



OLD CAPITOL QUILTERS GUILD

VOLUME 40 ISSUE 2

OCTOBER 2020

Monday, October 12, 2020

Program

Rhonda Dort

"Quilting with Vintage Linens"



Our original plan for the October Program was to have Pam Ehrhardt and Vicki Walch, co-chairs of the OCQG Show Committee, talk about getting ready for what was going to be our next show in June 2021. However, we have now decided to reschedule that show to June 2022 (see details on page 4), so we don't need to start planning until the fall of 2021.

In a great streak of luck, we have found a timely and inspiring program for October. Thanks go to Teresa Weihe who tipped off Diedre Fleener about a narrated PowerPoint presentation, specifically tailored for viewing by quilt guilds during Zoom meetings. It comes from Rhonda Dort, a leading designer and teacher who makes extensive use of vintage linens in quilt making.

What makes it clear that our stars have aligned is that a couple of months ago the Program Committee had set the 2021 Challenge to be "Vintage Made New." See more on their plans on page 2.

The presentation runs about 50 minutes. Rhonda Dort narrates the PowerPoint herself in a recording timed to the slide presentation. We will be able to pause her presentation and discuss it as desired during our meeting. The Program Committee may have additional points to make about its plans for the challenge or questions may occur to members as we view the presentation.



Photos courtesy of Rhonda Dort.

Zoom Show & Tell

We will be including a Show & Tell slideshow in our Zoom meetings as we all love to see what everyone is creating. If you have items to share, email images, a full shot, and a closeup to Meredith Sewell at m57sewell@gmail.com. Your quilt(s) will be identified with your name and you will be able to share its story during the Show & Tell section of the meeting. Consider information such as a title, pattern, size, piecing techniques, quilting technique, quilter if someone other than yourself, and any other fun information.

Submission deadline is Monday, October 5th for the October 12th meeting.

As I am writing this the weather has started to turn cooler and fall is definitely on the horizon! For me, the end of summer means that my gardening is starting to wind down and my mind turns back to quilting. This fall especially feels like a "fresh start" for me.

With the mountainous pile growing in the dining room and every other corner of the house, the mystery was dead. Luckily, there were minimal true quilting supply casualties.

Fast forward three months, the contractor has FINALLY finished repairs, the new carpet is

installed and now it is time to start putting it all back. My hope is that the silver lining in all this is that I can be very organized, clear out some clutter and start fresh in my "new" space. And with little to no sewing this summer, there are so many projects to choose from!

I joined the Service Committee for the Mystery Block of the Month which is going to be a fun way to help provide service quilts and meet new people in the guild. If you have not joined us, it is not too late! (Just reach out to Vicki Reynolds - vreynolds789@gmail.com).

Our program in October is directly tied in with our Challenge quilt theme this year and is sure to get the creative juices flowing!

We had an awesome turnout for our September meeting (50+ people) and I hope even more will be able to join us next month! Looking forward to seeing you there.

Sally Strah, Co-president
Diedre Fleener, Co-president



2020-2021 Challenge: Vintage Made New

The theme for the 2021 Challenge is "Vintage Made New."

Use the treasures that your Mom, Grandmother, or Aunt have passed down to you. This can be in the form of embroidered pillowcases, tablecloths, doilies, dresser scarves, hankies, laces and trims, even men's ties. Parts of old quilts or vintage fabrics can also be used.

Any information about the source (e.g., who the vintage items originally belonged to, how they were acquired, stories connected to the items) can be listed in the label.

The size range can be from a fat-quarter size (suitable for a wall-hanging) to a bed-size quilt.

The only restriction is ABSOLUTELY, POSITIVELY, no T-shirts. Let's have some fun with this!!

Further details will be coming in the newsletter and will also be posted on the OCQG website at <https://www.ocqg.org/challenges>.

