

Sheboygan County Quilters' Guild

Volume 16, Number 1

February, 2012

SCQG Officers

Donna Vidales - President
920-698-2000
dvidales@wi.rr.com

Arlene Crow - Vice-president
920-452-8458
arlene@scqg.com

Sarah Hawkins - Vice-president
217-246-6024
sarah6024@gmail.com

Judy Prull - Secretary
920-226-1723
japwep@gmail.com

Carol Carriveau - Treasurer
920-452-7019
dcnc@milwpc.com

Bev Lee - Membership
920-565-2580
harbev@tds.net

Jean Rutkowski - Newsletter
414-425-8615
dickens34 @netzero.com

This is NOT a crazy quilt! It is my first attempt at creating a log cabin!

The assignment was to bring our first or worst quilt to share with the guild members. The result was a hilarious thirty minutes of entertainment.



For a surprising number of members, the first was not necessarily the worst. Many shared their first project which was the result of workshops taught by guild member, Betty Abel. Each recalled how Betty instructed her using templates and tracing. All work was done by hand including the quilting.

Although several members stated that they felt they had been taught to do things the "right" way, they still would change their color and pattern choices if they

were to redo the quilt today.

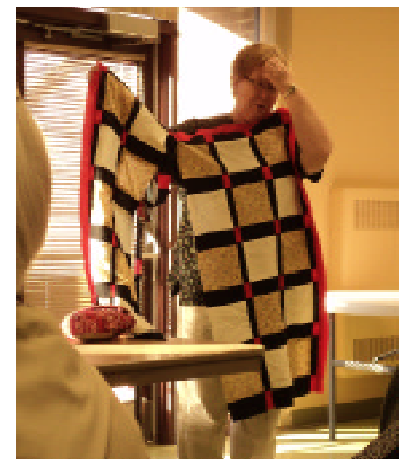
Most of the members showed quilts that were perfectly fine except that their creators thought the colors were too drab, or the fabric too heavy. The clothing items were really quite attractive.

The quilts that were the most "fun" fell under the heading "What was I thinking!" These numbers were a kaleidoscope of colors and patterns: red, white and blue variations; shades of rose, pink and red; or a flamboyant mixture of flowers and patterns.

Two quilts were exceptional. The award for tackiness went to Terry Koch for her shredded lap quilt. A close runner-up was Linda Weick who pointed out that she did not know what she was doing when she made her quilt.

It had no binding and was a mixture of cotton, polyester and her dad's underwear (Hope she washed it first).

At the end of the show someone commented, "I guess we've all improved a little over the years."



Terry Koch won the tackiness award

Upcoming Membership Meetings

March 14 1:00 pm

“Barn Quilts” with Kathi Wilson

April 11 7:00 pm

From 10:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., a workshop with Ann Wanke from Quilted Basket
Christmas Trunk show by Ann Wanke at 7:00 P.M. (This is rescheduled from the
December meeting.)

May 9 1:00 pm

“Art to Wear with a Quilter’s Flare” with Suzanne Meyer Otto

2012 SCQG Board Meetings and Newsletter Deadlines

Board Mtg	Membership Mtg	Newsletter Deadline	Newsletter
January 4	January 11	January 18	February 8
April 4	April 11	April 18	May 9
July 4 *	July 11	July 18	August 8
October 3	October 10	October 17	November 14
(* rescheduled date to be determined)			

Board meetings are held at the Sewing Basket in Plymouth from 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. The Board of Directors is comprised of the executive officers: the president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. Additional Board members include the program committee chairmen; the membership committee chairman; the newsletter editor, and the quilt show chairmen. The rest of the Board includes every committee chairman, one representative from each quilt club and at least one representative from the members- at-large. Any member of the Guild is welcome to attend as well.

