



MINOT PRAIRIE QUILT GUILD

PO Box 306, Minot ND 58702

www.minotquilters.com

January 2009

Thursday, January 8th

TIME: Refreshments served at 6:45 pm; Meeting starts at 7:00 pm

LOCATION: Sleep Inn, Dakota Square Mall

GUILD BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT

Luanne Duchsherer 839-4844

VICE-PRESIDENT

Becky Spies 838-0270

SECRETARY

Susan Melgaard 838-7265

TREASURER

Lynn Sys 837-6211

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Lynn Heald 837-1995

Joyce Stuber 838-4751

BLOCK OF THE MONTH

Roberta Flannigan 838-6376

EDUCATION & PROGRAMS

Sandra Duchsherer 838-0167

Merry Green 728-6435

FESTIVAL

Judi Green 839-3438

HISTORIAN

Rosie Armstrong 837-1685

HOSPITALITY

Nita Korgel 839-5163

LIBRARIANS

Sandra Duchsherer 838-0167

Nancy Fry 837-0844

MEMBERSHIP

Bonnie Deutch 721-2351

NEWSLETTER

Carol Kraft 839-6175

Lyla Kraft 758-2415

PUBLICITY

Janice Talley 784-5536

WEBMASTER

The Prez Sez...for the last
time:

As I write this my last newsletter I keep hearing the words from the song in ***The Sound of Music***—"So long, farewell, auf Weidersehn, adieu." Along with this, I feel my family rejoicing as they have been counting down the months, all for different reasons. But to both you and them I say, "Thank you for your wonderful support as I have attempted to fulfill this assignment."

It is now time to turn the reins over to your new president, Luanne Duchsherer. Luanne is an extremely delightful and talented lady, as well as an exuberant quilter. She has had lots of experience in different areas throughout her life that will greatly benefit this guild. So, let's all give her our full support as she leads the guild this next year. I know you will all enjoy getting to know her.

No more nagging from men, no more presidential challenges, no more rambling lectures and stories. This time all I have to say is THANK YOU! I cannot thank you enough. I won't get another opportunity to say it. I can't say it enough to each of you, nor to each of my board members. I hope that you all will know without my out loud voice, the magnitude of my gratitude. You have been the strength that has helped me accomplish anything and everything through this year and last. I cherish each one of



you. Thank you for standing beside me as we moved forward in the Guild. Thank you for all of you, for all of the gifts you have given me. Each of you that held my hand, gave me advise when I asked for it, gave it to me when I didn't and needed it, gave me that hug, that pat on the back, kick in the butt, thought, gesture, smile nod. The opportunity to grow. I feel that I am a better person because you let me. Not that I did you any good, but you did me good. You let me learn. You let me think I was helping. I believe we all learned a lot about each other. I feel we learned to allow each other to be different.

Please help Luanne grow too. Help her continue to make our Guild strong. Find your strength and lend it to your sisters, however it works for you. Continue to help our community with your generosity. Stand strong and continue to show your kindness, your heart, your inspiration, your craft.

This year I have had the opportunity time and again to view the Guild and Board members up close and personal giving of themselves for the betterment of the whole. This has impressed me a great deal and I have grown to love and respect these women for their commitment. I chose to serve on the Board because I wanted to return something for all that I had received in past years. Little did I know that in giving, would be getting some much more in return. This is just a small sample of what our members do:

- Haul library books
 - Taken minutes
 - Made phone calls
 - Made quilts
 - Organized programs
 - Represented us to the NDSQC
 - Kept us in budget
 - Shared new ideas
 - Worked hard
 - Lost sleep
 - Attended meetings
 - Kept us organized
 - Produced and mailed newsletters
- Kept the bees buzzing
 - Made more quilts
 - Taught classes
 - Written articles
 - Took pictures
 - Hung quilts
 - Took down quilts
 - Maintained our website
 - Planned our retreat
 - Block of the month
 - Kept records
 - Motivated and challenged us
 - And entertained us

As I look to the future of the Guild I see the many talents and skills of the Minot Prairie Quilter Guild. I think you are all amazing. I have seen a desire and a thirst for learning. I encourage you all in your quest to be the best that you can be.

