

REQG General Meeting -- August 8, 2011
Meeting held at the home of President Susie Freese

The meeting was called to order at 6:33PM by President Susie Freese. Those members present were: Jean Avant, Anne Carlisle, Susie Freese, Nancy Frost, Amy Gomes, Jenae Gosselin, Mary Hall, Gladys Hartmann, Mimi Mace, Charity McAllister, Cheryl Pekar, Maggie Stimson, Charlotte Viredaz, and Gayleen Smith.

President--Susie thanked all that had worked on the Quilt Show for their efforts to make the recent show a success. She has heard good reports from most all of the people that have contacted her. One item that was brought up by the vendors was the poor lighting in the Turf Room. Susie reported that the estimated cost for new lights, after rebates, etc., is \$3700.00 which breaks down to \$92.50 per fixture. Susie will bring up the topic of a donation for the purchase of the lights for discussion at the September meeting. This project would greatly benefit the Guild as we plan to use the Turf Room again for the Quilt Show, the guild sometimes meets there or has sewing days scheduled there, Redwood Acres was generous by not raising our rent on the facility for our quilt show, and we are hoping that perhaps this might help us with the cost of future rentals.

National Quilt Day/Weekend will be March 16, 17, and 18 and Redwood Acres has been booked.

Treasurer—Wanda is out of town and Susie reported that there are still some outstanding bills from the Quilt Show so final figures are not available yet. According to the by-laws an audit is to be conducted by September. Mary Hall, Cheryl Pekar, and Jean Avant volunteered to perform the audit and will report next month.

1st Vice Presidents—Anne and Gladys have met during the summer to plan the schedule of events for the next two years' meetings. They presented a firm calendar of events for the coming year's meetings. The various ideas that were presented were discussed by the board members and Anne and Gladys invited member input and comments to their proposals for the current year.

The first meeting of the year will have Board Members bring and introduce their favorite tool to the members. They would also like to introduce a mini challenge to be completed by January when the yearly Challenge is introduced. Anne and Gladys presented several other ideas for the rest of the year and they will present the calendar to the members.

2nd Vice President—Amy reported that there are still 11 seats open for Friday and five spots open on Saturday for the Maggie Ball classes. Announcements will be made on the REQG website, newspaper, and newsletter to try to fill the classes at 22 students. Right now—there are 10 seats for the Friday and 14 seats on Saturday available for the Pat Sloan classes.

Amy asked for board member input on the question of booking one or two national speakers for next year and offered the possibility of more frequent classes taught by our exceptional local teachers. This would save the guild quite a bit of money as the cost of national teachers is rising and the classes are hard to fill. We could also use the teaching talents of our guild members and they could be paid for their expertise but the guild would save transportation and housing costs. Cheryl suggested that we could even offer two classes (art and traditional) in one building which would appeal to more members and would cut the cost of the building rent in half. Cheryl also suggested that the classes be held on Saturday because many members work and find it difficult to take a day off work. Susie would like to keep the enthusiasm going that was sparked by the Quilt Show.

Secretary—Anne will present the June 2011 minutes at the June 2012 meeting. An envelope containing thank you notes from the teen parents was passed around.

Parliamentarian—No report, Kathi Branum is still recovering.

Community Liason—Mimi presented several ideas to help raise money for Community Quilts or the guild general fund. Community Quilts has been asked by more worthwhile organizations to provide quilts and it is the desire of the members to fill these needs, however, this causes an increased drain on guild funds coupled with decreased membership base. October 22 was selected as the date and the yard sale will be held in Susie's home because she is centrally located. Mimi will need volunteers to help collect items, set-up, sell, and clean-up. She will request good items and does not want any furniture or items that smell.

Mimi also suggested a Quilters' Home/Studio tour where members would sell tickets to tour select guild members' homes or studios. She thinks that approximately \$3,000,00 could be raised with this project.

Library—Charlotte stated that she needed to purchase new books for the library. Cheryl suggested that the DVD "Why Quilts Matter" be purchased for \$39.95 for the library.

Membership—Maggie reported that she has received close to 90 pre-registration memberships, so far. Jean commented on the good job Maggie has done over several years at the Membership table. Maggie stated that if all the members from last year renew their memberships, added to the new members we will have 197 members. Anne suggested that the board members make themselves available at the first meeting to new members to serve as welcome ambassadors and help the new members learn about guild meetings.

