

# The Patchwork Pen

## Berrien Towne and Country Quilters –April 2021

## Stay Home, Stay Safe and Quilt

### HAPPY SPRING !!!

After what seemed like a long, cold, snowy, winter, I'm sure we're all looking forward to some nicer weather. We hope that you've been stitching up a few quilts or some lovely wool projects and we look forward to seeing some of them at our next meeting. Last month's "ZOOM" meeting was quite successful but we hope to see more of you at the April 8th meeting.

Our mystery quilt, designed by Michelle Tuller is a wonderful free gift to all of us. I, myself am a bit behind, but I love how it is coming together. I hope a lot of you were able to take advantage of this.

Till next month - Happy Stitching  
Kathy and Barb

Quotes of the month:

"Each morning we are born again. What we do today is what matters most." Budda

"Dreams are today's answers to tomorrow's questions." Edgar Cayce

### Officers 2021

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <b>Co-Presidents</b><br>Barb Manning<br>Kathy Martus<br><a href="mailto:president@btcquiltguild.org">president@btcquiltguild.org</a> | <b>Vice President</b><br>Jane Rush<br><a href="mailto:Vicepresident@btcquiltguild.org">Vicepresident@btcquiltguild.org</a> | <b>Secretary</b><br>Cindy Shepherd<br><a href="mailto:secretary@btcquiltguild.org">secretary@btcquiltguild.org</a> | <b>Acting Co-treasurer</b><br>Jody Albee<br>Marcia McCavit<br><a href="mailto:treasurer@btcquiltguild.org">treasurer@btcquiltguild.org</a> |
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## **April Zoom Meeting**

The April BTCQ general monthly meeting will meet via Zoom. We are still unable to meet at the United Methodist Stevensville Church hall due to pandemic restrictions. We are evaluating our meeting venues on a monthly basis.

We had our first general membership meeting in March. 40 members were able to participate. We even had 3 members participate in Show and Tell.

This is the information for the **April Zoom meeting on April 8:**

Barb Manning is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: April BTCQ general monthly meeting

Time: Apr 8, 2021 06:45 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82123899254?pwd=Y1B3c0dodVhhMXRYZUNIYXY0YnRTUT09>

## **Golden Thimble Voting Process**

One of the vice-president's jobs is to keep a list of those members who have held board positions, served as Committee chairs, or volunteered on a committee. The information is used during the Golden Thimble voting process.

I am in the process of updating the information for the current members. I have lists from previous years, but you could help me as a double check by sending your information to [vicepresident@btcquiltguild.org](mailto:vicepresident@btcquiltguild.org)

Feel free to go back as far as you wish.

Thanks for your help!  
Jane Rush

## **Programs**

Hello everyone. Did you participate in the Cy Star Mystery Quilt Along? Did you make one block or are you making the whole quilt? Did you wait for the reveal to decide if you want to make the quilt? I look forward to seeing all the quilts created with this pattern during our show and tell.

This next meeting we have planned a small patriotic wall hanging for everyone to make. See attached PDF or contact Michelle for a printed copy. Gather supplies and print templates for the next meeting!

As Always,  
Michelle and Nicole

## **Flag Day Celebration**

Three Oaks has announced the Flag Day Celebration will take place Friday June 11 through Sunday June 13.

The Three Oaks Flag Day Celebration

Committee has invited our guild to participate in the celebration on Saturday, June 12. A Quilts of Valor presentation is being planned to honor local veterans. The committee also offered a booth at the Art in the Park craft show at no cost to us.

The members of our guild who worked with Three Oaks for the 2020 Flag Day celebration which was canceled are meeting and will present recommendations for this event. The plans will be presented at the April 8 meeting.



## Community Quilts

Greetings from Community Quilts!  
As of March 18, we have collected 34 quilts and one fleece blanket. Thank you all for opening your hearts, threading your machines and making something for someone yet unknown to love and cherish. We're so proud to be part of a group of kind hearted ladies!



