

Pieceful Times Newsletter

President's Message September 2017

Welcome back Members! I can't remember when I have been so excited to start a new year with all of you at the Gathering! We have added new meetings to our schedule this year so that we can have more fun, great programs, and get to know each other better. We will now be meeting: Sept, Oct, Nov, Jan, Feb, March, April and May. You may also remember that we dropped the guest fee to \$5 in hopes of enticing more people to check us out.

I want to congratulate any members that entered a finished quilt in Kaleidoscope, and especially those of you who took home ribbons!!! We have a new website thanks to Peverly our Webmaster. Be sure to check it out. www.gatheringofquilters.org, (Actually same old address – wonderful new look!)

I have a favor to ask each and every one of you – please consider answering the interview questions or give Irene, newsletter editor, a call so she can interview you for the spotlight on members article in Pieceful Times. Thanks to those of you that came forth last year. I so enjoyed reading about you and would love to get to know some of our other members even better.

Actually, I have another favor to ask all of you – PLEASE sign up for our one day Saturday retreats at Stitch. These are a fundraiser for our Guild and a great way to get caught up on projects.

Speaking of Retreats – we have a new retreat site for our weekend retreat that you can read about in our newsletter and hear about at our first meeting. This retreat is a wonderful way to pamper yourself, get a lot of work done on projects and have a great time with friends!

This will be my last year as your president. I always say being President is the easiest job especially when you have great committee chairs like I have had the privilege to work with. I have loved being President all three and a half times I have served. I have made many new friends, started several initiatives over my different terms – weekend retreats, and adding our 3 new meetings to the schedule. Another perk is eating dinner with our guest speakers who are always interesting and fun.

I hope you will consider being President or Secretary, (also up at the end of this year) for next year. Of course there are other committee chairs that may need a break or want to pass on the baton as well so please step up and help out YOUR Guild.

COLLEEN FLORKOWSKI

The Gathering of Quilters Guild

Guild Meetings are:

- *Held at Holland Free Methodist Church*
- *6605 Angola Rd.
Holland, OH 43528*
- *Doors open @ 6:30 pm*
- *Meeting starts at 7 PM*
- *Next Meeting is
10/19/17*
- *Meetings are the 3rd
Thursday of the month,
Sept—May*



Colleen Florkowski

Our September Speaker & Topic: *Vikki Pignatelli*

Nuturing Your Creative Spirit: Personal Traits that Inspire Great Quilts

Vikki entered the world of quilting in 1991 at the urging of her sister and fellow quilter, Augie Ellis. A non-sewer at the time, Vikki attended a beginner's class and quickly fell in love with the art of quilting. Now a full-time professional quilt-artist, designer, international teacher, lecturer and author, Vikki and her quilts have been featured in many books, national publications and exhibitions. She has won 32 awards in national and international competitions and exhibitions including a first place award in Art Large for Portrait of my Soul at the International Quilt Festival at Houston and Best Color and Design for Passages of the Spirit in the 2002 NQA annual show

A self-taught artist with experience in painting (watercolor and oils) and sculpture, Vikki enjoys a passion for color and flowing designs. She developed a simple layering technique that is a blend of piecing and appliqué. She is the author of two books featuring this technique, "Quilting Curves" (Quilt Digest Press, 2001) and "Quilting By Improvisation" (Dragon Threads, 2006). Also, Vikki has written "how-to" articles published in Quilting Arts, Quilter's Newsletter, and AQS magazines. Vikki will have her books, patterns, and DVD's available for purchase at our guild meeting.

Vikki also founded the national biennial [Sacred Threads Quilt Exhibitions](#) in 1999. She and chairwoman, Wendy Bynner, developed the vision for the two-week display of original artwork that explores themes of spirituality, joy, inspiration, peace, healing and grief. The show is now held in Herndon, VA, outside Washington, D.C.