Upcoming OCQG's Programs & Presenters for the 2020-2021 Year:

Nov 9, 2020, 7pm:

Don Dixon - "Beyond the Borders"



Don Dixon grew up on a farm in North Central Missouri where Art class was always the highlight of his day. His mother made most of the clothes for his family on a Singer treadle machine that had been converted to electric. In 2007, his artistic interests were rekindled when his sister encouraged him to make quilts for his twin granddaughters. His hobby of quilt making continued as he made quilts for other family members, friends and Quilts of Valor.

One friend took it a step further and showed one of Don's quilts to Stan Wiederspan (owner of the former Wiederspan Art Gallery). Stan's comment to her was, "I want to talk to this guy". Stan explained to Don that he had a talent that should be explored and that he needed to go beyond the borders of a quilt. Don was more than a bit overwhelmed and was uncertain as to how to meet this challenge.

It took Don a couple of years to find an interesting technique that served as a starting point as well as a source for using hand-dyed fabrics. Using a modified technique for improvisational piecing, he assembled his first piece. Don went to visit Stan at his gallery to show him his efforts. Stan was impressed and suggested that Don stretch it onto an artist canvas. With a high -level of excitement Don worked up another new piece which Stan displayed in his gallery. Much to Don's amazement, it sold within a week to the Kirkwood Collection. A private buyer saw the piece and asked that Don do a commission. As time passed, more of his pieces were purchased by people that responded to his art.

Don says "I'm grateful to Stan's encouragement and have found that I truly enjoy working with hand-dyed fabrics to create pieces with a balanced structure that seem to glow with an inner light. I feel that my pieces evoke the warmth and comfort of colorful quilts and trust that as people bring them into their homes and businesses, that they too will experience that warmth and comfort."



Poppy



Paradise

Dec 14, 2020, 7pm:

"Celebrating 40 Years of OCQG" –Meredith Sewell & the History Committee, Pam Ehrhardt, Vicki Walch; plus a "Virtual" Social

Jan 11, 2021, 7pm:

Doris Montag - "Sentiments of Sewing"

Feb 8, 2021, 9am-7pm:

Service Day - organized by Service Committee

Mar 8, 2021, 7pm:

Ana Blickendorfer - "The Judy Niemeyer Quiltworx Method"

Mar 9, 2021, 1/2 day:

"Starbaby" Workshop from Ana Blickendorfer

Apr 12, 2021, 7pm:

Meg Prange - "Meg's Artistic Process"

May 10, 2021, 7pm:

Dorothy Faidley - "Iowa State Fair Quilts"

June 14, 2021, 7pm:

Elections and a Pot-Luck

July 12, 2021, 7pm:

2021 Quilt Challenge: "Vintage Made New"



Rescheduling the OCQG Show to June 2022

We have decided to reschedule the next Guild show to June 2022. You might remember that it was originally scheduled for June 2020, but we pushed it forward to 2021 even before the Covid-19 virus took hold. In hindsight that was a lucky decision because the restrictions on large group gatherings that started in March 2020 would have prevented us from holding it in June of this year anyway.

We made our new decision after hearing the latest projections from the CDC that vaccines won't be widely available until at least June-July 2021. That made having a Guild show inside at the First United Methodist Church in June 2021 seem impossible. At first we thought we might be able to move it to September 2021. But we consulted with Nancy Johns who has been our principal liaison with the church and deeply involved in many previous show committees to see what she thought was realistic. Nancy pointed out, rightly, that we would probably be competing with football in September 2021. And even more important, we would miss the extra boost we received by holding our show concurrently with the Iowa City Arts Festival in June.

The show requires 9-10 months of planning, so we will start that process less than a year from now in order to be ready for June 2022. If all goes well with vaccines and other forms of virus control, by the fall of 2021 we should be able to convene our show committees in person and enjoy each other's company while we get everything ready for June 2022.

In the meantime, keep working on those quilts and other items. We should have lots of wonderful pieces to show!

