



The Patchwork Pen

Berrien Towne and Country Quilters – May 2020

Hold the Course – Stay Home and Stay Safe

Note from the Co-Presidents:

Greetings Members,

We certainly are in a difficult situation at this time in our lives. As I write this note we are still under our Governor's order to maintain social distancing and a stay a home order until May 15th. **So, we will need to cancel our May meeting.**

We know many of you have been on "mask duty" and we are all grateful for all that you have done for your family, neighbors, friends, communities, stores and companies. You should all be very proud of yourselves!!!

In closing we want you to all to know that should our Governor extend our stay at home order and it affects our guild activities, there are 4 ways for you to be notified of this:

- Our Website
- The Radio Station 94.9 (WSJM)
- Email
- Call a friend.

We thank you for your cooperation and understanding, but together we will get through this.

Kathy Martus and Barb Manning

This month's quote is: "There are no small acts of kindness. Every compassionate act makes large the world." Mary Anne Radmacher

P.S. The next Board Meeting will have to be rescheduled, no new date has been set yet. Thank You

QUILT SHOW UPDATES

As we are approaching our Quilt Show in June, uncertainty regarding the show abounds. This pandemic has created a lot of questions about the near future.

As the BTCQ Newsletter goes to "print" for May, plans to hold the Red, White, and Blue Quilt Show in June are still on. However, we are still awaiting decisions of the stay-at-home orders by the government. Depending on those decisions, we are also waiting for the final decision by the Flag Day Celebration Committee of Three Oaks if the weekend festival of June 13 and 14 will be cancelled. Our committee will make a recommendation for the quilt show based on the Three Oaks decision.

If the quilt show will be held, the committee will extend the registration of quilts into May. As soon as a decision is made, we will notify the guild.

Thank you for all your support. Be safe.

Meet Your Officers:

Meet Barb Manning: Co-president

1. How long have you been quilting?

Since 2001

2. Why did you start?

Kathy Martus and I went to the BTCQ quilt show June, 2001 at the Cook Energy Center. I was so fascinated by all the beautiful quilts. We went to Holly Martin's quilt shop that day where I bought a Quilt in a Day book "Prairie Sampler". She advised me to try sewing using less expensive fabrics. I did and loved it.

3. Favorite block?

Favorite block is any star block.

4. Favorite thing about being a member of BTCQ?

I love all the inspirations I get when I see all of the show and tell quilts by all members from beginners to advanced.

5. Why did you volunteer for your current position?

I love serving as co-president with my friend, Kathy. We met in 1970 when we attended the same nursing school. Especially with this difficult year, it is good to share ideas and decisions with a friend who knows me so well.

Member Birthdays:

Maxine Wantuch	5/1
Kim Otte	5/4
Denise Tackett	5/4
Sondra Sheppard	5/9
Kathy Phipps	5/14
Lee Ann Russell	5/14
Nancy Gilpin	5/22
Jan Reitz	5/23

Birthday Club:

I wonder, if we ignore our birthdays, do we still get older?

With that said, we here at BTCQ do not ignore celebrating our birthdays....just delay our celebrations this year.

We are looking forward to celebrating so many birthdays once we are together again. Next time we are able to meet, we will celebrate the

Birthday Club Members who have birthdays in January, February, March, April, May and June! Boy that is a lot of celebrations. Something special to look forward to.

Remember, be safe and we will all be together celebrating our quilting passions once again.

Barb Manning and Kathy Martus

Programs:

Has April been a long month? Have you spent a lot of time sitting at your machine sewing masks? Quilts? If so, here are a few tips to remember as you sew.

- Sit up straight (and smile, you are in your happy place)
- Roll your shoulders back and down (Keep them down, not hunched up around your shoulders)
- Pull your abs in tight (Your abdominal muscles are the opposing muscles to your back muscles, when the abs are engaged they help support your back)
- Get up and walk around every 20 to 30 minutes (Move your iron and ironing board farther away from your machine. Yes, this will slow you down, but your body won't slow you down tomorrow if you move it today)
- Drink plenty of water (Take a sip each time you get up and iron)

Are you keeping up with your journal entries? Are the prompts helpful? Or are you making your own entries? Like how many masks you have made and who they went to? The May prompts can be found at the end of the newsletter.

A Note from Audrey Elwell:

Thank you BTCQ members and friends of members for the fabric that I received from our group. I used the fabric to make 48 pillowcase dresses for Haiti, through our Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Target.

Again, Thank you



Attached to this newsletter:

You will find two items attached to this newsletter:

- May program journal prompts
- Registration form for quilt show

Be sure to open them up!

Please note:

Until we are done with the stay-at-home order, the BTCQ newsletter will not be printed and mailed.

It is sent out to all members who have e-mails on file with our membership folks. Please update this information if we are out-of-date.

Thank you.