

SNIPPETS

Kenya Quilt Guild Newsletter



JANUARY 2013

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

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Dear Members,
Happy New Year and welcome back!
The year 1999?
What were you doing that year?
I was starting my second year in Kenya and was a busy dorm mom to 18 boys. That year I was introduced to quilting by a delightful, but crusty, almost retired lady named June. I made my first quilt using her tools and training/encouragement and fabric I bought at yard-sales. I took the top back to Canada with me and had it hand-quilted by a church group. It has resided on my bed ever since. She gave me 2 words of advice that still resound in my brain almost daily.

1. "ALWAYS close your blade after you make your cut, even if you don't put it down, get in the habit!" And as I forgot, her voice got progressively louder as she repeated this mantra.
2. "This isn't going to be your masterpiece, just get it done!"

I still keep in touch with her, she is a master quilter who is still very involved with her quilt guilds in New York and I love to visit her.

In January, 2013 I would repeat these 2 pieces of wisdom for you. "Close your blade" and "Get them done!" Most of us find ourselves with a variety of unfinished projects. You can find numerous "Finish it up" blogs on the Internet and join in to give yourself some accountability and have some fun sharing pictures.

(<http://crazymomquilts.blogspot.com/2013/01/finish-it-up-friday-1413.html>).

But you also can finish things up by giving them away undone! We have a number of quilters (NOT ME!) that would love to be gifted with some of your decade old WIP's (Work In Progress). Or finish them and give them to the Charity Committee to dispense if they no longer suit your colour scheme.

Deanna Gaudaur (Vice- Chairman)

EDITORIAL COMMENT : UN-FINISHED OBJECTS (UFO)

Further to Deanna wonderful note has here are some other links to help you out with your UFOs (Un-Finished Objects) so that they become WIPs again and don't end up as WOMBATS (Waste Of Time And Money). Join Karen's on-line UFO Quilt Along at <http://quiltwithus.connectingthreads.com/group/karenstestufuquiltalong> Here you can become a member and get encouragement and ideas from other members with a stack of UFOs. Karen says "Too many UFO's? Together we'll get through those unfinished objects! Free to join" It sounds like a good offer. Christine at <http://quiltersdiary.com/quilt-ufos-get-finished/> has some wonderful advice on how to tackle a stack of UFOs methodically and without too much pain. She also has some excellent tutorials on block making for beginner quilters.

We all develop "quilter's block" at one time or another and don't know how to move forward with a WIP (which is why it becomes a UFO) so here's another idea – why don't we have a UFO afternoon after our meeting one day. This would be a chance for everyone to bring along their abandoned quilt tops for help and advice from fellow members. Let us have some feedback on this – do you think it is a good idea?

Gill Rebelo

NEWS BITES

MAJORS MINORS QUILTS

We are excited that our South African friends from Fibreworks, a group of around 50 artists, working in fibre and textiles, who aim “to promote fibre/textile as a serious art form”, are proposing to send their latest exhibit of around 45 small wall hangings to be hung at our Show in April and then to join our “Out of Africa” exhibition in London, Ontario. See their catalogue for their 2012 exhibition below and check their website at <http://www.fibreworksart.com/> for more pictures of their exciting and original art works.



QUILTING IN THE NEW YEAR

If you are counting the shillings after the holiday season and need some tips on frugal quilting, see the article below from Quilting Daily by editor Vivika deNegre. If you are not familiar with this magazine, I suggest that you sign up for their daily news bulletin which is always full of good ideas – and it is free!. They also offer free quilting and embroidery E-Books once you are signed up. See the list at the bottom of this article for some of the subjects. Just go to the website below and click on Free Stuff on the right of the page and you will see the list of free E-Books. I have just downloaded the Embroidery one which has some lovely ideas. The website is gd-wir@interweave.com

