

it
ALWAYS
SEEMS
IMPOSSIBLE
UNTIL
It IS
DONE.

High Point Quilt Guild Newsletter

August 2021

Volume 9, Issue 8

Please join us the second Thursday of every month at 6:30pm at Triad Church, 705 Sunshine Way, Greensboro, NC 27407

From our President, Janet Wells:

Take a break from the heat, mowing, or weed pulling. What can you do? Remember several months ago we had an ugly fabric exchange? Have you worked on your Ugly Fabric Challenge? Our Show & Tell for the challenge is at the December meeting. Remember you can make whatever you want. Your item needs to feature the fabric you drew in the exchange. You don't have to make a large quilt. You can make a table runner, place mats, mug rugs/coasters or a toaster cover! Get your creative juices flowing.

It's now two and a half months until Retreat 2021! It's time to start planning those projects to work on and make sure you have everything you need for them. Let's get those UFOs out of storage and into the completed pile.

November is fast approaching. In November we will be electing members to serve in several offices. It is really important for the life blood of an organization to have its members actively participating. As you know, at the end of the year, Wendy will be elevated to the office of President. The offices to be elected in November are 1st VP, 2nd VP, secretary, and treasurer. The office of 1st VP is to back-up the president and also take care of door prizes for meetings. After serving one year as 1st VP, that person moves to the office of president. 2nd VP serves as membership chair and keeps those records up-to-date. This position requires a computer. Secretary takes the minutes at monthly meetings and at executive board meetings. The treasurer keeps records of the financials for the guild. This position also requires a computer. The offices of any organization need to rotate among the members through the years. Of these offices, the treasurer's position is the most time consuming. The others require a small amount of time per month. Please give it some consideration in taking on one of these important duties.

If you are interested in serving in any of these offices, please let me know. Email ge_wells@yahoo.com or text 336-848-0579.

One addition note, when you arrive at Triad Church, come to the door marked Outreach Center.

Happy thoughts,
Happy stitches,
Janet

Officers, Chairs and Committee Reports:

Secretary and Historian, Diantha Dann –

High Point Quilt Guild
July 8, 2021
Meeting Minutes

President Wells called the meeting to order at 6:45 pm welcoming 13 members and 3 guests. Birthday wishes were given to Chuck Bino, Joann Cloer and Susan Pierce.

Summer Picnic - Country BBQ with everyone bringing a dish to pass. Karen led the group in the blessing. Everyone enjoyed the food and friendship.

Treasurers Report - Sherri Fields - The Treasurer's Report was emailed to the membership on 7/5/2021. Beginning balance \$16,136.81, Expenditures \$227.44, Deposit \$165.00, Outstanding check \$200.00, Outstanding deposit \$168.00, Ending balance \$16,042.37. A motion by Wendy Clagg, seconded by Alicia Carter to approve the June 2021 Treasurers Report was submitted. All in favor.

June 2021 Minutes - Diantha Dann - A motion was made by Nancy Blanchard, seconded by Erica Scutt to approve the June 10, 2021 minutes as submitted. All in favor.

Fall Day Retreat - Sherri Fields - October 21-24, 2021 is full. Sherri will send those who are participating additional information as the time nears. Questions please contact Sherri.

Raffle Quilt 2021-2022 - President Wells reminded everyone that the Guild's Raffle Quilt for 2021-2022 is our only monetary project for the upcoming years. Due to the Pandemic we are unable to sell tickets at several venues as in other years because of cancellations. If you know of any venue that we could take the quilt and sell tickets, please contact Mary Beth Pazdernik. Photos of the quilt were sent to the membership previously, so if you need tickets to sell to friends, family and coworkers please contact Mary Beth. At the Pineapple Fabric 3-day sale, the Guild made \$429.50 in raffle quilt ticket sales. Thank you to all that participated.

Show and Tell and Announcements:

August Program – Quilter's Gallery (The Pizza Girls) Thursday August 12, 2021. Trunk show, patterns and fabrics.

President Wells adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Diantha Dann

Treasurer, Sherri Fields – Treasurer's report sent separately.

Programs and Raffle Quilt, Mary Beth Pazdernik –

PROGRAMS: The day we've been waiting for has (almost) arrived! At our monthly meeting on August 12th, the Quilters Gallery (aka the Pizza Girls) will be presenting an in-person show and tell program. It will begin at 6:30p and there will be merchandise for sale from about 6 pm. It's sure to be an enjoyable and inspiring evening, so be sure to join us.