Deeply influenced by her husband's bout with cancer and his recovery in 1993, most of Vikki's artwork now focuses on the themes of healing, spirituality, hope, and inspiration. In her writings and teaching, Vikki's focus is to inspire, nurture and develop the artistry and self-confidence within each quilter.

Everyone,

**Please be respectful of others and turn off cell phones,
pagers, or other noise makers during our meetings.**

Thank you!

Colleen and fellow GOQG Members

Attention GOQG Members:

The Gathering will sponsor a spring quilt retreat at
Creative Passions Crop and Quilt

Retreat Center

in Chesaning MI

on

May 18-20, 2018

The cost is \$165 and this will include
two dinners!

Please check out the website:

www.creativepassionllc.com

**Reservations are being accepted for Gathering
members now!!!**

The retreat will be open to other guilds in October. This will fill up quickly.

**Do not hesitate to mail your completed form to:
(or bring to September Meeting)**

The Gathering of Quilters 2018 Retreat

P.O. Box 631

Sylvania OH 43560

Contact Kathy Kanitz or Margie Stone if you have
any questions.

Creative Passions Crop & Quilt Retreat Center Chesaning, MI

Kathy Kanitz and Margie Stone are planning the GOQG's annual retreat for the coming year. They have chosen the location of the retreat to be the Creative Passions Crop & Quilt Retreat Center in Chesaning, MI. The retreat facility sounds amazing and pretty fantastic!!

If you are a guild member who likes to attend the guild annual weekend retreats, **you need to jump on this opportunity as quickly as possible - by the September guild meeting** - as it sounds like the spots are going to fill up quickly. **Rumor has it the retreat spots may be sold out by mid October!!**

Kathy and Margie's description of the retreat facilities and it's awesome reputation make the upcoming retreat **in May 18 - 20, 2018 for \$165** an opportunity not to be missed!!

Here's info about items provided for you during your stay at the retreat:

Each workstation has your own table, comfortable chair, lamp, & cup holder / trash bin

Shampoo, conditioner, shower gel, 3 bath towels & 2 wash cloths per person

Bedding, blankets, pillows, bottled water, coffee, and ironing boards

Computer and printer, cable TV with DVD player, wireless internet

All dishes & paper products for meals

Patio with table, chairs, and fire pits at each location

Items provided for quilters:

2 Cutting stations

2 ironing stations

Do bring your own cutting mats, cutters, rulers, and irons

Services available at the retreat center:

Pedicures (schedule 2 weeks prior to arrival)

Licensed pedicurist available on site

Massages (schedule appointments 2 weeks prior to arrival)

30 minute & 45 minute massages available by a female certified massage therapist

Take heed of this information! If you're interested in the retreat, **YOU** need to sign up soon / now, or you may not get a spot!!!

The Gathering of Quilters Minutes of the May 18, 2017 Meeting

President Colleen Florkowski called the meeting to order. She then introduced our speaker for the evening, Gretchen Schultz, a fellow Gathering member, former owner of the Quilt Foundry in Maumee, and collector of all things vintage and historical related to sewing. The topic of this evening's meeting was Feed Sacks.

Some of the things we learned were:

- Feed sacks made of homespun cotton, canvas, and burlap have been used since the late 1800s to ship feeds, seeds, and bulk goods like rice, flour, sugar, and salt.
- The white feed sacks could be dyed and were economical for housewives to use for household items such as aprons, curtains, pot-holders and even diapers and clothing.
- Magazines noticed the popularity of feed sacks and printed patterns for them.
- Feed sacks were often available in lots of unique patterns and were used in quilts. White feed sacks were utilized as the backings for string quilt blocks.
- By the end of the 1930s, cloth bags began to be replaced by paper bags due to cost factors.
- They sell now for \$15-\$40 depending on print, color, size, and condition.
- Karen Rupp and Sharon Mareska also shared their experiences with feed sacks.

Challenge quilts for the year were shown and judged.

