

# PRAIRIE PIECEMAKERS QUILTERS' GUILD

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## QUILTS UNLIMITED

***SEPTEMBER 25 & 26, 2010***

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

**Let's work together to make this the best quilt show ever!**

*Convenor: Brenda Caswell*

**THE PRAIRIE PIECMAKERS QUILTERS GUILD**  
**EXECUTIVE 2009 – 2010**

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## **MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT**

### **PRESIDENTS REPORT JANUARY 2010 PRAIRIE PIECEMAKERS' QUILTERS GUILD**

Following the disastrous global events of December and in particular the devastation in Haiti, we wish God Speed and good fortune to all those of our membership who are currently away and those have travel plans for warmer destinations during the coming months.

The month of January at my home has been a rather quiet one. I was actually able to accomplish a bit of piecing and quilting. The cold and snow has been a relaxing blessing in that regard although it has been an annoyance in many other ways. It also made the Annual January Fabric Sales less expensive than usual.

The amount of time spent on Guild matters has been less than a full day of work. Fifteen emails and 3 phone calls have been handled. There has been one short meeting with the Executive at which we covered the need for continuing publicity. Myrna Rosebrook also gave us a glimpse of programs proposed for the upcoming meetings and Sharon on behalf of Fay gave us an update on the financial picture. Things are looking good. I will be meeting with Brenda and other members of the Quilt Show Committee January 28<sup>th</sup> to go over a number of items which need to be pursued.

Although we are just beginning the Month of February, there is much to be considered regarding the Quilt Show in September. Remember that the Guild does not meet during the months of July and August. There is generally a hurried attempt to get things fired up during early September after every one has had a relaxing summer. It is always much easier when everything is pre planned and ready to go. I was very delighted with the number of guild members who signed up at the January meeting to assist with various aspects of the Show. It makes the work of the executive and in particular Brenda very much easier. Happy quilting during the next few cold months.

*Your President – Ted*

**MINUTES OF THE PRAIRIE PIECEMAKERS QUILTERS' GUILD  
GENERAL MEETING  
January 5, 2010  
WHITMORE PARK UNITED CHURCH, REGINA**

Commencing with this meeting the guild meetings will have a different format in that the business portion of the meeting will be held at the end of the evening.

Meeting began with a very interesting presentation by Darla Dyck, assisted by Denise Paradise on the use of ombré fabrics to create a bargello style design.

Sylvianne Revet has resigned as Historian and there is need for someone to take on this job. No one volunteered.

Fabrics used for the 'Worms Exchange' for February are to be valentine themed as are the blocks for the 'Block Lottery'. Six are needed for the worms.

There were three blocks submitted for the January block lottery; Ev Fenske was the winner of the blocks.

Members were reminded to make and bring to the March meeting their version of a recycled tote bag.

Connecting Threads: Ted read a thank you letter for the quilts that had been donated re domestic violence.

Marlene Smith-Collins noted that 147 placemats had been made and donated to Meals on Wheels.

Minutes for the November meeting as published in the newsletter were moved for adoption by Yvonne Gallant and Seconded by Lori Tourscher. – CARRIED

Minutes for the December meeting as published in the newsletter were moved for adoption by Sally Baxter and Seconded by Denise Paradis – CARRIED

50/50 draws for four prizes were made and won by Diane Petrich, Kathy Stedwill, Denise Paradis and Trudy Radke.

Ted adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
*Sharon Harras, Secretary*

## **January 2010 Website Report**

### **Worth a Look**

- Peggy Fischer [suggests](#) starting out the new quilting year with a good mystery – a mystery quilt!
- Businesses advertising in the newsletter are recognized on the website. Current advertisers are:
  - [Astrin's Attic](#)
- Advertising rates for 2010 have been posted on the website (<http://www.prairiepiecemaker.com/news.htm#archive>). Please contact Denise Paradis at [paradisd@sasktel.net](mailto:paradisd@sasktel.net) to make arrangements to advertise in the Guild newsletter.

### **Recommend a Link**

Send your recommendation for a link(s) to your favourite quilt store, site, resource or tip with a brief note about why you are recommending it to [info@prairiepiecemaker.com](mailto:info@prairiepiecemaker.com) and contribute to building the resource section of the Guild's website!

### **Sell and Find**

Send your requests anytime to [info@prairiepiecemaker.com](mailto:info@prairiepiecemaker.com) to have your notices posted on the website (<http://www.prairiepiecemaker.com/classified.htm>):

- Advertise item(s) to sell.
- Find an item to purchase, or post a notice about something you are looking to purchase.
- Post requests to find people who share your quilting interests, or sources for quilting resources.

### **January 2010 Website Stats Report:**

There are **259 “unique” visitors** to the Guild website as of **January 25, 2010**. The number of visitors rises to **499** when **repeat visitors** are counted. In January the top three pages visited after the home page were the [Member and Newsletter](#) page, the [Links](#) page and the [Workshop](#) page. In January, more visitors came to the website in the early afternoon and early evening hours. And there are more visitors in the first week of the month with visitors spread evenly over the rest of the month. Final totals for visitors to the Guild website in **December 2009** were **253 unique visitors** and **525 repeat** visitors.