Another of my favorite movies is ***Anna and the King***. During the final scene, the king's son is watching his father dance with Anna. In his reflections, he states, "How small a part of life is made up of meaningful moments." This year has been most meaningful to me because of you, my quilting friends. How fun you have made quilting for me. Though I was frightened in the beginning you have each supported me and I cannot adequately express my appreciation. Thank you for making this one of my life's meaningful moments.

Gone is the day of blue-haired ladies sewing as they swap recipes and cleaning tips; these ladies are movers and shakers who spread the love, reaching out to others and their community. This is you, you make this difference. Thank you for letting me be a part of that. I will never forget it. My heart and my love to each of you. I am sincerely proud to have had the honor to have been your President. Please don't forget me, I will never forget you. Thank you everyone!

And so, from my sewing room to yours, "**Adieu, adieu, to yieu and yieu and yieu.**"

--Lynn--

Notes from "Longarm" Lu

The "longarm" is synonymous with masterful quilting, and, it has long been an assumption that once we reach the "longarm" stage of the quilting process we are near completion. However, in getting to that point we first spent hours searching for the right pattern, the right fabric, and then lovingly stitched our pieces together into a work of art. I feel like the Guild is in the "longarm" phase. After 25+ years, we have chosen our

pattern, (our mission statement), collected an array of wonderful fabric (our members) and lovingly stitched our pieces. Along the way we found stitches that held their own, but later frayed (secret pal project); stitches that needed to be “unsewn” because we felt we could do better (improvements to Festival, guild guide girls...) and stitches that have been sewn, and backstitched, so as to remain unchanged (show and tell, library...) and with the creation of any quilt, sometimes it becomes a temporary UFO and we start another project (weekend retreats to monthly library sewing days).

Lynn left some big shoes to fill as I feel she did a tremendous job for the guild as our president for the past two years and I'd like to thank her for her many, *many* hours of the helm.

In bidding farewell to 2008 and welcoming in 2009, our lives will be filled with change. Some we make with optimism; others we do with hope, determination and fingers crossed for good luck. You'll see a few changes in 2009, all of them done with optimism and hope for an even better guild. I welcome suggestions and comments from “seasoned” as well as new members on the things you enjoy (so we DON'T change them) as well as things you'd like to see adjustments made to (so we DO change them).

Last January, I vowed to “go outside the box” and try something new to stretch my quilting abilities just a bit. It was so much fun that plans are in the making to encourage and entice **everyone** to do the same this year. The easy-to-follow rules for the “Challenge to Change” will be discussed at the January meeting.

I am excited about the direction of the guild in 2009 and I am thrilled to have the expertise and enthusiasm of the Board. I look forward to seeing you all at the Sleep Inn on Jan. 8th for the first meeting of the year.

Luanne

General Meeting Minutes December 4, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President, Lynn Heald, at 7pm. There were three guests present this month. The December hostesses were introduced. Because there were only three ladies this month each of them won a Festival certificate to be used towards any class taken at Festival 2009. The Name Tag drawing was won by Sylvia Rau. A motion to accept the October, 2008, minutes as published in the newsletter was made by Becky Spies and seconded by Judi Green. Motion carried.

Old Business: The first order of business was to vote on the slate of candidates for the 2009 General Board of Officers and also the Committees. The names were as follows.

Officers:

President - Luanne Duchsherer
Vice President - Becky Spies

Treasurer - Lynn Sys
Secretary - Susan Melgaard

Committees:

Block of the Month - Roberta Flannigan
Community Service - Lynn Heald & Joyce Stuber
Education & Programs - Sandy Duchscherer & Merry Green
Historian - Rosie Armstrong
Hospitality - Nita Korgel
Library - Sandy Duchscherer & Nancy Fry
Membership - Bonnie Deutch
Newsletter - Carol Kraft & Lyla Kraft
Publicity - Janice Talley
Webmaster - (permanent position for the year is open.)

