Silver Threads Quilt Guild

Meeting Date and Time: February 14th, 2008.

The church will be open at 12:00 this month for our charity workshop.

Social Hour 6:00 to 6:30

Meeting starts at 6:30

Meetings are held at the First Christian Church in Fort Walton Beach, FL

Website: http://www.silverthreadsquiltguild.org

From Your President:

Ladies, we are off to a great start for 2008! We had a great turn out for our January meeting. I hope we sent you home with your heads full of creative thoughts. If you missed the meeting, please read your newsletter and check out our new webpage at http://www.silverthreadsquiltguild.org

We threw out a lot of information about upcoming programs, field trips, challenges, (yes, there is more than one this year), changes, and much more. We will keep putting reminders in the newsletter and on the webpage throughout the year.

What is our new web address??? (Very Big Grin) http://www.silverthreadsquiltguild.org

Our February meeting will be our first Charity Workshop, so please bring your machines and Christmas fabrics so we can help Kathy and Kim get a great start on our 2008 charity projects. We will be opening up the church around noon for anyone that might be able to come early and work on our charity projects.

If you haven't paid your 2008 dues, please contact Lyn. She is working hard to get our Membership Roster ready and we don't want to leave anyone off.

Jeanie Asks:

Do you know what a "Blog" is? Do you have a favorite one? Share it with Sheila so she can put it in the newsletter for all of us to share. Also, if you have a favorite website for free quilt patterns, etc. please let us know so that we can all share in the wealth.

One of our challenges this year is to spruce up our guild logo. We can then think about having pins, t-shirts, and totes made using our New Logo. We will accept your entries until March (please give your entry to any board member) at which time we will vote on all the entries.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Jeanie

Board Meetings:

Your 2008 board will be meeting just prior to our normal guild meeting on the second Thursday of each month.

Raffle Donations:

We want to thank the following for our February Raffle Donations:

Jean Woo
Peggy Bartosch
Kathy Weathers
Kim Hann

We had 40 members and 2 guests in January for our New Year's kickoff meeting. Thanks to the 48 members who have renewed their memberships in our guild and the 7 who have told me they plan to. If you have not renewed your membership yet, you only have until February 1st to get into the new directory! I will start pulling it together February 2nd. If you plan to renew and haven't told me yet, please call me at 850-240-7133.

Our two guests at the January meeting were:
Barbara Simmons, guest of Jackie Hugli and Barbara Fyffe, guest of Patty Butcher. We also had a new member that joined in December that was inadvertently left out. Please welcome Sara Steele. She is our youngest guild member. Please help me make our guests feel welcome when they take time to come to our meetings! Also, please remember to sign in any guests that attend with you.

Lyn Woods

Happy February birthdays to:

Nancy Allen
Gloria Gribble
Martha Gurganious
Sharon Starkis

New Name Tags:

Don't forget to complete and wear your new name tag for February. Sheila will be adding an attachment with this newsletter for some guidelines on how to make your name tag. A tip from Lyn: I leave mine in the car so I will have it for the meeting.

Programs:

Our February meeting is going to be our charity workshop. The church will be open at noon so come early and share in the fun and camaraderie with your fellow quilters. Our March program will be a trunk show by Toad U Sew, a local company that develops patterns and kits. They will have items for sale that evening. Also, please remember to bring a Show and Tell to share with the group.

Sandy

Charities:

The charities the board has chosen for 2008 are ones that we have worked with before and felt they truly appreciated all we have done for them.

1. *Kid Comfort Quilts: These quilts go to young children with parents in the Guard or Reserve units stationed in Iraq or Afghanistan. This program is sponsored through the Armed Services YMCA and Addie Lowry is heading up this charity. Last year our guild members helped made approximately 45 of these quilts.*

2. *Healthy Start: This program works to reduce the risk of poor birth outcomes among pregnant women, infants, and children up to age 3. Last year we gave this organization over 100 Christmas stockings, of which they used almost every one, and lots of baby quilts.*
3. *Children's Home Society: The quilts we donated last year were used in their Group Home, as well as for other foster children. The workers keep extra quilts in their cars for when they must transport children. The quilts provide reassurance and comfort.*
4. *First Christian Church: The money raised from the bazaar items you donate goes mainly to local charities such as Sharing and Caring, Waterfront Rescue Mission, Shelter House, etc. Last year the items donated from the guild raised over $200.00. This year we are also going to make a queen size quilt for the church to raffle at their bazaar. Since the bazaar is held in November, we thought a quilt made from Christmas fabrics might be nice.*

