

# KINGSTON HEIRLOOM QUILTERS

# **NEWSLETTER, September 2010**

KHQ web: quiltskingston.org/khq/

#### 2010/2011 Executive

Life Members: Diane Berry, Bea Walroth, Claire Upton, Donna Hamilton

Directors:Diane BerryPresident:Simone LynchPast President:Donna Hamilton

Vice President:

Corresponding Secretary: Sally Hutson
Recording Secretary: Sylvia Currie
Treasurer: Eleanor Clark

Social Convenors: Diane Davies, Gail Jennings
Membership/Phone Convenors: Rosalie Gray, Gail Jennings

Publicity:Peggy McAskillProgram:ExecutiveNewsletter Editor:Ros HanesHistorian:Bea Walroth, TBDLibrarian:Lorna Grice

Baby Quilts: Joan Bales, Peggy McAskill

## **Meeting Dates:**

Tuesdays: Sept. 7 Thursdays: Sept. 23

Oct. 5 Oct. 21 Nov. 2 Nov. 18

Dec. 7

Sept. 7: work day, show and tell

Sept. 23: General Meeting, draw for snowflake raffle blocks, work day

Oct. 5: 10am – 3pm workshop by Hilda Manning (double-sided quilt runner) Oct. 21: work day, demo of putting December Rose on the quilting frame

Nov. 2: 10am – 3pm workshop by Jane Lay (paper piecing without paper)

Nov. 18: work day

Dec. 7: Christmas lunch, show and tell

# **Message from Your President**

Simone Lynch

Hello everyone! Another summer has come and gone and we're all ready to start another great year of quilting. I have been busy this summer. I managed to finish piecing one top that I've had on the go for a few years and started another one that I've been wanting to do. I finished the guild sailboat quilt, I just have to do the binding. I finished a small stained glass wall hanging that was started about 10 years ago! This will be donated to the Limestone Small Quilt auction in November, don't forget to go ladies! There is a new top for the guild members to practice their quilting on. It needs some marking done which I think I will do at the meeting. I pieced about 30 blocks for the Limestone Guild's community quilts. Diane Hogan challenged us to bring in at least 25 blocks. I'm presently working on my second snowflake block (don't know what possessed me) and it will be ready for our draw at the first meeting.

Gardening also kept me busy. I had a bumper crop of green and yellow beans this year. The second bloom gave me almost as many as the first bloom. My tomatoes didn't do as well but plenty for us. I grew something new this year; ground cherries. Has anyone had these? They come in a sort of husk and when they fall to the ground they're ready to eat (hence ground cherry)! They're pretty tasty, a cross between a tomato and a pineapple. If I remember I will bring a few to the first meeting.

And the third thing that kept me busy is my new grandson Evan! He is adorable of course and growing like the proverbial weed! It was a rough first month or so as he had thrush and some acid reflux but medication cleared it up and he is now a pretty happy fellow, but you can't be slow with his food! He weighs well over 14 lbs and is almost 25ins long; he's going to be a tall one for sure.

Well enough about me, we have a busy year coming up. There will be some workshops with member teachers, and we have the December Rose to start quilting, the Fashion Ladies to work on, and of course the Quilt Show to start planning. We will be asking for lots of volunteers to fill positions, first of all the Show chair (joint with Limestone), the secretary, the treasurer, and publicity. These will need to be filled sooner rather than later and the rest as we need them. If we really want this show to happen (2012) we have to get moving on it.

I'm looking forward to being your president for the next 2 years, I've had experience as a president when my friend and I started the Kincardine Guild in 1994. She was already a president at the other guild we belonged to, so I was it! We started with 16 members and it has grown to over 50 now. I was able to visit with 4 of my quilting friends last week when my daughter and I (and Evan) went to Kincardine for the weekend. I was happy to see them and they told me a bit about what they had planned for the coming year. Sounds like they'll be as busy as Heirloom. It will quite a change to be leading a well established guild and I'm hoping for lots of help. I will have some big shoes to fill and I beg forgiveness in advance if I step on any toes!



### **Social Convenors**

Diane Davies and Gail Jennings

We very much appreciated the enthusiastic response by members to provide "yummies" for our meetings this past year, and we will continue this year. Personally we view this as a tribute to Margaret and her unfailing provision of treats. There will be a sign-up sheet in September for goodies.

Many thanks to our "potluck providers" at our June meeting, who once again filled our table (and tummies!) with treats. As well as some food donations, \$48.80 was collected for the local food bank.

**Trunk Show** Donna Hamilton

We had a wonderful double trunk show on May 20th. We saw first-hand the talents of newer members Jane Lay and Diane Davies.