Denise & Nancy

## Update for officers and committee chairpersons

Once again we are reaching out to our members to consider volunteering for an office with our guild. Jody Albee is unable to continue as our treasurer due to personal reasons. We are asking for volunteers for both the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer offices. We informed the members at the March Zoom meeting of this need. Forty members were in attendance.

Currently the files for the treasurer are on Excel. We are open to others options to make this office more workable for volunteers. Currently, Marcia McCavit will manage the position until we have a volunteer.

Good news! Nancy Hawley and Denise Donavan have volunteered to Chair Community Quilts.

Thanks to all of you, Marcia, Nancy, and Denise for stepping up for the guild.

## April Birthdays

Sonya Stormo 4/6  
Janet Larson 4/8  
Sarah Wood 4/8  
Bette Otte 4/16  
Chris Warmbein 4/17  
Sara Lawrick 4/19  
Sue Kolhagen 4/21  
Mary Dick 4/22  
Aggie Blesy 4/23  
Annette Wright 4/29

## April - Spring Clean Up!

It's Spring! Oh my it's been a long winter. Just like the rest of the house, we need to touch up our sewing room with a cleaning.

First of all, clean your machine, take off the throat plate and remove those dust bunnies. Then oil the spots that are called for in the sewing manual. Yep, if you have three machines, do all three. Replace the needles and cutter blades in the serger too!

Vacuuming all that dust from our textiles, machines, and room is ever so nice. The curtains in my room also needed some dust removal, too. And I must say it does smell better.

Don't forget your cutting mat! If you use a self-healing cutting mat, give it a good clean. The best thing to do is get them cleaned and moisturized (sounds like skin). The experts say to soak the mat in water, vinegar ( $\frac{1}{2}$  cup for every gallon), and a small bit of gentle soap (Palmolive or Ivory) for a short time, maybe 15- 20 minutes. (I used my tub to do this). Then take a softer brush and get all those extra threads, ink, glue off. Rinse off with clear water and lay flat to dry. I layed a towel on the floor, then the mat, then another towel. The mat looked much better.

Happy spring to all of you!  
Maxine Wantuch

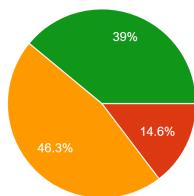
## Quilting Resource Survey

Thank you to all who took part in the Quilting Resource Survey. Participants provided tons of resources and ideas for up-coming programs.

Here are the responses from our guild members: Berrian Town and Country is the most visited Facebook page. Next came Bonnie Hunter's Quiltsville Open Studio. Other FB pages noted include Small and Miniature Quilts, Mystery Quilt Anonymous, Quilting, Quilting Vintage, Chatterbox Quilts, Sentimental Stitches, Fandom in Stitches, Panel Quilts and Corner Curve Quilts.

And according to this "data" most of us don't care to count our UFO's.

How would you best describe your UFO's?  
41 responses

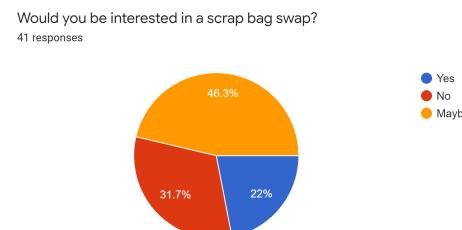


- I don't know what UFO means.
- I have less than two.
- I have a stack and don't care to count them.
- I refuse to answer on the grounds may incriminate me.

Here's a list for favorite quilt shops: Stack them by Color, Calico Point, Stitch in Time, Pressing Matters, Quilts Plus, Sew Sweet Stitches, Shipshewana, Quilted Oak Leaf, Yoders, Sharon's Quilts, Stone Soup Batiks, Thyme to Sew and Sew Unique by Jackie.

Also included in the survey was a question asking participants to describe their stash in 10 words or less. Here is a sample of members' descriptions of their stash: chaotic, controlled chaos, depleting at last, fabulous, not enough, larger than life, true treasures, too much, let's say work in progress, lots and UFFDA!!!