Mary Beth

Education, Sherri Fields –

Note: Sherri wrote this on or about September 6, 2020. Thank you for sharing this, Sherri!

Without a doubt, 2020 has been different than any other year except maybe 1918. During 1918-1919, the Spanish Flu swept through the United States, making hundreds of thousand sick and left approximately 675,000 dead. This year, COVID-19 hit the world's population leaving around 6.2 million people infected and 188,000 dead. Locally, Guilford County has had over 7,000 cases and 177 deaths (statistics as of 9/6/2020 via Wikipedia/New York Times).

**SPANISH INFLUENZA IS
SPREADING RAPIDLY IN
NORTH CAROLINA NOW**

**State Board of Health Issues a
Call to the Doctors of State
to Help in Relieving the Ep-
idemic**

**NURSES ARE ALSO
CALLED BY STATE**

**EIGHT THOUSAND CASES
OF SPANISH INFLUENZA
NOW IN NORTH CAROLINA**

Raleigh, Oct. 4.—To date approximately eight thousand cases of Spanish influenza have been reported in North Carolina, with known deaths resulting from pneumonia following the influenza exceeding fifty. The situation continues acute in eastern parts of the State, with the epidemic steadily advancing into new territory. Approximately six thousand cases have occurred in the city of Wilmington, and the territory in the immediate vicinity of that city has suffered worse than any other section, so far. Governor Rickett today issued an appeal for additional doctors and nurses to aid in relief work.

On account of the unprecedented epidemic of influenza, and the rapidity of involvement of a large percentage of the population, so that it is impossible for local medical and nursing professions to render the necessary aid to the sick, Dr. W. S. Rarkin, State health officer, today recalled the official advice given two days ago to the effect that schools, moving picture shows, fairs and other public assemblies should not be closed or prohibited.

In recalling this advice Dr. R today sent the following instruction to the health officers of every county of the State: "After conference with the hearty approval of Gov. Rickett, the State superintendent of public instruction, Dr. J. Y. J. the chairman of the State Council of Defense, Dr. D. Hill, and J. Kinyoun, of the United States, I now strongly advise that on the appearance of a gripe of Spanish influenza in any city, town, village, thickly settled rural section, so moving picture shows, fairs, games, and other public gatherings including church services and day schools be prohibited under act 52, public laws of 1911, sections 14 and 15."

"It is urged by the State superintendent of public instruction where the schools are closed or court of the epidemic, or where schools have not opened, teachers render a vital service by voluntarily

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO)

**SPANISH INFLUENZA HAS
CLAIMED 26 PERSONS IN
CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM**

Reports Indicate That More Than 5,000 Cases Have Developed Here Since Epidemic Broke Out Two Weeks Ago

**EMERGENCY HOSPITALS
TO BE ESTABLISHED IN
SCHOOLS IN THIS CITY**

Influenza Patients Will Be Treated at North Winston School, for Whites, and Depot Street School for Colored

**EXAMPLE OF COMMUNITY
HELPLESSNESS IS SHOWN**

Burlington Cotton Manufacturer Writes State Health Board Offering Money to be Used in Combatting Influenza

Raleigh, Oct. 21.—The following telegram received by the State board

Just like they did in 1918, quilters stepped up to help out. During the Spanish Flu, they made bed coverings and bandages. During COVID, we've made masks – hundreds of them. Back in May, I sent out a questionnaire to all our guild members and asked how many of us were making the masks and why. Since then, I've gotten lots of replies, and I've compiled them here for you all to read. These were the questions asked:

1. How long have you been sewing?
2. Where did you send your masks to?
3. What compelled you to make the masks?
4. What did you feel why you were making them? Did you feel driven to fill a need? Were you worried? Did you want to protect your friends and family?
5. What did you make your masks out of and what kind did you make? The rectangle ones? The rounded ones?
6. Did you make the scrub caps or ear-savers, too?
7. How long will you continue to make masks?
8. Did you continue your quilting along with your mask-making?

9. There were some sewing notion shortages during this time, as well as sewing-related stores were closed. What was the hardest thing to find? How did you find it?
10. Did you make the masks along with others – either online or in small group (socially distanced, of course).
11. Please add anything else you feel needs to be recorded.