First Jane Lay showed us how much she loved to piece her quilts. She showed us delightful quilts, including a lovely Paddington Bear Maze quilt complete with Paddington! And her tree quilt that showed trees through our 4 seasons. She had fun with colour in that quilt as well as many others ...





Diane Davies presented her appliqued quilts. She made many quilts for her grandchildren: Mickey Mouse, Tinker Bell, Fairies, Peter Pan and Captain Hook complete with crocodile. She also showed the quilts she made from KHQ member's raffle block, "Daffodils". And so many more ...





It was a wonderful and fun morning with a great variety of quilts. Well done Jane and Diane! Many thanks for sharing your quilts with us.

#### **Summer Adventures**

This summer I took in two quilt shows, and several quilt shops. Do you know how many shops have moved or went out of business? Here are my summer adventures.

May 7, 2010: Gifts from the Heart Quilt Show in Ottawa, put on by the Common Thread Quilt Guild. When you entered the show, they gave everyone a red bag, similar to the one Fabricland gave before they started charging for bags, only smaller and contained their logo and guild name. An interesting idea.

Donna Hamilton



There was a variety of quilts many machine-quilted, some hand-quilted. Check out the log cabin. It was a minitature – each block is 1.25 inches. It was beautifully done.



*July 10, 2010: A Stitch in Time* in Picton, put on by the Prince Edward County Quilt Guild. Again there was a good variety of quilts; appliquéd, pieced, art quilts, whimsical cat and flower quilts. I hope you had a chance to see it. There were many vendors as well.

### Shop Adventures

A trip to **Syracuse** to drop off my daughter (and pick her up later) at the airport brought the discovery of the "*Mission Rose Quiltery & Knittery*", a shop near the airport. They have lots of fabric and wool. Visit <a href="http://www.missionrosequiltery.com/">http://www.missionrosequiltery.com/</a> If you're ever in the area, drop by. Their address is 456 South Main Street, North Syracuse. Their fabric is, of course, considerably cheaper than here.

I thought that there was a *JoAnn's Fabric* in the *Carousel Mall*. We went looking for a shop that didn't exist. I found out later, that they closed down. The shop in Watertown is still there, but it moved since the last time I was there, many, many years ago, and I didn't find it that trip. I also discovered that *Hancocks* had a shop in Syracuse that is now closed. Where have I been the last several years!

Meanwhile, back in Ontario, I puzzled over the location of *Picton Fabric World*. In the spring we received a notice that it was moving across the street. Well, it turned out they moved across the street while renovations were being done for about 3 months and have since moved back! Simple explanation!





We travelled north to **Smiths Falls** to the closing sale of *Quilter's Rack* on the main street. It turned out Faye had moved down the street as well, closer to the bridge. It was a smaller space. When I was there, she had very little fabric left. They closed on August 31. But Faye is still going to do machine quilting. You can contact her at 613-284-2159.





We continued onto **Almonte** that day and visited *Textile Traditions* on the main street. It was at the top of the hill on Mill Street. This was a small shop with many bolts of fabric and wool as well.

Trying to find the Quilting Quarters proved a bit more challenging. It was east of town on Industrial Drive, straight out of town. But there was NO street sign. There was a stone sign in the middle of the boulevard that said "Business Area" or something like that. We passed it at first, and came back figuring that it was the only place to try. And sure enough, it was the right spot. This shop has lots of fabric to choose from. You can check out their web page, and find out about the February 2011 Caribbean cruise that they are organizing. See http://quiltingquarters.ca/UpcomingEvents.htm

Another day a trip to Picton for more blueberries led us to **Belleville** where we decided to go to "Fun with Stitches". Guess what? It had moved! It was on North Front Street, I swore. We finally stopped into the UPS store next to where I swear it was (and it was) and learnt of its new location. It turned out we had drove right past it on our way from Trenton! Glory be! It is now about halfway between Trenton and Belleville on Highway 2, near the

FUN WITH \$1 1977 Old Highway #2 Belleville, Ontario 613-966-4715 www.funwithstitches.com

Home Hardware Store. And when we went looking for it, I had just given up and turned into the driveway to Home Hardware to turn around, and there it was! It was a good thing that we got there, as I found the fabric for the centre of the wreath in the Fashion Quilt! It wasn't at any of the other stores I'd been in.

And last but not least, there is a new shop in **Napanee**. This delightful new little Quilt shop is called *Country* Quarter at 111 Industrial Blvd. It's very close to the Country Traditions Frozen Foods Store that many people enjoy. The owner's name is Margaret Gustavel and the web site is www.countryquarter.com I didn't make it to this shop, yet. Guess it was too close! I hope that they decide to advertise with us this year.