Send your comments and suggestions to [info@prairiepiecemaker.com](mailto:info@prairiepiecemaker.com).

*Kathy Stedwill, Website Coordinator*

### **NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS FOR QUILTERS:**

We all do it. We sit down on New Year's Eve and resolve to lose weight, spend more time with friends, learn a new language, or some other pledge to make ourselves a better person.

Many quilters promise to finish those UFO's in the sewing room closet, become a better sewer, or learn a new quilting technique. But, how often do we actually keep those resolutions? Especially the ones that aren't so much fun. Like, finishing those UFO's.

We all make these resolutions with good intentions, but life gets in the way of acting on our personal promises. No matter how many years in a row I have promised to eat healthier, get more beauty sleep, and exercise 30 minutes a day, I can't say I have stuck to any of it. And, I have at least five unfinished projects that I have been meaning to finish for over a year. So, yet again, one of my New Year's resolutions for 2010 is to complete the projects that are lagging on my shelf. This year, I actually intend to finish these projects. Yes, I will!

Oh, but how do I do that? I took my question to the streets. I spoke to experts (other quilters), and scoured the Internet for answers. Here are eight steps I discovered to help make it easier for me (and you) to keep that New Year's resolution:

1. Be honest with yourself. That quilt that has been sitting in your closet for five years - you really don't like it. Get rid of it. Give it to a quilting friend to finish, or donate it to your guild. And don't feel guilty about it. Someone else will love it, and you are contributing to the good of quilting!
2. Make a pact to not purchase any new fabric or patterns until you have finished one (or all) of your UFO's.
3. Set aside time to work on your UFO. Even if it's just 5 minutes a day, that is 35 minutes a week that you would not have dedicated otherwise. You might find once you sit down for your 5 minute session, it can turn into an hour and you'll have accomplished so much!
4. If you have numerous projects, create an assembly line. Do all the piecing for all the quilts at the same time. Quilt all of your quilts together. Same goes for binding. I machine stitched the binding onto two quilts, and took them with me to finish the hand stitching over the Christmas holidays. They are both finished now, and I can enjoy them!
5. Quilt with friends. Get together once a week, or once a month, for a stitching session. You'll easily find the motivation to work on projects if there are others doing the same.
6. Don't try to tackle a large project all at once. If your resolution is to clean out your sewing room, do it in stages. Give yourself 15 minutes at a time and do one thing - like separating all your fabrics into similar colors. Organize your thread drawer tomorrow when you have another 15 minutes.
7. Multi-task. Do your hand stitching while watching your favourite TV show, or on the train while commuting to work.
8. CELEBRATE! When you have completed your goal, reward yourself with a visit to your favourite quilt shop, register for a class, or purchase that new quilting tool you've been dreaming of. You deserve it!

From: Quilter's Connection Magazine – used with permission.

***Submitted by: Pat Sargent***

## **QUILTING ON THE WEB**

<http://www.tbqguild.com/>

Thumb Butte Quilters' Guild of Prescott, Arizona. If you like to look at quilts or looking for inspiration click on the Show and Tell Icon and see about five years of photos of quilts.

<http://quiltville.com/>

A great site for those who enjoy making scrap quilts. Huge number of free patterns with great step-by-step pictures.

<http://www.caron-net.com/classes/classmayfiles/clasmay1.html>

An on-line class for a Crazy Quilt, complete with embroidery stitch instruction.

*Submitted by Sharon Harris*

### **RIBBONS / WORMS / STRIPS...or whatever you want to call them:**

- Members are invited to sign up to exchange 2 ½" strips of fabric at the monthly meetings. The number of strips required depends on the number of members signing up.
- The number of strips to be brought to the next meeting will be announced at the end of the meeting after everyone has signed up. Please sign up before the end of the meeting to be sure you are included.
- Themes for the months ahead are as follows:
 

○ March	St. Patrick's Day	or	Green
○ April	Easter	or	Pastels
○ May	Spring	or	Pastels
○ June	Flowers		
- Thanks to Denise Paradis for organizing the exchange.
- Check out <http://quiltville.com> suggested above by Sharon Harras for ideas for using the fabric strips you have collected.

## **THANK YOU!**

- A belated thank you to **ASTRIN'S ATTIC** for the donation of a raffle prize at our December guild meeting. Thanks Gail! Your support is appreciated.
- Great job **Darla Dyck** and **Denise Paradis**! The demonstration of the faux Bargello technique done with ombre fabric was terrific!
- **Ruth Riche** from Connecting Threads made and donated 2 single bed quilts and 4 double bed quilts to The Victims of Domestic Violence just before Christmas. On behalf of the Guild, thank you for your generosity and caring for those in need.
- **Connecting Threads** has donated **147** placemats to Meals on Wheels! The recipients will have some cheer to go along with their meals. Thank you to all who participated.
- Thanks to **Sharon Harris** for organizing an all-day open quilting day on Saturday, January 16, 2010. Those who attended had an enjoyable day and got a lot of work done.

## **We need a HISTORIAN**

**The position of Historian is now vacant.**

Please consider filling this position until a new Historian is elected in the fall. The main duty of the Historian is to take pictures at the Guild meetings of work done by our members.

If you can help out please contact Ted Sheard.