

MIAMI VALLEY ART QUILT NETWORK NEWSLETTER

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Date: September 17, 2011

Location: Epiphany Lutheran Church

Presiding: Mindy Marik

Members Present: Debra Bentley, Dianne Boley, Kate Burch, Ginny Crabtree, Sue DeSantis, Ann Diller, Pam Geisel, Cathy Jeffers, Suzanne Kirchner, Mindy Marik, Carroll Schleppe, Maxine Thomas
Guest: Lynnette Campbell

So that the members who had made the Landmark quilts could work on adding sleeves to complete these quilts during the meeting, Mindy prepared and brought sleeves for them and explained how to make them (see New Business below) and add them to the quilts per specifications from professional organizations. These quilts were hung for photographing after the meeting.

Welcome Guests and New Members

The business meeting was opened at 1:50 p.m. by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Cathy Jeffers introduced her guest, Lynnette Campbell.

Correction/Changes to Last Month's Minutes

- The Monday Night classes will be held on the first Monday of the month except for September 12th and January 9th.
- Suzanne Kirchner's name was omitted in the attendance section.

Carroll volunteered to make the corrections to the meeting minutes on our website.

The September 17 agenda was approved as read.

Financial Report

Deb reported that since there were several members who have not yet paid their yearly dues of \$15.00, she sent out an e-mail to the members reminding them that any outstanding dues were to be sent to her. Since yearly dues are to be paid in May, she was asked to send a final e-mail to delinquent members letting them know that membership may be dropped if not paid in a timely manner. The balance in our treasury is \$1,500.07.

New Business

- Mindy stated that all members are welcome to attend the Board meetings which are held at Panera Bread on Brown Street at 6:30 p.m. on November 15, March 20 and June 19, 2012.
- Mindy gave instructions on how to sew sleeves on art quilts: Cut or tear 9" strips of fabric on the straight of grain. Fold in half and press. Open up right side down. Fold so that fabric meets in the center and press. Refold with wrong sides together and sew 3/8" seam across the length and press

open. Be sure not to press out the other fold which will make the 1/2" "poof." The sleeve should hang 1/2" from the top of the quilt and within an inch from each side. Long strips of these sleeves can be rolled and saved for future quilts. The folded edge should be top stitched.

- A professional photographer has been invited to our November meeting and could possibly photograph some of our quilts.
- Mindy informed us of an interesting website called Spoonflower.com which does custom fabric printing, including our own quilt labels, priced from \$16.20 per yard or \$5 for an 8x8" swatch.

Old Business

- The Exhibition Chair position still remains open. Because this position has not yet been filled, the deadline for submitting a proposal to the 2012 Glen Helen show was missed. This position is also needed to coordinate the Landmark Quilt shows. Mindy stated that help is available to anyone wishing to volunteer for this important office.
- Lisa emailed a suggestion from Maria Elkins that our group submit each of our individual Landmark quilt pieces to NQA of Columbus as one quilt with a single sleeve and only pay the \$20 entry fee plus shipping for each complete quilt. The cost would then be divided between the several artists who made the quilt. Since NQA is interested in learning more about our Landmark quilts, Lisa would like to send photographs to them.

Monday Class Report

Ann reported that the class reviewed samples they each made of art quilt focal points which were then critiqued. Carroll volunteered to add these projects to our website. The next meeting will be October 3 from 7 to 9 p.m. when the group will work on projects dealing with balance, symmetry and color.

Program

Continuing from last month's theme on helping members to develop their own portfolio, **Deb Bentley** spoke on the benefits of joining art professional associations to broaden our educational and professional development as well as to enhance our networking capability by meeting others with like interests.

She distributed several brochures and handouts from organizations such as Studio Art Quilt Associates, Alliance for American Quilts and information on on-line quilting groups. She also enlightened us on discounts available to members for shows, journals and magazines as well as other advantages for memberships to groups such as NQA, AQS, IQA, SAQA, DVAC and others. She also touched on other available groups such as the Appliqué Society, Embroidery Guild and a Crazy Quilt group. Many of the groups have shows and annual holiday sales. Most groups charge an annual fee from \$15 to \$60. More information is available on the web.

Pam Geisel presented information on ways to market your art work on the web. She explained that the Ohio Design Craftsmen, based at the Ohio Craft Museum in Columbus, are artists who make

usable art and have annual three-day Winter Fairs. She mentioned Quilt Arts Magazine, to which several of our members subscribe, as being filled with helpful information. She stated that if you do not have your own website, you can send photos to Fine Art America. 10 or 20 photos of your work. If you don't have your own website Fine Art America. Some links can sell your work, other will list it only. Pam has sold some of her work on Etsy and ArtFire where you can include links to your website. She distributed a page listing several on-line quilting groups along with her profile page.

Artist Statement Goal

All were encouraged to create their own Artist's statement and bring to the October meeting. It is a description of what we are interested in doing as an artist. Because it is personal, it does not have a particular format and is not a description of our work. Many examples of artists' statements can be found on-line. Carroll will add ours to the MVAQN website. This is a critical part of developing our personal portfolio.

Show & Tell

Lynnette showed us her Advent calendar which was made in the shape of a pine tree sewn by hand. She explained how she cuts away the batting and then adds a new piece to give a trepunto effect. Her second piece done in black and white displayed a basketball team. The third piece displayed individual coffee cups in browns and blues.

Kate showed her yellow and pink hand-dyed art quilt with pieced cherry blossoms made from silk ribbon.

Sue entered her quilts in the Applefest show in which she one First and Second place. One was done in blue and green and the second was a wall quilt entitled "Flirting with Feathers."

Dianne showed her two summer projects; both quilts were made with half log cabin squares—one in blues set into fields and furrows and the other chevroned on-point in variations of reds and whites.

Tip Time

Deb brought a number of samples of fabrics she tested in a variety of ways using Decolourant and De Colourant Plus (not bleach). She found that Batiks work best.

Next Meeting – Oct. 15 at Epiphany Lutheran Church on Far Hills.

Sue King, an active member of SAQA, will be the special guest speaker so be sure to invite a guest.

Please e-mail any corrections needed or your comments and suggestions to Dianne at dianneboley@gmx.com.

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