



Getting Ready for Maple Leaf

Timeless Stitches – Quilt Capital of Kansas

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Eight days and counting! The Festival is almost here. I don't know how many times I'm asked "Are you ready for Maple Leaf?" My stock answer has become, "Sure." The inflection in my voice allows the other person to interpret my answer any way they want. After all, as far as the quilt shop is concerned, it's business as usual. But festival preparations are going on all around me.

First the quilt show--The committee is working diligently to have everything ready to present the 50th show. Quilt registrations need to be processed. Each quilt will have a uniformly typed information sheet attached to it. Andrea Newton has been typing for several weeks now to assure that those labels for approximately one hundred quilts are ready. She and Ellen Mast are the co-chairs for the quilt show. Last year was the first year that guild members made small "car quilts" to sell at very reasonable prices. The sale was a success so the guild is doing it again this year. At last count guild members had made and donated fifty two small quilts. They won't last long, so if you want a small quilt to wrap up in while you watch TV, get to the show early Saturday. Some of the little quilts are baby quilt size, so if you need a gift for a new arrival, this is a great opportunity to find one.

There are the usual preparations for the show--prepare the maple leaf block kits that the guild offers for sale, print more tickets for the opportunity quilt, secure vendors, plan food for lunch for the workers, and organize the hanging of the show.

Cathy Miles will be our very first "Featured Quilter." Cathy is deciding which of her quilts she wants to display and needs to borrow some of them from family members. I'm looking forward to seeing her display of quality quilts!

The Quilts for Baldwin City Veterans will show a few of the quilts that they have made. These quilts, along with some others, will be presented to local veterans on Veterans Day, November 11 at 1:30 at the Lumberyard Arts Center. Another presentation will follow at Vintage Park to honor veterans living there at approximately 2:30. If you know a local veteran who has not received a veteran's quilt, please contact Quilters' Paradise or leave the veteran's contact information at the Quilters' Paradise booth at the quilt show. We are starting next year's list.

The Quilt Capital of Kansas Committee, chaired by Ruthie Rodden, has been working very hard to prepare some maple leaf souvenirs to be available for purchase at Lucy's Corner in the Lumberyard Arts Center. The Gish family donated some maple leaf quilt block kits to the group and they are being converted into wall hangings, pot





holders and table runners. Ruthie, Angie Spielman, Cheryl Travis, and Lesa Weller have put their creative talents to work to produce these lovely items.

The Lumberyard Arts Center is creating an informational space to promote quilting as part of the Quilt Capital project. Liz Granberg-Jerome has made a banner for the space and Jeannette Blackmar, Angie Spielman and Ruthie Rodden are organizing the space.

I think we are about as ready as we can be until it is time to set up booths and hang quilts! The Festival Planning Committee has been planning and working to get things ready all year. To celebrate 65 years of festivals, Ilene Kimsey has compiled and presented historical information related to the festival. This year is the fourth installment of that information and it is on display in the Lumberyard Arts Center. This year's focus was various activities that occur during the festival, quilt show included. I noticed, with interest, a list of organizations that have benefited from the festival--and it

was not a short list! If you have a spare minute or two, stop by the Lumberyard and see this display. Ilene did a fantastic job on it!