



# Bits and Pieces

**Brazos Bluebonnet Quilt Guild Newsletter**

**Volume 43. Number 6**

## **From the President...**

I hope everyone is staying safe. The Brazos Health Department is maintaining their recommendation of social distancing. And our speakers for June and July have cancelled.

The Board met for May through a Zoom meeting. It was great to see everyone. The Board has decided to cancel the June and July Guild meetings. The Brazos Center has been notified of the cancellation so that credit can be given for these dates.

The Board has been and continues to review the situation month by month. We are following the local health officials recommendations. Anticipating the need for social distancing through the summer the Board has a few ideas to try.

- A mini quilt show through Facebook.
- A Guild vote on the Go Texan quilt.

The Board is looking at how to handle the raffle quilt for this year. Selling tickets online is not allowable by the State of Texas.

A special thank you to Norma for providing a tutorial of her workshop in a past newsletter.

Keep updated on Guild news through Groupworks, Facebook and this newsletter.

Denise

## **Treasurer's Report**

For the Month of April 2020

### **Checking**

Beginning Balance -

Checking per bank

Deposits Made

Checks Cleared

Ending Balance per  
Bank

Less Outstanding  
Checks

Ending Balance -  
Checking per Register

### **Savings**

Beginning Balance -  
Savings per Bank

Interest Received

Transfers to Checking

Ending Balance -  
Savings

Total Cash Balance

Submitted by Susan Beasley

## Programs Update

It's been hard to see workshops and Round Robin plans postponed, but I do have a bit of good news: The Brazos Center gave the Guild a credit of \$1,000 to put towards our contract for next year--credit for cancelling April, May, June and July meetings. And all of our cancelled speakers have promised to reschedule.

### What we missed:

- Norma Reel Trunk Show and Workshop "Wonder Flutters"
- Robin Williamson, "Challenge Accepted" and workshop "Let Loose! Improv Workshop"
- Melinda Stanton Trunk Show and workshop "Lucy Boston Quilting"
- Chris Hoover, Whirligig Designs, Trunk Show and workshop "Mauna Kae"

### What we have to look forward to:


- **Tuesday, August 11**, Peggy Richards Trunk Show
- **Tuesday, Sept. 15**, Mini Quilt Show  
Challenge theme this year is "Log Cabin"
- **Tuesday, October 13**: Gloria Loughman, Workshop "Shades of the Forest" and lecture "Share the Journey"
- **Tuesday, November 10**, Wearable's Fashion Show
- **Tuesday, December 8**, Christmas Party

Submitted by Laura North

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**Long Arm Quilting Magic**



## New Member's Quarantine Report...

I am LuAnn Dotzour, a new Guild member.

A friend and I began attending the Guild meetings in October, which I believe was the month that RaNae Merrill was the speaker. That night I jotted down her book on Free-Motion quilting and went home and put it on my Amazon wish list. My son bought it for me for Christmas. Early this year I did the exercises in the book. Wow, I learned so much!!

We joined the Guild in January, and signed up for the Round Robin. That was all new to me.

During this lockdown time, I decided to practice the idea of adding a border that I "made up". I had always just done a quilt from a pattern. I finished my



experimental quilt with a center block and adding borders and then used what I had learned from RaNae's book to quilt it.

Then I wanted to go to the curves workshop which we didn't have, but since our teacher so graciously put some online for us, I decided to try that. I've never stitched curves before either. I



found a pattern to use and made another quilt using that information, again added a border, and quilted it on my machine.

Then I decided to do an I Spy quilt I've wanted to do. I did it just recently and quilted it.



Oh and I also watched a video to learn how to do a flange binding...which I love!! So that's what I've been up to.



## Bee News...

**Quilt in Peace Bee** is looking forward to meeting again, hopefully the first Tuesday in June. First Baptist Church, College Station is in the process of planning Phase 11 of opening and we will resume gathering when allowed. In the meantime, many of us are still making masks, scrub caps or care quilts.

