

# Quilters Unlimited Newsletter

The newsletter for Northern Virginia's Quilters

Volume 30, Number 1

Fall 2002

## President's Letter

Greeting as we enter Quilters Unlimited 30th year! Have you thought about a 30's project?

For all our members fortunate enough to attend this year's Annual QU Quilt Show, you were treated to an exceptional event. Such a display of beautiful quilts! The facility was perfect for housing all of the hustle and bustle of many wonderful vendors, and the wonderful display of unbelievably beautiful quilts. I would like to say a big "Thank You" to the members of the Quilt Show committee for all the long hours and hard work they did to make such an enjoyable show.

As you will learn when you read through this edition, your QU board has met and we now have an approved 2002/2003 budget. This important step makes it possible for your committee chairs to focus on the detailed planning of the many activities we have in store for your enjoyment this year. Those that are approaching most quickly are our participation in the **Sully Quilt Show**, the **QU Fall Lecture and Workshops**, and the **QU Fall Quilt-In**. You will read more about each of these events elsewhere in this newsletter.

We begin our year on September 8th with the Sully Quilt Show. Susan Tilt and the Arlington Chapter have worked tirelessly over the summer to gather volunteers and demonstrators for this event. Remember, the reason we're "on display" at Sully is to get others interested in quilting ... which often results in lots of new QU members!

Next we will have the Fall Lectures and Workshops. The Mt. Vernon and Falls Church chapters are planning wonderful lectures and workshops. Lectures

will be on October 11th, at Northern Virginia Community College at 10 am and 7 pm and Workshops will be held on the Oct. 10th and 12th at Sleepy Hollow Methodist Church. Our speaker will be Ami Simms, who has published marvelous books on Picture play quilts, creating scrapbook quilts, how to improve your quilt stitch, etc. Be sure to sign up quickly for the classes.

We have implemented a few changes, this year Marilyn Owendoff has volunteered to head up the Web-Page Liaison, So when you have something that you would like posted on the web-page please send it to Marilyn first, she will proof the information and forward it on to Mary Brick, who has done a terrific job on the Web page.

I hope all of you set a personal quilting goal for the next year to enter a quilt in our quilt show. Help us celebrate 30 wonderful years by finishing a project, or entering a contest.

As you look over the QU schedule of events for the next year ... as you attend the wonderful quilting symposiums held around the country ... as you get the latest newsletter from your favorite quilting shop, I hope that each of you is as excited as I am as we start our new quilting year together. The board has much work to do for you this year and we are all diving in head-first to bring you a wide variety of interesting programs and events. As always, please feel free to pass along your suggestions to me, to any of the other board members, and to the committee chairs. We are all working together so that we can all learn new things together, and we have great expectations for the coming year. *Linda Roberts*

## Quilters Unlimited Executive Board Meeting – July 18, 2002

The meeting was called to order by QU President Linda Roberts at 7:10 pm. at the Packard Center in Annandale Virginia. In attendance were Joyce Tobias (Annandale), Elaine Lynn (Arlington), Mary Johnson (Burke), Suzanne Auble (Centreville), Jean Hansell (Fairfax), Leslie Waters (Falls Church), Barbara Wynne (McLean), Tammy Mannarino (Mt Vernon), Jeri Borsi (Reston), Tommie Curtis (Vienna), Gayle Hindle (Vice President and Vendor Coordinator), Pat Alfredson (Newsletter) Susan Sladek (Programs), Carla Bower (Artisans United), Andrea Gribble (Quilt Show chair).

Treasurer's report to be heard at the next meeting.

**Newsletter:** Pat Alfredson requested that all items for the first newsletter be sent to her no later than August 10, 2002. The possibility of a fifth newsletter was discussed; no conclusion at this time. The first newsletter will be mailed late August/ early September. The Sewing and Quilt Expo asked that a flyer be placed in the QU Newsletter and information about individuals displaying quilts at the Expo was offered to the chapter presidents.

**Quilt Show:** Andrea Gribble announced that the show had a profit. Last year there was an attendance of about 5000 which was an increase of 2,000 over the 2001 show. More advertising is planned for next year to increase attendance. The program size will be shortened. The show will be in another building next year; it has classrooms and better lighting. The Show Committee is planning for classes. No teachers have been announced. Over 600 quilts were shown plus 30 wearables and many dolls. Quilt entries will be limited to 3 per member. The ticket price will still be \$5.00 or \$10.00 for a three day pass. All volunteers will pay the one day entry fee but will receive a three day pass. There are plans for production demos by vendors every half hour.

