

SNIPPETS



Newsletter of
The Kenya Quilt Guild

June 2010

June Meeting

- Meeting on Thursday 17th June, 10 a.m.
- Raji Syan is giving demonstration on Cathedral window in our June monthly meeting. Members are requested to bring their Cathedral Window Blocks and quilts made in Lynne's classes for show and tell.
- Gretchen will be selling embellishments from Kenya at the June meeting.
- Rainbow quilt update

Forthcoming Events !

- July Monthly meeting on Thursday 15th, at 10 a.m.
- Dena' Crain, Public Relation Officer, has in hand many exciting programs to offer, so, keep looking up in this space.
- Our VERY OWN Show of Talent in OCTOBER at Village Market! See what the ladies can do when they are at their best.

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Since Bibiana is on leave, so I took an opportunity to work on her new refreshing format of our ever loved KQG's **Snippets**. It's fun. Members! We have so much to look forward to, regarding upcoming shows and classes, so pull up your socks. Library has new collection of CDs and books. Buttons and Bows at Yaya Center and Woman Shop at Sarit have variety of new arrivals and offers on discounted rates especially for the members. There is so much to work on. Markets are open; guidelines are available in the library. So! Be on your heels. Up coming KQG exhibition and raffle quilts are members' first priority. Apply techniques learnt recently in Bev's classes or finish the same quilts. I am doing my Layered Waves Quilt for the October show. So Good luck to all of you ladies! Farhat

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/.

Message from Sarah Brewin

Urembo Basket Project

Have you ever seen something and thought, "if only they did this or that it would be perfect". That is how I felt the first time I saw the Bali fabric baskets. Now don't get me wrong Bali fabrics or batiks are among my favorites, but the fabrics from Africa seemed to me to be perfect for making these baskets. About the same time, I was asked by an organization to meet with a group of 21 women in Kibera.

The women wanted something other than jewelry to make and sell. I talked with them about making baskets out of fabric, I would return August of 2009 to teach them. During the next 6 months I collected practice fabric, rotary cutters, rulers, cutting boards and various other supplies from quilt groups in my area, through donations and returned to Kenya with a friend to begin the teaching process. We bought 2 industrial sewing machines, one for straight stitching and the other for zig zag, had a cutting and ironing tables made, bought 2 charcoal irons, plastic bins, chairs and various other items and off we went. Believe me when I say we learned almost as much from our ladies as they did from us. Here we are 2 ladies from the United States who are used to their Bernina sewing machines and their Rowenta irons. I never was able to get those treadle sewing machines working but my ladies could.

Before too long they were cutting, ironing and sewing baskets like they had been doing this forever. Now don't get me wrong we have already had our share of bumps in the road. We have moved the workshop twice, 9 ladies have believed in and stayed committed to the project. I returned in October and brought back to the U.S. 127 baskets which sold out in 3 days at our booth at MQX (Machine Quilters Expo). We received donation money to purchase 2 more machines and were given 2 machines; we now have a total of 6 machines and 2 electric irons! We have turned one of our rooms into a stock room having had shelves built for the room. There still are challenges to overcome.

The baskets are made of rope which is covered by material. I cannot find the rope in Kenya. It is 3/16" clothesline all cotton rope. It is manufactured in China; I am trying to find a way to have it shipped directly to Kenya for now I have been bringing it from home. I also need to figure out how to import the baskets; however I haven't found a way which is cost effective. My third challenge is funding. There are 4 of us who have been supporting this project but we need to find grant monies. We are planning on continuing to sell the baskets at quilt shows and fair trade stores but we also would like to start to give presentations at quilt guilds.

This is a great project and with the sale of the baskets in April we have proven to ourselves there certainly is a market for this product. We even have some new products in the works. Our group of ladies is committed to making this project succeed. Any thoughts, ideas or help would be greatly appreciated. Is there anyone in the Kenya Quilt Guild who can help, please contact me at sbrewin@comcast.net.

I have been asked to have a booth at the KQG Quilt show in October, hope to see you all there.

The ladies on your right are amazing. They are the ones who are currently occupied in Urembo Basket project. A Group of Enthusiastic Ladies of Kibera Slums.



Mark Your Calendars - KQG'S 2010 Meetings DATES

<u>Committee Meetings</u>			<u>Monthly members' meetings</u>		
June	Monday	7 th	June	Thursday	17 th
July	Monday	5 th	July	Thursday	15 th
August	No Meeting		August	No Meeting	
September	Monday	6 th	September	Thursday	16 th
October	Monday	11 th	October	Thursday	21 st
November	Monday	8 th	November	Thursday	18 th
December	No Meeting		December	No Meeting	

BITS AND PIECES



Reminder: Raji is holding a sewing group, 1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month to work on the raffle quilts. So! Ladies come forward and use your expertise in a productive task like this. Beginners can learn this way many useful techniques as well as enjoy the company of the quilters.

QUILTING CLASSES

Gill Rebelo, holds Log Cabin Classes for beginners. Contact Gill on 0722-613-105; or email her at rebelo@iconnect.co.ke

Bobby Ghataure holds classes. Contact her on 020-271-2292.

Raji Syan offers classes for beginners and advance quilters. Contact her on 0722-362-362.

Farhat Zahid offers silk and fabric painting classes. Contact her on 0733-950-699.

Karura Carcofora is offering quilting classes. Contact her on 020-271-0750 or 0733-881-192.

Subsidy available to help with taking classes: Please contact Jaswinder Phull, Chairman, for assistance and clarification.

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Zeena Sennick



Kenya Breast Health Programme
early detection saves lives, saves breasts

28th, January 2010

Mrs. Patty Arensen
Kenya Quilt Guild
NAIROBI

Dear Mrs. Patty Arensen

RE: APPRECIATION OF DONATION

Reference is made to your kind donation of Kshs. 78,100 (Seventy Eight Thousand and One Hundred Shillings only) towards the Kenya Breast Health Programme. We acknowledge receipt of your donation and wish to record our deepest appreciation.

Breast Cancer incidence is increasing and it is now the most diagnosed cancer among women in Kenya accounting for 20.9% of all women cancers. Of this percentage, a disproportionate number came from women in low-income and minority groups who have little or no insurance coverage and limited access to screening services. Early Detection is key in the fight against this disease. The Kenya Breast Health Program (KBHP) is committed to ensure that all women in the country are not only armed with this information but that they have the knowledge on how to apply it. KBHP will achieve this through countrywide awareness and education campaigns, and clinical examinations via the 'mammovan', a van fitted with a mammogram. For the campaigns to be successful, KBHP will require close to KShs. 5M every year. We are always grateful to receive donations such as yours because it puts us a step closer to achieving our goal.

The funds will be used to facilitate logistics of carrying out the screenings and awareness education. Once again, I wish to take this opportunity to thank you sincerely for having considered Kenya Breast Health Programme as the beneficiary of your choice.

Sincerely,

MARY ONYANGO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Woman Shop;

Quilters treasure chest, Woman shop at Sarit Center is always a useful place to visit every now and then. You may find many interesting things and almost every thing related to sewing and quilting. The material choices are always at stunning range. These days' members can enjoy amazing discounts on the books.

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