

St. Helena Quilt Camp

Tuesday July 28 through Friday July 31, 2009

Step back in time to 1912 at St. Helena Island Light Station in the beautiful Straits of Mackinac, Michigan, and experience a hand-stitching bee as it might have been in your grandmother's or great-grandmother's day. The Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association will host a Quilt Camp at their lighthouse on St. Helena Island July 28 - 31, 2009.

Come enjoy the amazing peace of an uninhabited island. Focus will be on hand work since there is no electricity on the island or you can try out the treadle sewing machine in the keeper's dwelling. After stitching and getting to know your fellow quilters, you can walk the cobblestone beach, look for wild flowers, hunt for wild raspberries, watch the shore birds, wave at passing freighters, swim in cool, clean Lake Michigan, nap, read a good book, or just relax in a lawn chair.

Spectacular sunsets can be seen over the Lake; and after dark, a roaring campfire on the beach will be perfect for telling ghost stories, roasting marshmallows, or just relaxing before bedtime.

The Keeper's Residence has four double beds and four twin beds upstairs.



MaryAnn Moore

The restored parlor at St. Helena makes the perfect place to relax and chat

Those sleeping in beds should plan to bring their own bedding or sleeping bag. Pillows and blankets will be provided. Those who might be more adventurous could bring a tent and camp under the stars.

The GLLKA will provide the food based on your dietary needs. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be served, along with snacks. Campfire cooking is also a possibility, weather permitting.

Participants will be asked to help with the daily chores - pumping fresh water from the certified well, sweeping, food

preparation, dish washing, and filling the solar-heated bag showers. Two very clean outdoor toilets can be found in a lovely grove of cedar trees a short walk from the house. No alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs are allowed on the property.

Transportation from Mackinaw City to the island will be by a 46' Coast Guard approved passenger vessel. Moored off shore, the last leg of the trip is a short ride in an inflatable dinghy from the larger boat, to the dock. All belongings should be packed in watertight bags and should be light enough to lift in and out of the smaller boat.

Price will be \$200.00, plus \$50 in handcrafted items for the GLLKA store (call GLLKA office for specifics). We will leave from the Mackinaw City Marina at 9 A.M. Tuesday and return back to Mackinaw City around 2 P.M. on Friday.

Space is limited to 12 participants and registration will be taken in order of payment received.

For more information, contact the GLLKA office at info@gllka.com or at 231-436-5580.



Dick Moehl

Evenings typically end around the fire pit as quilters gather to watch the stars appear