

Towpath Quilt Guild

Monthly Minder

April, 2021

A Note from the Board of Directors

Happy Spring, Quilters! The warmer weather is coming (in fits and starts, as usual), the birds are singing, flowers are starting to bloom, and vaccines are now available: All of which makes us all feel optimistic for a return to pre-COVID normality! However, Barbara Western has learned that we are not yet able to use the church for meetings and programs. The capacity of Homer Hall is limited to 40 people at this time. For the time being we will continue to offer our member meetings and programs on ZOOM.

The Board of Directors meeting is a smaller group, so we are considering holding that meeting in person in May. If you generally attend the board meetings but are not comfortable with a socially distanced in person meeting, please let Terri or Missy know.

Treasurer's Report: Bonnie Haaland

Current balance is \$12, 276.04. The only expense incurred in March was the speaker fee. We also received a refund of \$116 for overpayment of the insurance bill.

S.C.R.A.P.S.= Service Coordinator Representing All Projects Sewn: Cathy Lee

Thank You! to Noel Keith and Barbara Christen for their suggestions for great projects with scraps. Noel made fleece hats in beautiful colors for the YMCA homeless shelter, and Marilouise Mattson delivered them. Marilouise said the staff and people at the Y were very excited and appreciative of receiving them. Great gift, Noel!

Barbara Christen had a unique idea for her scraps. Not only has she made 300 masks, but also 10 lap quilts that were given to Loretto Regional Health Care Facilities by her daughter. Her latest gift is beautiful Tree of Life quilts that are given to nursing homes that cover a deceased residents body as it is removed to the funeral home. What a beautiful way for the staff to help the residents feel more comfortable as a friend is leaving their home. As a former chaplain in a nursing home, I know how comforting this act of kindness can be for the staff and residents. Thank you, Barbara for your gracious gifts to the nursing homes.

Do you have stories you can share about how your scraps are serving our communities? Share them with us.

S.C.R.A.P.S. (continued)

Do you know someone who is making doggie beds, with scraps and snippets of fabric for stuffing? I'll have bags of stuffing scraps from 2 quilt retreats I'm leading this spring that can be used for the beds. Thanks for letting me know if you can help us out.

Program Committee: Suzy Tankersley

April: Wenda Coburn will present on the origins of the barn quilt movement. She will also introduce and begin enlisting participants for the mini barn quilt workshop to be held in May. The workshop will be held over two afternoons via ZOOM. Participants will be able to create their own 12 inch Garden Quilt. Fee is \$45 and covers all supplies and materials for 3 garden quilts.

May: *It's a Passion*. Lecture and trunk/slide show presented by Sue Ellen Romanowski. First part of the Garden Quilt workshop to take place in the afternoon.

June Picnic

At this time, we have not been given permission to hold a picnic on the church grounds. They have agreed to revisit our request at their May meeting. In the meantime, if anybody knows of an alternate place we can gather outdoors for a "brown bag picnic" please let Missy or Terri know. We'd like to have access to restrooms, and room for show and tell and a place for people to display items they are willing to swap or give away (not a sale, but sharing items we no longer need).

QCNYS Update

The deadline for Wee Little Quilts has been extended until December 2022. These are 10 inch square quilts that will be raffled to raise money for consortium scholarships. Visit the website (QCNYS.org) for specific information and so much more!

Newsletter

At the April Board meeting, a motion carried to publish a newsletter only once a year, to be published in August during membership renewal. Members are encouraged to keep current by visiting the website, attending meetings and contributing to the Monthly Minder.

Committee members and chairs needed!

The term of office for many committee chairs and board members is drawing to a close, so we would like to ask all members to consider taking on a leadership role in the guild. We especially need help on the Nominating Committee, the Quilt Show Committee, the Service Project Committee and others. We are also still in need of a new Historian and a committee to help organize and maintain our records. If you think you have talents to offer to any of those committees, please let us know! It's a great way to contribute to the guild, and to help it grow!