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# **Baby Quilts**

#### Joan and Peggy

Thank you to all for your contributions to the baby quilts this past quilting year. In June we passed in eight additional quilts for a total of 72 for our meeting year September 2009 to June 2010. We will continue to tie two quilts at each meeting and will also have a baby quilt on a frame for those who wish to hand quilt. If anyone has any left-over bits of batting (pieces that can be put together), please give them to Joan or Peggy for the baby quilts.



**Membership** Rosalie Gray

This year's "Early Bird" draw took place at our final meeting on June 17, and the lucky winner was Nelly Kamphuis. Thanks to all who participated.

PLEASE NOTE: Membership fees are still \$30. Due to some collection problems last year, it has been decided that all who wish to continue as members and remain on the list to receive newsletters **must** pay up (or at least make known their definite intentions – tel. 613-546-1262) by the end of September.





# **Gee's Bend Quilts**

#### Carol Garner

On Tuesday, June 1, we had as our guest, Garnet Smalley and his wife Suzanne of London, Ontario. Garnet and Suzanne had the wonderful idea of hosting "Annual International Quilt Shows" in Ailsa Craig. In 2007 the guests were the Russian Quilters. Our group attended the amazing "African Quilt Show" in 2008. Last year the Irish Quilters were featured and Garnet came to our group with a trunk show.

2010 brings the "Gee's Bend" quilts from Alabama to London Ontario in August- not to be missed. Tuesday we had just a taste of what it's all about. The room was silent as we listened to the tales of the lives and struggles of these black African-American women and enjoyed the simplicity and beauty of their quilts. No patterns, no rotary cutters, no outside influences, no perfect stitching, but incredible beauty and creativity from whatever materials were available. These women transformed a necessity into a work of art.

I hope our guild will take an hour at a future meeting to watch together the DVD- 2005 Emmy Winner "The Quiltmakers of Gee's Bend" an Alabama Public Television Original Film. And even better - attend the show in London and welcome them to Canada.

Google - The Quilters of Gee's Bend or Gee's Bend Quilts and you'll have hours of very interesting reading





# **International Quilting Exhibition**

from Cotton-by-Post

Gees Bend is a small rural community nestled into a curve in the Alabama River southwest of Selma, Alabama. Founded in antebellum times, it was the site of cotton plantations, primarily the lands of Joseph Gee and his relative Mark Pettway, who bought the Gee estate in 1850. After the Civil War, the freed slaves took the name Pettway, became tenant farmers for the Pettway family, and founded an all-black community nearly isolated from the surrounding world. During the Great Depression, the federal government stepped in to purchase land and homes for the community, bringing strange renown as an "Alabama Africa" to this sleepy hamlet.

The town's women developed a distinctive, bold, and sophisticated quilting style based on traditional American (and African American) quilts, but with a geometric simplicity reminiscent of Amish quilts and modern art. The women of Gees Bend passed their skills and aesthetic down through at least six generations to the present. In 2002, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, in partnership with the nonprofit Tinwood Alliance, of Atlanta, presented an exhibition of seventy quilt masterpieces from the Bend. The exhibition, entitled "The Quilts of Gees Bend," is accompanied by two companion books, The Quilts of Gees Bend, and the larger Gees Bend: The Women and Their Quilts, both published by Tinwood Media, as well as a documentary video on the Gees Bend quilters and a double-CD of Gees Bend gospel music from 1941 and 2002.

The "Quilts of Gees Bend" exhibition has received tremendous international acclaim, beginning at its showing in Houston, then at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York and the other museums on its twelve-city American tour. Newsweek, National Public Radios Talk of the Nation, Art in America, CBS News Sunday Morning, PBSs NewsHour with Jim Lehrer, the Martha Stewart Living television show, House and Garden, Oprahs O magazine, and Country Home magazine are among the hundreds of print and broadcast media organizations that have celebrated the guilts and the history of this unique town. Art critics worldwide have compared the guilts to the works of important artists such as Henri Matisse and Paul Klee. The New York Times called the quilts "some of the most miraculous works of modern art America has produced." The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, is currently preparing a second major museum exhibition and tour of Gees Bend quilts, to premiere in 2006.

In 2003, with assistance from the Tinwood organizations, all the living quilters of Gees Bend -more than fifty women - founded the Gees Bend Quilters Collective to serve as the exclusive means of selling and marketing the quilts being produced by the women of the Bend. The Collective is owned and operated by the women of Gees Bend. Every quilt sold by the Gees Bend Quilt Collective is unique, individually produced, and authentic - each quilt is signed by the quilter and labeled with a serial number. Rennie Young Miller of Gees Bend is the Collectives president.

