



# The Patchwork Pen

Berrien Towne and Country Quilters –April 2020

## Stay Home, Stay Safe and Sew!

### **Officers 2020**

#### **Co-Presidents**

Barb Manning

Kathy Martus

president@btcquiltguild.org

#### **Vice President**

Jane Rush

vicepresident@btcquiltguild.org

#### **Secretary**

Open

secretary@btcquiltguild.org

#### **Treasurer**

Marcia McCavit

treasurer@btcquiltguild.org

#### **Co-treasurer**

Lisa Hansen

Co-treasurer@btcquiltguild.org

### **Note from the Presidents:**

Happy Spring Everyone,

Yes, even in this time of social distancing and uncertainty, new signs of life are all around us!! My daffodils and tulips are starting to pop up.

Well, as I'm sure you all by now know that our April meeting has been cancelled. We are following the CDC guidelines and the order from the Governor.

Hopefully, we will be able to meet soon!! This "down" time though, does offer each of us the opportunity to get some projects done that have put on the back burner for a while.

Be it finishing a UFO, starting your journal cover or maybe cleaning out a drawer or two or maybe straightening up your sewing space!!

We will get through this if we ALL follow the order of "STAY HOME - BE SAFE - SAVE LIVES".

My quote for this month is - - -

"It's about rising up to the challenge, and about what you can do, not what you can't." by Ken Rendell

Your Co-Presidents,  
Kathy Martus and Barb Manning

The **celebration of life for Laura Williams** has been postponed due to the coronavirus. It will not be held in April as the coronavirus closed everything. Instead, The Herald-Palladium will run the obituary for Laura on September 19 & 20. Her celebration of life will be held on Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> from 12 – 3 p.m. in the community room at the Bridgman public library. The family moved it to September to avoid the coronavirus closures and to honor her birthday month.

There is also an estate sale scheduled on May 7,8,9. We will stay tuned to see if that is happening. FYI There won't be much sewing item at that estate sale.

Please remember Laura, her family, and friends during this difficult time.

**No meeting in April**

## **April Member Birthdays:**

Diana Collins	4/4
Sonya Stormo	4/6
Pam Grapis	4/8
Janet Larson	4/8
Sarah Wood	4/8
Bette Otte	4/16
Sara Lawrick	4/19
Sue Kolhagen	4/21
Mary Dick	4/22
Aggie Blesy	4/23
Annette Wright	4/29

## **Hospitality:**

These people brought snacks for the March meeting:

Marcia McCavit  
Nancy Hawley  
Jane Rush  
Denise Tackett  
Kathy Martus  
Barb Manning  
Kathy Phipps

## **Please Note:**

### **Membership Dues**

Dues are through program year of January - December. Pay at any meeting or email to [membership@btcquiltguild.org](mailto:membership@btcquiltguild.org)

### **Membership Cards**

Be sure to sign and carry your membership card as there are many quilt shops that give discounts for guild members

### **Sunshine and Shadows**

Please contact Judy Weingart with your information and she will send a card. [sunshine@btcquiltguild.org](mailto:sunshine@btcquiltguild.org) or call 269-429-5965

### **BTCQ Meetings**

Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month from February through November at Stevensville United Methodist Church, 5506 Ridge Road, Stevensville, Michigan

### **Website**

[Btcquiltguild.org](http://Btcquiltguild.org)

## **2019 Board Meetings:**

At the Bridgman Library, 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
April 29, August 26, November 18.



*Marilyn Herrman and Sondra Sheppard chat at the Library table*

### **Newsletter**

Articles for newsletter are due **the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month**. Please send to Denise Tackett at [newsletter@btcquiltguild.org](mailto:newsletter@btcquiltguild.org) or [dkalintackett@gmail.com](mailto:dkalintackett@gmail.com)

## Programs:



*Just a few of Michelle Tuller's unfinished projects*

Wow, a lot has changed in the world since we met in March. Which might give you more to journal about. How are your UFQ's going? Have you been writing in your journal? Are the prompts helpful? Do you write a lot or just a little or not at all? Did you fill out your list of 10 UFQ's to work on this year? If so, have you made progress on quilt #6? Spend 10 minutes quilting today, a little bit every day builds progress. Did you time yourself on how long it take to complete a block? Then calculate how long it will take to finish sewing the blocks, that need to be finished? If you want answer these questions in your journal. The April calendar will be in the newsletter and posted on the Facebook page and website.