Clubs and Representatives:

Friendship	Kathy Verhyen
Kiel Riverside	Marilee Laumann
Loose Threads	Betty Kluck
Members at Large	Char Stipe
Morning Star	Delores Heinen
Needle Smith	Terri Koch
Nimble Thimbles	Michelle Sohn
Pine Tree	Donna Vidales
Variable Star	Vonnie Landwehr
Fabric Fanatics	Carol Arpke
Historian	Ruth Gerstner

Committees and Chairs:

At Risk Baby Quilts	Kay Huibregtse, Diane Radke, LaVern Meyer, Carol Skrube
Hospitality	A different club will be chosen for each meeting
Library	Lorie Rath, Cheryl Kaiser
Membership	Bev Lee, Katchen Ringelstetter, Barb Jaeger, Joanne Cotant, Rosie Buteyn
Program	Sandi Hanamann, Ellynne Johnson
Challenge Blocks	Barbara Jaeger
Retreat	Diane Liebenthal
Safe Harbor Quilts	Carol Arpke

President's Message:

It is with mixed emotions that I am resigning as president of the Guild. I apologize for the short notice, but sometimes in life that's what happens. In this case, our house has been on the market for many months, and the right people finally came along and in two days, we had a deal. We'll be moving out of state and if all goes well, we'll be gone by March or April.

Unfortunately, circumstances are also forcing Arlene Crow, one of the new vice-presidents, to resign. We will serve until March when new officers will be elected.

I have appointed an election committee of three people to help find the right people to fill these two positions. Lucy Marks-Haack, Bonnie Doyle, and Kay Huibregtse will be contacting members that they feel can fulfill the requirements of these positions. Please don't take their invitation lightly or decline too quickly.

Every member's day is busy and none of us is immune to the maladies of our years, so these reasons are not unique to anyone. They should not eliminate you from taking your turn to hold an office or head a committee.

If you have been a member for at least five years, it's your turn. You know more than enough to hold any office, because you only have to ask another member for help, and she will be there for you. That's not just an empty promise. It's been proven to me many times.

This Guild cannot continue without officers, so if you are not contacted by the committee and wish to serve, please call one of the members and volunteer.

Also needed are Quilt Show chairmen. Is it hard? No. Are there a lot of details to take care of? Absolutely. Is everything written down with easy instructions to follow? YES. Is it fun? Another big YES. No one could know less than I did when I jumped in! So, volunteer with a friend or convince your whole club to do it. But, step up NOW. You need to start getting organized.

No chairmen means no Quilt Show.

A very interesting discussion was begun at the last board meeting, and we decided to bring the issues to the entire membership to get everyone's opinion. The questions were should we start charging guests when they attend our meetings, and should we open up our meetings to the public to come to hear an advertised speaker? The discussion got quite lively. No action will be taken until all members have had a chance to read about, think about it, and give their opinion.

Donna



SCQG 2012 Quilt Show

The Board has submitted the Facility Request Form to Southside Alliance Church for the 2012 Quilt Show.

The request is for Friday, September 28 for set-up and Saturday, September 29 for the show. So mark your calendars and start thinking about which quilt you can finish and enter into the show and which committee you want to work with.

Anyone interested in becoming the 2012 chairman, please contact Donna Vidales at dvidales@wi.rr.com or Lucy Marks-Haack at 526-3239 or lamhaack@frontier.com.



In Memorium
Joanna Cotant
Died January 22, 2012
Joanna served the Guild
as president and program
committee chair.
She will be missed.

Kiel Riverside

The Kiel Riverside Quilters invaded Pat Seibel's home on January 9th. Pat is housebound after knee surgery this past summer and foot surgery this fall. She will have to stay off her foot for a couple more months.

To keep from going stir-crazy, Pat is working on a grandmother's flower garden quilt, knitting doll clothes and watching the winter birds that come to her seven feeders.

In February, we are going to Willowdale, where Pat Jindra is living. The facility has lovely meeting rooms. Then in March, we are planning on another of our short shop hops.

We also make walker pockets (thanks to Linda Wieck's fabric donation). Our raffle project is moving right along.

Marilee Laumann

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Our club held its annual Christmas Party at noon on December 5th at the Highland House Restaurant in Sheboygan. Eighteen ladies attended. We enjoyed lunch, socializing and a gift exchange. After we opened and showed our gifts, Kay Huibregtse led a game of Bingo. The winners were allowed to exchange their gift for one they liked better. This made our gift exchange a little more eventful.

Our monthly meetings are held from 1-3 P.M. on the first Monday of each month at the Community Bank in Sheboygan Falls. We meet in the 2nd floor Conference Room. This is a wonderful place to quilt because the lighting is so good. If you are looking for quilt group to join, we would be glad to have you visit.