Anyone interested in putting together a scrap bag swap?



There's a great list of YouTube Channels. There's also interest in workshops. I'll list them in the next newsletter.

Added comments at the end of the survey include:

- Sit n Sews are the best way to learn from others. Our guild is fantastic to get together as a large group.
- Reach out to other members when you are stuck or need inspiration.
- Good job on trying to keep us going. Try zoom. I have taken a couple classes and they worked well.
- Would love other people's 'destashed' items from fabric people who don't want them anymore.
- Hats off to Kathy and Barb for keeping the guild going. This has to be the most challenging time to be Guild Presidents. Thanks gals!

# Virtual Show and Tell



Cindy Sheppard



Michelle Tuller



Leslie Tidaback Hilmer



Barbara Manning



Mary Maloney



Maxine Wantuck



Kathy Rozinski Phipps

## Berrien Towne & Country Quilters Guild Meeting via Zoom Minutes

March 11, 2021

Everyone enjoyed a social time as members logged on to Zoom.

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Kathy Martus.

The September guild meeting was published in our newsletter. Greta Parker made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Tami Wisner. Motion carried.

We are not able to meet at the Church thru April due to the pandemic. The church will let us know on a month by month basis when they will allow us to return. The April guild meeting will be via Zoom. Other groups in our guild can use our Zoom account, contact Barb Manning for details.

The guild will purchase a Zoom subscription for one year. Barb will start Zoom for the April meeting 6:45 giving everyone time to log on and allowing for a bit of social time.

The first 2021 Board meeting the free Zoom was used. Our time ended abruptly without notification. A motion was made by Carol Killian to approve two Board meeting minutes, seconded by Greta Parker. Motion carried.

Jane Rush introduced the 2021 Budget. \$3,000 is needed for fixed costs. If we have 100 members paying \$30 dues our fixed costs are covered. The Board is not asking for any 2021 dues. The Board presented a \$3,257 budget. Motion made my Jennette Cannon, seconded by Jody Albee to approve the budget. Motion carried.

Our Treasurer Lisa Hanson stepped down due to life circumstances. Jody Albee is Co-Treasurer and also has to opt out. Jody will stay on until someone is found to fill the Treasurer position and Marcia McCavit agreed to be a temp co-chair. We

are looking for volunteers for Treasurer and Co-Treasurer.

The Box Factory offers groups an opportunity to exhibit their art. The quilts have to be original designs. If the guild submitted in September we may have a display mid 2022. The Box Factory also has an Art Market where they sell our items for a 30% commission and a \$35 joining fee. If we choose to look into this we would need someone to pick a theme, have people submit items, etc. Julie Kook will talk with Jane about this opportunity for our guild.

Flag Day – Barb Manning has been in communication with the Flag Day committee. They are still not sure if they can have it. We are still exploring the opportunity for a Quilt of Valor presentation. If they are able to have Art in the Park we will consider having a Boutique.

Retreats – The Shipshewana retreat in April is a go with 12 attending the 3 day event. They have room for another person but you need to notify the committee before March 19.

Library – Marilyn Herrman and Linda Woods have volunteered as co-chairs.

There was a survey in the newsletter. Please take a minute to complete. Your response will be anonymous.

Community Quilts – Nancy Hawley has batting and is collecting quilts. Nancy is willing to stay chairman but would like a co-chair. There are a couple people with completed quilts. Nancy would like to take the first 100 quilts to Pine Ridge, after that she will look for a place to donate pediatric quilts.

Show and Tell – several people showed their quilts. Come prepared next month to share your show and tell.

Mystery Quilt – several people spoke about their progress. You can find all the clues on the website.

Website – the website has a new look and has been updated.

A motion was made by Julie Koch and seconded by Jody Albee to adjourn the meeting at 8:08. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted  
Cindy Shepherd, Secretary





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% Bonnie Lewis  
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