

Bits and Pieces

Brazos Bluebonnet Quilt Guild Newsletter



Volume 36, No. 12, December, 2014
Anne Perry, Editor Michaele Jackson, Co-Editor

BBQG President's Message – December, 2014



I have absolutely decided as I'm getting ready for this holiday season that "My Life Is Like a Crazy Quilt". Not sure if the rest of you feel that way or it is only me? The rush, the deadlines, and the balance between family, work, and home. Of course in reality, it is not just the holiday season that makes "My Life Like a Crazy Quilt", it is that way all the time. It just seems increased at the holiday season because we add one to ten more things to our craziness.

So is it so bad to be like a "Crazy Quilt" --- no, it can be fun, spontaneous and inspiring to see how things turn out at the end of the day. Erma Bombeck told a story once about how things can get crazy and turn into funny without you even realizing it. Erma was doing some ironing in her basement one day and also doing laundry. She hadn't got dressed yet and was still in her robe. She looked down to see a stain on her robe and decided to throw it in the laundry. Standing there with nothing on she soon noticed that a leaky water pipe was dripping on her head and so she grabbed the closest thing in her reach, her son's football helmet. She put the helmet on her head and continued to iron. The meter for her water just happened to be in her basement and the meter reader was used to opening the sliding glass doors and reading the meter once a month. Low and behold, in walks the meter reader and Erma freezes, standing still hoping that he won't notice. The meter reader looks at the meter, doesn't say anything and just as he got to the door, turns around and says to her..."Lady, I don't know what team you are on but I sure hope they win!"

So as my presidency comes to an end, let me leave you with this thought. The crazier life gets, don't forget to turn it into something fun and enjoy. Thanks to all of you for your commitment, volunteer hours, and donations of time, money and spirit to our BBQG group. God Bless!

Norma Reel, President, BBQG

December Board Meeting will be Monday, December 1, 6 p.m. at Hobby Lobby.



BBQG Christmas Party!

Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at the Brazos Center; bring food at 6; dinner around 6:30 PM

Maggie McGuire and Linda Bridges (formerly known as the Kitchen Witches!) will plan the event - We'll need lots of help!!

We think guild members make the most wonderful food, so we want it to be **Pot Luck**. Totally! Just bring your favorite dish. We'll need casseroles, salads, breads, drinks, and desserts!! Lots of desserts! You don't need to tell us what you are bringing...we like the idea of throwing caution to the wind!!! And we always have plenty, so come even if you can't bring anything!

Also, we would like to continue the **gift exchange** we have done in the past. For those of you who are new, bring a \$20 quilt-related gift (handmade if possible, but not necessary). Many gifts in the past are worth much more than \$20, but that's all we want you to "spend"! Be prepared to "steal" a gift or have yours stolen in the fun exchange I've always called the "Chinese gift exchange". (We will only allow two steals so we can get home at a decent hour!) At any rate, it is lots of fun and good cheer!

If you wish to help set up or clean up, please contact Linda or Maggie at:
lindabridges75@gmail.com
maggie@drmaggiemcguire.com

November's Membership Report: 53 members, 17 visitors, and 196 volunteer hours

Eighteenth Annual BBQG Winter Retreat

We still have a few spaces open for the BBQG winter retreat to be held February 5-9, 2015 at Camp Lone Star in La Grange. The retreat is open to BBQG members only (persons who have been paid-up members since January, 2014). The cost of the retreat is \$230 for 3 nights (Thursday, Friday and Saturday) or \$280 for 4 nights (Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday). A \$50 deposit is required to secure your reservation. The balance will be due January 13, 2015. For more information, please contact Jeanne Joham at (979) 589-2191.

Summer Retreat

The summer quilt retreat will be held Thursday – Sunday, May 21 – 24, 2015, at Deep Woods Retreat Center, Smithville, TX.

