for me.....is:

PLEASE CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY

- a. Lectures and trunk shows by known quilt artists.
- b. Entering my pieces in the quilt show.
- c. Workshops to improve/learn new skills.
- d. Fellowship with other quilters.
- e. Others: _____

5. Are you a member of another group that meets to quilt/sew/embroider?

- a. No and I prefer to work alone
- b. Yes: *(it would help us connect to other groups if we know we have members in them)*
 - i. We meet _____ times a week/month.
 - ii. Describe the group: _____

c. No, but I would like to be. I would be willing to host a group in my home.
yes no maybe

6. I attend monthly Piecemakers meetings - PLEASE CIRCLE CORRECT ANSWER

- a. Every month when possible

- b. About half the time.
- c. When the presenter interests me.
- d. When there is a party.
- e. I don't attend monthly meetings.

7. MONTHLY PROGRAMS - What/Who would you like to see in a monthly program?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

8. WORKSHOPS

a. What/Who would you like to see in a workshop?

- i. _____
- ii. _____
- iii. _____

b. Would you be interested/comfortable in presenting a min-workshop within the guild Yes/No

- i. If yes – on what: _____

9. Which of the following have you participated in? Check all that apply and if possible provide your level of support (chaired, member of, participated etc)

- a. Quiltathon

- b. Get away weekend
- c. Block of the month
- d. Quilt show
- e. Wearables Group
- f. Comfort Quilts
 - i. Daytime
 - ii. Evening
- g. Mystery Quilt
- h. Workshops
- i. Round robin
- j. Special interest or service groups
- k. Others: _____

10. A volunteer organization like us relies on its members to participate by taking a leadership position when they themselves feel able. Would you be willing to be on a committee, a committee chair, co-chair or officer? IF.....
- a. I were asked
 - b. I were given a job description and records of what my predecessor did
 - c. I got some help and training
 - d. When Hell freezes over