

# SNIPPETS



Newsletter of  
The Kenya Quilt Guild

January 2011

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Wish you all a very happy 2011.

On behalf of the committee and members of the guild, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our special guests Alex Anderson and Ricky Tims along with Tim West and their Safari group.

We are extremely pleased to have them with us to start off the first meeting of 2011 and hope this will set the trend for the rest of the year.

I am also looking forward to another year of learning, development and quilting.

My sincere thanks to all members for their support during 2010 and look forward to the same this year.

*Jasvinder Phull.*

### Inside this issue:

Chairman's Message	1
Tea with the Stars	2
Intro. to Alex & Ricky	2
Sewing Machine Sale	3
Mark your Calendar	3
2011 Quilt Challenge	4
New KQG blog	5
News from Colouricious	5
Bits & Pieces	6

**Kenya Quilt Guild** Meetings are held in the East Africa Women's League Headquarters in Nairobi.

Meetings are held, with few exceptions, on the 3rd Thursday of every month.

The Meeting commences at 10 a.m. Members and visitors are asked to gather at 9:30 a.m. to check in, browse the library, and chat.

No meetings are held in the months of August and December.

Annual membership fee of Ksh. 1200 is due in January. Members must present their membership cards at the door. Individuals may come to KQG meetings as a guest no more than twice per year. Guests must be accompanied and signed in by a member. The guest fee is 100/.

## January Meeting: [Tea with the Stars!](#)

Patchwork quilting celebrities [Alex Anderson](#) and [Ricky Tims](#) will be traveling with a safari group they are bringing to Kenya. Accompanied by Jim West, their safari guide and owner of [Sew Many Places](#), this safari group will arrive in Kenya on January 18, and tour the country until their departure on January 27th.

The Kenya Quilt Guild Executive Committee has invited them to join us for tea at our next meeting on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Jan 2011, and our invitation has been accepted.

We look forward to this great opportunity to meet Ricky and Alex and all their safari group members and to welcome them to Kenya. Do mark your calendars ladies, this meeting promises to be something special.

### [Introducing Alex Anderson and Ricky Tims](#)

[\(extracted from The American Quilter's Society website\)](#)



**Alex Anderson,**  
**Creative & Executive Director**

Alex Anderson's love of quilting all began in 1978 when she completed her Grandmother's Flower Garden Quilt as a part of her work towards her degree in art from San Francisco State University. Over the years her central focus has been to understand fabric relationships and an intense appreciation of traditional quilts and beautiful quilting surface design.

Alex is the author of 30 books in four languages selling near 1 million copies worldwide. Her quilts and instruction tips have also appeared in numerous magazines.

She is the National Spokesperson for Bernina of America, a promotional partner for Accu Quilt's Go!, as well as a designer of her own line of fabrics with P&B Textiles, and threads with Superior Threads. For 11 years, she served as host of "Simply Quilts" on HGTV. Alex is a founding partner of The Quilt Show.com, the world's first full-service interactive online video/web magazine created just for quilters worldwide.

Alex continues to be one of the most sought after instructors and lecturers in the international quilting and sewing industry. Alex has two children and lives in Northern California with her husband



**Ricky Tims,**  
**Creative & Executive Director**

Ricky Tims has successfully blended two diverse passions of music and quilting into one very unique and interesting career.

He is known in the international world of quilting as an enthusiastic and encouraging teacher, an award-winning quilter, and a talented and spellbinding speaker. His quilts have been displayed worldwide, and are highly regarded as excellent examples of contemporary quilts with traditional appeal.

He is the author of six books (with over 100,000 copies sold). He maintains an extensive international schedule of teaching and speaking engagements and is the founder of the often sold-out "Ricky Tims Super Quilt Seminars" touring throughout the United States. Ricky is also designer of his own line of fabrics and threads, and a promotional partner for AccuQuilt's Go!. Ricky is a founding partner of The Quilt Show.com, the world's first full-service interactive online video/web magazine created just for quilters worldwide.

Ricky and his life partner, Justin Shults, live in South Central Colorado where they own the Tims Art Quilt Retreat Center.

## January Meeting: cont...

A reminder, **annual registration** will take place at our next meeting on Thursday January 20<sup>th</sup>. **Subs of 1200/= per person are due.** Do take this opportunity to update your contact details if there are any changes. As much as we encourage members to opt for Snippets via email, if you do require a hard copy of Snippets, please mention it on your registration.

The January meeting is expected to go on a bit longer than our regular meetings. We hope you can stay till the end. Guild members are requested to bring in plates of local "bitings," sweets or savories, to give our guests a real taste of Kenya!

Kindly send in your food confirmations to our Gmail account [kenyaquiltguild@gmail.com](mailto:kenyaquiltguild@gmail.com)

## Sewing Machines for Sale

1. Brother –a basic machine - Ksh.15,000 o.n.o.
2. Brother- a basic machine - Ksh.15,000 o.n.o.
3. Singer Melody 20 - Ksh.15,000 o.n.o.
4. Empisal Pacesetter - Ksh.15,000 o.n.o.
5. Necchi - Ksh.15,000 o.n.o.

All these machines belong to the guild and have all been recently serviced. They are to be sold on an 'as is' basis. Please contact Gretchen Sanders at the January meeting for further details.