Quilt n' Peace pulled a 16-car Birthday train recently to celebrate Peggy Mobley's birthday.

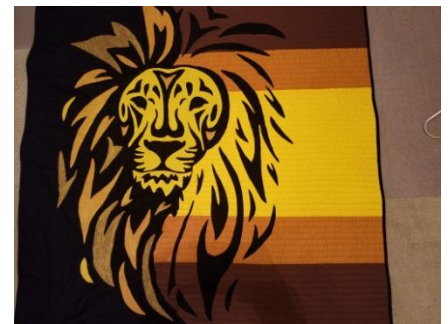


Each year Quilt in Peace (meeting at First Baptist Church, College Station) gives quilts to graduating seniors who live at Texas Baptist Children's Home in Round Rock. Pictured are quilts for the two graduates in 2020, Alaynah (planning to attend Mary Hardin Baylor) and Lukah (Austin Community College). Members of Quilt in Peace pieced the quilts. Connie Harrison quilted them.



## Praying Peacers:

**Kathy Loflin:** I finished a lion's head 40x40 thread painting wall hanging for my son's birthday along with two wall hangings of appliqué, one an elephant's head and another a unicorn for my two grandchildren. Got those mailed and began on my grandson's graduation quilt. It's ready to send to Janet for the quilting



process, and I'm finishing up a baby quilt for my niece, due in August. I'm





working on Chuck Club squares, learning how to blow up the patterns from our 2001 Patchwork Squares book in between those finished projects. Also, I have cut out lots of flowers for a Seahorse collage by L. Heine; that is my next thing to tackle.

This time away from everyone has definitely helped in catching me up on all the things on my TO DO list of items I've been planning, but it has only put a tiny dent in the stack of kits still hanging around my sewing room.

**Cecelia Myers:** This quilt I'm currently working on was inherited from Ruby Youngblood's unfinished stash. Sandy Atkinson gave it to me because she didn't want to deal with dismantling and squaring it up. My motivation is due to the popularity of Ruby's quilts in the Wheelock Civic Center auction (Pioneer Days). It should prove to be quite a challenge for me, as I'm a novice quilter. I am happy with the way the borders turned out. Piano keys spiced it up a bit.

**Betty Madura:** Quilts completed since March 1, 2020: Hemmed Amazon Star quilted by Rhonda Exley; machine quilted One Block Wonder; hand quilted Forest Floor (king size); hand quilted and hand appliquéd a flower king size quilt (blocks were started in 2008); and hand quilted Kaffe Fassett's Half Moon quilt (72" square). I have a 128" x 128" sampler quilt (blocks were made by a group in Normangee in 1997) in the frame and am quilting it. I still have seven quilt tops in my "to be quilted tub" to go!

**Mary Enscher:** I've been spending my time finishing some old projects: I added two more feathered star blocks to a future quilt, pieced together two wall hangings, custom-quilted two large quilts and started a third, added some appliqué to a wall hanging, pieced a batik star quilt with appliqué borders and made dozens of masks for family and friends.

**Janet Kirkpatrick:** I've been busy longarm quilting customer quilts, made a t-shirt quilt, and am making

slow progress on my daughter's wedding quilt - a Double Wedding Ring.

**Joan Guild:** Just finished a queen size quilt. Finishing up some old projects and going through material. Made several masks.

**Benita Jones Ebel:** I've been soooo busy. Finished quilting two orphan quilts. Started and finished a quilt with my cousin in Minnesota (top only). Cleaned my sewing room, which took about a week and a half, and then started another project, thereby messing things up AGAIN.