Prior to Christmas, our club gave the Community Bank employees a big box of candy, as a thank you for the use of their facility. This "sweet treat" was a big hit.

On January 2nd we met at the bank again. Everyone was trying to finish a project and get the new year off to a good start. Our next club meeting will be Monday, February 6th.

Kathy Verhyen

Mary Hilbelink Memorial Youth Workshop

Lucy Marks-Haack and June Smasal are in the process of organizing the workshops for youngsters interested in sewing. The project we chose is a small quilt designed for pets.

We showed our sample quilt to the Sheboygan County Humane Society. The staff smiled and felt it was the perfect size for cats or small dogs. We asked if the adopted pets could go home with their quilts and staff answered, "Oh yes". Our young "quilters" could donate their project to the Humane Society or keep them for their own pets. This would teach the youth charity sewing as well.

Days and times are still to be determined.

Lucy and June are in need of volunteers to assist in cutting fabric for kits and to assist two youth sewers and their adult escorts.

We are interested in hearing your suggestions.

Please contact Lucy at lamhaack@frontier.com or 526-3239 or June at ohsew4@charter.net or 920-894-2867.

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my sisters
QUILT SHOPPE
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my sisters
June QTL
JQG0417

Member spotlight: To recognize those who contribute their time and talent to our communities: Linda Weick and the Camo Quilt Project

Linda Wieck made her first camo quilt in 2006 when her son-in-law Todd was heading for Iraq. He asked for a small quilt, with cotton batting and covered with camouflage material. Linda delivered.

The camo quilt is a small quilt measuring approximately 45" x 72". It folds into thirds and rolls up like a sleeping bag. It is lightweight, and the cotton batting allows it to breathe in extreme heat. It easily attaches to the soldier's back pack.

When Todd was at Camp Shelby in Mississippi for training prior to being deployed, other soldiers in his unit saw the quilt and asked Linda if she could make one for each of them. She scrambled but managed to finish all 48 before the unit left for Iraq in 2006.

The community got involved after a local newspaper published an article about her work. Her first workshop was held in April, 2007, and it was followed by three additional week long workshops. Hundreds of volunteers helped with the sewing while others contributed money for materials and supplies so the quilts could be given to soldiers free of charge.

In 2008, Glacier Transit and Storage donated a facility in Plymouth to the project. Now the project has a warehouse to receive and store large bolts of fabric. There is also enough room for a separate cutting area and a dozen sewing machines. GTS continues to support the

project by providing heat and electricity in the facility.

Today Linda leads a large group of committed volunteers who continue to sew quilts. As of January, 2012, they have provided about 15,000 quilts to

newspapers. She and her active group of volunteers have also been showcased in the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*.

The NBC Today Show filmed a short feature about Linda and her group, but unfortunately, the



Linda shared information on Camo quilts with Quilt Showvisitors

troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. The volunteers are sewing 500 quilts per month.

The demand continues because soldiers prefer these quilts to the traditional sleeping bag. They are lighter and cooler. The small quilts are still warm enough to protect the soldiers from the harsh elements they face. Because they are the same camouflage material as the uniforms, they can be used in the open and blend in with the terrain.

Linda and her special quilt have been featured in local

network "bumped" it when other news items developed.

Local businesses continue to help raise funds for the project. On February 2, Applebees donated a portion of its receipts. Since each quilt costs about \$25 to make, raising money is as important and getting the sewing completed.

Linda's Camo Project provides quilts free of charge to the soldier. The only cost to the person requesting the quilts is the cost of shipping it to the soldier in the Middle East.

At-risk Baby Quilts

Thank you for picking up patterns and kits at the December and January meetings. The annual "quilt in" will be Saturday, February 11th. from 8:30 A.M. until 3:00 P.M. You are responsible for picking up your back and batting, so please remember February 11th. Come to Ebenezer to pick up the balance of your baby quilt kit.

Thank you to Linda Wieck for cutting our batting this year. We ordered the batting from her, so we are getting warm and natural material.

The At-risk gang
Diane, Carol and Kay

Save the Dates for Upcoming SCQG Retreats

The following dates have been booked for retreats at Cedar Valley Retreat Center. The first date listed is an optional start of the retreat on Thursday. Mark your calendars, watch for more information and plan to attend!

