
CQFA newsletter

CQFA Volume No. 15 Issue No.7 December 2000

2001 MEETING DATES:

January 6 - Doll Workshop

March 3

May 5

July 7

September 1

November 3

All Meetings are Saturday at 9:30



A GIFT FOR THE TALENTED

by Virginia King

All year we chop, slice, rip and tear,
stitch, sew, quilt, seam, clip and wear
our statements of art
our gifts of true care
And now we face Holidays, it's just so unfair!

We're all nice, smart people with talents to spare
and love for our families, puppies and footwear,
And then comes Thanksgiving,
then crowds everywhere,
There's so little time! I frequently despair.

If I try something splendid with many a square

Using hand-dyed pure cotton and tufts of mohair,
As gifts for my loved ones in lieu of software,
I find my work lacking, and dull as Solitaire!

It's been much too stressful; I'm starting to swear,
My colors are boring and have no real flair
I don't like the fabrics
This does not compare
With my usual thrill of fabric, thread, color
and camel hair.

So next year I'm changing, Really! I swear!
I'll sew a small piece leaving much room to spare
for love in my heart
And smiles; I declare!
This gift to myself will be one quite
extraordinaire!

CQFA newsletter

January Workshop

After the January 6, 2001 meeting will be a Doll Workshop from 11am to 12pm, Fee is \$5.00
Presented by Jerry Hickey, Jerry can be reached at (510)595-3480, call if any questions.

Jerry says about the workshop:

I'll demonstrate how I make my dolls and bring a few samples of other methods, whatever books I have, and one sewing machine.

Please bring:

- your own machine if you don't like to sew by hand, otherwise use mine if you only need to do a little bit.
 - Usual hand sewing things: needles, thread, pins, scissors, etc.
 - Small pieces of fabric from 3" x 5" and up (larger if you want to make whole piece dolls)
 - Yarn and /or other stuff for hair, e.g., plastic mesh bags that onions or lemons come in
 - Things to embellish with: beads, sequins, larger beads from broken necklaces, buttons
 - Glue (Aleenes's or whatever to glue sequins or fabric)
 - Stuffing and something like a chopstick to stuff with
 - Fine point markers, red and black (or any colors you have)
 - Any off trims you think might work on a doll
- There are no rules to break. If you have any examples of dolls to share, please bring those, too. And all your own great ideas.

Meeting Place:

Trinity Methodist Church,
Fellowship Hall
748 Mercy Street
Mountain View, California
Meetings start at 9:30am



CQFA 2001 Show Planning Starts Now!

Sign ups for helping put together our 2001 show will be taken at the January meeting. We'll need a lot of member support to make this show happen, so be thinking about how **you'd** like to contribute to this exciting and successful tradition! The show will be held sometime in August or September. We'll be looking for members to sign up to help on the various committees needed to get this show organized.

OPPORTUNITIES!

Call for Entries

PRISMS OF TIME

2001 Quilt Show

San Francisco Quilt Guild

Saturday 3/31 10am - 5pm

Sunday 4/1 10am-4pm

The Concourse Exhibition Center

635 8th Street at Brannan St. SF

www.sfqg.org

REPEATER September 14 - November 13, 2001.

National juried exhibit. Theme: Repetition in Fiber.

Quilts, weaving, etc. accepted. Patty Torno, Juror. Best of Show awarded an ad in a national craft magazine.

Send SASE to:

The Signature Shop & Gallery, 3267 Roswell Road,
Atlanta, Georgia 30303. 404-237-4426

www.TheSignatureShop.com

SLIDES POSTMARKED: MAY 10,2001.

If you know of any other shows that CQFA members might be interested in entering, please send me the information, and we'll publish it.

CQFA newsletter

San Jose Museum of Quilt & Textiles Upcoming Shows/Events

<http://www.sjqiltmuseum.org/index.htm>

New Show Nov 17, 1999 - Jan 21, 2001

Out Of Time - An international juried exhibition of quilts and textiles for the millennium. **Juried**
by Judi Warren, Jim Garahan and Penny Nii.

Here is the link for the San Jose Mercury News article about the show:

<http://www0.mercurycenter.com/premium/arts/docs/jackart10.htm>

Next Show January 26-March 25 , 2001

Expressions of Freedom: Quilts Celebrating Human Rights, An international traveling exhibition of quilts celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights. The exhibition is produced by the International Quilt Study Center in Lincoln, NE.
Opening reception: January 28, 2:00-4:00pm.



NQA SEEKS STORIES FROM QUILTERS

I am the new publications chair for the Quilting Quarterly, the quarterly journal for the National Quilting Association (NQA), a nonprofit organization. It is my goal to raise the level of the magazine a notch or two, to make it something members look forward to receiving every quarter.

