



Missoula Quilters' Guild Newsletter

September 2024

Greetings everyone and welcome back to Quilt Guild!

It seems that summer flew by, as it always does in Montana. But our beautiful Missoula fall is about to start, and with it the beginning of a new and exciting year for our Guild.

- Attached you will see the September financial report and the proposed budget for the upcoming year. One new line item in this budget is something I am particularly excited about. The Board would like to “give back” to the membership for all of our hard work at the Quilt Show and the Fair by offering a **FREE IN-TOWN RETREAT** to members only at the Holiday Inn ballroom the weekend of January 25th and 26th. I will explain this further at the meeting.
- The Board is also proposing that we offer for sale canvas tote bags, denim shirts and patches with our embroidered logo. Additionally, we’re hoping to participate in the UM Women’s Fair in October to generate interest in the Guild and attract younger members. We’d also like have our own Zoom account so we could host committee meetings during bad weather, members could host demonstrations, instructions or discussions and small groups could get together for any reason they would like. Groups could be open to the whole membership or open to just a few. Tava has volunteered to monitor the account.
- Our proposed budget needs to be reviewed and discussed at our September meeting, and voted on at our October meeting. Please take a minute to review it, and notice that it reflects a number of new ideas the Board has for the Guild this year.
- It’s **membership renewal** time again. Our annual dues are \$25. You can pay online or at the meeting this coming Wednesday night. There will be tables in the lobby set up for payment and members who have paid can pick up their membership cards.

❖ Community Service Group Reports:

- ❖ **Emily Dix** reports that **Quilts for Kids** continued working hard throughout the summer despite the heat and a couple of cancellations because of it. June through September quilt distributions came to over 400 quilts. Thank you to all our loyal members who continue to supply us with quilt tops and/or finished quilts. Remember quilt kits are available at A Clean Stitch, Confident Stitch, and Vicky’s, or you can come to our “sweat shop” and pick up kits or volunteer. We are also working on school bags for Franklin school and have completed over 55 to date.

- ❖ **Debbie Tomell** reports that **Quilts of Valor** had a table at the Ft. Missoula 4th of July event. **Janet Gustuson, Mike and Debbie Tomell** had a great time talking to people about QOV and the Guild. They sold patriotic pin cushions and key fobs, as well as a raffle for three items made by members. They had an active summer, meeting two times a month. They received several completed quilts and monetary donations, including 63 completed 12 ½” blocks, and a completed quilt from the Silver Thimble quilt shop in Bozeman. This summer their group did presentations for several local veterans in Missoula and down the Bitterroot.



- ❖ **Joyce Auer** from **Camp Mak-A-Dream** submitted the following report from “**the Arleesians**”: Our group donated 200 signature pillows for campers and 15 pillows for counselors. We donated 25 larger quilts to Tamarack Grief Resource Center provided by Quilts for Kids. Thanks to all who contributed pillow tops this year and in years past!
- ❖ **Chris Stobb** from **Comfort Quilts** would like to remind everyone that she is still in need of longarm quilters to finish her many quilt tops for distribution. Please contact her if you have some time in your schedule to finish a few tops. 406-240-3068.
- **Challenges!!** Come to the meeting and learn about a new **annual quilting challenge** from **Karen Winther**. We will also learn about a new **library challenge** from our **librarians Vickie Christie and Louise Rhode**.
- **ETC** is excited to present national teacher Kristen Echols in a workshop on the Seminole Quilt Pattern Technique in November. She will present her trunk show at our November 13 meeting, and the class on Thursday, November 14 at Atonement Lutheran Church where we do Stitchers in the Dark. Maximum class size is 20. Cost for members is \$45 with ETC picking up the rest of the cost. No pattern or ruler to buy! We will a great

example of Seminole patterning at the meeting from member **Diane Haddon**, who has graciously loaned us her project for a close up. There is a good possibility that Kristen might do a second day if we have enough interest, and we think we already do. Sign up at the meeting! See the class flyer attached below for more information.

- Some things are just not meant to be, and unfortunately our summer picnic was one of them. We had to cancel because of that July hot spell which seemed to last for weeks. And last year we had to contend with rain! Hopefully the weather will cooperate next year and we'll enjoy the best picnic ever!
- And along that vein of "not meant to be," Karen Winther has worked hard for two years working the tables for fat quarter and birthday basket raffles, but the Board decided the money earned was just not worth the effort. So, we're giving those projects a rest for a while until the interest regenerates.
- At the Wednesday meeting there will be sheets passed around so everyone will have a chance to **sign up for treats** for the whole year. For some reason, getting people to bring treats has been a challenge, though I do believe that goodies are much appreciated once they arrive! We will no longer be using the website for treat sign up.
- I'm sending out an **"all call" for door prizes**. Every month our hostess (**Jewel Kodilla**) will raffle off door prizes for 3 people who wore their nametags to the meeting. We'd rather not have to purchase door prizes, so if you have some treasures in your quilt room that you think would make a nice door prize, please gather them up and bring them to the meeting. There will be a table for your donations at the back of the room.
- The new **UFO** (Unfinished Objects) challenge starts in September and goes through December. Another challenge starts in January and goes through May. **Nancy Terwilliger-Grube** will explain more about this at the meeting. There is great information about how to participate in the UFO challenges on the website. The form for UFO is on our website, on our Facebook page, AND it is also attached below!
- See you on Wednesday at 6:30 at Revive Church, 2599 Latimer St. Don't forget your quilts for Show and Tell. There's much to talk about, old friends to greet and maybe some new friends to meet!

Joni Stormo

Guild President