Hospitality—Susie will find someone to take over Hospitality for the first meeting until we find a member of the Guild who will take the job. All Board Members are to bring refreshments for the first meeting.

Newsletter—Jean passed around an information sheet with existing costs of the printing of the newsletter. All articles are due by the 15th of the month and must be sent to reggnews@suddenlink.net.

Publicity—Newspaper articles should be directed to Mary and Newsletter articles should be directed to Jean. Mary will try to submit pictures and articles to the newspaper rather than wait for the newspaper to send a photographer to our events. It was the feeling of the members that REQG should get some publicity for the many projects members participate in and to upgrade the image of "quilters".

Quilt Show—Cheryl provided a graph that showed the increased number of "hits" on the REQG website in July leading up to the Quilt Show. Cheryl would like to form a small committee to meet every 4-6 weeks before the 2013 Quilt Show meetings start and discuss ways to improve and streamline the quilt show. Several suggestions included topics such as the continuation of the reception, door prizes, Marketplace, Children's Area, and possibly removing categories. She is looking for new ideas and ways to make jobs easier. She is currently compiling statistics for a final report on the quilt show.

Special Committees—Susie is looking for volunteers for the following committees: Historian, Hospitality, Raffle Table, and Show-N-Tell

Block of the Month--Jenae asked questions about Block of the Month. Susie had several suggestions for her and explained how this program could work but Jenae was free to run it as she saw fit.

Doll Quilts—No report.

Fat Quarter Table—Susie reported that Joyce Turner will take this committee over and publish the Fat Quarter List for the whole year in the newsletter.

Premie Quilts—Nancy stated that we continue to need preemie quilts.

HAF—Susie stated that Edith Harmer's term on the HAF Committee has been completed and a replacement was needed. Mary Hall volunteered to serve on the HAF committee.

Sunshine—Cheryl will continue to stand in for Kathi Branum who is recuperating from hip surgery.

Old Business—

Susie reminded those present to have copying done at the Central Office to save the guild money. Pacific Paper and Arcata Stationers also have accounts set-up for guild purchases.

Humboldt County Fair starts on Thursday and REQG gave a membership as a premium for the fair.

Susie would like new signage for the tables at our meetings. Anne volunteered to make new signs for the Block-of-the-Month, Preemie Quilts, Doll Quilts, Library, Community Quilts, HAF, and Membership.

New Business—

Jean moved that the guild send a check for \$25 each in memory of Anne's mother, Peggy Boedecker, and Evelyn Seymour, former board member. Charlotte seconded the motion. Approved.

Susie suggested that dues be eliminated for Junior Members to help promote interest by younger members. Jean moved that dues not be charged for Junior Members, age 12-18. Anne seconded the motion and suggested that the guild let FFA and 4H know about this benefit to their members. Approved. This will need to be addressed in the Standing Rules at a future meeting. Maggie will submit an article for the REQG newsletter. Marry will submit this new information in a newspaper article.

Susie stated that she would like to provide classes to the community where children (at least 12 years of age) could be taught to sew. This would be an opportunity to teach children and perhaps their mothers, grandmothers, or mentors. This would encourage younger quilters to learn the art and she asked the members to think over this proposal and it would be addressed at a later date.

Janet Fessler and Carol Hanson are working on a new Guild Quilt. They plan to approach charter members to see if they would like to complete a block for the new quilt. Susie suggested that the quilt should feature different sized blocks to increase interest and should have items included that were not available when the first quilt was made. This might include: new Boardwalk, car show, Riverlodge, jazz festivals, Tour of the Unknown Coast, elk, etc.

Susie had quotes for two types of liability insurance. This would protect board members from liability claims. One policy would cover the President and Standing Committee members with \$1 million in coverage for \$665. The second policy would provide \$1 million in coverage for the President and all board members for \$765 per year. Maggie moved that the guild purchase the \$1 million policy for the President and all board members for \$765 per year. Jean seconded the motion. Approved.

Next Board Meeting—Sept. 12, 6:30PM, home of Susie Freese.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gayleen Smith, Secretary