

LMQG Membership Packet

Welcome! We are so pleased that you have joined LMQG! The information in this packet will help you get to know our Guild.

Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month except when the first Monday falls on a holiday such as New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, or Labor Day. If that happens, the Guild meeting will be held on the second Monday. The Newsletter will always have information about the next Guild meeting. Guild meetings begin at 7:00PM. We encourage members to come at 6:30PM to socialize and browse the Guild Library. Meetings are held at Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 214 Northampton Road, Seneca, SC 29672.

Our dues are \$30 annually, and our year runs from January to December.

We require you to wear a name tag at each Guild meeting. You will have a 3-month grace period during which you may either make or purchase a name tag. For your convenience, enclosed in your packet are both a Name Tag Order form and an iron-on transfer Guild logo which you can use to create your own name tag, so you can decide which form of name tag you prefer. If you make your own name tag, you are NOT required to use the iron-on transfer Guild logo - you may create your name tag using any medium and any design you choose. Until you have a name tag, please use the temporary name tags included in your packet. After 3 months, a fee of \$.25 is assessed each member who does not have his or her name tag on at a Guild meeting. We encourage you to wear your name tag to Day Bees and Workshops as well.

Because we have members with asthma and allergies, we ask that you please refrain from wearing perfume when attending any of our functions including Guild meetings, Day Bees, and Workshops.

LMQG is run by an Executive Board which includes elected officers and appointed committee chairs. Board meetings are generally held immediately prior to Guild meetings, and any LMQG member is welcome to attend a board meeting at any time.

Each member has access to a Membership Directory on the guild website which includes a listing of officers, the programs for the year, a membership listing, and the LMQG By-Laws. These directories are updated annually during the first quarter of each calendar year.

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Website

The guild website is: www.LMQG.org

There is quite a bit of information on the website including the Guild's Mission (Home Page), Guild History, overview of Guild Activities, Area Shops, Area Events, and Links to interesting quilting websites. Members are encouraged to submit shop, quilting event, and website link information they think will be of benefit to other Guild members to the webmaster for inclusion on our site. Members are allowed to advertise their quilting or lecture and teaching services on the website (Quilting Services and Quilting Educators buttons). Simply email the webmaster the information you want in your ad. By clicking buttons from the home page, anyone can access all of the data on the site with the exception of the Members button, which is of particular interest to members. To access the Members section, you will need the username and the password. These change each year, and the Guild gives this information to you in the form of a sticker on the back of your membership card. In addition, if you receive Guild emails, any email which tells you about updates to the website will include the current username and password. In the Members section, you will find the Newsletter, the Membership List, the Library Book List, Day Bee and Workshop supply lists, instructions and galleries, Show and Tell galleries, and Comfort Quilt information and galleries. During Quilt Show years, all of the detail you need to know about the quilt show, including registration forms and volunteer schedules, will be listed in the Members section. In order to view and print any of this member-type information, you will need Adobe Reader software loaded on your computer. If you do not have an Adobe Reader, you can download a free one at www.ADOBE.com. The Guild uses the website for communication because it is efficient and cost-effective.

When you sign up for a Day Bee or Workshop, if you do not have computer access, you can make arrangements to receive a hard copy of the supply list and pre-class preparation instructions. They can be found on the website as well. There is no charge for these.

Newsletter

The LMQG Newsletter is published once a month and is available to all current paid-up members. The Newsletter contains information regarding the Guild's activities, Programs, Workshops and upcoming quilt events in the area. It is published online on the Guild's website in the password-protected Members Only section. An email is sent to all members the day that the Newsletter is uploaded to the website, and the email contains the current user name and password for the website. The Newsletter can be printed directly from the website.

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The deadline for submissions to the Newsletter is the 15th of each month. All members are encouraged to submit items of interest to the Newsletter editor. They will be considered for inclusion as space allows.

Library

LMQG maintains an extensive lending library which includes books as well as DVDs. Techniques covered range from traditional quilting (beginners, intermediate, advanced), to all forms of appliqué, fabric embellishment, art quilting, etc. Guild members may check out up to three books and one DVD at one time. Books may be borrowed for a period of maximum two months while DVDs may be kept for a maximum of one month. The Guild website contains a complete up-to-date listing of all library books. In addition, a current copy of the listing is always available at the Guild library table.

Books are being purchased from funds provided by the Guild. In addition, used book donations from Guild members are always welcome. Duplicate books will be put aside for Library sales during the biennial quilt show, together with any donated, used quilting-related magazines ("whole" magazines -- no missing pages, please).

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Comfort Quilts

Comfort quilts are a wonderful opportunity for us to share our talents by doing something we enjoy—making quilts—while offering a little comfort to those in need. It's our way of telling our neighbors who need a helping hand that we care about them.

These quilts vary in size and design based on their intended recipients. We welcome donations of the following sizes and types:

- Lap quilts appropriate for senior citizens - approx. size 44 x 54 inches
- Children's quilts - approx. size 42 x 52 inches or a bit smaller for toddlers
- Wall hangings for Hospice House - 36 x 36 inches (in soothing colors & themes)
- Small wall hangings with a "home" theme for Habitat for Humanity, approx. size 9 x 12 inches.

