

Greetings everyone, merry Christmas, happy holiday season!

The fabulous Christmas luncheon:

On Saturday, December 17th, over sixty members who signed up for the Christmas luncheon in advance, as well as some last-minute attendees, were treated to a fabulous afternoon.

It started with a mini vendor mall:

- Val Beasley (and her cohort Barb Graham) had mug rugs, hot pads, table toppers, and crocheted necklaces,
- Donna Kendall - threads, wooly packs with threads, and what-nots galore,
- Teresa Petriw - scrapbooking supplies to help us preserve treasured memories,
- Kaye Borthwick - whose husband made the excellent wooden clappers, ruler trays, and bird feeders,
- Dolores Schilling - colorful mini brushes for our sewing machines,
- Barb Thomsen and her sister Donna Laing - amazing selection of handmade ornaments, mug rugs, travel bags and so much more,
- Vi Knox - for the cool selection of project bags, and purses.

I saw so many members delighting in the treasures they were able to buy. I know Michelle Hindle and I were grinning happily in buying the beautiful travel bags made by Barb Thomsen! Now I can retire my backpack 😊

Michelle Demers was available to take registrations for the Festival of Quilts Kim Caskey workshop (still not too late to sign up).

Bonnie Seim organized the purchase of 50/50 tickets. Yolande Smart was our ticket seller! Just over \$340 was raised and the winner Pat Gillam won ~ \$170.00.

What's in your purse quiz: Judy Barnett had us in stitches as she continued to pull items out of her bag and ask who had that item as well in their purse. The items ranged from a flashlight, to measuring tape, Kleenex, a comb, business card holder – it was a long list. After the laughter and astonishment of how many of us had these items on our own purse, a winner, Karen Bobak, was rewarded with a bundle of fabric.



Fabric bundles on the tables: Judy Barnett, Bonnie Seim and Connie Chaplin went through the smaller pieces of Pat Amies' donated fabric stash and made small bundles of fabric for each of the place settings on the tables. Fabric from Pat's stash was also used for the prizes. What an excellent remembrance of Pat and passing on her legacy of the love of fabric and quilting.

Books: If you remember – a small number of books were not sold at the Guild Library dispersal sale. Those books were put in bundles adorned with beautiful ribbons. Judy had us look for a ribbon attached to one of the chairs we were sitting on. Once the ribboned chair was identified, the books were then awarded to the person sitting

immediately to the left of that chair. Great fun indeed.

The luncheon: Caterer Donna Prince and her friend Gerylyn Beazer prepared such a delicious lunch. We were treated to tasty spinach salad, a vegetable salad, home made bread buns with real butter on the side, and a meat ball soup, and a corn chowder-potato soup. And then there were the desserts. There was enough of everything for second helpings and we did take Donna and Gerylyn up on that offer.

Trunk Show: Cherilyn Jorgensen introduced Michelle ZoBell, and her friend Shanna Olds. Michelle dazzled us with her array of quilts. Her very first quilt was a baby quilt based on paper piecing. From there she took a hiatus from quilting and moved into garment and costume work. She then saw a Judy Neidermeyer pattern and she was off on her quilting journey. Each quilt was so unique, from hand turned applique, bargello, to paper pieced, to the very special quilt she made for her son. Michelle had us dazzled with her skill and enthusiasm and "I can make that" approach when she sees a new technique or challenging pattern.

Prize draws: We were asked to retain our 50/50 tickets for the prize draws. Gosh the elves had been busy to put together so many prizes. A tremendous thank you to everyone who donated items for the prizes. And just when Bonnie said that was it for the prize draws, she asked Donna Kendall to come forth. As you know Donna organized the new category of "looser prizes" at the guild meetings. To make up for the nature of some of these prizes, she had a number of "good" prizes to share with additional ticket draws.

Food bank: One table was set up for food bank donations. Pretty soon we had bags of food items on the floor beside the table and then donations creeping onto an adjacent table! At the end of the event the vehicle was filled with food for the local food bank. A true heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to the food bank drive. This donation was so appreciated.

Community Quilts Distribution: The Angel Tree campaign was given 108 dolly, 23 playpen, 5 small, 5 medium, and 1 large quilt. Interfaith Food Bank was given 4 small, 10 medium, 1 large, and 4 extra-large quilts. YWCA Harbour House was given 6 medium, 2 large, and 4 extra-large quilts. The CAMP program received 4 large, 5 extra-large, and 1 XXL quilt. City Care received 6 medium and 2 large quilts. We have 3 XL and 2 medium quilts remaining. The two medium quilts have been withheld for Elsie's House.

Many of these quilts will be presented as Christmas gifts.

Thank you to all the members that have contributed to brighten someone's day. Now we can get busy rebuilding our quilt supply for 2023. When the weather dips below -20 degrees C it's a great day to stay inside and sew.

Thank you's!

The Guild has many committees to undertake organizing planning and activities for the guild. One of these committees is special events – chaired by Bonnie Seim. We all owe Bonnie a great thank you for championing the Christmas luncheon. It was so enjoyable.

But as Bonnie will tell us, there were many volunteers behind the scenes and on the day to help:

- Judy Barnett (chief book decorator, and mischief maker)
- Val Beasley (getting the community hall booked for the event)
- The members who made up the vendor mall: Val Beasley, Donna Kendall, Teresa Petriw, Kaye Borthwick, Dolores Schilling, Barb Thomsen and Donna Laing, and Vi Knox
- Yolande Smart who sold 50/50 tickets
- The members who helped set up the room, and then clean up after the event
- Everyone who donated prizes, including Donna Kendall, Judy Gilmour, and Vi Knox
- Michelle ZoBell for the beautiful trunk show.

Message from Bonnie Seim: *I would also like to extend get well wishes to those who stayed home because they were ill, hope you are all better for the holidays.*

Other News:

a) Donna Kendall's thread inventory reduction sale continues. If you need some thread, just drop Donna an email. But don't worry, the sale continues in January with more news to come.

b) Kim Caskey June 16th Festival of Quilts Workshop. Do consider registering for a fun day to make a bird of paradise block. Remember, it is all about the adventure of working with fabric – there are no mistakes – only creativity. Kim is a true delight as a workshop leader and you will so enjoy participating in this workshop. Just drop Michelle Demers an email at m.demers@telus.net to register. What a nice gift to yourself.

c) Upcoming meetings:

- Festival of Quilts organizing committee meeting Wednesday, January 11 at 1:30 at Fabric Fusion classroom.
- Guild Executive Meeting: Wednesday, **January 18, 2023**;
- Guild Meeting: **Saturday afternoon, January 28, 2023**; 1:00 Committees set up; doors open at 1:15, meeting starts at 2:00 p.m. at CASA. If you know someone who is interested in quilting but is not a member, invite them to come. Judy Barnett will be introducing the block of the month
- Community Quilt Sew Day: **February 18, 2023**; 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. You can drop Judy Gilmour an email kiwigilmour@gmail.com to get onto the list to participate or you can wait and register at the January meeting. You work on the really nice, solid tables and CASA also turns on the theatre lights so that the community room is nice and bright. There will be cutting tables with mats and rulers, and ironing stations. These Community Quilt Sew Days are excellent.

A few pictures of the event on the following pages!



Sitting down for lunch – Judy taking us through “what’s in your purse” quiz!



Photo shadow box quilt



Michelle's tribute to her 3 sisters



Her first Bargello quilt



Quilt Michelle made for her husband – he saw the panel and thus she created a quilt for him. 😊

That's it for the December newsletter.

See you in January 2023. A very lovely Christmas to all and stay connected with those who are not able to get out and about.

Jackie

