Contemporary Quilt and Fiber Artists

CQAFA

12/12/2022

The meeting this month was a celebration of this year’s activities. After an exercise to seat folks with people they didn’t know, we had a delicious taco bar meal. We then answered some fun questions to get to know each other better.

We then heard from our co-chairs, Judy Shaffer and Judy Levy. The provided the following annual report:

Our goals at the beginning of the year were

* To increase our membership and enhance our presence in the community.
* To increase process sharing
* To get to know and support each other better

Here’s what and how we did it:

To increase and communicate with our membership and enhance our presence in the community.

* We compiled a comprehensive blast e-mail list to be able to keep the membership updated
* We reinstituted the meeting sign in sheet so that we could communicate when/if necessary with members that we hadn’t seen for awhile
* We were able to enhance CQAFA’s presence in the community by exhibiting our work in three shows this year.
* We convinced local merchants to extend discounts to our members by allowing the merchants to be listed as our supporters on our website.
* We printed a biz-zillion business cards and have distributed them throughout the community and we all now can carry them in our purses to hand out to anyone interested.
* We have added…7…members
* Our technology committee has beautified and reorganized our website by adding a recognizable logo and links that bring viewers to lists of our exhibitions, workshops, gallery of our work, and benefits of membership.
* Our treasury is in good fiscal shape

To increase process sharing

* We now take a moment of time at each meeting to share with each other, fondly called a “toot” (aka tutorial) about a process related to our art.
* Once show and share completes we continue to display the art open for more informal direct questions and comments
* We had a basics instruction seminar at Kramer’s Sew and Vac on sewing techniques
* We joined each other in 2 guest instructional workshops (beading and paint on fabric)

To get to know and support each other better

* We instituted open studio tours, which has been eye opening and bonding for our members. (And plan to continue in 2023.)
* We have attempted to shorten the administrative portion of our meetings and expanded our meeting “break” time to allow for more smoozing/socializing.
* We now have legible, easy to remember to don, name tags as well as shirts to wear as we gather together wearing our logo embroidery

Although our goals for 2023 are not yet finalized, one area that has caught our attention is how we are viewed within the art community. We are proud that next year we have been invited to participate in the first annual Gathering of the Guilds as the only fiber artisans. That said, we look forward to continue this momentum as we grow and support one another.

In order for CQAFA to succeed, we depend upon members to raise their hands and volunteer. This has been a great year thanks to those members who stepped forward and did the work.

Thank you to our committees:

Social Marie Kennedy, Jenny Graham, Susan Austin, Nancy Williams, Betsy Terrell and their Chair person, Priscilla Mrozek

Workshop Carol Price, Marcia Tuznik

TOOTS (tutorial) Barbara Sferra, Dion Tron, Sue Paas

Susan Austin and their Chair person, NanHatch

Technology Cheryl Connelly and the chairperson Sally Lloyd

Membership Nora Mac Farlane, Helen Stringer, Kim Pickard, Robbie Porter, Linda Whittenburg and their Chairperson Cynthia Supe

We are even more grateful to those who take on even more than was asked of them. This year we are initiating what we hope will become an annual presentation, named “The Presidents’ Award”. This award is given to recognize the CQAFA member who has selflessly provided outstanding contributions to support us as fiber artists.

This initial, 2022 award is being presented to the member who has given to CQAFA over multiple years. She has worked endlessly to attract, provide, and produce, educational opportunities with well known instructors in accessible venues at reasonable prices. She does this work year round, when she is in town and afar, during adversities that effect herself, her family, and other fellow fiber artists who are in need of support. She takes care of everybody. We believe that our guild is better because of her.

We proudly present the first annual President’s Award to Carole Price.

The event adjourned at 8:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Stewart