As you can see, we have our work cut out for us. There are a variety of charity things you can work on, from Christmas stockings, baby quilts, small quilts, twin size quilts, and contributing your time to making blocks for the Christmas quilt. (More details on the Christmas Quilt are to come at the February Workshop). We can find a use for anything you make! Our February meeting will help us get started on our Charity Goals for 2008. Kim and I would like to encourage you to find a quilting buddy or group and work on the quilts together. Let's pool our talents and share our skills. The quilts will truly be works of love and the more people involved the better. Kim has organized the donated fabric on hand. If you need a certain color or a backing or binding, we have it. Please don't let any personal finances get in the way of your contributions-we can always find the supplies and materials if you will just donate your time and talents. At our February meeting, we will also start on the church Christmas Quilt. Sandy has chosen some beautiful fabrics to use. We will also be working on stockings. We do have some Christmas fabrics, but if you want to contribute some, they are always welcome. No need to bring batting-the guild can provide that. Hope to see you at the February meeting. Don't forget, the church will be open early for those of you that can come earlier than normal to start working on our projects.

Kathy and Kim

Show and Tell:

Well, as those of you who attended the January meeting found out, you will be getting a small beaded pin each month that you bring Show and Tell. Now mind you, you only get one pin no matter how many items you bring. We have decided to allow **finished quilt tops** to be shown this year, because we understand that sometimes

you have put a lot of effort into a project and it might have to be sent off as a gift before it is totally quilted or bound and also because Jeanie made me feel guilty about this! (Just kidding!) BUT, the **top should be finished** and just because we are allowing finished quilt tops to be shown, doesn't mean that you are allowed to let your UFO'S pile up. Since some members are unable to attend every meeting (and may have missed January), we are considering 2 make-up months. That means that in those 2 months AND ONLY THOSE 2 MONTHS, you may bring an additional item for show and tell and receive and extra pin. Those months will be announced at a later date. Let me just say that you need 13 beaded pins to complete the entire pin, so we need to see 13 show and tell items from each of you this year!!!! They don't have to be huge quilts, just something that you have made that relates to quilting or sewing.

Newsletter:

If you have any items that you would like to have mentioned in the newsletter, please contact Sheila Paxton at newsletter@silverthreadsquiltguild.org Please contact me with any questions or problems you might have with your newsletter.

Sheila

Silver Threads Board

President	Jeanie Johnson
Vice Pres	Cathy Messner
Secretary	Chris Maher
Treasurer	Patty Butcher
Membership	Lyn Woods
Programs	Sandy Sterman
Charity	Kathy Weathers
Charity	Kim Hann
Newsletter	Sheila Paxton

Challenge:

This year's challenge will be "My Round Robin". Normally a round robin quilt is passed from one person to another for each "round" that is added. However, this challenge quilt is made entirely by you. The rules are as follows:

1. Center: Your design-can be anything you like from a pieced block to a pre-printed block to just a beautiful piece of focal fabric.

2. First Round: Your design, but must have "points" somewhere in this round.

3. *Second Round: Your design, but must have "circles" of some sort.*

4. *Third Round: Your design, but must have "stripes".*

5. *Fourth Round: Your design, but must have "curves".*

The challenge quilt can be ANY size or even a wearable art. There isn't a particular fabric that must be used. You can add additional rounds, but the first four rounds MUST follow the above rules. If you have any questions, please ask a board member. Use your imagination! Prizes will be awarded for the top three choices.

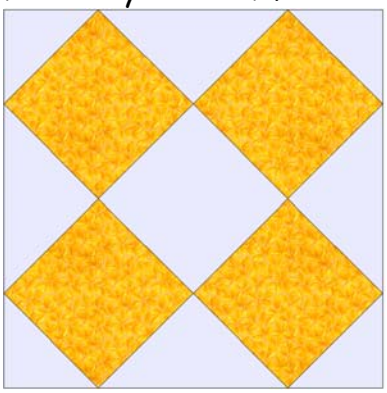
Buddy Blocks:

The Buddy Blocks will be exchanged twice this year. The first block will be exchanged in June and is a flower block in your choice of colors. The pattern is also of your choosing. The second block will be exchanged in December and should be made in fall colors. You pick the pattern for the block. Both blocks are 12 $\frac{1}{2}$" unfinished. Please contact Sheri Easom for more information.