**Donna Otto:** I did manage to finish hand quilting a quilt that had been started by my grandmother when she was teaching my mother how to sew and embroider. They had gotten the blocks sewn together, or rather I should say a very new young (approximately 9 or 10) girl did the sewing. The blocks do not match nor are they the same size, but the top was stitched together. Over the years it disappeared. and no one knew where it had gone. Upon settling the estate after my father died, we found the quilt top stored between a mattress and the box springs on one of the beds. It was not in the best of shape, but after hand washing and hanging to dry, there were a couple of holes and a stain or two. I decided this quilt should be passed on to Cheryl and kept in the family, as there were really no heirlooms from my side of the family to keep. It took me several years to finally finish the quilt. I did cheat though and machine quilted the border and binding as my hands have trouble holding a needle. I also have made some Christmas gifts and a few things for the Christmas store if we have a Cookie Walk (at the Franklin United Methodist Church on the second Saturday of December) this year.

**Anne Perry:** I finished binding my Doug Leko quilt which was beautifully quilted by Rhonda Exley, and then started a queen-sized Tuscan Sunset quilt (batik fabric kit from MSQC) for our granddaughter. There are 36 15" star blocks, each with 17 pieces, so it has been a task for me, but it will be to Janet Kirkpatrick for quilting by the end

of the month. It was my greatest pleasure to make lots of masks for super market workers in Franklin and for friends, too.

Submitted by Jane Riggs



## Mini Quilt Show Update...

Hi all! I just wanted to touch base with you about the BBQG Mini Quilt Show previously scheduled for this September. As you recall, the theme is log cabin, and I encourage you to use YOUR INTERPRETATION of that theme to create an original care quilt.

I hope you will use this opportunity to have fun using your imagination and ample talents designing a quilt your recipient will love! The guild will view the quilts, vote on their favorites, and the three quilts with the most votes will be auctioned off for donations.

In the event we are unable to meet in September, the board has considered creating a virtual mini quilt show, or possibly pushing the show to a later date. As always, check your newsletter and GroupWorks for information regarding this upcoming event.

Submitted by Donna Bracewell



## Out-Of-State Member Report...

Cindy Stitt is one of our out of state members who reported in on her activities during the shutdown... and it is not what you might expect.



The photo is of a surface full of orders ready to be packed and mailed.

This occurs about 3 times a day and has every day for the last 2 months- about 150 to 300 orders a day. All I can say is that people are definitely sewing and quilting and finishing projects. I think we will grow a lot new sewists and quilters out of this pandemic. Should be an exciting time when we all come out and see what everyone has been creating.

Once all the shutdown is over Cindy is looking forward to spending more time sewing, hoping to go into her own personal lockdown so she can be creative instead of exhausted at the end of each day.

*Terry Skrabanek*  
Owner

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A special thank you to all who responded to the request from Scott & White: Mary Ellen Bell, Donna Bracewell, Peggy Dunn, Denise Mackan, Emily Musgrove, Peggy McKenzie, Laverne Ondrasek, Susan Payne, Rowena Reed, Luci Smith, and JoAnn Williams

Laura also had a request from her son, a nurse at the Washington Hospital Center, for surgical caps and then braids to give the ears a break from the mask elastic. The specific part of the request..."Make them fun, Mom."

## The Volunteer Report...

This is an unusual/unprecedented/surreal time in our history. But quilters do what they have always done...they step up when called upon. And our members did step up.

Here's the report thus far...

Pam Unnasch...350 masks and counting.  
Luci Smith...60 masks and counting  
Laura North...200 masks  
Laura North...240 surgical caps and counting

The final report on the number of surgical PPE gowns has not been tallied as of this newsletter. Update later.

[Luci working in her happy place](#)







## Member Show N Tell...



Dream Big Panel quilted by Janet Kirkpatrick now resides on Kathy Loflin's wall.



Paulette Mayes decided on Scotties for her mask





Laura North Quilt of Valor



Donna Bracewell



Alma Fonseca wall hanging made from brother Sam's Ties (a great memory)



Donna Bracewell zipper bags



Donna Bracewell backpack





Alma Fonseca, gift for realtor selling her brother's house



Alma Fonseca



Donna Bracewell



Alma Fonseca