Free EBooks from Quilting Daily

- ◆ Applique Quilts
- ◆ Baby Quilts
- ◆ Beginner Quilting
- ◆ Binding & Finishing
- ◆ Easy Quilt Patterns
- ◆ Embellishing
- ◆ Embroidery
- ◆ Fabric Art
- ◆ Fabric Dyeing
- ◆ Fabric Painting
- ◆ Fine Sewing
- ◆ Hand Sewing
- ◆ Handmade Quilts
- ◆ How to Quilt
- ◆ Image Transfer & Photo Quilts
- ◆ Machine Quilting
- ◆ Memory Quilts
- ◆ Patchwork Quilts
- ◆ Quilt Art
- ◆ Quilt Blocks
- ◆ Quilt Designs
- ◆ Quilted Bags
- ◆ Quilted Gift Ideas
- ◆ Small Projects
- ◆ Table Runners & Linens

NEWS BITES

Re-Use, Use Up, and Go Green

Our foremothers knew how to make a quilt using only what they had, from scraps of fabric to natural dyes. But, quilt making the frugal and eco-friendly way was easier for them: they didn't have much of a choice. Pioneer women didn't have fabric stores, and even our own mothers didn't have the Internet offering fabrics, thread, and surface design supplies available at the click of a button.

That's not to say that contemporary art quilters don't save scraps and found objects to use in future quilt projects. We're geniuses at inventive quilt making!

But if you're looking to downsize your stash, help save the planet, or just be more creative about using what you have, here are some frugal and eco-friendly sewing, surface design, and quilting tips:

- ◆ Save small scraps of fabric, fibers, and thread for [needle felting](#). You can even use them to stuff small projects.
- ◆ [Turn larger scraps into quilts or small quilting projects](#)
- ◆ Make quilts the old fashioned way . . . out of worn-out clothing.
- ◆ Re-use parts of abandoned projects to make a new design or quilt sandwich.
- ◆ Save [thread trash from your washing machine to use in surface design](#).
- ◆ Save the release paper from fusible web to use as a protective sheet when ironing the fusible to fabric. You can use it several times.
- ◆ Make beads out of recycled paper.
- ◆ Wrap found objects with craft wire or fibers and use as embellishments.
- ◆ Make ["fabric" out of junk mail](#), wrapping paper, or plastic bags.
- ◆ Save shiny [candy wrappers to use as foil](#) for surface design and embellishment.
- ◆ Use more eco-friendly dyeing techniques, like kitchen resists, soy wax batik, and rust-dyeing (using water, vinegar and humidity), and natural plant dyes like indigo.
- ◆ When dyeing, keep a "clean-up cloth" handy to sop up any extra dye. Those cloths are often the most beautifully dyed pieces in your stash!
- ◆ Hand sew or quilt by hand, and you'll save on electricity.

In the piece below, Lisa Kerpoe shows how to make a quilt from dyed fabrics using a rice cereal resist. Lisa wrote a series of articles on kitchen resists for [Quilting Arts in 2011](#).



NEW STOCK AT THE WOMAN SHOP!

Kundan has lots of new stock in the shop purchased on her recent trip to the US. She specially recommends Mistyfuse an environmentally friendly paperless fusible web. She also has a new design of rotary cutter ideal for those of us with arthritis in our hands. The Woman Shop is also expecting new fabrics so keep checking on their stock.

AFTERNOON QUILTING CLASSES

FOLLOWING THE MONTHLY GUILD MEETING

If you are interested in learning how to make a variety of 9 patch blocks, to form the basis of a Sampler quilt, stay on after the meeting and join us. (Bring a packed lunch if you really want to stay long enough to make it worthwhile) You will need a basic sewing kit – pins, needles, scissors. If you have fabric bring it along – there will also be some small pieces of fabric for sale. The Guild will provide a sewing machine for machine piecing blocks and rotary cutters, cutting board and rulers for this class. You will learn how to quickly cut and stitch squares and triangles, the basic building blocks of quilt making. You can also learn to piece by hand and by machine.