Receiving First Place and a \$75 gift certificate was Kathy Kanitz,
Second Place and a \$50 gift certificate went to Hattie Kate Howell and
Third Place and a \$25 gift certificate went to Mary Ann Kolaz.

There were thirty-nine quilts donated to Sunshine. Hats off to Diana Trost and Irene Rose for the excellent job they did coordinating this year's challenge!

Business Meeting

A motion was made by Diane Lindhorst and seconded by Mary Clark to approve the minutes. Motion passed. A motion was made by Vickie Karnes and seconded by Debbie Linenkugel to approve the Treasurers' report. Motion passed.

Elections of officers and nominations for Program Chairs were held. Congratulations and thank you to the following individuals!

· Vice President – Linda Ball ·

Treasurer – Susie Todt ·

Program 2017-18 continuing: Gretchen Schultz, Jill Holt & Marjory Wilkin ·

Program 2018-19 – Vickie Karnes & Kathy Kanitz ·

Retreat 2018 – Kathy Kanitz & Margorie Stone ·

Fat Quarter Raffle - Danielle Kistner ·

Program Booklet - Diana Jacob ·

Publicity - Ellie Grabarczyk

The following individuals will carry on in their roles: Colleen Florkowski (President), Hattie Kate Howell (Secretary), Vickie Jones (Historian), Sheila Painter (Door Prizes and Charity Reporter), Diana Trost & Irene Rose (Challenge), Beth Rohrbacher (Membership), Wanda Dyer & Ellie Grabarczyk (50/50 Raffle), Linda Ball (Day Retreats), and Jill Holt (Program). Thank you for continued service to the Guild!

We need two volunteers to conduct an audit of the books per the requirements of our Bylaws. Please let Colleen Florkowski know if you are willing to help.

Winners tonight include Chris Stoker in the 50/50 Raffle, the door prize to Colleen Florkowski, and Fat Quarters to Susie Todt.

The Program Committee reminded us that we will have THREE (3) additional meeting next year and Colleen announced that the church board has approved our request to continue meeting at Holland Free Methodist next year for all EIGHT (8) meetings.

The church board continues to be impressed with the level of charity work the guild does; which last year included over 708 items!!!

Information about the Kaleidoscope of Quilts 2017 quilt show was discussed. Registration for quilts and classes is open. For more information, go to www.gcqc.org. The show will be held in Sylvania at Tam 'O Shanter on July 21 & 22, 2017.

In closing, remember that our guild will be celebrating its 35th anniversary in September.

Respectfully submitted by Beth Rohrbacher, substituting for Hattie Kate Howell

Guild Member Interview

Jill Holt

Jill was born, raised, and has lived her entire life in Ohio. Jill is married, and the mother of three married children, and the grandmother of seven grandchildren, with an eighth grandchild due in November!

After a significant thirty-five (35) year career as a licensed practical nurse (LPN) in Maternity Nursing at Flower Hospital and a physician's office, Jill has retired from nursing.

Jill started sewing at the age of 10, when she joined 4-H. Her mother was one of the advisors of her 4 - H group, and involved Jill in the organization at a young age. Jill's first projects include a tea towel apron, and a cardtable-sized tablecloth. She still uses the tablecloth today to cover her sewing machine.

During junior high and high school, Jill won several awards for clothing projects. Jill made her first quilt in 1974. It was a twin-sized scrappy quilt, which she tied with yarn. Jill's quiet perseverance is demonstrated by the fact that she still has this quilt.

Another way Jill's quiet perseverance is demonstrated is in her long-time commitment to our guild. Jill joined The Gathering of Quilters Guild around 1984.

She consistently participates in guild activities and has held multiple roles / positions in the guild.

Some of these roles include Wall Quilt Auction Committee member, Secretary, Historian, Publicity, Fat Quarter Raffle and Pop Tabs chairperson, Membership, and is currently one of the chairs of the Programs Committee. Such an impressive legacy to our guild!! And, such a loyal and dedicated member of The Gathering of Quilters Guild!

