

Heartstring Quilters

December 2011

Dear Friends,

I am very pleased to be writing you as the new editor of the Heartstring Quilters newsletter. I have been a member of the guild since the early 90s though, as you know, my attendance in the last few years has not been as stellar as it once was. Life got very busy for a while there and I have missed this wonderful community of quilters. I am no stranger to editing the newsletter. It is a job I held for a number of years—so long ago that we were still photocopying and mailing hard copies to every member.

Our intrepid editor, Elizabeth Van Schaick, will continue to write a letter each month to be published in these pages (see page 2). I look forward to reconnecting with many of you and to getting to know the rest. I am also excited to dust off my sewing machine and begin quilting again in earnest.

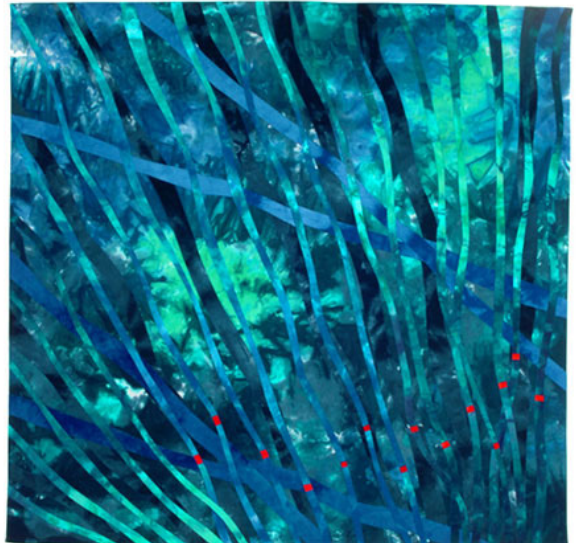
If you have something of interest to share with the guild, please get in touch with me. The January issue will focus on you! Please send photos of current projects with a short paragraph describing your work. I can be reached by e-mail: altolauren@mac.com or phone, 610-220-8020. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Holiday Potluck on December 8!

Yours,
Lauren (Anderson)

Refreshments - January 2012

Appetizers/Beverages: Terry Ciampitti
Savory: Judy Bergman
Sweets/Desserts: Bonnie Atwood

If your name appears in the newsletter for next month's refreshments and you will not be able to provide them, please contact another member to take your place. The refreshments responsibility is rotated in alphabetical order. If you do need to switch with another member, please notify the hospitality chairperson, Gwen Gatto at Gwengatto@verizon.net.



November's meeting featured quilt artist **Virginia Abrams**. Details on the meeting, including Show & Tell, on page 3. The quilt shown here is entitled *Ocean Currents*.

From Elizabeth Van Schaick



Teapot



Abundance

As we head toward the end of 2011, Heartstrings has had a lovely first “semester” of our program year. In this month of giving thanks, we would definitely site our opportunities to hear very creative speakers, our camaraderie and the exchange of experiences, techniques and resources. I know that this guild would not be what it is without all of our different personalities and contributions. And yet, at the same time, we continually find that we are the same because of at least one shared passion.

Our December Potluck Party is always a major highlight to our guild. Although the fabric exchange is exciting and the food tantalizing, the real gift is this: when this group of people gets together – amazingly, we do manage to keep doing it – we create something that is **more** than worth gathering **for!** Even more than the “material benefits” (pardon the pun) of our meetings, the humor, support and creative inspiration we exchange are the valuable items! If we can continue to give a community spirit and a healthy balance of open-mindedness and realism to the guild, we will be very successful in 2012.

The New Year will bring some transitions to Heartstrings. The newsletter publication will now be in the hands of Lauren Anderson, who will collect and edit the various features and submissions. I will help out when needed and also contribute a regular piece to the newsletter. The other important development is that our fundraising activity will be changing. After some discussion we will be moving on to trying one or more new ways to raise the money needed to maintain the level of programs we are accustomed to. Although we were extremely fortunate in the past with the revenue from the breast cancer pins, we must now initiate some other project that our members will be more able to participate in. The recommendations of the fundraising committee and the board will be relayed soon.

I wish all of you a safe, happy and creative holiday season. If you are like me, the things at the top of your gift list are “fabric” and “more time to spend in my sewing room!” With that space in mind, you may be interested to know the Scottish superstition that on December 31st, you should clean house and remove the ashes from the fireplace. The underlying belief is that it is good luck to clear out the vestiges of the old year, have a clean break and welcome in a young, New Year on a happy note. Why? In the words of Scottish poet Liz Lochhead,

“For to even hope to prosper, this midnight must find us how we would like to be.”

