Dear Members and Friends in Quilting,

There has been a long-existing confusion between Quilts, Inc., the International Quilt Festival, and the International Quilt Association. People are continually mistaking the functions and purposes of one for the other, though they are very separate entities with different intents and goals. And I hope to set the record straight once and for all (at least among our members), here.

Quilts, Inc. is a for-profit corporation that schedules and runs both editions of International Quilt Festival and Market, collects the gate fees, booth and space rental, class fees, and then pays the bills associated with putting on these shows. They organize the classes and have a Special Exhibits department, which coordinates some contests and juried exhibits of their own.

IQA, our International Quilt Association, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. It participates as a small part of the spring and fall Festivals and has little, if anything, to do with the spring and fall Markets, except for occasionally selling our raffle tickets and other items in donated space. Our mission statement is posted on the home page of our website, www.quilts.org: “Dedicated to the preservation of the art of quilting, the attainment of public recognition for quilting as an art form, and the advancement of the state of the art throughout the world.” The most visible role of IQA is that it organizes and exhibits the IQA Judged Shows in Houston and Chicago. Please note that each Judged Show constitutes one exhibit among many at Festival. Each has jurors and judges that are hired and paid by IQA, who determine acceptance and awards with no influence from Quilts, Inc., and no input from IQA officers or employees.

Our monies are raised primarily through membership fees, raffle ticket sales, our silent auction, sales through the IQA Booth at the shows, and donations from the sale of quilts in our exhibit. The prize money for the Judged Shows comes from corporate sponsors who have kindly given cash for the non-purchase prizes awarded in the various categories.

As with other organizations seeking display space at both Quilt Festivals, IQA pays for rental on the space to hang the Judged Show at the convention center, the pipe and drape on which the quilts are hung, electricity for lights, carpet, tables, chairs, etc. Crystal Battarbee is IQA’s sole employee, and she does a stellar job. Those of us who serve on the board of IQA are volunteers and receive no compensation except the joy of helping to further quilting.

IQA has nothing to do with the food, the buses, the hotels, or the amount of chairs on the floor at Festival. We do not receive any of the proceeds from ticket sales at the show. By the same token, Quilts, Inc. does not decide our shipping policies or make decisions about whether we can extend the date to receive your quilt.

The following factors may contribute to the confusion. IQA has office space, donated by Quilts, Inc., within the offices of Quilts, Inc. and shares the same address. IQA and Quilts, Inc. also share some resources,
At the Road to California Show, *Grace Unfolding* by Betty Ekern Suiter won the Excellence in Hand Quilting Award. *Going In* by Lisa Binkley won a Judge’s Choice award. And *Agua Caliente* by Doria A. Goocher (pictured) won First Place in the Innovative Wall, Other category.

*Black Eyed Susans* by Debra Danko (pictured) received a Merit Award in the show, “Form, Not Function: Quilt Art at the Carnegie,” at the Carnegie Center for Art & History, New Albany, Indiana.

*Susan Cleveland* has just published a new book, *Piping Hot Curves* (Pieces Be With You).

*Ellen Lindner* has been awarded an Artist Enhancement Grant from the State of Florida, Division of Cultural Affairs.

If you are an IQA member and have achieved recognition with your work, let the membership know about it! Send your information to: Quilter’s Kudos, c/o IQA Journal, 7660 Woodway, Suite 550, Houston, TX 77063; fax 713-781-8182; or e-mail iqag@quilts.com with the subject heading “Quilter’s Kudos.” Good photos or 35mm slides will be considered for publication, but cannot be returned. Digital photos must be at least 300 dpi resolution.

Warm Regards,
Charlotte Warr Anderson
IQA President

---

letter from the president (continued)

such as the people who come in on a part-time basis to pack and unpack quilts, though they are paid separately by each organization. Quilt Festival is sometimes referred to as IQF, while the International Quilt Association is IQA. Karey Bresenhan and Nancy O’Bryan Puentes, of Quilts, Inc. and Quilt Festival, are two of the founders of IQA. Through their generosity, IQA members are given some special perks at Festival.

I hope this has helped sort out some of the confusion and helps you know who to speak with when you have questions about the show. Please do contact the IQA office with any issues relating to one of the Judged Shows or anything else pertaining to IQA. We do want to hear from our members—but only about things which we can actually control.

Warm Regards,
Charlotte Warr Anderson
IQA President