Registration forms on
www.sheboygancountyquiltersguild.org.

2012
October 11-14

2013
February 7-10
October 10-14

We have 18 members coming to the Cedar Valley retreat in February. The retreat is running simultaneously with a quilt show in West Bend, so we will be able to enjoy other quilters' work and add to our stash.

MEMBER UPDATE

New address and phone:

Kathy Verhyen, 721 Tallgrass Ln, Plymouth, WI 53073 (920)
400- 1108

SCQG Library Update

New Public Library Donations for 2011

Mead/Sheboygan	<i>Quilter's Academy Vol.2</i> Harriet Hargrave & Carrie Hargrave
Mead/Sheboygan	<i>Urban Country Quilts</i> Jeanne Large & Shelley Wicks
Elkhart Lake	<i>Twist and Turn Bargello Quilts</i> Eileen Wright
Cedar Grove	<i>Perfect Fit Pieced Borders</i> Sheila Sinclair Snyder
Kohler	<i>Give and Take Fabric Applique</i> Daphne Greig & Susan Purney Mark
Oostburg	<i>Inspirational Applique</i> Cheryl Almgren Taylor
Plymouth	<i>Redwork With a Twist</i> Pat Sloan
Random Lake	<i>Back to Charm School</i> Mary Etherington & Connie Tesene
Sheboygan Falls	<i>The Best of Quilting Arts</i> Pokey Bolton
Kiel*	<i>The Best of Fons and Porter Scrap Quilts</i> Marianne Fons & Liz Porter

With the exception of the Kiel Library, all of the above libraries are in the Eastern Shores system. You may request any book(s) from your nearest Eastern Shores Library, and it will be sent to your preferred library.

The budget for SCQG donations to public libraries for 2011 was \$200. The Library Committee has not used the budgeted \$100 to buy materials for the Guild Library for 2011. Our library cabinet has not yet been approved for return to the church. We are hoping to have our library back to the church and new materials soon.

We appreciate your suggestions, questions and comments about the Library and hope you will enjoy the new materials.



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Board meeting minutes - January 4, 2012

Attendance, 17: Jean Rutkowski, Newsletter; Marilee Laumann, Kiel Riverside; June Smasal, Kiel Riverside; Betty Kluck, Loose Threads; Arlene Crow, Vice President; Lucy Marks-Haack, Mary Hilbelink Project; Ellynne Johnson, Program Committee; Sandi Hanamann, Program Committee; Kathy Verhyen, Friendship Club; Jackie Fritsch, Nimble Thimbles; Char Stipe, Member at Large; Carol Arpke, Fabric Fanatics; Bev Lee, Membership, Needlesmiths; Barbara Jaeger, Challenge Blocks; Deborah Clement, Admissions; Donna Vidales, President; Judy Prull, Secretary.

The meeting was called to order by President Donna Vidales at 6:00 at the Sewing Basket.

The secretary's report and treasurer's reports were not given due to printer issues and the absence of the treasurer.

The membership committee presented a plan to take the guild in a new direction to increase its membership. They will focus on gaining new members and helping the existing members to get more involved and to feel more a part of the group. They have some exciting ideas they would like to implement.

The board took vote on whether or not to have a quilt show. Lucy Marks-Haack moved and Jean Rutkowski seconded that a guild show be held. It was passed by a vote from the board. We will need to find a person or group that would like to chair it.

There was a discussion about the Mary Hilbelink fund and putting it to use. Lucy Marks-Haack and June Smasal have put together a project of blankets for the humane society and the animal rescue centers. The idea is to get younger people interested in quilting and giving back to the community at the same time. Linda Wieck has volunteered her shop for the sewing, but volunteers will be needed to help the young people.

There was a discussion about charging non-members a \$5.00 admission fee if they want to come to hear one of our speakers. This would mean that our bylaws would have to be changed but before that happens the Board would like some feedback from the group.

As you know by now, our president, Donna Vidales, will be leaving us for Nevada. She has been a very active member serving on many committees and always willing to lend a helping hand

where ever needed. Please take an opportunity to wish her well and say goodbye.

Barb Jaeger again took on the Challenge Blocks. She presented her ideas to the board and also requested that one special block from this past year be framed and used as the prize for the volunteers that work for the quilt show. It was moved by Barb Jaeger and seconded by Kathy Verhyen that the block be set aside for that purpose. The motion was voted on and passed by the board.

