

Lakeview Quilters Guild History

In The Beginning....

The Guild was founded by 13 ladies* who dreamed of a local group of quilters of all levels of skills, happily meeting and sharing ideas, techniques, advice and also friendship and laughter. Their plan was to formulate the initial format for by-laws, meeting agendas and settings, and organize the outlines for a bank account and funds so when the start date arrived there would be a structure in place and the first meetings could be dedicated to getting to know one another and some good programs and speakers to raise interest in the project.

To that end this group met at least monthly for about 9 months prior to the first Guild meeting. They wrote the by-laws with the aim of keeping the membership in charge of the direction of the Guild. They donated some of their own money to finance the first expenses and made and hand quilted a "Carolina Lily" quilt to auction off at an early date to raise further funds. They named the Guild "Lakeview Quilters Guild" so its name would include all the communities around the Clear Lake/Houston area. They applied to the IRS for non-profit status and wrote out their purposes which include increasing the knowledge of quilting and exposing our communities to quilting as an art form and craft. They also determined that the Guild would have some charitable activities included in its purpose.

Then on September 2, 1973, after more than a hundred invitations had been sent to every possible quilter the group could know, the first meeting was held at the Nassau Bay City Hall. More than 119 people showed up to see what this was all about and the Guild was born into reality. From that time on, a meeting has been held every third Monday of the month throughout 16 following years.

The numbers of members soon forced a change of meeting halls and we found that St. Paul's Catholic Church in Nassau Bay would and could accommodate us. There have been times when we have had to change the meetings because of Church activities but for the most part, St Paul's has been our home ever since. It has been a wonderful symbiotic relationship. Membership has expanded to as many as 400, and contracted too, but has averaged about 280 through the years.

We have held quilt shows in our communities, made quilts for our local charities, contributed books to our libraries and supported over a hundred speakers, both national and international, who came to inspire and teach us at our meetings.



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*The Founders of Lakeviews Quilters Guild: Back row L-R, Jerrienne Corbin, Susan Thomet, Marie Pasternak, Sandy Thompson. Cathy Wiles, Sharon Dinsmore, Carol Gates. Front Row: L-R Gloria Brown, Patty Mayer, Marlene Longley, Cynthia England, Phyllis Hall and Donna Warnement.