When asked, Jill stated her proudest, most memorable quilt project is a wall hanging she made which won a 1st Place Ribbon at Kaleidoscope and an Honorable Mention Ribbon at Sauder's Quilt Show in 1995.



Remember to Bring the following with you

to the Guild Meeting:



**Canned & packaged food for the Charity
Food Kitchen at the Church**



Address Labels for raffle use



Pop tabs



Polka Dot Fat Quarters for Raffle Basket

Here are your GOQG Board Members:

President

Colleen Florkowski

Co-Vice Presidents

Tom Sharkey & Linda Ball

Newsletter

Irene Rose

Recording Secretary

Hattie Kate Howell

Treasurer

Susie Todt

Publicity & PR Bookmark

Ellie Grabarczyk

Membership & Webpage

Beth Rohrbacher

2016 - 17 Program Co-Chairs

Jill Holt, Gretchen Schultz,

Marjory Wilkin

2017-18 Program Co-Chairs

Kathy Kanitz and Vicki Karnes

Program Booklet

Diana Jacob

50/50 Raffle

Wanda Dyer & Ellie Grabarczyk

Fat Quarters/ Pop Tabs

Danielle Kistner

Challenge

Diana Trost & Irene Rose

Historian/ Photos

Vicki Jones

Annual Retreat

Kathy Kanitz & Margie Stone

Day Retreats

Linda Ball

Door Prizes

Sheila Painter

FaceBook Editor

Irene Rose

Gathering of Quilters Guild Challenge for 2017 - 2018

Mom's House Charity Quilt Challenge

Theme: "I Spy My ABC's and 1, 2, 3's"

Purpose: The quilts will be donated to Mom's House to be used / given to toddlers - kindergarten aged children. The theme is aimed at fun pre-school children learning / education. Your quilt can include I Spy, or ABC's, or 1, 2, 3's, or all of the above. The goal is a fun happy quilt which is about learning.

Mom's House Toledo is a 5-star childcare center available to help low-income, single moms graduate from high school, technical school and college. With intervention and support, they help single moms set and attain lifetime educational goals, and break the cycle of poverty for you and your children.

Mom's House strives to break the cycles of poverty and welfare. Their mission is to guide at-risk single parents through the process of achieving educational goals and provide tools and resources needed to become effective parents.

Guidelines / Rules

Members may make as many quilts as they desire for the guild charity, but only one quilt per member entered in the guild charity challenge is eligible for a prize.

The quilt entered in the challenge for a prize must be made entirely by a guild member.

The quilt should reflect the theme, "**I Spy My ABC's and 1, 2, 3's**". It may be:

- Any color(s) or design

- Be of a cheerful, happy appearance

Each quilt must consist of three layers – quilt top, batting, backing – and have a binding. There may be **no attached embellishments**.

The quilt must be quilted, versus tied, and, must be entirely machine washable and dryable.

The quilt size should be between 40" to 50" wide and 50" long.

Quilts are to be brought to the May 2018 meeting to be considered for voting. Members of the guild will vote for the quilts which best reflect the theme and quality workmanship. Winners will receive:

- 1st Place - \$75 Gift Certificate

- 2nd Place - \$50 Gift Certificate

- 3rd Place - \$25 Gift Certificate

Quilts following the guild challenge rules can be accepted from other guilds or individuals, but they may not be considered for a prize.

Check out our website at:

www.gatheringofquilters.org

Sewing for Support

Marian and her granddaughter started this project for her Girl Scout Gold Award and wondered if the Guild would like to help out.