Nancy Blanchard: Nancy has sewn since she was 2 years-old and sent masks to Missouri, plus made sure everyone she worked with had masks as well as their families. She felt compelled to make the masks because most of the people she worked with were older and/or had serious medical problems and she wanted to keep them safe. Driven by a need to do something worthwhile and protect her friends and family, she supplied them with masks when masks were difficult to find. She used batiks and flannels and tutorials from Missouri Star for tips and tricks. She also used elastic head bands for the earpieces when elastic couldn't be found – which was by far the hardest sewing notion to find during this epidemic (at least at the beginning). Nancy also said she will continue making masks for as long as they're needed.

Juddaca Heater: Juddaca has sewed for 32 years and sent her masks to Louisville, KY; Sean Diego, CA; Chapel Hill, NC; and Boston, MA (where masks were mandatory early on). She also has distributed some in High Point. She made the masks to protect her family as well as the surrounding communities. For Juddaca, there was some personal stress in her mask-making -- her four adult children and other of her family tested positive for COVID-19 the second and third week of March. Thankfully, those folks were only sick about 48-hours and none had shortness of breath. She was also anxious for her husband, who started a new job in March. Juddaca constructed her masks from her batik fabric stash and used the rounded mask pattern. Along with making the masks, she's finished three quilts (completely from her stash!) and participated in two on-line sew alongs. Like most of us, for Juddaca the most difficult sewing notion to locate was that ¼-inch elastic. Fortunately, a friend of hers was able to purchase a 70-yard spool and gave Juddaca several yards off of it. Despite issues with her sewing machine, she persevered – even with a case of shingles.

Judy Poteat: Judy has sewed over 50 years and made masks for family, friends of family, neighbors, and friends of neighbors. She had a strong desire to do her part in keeping her family safe and made her masks out of the rectangular pattern and batik fabrics. Judy will continue to make masks when someone requests them. Like all mask makers, she had a hard time finding ¼-inch elastic, but her sister-in-law sent her some and her neighbor had some.

Susan Pierce: Susan has sewn off and on for 47 years and made her masks from the kits that Pineapple Fabrics distributed in the Piedmont Triad area. There was a need for the masks and Susan had the skill set to fulfill that need by making the rectangular masks from cotton and batik fabrics. She felt proud that she was providing protection for essential works, family, and friends. Susan made many, many masks at the beginning of the pandemic, but now only makes a few on and off for family and friends. She also kept up with her quilting while making the masks, and fortunately had all the sewing notions she needed for both.

Joan Maucere: Joan started sewing at the age of 10, though sewed very little until she retired. Sending her masks to friends and family, Joan felt she had the know-how, time, and fabric to fill the need for masks. Concerned about some family members that had asthma, she was especially sure those folks received masks. Joan made the rectangular and rounded masks from the cotton fabric she had from quilting projects, in some cases hand-picking the fabric for certain individuals, as well

as enjoying matching colors and patterns. She even made a teeny-tiny mask for her one year-old grandson, just so he wouldn't feel left out – thinking that while he may be too young to wear it, he could use it on one of his stuffed animals. Since masks now seem to be readily available, she's curtailed her mask making. Like most of us, finding that ¼-inch elastic was difficult and had problems finding adequate substitutes. However, she persevered and discovered that the ankle opening portion of some peds worked well for four masks and waistband elastic cut into ¼-inch strips also worked. Joan also found that rotary blades were out of stock for a while. YouTube tutorials helped her out, too. She hopes that when we all look back on this time, we'll see that this pandemic gave us a greater sense of what's really important to ourselves individually, our community, and society as a whole.

Karen Tooley: Karen has sewn 57 years and sent her masks to Greensboro, Wilmington, Durham, Washington DC, New York City, Houghton NY, and Lackawaxen PA. Simply hearing about the need for masks drove Karen to her sewing machine to produce the rounded and rectangular masks. She felt since she had the skills and resources, it was a must to help out folks – especially those in hot-bed areas that couldn't readily find masks available. She used her batiks and cottons and made masks with ties and elastic and will continue to make them as long as they're needed. She curtailed her regular quilting until after the first four weeks of mask production. Fortunately for her, she had everything needed to make the masks and didn't have to hunt down the elusive ¼-elastic. She did order a little extra batik from Pineapple Fabrics but didn't have any issue getting that. Karen was thrilled to think that her passion for sewing and quilting could be so needed and necessary and that sewing everyday would make a difference in people's lives.

