

**GULF STATES QUILTING ASSOCIATION**  
**General Meeting Minutes**  
**October 24, 2009**

The General Meeting of the Gulf States Quilting Association was held on October 24, 2009, at the Lakeshore Playground in Metairie, La. President Bonnie Foto opened the meeting at 10:03 a.m., and requested everyone turn off their cell phones. Cena Harmon offered the prayer.

Bonnie extended a welcome to everyone and thanked Cotton Pickin, Sew Piecefully, Stitchy Fingers, and Quilting Fans for hosting the meeting. Karen Rudd arranged for the loan of the coffee urns and supplies from the Reily Corporation.

There were 106 people signed in, including three new members, four first-time attendees, and several guests.

Minutes - Judith Wheeler

Liz Linebrink made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Marilyn Rose seconded. The Board entertained the motion to not read the minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report - Glenda Spikes

The Treasurer's report was read. A full copy is filed with the minutes.

Seminar - Dan LeBlanc

The Blue Book with teacher and class information will be available online December 26, 2009. **Please wait for the Blue Book -- Do Not Contact The Teachers.** Georgia Farnet announced the 2010 Seminar teachers will be Joyce Becker, Sally Collins, Bonnie Hunter, Judy Laquidara, Lucy Landry, Mickey Depre and Linda Schmidt. Remember to list a first, second, and third choice for class selections when you register.

Room rates at the Marriott in Baton Rouge will remain the same as last year. Make your reservations as soon as registration information is available and remember to mention GSQA.

Tickets were still available for the Bernina sewing machine donated by Village Fabrics in Baton Rouge. Drawing will be at the end of the meeting.

Membership - Debbie Frank

As of this week, there were 699 members, including 14 shops. Membership reminder postcards are in the mail.

Historian - Donna Downing

The Rosebud luncheon and auction will be June 12, 2009 at the Four Points Sheraton in New Orleans, La. Donations of items for the auction are coming in and tickets will be \$1 each or six for \$5.

#### Quilt Show - Ilaine Hartman/Bonnie Foto

The Show will be June 18 - 20, 2010 at the North Shore Harbor Center. Charity quilts will go to the fire departments in New Orleans, Metairie and St. Tammany. The Tri-harbor chief will speak at the Show. Fire departments carry bears for children when houses burn and the quilts will go with the bears. Six quilts made from the "Flip Flop" Lotto blocks have already been donated by Stitchy Fingers. Other themes will be Quilts of Valor, breast cancer, etc.

Some area quilters have agreed to quilt. If anyone would like to quilt on home machines, volunteers are welcome. Alma Landry repeated her offer from the last meeting to quilt one quilt for each group for the Show. Material donations are still being accepted.

Fifteen to twenty mini demos are scheduled, along with a good merchant's mall.

There will be a quilting corner for children - boys and girls. They will be making their own simple block using the stitch and flip method on batting, and at the same time be learning the use of a sewing machine. Volunteers are needed to help - let us know what days and time you are available.

General volunteers are needed and a Chairman for hanging of quilts.

There will be prizes for the winning quilts and gifts for others.

Ilaine wants to see at least 5000 tickets sold for the Opportunity Quilt!!!

#### POE - Ilaine Hartman

Pursuit of Excellence - after the General Meeting a technique is taught by a fellow member. The purpose is for you to learn it and take it back to your guild and teach it.

The Board is planning "all-day" POE classes to learn several techniques or one in detail. Two people from each guild would attend and take the technique back to their guild. We need places to hold the classes and people to teach. The facility will be paid for and the teacher will be compensated.

Pat Lee will teach reverse appliqué after today's meeting.

#### President elect - Lucy DeHarde

Location has been the major consideration when planning on attending GSQA Quarterly meetings. In the past several years, we have tried to make our meetings more accessible to our members in all of the four states that we service. We hope that you will make the effort to attend the "out of town" meetings and have a fun road trip with friends.

Many ideas are coming in about things members would like to see from our circuit teachers and Pursuit of Excellence classes. We are working on those ideas and hope to have more offerings soon. Check the website. Leslie updates it often and it is our way of communicating with the membership.

Lucy encouraged members that belong to smaller guilds to contact Kathy Ayme, our Circuit Teacher chair, to see if a class is currently being offered that needs more spaces filled. Also, email our teachers to see if a particular class is being scheduled that you might want to take. Be proactive...ask. Our Circuit Teachers are offering some incredible classes.

#### Circuit Teachers - Kathy Ayme

Four classes were taught in September and another is scheduled for the end of October. To schedule a class, call or email Kathy and she can “walk” you through the paperwork

In answer to some responses to the survey, it is easy to try to get a class scheduled if it seems that you do not have enough members willing to take a particular class advertised on the web page. Leslie Plaisance will put a memo there that “guild A” is looking for more participants. The last class that did that went from nine wanting the class to 18 actual participants. Another method might be for more than one guild to go together to host a teacher. Most of the teachers are flexible and a few do more than 20 in one class. If you are looking for a particular class, email Kathy and she will put a note that you are looking for a certain class and she can contact the teacher about offering it at some date.

Bonnie recognized Marilyn Rose who had samples of her classes.

#### Ways and Means - Nina Delaune

New luggage tags with the GSQA logo sell for \$3. Denim shirts with the GSQA logo sell for \$23. Sign up to order a shirt. Board members are wearing different sizes to try on for size. If you order a shirt and you will not be at the next meeting, give someone an “OK” to pick it up. Patches are available separately for \$3.