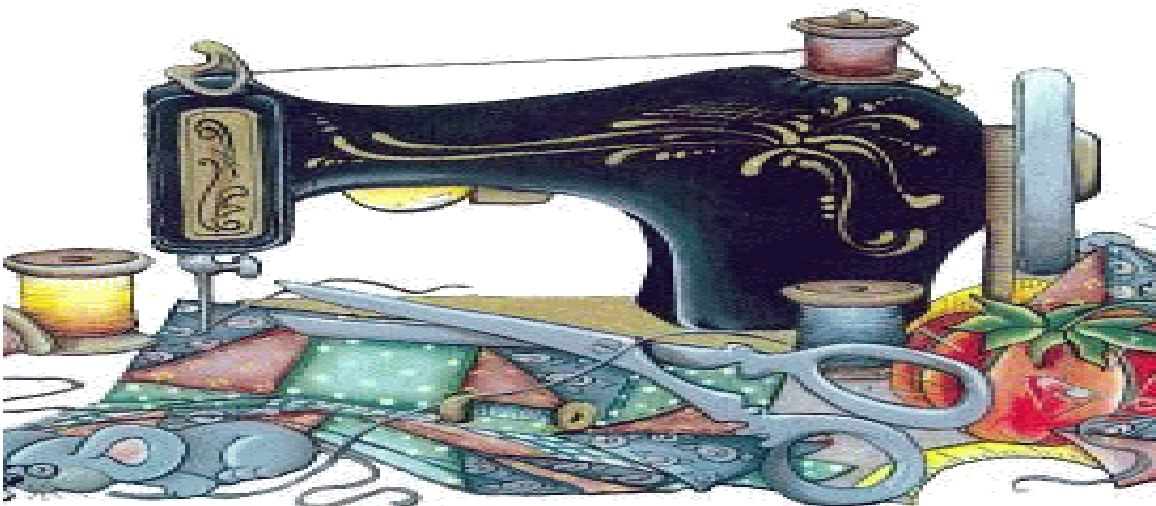
She is seeking quilters interested in making quilts to donate to breast cancer patients at the Cleveland Clinic. Quilts can be any size from lap to full size. Any color or pattern is welcomed.

Marian had a double mastectomy and received a quilt when she returned home and had "a great feeling of joy that someone cared enough to make her a homemade gift". She wants to share that feeling of caring and concern for other breast cancer survivors.

Deadline for receiving the quilts is Oct. 31, 2017.

If you would like to donate a quilt, please contact Marian Stryczny at 330-979-8517, or smilingquilter1@hotmail.com

P.S. Hattie Kate stated it sounds like a fun use of some of her lady-like fabrics. She will share some fabric and fast, pretty patterns with others who like to make pretty quilts for charity.



Ryan's Case for Smiles

September is when Ryan's Case For Smiles hold's our annual Miles of Pillowcase Smiles Campaign. This is where the entire organization sets a goal of making and collecting 44000 pillowcases, which represents the number of new cases of pediatric cancer diagnosed each year.

To do our part, I have a Sewing Event scheduled for Saturday, September 9th at The Vineyard on Catawba Community Room, from 10am to 2pm.

The Vineyard is located at 3820 E. Vineyard Village Dr., Port Clinton OH 43452. It is on Catawba off of West Catawba Road.

We will need sewers, cutters and ironers, so bring your sewing machine if you wish or simply your cutting tools, mat etc. We'll be working on Halloween pillowcases, but will have other fabric too. Let me know if you will be there, or if you have any questions.

And...Our Chapter has donated over 9,000 pillowcases since we started in 2012! An amazing accomplishment of which you are all a part of!! Thanks so much for all the smiles. 😍 😊 😄 😁

Thanks,
Linda
Linda Peiffer
NW Ohio Chapter
Ryan's Case for Smiles
419-619-9071

Please!
Remember to bring only quality, high
thread-count fabric fat quarters (18" X 21")
for the raffle basket!
Thank you.