# **Upcoming events:**

### Sep 10-11: Kingston – Open House of "Quilt & Stitch"

Be among the first to see, feel, and touch some of the newest fabrics and samples this fall! Join them for lots of wonderful door prizes, amazing discounts, delicious desserts, inspiring demonstrations! Bring something you've made and enter to win their draw: "Show & Tell". For more info, go to http://www.quiltandstitch.ca/

#### Sep 11: Belleville – Grand Opening of New Store for "Fun with Stitches"

Fun with Stitches, at their new home 1977 Old Highway #2, Belleville Ontario is celebrating their move, Sep 11, Saturday, 9:30-5pm. The new location is about half way between Trenton and Belleville on Highway #2, just west of the *Home* Hardware store, north of the highway. Come and see all their Fall Class samples, check out their specials, and demos. For more info, go to http://funwithstitches.com/

## Sept 11-12: North Bay - Quilts by the Bay 2010

Ecole secondaire publique Odyssee 480 Norman Ave. Sat 10-5 Sun 10-3 Display of Quilts, Merchant Mall, Silent Auction, Demos, Quilt Appraisals by Judy Lyons (by appointment), Toy Sewing Machine Display, Tea/Lunch Room adm: \$5 Northern Lights & Near North Quilters' Guilds. For more information, call Jeanne Aspden 705-476-0336 or email jaspden@sympatico.ca

#### Sept 18-19: Bancroft - Festival of Quilts

The North Hastings Quilt Club presents its Festival of Quilts Saturday, Sept 18 9am to 5pm and Sunday Sept 19 10am to 4pm at the Bancroft Curling Club, 15 Newkirk Blvd, Bancroft. Features large & small quilts, wall hangings, table linens, special occasion, challenge quilts, merchants mall, door prizes and much more. Admission \$5 per day. For more information, visit www.quiltclub.ca or call Marion Heasman 613-332-4364 or Louise Hallin 613-332-2231.

### Sep 24-25: OuiltFest Kingston

QuiltFest Kingston is an annual event held every fall in Kingston, Ontario. It is hosted by Margaret Millar & Adriana Wyngaarden (from Quilt and Stitch), Karen Magee (from Garden Tyme Quilts and Gifts) and Shelly Lacelle (from Wilton Creek Fabrics). This year's teacher is the Canadian designer, quilter and teacher, Kathy Klassen, http://www.kathrynquilts.com/ For more information and to register, go to http://quiltfestkingston.blogspot.com/

#### Oct 1-3: Kingston – Fibreworks Weekend with Gordana Brelih

Fibreworks Kingston is once again offering workshops at St Lawrence College, Kingston Ontario. This includes a Friday evening lecture at 7pm, followed by two days, Saturday and Sunday, 9:30-4pm, of play and learning with friends. If you can't make the workshop, come enjoy a night out to hear about a fibre art technique; cost for lecture \$5. October brings us the workshop: "Transformations in TYVEK" with Gordana Brelih. "The marriage of familiar materials and methods in unfamiliar ways is the joy in experimentation with the fibre arts." The creation of dimension and a new structure through the burning, ironing, layering, colouring, machine stitching of thin sheets of Tyvek will transformthis non woven building material into a raised surface that can stand on its own or be further embellished with hand stitching or beading. The best part is thatit will truly be a freeform experience since you cannot fully predict what lacey, rippled, amazing results will emerge. The number of layers and embellishments you add are up to you! We will also play with a similar product, Lutrador. For more information, and to register, check out our new web page at http://fibreworkskingston.wordpress.com/

#### October 2: Ottawa - At Home with Quilts

Ottawa Valley Quilters Guild presents "At Home with Quilts" Sat. 10-4. Tour of 5 homes showing quilted items used in daily life (beyond bed and wall quilts) using themes: seasons, children, animals, men (of, for and by) and art. For more information, call Pat Amundrud 613-829-8129 or email vpprogra@OttawaValleyQuiltersGuild.org. For more information, visit www.ottawavalleyquiltersguild.org

#### Nov 12-14: Kingston – Fibreworks Weekend with Gunnel Hag

Fibreworks Kingston is once again offering workshops at St Lawrence College, Kingston Ontario. This includes a Friday evening lecture at 7pm, followed by two days, Saturday and Sunday, 9:30-4pm, of play and learning with friends. If you can't make the workshop, come enjoy a night out to hear about a fibre art technique; cost for lecture \$5. November brings us the workshop: "Make Your Mark" with Gunnel Hag. Have you always yearned to create luscious, original fabrics? In this workshop you will use Colour Vie fabric pigments to paint, sponge, stamp and spray your way into the inspiring land of fabulous cloth. Explore visual texture while brushing, sponging and rubbing. Learn how to use Gunnel's unique techniques and create a selection of stunning fabrics. For more information, and to register, check out our new web page at http://fibreworkskingston.wordpress.com/