Upcoming Programs

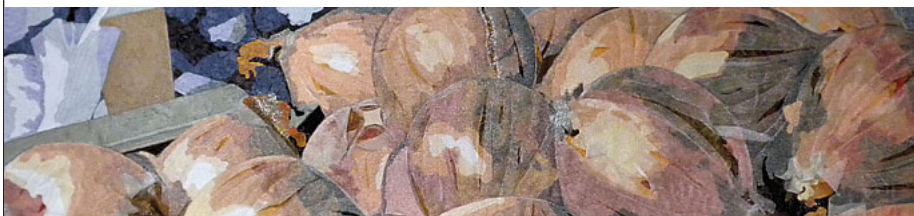
December 8: Pot Luck Dinner and Chinese Auction at the home of Lauren Anderson (see details below).

January 12: Share Your Secrets, Part II

February 9: Hands-on shadowfold project led by Cindy Friedman and Debbie Schwartzman

March 8: The Jim and Terry Show

April 12: Kate Themel, *A Painter's Approach to Fiber Art*
Visit her website to learn more about the artist: www.katethemel.com



May 10: Visit to Wayne Art Center for **Art Quilt Elements** exhibit

Holiday Potluck Party - Thursday, December 8th, 6:30 PM

We will have a Chinese auction where you will find out who your real friends are! For our new members, here is how it works: Bring 2 fat quarters of fabulous fabric and 2 embellishments, ribbon, beads, accessories and wrap them/bag them together.

And, since no occasion is complete without wonderful things to eat, please bring a covered dish. E-mail Suzan Hirsch if you did not RSVP at the last meeting with the salad, main course or dessert that you will be bringing at: suzan.hirsch@gmail.com.

The festivities will take place at the home of:
Lauren Anderson
211 Roberts Road
Ardmore, PA 19003
610-649-0430

Directions



Heartstring Quilters

The newsletter of Heartstring Quilters is published monthly.

Monthly meetings are held the second Thursday of every month at 7:15 PM when there is a speaker, and 7:30 PM if there is no speaker. Meetings are held at the Lankenau Hospital Annenberg Conference Center, in the McLean Conference Room, at Lancaster Avenue and City Line avenues, in Wynnewood, Pennsylvania.

Membership dues are \$35/year. Guest fee is \$3, or \$5 when there is a speaker.

Officers & Committees

Presidents: Suzan Hirsch and Robin Levenberg
Co-Secretaries: Judy Fliegelman and Marcy George
Treasurer: Martha Klein
Hospitality: Gwen Gatto
Programs: Cindy Friedman and Deborah Schwartzman
Newsletter: Lauren Anderson
Membership: Karoline Wallace
Raffle: Terri Ciampitti
Website: Karoline Wallace
Sunshine: Soryl Angel

Newsletter Submissions

Send items for the newsletter, including announcements and information from other guilds, photos, etc. by the 18th of each month to Lauren Anderson at: altolauren@mac.com.

Visit www.heartstringquilters.com for more information.

November 10, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Our meeting opened with our creative and colorful speaker, Virginia Abrams. Her work is strips—pieced, sewn, cut apart, resewn and inspiring. Ginny gets her inspiration from the nature photos she takes and her pieces take off from there.

Suzan and Robin announced that Lauren Anderson has volunteered to host the Holiday Pot Luck Supper. Sign up sheets were circulated. Don't forget the best part—The Cut-Throat Auction! Please bring a wrapped package containing 2-3 fat quarters, embellishments—thread, beads, buttons, ribbons, pasties, anything you think we will fight over. Wrap well and let the fun begin! Thanks, Lauren, for hosting this fun and special event.

Please, if you haven't already done so, send documentation for your face on our Faces Quilt to Margo Clayma asap!! We need the row and block number and name of the person in the block as well as the name of the person who made the block. If you wish to say nothing more, that's fine too.

Karoline Wallace, membership chair, reported that we have 46 paid members and can take in 4 new members. She also will add birthday dates to the membership list.

SHOW AND TELL

- Eileen Belmont went to a Craft Show at the Shipley School and found a lovely bottlecap bracelet. Not to be outdone, she went home and created a sewing spool necklace. Good to recycle!
- Susan Osborne made “mugrugs” for bottles and cups. Great gift idea!
- Susan Leonard was commissioned to make a T-SHIRT quilt for a mystery client. The client was found and loved the black, orange and red quilt.
- Jim Vandernoot has turned his considerable talents to knitting gorgeous wool socks. He also wowed us with news of the QUILTS BY MEN show he participated in. He and his family drove to Texas to see the quilts and meet some of the quilters.
- Rose McBride was commissioned by her Church to make a small wall hanging for Christmas. Her beautiful star set against a dark blue sky was beautiful and awe inspiring.
- Soryl Angel showed off her good fortune. She received a lovely box containing a ton of fat quarters for her birthday!
- Debbie Schwartzman was also commissioned to make a religious article for her Synagogue. Debbie made a quilted “Parochet” or curtain for the Ark. It is something pretty to look at when the ark is opened and the scrolls removed. Debbie researched this topic and methods of hanging a movable quilted curtain. The piece has color and movement with a nature theme. It is all curved piecing and beautifully colored silks.
- Ellen Policastro is making a double wedding ring quilt as a gift. Just gorgeous Ellen!!