Part of my job (a large part) is to find noteworthy stories and quilters to write about. If you know of someone or something that would make an interesting story for the magazine, please let me know. Maybe you know a quilter who does outstanding work but you don't think she gets the recognition she deserves. We don't do patterns, but maybe someone you know has developed

a quilting technique that they'd like to share. Maybe there's a special exhibit that deserves recognition. Or, how about a museum or gallery that focuses mainly on quilting exhibits, like the Thirteen Moons Gallery in Santa Fe, for example. (Or the San Jose Museum of Quilts!)

Any quilters doing one-woman shows? Maybe someone does something special with children or other special groups. You can see what I'm looking for, right? Along the same vein, I also accept unsolicited articles/stories. If you have a topic you'd like to write about, by all means send it to me. I can't guarantee that it will be published but if it is interesting (and has not already been done) and is accompanied by nice pictures, I will certainly give it serious consideration. Or, maybe you'd like to be a writer for the magazine. I'm looking for writers, too.

Please note that I have no bias toward traditional or nontraditional quilts/quilters; there's room for both in the magazine.

I'll be waiting to hear from you! Thanks,
Vivian Benton, Pittsburgh, Pa
benton@PSC.EDU

From your Newsletter Editor -*Julie Z. Stiller*

Hello again everyone, it is the crazy time of the year so hopefully everyone is getting enough time to be in the studio/sewing room. My resolution for the new year is that I'm going to ask someone at each CQFA meeting to be the meeting reporter and write up a little report. This will help our members who can't make it to each meeting know what is going on while they aren't there!

Hope you enjoy this newsletter, and please keep submitting articles, websites, book reviews, show reviews, etc. Thanks for your support, and see you in 2001!

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:

Due the 15th of the month to make next months' newsletter.

Email to juliezs@pacbell.net or call (831)338-4831 or mail to:

Julie Z. Stiller

1251 Highland Drive

Boulder Creek, CA 95006

CQFA newsletter

CQFA WEBSITE

<http://www.cqfa.org>

We need photos, photos, photos of your wonderful fiber art to let everyone know what a fantastically creative group of people we are! There are a number of ways you can submit photos in order to get them on our web site.

They are (in preferential order):

- 1) E-mail a .jpeg image (file extension .jpg) to karenina@mac.com
- 2) Send photos to:
Karenina Grun-Louie
6448 Berwickshire Way
San Jose, CA 95120
- 3) Send slides to Karenina (at address above).

In addition to your images, it is important to provide all information that you would like included with the image - title, year completed, size, materials / method used to construct your art, any comments about the art, and if you want to have the ability for viewers to contact you directly, your e-mail address and a note giving permission to include it on the site. NOTE: I do not recommend giving personal information other than your e-mail address. If you are contacted by e-mail and you decide to give further information, that would be your choice. For those of you who are interested in selling your work, you will probably want to give permission to include your e-mail address.

Due to the number of artists in our group, the maximum number of images, per artist, that will be displayed at one time will be two images. If you submit more than 2 images, images may be changed from time to time as the site is updated.



Interesting Web Sites

-Julie Z. Stiller

<http://ecuador.junglevision.com/carolyn/qhp.htm>
Quilt Magic Website/Gallery

<http://www.artistresource.org> SF Bay area Artist Info.

<http://www.fibreartsonline.com/contents.htm>
Huge list of links for all types of fiber related info.

<http://enterprise.powerup.com.au/~topsilk/>
Ken Smiths' Textile World

<http://www.impressmenow.com/>
Sherrill Kahns' Rubber Stamps/Textile Art

<http://www.meinketoy.com/fiberart.htm>
Deb Meinkes' Embellishments/Fiber Supplies

<http://www.turtlemoon.com/index.html>
Turtle Moon Studios - Shie/accord

<http://www.redmoonquilts.com/>
Susan North- Dyeing Instructions, Book Reviews, Quilt Gallery, Links to other Fiber Sites

CQFA newsletter

ADVICE ON PHOTOGRAPHING QUILT ENTRIES

(With permission from the QuiltArt email list)
by Karey Bresenhan

I've seen the subject of photographing your quilts come up repeatedly, and I know this is a serious issue for you. Now that all the IQA quilts and all the Millennium quilts are up and hanging in Houston, I thought I would share with you some of the problems that poor photographs cause when they are used for a contest entry. First, there is no question that poor quality photographs hurt your chances of being accepted in the show, contest, etc.

Do they hurt a lot? Yes. If the colors aren't true in the slides, the details aren't crisp and clear, the lighting doesn't bring out the beauty of your quilt, or the background is distracting...then, basically, why submit them? You're forcing your quilt to enter with two strikes against it. Jurors cannot select from the actual quilts, but must depend on photographs. When there are many other entrants who will submit excellent slides, your less-than-excellent slides will definitely suffer in comparison ...and so will your quilt. Also, when you decide to ignore the request for a detail shot, in addition to a shot of the whole quilt, you handicap your quilt.

