

# AMERICAN PATCHWORK & QUILTING™

April 1993, Issue No. 1

**ROTARY PROJECT:**  
Point of  
No Return

**MARVELOUS  
MACHINE QUILTING:**  
Amish Diamond  
in a Square



\$4.95 U.S.  
\$5.95 Canada



SAMPLE CARD & COLLECTOR CARD

#BNN0134L091  
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Scrappy Star  
Appliqué

**Storm-  
At-Sea**

# Quilt Guild Profile

## EAST COBB QUILTERS' GUILD

Marietta, Georgia

By Alice M. Berg

Think of the East Cobb Quilters' Guild as a wonderful, multi-fabric, sampler quilt. This quilt is composed of a variety of colorful, creative blocks, blending together and warming the northeast suburbs of Atlanta, Georgia.

The guild was formed in fast-growing Cobb County by a group of quilters who spread the word for a planning meeting. Thirty excited women, armed with projects to show, a willingness to help, and knowledge from previous guild involvement elsewhere, became the charter members, and a new guild was born.

It wasn't long until the meeting room of a local bank was too small and a larger facility was necessary. A move to The Church of St. Ann on Upper Roswell Road in Marietta, was arranged, thanks in part to a priest with a love of quilts. Shortly thereafter, the membership made a full-size log cabin quilt, and presented it to him to hang in the rectory. Currently, the East Cobb Quilters' Guild has a membership approaching 250 and meets in the Parish Center of St. Ann's. This is a large meeting room, allowing the Guild to invite neighboring guilds to various lectures. A professional slide projector and screen have been purchased by the Guild and are available for the church to use also.

Atlanta is a fast growing, interna-

tional city, soon to be host to the 1996 Summer Olympics. Like the citizens of Atlanta, members of the guild come from a variety of cities, countries, and backgrounds. This is what makes the East Cobb Guild innovative and progressive. The Guild is proud to have many members who have achieved recognition for their quilting. Barbara T. Butler, was the Georgia winner in the Statue of Liberty contest and Mary Ann Webb was the \$10,000 winner in the Lands' End® Quilt Contest in 1992. Judy Simmons has won awards for garment design and has been a contributor to the Fairfield Show and I was the winner in the Celebrate America Quilt Contest sponsored by the Country Home® magazine in 1992. Several members have won awards in the National Quilting Association show, American International Quilt Association, American Quilter's Society, and various magazine sponsored events. Recently, member Janet O'Brien was the winner in a contest for garment making sponsored by Sewing with Nancy, a national television series.

Friendships and more can develop through guild involvement. Having all met at the Guild and teaching at local

shops, Sylvia Johnson, Mary Ellen Von Holt, and I formed the pattern company, Little Quilts, in 1986. The ideas for the business led to a cottage industry, and now is a full-time business with sales worldwide and offices in Marietta.

When a new member arrives, they are greeted by a hospitality chairman, given a hand stenciled name tag with the Guild's basket logo on it, and placed in a "bee group" formed by zip codes. This small group provides a personal touch to the sometimes overwhelming size of the membership and the many activities going on. From this point, a variety of interests can be pursued. Each year a committee is chosen to coordinate a challenge quilt idea. A special fabric, or collection of fabrics is presented to the membership, and for six months everyone secretly creates their surprise quilt to be unveiled at a general meeting to an amazed and applauding crowd. East Cobb Guild is famous for their challenge quilts, having exhibits of these quilts shown across the country and in



*Garment enthusiasts, Ruth Easley, Judy Simmons, Pat Farr, Pat Stettler and Pat Thompson look at entries for Georgia Celebrates Quilts, October 8-10.*



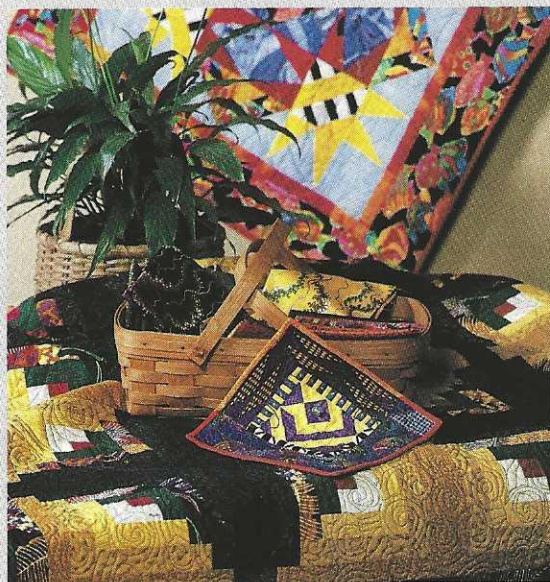
Roundtable groups at the monthly General Meeting

quilt related publications. Recently they participated in a challenge requested by a major fabric company. These quilts were exhibited at the Quilt Market in Houston and will be shown worldwide during 1993.

Three successful gallery style quilt shows were presented to the community, complete with decorated room settings, a "hands on" room to learn about quilt making and the care of quilts, and ended with the drawing for a donation quilt especially designed and created by the members. Partial proceeds from this quilt were given to the local battered women's shelter and the remainder of the funds were placed in an education fund to bring in numerous outstanding teachers and lecturers from around the country, covering all

aspects of the art. This has offered members the opportunity to study with experts in the field, and has in turn brought new excitement to their quilts. *Georgia Celebrates Quilts* will be presented October 8-10, 1993, at the Cobb Civic Center in Marietta. Chairman, Pat Thompson and her committee have invited quilters from across the state to exhibit their work. A complete boutique, merchants mall, and a fashion show of quilted garments will also be featured. An emphasis on quilting as an art form is the goal for this show.

Other activities for guild members include volunteering in period costume at the Tullie Smith House at the Atlanta History Center; making tactile quilts for visually impaired infants; a "block of the month" to learn a technique and a chance to perhaps win enough blocks to make a quilt; creating quilted ornaments for a Christmas tree donated to the Eggleston Children's Hospital Festival of the Trees; demonstrating quilting at folk life festivals; and assisting the Georgia Quilt Project documenting



Contemporary works by Barbara Butler and Pat Stettler explore tradition using today's bright fabrics.

quilts. A bulletin board and monthly newsletter keep members posted on the many activities. The guild has a large library consisting of books, publications, and videos available for check out. Members are awarded tiny golden scissors upon completion of a bed size quilt, and the ever popular "show and tell" is everyone's favorite.

So as you can see, this guild is a blending of talents from the beginner to nationally recognized professionals and award winners, along with collectors, historians and admirers bringing new insights to quilt making in the heart of the South. The East Cobb Quilters' Guild invites you to visit their meeting held on the last Friday of each month beginning at 9:30 a.m. Write the East Cobb Quilters' Guild, P.O. Box 71561; Marietta, Georgia 30007 for more information. We hope you have gotten to know us, and perhaps some of our ideas can be used in your guild. Quilt guilds are for sharing, learning, inspiring, and building friendships with what we feel are the friendliest people around. Our president, Betty Alvarez and our members extend a welcome.



Quilts from classes offered by the guild are admired by members Paula Freeston, Marge Levine, Lila Scott, Pam Marshall, Barbara Butler, Shihoko Nishikawa, and Cathy Skarshaug.