Temporary Webmaster - Michael Spies

Becky Spies made a motion to unanimously approve the slate of candidates. This was seconded by Donna Vangsness. Voice vote carried.

- Quilting Dilemmas - Judi Green had a dilemma. She needed guidance and directions to make the great necklaces some of us have been wearing.

- Block of the Month – Becky Spies showed the blocks for November and December and held the drawing for the Fat Quarters for each month. These were the last two blocks for 2008. Next year BOM will be done by Roberta Flannigan.
- Sewing at the Library - will be held on December 27th.
- Festival – Judi Green mentioned that the catalogs were ready to be picked up this evening and to see Jennifer Feller for your copy. Judi mentioned the need for volunteers during Festival and that we REALLY NEED a helper for Registration. For one person it does not leave time to take classes but if two did the job then there would be time for each to enjoy Festival.

New Business:

- The January meeting will be postponed to January 8th and will be held at the Sleep Inn.
- Festival brochures are available for distribution this evening. Remember that one of the perks of being a guild member is early registration for Festival. If you are not able to attend the January guild meeting and want to ensure a spot in a particular class, it is suggested that you get your registration and money to a guild member who will be attending that meeting so they can turn it in for you.
- Charitable donations this year will be going to: Trinity Cancer Care Cottage, Vincent United Methodist Church, Metigoshe Ministries with the annotation that the donation be used to purchase items for quilting retreats such as irons, etc. and www.quilterscache.com where we have been obtaining our patterns for the Block of the Month program.
- Rose's Stitch-N-Sew in Devils Lake is going out of business. Their sale is on going, Monday thru Saturday 9:30 to 5:30. They are giving a 20% discount. They hope to be closed by February. There is a possibility of a new owner in the future.
- Becky Spies told us her husband would be our Web Master ***on a temporary basis***. We need someone with those skills or someone who would like to learn them to step up for this job.
- Bonnie Deutch asked those present to please pick up their membership cards as they will not be mailed this year.
- Donna Vangsness told us that she has been given some knit type materials if any of you would want to use it please see her later.

President Lynn asked for reports from the officers & Committees:

Block of the Month – Roberta showed the first block for the next year. Directions will be in your newsletter.

Community Service – Cutting of cotton fabric has taken place and kits will be available soon.

Membership – Please pick up your membership cards as they will not be mailed this year.

- President Lynn told the guild that the 2009 Raffle quilt top has been finished and is waiting for the quilting by Deb Kauffman. This will be done in January. It is a king sized, scrappy batik. She mentioned the fact that all those who sewed on it learned how to miter corners.
- President Lynn took this time to again tell Gladys Lowell how much all the quilts she had made for the guild over the last 10 years were appreciated by all of us.
- Gladys Lowell was asked to do the 2008 Raffle drawing at this time. Barbara Carlson of Minot was the winner. We were unable to contact Barbara during the meeting.
- Our program was a showing of all the Christmas quilts our members brought to share.
- President Lynn turned the gavel over to President Elect Luanne Duchsherer and Luanne presented President Lynn Heald with a pair of Ginger shears engraved with the years Lynn served as President for the guild.
- Lynn announced that there would not be a Quilt Guild or a Festival Board meeting during the month of December. The next General meeting will be January 8th, 2009 at the Sleep Inn.

Meeting was adjourned,
Susan Melgaard, Secretary

2008 RAFFLE QUILT WINNER: Congratulations to Barbara Carlson of Minot North Dakota. Barbara's ticket was drawn as the winner for the 2008 Minot Prairie Quilt Raffle Quilt.

HELP WANTED: The Minot Prairie Quilt Guild and the Minot Prairie Quilt Festival have several positions on the Board that need volunteers. One of our positions can even be filled by one of our Guild members who live in Williston, Montana or elsewhere. If you are interested in any of the following positions, please contact Luanne Duchsherer, Guild President or Judi Green, Festival Chairperson for more information. Their contact information is listed on page 1 of this newsletter.

