**Letter from the President**

Dear Members,

Happy New Year!! Another year to improve our quilting skills. I quote more words of wisdom from Kimberly Einmo article n the July 2017 issue of The AQS magazine.

As you sew, so shall you rip. There are no rules in quilting. Only suggestions.

No quilt was ever improved by stitching in the ditch.

Always drink white wine and clear mixed drinks while quilting. It won’t stain the fabric like red wine will.

Knock-off the matchy-matchy mentality you learned in the ‘90s.

There’s no award for who finished first.

If a fabric is still ugly, cut it into smaller pieces.

Name your seam ripper; many of us spend a lot of time together. Freddy and I are tight.

Make sure when you change the stitch on your machine you have the right pressor foot attached. Ask my broken needles.

Happy quilting.

Evelyn

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**Happy Valentine’s Day!**

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**Happy Valentine’s Day!**

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**Newsletter Editor**
Lisa Cole-Welby
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I’ve been an educator for more than 30 years. School teacher, parent educator, an advocate for infants and children with special needs, a court-appointed special advocate, a software trainer, and a consultant, however my long-time passion is quilting!

I love working with colors, the geometry, the problem solving. I love seeing hundreds of pieces coming together in a work of art!

Little did I know when I started quilting nearly 20 years ago that would find a special niche that would let put all of these experiences together. In recent years I’ve been the program chair and president for my local guild. I’ve organized multiple quilt shows, and developed presentations and classes for guilds throughout the region.

Now I’ve come full circle. I’ve learned that I have a knack for using my organizational and teaching skills to help others learn how to quilt and expand their quilt making skills repertoire.
February Birthdays

Karen Cline  February 3
Cathy Leinonen  February 7
Diana Rolph  February 10
Nancy Swinerton  February 10
Lisa Berard  February 14
Rita Bonanni  February 15
Anne Barbour  February 18
Patricia Likins  February 18
Ruth McCormick  February 19
Kathy Leniczek  February 22
Lisa Cole-Welby  February 24

OCQG Challenge 2017-2018

Due date: February 22, 2018
Guild vote: March OCQG meeting 2018
Make a quilt of any size with “A Walk in the Park” as the theme.

Challenge Rules
• Challenge quilt tops must be made by an OCQG member. The quilting may be completed by the quilt top maker or by another person.
• The entry must be a completed quilt (three layers with binding).
• The challenge quilt should be a new quilt made from June 2017 – March 2018.
• The quilt may be ANY SIZE. Wall hangings, miniature-sized, bed quilt, table runner, wholecloth, doll quilt, and more.
• Any pattern or technique may be used: paper piecing, applique, traditional blocks, fiber art… just to name a few. Anything goes!

Co-Chairs: Diane Licholat-Surati 931-216-1503 (cell) and Tina Baumgartner 248-496-7765
Please call if you have any questions.

Cards for Our Members
If you know of a guild member who is in need of encouragement or comfort due to an illness, bereavement, marriage, etc. please contact Rita Weitendorf. She will send out an appropriate card. kariwhite3@yahoo.com, or 419-367-8717.
Quilt Show 2018 News!

Show Dates: Friday, April 6 & Saturday, April 7
Set-up Date: Thursday, April 5
Same venue as 2016 Show: CERC Building: 455 E. Scripps Rd, Lake Orion, MI

Quilt Show Committee Chairs (Key positions):

Treasurer: Shirley Buckmaster
Publicity: Cathy Cheal
Door Prizes: Debi Oman & Wendy Ptak
Catalog: Maria MacDonald
Prizes & Ribbons: Kathy Beguin
Raffle Quilt: Debi Oman & Carolyn Smith
Raffle Quilt Ticket Sales: Carolyn Smith & Ruth McCormick

Raffle Quilt Promotion: Sets up and takes the Raffle Quilt to other guilds and quilt shops. Sells tickets at the other guild’s meeting.
Vendors: Ruth McCormick
Quilt Registration: Maria MacDonald & Lisa Cole-Welby
Silent Auction: June Hittenberger
Library: Mary Asmus
Fabric Sale: Nancy Swinerton

Rachelle Martin & Betsy Roy
Quilt Show 2018 Chairs

Raffle Tickets

GUILD MEMBERS - Pick up your Raffle Tickets!!!

Remember - each Quilt member is expected to do their part by selling 25 Raffle Tickets for the Quilt Show Raffle Quilt. If you were unable to get them, they will be available at the November meeting. Able to sell more? We have a lot available to sell.
7:00 Evelyn Phillips welcomed all to the meeting and asked that cell phones be silenced.

Shirley Buckmaster gave a brief update on the January Quilt Inn. There are 62 people signed up thus far. There will be volunteers at both doors to help unload your sewing items quickly and easily. After unloading you can park your vehicle. Remember to bring your electrical cords. There will be a Make and Take: a small pouch/ bag which can also hold your nametag. Lunch will be provided on Saturday.

Cynthia Wilsher gave a “Last Call” for the Expedition Travel trip to Missouri Star. There are still spots!

June Hittenberger thanks members for the ton of small quilts for the Silent Auction she received tonight. She would like to have many more.

Mary Asmus and Kathy Beguin asked members to clean out their sewing rooms for any quilting books you’d like to donate to the sale to be held at the Quilt Show. This is a good money maker for the guild. Books go to Mary. Also at the Quilt Show they will have a scrap material table and it will cost only $1 to fill a bag.

Phyllis Kubler and Joyce Dawson announced they had extra “mitten quilt square” kits from the December meeting for anyone interested.

7:25 Fifteen minute break to socialize etc.

Rachelle Martin, Programs, informed members that there may be a change in the February featured program. She will get this information out to the guild.

Diane Licholat-Surati reminds us of this year’s Challenge: A Walk in the Park. Forms are on the website. Quilts must be turned in prior to the March meeting. Once again Cindi Anderson will be collecting the entrees.

Door Prizes: among the winners were: Penny Paul, Gloria Sirosky, Jean Forrester, Sally Uhrig, Diana Rubel, and Laurie O’Meara.

FEATURED PROGRAM: Debra Danko with Oversize Flower Power. Debra, (a winner of 5 Berninas!) was very informative as she shared the many techniques that are involved in creating her beautiful works. After a wonderful program she invited members up to get a closer look. We are so lucky she will be with the guild on Saturday for a “Flower” workshop.

Show and Tell- Delightful as always! Unfinished quilts finished, baby quilts, artistic quilts, quilts for gifts, etc!

8:40 Meeting Adjourned

Charity

MARLEE SMEARING & LESA REYNOLDS

Thank you to those members who continue to support our charity projects. This month we sent another twin quilt to Province House and gave a lap quilt to a grieving family. Our strip blocks have been a huge success. We will continue collecting these through May. Thank you to Lesa for putting these blocks into twin quilts for Province House.

We are in great need of members who can do simple quilting to please help us out. We have several quilt tops that we are working on getting sandwiched and brought to the table for quilting. These do not need to be fancy, just simple stitching, lap quilts.
The OCQG Newsletter is published every month for guild members and fellow quilters. Articles or other information must be submitted to Lisa Cole-Welby by the 15th of each month. Please submit your articles to welby_lisa@comcast.net If you have any questions, please feel free to email Lisa.

Advertisements
Our next meeting is:

**February 1, at 7:00 pm**

First Congregational Church
1315 North Pine Street
Rochester, Michigan  48307