## Mark Your Calendars



### Committee Meetings

January	Monday	10 <sup>th</sup>
February	Monday	7 <sup>th</sup>
March	Monday	7 <sup>th</sup>
April	Monday	11 <sup>th</sup>
May	Monday	9 <sup>th</sup>

### Monthly members' meetings

January	Thursday	20 <sup>th</sup>
February	Thursday	17 <sup>th</sup>
March	Thursday	17 <sup>th</sup>
April	Thursday	21 <sup>st</sup>
May	Thursday	19 <sup>th</sup>

## 2011 AFRICAN QUILT CHALLENGE

Every year, members of the Kenya Quilt Guild participate in a quilt challenge event. The quilt challenge for 2011 is to make an African Quilt. From our good friend Magie Relph has come the following challenge description:

*You must use the name or idea of an African myth, legend, folk tale or god as a basis for a quilt. The quilt does not necessarily have to be pictorial i.e. showing the actual story of the legend. Think about the subject of the story and see if it can lead you to depict the idea of the story in a different way. Perhaps you could use certain traditional blocks to represent certain ideas? What about the use of colour to represent certain ideas? Blue- the sky, brown, red ochre- the earth; are simple colour translations. What about using symbols...*

Your quilt can be **any shape** but **no bigger than 48sq inches in area**.

It must be completed on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2011.

There will be a prize for the best quilt!

If you would like to participate and join in the fun, you might like to have a look at a few websites that can provide some inspiration:

- Indigenous People of Africa and America's [Overview of Kenyan Folklore](#)
- [Kikuyu Fables and Legends](#)
- Myths Encyclopedia's [African Mythology](#)
- Kiki Amedja's [African Legends](#)
- Godcheckers (what fun!) [African Gods](#)

For others that address notions of "what is an African quilt?" take a look at these:

- Dena Crain's, What Makes an African Quilt "African?" Tutorial
- Google Images African Quilts
- Magie Relph's, The African Fabric Shop
- The St. Theresa Textile Trove
- The South African Quilters Guild

Then, build up your stash of African fabrics, push your imagination to come up with new design ideas, and come join the fun!

**Challenge quilts must be finished and ready for display by June 1, 2011.**

A prize will be awarded for the best quilt. Get started NOW!

***This quilt challenge is open only to members of the Kenya Quilt Guild.***



## A Big Thank You to Dena Crain

Thanks to Dena our 'Kenya Quilt Guild' blog is up and running. It is already proving to be successful to reach out to the rest of the world and has put us on the global map. In order to make it successful within our group we need your participation. Following a blog is quick, easy and safe, and it keeps you informed and updated. We hope you will make good use of the [Kenya Quilt Guild](#) blog, and that you will find it helpful and fun!

Located at <http://kenyaquiltguild.wordpress.com>, this blog needs your support and feedback.

Please use the contact form in the sidebar or the comments option at the bottom of each page or post to offer your ideas and suggestions for improvement. For more details and information read the email sent out by Dena Crain.

Thanks in advance for any help you can offer!

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## NEWS FROM COLOURICIOUS

by Gill Rebelo

The COLOURICIOUS website is working to raise the profile of textile artists around the world. They have chosen ten British textile artists to feature in a series of programmes under the title TALKING THREADS. These have already been aired on television and featured on a dvd. Now COLOURICIOUS are offering them free on the internet, starting weekly on February 14th. If you sign up you will receive a free twenty minute episode once a week for ten weeks. You will learn what inspires the artists and learn about the techniques they use.

This is what they say about the programmes:

"Each episode is based around the artistic stylings of a renowned artist, featuring a demonstration of how to make a specific piece, an interview and an exclusive look into their portfolio. In every episode viewers are taught simple fabric art techniques, such as embellishing or [fabric dyeing](#), from which they can expand their creative horizons. They are also taken through a step by step process culminating in the creation of their own piece of textile art."

If you want to take advantage of this offer, simply go to the following website: <http://www.colouricious.com/> and click on "Subscribe to our newsletter today" or on "Join us" at the bottom of the page, and fill in your email address to join up. You can unsubscribe at any time.

## BITS AND PIECES

### FREE TO A GOOD HOME!

I have a stack of plastic chocolate moulds - for making home-made chocolates - which I no longer use. I am happy to give them away to the first person who contacts me. If you are interested, send me an sms on 0722 613 105, and I will bring them to the meeting on Thursday.

Gill Rebelo

### WOMEN'S SHOP UPDATE

They have a new consignment of Kaufmann fabrics come in. Also come in are rulers, quilting frames, needles, Olfa rotary cutters and Olfa self healing mats. Some fabrics are available for Ksh.380 a meter. They also have a loyalty programme which works out to around a 10% discount. Contact the shop for details.

### BUTTONS AND BOWS SALE

BUTTONS & BOWS at the Yaya Centre will be selling remnants of cotton quilting fabrics at the incredibly cheap price of 400/- per meter, from February 1st, until sale stocks are finished. These are end-of-bolt pieces so come in varying lengths and you have to be prepared to buy the whole piece - in other words they will not be cut into smaller pieces for you. The bonus is that, at this price, they are wonderful bargains for backing quilts.

To qualify for this special discount you will be required to show your 2011 membership cards.

**SEE YOU FOR OUR MEETING ON 20<sup>TH</sup> JAN 2011**

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