



PACIFIC PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD

Bits & Pieces

www.pacificpiecemakers.org

May 2009

Mary Austin to Speak on Japanese Textiles

Everyone should have a passion, and Mary Austin certainly has one (at least). Ever since her first trip to Japan, she has been hooked on Japanese antique country indigo textiles (aizome). In her presentation on May 15, she will describe and share textiles both familiar and arcane (shibori, kasuri, katazome, tsutsugaki, fukasa, and tsugigahana). Since her last lecture to the guild, she has continued to accumulate some wonderful and unusual fabrics from her contacts in Japan and other sources.

Mary started quilting in 1991 just before she came to live full-time at the Sea Ranch. She was invited to join a mini-group that met on Wednesdays and have continued with that group ever since. This was before the formation of the current guild. A few years after this, the current quilt guild was formed. Mary was active in the startup and has been continuously involved ever since with stints as Program Chair, then on to teaching (often with Janet Sears) classes in Beginning Quilting, Intermediate Quilting, How to Finish Your Quilt and Sashiko.



Mary's interest was piqued by notice of a quilter's tour to Japan which she joined for the first time in 1996. She was hooked on Japan. Not just the textiles, but the entire culture. She has returned six times, first with the same tour and then, as she learned enough Japanese, on her own. While in Japan she has taken many courses and attended lectures in indigo dyeing, sashiko and history of textiles of Japan. Her interest has narrowed to an emphasis on Japanese, cotton, indigo-dyed country textiles. In particular she loves the old, worn, soft, often ragged textiles called "boro" which means ragged or torn in Japanese. She has become not just a quilter but also a textile collector.

Showings of Mary's quilts have included two at the Sea Ranch Lodge, Art in the Redwoods which have received numerous awards, a special show at an international quilt show in Yokohama and several at the Pacific International Quilt Show. At the debut of the Long Beach International Show in 2008, one of her quilts *Surfing With Dolphins* was included in a special show called Surf's Up.

Last Chance to sign up for Machine Applique

Machine Applique, May 14, 10:00 am-3:00pm Gualala Art Center.

Instructors: Carol Tackett and Marilyn Limbaugh. Price is \$30 for guild/GA members, \$40 for members of either and \$50 others. There are still openings, if you haven't already registered. This machine appliqué class will focus on edge appliqué, reverse appliqué and soft edge appliqué techniques. A single project will not be completed. Instead, participants will work on various samples of these techniques in class that they can take home for reference. The class is limited in size so we will have time to provide all the help needed. This class is open to anyone interested in appliqué.

Retreat News

Before beginning the adventure of organizing our guild retreat I would like to get an estimate of how many people are interested in having a retreat in 2010. The dates would be about the same as this year, at the end of January. The location would be the same, The Dry Creek Inn, Healdsburg. And hopefully the price would be the same if we have approximately the same number of attendees (26-30). Please send an email to anita@anitakaplan.com only if you are interested in attending a retreat in 2010.



Anita Kaplan and Jeri Taylor at the 2009 retreat.

Treasurer's Report

Balance at beginning of month \$24,934.50

Plus: Monthly deposits per Income

Dues \$160.00

Total Income \$160.00

Minus: Monthly checks from Expense

Quilt stands \$499.80

AIR quilt \$422.81

Rohrkaste workshop/lecture..... \$1,015.50

GAC rent \$206.00

Newsletter printing..... \$9.75

Donation Anderson Valley Quilters .. \$121.38

Anderson Valley Quilters mileage \$51.48

Comfort quilts/QOV \$40.65

Total expenses \$2,409.37

Balance at month end \$22,685.13

President's Message

I recently finished taking Intermediate Quilting taught by Janet Sears and Mary Austin. (Wonderful class, both it and the Beginning Quilting....) At the last class we were told that at this point, there is nothing we can't do. Sure, we may need a little practice, but at this point, we can figure out what we don't know, tackle a new pattern, or (most importantly, to me) take any class. We were told that any class at PIQF, or Asilomar, or anywhere else is within our ability level. That reminded me of something that I was told when I first joined the Guild. I was expressing my hesitancy to take a particular class (I forget now which one it was). One of the wise PPQgers told me that I should take any class that I can, because whatever my level, I would most certainly learn something from it. And that has been my *modus operandi* ever since. I have taken classes where I couldn't keep up, and classes where I didn't finish the project, but in each class I have learned something valuable. Almost every class is taught to several different skill levels. So I say, check the prerequisites of a class, then just GO FOR IT!!!

—Jan Carter

Membership News

Please welcome our newest members:

Suzanne Ziegler

31 Glen Dr

Mill Valley, Ca 94941

susilaziegler@aol.com

Marianne Rittenhouse

100 Flat Rock Dr

Folsom, Ca 95630

moonrisers@comcast.net

Comfort Quilts & QOV Workshop Day In June

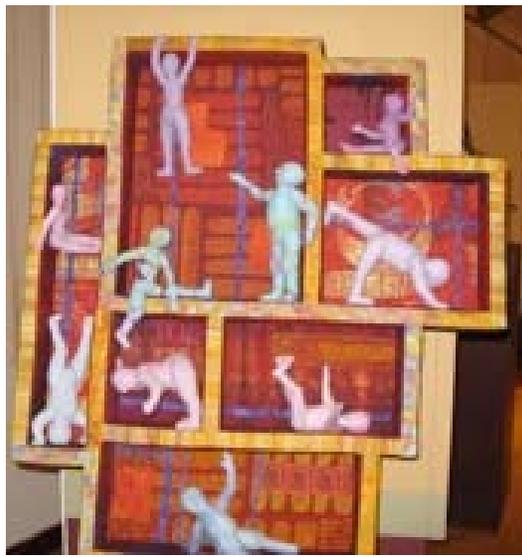
PPQG day for Comfort Quilts and Quilts of Valor.

Friday, June 19, 10 am-3 pm, GAC Auditorium.

Everyone is encouraged to join in, with or without a quilt or sewing machine. If you have a quilt you're working on, you can get help to finish it. Even if you don't have a project to bring, you can assist with other tasks. All talents and levels of ability are welcome and gratefully accepted.

Guild Glimmers

If you were not at the last meeting, you missed out on a terrific lecture and sculpture show. Susan Else entertained us with the tale of her transition from two-dimensions to three-dimensions, and dazzled us with the exhibition of many of her signature pieces, such as *Bingo* and *The Chess Game*. They were all an insightful commentary on human behavior, and displayed an amazing quality of craftsmanship.



Thanks to Gail Spencer for photos of April's meeting.

Kudos to our Members

Anita Kaplan will have her quilt, *Imagine*, on exhibit at the Columbus Cultural Arts Center in Ohio from May 18th-June 20th. This juried exhibit will also include quilts by many well known quilters such as Sue Benner, Ann Johnston, Elizabeth Barton, Erika Carter and several others.

Take a look at Jan Carter's challenge quilt, *Sonoma Coastline*. Jan started it in a class at Empty Spools and the next time you see it will be in the pages of Judith Baker Montano's new book. Congratulations to both of our world-class quilters.

Charlene Younker of Rainbow Resource in Albion had fabric featured in the notorious March issue of *Quilter's Home* magazine (the one JoAnn's refused to carry because of its risqué content.) Ask Charlene about it when you go to her first ever spring clean-out sale Friday-Sunday, May 22-24 from 11-4. She'll have all kinds of screen prints, and hand-dyes for sale. Call her at 937-0431 for directions.