The At-risk baby quilt sew-in will be held on February 11, 2012, at Ebenezer Church. All members are invited to come and spend some time with the rest of the group to work on your project.

The next meeting will be held at 6:00 at the Sewing Basket on Wednesday, April 4, 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Prull, Secretary

You know you are a quilter if

- * There's more fabric in the house than food
- * "Fat quarters" don't refer to the heaviest part of your body
- * Your ironing board is always set up, but you never iron clothes
- * You pet fabric
- * People are always picking threads off of you
- * You can measure a scant 1/4 by eye
- * "Featherweight" doesn't mean a boxer
- * You clean up your sewing room and they think you are leaving
- * You have a stash and it isn't illegal.

Just a thought from June Smasal:
P-h-d is short for "projects, half finished".
If you want to impress your friends, tell them that you are working on your Phd.

Top ten pressing tips for quilters

1. PRESS, DON'T IRON

Are you confused about the difference? Ironing involves moving the iron while it is in contact with the fabric, which can stretch and distort fabrics and seams. Pressing means picking the iron up off the surface of the fabric and putting it back down in another location.

2. SET YOUR SEAMS

Before pressing a seam open or to one side, first just press the seam as it was sewn, without opening up the fabric pieces. Doing so helps meld or sink the stitches into the fabric, leaving you with a less bulky seam allowance after you press it open or to one side.

3. LET THEM COOL

Once fabric pieces have been pressed, let them cool in place. This prevents distortion of bias edges.

4. FINGER-PRESS FIRST

Finger pressing isn't a substitute for using an iron, but it does temporarily press a seam in one direction or another. It's a good method to use if you're unsure which way a seam eventually will need to be pressed.

5. AVOID SEEING SEAM SHADOWS

Generally speaking, press seams toward the darker fabric to avoid creating a shadow on the lighter fabric. If pressing toward the lighter fabric is a must, trim the darker fabric seam allowance by 1/16" after the seam is sewn to prevent any shadows.

6. BEGIN AGAIN

If a seam allowance has been pressed the wrong way, return it to its original unpressed state and press the unit flat to remove the crease. Allow the fabric to cool, then press the seam in the desired direction.

7. KEEP YOUR OPTIONS OPEN

When multiple seams come together in one area, press them open. This helps distribute the fabric

bulk evenly, eliminating lumps and making the seams easier to quilt through.

8. AVOID CRUSHING RESULTS

To prevent flattening your appliqués, turn an appliquéd block facedown on a terry-cloth towel for pressing.

9. KEEP IT STRAIGHT

Straight seams should be pressed from the right side of the fabric with the iron parallel to the straight of grain. This helps avoid pressing tucks and pleats into the seam.

10. FOLLOW THE GRAIN

A bias seam should be pressed with the iron at a 45-degree angle to the seam and along the straight of grain to prevent distortion.

Tips on prewashing fabrics

From The Quilt Show website

There are two camps on pre-washing fabric for use in quilts. There are those who do and those who don't. My intent is simply to alert you to the potential hazards of using unwashed fabric in a quilt that you plan to wash in the future. If that's your plan, here are a few suggestions to keep your colors from "mingling."

1. Pre-wash similarly colored fabrics together in cold water.

2. If you suspect a fabric may bleed, add a bit of Synthrapol to the initial wash. Synthrapol removes and suspends excess dye in the wash water so that the color does not gravitate back to the fabric.

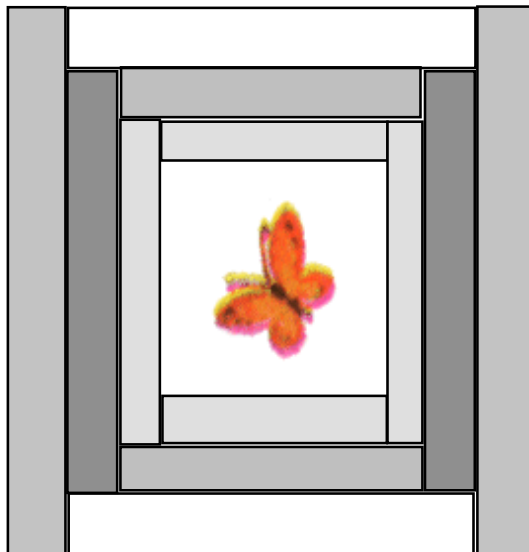
3. If you are still uncertain that the remaining color is fast, wash the fabric once more with Retayne. This product sets the color and keeps it from bleeding.

