

Nimble Fingers Newsletter

www.nimblefingers.org

November/December 2011

Officers 2011-2012

Co-Presidents: Linda August
and Patty Estey

Vice President: Pat Lefevre

Secretary: Evelyn Farinas

Treasurer: Barbara Kilby

Est. 1974 = 37 YEARS OF FELLOWSHIP
National Quilting Association Chapter #MD019

*****No Show and Tell at the November meeting*****

In order to allow as much time as possible for Quilting for Others, the business meeting will be brief and there will be no Show and Tell in November. Please save your items for the December meeting.

Co-Presidents' Message – Linda August and Patty Estey

For quilters, this time of the year presents many ideas for beautiful autumn quilts. Colors here in Maryland in October and November run the gamut of gold to red to rust to purple. It is hard to pass up any pattern that feature pumpkins, Halloween or Thanksgiving. Nimble Finger Guild members probably own enough autumn theme quilt patterns to open a store.

The Guild's 2012 quilt show is on the horizon. The quilt show chair, Chris Ritcher, is well organized and on target. Think about your quilts and which ones you want to enter in the show. Nimble Fingers has so many talented quilters; the show is the time to show our stuff. Please volunteer to help. There are big jobs and smaller jobs but each is important. It is a great way to meet new people and feel part of something very special.

On November 2, there will be a short business meeting followed by the Guild's annual Quilting for Others event. Margaret Natof and Mary Moore Payne have been busy cutting strips of fabric for strip quilt blocks. Much of the fabric was donated by Morna McEver Golletz and features the latest fabrics on the market. We thank Morna for her generous contribution. Sandra Chin is cutting muslin squares for the blocks. Questions?? See details below, or call Margaret or Mary Moore.

The fall Nimble Fingers retreat is fast approaching: November 7, 8, 9. The retreat is full but there is a wait list. Call Barbara Kilby if you would like to be added to the wait list. It is three days of sewing, talking, laughing and eating. How sweet is that?

Finally, we wish to thank Barb Kilby for pinch-hitting for us at the October meeting. We heard she did a fabulous job.

Programs – Susan Sellers, Carol Clanton, Cheryl Layman, Nancy Rose Opeka, Jill Ruspi, Julie Taylor

The Program Committee would like to thank everyone who signed up for our very popular fall workshops. We look forward to more quilting opportunities throughout the year. We have decided to extend the workshop learning opportunities by encouraging members to bring their workshop projects to our monthly Habitat Bees, to share ideas or just for show and tell. Contact Susan Sellers to learn more or to register for a workshop.

Our **November** meeting will be devoted to “**Quilting for Others**” under the direction of chairs Mary Moore Payne and Margaret Natof. Program Committee members will have a demonstration table set up during the meeting to offer piecing tips and color suggestions for making a log cabin block for our latest “Block of the Year.” If you didn’t have an opportunity to pick up a copy of our block instructions, stop by our table.

December will feature a holiday pot luck lunch to celebrate the season. This will also be the due date for our “**Fiesta**” challenge and the optional member **gift exchange** of new handmade pincushions. Please bring your pincushion wrapped and ready to exchange.

Fiesta! Challenge

*Close your eyes and think about what the word “Fiesta” means to you. Does it make you think of hot, Caribbean colors, salsa music, dancing, tropical fruits and spicy food, warm beaches, celebrations, enjoying life? Our next Nimble Fingers Challenge asks you to ponder this theme “**Fiesta!**” and create a quilt, no larger than 60 inches in either dimension. One entry per member is allowed in this challenge. All quilts will be due at our **December 7, 2011** meeting and will be displayed as part of our holiday party.*

January will offer a round robin of surface design techniques featuring our talented members. Thursday, January 5, 2012 will be the date when **Kim Jalette** will teach her ever popular **Mystery Quilt** workshop from 11 AM – 5 PM, at a cost of \$40 per member. Come and enjoy the fun!

The **February** speaker will be **Eileen Doughty** from Northern Virginia who will share her techniques for creating beautiful three dimensional thread sculptures. The half day workshop from 1-4 PM will allow you to learn how to make your own thread sculptures at a cost of \$35 per member.