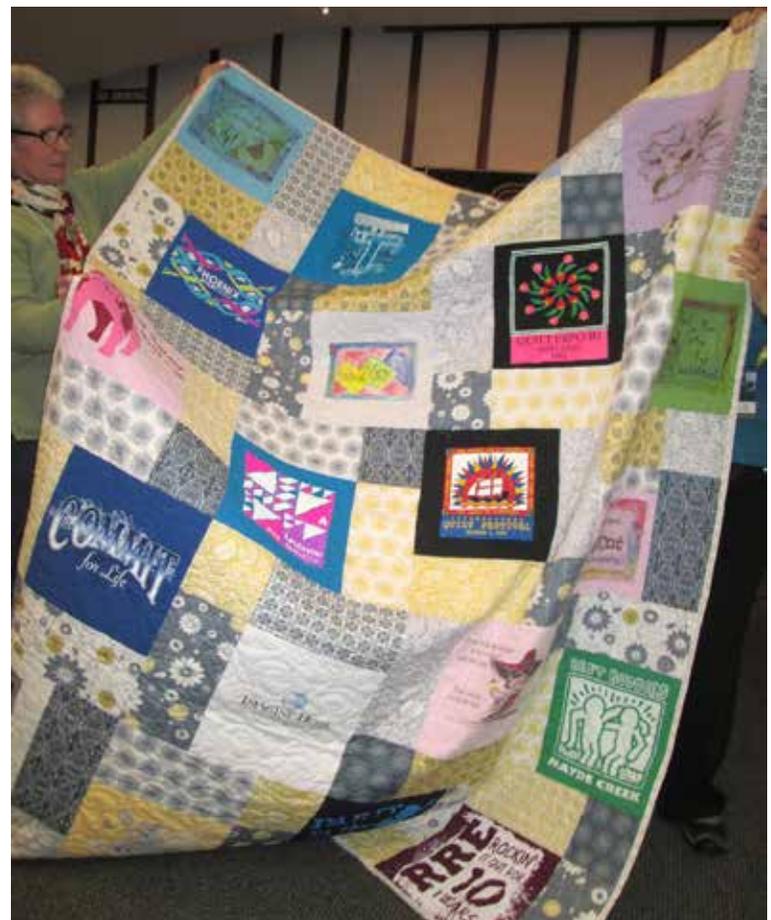
Registration will begin at 6:15 at the February Guild Meeting. Cost this year is \$265.00 for four days Thursday– Sunday, or \$200.00 for 3 days Friday – Sunday.

A \$50.00 non-refundable deposit is required at registration, and your 2015 dues to the Guild must be paid.

We are limited to 24 participants.

Thanks,
Summer Retreat Committee
Rowena R, Peggy M, Deb D, Sue S

Photos in this newsletter were taken by Christine Deppe unless otherwise noted. Right, one of November speaker Martha DeLeonardis's "t-shirt quilts."



Bee News

Quilt 'n Peace members, working in groups, completed three quilts in November for a special, long time benefactor. This month we are making personal sweat shirt jackets under the direction of Rowena. During December we probably will not meet except for a Christmas gathering.

Kathy Ashley

Bee Keeper

NEEDED FOR 2015: BEE KEEPER

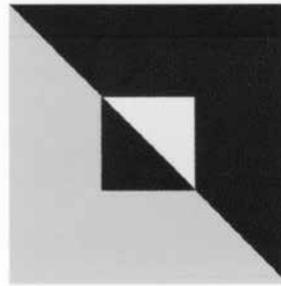
A BIG thank you to Kathy Ashley for being our Bee Keeper for the past 2 years. She has decided to give someone else the opportunity to fill those shoes.—Are you that someone?? Please contact Sue S. at 979-820-1856 or email bssprott@gmail.com if you would like to do this!



The photo above is of an award-winning quilt by November speaker, Martha De-Leonardis, along with some of the quilts waiting to be shown to BBQG.

Area Quilt Shows

January 23-25, 2015 - "Quilts on the Bayou" Fri/Sat, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sun, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Location: Jeffersonian Institute, 120 E. Austin St., Jefferson, TX 75657; \$5/adults, \$4/children 6-12, \$9/3-day pass. Viewers Choice Open Show with cash awards, workshops, demonstration, lectures, door prizes, raffle quilt, merchant mall and special exhibits. www.jeffersonquiltshow.com; e-mail jqshow@yahoo.com



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February 19-22, 2015 - QuiltCon (the international show and conference of the Modern Quilt Guild)
Location: Austin Convention Center, 500 E Cesar Chavez St., Austin Texas 78701

February 22-26, 2015 - Appliqué Away on Galveston Bay
Go online for more information and to register:
www.appliqueawayongalvestonbay.com.

November BBQG Minutes

November 11, 2014

Norma Reel called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Norma gave the Treasurer's report, as Pat Patterson was unavailable.