You should be able to find Synthrapol and Retayne in most quilt stores or online.

Creative Courthouse Steps -- Challenge Blocks

Because we are getting a late start on this year's challenge blocks, I am grateful for the help I received to get the kits ready for the January meeting.

The theme for 2012 is Creative Courthouse Steps. Courthouse steps is a variation of log cabin. In the log cabin block the lights and darks are on adjacent sides of the center square. With courthouse steps they are on opposite sides. The "creative" part of this year's block is with the center. The 6" square (6 1/2" including 1/4" seam allowance) can be pieced or appliqued - it is up to you. You will receive an 8" square of unbleached muslin to be used as the center square.



You will also receive two coordinated 4" by 14" pieces of print fabric; one has a lighter background and the other is darker. These two fabrics will be used for four of the "steps". The other eight "steps" will come from your stash. The print fabrics have many colors in them, so you will have a wide range of colors with which to work. The raw size of the challenge block is 12 1/2" by 12 1/2" including 1/4" seam allowances.

My thanks go to Lucy Marks-Haack who was instrumental in choosing the "steps" fabrics. She washed it, made two blocks to use as examples, and made the presentation at the January meeting which I was unable to attend. The result was that 37 kits were distributed to members. Glorious!

Thanks also go to Jean Rutkowski who donated the unbleached muslin, and to Marilee Laumann and her crew who cut the fabrics and stuffed the bags during the Wednesday morning Sit and Sew in order to have them ready for the afternoon meeting. What a fantastic group.

The challenge blocks are made into items for the following year's raffle, which is our main source of raising money for our guild programs, speakers, and workshops. We appreciate having members make as many blocks as they wish in order to have lots of raffle items. We hope that you will enjoy participating in the Creative Courthouse Steps challenge.

If you have any questions, please contact me by phone - 920-452-1654 - or at bajquilter@charter.net

Barbara Jaeger

Loose Threads

The Loose Threads thanks everyone who helped with the quilt show boutique and who brought items to sell. Some members gave all of their proceeds to "Babies at Risk" or the guild.

Here is a breakdown. Total sales were \$906.55. "Babies at Risk" received \$59.20; the guild received \$190.00 plus 10% of sales which amounted to \$65.74 for a total of \$314.94. All remaining monies went to guild members. Items not picked up were donated to Goodwill, and all books were given to the Sheboygan Falls library.

Our group enjoyed working in the boutique and have Carol Carriveau to thank for setting it up. If anyone has suggestions for next year, please contact one of us. We enjoyed the day and are willing to do it next year.

In March, if the weather cooperates, we are planning our annual trip to Door County for a weekend of quilting .

Betty Kluck



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- Henrietta Whiskers-Henrietta would be so happy if you choose this BOM! This 48" x 54" BOM will be full of piecing, applique and some hand embroidery. Cost: \$20
- Somewhere in Time with a deep fall purple border. These kits are limited, so sign up soon. Cost: \$11



- The Spring Retreat April 27-29, 2012. Don't miss this weekend of fun, socializing, good food and more! Cost: 165.50 + sales tax for dbl-quad occp and single 185.50 + sales tax. Not staying overnight \$75.00 + tx



April 11, 2012

Workshop with Ann Wanke from Quilted Basket, Menomonee Falls

From 10:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Pineapple Technique Table runner

\$20.00 members

\$25.00 non-members

Half hour lunch on your own or brown bag it



Plan ahead for upcoming meetings

March 14 1:00 pm
"Barn Quilts" with Kathi Wilson

April 11 7:00 pm

From 10:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., a workshop with Ann
Wanke from Quilted Basket of Menomonee Falls
Pineapple Technique Table Runner

\$20.00 members \$25.00 non-members

Christmas Trunk show by Ann Wanke at 7:00 P.M.
meeting. (This is rescheduled from the December
meeting.)



Sheboygan Country Quilters Guild
P.O. Box 783
Sheboygan, WI 53082-0783