March will feature **Jennifer Amor** with a lecture entitled “**Wearable Art.**” The “**Pop Top Jacket**” workshop on Thursday, March 8, 11 AM- 5 PM, will be at a cost of \$50 per member.

April will include a guild yard sale and visit from a Chris Meyers of Fil-Tec, a local thread company.

May brings the exciting art of Zentangle and Zen Quilting with **Pat Ferguson**. We will have a half day workshop with Pat on the paper creative art of “**Zentangle**” at a cost of \$35 per member plus a kit fee of \$6, on Wednesday afternoon, 1-4 PM. In addition, Pat will teach a full day workshop on Thursday, May 3, 11 AM- 5 PM, on “**Zen Quilting**” at a cost of \$50 per member, plus a kit fee of \$40. We are offering a special member price of \$75 if you sign up for both workshops. (The kit fees are not included.) If you haven’t heard about this exciting creative process, check our Pat’s web site at www.patfergusonquilts.com or visit www.zentangle.com.

Our **June** meeting will feature nationally known quilt artist **Ellen Anne Eddy** who will speak to us about “**The Visual Path.**” We will also have our special show and tell for our log cabin “Block of the Year. Ellen Anne will share her thread sketched bobbin work in her **Dragonfly Sky** workshop, scheduled for Thursday, June 7, 2012.

Hospitality – Cathy Berman, Rainie Broad, Beverly Ferrell

Lunch in November will be sandwiches and salad at \$4. If there are any leftover sandwiches, they will be offered at \$2.

The hostesses for November are: Gray Miller, Nancy Sharp, Susan Thomas, Jean Porto, Dorothy Fortna and Jill Ruspi. Each hostess is asked to arrive by 9:15 to help set up and also to bring a dessert and two 2-liter bottles of a beverage.

In December, we will have a holiday pot luck – details to be announced via email at a later date.

Hostesses are needed for January through June and a sign up sheet will be passed around at the November meeting.

Membership – Mila Haberman, Mary Jo Haczewski

New member:

Barbara Straight

Change in Address/Telephone:

Suzanne Kinnard

Spelling error in roster:

Lillian **Kozuma** - (Not Kosoma)

Quilting Bee – Francie Parrack

The third Thursday of the month, Nimble Fingers members gather at Habitat for Humanity Headquarters, 9110 Gaither Road, Gaithersburg (diagonal from Capital Quilts). We are there from 10 am till 12:30 pm and afterwards often go out to lunch.

There are tables at Habitat that are perfect for sandwiching quilts, chairs that are comfy, and outlets for machines. Bring your own project and join us. There is always lots of conversation and plenty of advice. If you haven't finished your workshop projects, bring them to Habitat and work on them.

Hope to see you there. We are fortunate to have this space available to our members.

Quilting for Others – Margaret Natof, Mary Moore Payne

Come One, Come All to the Great Strip Sew-In

At the November meeting, members will piece as many *Quilting 4 Others* quilt tops as possible. We will be making simple strip pieced blocks stitched on a muslin foundation block. There will also be strips to sew in long rows to make a top. Really easy, lots of fun, instant gratification from making beautiful blocks and helping others!

There will be many jobs: machine sewing, pressing, rotary cutting strips and squaring blocks, a bit of unsewing, sorting of strips and assembling tops. Also there will be lots of smiles and good cheer as we spend a morning helping those in need.

So, choose your tasks and bring the tools you need to do it:

Rotary Cutting for strips and squaring blocks: Mat, cutter, rulers (various sizes)

Machine piecing: machine in good working order (only need straight stitch), extension cord

Presser: iron, ironing surface, extension cord

Unsewer: your favorite seam ripper and a smile

Strip Arranger: only your eager sense of order, for a sitting job

Block Assembler: your sense of how a top should look

For questions, call Margaret Natof.

Mini Groups – Jane Oden

?? Are you looking for some quilting buddies??

I am happy to help members find other quilters who are interested in being part of a mini group.