Norma presented the **new officers for 2015:**

President	Sue Sprott
1st VP programs	Maggie McGuire
	Linda Bridges
2nd VP/Membership	Cathy Davis
Secretary	Julie Sabrsula
Treasurer	Brenda Brown

The **slate of officers for 2016** was presented:

President	Sue Idol
1st VP Programs	Melody Nelson
2nd VP Memberships	Nadine Stuth
Secretary	Alma Franseca
Treasurer	Benita Ebel

After they were introduced, a voice vote was taken and these ladies were elected unanimously. They will shadow the 2015 officers for the next year.

Brenda Brown of membership said we had 51 members present and 17 guests. Welcome to Cindy Engelman, Cynthia Applegate, Camilla Blad, Florence Siegirt, Betty Wiess, Nicde Pavel, Maggie Cunningham, Melisa C. Harper Cannigham, Rosan Cooding, Carol Clarkson, Susie Feldman, Chris P., Debby Walters, Maggie Memm, Laurence Nelson, Judy Draper.

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Teri Walker
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Because there has been little participation in the block of the month, it will be discontinued for the coming year. **Many thanks to Charlotte Simpson** for her creative use of the Elm Street quilt blocks. Everyone agreed it was not the blocks, but a lack of time to complete them that kept them from participating.

The Arts Council is hosting a show, Proximity: an Exhibition Honoring the Artist from the Department Visualization at TAMU. It will be held November 13.

Kerry Dwyer reported that the raffle quilt earned \$582.00 at the Brazos Fair. She noted that she would need help when the raffle quilt is at Joann's on Black Friday. She passed a sign up sheet around.

Maggie and Linda reported on the Christmas party. Bring whatever you like to eat--no sign up for type of dish. We are living dangerously and will eat whatever is there. I vote for all desserts! We will have a Pirate Gift exchange. Everyone should bring a quilt related, no more than \$20.00 gift to exchange. Stealing will be limited to 2 times per gift. Arrrrrrrrrrgh!

November Birthdays were announced:

Mildred Carter, Janice Drees, Mary Ann Durbin, Connie Harrison, Rowena Reed, Sue Sprott, and Polly Trant.

December birthdays are **Peggy Albright, Grace Collins, Debbie DeRoche, Betsy Fossett, Ellie Hurst, Jeanne Joham, Karen Knabe, Geraldine Park, Jeanne Rierson, Jane Riggs, Jane Waldrop, Gloria Warren and Donnice Ehite.**

Door prizes were donated by Lone Star Quiltworks, Mary Radke, Lucy Smith and Country Living Quilts.

Old Business:

We are looking for a raffle quilt chairperson for 2016. Please consider volunteering. There are people to help.

A Million thank yous to **Sharon Braunagel.** She donated a king quilt top, with two shams for the 2016 raffle quilt. The Long Arm Quilter will be Normal Reel

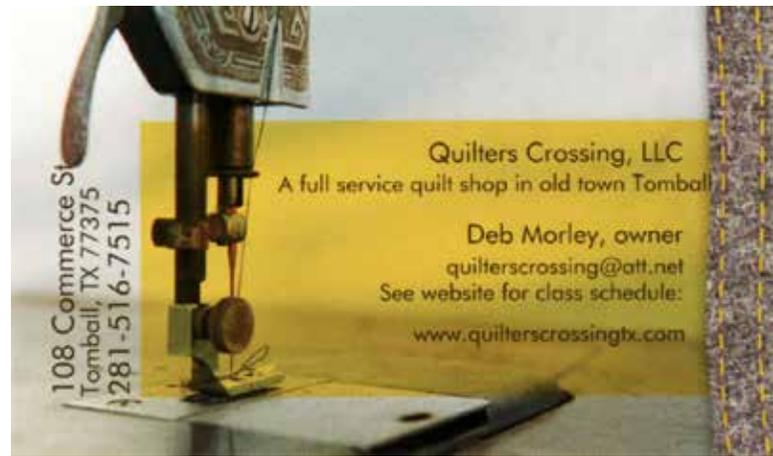


Sample "t-shirt quilts" by Martha DeLeonardis above and in the right-hand column

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Above, a "t-shirt quilt" sample with speaker Martha DeLeonardis on the right



WHAT: Oklahoma City Winter Quilt Show
WHEN: January 8, 9, 10, 2015
WHERE: Sate Fair Park, Cox Pavilion, 3001 General Pershing Blvd. Oklahoma City OK
HOURS: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm Thursday, Friday & Saturday

Check our website for updates and additional information: www.qsccexpos.com
E-mail: info@qsccexpos.com
Public info: 775.971.9266

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New Business:

Budget meeting has been rescheduled. However, each committee should have their 2015 budget needs to Pat or Norma immediately.