Pam Ehrhardt (pie281@gmail.com) and Vicki Walch (vwalch@gmail.com), QuiltFest Co-Chairs

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Service Committee

Service Committee News

The Service Committee is disappointed as many of you likely are that we are not able to safely hold our in person Guild meetings. We are so thankful technology allows us to still stay connected until we can once again be together in person. We hope you have been finding time for sewing! We want to remind Guild members that the Service Committee will continue to collect quilts, burp clothes, and tote bags to donate to area agencies. Currently, we are able to provide donations to the following agencies:

UI Hospitals – colorful quilts – 40”x40” (we are collecting and will deliver later)

VA Hospital – quilts for adult men and women– 48”x60”

Domestic Violence- colorful quilts - 45”x45” –

Visiting Nurse Assn (VNA) –Burp cloths

4 Cs – colorful quilts – approx 40”x40”Tote Bags , Burp Cloths

Patterns for burp cloths and tote bags as well as quilt sizes can be found on the OCQG web site,

<https://www.ocqg.org/community-outreach>

Members who have completed charity donations may contact the following Service Committee members to arrange safe pick-up or delivery of items:

Nancy Granner- ngranner@mchsi.com drop off at her home in North Liberty

Vicki [Reynolds- vreynolds789@gmail.com](mailto:Reynolds-vreynolds789@gmail.com) - meet at JoAnn’s in Iowa City

Barb [Thomas- bthomas1638@gmail.com](mailto:Thomas-bthomas1638@gmail.com) - meet at Cotton Creek Quilt Shop in West Branch

The Service Committee would also like to gather information of any other charity donations that are being made by OCQG members. Examples could be donations of items to the recent United Way “Power of the Purse” fundraising event or donations of face masks, etc. Please contact any Service Committee member with any of these types of donations that you may have made. We would like to track those for our Community Outreach annual report. Thank you.



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PIECING OUR PAST TOGETHER—WE'RE 40!

This is the second installment in a series of articles in honor of the Guild's 40th anniversary that we'll be celebrating during the 2021-2022 membership year. Each month, we'll be mining the OCQG history binders for short feature articles offering up interesting events, personal stories, or nuggets of inspiration. Some will highlight how much things have changed, while others will show how much is still the same.

A Happy Coincidence . . . the Guild's First National Speaker Came Back for a Recent Visit



The last in-person meeting of the Old Capitol Quilters Guild before the pandemic quarantine started in March featured Marianne Fons who gave a wonderful presentation to one of the best attended meetings in recent memory (*see photo at left*). It was especially fun, therefore, to discover that she also spoke to the Guild in 1983 along with her quilting partner, Liz Porter. In fact, the two of them were the first nationally known speakers the Guild ever hosted back in the day when the group was known as "Quilting For Fun" (QFF).

Here's the story about the event as printed in the Quilting For Fun (QFF) news flyer dated October 1983. Marianne had nice things to say about Iowa quilters 37 years ago!

"A reminder of our special event November 14th [1983]. QFF will sponsor a day of quilting with authors [of the book, *Classic Quilted Vest*,] Marianne Fons and Elizabeth Porter beginning with an afternoon lecture and slideshow. This part of the program is open to anyone and everyone for \$1.00 per person. Following will be a potluck dinner, autographing and display and possibly a mini-merchants mall. The highlight of the day will be the Quilted Vest workshop in the evening. The number of workshop participants is limited and will be open first to club members and later if space remains to non-members. ... Fees for the workshop will be \$5.00 for members; \$10.00 for nonmembers."

"The all-day event was held at Montgomery Hall, Johnson County Fairgrounds. A letter from Marianne Fons dated September 25, 1983, included these planning notes:

"We feel we can accommodate up to fifty [students]. We will need a helper with a sewing machine per each ten students. All we will ask the helpers to do is sew side seams at one point in the class. This will set the helpers a little bit behind in their marking, but not enough to handicap them too much."

"It's so much fun to travel and meet other quilters and get to share the things we are learning with them. When we see you in November, we will have been to the big Quilt Festival in Houston where we are teaching the vest class (twice) and one on feathered quilting designs, as well as doing a series of lectures for Yours Truly. Quilters are great people everywhere, but we think Iowa quilters can't be beat—our experience has shown them to be wonderfully responsive students."