There are very good reasons why shows and contests ask for multiple shots, and it truly is not to make your lives miserable or break your budgets! Jurors may be puzzled over a technique used in your quilt that shows up only in a closeup, or perhaps they can't tell from the overall shot if something is painted or embroidered and that may make a difference as to the category the quilt fits into and will be judged in.

I am not a photography expert (definitely not!), but I know that many people with good quality cameras can take excellent quilt photographs even though they are not professional photographers. One key is the focusing ability of the camera—a sharp focus is essential. Many of the good snapshot cameras (like the Canon Sure Shot, and I'm not picking on it, because I own it and love it for being so dependable) are great for lots of photography, but worthless for crisp closeups because the camera is not intended to focus that closely. Just because the closeup looks focused in the viewfinder does not mean that the finished photograph will be in focus. Each camera has a range within which it will focus. If you get outside that range, it's not going to focus properly. For example, one that will focus to no

closer than 24" is probably not going to help you take a close-up shot usable for contest or show entries.

The second key to a very good quilt photograph is the lighting. Lighting is everything in photographing a quilt for entry! Good lighting is absolutely essential, and that doesn't mean turning on an extra lamp in the living room. It's also possible that your camera's automatic flash may not provide enough lighting to show the details of your quilt. And please look at the background against which you are planning to shoot your quilt. The family room wall with its flowered wallpaper, the plaid couch, the magazines piled up on the coffee table, and the painting that's hanging just ever-so-slightly-crooked (which never shows until you get back the finished photo) ...this is almost certainly not the best background for your quilt. Nor is that artistic shot in the backyard with those beautiful mountains and all your flowers...the jurors may subconsciously pay more attention to the mountains and gardens than they do to your quilt.

Before you shoot your quilt, either find or create a neutral, light-colored background, move the furniture out of the way, and take the paintings or prints down off the walls. Set the stage for taking your quilt photograph so you have the best chance of producing an excellent photo. (If you enter often, you may want to make an inexpensive background cloth out of medium grey felt that you can use over and over.)

Another suggestion: when you are not under the pressure of an entry deadline, shoot a practice roll of film and keep notes on what you did for each shot. Use 2 or 3 different quilts to see how things work with different colors, etc. When you get the roll developed, compare the photos with your notes to see which method worked best.



When I look at the magnificent quilts hanging in both IQA's judged show and the Millennium exhibit, and compare them in my mind's eye with the slides I saw, I can tell you that even good slides never really capture the quality of a quilt. The difference between the slide and the quilt is remarkable. Even good slides often "flatten" the quilt, eliminating its lively qualities and dimming its colors. So you can imagine the difference between the quilt and a poor or mediocre quality slide. Some of the quilts that the jurors thought long and hard
(continued next page->)

CQFA newsletter

(<-continued from previous page)

about accepting have turned out to be, in person, smashing. In many cases, the quality of your slide can make the difference between its being accepted or being rejected. It may not be the quilt at all that was responsible for a rejection...it may have been its image. But that image is all the jurors have to go by.

So the moral of my long email? Submit the best possible slides any time you enter a show! (And don't waste time or energy trying to find out more about photography from me...these practical, non-technical tips represent absolutely ALL I know on the subject!)

(Editors' note: Thanks to author Karey Bresenhan of the International Quilt Festival who graciously allowed me to reprint her email for this newsletter.)



Correction From the September Meeting

Jane Kriss would like us to know the following:

I currently license with "Quilters Only", a line produced by Springs Industries, Inc., South Carolina. Northcott is a totally different company based in Toronto who I used to license with. They are competitors - Northcott is not owned by Springs. If people are looking for my current lines, they would ask for "Quilters Only" by Springs. Sorry about that Jane!

CQFA Officers and Helpful People for 2001

Got an Idea? Want to Help Out? Have a Burning Questions? Here's a list of people who are active in CQFA and might be able to help.

President

Virginia King 650-965-4510 ginnymichael@aol.com (home)
yking@wsgr.com (work)

Treasurer

Judy Martin 408-996-9059 judy@netuser.com

Membership

Marsha Burdick 408-253-9375 bburdick@aol.com

Newsletter

Julie Z. Stiller 831-338-4831 juliezs@pacbell.net

Show Opportunities:

Kim LaPolla 650-917-0103 klapolla@markim.com

Quilt Museum Liaison:

Nancy Rushton 408-865-0305 nancyrush1@ao.com

Marina Salume 650-595-3364 quiltnut1@home.com

Church Liaison:

Jessica Bernhardt 650-424-0332 jessicaber@webtv.net

Newsletter Mailing:

Karen Warren 650-961-2519 KEWI@webtv.com

Web Site:

Karenina Grun-Louie 408-997-6142 Karenina@Mac.com