We also encourage members to participate in other projects such as making pillows for local cancer patients and the "Little Dresses for Africa" project. We give credit and recognition for any charitable sewing project donated by our members.

Our Comfort Quilts and projects have gone to: Oconee Memorial Hospital's Pediatric Unit, Lakeview Assisted Living, Helping Hands Children's Home, Lila Doyle Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Hospice of the Foothills, Habitat for Humanity, and the Wounded Warriors Valor Quilts Project.

We invite you to join us in helping others by doing what you enjoy—quilting.

Day Bees

The LMQG Day Bee is open to all members and is held each third Tuesday of the month. Please check the website and/or Newsletter for exact time and location.

Each month, an LMQG member teaches a project for participants - anything from fabriqué flowers to quilted wall hangings. These Day Bees provide the opportunity to meet in a small group (no more than 16 participants) and learn a new technique, get to know other LMQG members, and complete (or nearly complete) a new project. Each participant is asked to bring her/his lunch, wear her/his name tag, and bring an extension cord. A supply list for each Day Bee can be found on the website and in the Newsletter two months prior to each Bee. If you do

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not have computer access, you can make arrangements to receive a hard copy of this information. Sign-up for each Day Bee begins at the Guild meeting the month before the scheduled Bee, and an example of the project is shown.

The month of November is traditionally set aside for the making of Christmas stockings which are filled by the Guild and distributed to various nursing homes and other charities in the area. There is no Day Bee held in December.

Workshops

Guild members have the option of participating in monthly workshops which are usually held on the Tuesday following the Guild meeting. Please check the website and/or Newsletter for exact time and location. If you do not have computer access, you can make arrangements to receive a hard copy of this information. Participants should arrive at the Workshop at least 15 minutes early to set up their workspace and machine. The basic fee for LMQG members is \$25. This does not include special expenses such as patterns, supplies, and kits required by individual instructors.

LMQG members whose dues are current will have reservation priority until 45 days before the workshop. At this time, other guilds will be notified of workshop spaces available. The basic fee for non-members will be \$35. Registration is not final until payment is made. To assure accurate registration, checks or cash must include the name of the workshop or the teacher's name. Registration by current LMQG members will be accepted 90 days in advance of a workshop. Cancellation of a workshop must be done 14 days before the workshop to receive a refund. Mail-in registration forms as well as cancellation forms can be found on the Guild website.

Scholarships

The LMQG Board will offer a scholarship to any current LMQG member in good standing (dues are current) for whom attending a Workshop would be a financial hardship. A member who wishes to request a scholarship should contact the President. All requests are kept in confidence. A member may only request one scholarship per calendar year. The scholarship applies to the Workshop fee only, and does not cover supplies, patterns, or kits required by the Workshop Instructor.

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Door Prize Drawing

Quilting-related items are offered as door prizes at each Guild meeting. Tickets are \$1 each and entitle the purchaser to enter his/her name in the drawing once per dollar donation. Guild members often donate quilting-related items by leaving them in the basket near the door prize table. Each year, the board selects a charity, and a portion of the proceeds from the donations is given to that charity.

Show and Tell

During each monthly Guild meeting, members show items they have made and tell the membership something about the item. For example, they may share what inspired them to make their pieces or about new techniques they learned during the process. There is no limit to the number of items a member may show at any time. In addition, items other than traditional quilts may be shared. Many of our members work in other media or a mixture of media. The guild photographer takes a picture of each member with his or her creation(s) which is posted on the LMQG web site in the Member's section. This is completely optional because sometimes members prefer not to have their work photographed since they are planning to enter it in national contests, or for other personal reasons.

Quilt Show

LMQG holds a biennial quilt show. Only members in good standing (current on dues) may enter quilts and quilted items for display. Our quilt show will include quilt vendors, displays by the Day Bee Committee, the Comfort Quilt Committee, the Historian, and the Memorial Committee, a Boutique in which members may sell items, Guild Library Sales of used quilting books and magazines, a Silent Auction from which proceeds are donated to local charities, and drawings for our Presentation Quilt and Fat Quarter Basket. The entire show is managed and staffed by Guild members, and all members are encouraged to participate to insure our show's success. LMQG works closely with merchants and other groups in the Seneca area to support quilting displays at other venues on the same weekend as our show. The profit from our Quilt Show provides a large percentage of the Guild's operating income for each two-year cycle. Most of the expense of the Guild is related to member education in the form of Programs, Workshops, Day Bees, and Library books.

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Quilters of South Carolina

Many of our members are also members of the State Guild, Quilters of South Carolina (QSC). The purpose of QSC is to provide opportunities for communication, education, and participation in the art and craft of quilt making and to recognize individual quilt makers and groups throughout South Carolina. QSC holds an annual meeting in the spring of each year at different locations throughout the state as well as a three-day quilting retreat each fall. There is a link to QSC on our website under the LINKS button, or by entering: www.QuiltersofSC.org

Once again, **WELCOME** to **LMQG!**