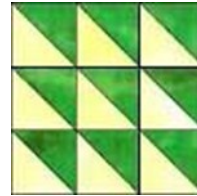
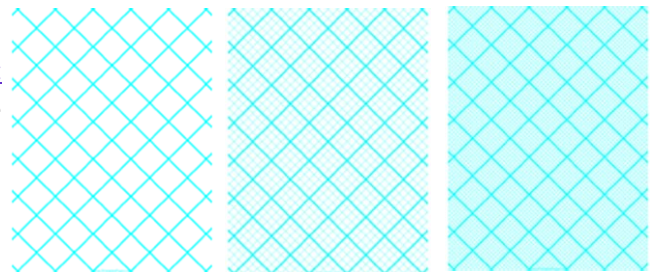


Image from: <http://www.quiltblocklibrary.com/quiltblocks-3.html> If you sign up for their free newsletter **Quilt Block Library's Understanding Quilt Blocks** you can learn a lot about how quilt blocks are built up.

TIP FROM DEANNA

Want to print your own quilting graph paper? Check the following website: <http://www.printablepaper.net> A whole range of quilting and regular graph papers are available for copying or printing. Samples shown here.



FUTURE PROGRAMMES

Thursday 17th January - Presentation on Tucks by Sheryl Fowler.

Thursday 21st February – Presentation on using Banana Fibre in quilts by Gretchen Sanders.

Thursday 21st March – Presentation on Bindings by Deanna Gaudaur and other committee members.

Friday 12th April, Saturday 13th April, Sunday 14th April - Combined KQG and KEG Show at Sarit Centre

Thursday 18th April – Presentation and slide show on Kangas – Gill Rebelo

Thursday 16th May – Presentation on the Modern Quilt Movement – Gill Rebelo

Thursday 20th June – Humble Beginnings – a chance for members to bring their first- ever quilt and their most recently completed quilt.

Thursday 18th July – programme to be decided.

THE KENYA QUILT GUILD

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Parklands 00623
Nairobi, Kenya

Email:
kenyaquiltguild@gmail.com
Website:
www.kenyaquiltguild.org

Meetings

Venue:

Simba Union Off
Parklands road

Time

9.30am– 1.00pm

Monthly meeting date

2012

January 17, 2013

This month's contributors

- ◆ Gill Rebelo
- ◆ Deanna Gaudaur

SHOW NEWS– JOINT EXHIBITION

Summary of Organisation for 2013 KQG/KEG Exhibition

To be held at Sarit Centre Hall , 12th – 14th April, from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. each day

Set Up: KQG one side of the hall, KEG the other.

Central Area: Demonstrations and one hour workshops, at least two in a.m. and two in p.m. Cost for classes including kits: Shs. 500.00. Program to be announced shortly.

Boutique Stall: Where members can put their pieces for sale at 10% commission. Deanna to coordinate.

Vendors: Sewing related stalls located at the back of the hall. Two metre section, including table and chairs, cost: Shs. 5000.00 total for the three days. Kundan to coordinate.

Seminar Room: Mike Gaudaur showing/selling his photographs.

African Quilts: To be hung in one section.

Major Minors From South Africa: To be hung in one section.

Sponsors: Hall cost Shs. 232,000.00. We need as many sponsors as possible. Letters available at meeting.

Raffle Quilts: In process of collecting flying geese.

Quilt Entries: Deadline yet to be set. Entry fee: Shs. 200.00 per piece. Charu to coordinate.

Blog: Need volunteer for this please.

Publicity: Gill responsible but she needs assistance.

White Glove Ladies: Will need quite a few volunteers.

Catchy Show Slogan: Need ideas from membership.

Editor in Chief : Margaret Atandi (ondara2005@yahoo.com or ondra2005@gmail.com) The editor in chief welcomes contributions from all members. Please send articles for inclusion in the next edition of SNIPPETS to her email by 10th monthly.