The Oklahoma Quilt Show will be January 8,9,10. If you are interested please contact Norma for an entry form.

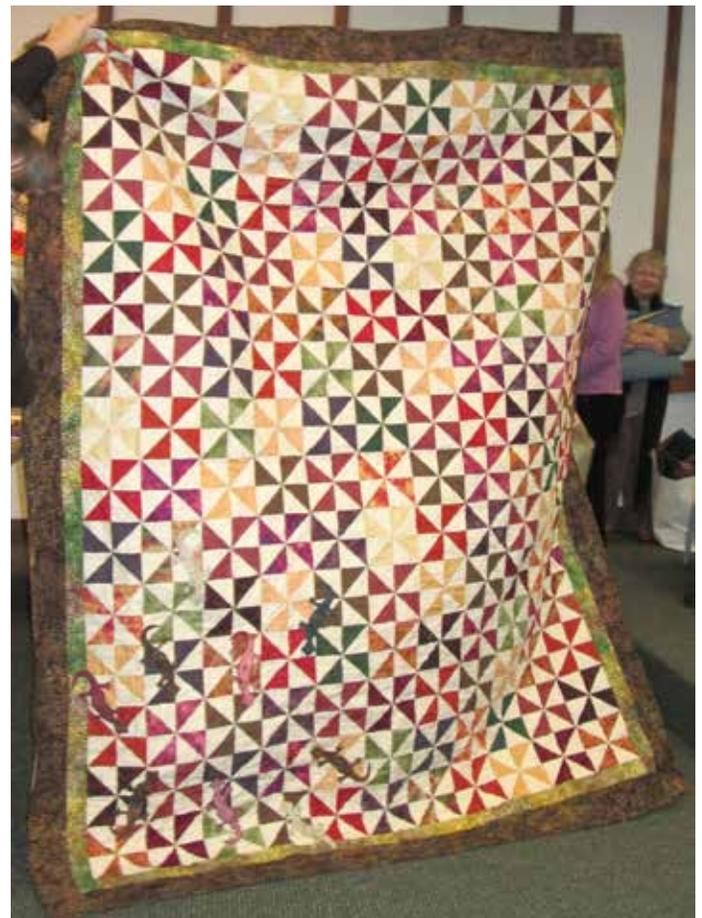
April 24 and 25 will be St. Mary's Quilt Show in Plantersville, TX. The quilts will be displayed inside the church over the pews. More information to follow. All proceeds will be donated to St. Vincent DePaul.

Lynn McCarthy was recognized as winning two first prizes at the Brazos Fair.

Harper and Maggie were introduced and they gave a short explanation of their project: Books and a Blanket. Through their web site they collect books, lap quilts or blankets that they put in a crate and give them to children in the Brazos Valley. They also accept cash donations and a basket was passed. They were on the Today show this summer.

Linda Bridges introduced our speaker Martha DeLeonardis. She spoke on how to be a designer of quilts and had many examples of her works. After her program a lively Show and Tell was held.

Respectfully submitted.
Maggie McGuire
 Secretary



Above, Victoria Carpenter's "Full-color Pin Wheel" quilt shown during Show 'N Tell

Terry Skrabanek
Owner

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Above, visitor Debby Walters' "Whole Cloth Applique" shown during Show 'N Tell

For Sale by Member:

I have a table-top quilting frame 38" x 130" with a Grace frame carriage plus a WOW sewing machine for sale. This is a set-up to do long arm quilting with a stretched industrial Singer machine. It has hand controls, variable speed and a 16" throat. The table and frame could also be used for your own sewing machine, but would not work as well for foot controlled machine.

I paid \$1,100 for the set-up 5 years ago, and will take \$800 or best offer.

Beverly Alexander
bevtexas@gmail.com

At right, a wonderful quilt shown at the very end after people left. We're sorry that we did not hear the quilter's name!!



Above, Delores Rydell's "Red and White" quilt shown during Show 'N Tell





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Left, another sample "t-shirt quilts" by Martha DeLeonardis

Below, Anne Perry's photo of Lee McComas speaking at the Houston International Quilt Festival on Thursday, October 30. What good fortune to hear her speak of her techniques to help the viewers' eyes move around the focus aspects of her thread art quilt!

