

LAUREL MANOR QUILTERS - minutes 1-10-12

“And they kept coming, and coming.....” Wow, we had a totally full house for today’s lively meeting. Several visitors came in to check us out, and couldn’t resist staying, it might have had something to do with Jeannie’s explaining that we are an *Eating and Drinking group that likes to Quilt*.....then, when Alice DeLaurier walked in, the whole room broke into applause! Did we miss her???? You bet! We were all thrilled to hear she took a number of medals in the competition she participated in back home. We want details and pictures at future meetings.

Jeannie passed around a picture of **Kristen’s daughter Katy** who is a police woman, being sent to Kuwait for the next year. Katy visited us recently and we’ve decided to adopt her as our chapter Mascot, and will proudly make a **Quilt of Valor** for her in coming months. We invite all members to take out their patriotic themed or red white and blue fabrics and create a 12 1/2” unfinished edge block to be included in a quilt for her. Since this is a rather large block size, we should be able to assemble it with enough left over to go into an additional quilt for the program.

CHARITY: Continuing with our high charity production - Jeannie had Linda Thomas go over the very positive experience of donating to teens at the Haven House protective homes. \$500 went pretty far in meeting wishes and taking care of the mom’s too. We asked what more we could do for this wonderful organization, and will be producing *welcome tote bags for new comers* which can hold pillow cases (they love our pillow cases and will take as many as we can give), toiletries and maybe some personal sized blanket/quilts and a small toy/book for a child. We will be putting a container into the storage room for everyone to fill with all those personal size toiletries that are complimentary at motels, and will purchase the additional items that will make the bags complete. So start hauling those little gems back with you when you travel.

CHARITY COMMITTEE: Cathy Stone and Audry Witt will be overseeing our Charity activities in 2012. Hopefully it will take the transition of our efforts to their destinations and keep us on track. The Spring Auction for Charity will be held this March 6th. Again, any quilt/sewing/etc. related item is welcome. It will be held during a regular meeting.

SECRET SISTER vs. BROWN BAG EXCHANGE

Our celebration of Secret Sisters was a Hoot! First, the delivery of the last gift between sisters, then some were given clues to identities, some were left wondering, and some were rather obvious, as in Joyce Brace’s delightful photo card with her the obvious sender! There was much ooh-ing and ah-ing, and bursts of laughter and running up to each other and hugging, and a lot of “I thought it was someone else”-ing. Huge smiles all around; and a few explanations as to why one or two members might not have received as intended. Of course, there was no shortage of food, and as usual, some really good things.

Pat Chapin explained the process for changing the sister exchange to a mystery exchange, “bring one, take one” program to try to be more flexible and ecumenical to the whole membership, as our here and gone and here and gone participation can make things difficult, but in the end, there was a lot of discussion about the special nature of having someone specific you want to recognize and give to had been. Soooooo.... we will be opening this subject up to further investigation and discussion at the next meeting. Our intention is to provide enjoyable ways for our members to get to know each other better and develop a broader sense of community.

NEXT WEEK: *Quilts!* We will be starting on your choice of the two quilt patterns we have distributed. If you still wish to join in and need a copy, please check with Donna Burner 751-5813. Bring your machines and tools, and we’ll help any who need. If this is a new process for your, the sampler might be the easier of the two.

IN TWO WEEKS: Shirley Parker will lead us through assembly of those too cute ***Fancy Feet Flip Flops***. Supplies required are:

1 pr. purchased flip flops, the cheap kind with a rubber strap and toe piecebke
1 fat quarter for top fabric
1/2 yd. for bottom fabric and binding
1/3 yd. stiff interfacing such as “Tintex”
1/4 yd. med. weight fusible interfacing such as “Pellon 911F”.
1/4 yd. headliner foam or thick quilt batting
Shoe “Goo Glue” or other clear glue used for strong permanent adhearing to the rubber
2 craft sticks
20 small clamps
(10 for each shoe)

SURPRISE CLOSING:

Whippoorwill Station has announced its closing. That will mark the second shop to close recently, leaving only the one behind Millie’s and the Joann’s. This is not good - and when you realize how many sewers there are here, it’s amazing. They are closing for inventory and reopening for sell out on the 12th at 10:00.

FUTURE EVENTS:

Jan. 20th/ 21st ***One Stop Shop Hop*** has a full complement of volunteers. Thank you; and we hope everyone enjoys this wonderful event at Savannah Center.

Feb. 11th The Quilting Sisters Guild is inviting us to attend their ***“La Ti Dah Luncheon”*** on Saturday at the La Hacienda Center. There will be a Boutique, Silent Auction, doll exhibit and fashion show. It is \$25 and can be reserved by calling Lorna Germain at 360-0321.

Feb. 12th Cruise Everything is now in place, shirts are being ordered, and the dolls have been rescheduled to the 24th because we were just tooooooo busy today! ***All chapter members may order the “Hot Chicks Quilt” shirts at a cost of about \$24*** (\$26 for XXL) ***with imprint.*** Cathy Stone is your go to gal.

GOLF CART PARADE OF SEWING ROOMS:

Carole Cranston and Barb Lembke have added their homes to our tour, so we now have 6. Details will be forthcoming, but basically we'll golf-cart-pool to each of the homes on March 20th. This is a really fun day.

BUS TRIP: About a 3 1/2 - 4 hr. trip to Amish country in Sarasota, to 2 quilt shops and a highly recommended 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 in signing up so we can see if there are enough to reserve the bus. It will be an all day event. Donna Burner is helping to arrange this trip.

OUT OF AREA:

February 23rd. and 24th is a wonderful Sewing and Quilting show in Lakeland, Fla., about a 1 1/2 - 2 hr. drive, great information at www.sewingexpo.com/lakelandfla and **Mar. 31st and April 1st.** the Venice Area Quilt Show, about 3 hrs. away www.vaqq.org.

QUICK CALENDAR

Jan. 17th - Begin 2012 Quilt projects
Jan. 20 & 21 – One Stop Shop Hop
Jan. 24th. - Flip Flops and byo
Jan. 31 - Dolls and byo
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