If I have a bunch of quilts that need to be finished up then I go by the rule of finish two and start one (that is my reward for finishing a couple). Other times it is start two (or three or more) and finish one.

**So, for April Work on the UFQ that you have on line 5.** Post pictures to the Facebook page that you have completed/or made progress on your UFQ for line 6 and now line 5.

Until we meet again, Happy sewing.

As Always,  
Michelle and Nicole



*Barb Manning and Kathy Martus show a Quilt of Valor sewn by Maxine Wantuch*

[See April journal prompts on page 7](#)

BTCQ meeting, March 11, 2020  
At Stevensville United Methodist Church  
Stevensville, Michigan

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m. by co-Presidents Barb Manning and Kathy Martus.  
Minutes from November, 2019 approved.

Treasurer's report. Treasurer Denise Tackett reported that the February report was approved by the Board. The January report will be in the April newsletter.

Barb Manning said next meeting will be the first Thursday in April (April 2) and not the second Thursday because of Easter holiday celebrations at the church.

February meeting was canceled due to snow storm. Members were notified by email and phone calls. In the future, notifications will be by our website, email, Facebook, and by local radio station WSJM. WSJM also has a website and will mention closures.

Due to generosity of the Methodist church, we were not charged for the canceled February meeting. We are now paid through March 2021.

Jane Rush, Vice President and website chair announced that our website has been updated and includes the calendar and policies and procedures. Membership information not included because of security issues. Password now is BTCQ but will be changed in the future. Jane asked that Committee chairs send her one or two sentences to be included in website.

### Committees

**Community Quilts.** Co-chair Nancy Hawley announced that the Guild will be donating quilts to three organizations this year.

1. Logan House in Benton Harbor which provides services to those with developmental disabilities and their families. Need quilts that are 36 x 42 inches.
2. Pine Ridge nursing home. Need 36 x 42 inch quilts for wheel chair patients..
3. Berrien County Emergency Shelter in Benton Harbor. They work with people for up to 30 days until they get more permanent housing. Need 36 x 42 inch quilts for children and 50 x 60 inch or larger for adults.

Easy way to sew a 36 x 42 quilt is to use 42 6 ½ squares , six across and 7 down. No sashing or border. Fifty quilts have been donated. Preprinted and iron-on labels are available, along with batting. Please put name in for drawing when you contribute a quilt.

Nancy urged members to take fabric home from the donation table. Fabric not taken will be donated.

**Library** – Chair Marilyn Herrman described three books. She needs a substitute for the April 2 meeting.

**Red, White and Blue Quilt Show --June 13, 14 in connection with Three Oaks Flag Day celebration**

- Denise Tackett – coordinated with Three Oaks committee -- 15 Quilts of Valor will be given to veterans. These quilts should be no smaller than 55 x 65 inches and no larger

than 60 x 70 inches. Let her know immediately if any quilt needs to be quilted. She ordered labels. Some 12-inch blocks for Quilts of Valor have not been returned. Need missing d blocks so can put together in quilts

- General quilts to be included in show need to be registered by April meeting. Let co-chairs know if your quilt entry is for sale. Three Oaks committee has made inquiries.
- Lynn Folino showed wonderful quilt she made for family of Three Oaks veteran who passed away. Barb Manning quilted the quilt.

### **Speakers**

Chair Chris Andrews said no speaker or workshops in June because of quilt show. Chris asked if members would be interested in workshops run by Ruth Ann Berry from Quilters Clinic (Fife Lake, MI) in July. Workshops would cost about \$40. Kits \$50. Pattern \$9. Greg Barner of Kingsley MI will be speaker in October.

