

Courthouse Quilters

President's Bulletin May 2020

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our April Zoom meeting: Smiling faces, show-and-tell, and a game in which eight of our members created astonishing quilt blocks. Thanks to Al, Brielle, Camile, Cathie, Denise, Mada, Sheri, and Sue for being such good sports and talented quilters.

Our May meeting will include the important business of deciding if/how/when to proceed with our show, scheduled for October. Please see the detailed work done by our ad hoc Show Venue Committee in this bulletin. Thank you to Patty, Cass, Joan, and Alice. Camille will also update us on her discussions with the Prallsville Mills. Everyone's opinion will be heard at the meeting, and we may choose to vote on a plan as needed.

Please check your email for a Zoom link a day or two before the meeting on May 17. Until then, be well, stay safe, keep sewing.

Ellen Heath, President

PROGRAM NEWS FROM CASS GARNER

Well....this stinks!

Canceled classes:

Mickey Lawler- we are working on rescheduling for next year and as soon as the details are finalized, I will post it in the newsletter.

Sarah Bond- Waiting to hear back from Sarah about rescheduling.

Penny Armagost- We'll reschedule when it's safe so keep your fabric sandwiches handy!

Since we don't know what is actually going to happen with the pandemic, I have not yet canceled Pat Pauly's Big Leaf class that is scheduled for November but it's a long-shot.

We will be refunding your payments for these canceled classes. I still have some checks that I have not been able to hand off to Andrea because she has been hunkering down in the Poconos. The checks that I still have, I'll send out next week and will ask Andrea to issue checks for those who paid cash and for checks that she already deposited. If you believe you have paid for a class and have not been refunded by the May meeting, let me know.

FYI...Andrea broke her right arm in a fall and is having surgery on Monday, April 27, to repair so I'm not sure when she will be able to do this but please know that we are trying to figure out how to get it done.

If you have questions, especially if you are new to the guild, don't hesitate to contact me.
Cass

Courthouse Quilt Show Venues

Executive Summary, April 24, 2020

General:

We considered 26 venues. We thought about possible changes/improvements to our current show plans, but here we are limited to considering venues. For example, in all cases, it might be possible to save rent if we skip Sunday.

Narrowed to three options to be found in the three boxes below.

Prallsville Mills Stockton, NJ

Cost 6,000 for 3.5 days + cleaning fees + table rent

Pros

- 1) Perfect Ambience
- 2) Available early October.
- 3) History/familiarity there for members putting on the show and for attendees.
- 4) We have current facility plans that help with planning and hanging.
- 5) We have poles and lights that facilitate planning and hanging.
- 6) Total space for 2 buildings is approx. 3600 sq ft, but this does not take obstructions, staircases, doorways, etc. into account, so space is much less.
- 7) Refurbished climate control.
- 8) Ample opportunity to eat nearby.

Cons

- 1) Rent has gone up considerably each time, and there is no reason to think that won't continue. Current rent is 6000.00
- 2) Handicap entrance is the side door and there is no accessibility to second floor, so half the quilts are unavailable to some attendees.
- 3) Parking is limited and not paved.
- 4) Although we have always managed hanging, it involves climbing ladders and a lot of physical labor.
- 5) Bathrooms are available but harder for handicapped people to get to?
- 6) Food is contracted vendors and outside.
- 7) No kitchen, but needs to be rented for vendors.
- 8) Extra tables need to be rented(?) Are all chairs provided?
- 9) Strong wifi is needed to facilitate square

Delaware Valley University

Cost: 1650/day, 3.5 days 5775.00, possibly negotiable. + custodial? + table rental

Pros

- 1) Space is large. Approx. 7700 sq ft. One large space.
- 2) Video screen can easily accommodate speakers. Large space accommodates speakers or technical sessions within same room.
- 3) More room for vendors (more vendors?) and they will be in the same room as the quilts.
- 4) Bathrooms large and convenient.
- 5) Completely handicap accessible – all one building, all one floor.
- 6) Paved parking. 400 spaces in front shared with others at college, +100 in rear (vendors, handicap?)
- 7) Climate controlled.
- 8) Campus ambience outside, but not much ambience inside.
- 9) Pub connected to auditorium provides food.
- 10) Free wifi, good for hand held credit card transactions.
- 11) Cleaning is free, but if we decorate we are responsible for that cleanup.
- 12) No charge for custodians

Cons

- 1) October not possible because school is in session. Last week of May or first 2 weeks of June preferable.
- 2) No ambience inside the auditorium.
- 3) We would have to arrange hanging, either by renting poles and hanging ourselves or contracting hanging.
- 4) Pub food is contracted vendors. If we don't meet a minimum sale we could be responsible for the difference.
- 5) Tables 3.00/piece up to 30. Then 8.00/piece. Chairs are free.
- 6) Location is out of the way, near Byrne Sewing. In PA, not Hunterdon Cty or even NJ

Note on poles:

The guilds either have home-made frames, made of 2X4s and/or pvc piping, or rent them. Renting poles and drapes and delivery for approximately 200 quilts will run about 2,000.00, possibly more. We would have responsibility for pinning quilts to the drapes. This adds to the expense of moving venues.

Beach Plum Quilters in Toms River used Ocean Exposition Services.

Garden State used Empire for drapes and Brooklyn Guild for poles.

Raritan Valley College

Cost 5775, possibly negotiable. + custodial + security??

Pros

- 1) Grand ballroom approx. 3700 sq ft. Daily rental 1650 for non-profits.
- 2) Free wifi, good for hand held credit card transactions.
- 3) Lots of opportunities to eat both on campus and nearby, including a cafeteria. No contracts needed.
- 4) 450 parking spaces right at the conference center, including handicap.
- 5) ADA compliant.
- 6) Climate controlled.
- 7) Tables, chairs included in price, including setup. (Useful for vendors if we put them around the perimeter)? Allows for more vendors
- 8) Technology included, possibly useful for speakers.
- 9) They clean before and after - we have no responsibilities there.
- 10) Signing a contract holds the rate.
- 11) Large and convenient bathrooms.
- 12) Location is in NJ, ½ hour from our meeting place in Flemington.

Cons

- 1) No ambience inside the ballroom
- 2) We would have to provide hanging, either by renting poles or subcontracting.
- 3) Food choices nearby but we would not arrange for special food ourselves.
- 4) We would have to find available dates, since we'd be competing with school events.
- 5) Charge for custodians, possibly for security.

WHAT TO DO WHILE HOME...now that all the closets and drawers are cleaned out...

Stephanie Greenberg brought to my attention a FREE espadrille webinar from Sulky. This is NOT a Courthouse Quilters event.

April showers bring May flowers!

Join Sulky as we present "Blooming Espadrilles" - a free webinar for you. Yes, you can make a pair of shoes - machine or hand embroidery!

Join us as we partner with Melissa Quaal of A Happy Stitch on May 12, 2020 at 2:00 EDT. Registration now open at www.sulky.com. You can also order a kit with everything you need to make a pair of espadrilles with Melissa and Sulky.

Lee Ann Jones

Sulky of America

770-429-3979 x176

leeann.jones@sulky.com

Additionally, if you are a member of Blueprint, now is the time to catch up on those videos. There are also tons of u-tube videos...I recently watched Tula Pink teaching her method of English Paper Piecing, u-tubed how to put a new switch in my Vita-Mix. (it wasn't easy) and how to fix a leak in my outdoor faucet (still working on that).

Cass