See you all at the Holiday Party, Dec 8, 2011, at Lauren Anderson's.

Respectfully Submitted,
Judy Fliegelman

Resources

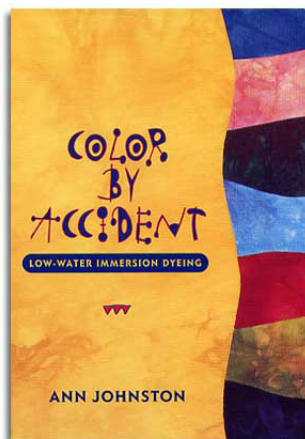
American Quilter's Society
www.americanquilter.com

Surface Design Association
www surfacedesign.org

Fiber Art Now
fiberartnow.net



Virginia Abrams mentioned this book by Ann Johnston as an invaluable resource in her work.



Color by Accident is designed to be used as a workbook and as a reference manual for the adventuresome. Beginning and experienced dyers will find *Color By Accident* to be an inspiring guide for creating one-of-a-kind fabrics not available commercially. It includes five variations on a versatile method and 54 tested recipes. Not required are

expensive equipment, dangerous chemicals or specialized studio space. Other books teach how to repeat a method and reproduce colors. This book points the way to exploring new color combinations and to achieving fabric that will be unique and visually complex.

Area Guilds

Love Apple Quilters

www.loveapplequilters.com

Valley Forge Homestead Quilters

www.valleyforgequilters.org

Undercover Quilters

www.undercoverquilters.com

Main Line Quilters

www.mainlinequilters.org

YouTube Video Tutorial—Curved Piecing

If you were inspired by Virginia Abrams' quilts at the November meeting, then you'll find this video on curved piecing really helpful. London-based textile artist Alicia Merrett demonstrates her wavy log cabin structural elements which have become a signature of her work. She is a featured artist and instructor at the Festival of Quilts in England. Follow the link above. This is the first in a series of 3 videos.



Exhibits

Quilt Art: International Expressions - September 10 to December 31, 2011

This exhibition of 40 quilts brings together 24 contemporary quilt artists from nine countries at the James A. Michener Art Museum, in the Fred Beans Gallery located at 138 South Pine St., Doylestown, PA. Museum hours: Tuesday through Friday, 10 am to 4:30 pm; Saturday 10 am to 5 pm; Sunday noon to 5 pm. For more information visit www.michenermuseum.org/exhibits/quilt-art.php or call 215-340-9800.



Kaleidoscopic XXXVII by Paula Nadelstern

Material Witnesses - November 15 to January 7 at The Art Quilt Gallery NYC

The Art Quilt Gallery NYC is exclusively focused on a single art form: quilts, whose aesthetic range, creative spirit, execution, and sheer beauty make this a compelling art, yet one that is rarely displayed in New York. We believe our patrons will be impressed with the range and quality of work. Opened on April 5, 2011, The Art Quilt Gallery NYC features the best quilts from around the world.

Visit us in Chelsea at 133 West 25th Street, New York, NY

[Click for hours & contact information](#)

[Email](#) or call 212-807-9451 to add your name to our show announcements list, or to ask about our art quilts and the artists whose works we represent—or anything else about quilts, including commissions! Welcome to the only gallery devoted to contemporary art quilts in New York City.

Uncommon Threads: A Survey of Contemporary Quilts November 17 to December 17

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. at Kathryn Markel Fine Arts
529 West 20th Street, 6W, New York City, NY

The tradition of quilts and quilting has primarily been considered as a utilitarian object first and as an artistic medium incidentally. But the rise of feminism and the revaluation of “women’s work” led to a renewed appreciation of the artistic potential of the medium, and to an exploding number of quilters. This exhibition focuses on 12 contemporary artists who use quilting techniques in their work. Some have come out of the traditional world of art quilting, and others are younger artists who have embraced the medium because its deep associations further their artistic practice. Each of these artists emphasizes a different aspect of quilting and has a different agenda. This exhibition shows how an old-fashioned medium is being repurposed for a new generation.

Email: info@markelfinearts.com

Website: <http://markelfinearts.com/html/exhibresultsfull.asp?exnum=76...>



Paula Kovarik
Keeping Up with the Dow Jones, 2009
from *Uncommon Threads*

AQS Quilt Show - March 14-17, 2012

<http://aqsshows.com/AQSLancaster/>
Lancaster, PA