Webmaster: This position can easily be filled by a Guild member who lives outside of the Minot area, as long as you have computer access. The primary responsibilities of this position are to keep our website up to date. (web address is listed on page 1). We like to have things on the web page such as current newsletters of the Guild, membership forms for anyone interested in joining our organization, and our Festival brochure, to include registration form, classes, etc. Additionally, you could add such things as photographs of Guild events, links to our national teachers, etc.

Festival Registration: This is really a two to three person job so Jennifer Feller could really use help, especially since she will be stepping up to Festival Co-Chair next year. Some of the responsibilities associated with this position include: printing of mailing labels for Festival brochures; receiving Festival registrations and assigning participants to classes; mailing confirmation notices to Festival participants; making registration packets for distribution at Festival; filling vacant class slots during Festival for last minute participants. Jennifer Feller and Luanne Duchsherer would be good contact people to ask questions of.

Volunteers: The Festival Committee is also in search of someone to coordinate and recruit volunteers to work all aspects of the Festival, from Flea Market workers, to Tea Room hostesses, to set up and tear down. If you are interested in helping with any of these positions, PLEASE contact Judi Greene.

FESTIVAL BROCHURES: Festival brochures were distributed to members in attendance at the December Guild meeting, and the remaining brochures were put in the mail prior to Christmas. Remember that one of the "perks" of being a Guild member is early registration for Festival. If you are not able to attend the January Guild meeting and want to ensure a spot in a particular class, it is suggested that you get with a local (Minot) Guild member who will be attending the January meeting that would be willing to turn in your registration for you.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: The Community Service Committee is committed to making quilts to provide comfort and warmth to those in need. Through the years and the tremendous Community Service leadership and dedicated volunteers like you, we have made hundreds of quilts which we donate to various service organizations and agencies in the local community. We have also donated dozens of quilts to non-profit organizations to use as raffle quilts to raise funds for their use. Community Service has a small budget to purchase those supplies that are not donated.

This year, our focus is to use ALL of the donated fabric that is currently stored at Vincent United Methodist Church and/or Bernina Plus. The committee has already pressed and cut fabric and has created kits for members to complete. **BE FORWARDED!** These kits are going to create some pretty **FUGULLY** quilts as we are going to call them, but we all know that if Little Tommy or Little Susie receives one of these quilts, they are going to just love them. So, if you are interested in completing a **FUGULLY** quilt top, look for a kit at the January meeting.

If your specialty is not piecing a quilt top, we need volunteers who enjoy all aspects in the construction of the quilt. Once the tops are pieced, we will need borders added, quilts quilted and bindings added, so keep checking at meetings for a kit that suits you.

SATURDAY ONE DAY RETREATS: Saturday one-day retreats are now held on the 4th Saturday of the month at the Minot Public Library in the small community room. If you use the west entrance, the elevators are right there to take to the bottom floor. We start at 10:30 a.m. and work until 5:00p.m. The community room has plenty of tables and good lighting. A small refrigerator is also available in the room for you to store your sack lunch or drinks. Our project retreats are as follows:

24 January 2009
28 February 2009

28 March 2009
25 April 2009

23 May 2009
27 June 2009

BLOCK OF THE MONTH

Block of the month is now being provided by Roberta Flannigan. For the January Block of the Month, which is “**Log Cabin Window**” please see the other scanned in attachment to this email.

JANUARY PROGRAM

Let us guess! Your number 1 New Year’s Resolution is to wear a name tag to each and every Guild meeting. Let us help you keep that resolution! We are planning to make name tags at our January meeting, so bring that bag of fabric scraps you have tucked away in the corner and a good pair of sharp scissors. Oh, and if you have a really “cute” name tag that you would like to share with us, bring that as well!



FOR MEMBERSHIP USE: Amount Received: _____ Check No. _____ Cash _____ Membership Card _____

**Minot Prairie Quilt Guild
P.O. Box 306
Minot, ND 58702**