Fons & Porter magazine subscriptions/renewals are still being offered at \$20 a year (with free gifts) and GSQA will get \$5 for each subscription.

#### Programs - Cena Harmon

January’s meeting will be in St. Gabriel, LA, with Australian quilter Suzanne Wray.

The April 17, 2010, General meeting will in Mobile, AL with Susan Cleveland as the guest speaker. She will also be doing workshops along the Gulf Coast. The Monday after the meeting will be in Hattiesburg, MS and Tuesday will be in Abita Springs, LA. There are still 3 days available to schedule a workshop (The newsletter dates are not correct).

Fill out and mail the contract to Cena. She will send it to Susan to handle. A guild can decide which class they would like to take as late as February. Cost of an all-day class is \$700 and half-day class is

\$425 (20 people max). GSQA will fly her in from Minnesota and each guild taking a workshop will contribute \$50. If a guild class is not filled, then that information will be posted on the website.

### Marion Maerke Scholarship - Barbara Skinner

Marion's family is looking for a museum in the Gulf States area to display her quilts.

Barbara asked winners and alternates of past scholarships to stand. MMS committee members Susan Muller and Iris Niehues were also asked to stand, along with Pat Lee, who is an honorary member and has made the certificates for several years.

The nominees were:

1. Dana D'Anzi by Stitchy Fingers;
2. Georgia Farnet by Karen Bucksbarg and Leslie Kiger;
3. JoAn Knight by Birmingham Quilt Guild

The MMS Award was presented to Georgia Farnet and the Alternate to Dana D'Anzi. Certificates were presented to Georgia and Dana.

Barbara's complete report will be filed with the minutes.

### Media - Leslie Plaisance

If you don't have a computer, you can access GSQA website at the library or find a friend with a computer. The webpage is still being kept up. When Ingrid was scheduled for the program, her website was listed as a link. There may be links to the Seminar teachers. Rosebud items will be on the website. Leslie's email address is at the bottom of the page. Please contact her with any information or corrections.

### Newsletter - Fran Fletcher

There are new postal regulations so we are trying to send more newsletters by email. Pay your dues on time or you will miss the newsletter. Guilds email what you are doing.

### Past President - Jane Ramee

Jane introduced the newly elected GSQA Board officers for 2010. Each was selected by the nominating committee, approved by the Board, and then elected by acclamation at the July General meeting.

- Incoming-President: Leslie Kiger - Covington, La
- Recording Secretary: Judith Wheeler - Foley, Al
- Treasurer: Lorette Webre - LaPlace, La

These women, along with Lucy DeHarde as President, will be installed at the January 23<sup>rd</sup> General meeting.

## Door Prizes

### Lotto Blocks

Winners:

- Christmas - Sylvia Estle;
- Easter - Lynn Schumacher;
- Fourth of July - Linda Wiggins;
- Mardi Gras - Lucy DeHarde;
- Halloween - Linda Wiggins

Nina passed out extra fabric from the Lotto Blocks.

The next Lotto Block will be handled by Daisy Comeaux. They will be given out at the January 2010 meeting and winners drawn at the April meeting. We still need a guide to volunteer to make Lotto Block kits to be sold in July 2010.

Lunch - 11: 30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

## Door Prizes

### Old Business - Bonnie Foto

A request was made at the July General meeting for the Board to reconsider a decision it made not to base the theme of the 2012 quilt show around the statehood of Louisiana. The Board considered this matter at its September meeting. A discussion ensued and came to a unanimous decision that the quilt show theme should be broad and all-inclusive in nature. Since this proposed theme would be limited in appeal, the original decision of the Board stands. However, wishing to be considerate of the desire of some of it's Louisiana members, the Board will request the show committee to have a category dedicated to this theme. Anyone wishing to lead a group project to place in this category is invited to submit an article to the Quilt Talk editor and/or to the Media Director for publication on the web, seeking volunteers. Thank you.

### New Business

With regard to GSQA financial information being included in the minutes on the website, it was brought up at the meeting that most organizations do not put financial information on their websites. A motion was made by Kathy Ayme that financial information be made available upon request. Seconded by Claudia Washington. Motion carried.

### Announcements

- Dan LeBlanc made a quilt top "Mountain of Hope" for the Susan G. Komen breast cancer auction in April 2010.

- Claudia Washington gets announcements from organizations looking for vendors to sell merchandise. Contact her at [claudiad555@hotmail.com](mailto:claudiad555@hotmail.com)
- Guilds and members - go to arts council websites. Many issue grants for fiber arts.
- Quilts of Valor booth at the Houston Show had friendship stars to finish and send back. (Denise Taylor)
- Cane Cutters in Houma had a red/white/blue challenge to be donated to injured service people. They sent 25+ to an organization to forward.

### Program

Locations are still needed for the July and October General meetings. Email Cena.

Cena introduced two great quilters from Pensacola - Sandy Miller and Ingrid Witcher. Ingrid presented a demonstration of *Fearless Curves* and an amazing trunk show of her quilts.

Drawing for Bernina - The winner was Iris Nieheus

There being no further business to conduct, Karla Maxfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ilaine Hartman. Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judith Wheeler  
Recording Secretary

Show and Tell