Alicia Carter: Alicia has sewn since she was young. Her grandmother taught her to sew and every summer they would go to the fabric store, pick out a pattern and material and her grandmother would teach her how to sew a dress. She learned to quilt in high school. Wanting to help out during the crisis, Alicia sent her masks to family, friends, church members, co-workers, hospitals, clinics, and nursing homes. She knew from her experience just how certain fabrics in her stash made her smile and she thought that if someone had to wear a mask, at least it should be cheerful. At the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, she felt driven to make the masks to protect her family and friends – Alicia has several friends who are nurses/health care workers and those folks really needed them from the start. However, since masks are now readily available, she doesn't feel as driven to make them. Using cotton fabrics (solid cotton on the back and a printed fabric on the front), all of the masks she made had a pocket in the back to allow for an additional filter and pockets on the side so the individual could use any type of tie they wanted and adjust the mask size. Alicia primarily made the rectangular masks, as that was the requested type from her local hospital, although she made the rounded ones for herself –she wears glasses and the rounded ones worked better for her. Since her place of employment was essential, Alicia continued to work through the shut-down and devoted her weekends and evenings to only mask-making. And like most other mask-makers, she had a difficult time finding ¼-inch elastic. She switched to ribbon and was lucky enough to find a great, inexpensive resource for it. A co-worker discovered that Alicia needed elastic and provided her with about 1,000 yards of left-over “knots” of elastic procured from a relative. Another friend gifted her with yard after yard of solid 100% cotton fabric remnants for the masks. The only item she had to purchase for her masks were the twist ties.

Sherri Fields: I have sewed for 34 years and quilted for 32 of those years. I sent my masks to Baptist Hospital, a nursing home in Texas, a doctor's office in Washington DC, a local private school,

and to friends and family from Maryland to South Carolina. Compelled to make masks because of the need, sewing through the evenings allowed me to deal with the anxiety and stress brought on by the pandemic in a positive way. The business my husband and I own is considered essential, so I have worked through this entire COVID experience. I made the rounded masks from my quilting cotton stash and had batik on the inside. I also used a layer of interfacing between the two fabrics. Like everyone else, I had a difficult time finding ¼-inch elastic. I haven't made any more masks since they have become readily available, but told my family I would be happy to replace theirs if needed. I returned to my quilt making at the end of June and have finished a fall table topper, two Mickey and Minnie Mouse quilts (Christmas for the Grands), and a fish quilt for the hubs (also for Christmas). Bonus for me during this time – all my mask making interested my mom. Since the stained glass classes she teaches were cancelled, she returned to sewing and made several hundred masks for her community and church. It really helped her to be busy and not be so overwhelmed by all the pandemic news.

I have no idea how many masks our guild has collectively made during this time. I would imagine at this point it is several hundred – and that's just from our guild. It's been reported on the local news that other groups have made masks, too. I think it's wonderful to know that quilters will still stop whatever project they're in the middle of to fill a need. We've always known our skill set essential – but it's nice to know that society as a whole now realizes this, too.

Sherri Fields

Additional Announcements –

New Shop Hop coming to NC and SC

October and November 2021

Over 60 stores, hundreds of prizes, a free gift at every store. Visit www.AllCarolinasShopHop.com or join Facebook Group www.facebook.com/groups/allcarolinashophop to learn all about it. All Carolina's Shop Hop Magazine goes on sale in mid-August and is your passport to embark on the great sewing adventure across the Carolinas!

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*My brother in law's mother passed away a few months ago and they are cleaning her house out to get ready to sale it. She had a Singer sewing machine in a cabinet that her husband bought for her in August 1959. It is a pretty mint green color and is in good shape. If anyone is interested, please let me know and I will put you in contact with him and my sister in law.
If you want to see a picture, I can email you one.*

Angie Peele

Upcoming Shows –

Cashiers Quilt Guild Show

Saturday, October 9, 2021 10 AM - 4 PM

Albert Carlton-Cashiers Community Library
249 Frank Allen Road, Cashiers, North Carolina, 28717

Attachments –

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Healy

kellykhealy@gmail.com

336-777-1193