### **Spring Retreat**

- Co-chairs Peri Hansen and Kay Wilcox announced that the Celebration of Life for Laura Williams will be at Bridgman Library Community Room April 8 from 12 to 3. Laura's quilts will be on display and refreshments served. Donations can be made in her memory to Friends of Library and/or Patriotic Quilts of which she was Chair. There was a moment of silence in remembrance of Laura.
- Tonight is last night for registering for Retreat April 16-19 or 14-19 in Shipshewana. Theme will be "Come Fly with Me". Peri, Kay and Kim Otte showed three quilts with flying geese that will be a project to work on at the retreat.

### **Miscellaneous**

- Secretary position open. Let Jane Rush know if you are interested. Jane suggested that there be two co-secretaries for back-up.
- Cindy Shepherd announced that there is a new quilt shop in Dowagiac named Quilted Oak Leaf.
- Quilted postcards will be revived. Cindy said that postcards and kits are available.
- Applique Society – Linda Woods announced that next meeting will be April 1 from 10 a.m. to about 1 p.m. at home of Susan Stephens at 2873 Ainsworth Drive, opposite D.A.N.K in Benton Harbor. (Note Applique Society meeting in April has been canceled.)
- Refreshments Thank you to Kathy Martus, Barb Manning, Denise Tackett, Marcia McCavit, Jane Rush, and Nancy Hawley
- Quilt show in Valparaiso by String Along guild April 4 and 5.
- Door prize winners: Elaine Bokhart, Denise Tackett, Corinne Gramberg, Betty Otte, De Loa Jones, and Greta Parker.
- Raffle basket winners: Jennette Cannon, Nicole Rimes
- Gift for Community Quilt contribution: Mary Karsten.
- Show and Tell - 12 members
- Vendor: "No Rhyme nor Reason"

Meeting adjourned at 8 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Wood, Secretary pro tem.



## April Journal Prompts:

# InstaContent

APRIL 2020

		<b>W</b> What did you quilt today?	<b>Th</b> Write a cursive letter and fill a line	<b>F</b> What is your favorite thread to use?
<b>M</b> Do you name your sewing machines?	<b>T</b> Kits or no kits?	<b>W</b> Describe the weather, does it influence your work?	<b>Th</b> Have you used the same quilt pattern twice?	<b>F</b> Do you have an Easter quilt?
<b>M</b> Change your rotary blade!	<b>T</b> Have you made a graduation quilt?	<b>W</b> What inspires your creativity?	<b>Th</b> Make a Log Cabin block	<b>F</b> What's your favorite batting?
<b>M</b> Do you make charity quilts?	<b>T</b> 20 things you want yo fo this year	<b>W</b> Take a photo of an inspiration quilt	<b>Th</b> Who inspires you?	<b>F</b> What is your favorite color?
<b>M</b> What is the largest color group in your stash?	<b>T</b> Do you go to retreats?	<b>W</b> What is your favorite quilt shop?	<b>Th</b> Which quilt shop do you want to visit?	<b>F</b> What have you completed this month?

## Quilting Bees

Please remember that all Quilting Bees are suspended in April – we'll meet again in better times!

**Applique Society** – meets on Wednesdays, once a month, at 10 a.m. the day before the guild meeting. Contact Sue Russell, 313-3799 or 983-3799 for information. Location: 2873 Ainsworth Dr., Benton Harbor, across from the D.A.N.K.

**Berrien Springs Library Quilters** – meets every Monday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Berrien Springs Library.

**Bridgman Bees** – meets every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Bridgman Library.

**Dear Jane** – meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at Lincoln Township Library from 6-9 p.m. Contact Michelle Tuller at 269-422-1586 or Cindy Shepherd at [plshepherd@qtm.net](mailto:plshepherd@qtm.net)

**New Buffalo Library Sewing Group** – meets on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Pokagon Room. Contact Kathy Martus at 269-469-9217 for information.

**Patriotic Quilts** – meets last Wednesday of the month at the Bridgman Public Library from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to create quilts for the military.

## Here are a few pictures from Show and Tell in March

(Your newsletter editor sincerely apologizes – I lost the note about which quilt belongs to who!)







A couple of Quilts of Valor