Mystery Quilt Block of the Month (MBOM)

It's not too late to join!!!



The MBOM revealed its first block to members on Tuesday, September 15th! The 19 members are excited to get their mystery quilt started. The blocks are easy to construct, and this project is a great way to use your stash! Our goal is to help create quilt kits for our Service Day in February.

If you are thinking you would like to be a part of this group, it is not too late to join! Connie and Vicki would be happy to get you caught up. You can find out more information by emailing Connie Brinton (cjbrinton47@gmail.com) or Vicki Reynolds (vreynolds789@gmail.com). The second block will be revealed at our next ZOOM meeting on Tuesday, October 20th. Members also receive a summary of the meeting via email shortly after the ZOOM meeting.

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Old Capitol Quilters Guild 2020 - 2021 Membership Form

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Newsletter: Each month, members can receive an email notice with instructions on how to download a PDF copy of the newsletter. If you would like to receive a printed copy there is a \$14.00 additional fee to cover printing and postage.

E-mail notices: Please check your choice/s below.

Send me email notices for: _____ monthly newsletter is now available

_____ general announcements and meeting changes/cancellations

Small Group/s: Are you interested in joining a small group? Yes _____ No _____

Name of group if you already belong to one _____

Membership dues can be mailed to: Verlaine Ockenfels; 1407 Riverside Rd.; Riverside, IA 52327. Please pay dues no later than the October 15, 2020 in order to keep access to members only section of website. Make checks payable to OCOG.

| | |
|--|----|
| Membership dues (\$25.00/year) | \$ |
| <i>Your optional tax-deductible contribution helps support OCOG programs & services.</i> | \$ |
| <i>Fee for a printed and mailed newsletter \$14.00</i> | \$ |
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ATTN ALL: In an effort to save room in the newsletter now and from now on, a page has been added to the Members Only section on the website that lists all Board members and their email addresses.

Join the Old Capitol Quilters Guild Facebook Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/528266217828309/>

From Mary Mockaitis —

Some interesting news. I went to the garage sale that was mentioned during the Zoom Guild meeting. The lady who had the amazing Quilt Garage Sale - Nancy Tate in Tiffin, donated to the Guild what was left after her sale. She was going to donate this treasure trove to Goodwill. I mentioned to her that the Guild has an auction that is used to raise money for the Guild, and that we give out door prizes during meetings and that the Service Committee uses some fabric, etc... She said she would like to donate what she had left to the Guild. So now I have amazing fabrics, patterns, books, and miscellaneous to be used as needed by the Service Committee and our next auction.




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Old Capitol Quilters Guild, Iowa City Area

Old Capitol Quilters Guild is a nonprofit organization open to anyone interested in quilts or quilting. Monthly meetings are held the second Monday of each month, September through July, at 7 p.m. at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church on 1st Ave. and Court St. in Iowa City. Dues are \$25/year, renewable September 1. Guests are always welcome.

NOTE: Due to pandemic-related concerns about convening large groups, the OCQG will hold all its meetings through the end of 2020 via Zoom. Please contact us at info@ocqg.org with questions.

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Newsletter Deadline

Submit articles, etc. on or prior to:

Monday, October 19th for the November Newsletter

to: 2020-21 newsletter Editor, Linda Bergquist
lindabergquist@mediacombb.net

Advertising Rates:

| | Year | One Issue |
|---------------|-------|-----------|
| Business Card | \$60 | \$12.50 |
| Quarter Page | \$120 | \$25.00 |

2020-2021 Upcoming Events

Iowa Quilt Museum - Winterset, Iowa

Upcoming Exhibit:

Beautiful Simplicity: Two Color Quilts

On Display October 7th, 2020 - January 3, 2021

For More Information Visit:

<http://iowaquiltmuseum.org/uncategorized/iowa-quiltscape-for-june-21-2002/>

If you know of upcoming events, please share with the newsletter editor.



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