

Covington Quilters Guild Minutes

March 7, 2019

It's all about HUGS !

Board Members in attendance: Dotti Harris, President, Debbie Russell, Vice President, Peggy Anderson, Treasurer, Eleanor Delakruse, Secretary and Members at Large; Tabatha Smith and Zena LaRosa.

Dotti Harris, President called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and read the Guild's Purpose Statement.

Secret Pal Reveal, Lori George on behalf of Dee White, participants acknowledged who they were gifting to and exchanged gifts. Next Secret Pal will have sign ups in August.

Kaffe Fasset Reveal, Bobby Mowery – participants displayed their finished tops.

2020 Raffle Quilt Reveal, Mary Ann Baker introduced the team who displayed the finished top. Participants in attendance; Kathy Trovesi, Debby Parry-Evans, and Linda Ferguson.

Quilters Anonymous Guild, Amy Cullinan - brought their raffle quilt on display and had tickets available. Their Quilt Show will be in Monroe at the Fairgrounds the weekend of March 15th to 17th.

Bird Block Exchange, Bobby Mowery – had sign up available for interested Guild members. The goal is to have one group of 15 or 30 for two exchange groups. Participants will need to contribute \$15 for the background fabric for uniformity and birds can be any style.

HUGS, Lori George – Introduced Beth Hollis who received one of our quilts following her diagnosis of stage 4 ovarian cancer. Beth was in a car accident on February 9th, 2017 where they discovered she had cancer, that would have gone undetected longer. She was given the quilt from her church in Auburn. The quilt meant so much to Beth and contributes to her comfort during treatment and recovery. Beth appreciated the time and money that went into making her quilt that gave her comfort, warmth physically and emotionally. Beth felt supported that gave her a foundation and connection. Beth is an early childhood nurse for 35 years. The quilt gave her comfort, security and felt the love. At the time of her diagnosis her CA125 levels were over 3000 and are now down to 9 following surgery and chemo therapy treatments. Beth is happy to be cancer free and appreciates the support, comfort, and warmth the quilt provided. 70% of healing is attitude.

Kathy Edwards (guest) was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2017 and received one of our quilts during treatments and appreciated the comfort it provided. Kathy is cancer free and cherishes the quilt.

Debi Mashak received a friend request on Facebook however she did not recognize the name and they did not have any friends in common. Due to security risks Debi was hesitant and sent a private message to find out who this was and why they made a friend request. Turns out this person received one of our HUGS quilts that Debi made and she wanted to make sure she reached out and extended her gratitude.

HUGS, Lori George – Introduced team members;

Paul and Dawn Shirron, who provide quilting service and have completed over 1,000 quilts. Paul pieces the backing, and does the quilting and Dawn does the computer designs

Mary and Lyn Willis, support with binding

Patty Kobelin, takes pieces of batting and assembles them into useable pieces for quilts

Dotti Harris, helps with cutting fabric, building kits, and provides back up support

Dee White, helps with building kits and distributing to members

Kathy McClung, helps with assembling kits

Jana Columbi, helps builds kits and color coordination

Cindy Knighton helps with kits that needs a little something and sometimes more

Ann Sirrine, helps with kits, bags and binding

Fabric that is not quilt quality is used to make bags and other fabric that is not quality for quilts or bags are used for dog beds to donate to shelters. See Irene Moss if you would like to support making dog beds.

For 2019 we have donated 332 so far and is the largest number to date this early in the year. To make these quilts Lori estimated there were over 1,228 touches from beginning to end, from picking the fabric, building kits, piecing, quilting, binding, and label making.

Lori gave us a history on the guilds charity quilt that began in 1995 and known as the Candle Lighters, donating to Children's and Mary Bridge Hospital who now only contact when they need quilts. At this time fabric for the charity quilts were stored in an unheated trailer resulting in musty smells. Pat and Gail were the charity quilt chairs and decided to change the name from Candle Lighters to HUGS and worked as a team with the guild from 2005 to 2011 they started tracking the counts of quilts made and which charities we donated to and they also started monthly workshops and the yearly challenge. 2011 Lori George took over the HUGS chair position who has continued the amazing efforts along with sharing her studio for fabric and workshops. Lori sleuths out deals on fabric and batting and averages 4 to 5 dollars a yard along with accepting donations. 2016 Quilters Roost donated 550 bolts of fabric. Warm and Natural has donated batting and pieces and stop doing this in 2018 and now sells to the guild for 10% over wholesale. Pat and Gail were in attendance and we were able to express our gratitude to starting and supporting HUGS.

Companies like Boeing does a donation match that includes volunteer hours that can be designated to the general fund or HUGS. The guild is also set up with Amazon Smiles for additional donations. Breast Cancer donated \$500 to HUGS to return the support for the quilts we donate to them and this is the first we have received money where we donate quilts.

Between the company match donations and Amazon Smiles received last year that HUGS did not take a budget for 2019.

Recently we were approached by Gretchen Lutz who selects our HUGS quilts in exchange for a donation who then takes them to the Providence Mount Saint Vincent who provides housing and support to people with disabilities, illness, and cancer. These HUGS quilts go people with comfort and support and provides HUGS with more resources to continue efforts. Ada Kirmser asked how the amount is determined and Lori responded she factors in the average cost of our fabric and time to complete.

