

FLATHEAD QUILTERS' GUILD INFORMATION

The FQG is a wonderful group of people, ages 9 – 99, from everywhere in the valley, with a little or a lot of quilting experience that gather to share their love of quilting! It was organized in 1980 as a non-profit to stimulate and maintain an interest in creating, collecting and preserving quilts. The guild strives to achieve these objectives by encouraging the sharing of quilt related skills, ideas and philosophies to promote the growth of the art of quilting.

Whether it is attending monthly program meetings, participating in the annual quilt show every September, taking seminars to learn special techniques, or serving the community by making quilts for various worthwhile organizations, **everyone has a wonderful time!** Anyone who enjoys quilting is welcome to join!

Monthly meetings are held the first Thursday of every month (except July) @ 6:30 PM (doors open at 6:15). at the Gateway Community Center, 1203 Highway 93 West, Kalispell, Room 26 which we enter from the outside of the building. After a short business update, there is the education program presentation, and then show and tell from the members who are happy to show off their latest work. It is really a fun time for people to gather and enjoy time together.

Membership dues for the year are \$35.00, but guests are welcome to attend two meetings before they decide to join.

We promote every aspect of quilting from small informal get-togethers to one day seminars, to larger seminars from professional quilters and teachers. The knowledge gained at these seminars is invaluable to a quilter of any level!

The annual quilt show, held the third weekend of September every year at the Flathead County Fair Grounds, is one of the most significant quilt events in the Northwest! More than 200 quilts are displayed; dozens of vendors from Montana and surrounding area provide shopping opportunities; a professional keynote speaker features trunk shows and displays; a boutique is assembled for hand-made items for sale; and there is always a beautiful raffle quilt on display! People come from all over the nation to see the work of the Guild and to enjoy fellow quilters.

The Outreach Program is the community-service arm of the Guild. Members participate in making quilts for the Community Health Department, the dialysis and oncology clinics in the area, and special needs as they may arise. Supplies and kits are provided by the guild through donations, so there is always something to work on! Members are encouraged to make a quilt or two during the year and this is a wonderful way to learn to quilt if new to the hobby – so many people pitch in and help out. The Guild donates up to 250 quilts a year to the community. We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 9:30 at the Quilt Gallery.

Twice a year the Guild has wonderful potluck dinners – after all, what goes better with quilting than great food! The May meeting is the Spring Potluck. And a special Saturday is set aside each year for the luncheon and Brown Bag Exchange for those who want to participate.

Quilts for Kids is a program designed to reach out to the creative side of young people in the Valley by sponsoring and teaching a workshop on the basics of sewing and quilting. This occurs during the summer vacation. The current cost of this camp is \$45.00 per child.

Our contact information is:

Flathead Quilters Guild
P.O. Box 9845, Kalispell, MT 59904
FQGinfo@gmail.com
Flatheadquilters.org

COMMITTEES:

- Annual Quilt Show Committee
 - Duties are to plan, organize and host the yearly quilt show held the third weekend in September.
 - Recruits Committees heads for the various tasks
 - Co-Chair (to also head the Show Committee the following year)
 - Raffle Quilt – arrange production of the raffle quilt
 - Set-up
 - Vendors
 - Publicity
 - Programs
 - Raffle Tickets – Printing/Sales
 - Social Hour
 - Boutique
 - Scheduling – Admissions, Raffle Ticket Sales (basket and quilt), Hostesses
 - Challenge Quilt
 - Quilt Registration
 - Ribbons
 - Decorations
 - Sponsorships
- Seminar Committee
 - Plan and organize yearly seminar(s) for the guild
- Community Outreach Committee
 - Elicit donations of fabric, etc to make up quilt kits
 - Make up quilt kits for members to check out and complete
 - Keep track of kits that are out and retrieve them when they are finished.
 - Distribute completed quilts to various organizations such as
 - Logan Health Infusion Center
 - Logan Health Oncology
 - Northwest Oncology and Hematology
 - Dialysis Center
 - Logan Health Children's Hospital
 - Propose any new community outreach ideas to the members.
 - Coordinate sewing of quilts with our Sew Days
- Nominating Committee (to be comprised of the Executive Board)
- Sunshine Committee
 - Keep abreast of which members need a little lift from the Guild. This includes those who are going through difficult times, health issues, the loss of a loved one, or the family of a guild member should they pass.
 - Send cards or other appropriate expressions of support from the Guild
 - Send out cards congratulating wonderful joys as well.
- Finance Committee
 - Headed by the elected Treasurer.
 - Propose and manage the voting on a feasible budget
 - Establish scholarship requirements.
- Kids Workshop / Education
 - Organize a week-long teaching class for kids to learn quilt making.
 - Obtain donations of materials, etc. for workshop
 - Advertise to the community to sign kids up to come.
 - Arrange for a location.

- Committee/Monthly Presentation
 - Organize and / or present monthly educational speaker, presenter, demonstrations, trunk shows, etc. (not including May, July, September, & December)
- Newsletter
 - Produces the monthly newsletter with information from the various committees.
 - E-mails or mails the newsletter to all members.
- National Quilt Day
 - This is an opportunity to show some of our work, hang our raffle quilt, mingle with the other guilds in the area and get the public excited about the resource of quilters in the Valley. We quilt, sew and chat and engage the public in our craft.
 - The purpose is to continue the tradition of quilting through education and service, to expand the knowledge of existing quilters and draw a new generation into the craft.
 - Arrange for times and location
 - Invite other guilds to participate
 - Sign up members to participate, demonstrate, exhibit, etc.
 - Display Raffle quilt

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST:

- Quilt Show
 - We have an annual Quilt Show the third weekend of September. Members (& non-members also) bring in their quilts for display and for a chance to win a ribbon in many categories. There are vendors, a keynote speaker, a featured quilter from our guild, available food, & a boutique with items for sale. The following year's raffle quilt is typically displayed.
- Quilt Raffle
 - The quilt chairman arranges for a quilt to be made each year to raffle off at the Annual Quilt Show. Each member is required to sell \$30 of tickets, but you are welcome to sell more!
- Quilt Show Boutique
 - Members bring in their handmade quilted items and clothing to sell. The Guild takes a 15% commission, and you get the rest!
- Brown Bag Exchange
 - Each year we have an exchange with the Bigfork Piecemakers Quilt Guild. Those members who choose to do so bring a brown bag containing 3-4 fat quarters (& their name) to exchange with others who are participating. The exact number of fat quarters are to be decided by the Vice President in coordination with the Bigfork Piecemakers Quilt Guild. They then make a quilted item – a small wall hanging, table runner, or other project - using the given fabric and any other fabric of their choice. At least some of the all of the fat quarters need to be used on the front of the project. At a time decided between the Flathead Quilters Guild and the Bigfork Piecemakers Quilt Guild, a poutluk is held with both guilds where the quilters give their creations back to the original person who made up the brown bag.
- Show & Tell
 - Bring your latest and greatest creation (completed or not) to share with the rest of the guild. Be prepared to explain it and tell what you learned from it.
- Officers
 - New officers are voted in at the February meeting and take office at the March meeting. This is a good way to get involved and meet the members.

REVISED 5/2024