Mini groups are a great way to form friendships while also learning more quilting skills and techniques. These small groups get together whenever they want during the month. Some activities you can do are: stitching together, planning trips to quilt shows and fabric shops and sharing your latest accomplishments.

If you are interested in being part of a mini group, there will be a sign up sheet at the November and December meetings.

For more information or to sign up, please contact Jane Oden.

Current Events – Pam Hahn

Nov 3-6 **International Quilt Festival**, Houston TX
<http://www.quilts.com/newHome/index.php>

Nov 9-13 **QUILTER'S QUEST** – Maryland and Northern Virginia Shop Hop
<http://www.quiltersquest.org/>

Member News

New member Joan Raciti was recently published in "THE QUILT LIFE" magazine. More information can be found on her website: www.joanraciti.com.

Committee Chairs – contact these people to volunteer or get information:

Current Events:	Pam Hahn
Historian:	Susan Sellers
Hospitality:	Cathy Berman, Rainie Broad, Beverly Ferrell

Library:	Chris Ritcher
Membership:	Mila Haberman, Mary Jo Haczewski
Mini Groups:	Jane Oden
Newsletter:	Kim Jalette
Programs:	Susan Sellers, Carol Clanton, Cheryl Layman, Nancy Rose Opeka, Jill Ruspi, Julie Taylor
Quilt Consortium:	Elizabeth Davison
Quilt Show:	Chris Ritcher, Beverly Ferrell
Quilting Bee:	Francie Parrack
Quilting for Others:	Margaret Natof, Mary Moore Payne
Retreat:	Anne Datko
Sunshine:	Betty Ford
Website:	Jane Van Horn
Welcoming:	Jane Oden

All telephone numbers, snail mail and e-mail addresses can be found in the Membership Directory. Copies are available from the Membership Chair.

Please notify Mila Haberman, Membership Chair, with any changes in home address/phone number and/or e-mail address.

Quilt Show 2012 – Chris Ritcher, Beverly Ferrell

We are making great progress on our 2012 Quilt Show “Pineapple Fiesta”. The membership decided that part of the proceeds from our raffle quilt will go to Hero-Dogs.org and Habitat for Humanity.

Anne Trudel, our raffle basket coordinator, is ready to receive your items to start preparing baskets. When you are in your sewing rooms making all your holiday gifts, take a look around your sewing space. We would love your unwanted patterns, books, templates, rulers, kits and fabrics for the Quilt Show Raffle Baskets.

I am glad to report that Beverly Ferrell volunteered to be co-chair of our 2012 Quilt Show. Her experience as chair of our past quilt show will make this task much easier. We have our volunteers for Registration and we need two more volunteers to fill all the show committee chairs. The positions left to fill are for Volunteer Coordinator and Program Advertising. Please contact Chris Ritcher or Beverly Ferrell for details or to volunteer.

Quilt Show Committees as of October 2011

COMMITTEE	CHAIR
Quilt Show Co-Chairs	Christiane Ritcher, Beverly Ferrell
Treasurer	Barbara Kilby
Secretary	Evelyn Farinas / Linda August
Admission	Linda August
Quilt Registration	Helen Wasserman / Diane Heller
Publicity	Susan Sellers (Shirley Malia)
Art Work	pending
Program Advertising	VACANT
Program Layout	Christiane Ritcher
Design (quilt layout)	Julie Taylor
Show setup	Patrice Thomas
Volunteers	VACANT
Signage	Carole Auth
Quilting for Others	Mary Moore Payne
Artisan's Attic	Nancy Rose Opeka
Boutique	Rainie Broad
Vendors	Evelyn Farinas
Silent Auction	Burt White
Challenge (TBD)	Kim Jalette (Laurie Bay)
Demonstrations	Cheryl Layman
Viewers Choice	Al Feldman
Opportunity: Raffle Baskets	Anne Trudel
Opportunity: Quilt Mother	Barbara Kilby
Opportunity: Quilt Scheduler	Nancy Sharp
Opportunity: Quilt Tickets	Kim Jalette (Laurie Bay)