Kits include the fabric and pattern, since borders are hard to determine and can be added once the top is complete and size is known that can be picked up at Lori's or donated. When the completed top is returned the batting and backing is added then sent to be quilted, then it is binded and a label is added. If you have made a top and want to do the binding note that on the checkout card. Once the quilt is fully complete it is auditioned to determine which charity it will go to then they are packaged for delivery that includes a thank you post card for recipients. Lori read a thank you letter that included pictures of a quilt that Patty Kobelin made.

We also donate to the Snowball Express that is a charity ran by Gary Sinese that supports children who have lost a parent in the military that are taken on a trip with air transportation provided by American airlines.

Lori contributes 20 hours a week to supporting HUGS and keeping it so successful.

Lori expressed her appreciation to everyone who contributes to HUGS and if you want to get involved please contact Lori George.

HUGS Challenge, Makes Me Happy, reveal to display the quilts and members voted with the winners receiving Gossypium gifts cards to be used by April as this quilt shop is closing.

2020 HUGS Challenge theme will be Tea Berry using fat quarters.

Quilt Show core team next meeting is March 20th 7:00 PM at Lori's house. Standard information was available along with meeting schedule.

Membership Chair, Leanne Shipley, introduced our guests, and our badge prize winner was Kathy Roberts.

Presentation Blocks, Leanne Shipley – Check out from the presenter to take home to make and return the next guild meeting. 10 points are earned for each completed block. When a member has earned 100 points they will be able to do a presentation blocks. This is a great way to build skills and finish in a short period of time

Break – to view and purchase quilt raffle tickets pick up HUGS kits. Fund raiser T-Shirts were available for sale along with Taco Time coupon books. Voting on HUGS challenge quilts.

Dotti Harris, President, called the **business portion** of the meeting to order and introduced members of the board; Debbie Russell, Vice President, Eleanor Delakruse, Secretary, Peggy Anderson, Treasurer, Zena LaRosa and Tabatha Smith as Members at Large

Dotti Harris, President, called for the January 2019 meeting minutes to be approved. Lyn Bolster motioned to approve the minutes, Kathy Trovesi seconded the motion with the members in attendance approving.

Treasurer Report by Peggy Anderson – went over the bank balances. Printed copies of the budget were available for members in attendance and will be posted on the guild's web page under Business Menu, Treasurer Reports.

March Board Meeting will be Tuesday, 19th, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Maple Valley Sheriff's Department conference room. All members are welcome to attend.

February meeting was cancelled due to weather conditions with snow and we needed to adjust schedules as follows:

April we have a scheduled Speaker

May Auction reschedule from February

June we have a scheduled Speaker

July will be an ice cream social in replacement for the cancelled Spring Tea Party

Refreshments, Patty Kobelin – needs support while she is recovering from a knee injury. Karen Walker has volunteered to support but needs someone to help with set up and take down, Judy Seferovich offered to help. It has been a challenge to have a consistent second person to help with refreshment set up and take down. Bringing a case of water is also a challenge and heavy to bring back and forth. It was suggested that the people bringing snacks and treats could bring water. April meeting we will vote on whether to keep refreshments or disband.

HUGS Challenge Brings you Joy winners were announced; 1st place Lyn Willis, 2nd Place Teresa Shover, 3rd place Peggy Anderson.

Names were drawn for people who have made HUGS quilts and the winners were Kim Mitchell and Debbie Crooks and Patty Kobelin.

Dotti Harris, President, called upon our Committee Chairs to present.

HUGS, Lori George, workshop schedules has been posted and available on the Guild's web site, use Google docs to view and sign up. Contact Lori if you need information or assistance with using Google docs. See guilds web page for HUGS; Charity Quilts, Workshops and Thank You's.

Quilt Show, Debi Mashak – Signs will be made into fabric quilted applique that will be reusable and we will save on printing expenses. Workshop will be on Thursday March 21st at Debi's house.

Quilt Show Core Team, Vendors, Debbi Parry-Evans – Purple Door is returning and will have a long arm set up to demo. Quilting Lessons Lady has reserved a space and there are 6 other potential vendors. Debbi has requested if you know of a possible vendor or attend a quilt show to get a copy of the vendor list for her to contact.

Cash Boxes are metal and they would like to replace with decorative boxes that lock.

Quilt Show Core Team, Make and Take, Debi Masak – will host a workshop on March 21st at her house.

Quilt Show Core Team, Decorations, Kathy McClung – would like block patterns from a time period for the theme of Pieces in Time to be completed by the June meeting with off white backing using 30's fabric.

Block of the Month (BOM), Zena LaRosa, is carry over from February, Donna Smith as winner of the pieced heart block. March is a Celtic block and April is Easter with 3 different applique design. Directions were available and information with directions will be posted on the Guild's web page. Zena noted she would be available to demonstrate and teach the block of the month and Bigfoot quilting in Auburn has offered their classroom space.

Pin Cushion **Exchange**, Bobby Mowery – Kits were available for pickup. June will be Needle book.

2019 Raffle Quilt, Lyn Bolster – reported the recent events the quilt was on display along with future events. January 8th they sold 115 tickets at the Busy Bee quilt guild in Snohomish. Puyallup Valley Quilters Guild purchased 107 tickets. We will be back at the Tacoma Dome Food and Gift Festival in October. Volunteer shifts are longer due to the distance and the cost of parking. In addition to our raffle quilts being on display we will have a holiday themed wall hanging that we will announce the winner at the end of the event.

Show and Tell

Dotti Harris, President adjourned the meeting.

Thank you to the members who stay to stack chairs, help Lori pack up HUGS items, and refreshment clean up.

Respectfully submitted by Eleanor Delakruse, Secretary