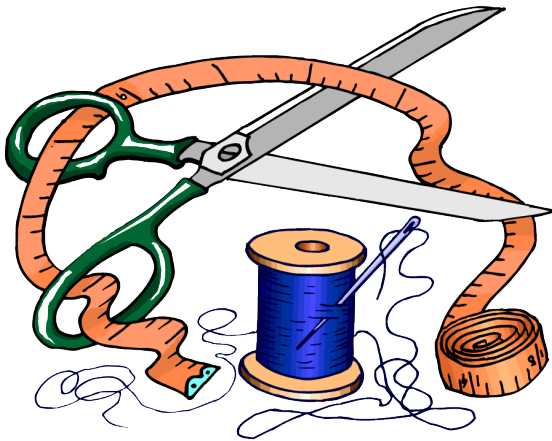
**Don't Forget - STASH RAFFLE
at the March 15, 2018
Guild Meeting!**

Cleaning out cupboards, drawers, tote bins from your sewing room???

Remember **the stash raffle at our March 15, 2018 meeting.** This is a fund raiser for our guild.

Fabric--books--patterns--magazines--rulers--UFO'S--embellishments--anything quilt related is welcome. Plan to donate lots of quilty supplies and items to the Stash Raffle.

And, look forward to playing the Stash Raffle!



Editor's Note to Readers:

If you would like information posted in the newsletter, please contact me by the first of the month with the information.

Contact me at irose0603@gmail.com

Take care. Keep calm and keep quilting.

Irene Rose



Guild Members Interview Project

Guild Members Still Needed for Interviews!

In an effort to help guild members get to know each other better, and keep our newsletter interesting, I've started interviewing different members. The interviews, along with a photo of the member, will be posted in our newsletters throughout the year.

The articles are meant to be informative and fun. **Interviewees are asked the following questions and may answer any or all of the questions.**

Interview questions included:

- Info about you ... Where were you born? What about you, are you working... retired ..., children, ... etc.? (Whatever you want to share)
- How long have you been making quilts?
- Why did you start making quilts?
- Do you have a favorite quilt making style (traditional, modern, scrap, etc.)?
- How long have you belonged to The Gathering of Quilters Guild?
- Why did you join the guild?
- Have you held any positions in the guild, if so, what were / are they?
- What do you like best about our guild?
- What is your proudest / most enjoyable / memorable quilt project?

Thank you so much to all those who participate in the interviews! And, I hope more members will volunteer / agree to interviews. I hope you enjoy this project.

Irene Rose

GOQG Members Charitable Quilty Donations

As part of the arrangement for renting meeting space at Holland Free Methodist Church, we have agreed to report to the church our members' involvement in sewing for charities.

Our president gives a report to the church at the end of each year's contract which includes a summary of the number of quilts/blankets made, as well as dog beds, school uniforms, cancer caps, burial gowns, school bags, etc., and, which organizations were the recipients.

Don't forget, everyone, tell me what charity items you donated since we met last. The tabulation continues, as a condition of our using the church for our meetings.

Never donated a charity quilt? Consider making a small pillow-style quilt from your leftover blocks or fabric, and be part of the count this year! You can pick up a ready-to-sew kit from Project Linus. Not comfortable with doing the quilting? Quilt tops are acceptable, as well....or let me tell you how quick and easy you can get these tops turned into quilts!

Report to me by phone, email, or at any meeting. ~Sheila Painter



Weekend of Quilts

at Toledo Mennonite Church

5501 Nebraska Avenue

Sept. 29, 2017, Friday Evening – 6:30 – 8 pm

featuring

Cottonwood Jam String Band

Presenting..... Bluegrass & Folk Music

Including Italian Meal with dessert

Public is invited - Admission by Donation

RSVP at 419-536-1251 & leave message

Fund Raiser Benefitting the **Tutoring Program** at Toledo Mennonite Church,
Serving 1st – 3rd grade Students from McTigue Elementary School

13th Annual QUILT SHOW

Admission by Donation

Friday, Sept. 29, 2017: Quilt Show Hours 10 am – 8 pm

Saturday, Sept. 30, 2017: Quilt Show Hours 10 am – 5 pm

Fabrics, Quilting Supplies & Books for Sale
Lunch and light Refreshments available

Questions: Please call Toledo Mennonite Church office: 419-536-1251
or Karen Rupp, Chairperson: 419-382-6144