

LAUREL MANOR QUILTERS Minutes 1/3/12

Jeannie began the meeting with new membership rosters for 2012. We are up to 52, but remain in an open status, as we never have a full house. Those who have still not paid may send their \$15 by the end of the month. We will adjust the list to only paid members at that time. Dues checks are always made out to the Norma Jean Meyer person.

MOVING INTO 2012

We are kicking off the New Year with **2 wonderful group quilt projects**. One a traditional sampler style with 12 very interesting blocks, the other a beautiful “Graceful Baltimore” (Oriole) design with lots of appliqué interest. We will begin on Jan. 17th. Both patterns have been duplicated for the interested members, and it appears many are looking forward to appliqué this year. We have designated the 3rd. Tuesday of each month for all participants to enjoy working on these. Please note that machines are welcome every week, for members who enjoy working on any of their projects in the atmosphere of our meetings. If you need a pattern for the quilt of your choice, please see Donna Burner or Jeannie.

The second project of 2012 will be a **Valentine Quilt Block Lottery**. The blocks should be 12 1/2” unfinished, and we will do our drawing on February 7th. I’m really looking forward to seeing the creativity of this theme.

Following February, we will be moving into March with three great events:

1. A **Spring Auction** will be held during the March 6th meeting. We’ll bring snacks to share and make it a festive as well as profitable event. The rules are easy - donate an item relating to our love of quilting and sewing, bring your check book and bid! Pat Chapin has agreed to continue as the Auction Master of the chapter.
2. The famous **Golf Cart Parade of Sewing Rooms** will be held on March 20th. We have 4 willing members so far, (Kristen, Jenette F., Donna and Carell) but really need a few more to make this as much fun as last year. We promise, you don’t have to over-clean your home or feed us (a few cookies and ice tea might be nice) and husbands hanging around can be a good thing, so I encourage you to jump in, if you’re thinking about it at all. It’s all about seeing a little more who we are, no judgment, here. Last year we saw whole dedicated large rooms, and an area within a small laundry room. We loved them all, and got some good inspiration while eating some good chocolate chip cookies! The ride alone is worth experiencing. I think we had 14 carts last year, and yes, we stopped traffic. But, to a lot of curious people cheering us on to wherever it was they thought we were going! We need a couple more homes, so “just say yes....”

3. Completing this busy month, we are looking at a *bus trip down to Sarasota* to Amish country and 2 quilt shops and an Amish restaurant on Sat. March 24th. The quilt shops are “So worth it” and “Alma Sue’s”. The restaurant is The Heritage. We need all those interested, to sign up soon so we can reserve the bus. It will be an all day event.

SECRET SISTER FORMAT CHANGE TO MYSTERY GIFT EXCHANGE:

We have redesigned this exchange to be a more open and easy process. Rather than exchanging specific names, we will take the 4th Tuesday of each month and any who would like to participate in a drawing should bring an item “hidden” inside a brown bag, or equivalent, then anyone who brings can draw from the pool. This is being done to see if it provides a more even distribution of opportunity. We’ll finish our current Secret Sister program with one last exchange next Tuesday, and will learn who our sister has been, and begin the new program in February.

CARRIED OVER FROM 2011:

The cruisers are wrapping things up as the Feb. 12th date approaches. Shirts have been picked out and are being ordered and next week while other members will be working on their choice of projects, the cruisers will bring in materials to make their cruise pipe cleaner dolls. Any members who would like to join the doll making, can just jump in. Many of us learned to make these in 2010, and they have provided a lot of smiles.

STOP AND SHOP WORKERS:

We’re still signing up for the Stop and Shop program at Savanna Center on January 20th and 21st. There is a \$5 entrance fee, unless you are a worker, so it’s worth the effort! This should prove to be a great Guild event.

2012 RETREAT:

Our retreat committee members are Pat Chapin, Jackie Perez, Cathy Stone, Donna Burner, and Jeannie. We are on a roll already, with dates secured for Oct. 2, 3 and 4th at Lake Yale Retreat Center, and a fee of \$284. The signup sheet is filling and we request a check for \$25 at your time of signing, as we have pre-paid reservations from our treasury. Remember those checks are made out to the Norma Jean Meyer person.

Whew! Looks like we are off to a running start! We are welcoming members back every week, and really watching for the rest to show up. 2012 is shaping up to one of the best years yet!

CALENDAR:

Jan 10th - bring your own/cruiser doll day - all members can join in.

Jan. 17th - Begin 2012 Quilt projects

Jan. 20 & 21 - Stop and Shop

Feb. 7th. - Valentine Block drawing

Feb. 12th. - Cruise

March 6th - Spring Auction

March 20th- Golf Cart Parade of Sewing Rooms

March 24th (Saturday) - Bus Trip to Sarasota Quilt Shops

October 2nd, 3rd, 4th - Retreat at Lake Yale.