Block of the Month

We have been approached by several members about putting a block of the month in the newsletter again. We have discussed it and have decided to once again add a block each month. These blocks will be "common" blocks so that we do not infringe on any copyright laws. I will include only cutting directions and a picture of the block. I will try to keep the blocks fairly simple in construction. How you use the block pattern is up to you, however, we are asking that if you like the block and would want to make an extra one, we would love for you to donate it to the guild to be used in charity quilts. In the past we have used these to make quilts for our charity donations and it has worked quite well. You can use scraps of leftovers fabrics or if you like, you can coordinate fabrics for your blocks and at the end of the year, we would have 12 blocks to put together in a quilt. One of our members did this in the past and we were able to make a beautiful quilt that was donated to Hospice that was then raffled and the proceeds benefited Hospice. If you choose to coordinate your blocks, please let us know so that we can set those aside as we begin to assemble kits to be sewn into quilts. You will also need to fill out a slip of paper with your name on it each time you donate a block. These will be kept separate so that at the end of the year, a drawing will be held. The winner will receive-oh no, I can't tell you! You thought I would spill it didn't you? Sorry, that will be a surprise! With that all said, here is our second block. You can make these blocks in ANY color, not just the color shown.

February Block- Mosaic Block (Makes a twelve and a half inch unfinished block)



You will need:
Light: Two-three and seven eighths inch squares cut once on the diagonal for side triangles
One-seven and one quarter inch square cut on the diagonal twice for the corners
One-four and three quarter inch square for center

Dark: Four-four and three quarter inch squares

If you have a quilting or organizational tip to help us, please let Sheila know so that we can put it in the newsletter. Please don't assume that you have nothing to offer to someone else. Our guild is a learning and a sharing guild. You have no idea how you might inspire someone else with just sharing a little knowledge that you might not think is important. Your idea or tip might just be the ticket to what someone else might need to know.

Tip of the Month:

If you have a hard time determining which side of your fabric is the "right" side, try using those small round sticky dots to mark the "wrong" side of your fabric when cutting out your pieces. This will make finding the "right" quick and easy, especially if you are sewing at night and using darker fabrics. Be sure not to leave the dots on for a long period of time to prevent sticky messes.

Every year during June and December, our guild members bring in delicious food for our Birthday and Christmas parties. Without a doubt, someone always asks for a recipe. If you have a recipe to share, please email it to Sheila so that she can include it in our newsletter. These are a welcome change for those of us who prefer to quilt instead of cook!

Recipe of the Month

Pesto-Crusted Grilled Cheese

1/3 cup mayonnaise
2 T jarred pesto sauce
8 sourdough bread slices
4-1ounce fontina cheese slices
1-12 oz. jar roasted red bell peppers, drained & chopped
4-1 ounce cheddar cheese slices

Stir together mayonnaise and pesto sauce. Spread evenly on 1 side of each sourdough bread slice. Place 4 bread slices, pesto side down, on waxed paper. Layer the 4 bread slices on waxed paper each with 1 fontina cheese slice, bell peppers, and 1 cheddar cheese slice; top with remaining bread slices, pesto sides up. Cook sandwiches, in batches, on a hot griddle or in a non-stick skillet over medium heat, gently pressing with a spatula, 3 minutes on each side or until golden brown and cheese melts. Provolone or mozzarella cheese slices may be substituted for fontina. *(I believe this comes from Southern Living)*

Reminders:

Don't forget that the Flying Needles Quilt Guild in Niceville will be hosting their annual quilt retreat in February this year. The dates are February 28th, 29th and March 1st. If you have any questions, please contact a board member and they will provide you with information on how to contact Flying Needles. Please support this retreat, as we are lucky enough to have a retreat held in our area and they try to bring in a nationally known teacher for the event. Opportunities to participate in events like this in our area are limited.

Also, please remember to mark your calendars for the Pensacola Quilt Show being held on March 28th and 29th. Remember, we are trying to organize a field trip for this event.

The St. Andrew Bay Quilters' Guild invites you to "A Quilt Is Love". This is the Panama City Quilt show and is being held on February 15th and 16th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 1608 Baker Court, Panama City, Florida. Entrance fee is $3.00. Their show features quilts made by their members; a Silent Auction; a drawing for their Opportunity Quilt and a Viewer's Choice award, chosen during the second day of the show.

In celebration of their 25th Anniversary, The Sand Dunes Chapter of the Embroiderers' Guild of America proudly presents "Needle Artistry". This celebrates 25 years of exquisite embroidery on the Emerald Coast (1983-2008).

Please join them February 20th through March 8th, 2008 at the Arts and Design Society, 17 First Street, SE, Fort Walton Beach, Florida. ADSO Gallery Hours are:
Tues.-Thurs: Noon-4:00 p.m.
Friday: Noon-7:00 p.m.
Saturday: 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
If you have any questions, please call 850-244-1271

PS: Please don't forget to bring an item for Show and Tell.