



And the Pres Says...

Well, the groundhog did not see his shadow and we are looking forward to six more weeks of winter. Snow is in the forecast again with cool temperatures, but the weather will not get us down. March is bringing Heather McGarry to visit and share her knowledge of vintage embellishments. This might be a good time to pick up some trinkets to use on your third quilter's challenge piece from "Ignite Your Creativity ." Remember to bring your second piece to the March meeting. Edyta Sitar will be back to share her expertise. May will bring us our own Coreen Strzalka with a lecture on "Fabric Dyeing Techniques." And don't forget the popular Table Sale in April.

The slate of 2009-2010 executive board officers is filling up fast. We are still in need of a Treasurer and a Welcome Committee Chairperson. This could be the time for you to step forward and become more involved. Your knowledge and expertise can help shape the future of this organization. We continue to be a strong group because of the involvement of our members.

As we move from winter into spring may we accomplish all of the goals we have set for ourselves, learn a new skill or technique, and find our "Pot O' Gold."

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

—*Ruth Kressler*

Membership

Remember that 2009-10 dues of \$15 must be paid by the June 4 meeting. Checks may be made payable to *Lansing Area Patchers* and given to Michelle Allen.



Service Projects

Please remember that the finished size of all doll quilts should be 18 x 22 inches (which means you'll need slightly larger than a fat quarter to make them. Also, please remember to bring any completed doll quilts to the next meeting for collection.

For Ele's Place quilts, size should be approximately 48 x 60 inches. These need to be collected before June.

-Georgianna Viele

News from the Executive Board

We are still looking at several options for a sound system. It has been decided that we would like a system which could accommodate two microphones. Static from a sound system tends to be a problem. We are hoping to have enough information by April to be able to purchase a system.

Please check out the blog site. Information on how to access and use the site is included in another article in the newsletter. You do not have to enter your name to leave a comment. Remember, your opinions are needed and valuable.

The elevator is in use for our meetings. Please remember to close the gate tightly before the elevator moves. Also, close the gate after you exit the elevator so that it can be called and used by another person. The side door is unlocked and the pathway is lighted for your use.



Programs

Whether March winds blow or not, Heather McGarry we will have a presentation and sale of vintage embellishments for your quilts—just in time for those quilt challenge quilts!

Remember to sign-up for Edyta Sitar's workshops, either Friday, March 6, or Saturday, March 7, you can call Jan Lee Asmann, 349-6595, or Jean Kaufmann, 347-7555. The spots are going fast. Cost for the workshop is \$25 for LAP members and \$35 for visitors. All materials are included in the cost. You need only to bring a working sewing machine and thread. The project is one of Edyta's new techniques called "Paper Foundation Table Runner." Edyta says if you don't like paper piecing you will love this process.

Just a reminder about our April meeting. We will have a table sale at our meeting. This is like a yard sale with LAP sellers signing up for half a table to sell yardage, tools, and miscellaneous quilting items to each other. Now is the time to start sorting and deciding what you should keep and what you should sell. Remember some things that you are tired of or just don't want any more could be someone else's treasure. And you could make a couple of bucks as a bonus. We will have a sign-up sheet for table space at the March Meeting. Look around and recycle unused quilting items, books, and fabric. Give another quilter a chance to use what you don't need. Prices are low and the evening is fun.



- March** 5—Heather McGarry lecture and sale of vintage embellishments
 6—Edyta Sitar workshop
 7—Edyta Sitar workshop
- April** 2—Table sale
- May** 7—Coreen Strzalka lecture: Fabric Dyeing
- June** 4—Pot Luck

Quilt Show

Dates have been set for LAP's next quilt show: May 22-23, 2010. Finish those quilts and get them ready to hang!

Quilter's Challenge 2008-09

Ignite Your Creativity

The objective of this challenge is to look beyond tradition—or stay with tradition, if you must—and experiment with the convergence of art and quilting. Your goal is to complete three pieces: a, b, and c. These do not need to be large, and they can be completed by hand, machine, or both.

Piece A is a picture. You can use an actual picture on paper or fabric, or a fabric that has a picture printed on it. For Piece B the theme is leaves. Use leaf fabric, leaf or leaves made from fabric, or whatever leaves you can create. Piece C focuses on embellishment, so break out your stash of beads, threads, buttons, charms, trims, found objects, whatever.



Try to use different techniques you don't normally use or techniques that are new to you in the construction of your pieces. Use innovative piecing: wonky, freehand, or fused; paint effects: paint, dye, stamping, foil; thread work: thread painting, bobbin threads, couching. Any other technique that you want to try is welcome.

For inspiration use all your senses to look at the world around you—be observant!! Inspiration can be found visually in nature, art, movies, photography; written in literature or poetry; and auditory in music and nature. Let your creative thinking expand. Creative thinking requires you to search for ideas and manipulate your knowledge and experience. Let yourself be open to new possibilities and to change.

Our guild has many traditional quilters. I urge you to attempt the three pieces and to push your comfort zones at least a little, but as much as you dare! Each of us can do A, B, and/or C in our own way.

If you must make something functional, so be it. If you can make something for fun or to try a new technique, that's even better. If your piece ends up at a national show—WOW!!!!

The measure of our success with this challenge is how much each of us experiments and how much fun we have, which only *we* can judge for *ourselves*!

We will have a special show and tell of these pieces in December, March, and June.

No piece has to be completed at a certain time. Just remember our only rules: 1. Every rule can be challenged; except 2. There are NO RULES.



2008-2009 Executive Board & Committees

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threemcginn@aol.com

Quilt Raffle Tickets

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Quilt Events Around Michigan

March 17, 2009

Rita Fisher, lecture at Quilt Guild of Metro Detroit, Harper Woods, MI.

Contact: <http://qgmd.org/index.php>

March 24, 2009

Susan K. Cleveland of Pieces Be with You at West Michigan Quilt Guild.

Class space for her Eye of the Piper class is still available. Contact:

donnasiler@gmail.com

April 24-26, 2009

Great Lakes African American Quilter's Network 5th Anniversary

Gala at McCamly Plaza Hotel, Battle Creek, MI. Contact:

<http://greatlakesaquilters.tripod.com/>

May 1-2, 2009

Lenore Crawford, workshop at Genesee Star Quilters, Flint, MI. Contact:

cfmalaski@aol.com

May 19, 2009

Connie St. Clair, lecture at Quilt Guild of Metro Detroit, Harper Woods, MI.

Contact: <http://qgmd.org/index.php>

October 9, 2009

Great Lakes African American Quilter's Network Quilt Show at Livonia

Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Rd., Livonia, MI. Contact:

<http://greatlakesaquilters.tripod.com/>



Lansing Area Patchers

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<http://www.lansingareapatchers.com>

LAP meets on the first Thursday of each month, September through June, at *Bretton Woods Covenant Church*, 925 Bretton, Lansing, MI.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Meeting begins at 7:15 p.m.

LAP Newsletter is published in September, November, January, March, and May each year. E-mail newsletter information to Sue Caltrider at

1863farm@comcast.net Newsletter

items must be submitted must be submitted by the 25th of August, October, December, February, and April.