**Programs:** Susan Sladek that announced the Fall Seminar speaker will be Ami Simms. The event will be October 10-11-12. The lectures will be Oct. 11 at Nova at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. . Ami's subject will concern how not to make an award winning quilt. The Oct . 10th workshop will be "Picture Play Quilts" and Oct 12 will be "A New Way To Piece", an applique workshop. David Walker will be the speaker at the Annual meeting in May.. His topic will be "Surviving Mid-Life". He only gives two day workshops and the dates are not yet firm but will be at the beginning of May. Ricky Timms will be herein the fall of 2003.

**Sully:** Elaine Lynn asked for volunteers to work on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Letters have been sent to chapters.

**Fall Seminar:** Workshops: Parking at NOVA is a concern since classes are session.

**Fall Quilt-In:** Centreville is in charge of food. Reston will run the rest of the evening. Attendees will receive one free raffle ticket. as they sign in.

**Old Business:** No old business.

**New Business:** How the newsletter is sent to members was discussed. Should it be an E-Mail newsletter and what about those members who are not connected to the Internet were questions discussed. There are some items that have to be received as a hard copy (membership applications, patterns, workshop registrations, nominations, etc.). Linda asked that board members think about ways that the newsletter can be made more useful to members.

**By-Laws:** Many of the By-Laws should probably be changed to Standing rules. Emily Gross (QU Parliamentarian) is looking over the By-Laws to see what changes should be made.

**Expansion of QU:** Several quilt groups outside of Fairfax County have expressed interest in joining QU. Discussion followed about the pros and cons. Later discussion planned.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carla Schardt, Secretary

**Sully Quilt Show**  
**Sunday, September 8, 2002 10 am – 5 pm**

## Sully Plantation on Route 28

### “Post cards from Virginia”

Admission \$7 Seniors \$6 Children \$4

Embellishment? Big Stitch? Sashiko? Batting Tips?  
Or, your choice!

Demonstrators are being sought for this year's Sully  
Show and **your** area of expertise is what we need.

Five to six demonstrators are needed for September  
8th and two of the presentations should include a small  
hands-on project for the audience.

Quilting techniques may be geared for beginners or  
seasoned quilters, and may include traditional or  
contemporary designs, or a combination of styles.

About 24 volunteer quilters are also needed for a  
sit-and-sew in the QU tent during the show. Four  
quilters are required every hour to give show attendees  
an opportunity to observe quilts-in-progress.

All volunteers for the QU tent will receive free passes  
to the show. It is hoped that every chapter will be  
represented by providing a demonstrator and/or  
volunteer quilters for the event.

The Arlington chapter of QU is in charge of  
demonstrations and volunteers.

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### Fall Lectures

#### Ami Simms

Ami began as a teacher and has, for 20 years, entertained and enlightened the quilting community. She is well-known for her ability to use humor and ability to place quilting into perspective.

October 11, 2002

10 am: “How NOT to Make a Prize-Winning Quilt”  
and 7 pm: “Humorous Quilts and Their Makers”

Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus  
Erst Community Cultural Center Theater

We have parking privileges in the Cultural Center Parking Lot (E Lot). It is marked by a green and yellow sign and/or the blue arrows on the ground. You'll be ticketed if you park anywhere else on campus.

## Chapter Assignments for 2002-2003

<u>Event</u>	<u>Chapter Responsible</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Chapter Responsible</u>
Sully Quilt Show	Arlington	Fall Quilt-In	Reston/Centreville
Fall Lecture	Mt. Vernon	Winter Quilt-In	McLean/Vienna
Fall Workshops	Falls Church	Annual Meeting	Fairfax/Springfield

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### Ami Simms Workshops

#### **Thursday Oct 10 9-3: Ami Simms - Picture Play Quilts. Cost \$35**

Create a Picture Play Quilt from conversational fabrics for the special child in your life or for yourself. Make a "Hugs and Kisses" quilt with 3-dimensional set squares in whatever size you like. Learn about photo-transfers, Doodle Quilting, button embellishments, OTF (Off The Floor) Patchwork, and games to play with the finished quilts. Early registration is a must to have sufficient time to collect and cut fabrics. Location is Sleepy Hollow Methodist Church Social Hall 3425 Sleepy Hollow Rd. Falls Church Prospective students need to check out the supply list on her web page ([www.amisimms.com](http://www.amisimms.com)) under WORKSHOPS & LECTURES for the most recent supply list.

#### **Saturday Oct 12 9-3: Ami Simms - "A New Way to Piece: Applique." - Cost \$35**

Here's a terrific new way to join fabric pieces by hand for quilters who are interested in precision work but with less fuss. Forget the constant flipping to make sure you're "on the line," pin pricks in your thighs, and thoughts of growing a third hand to hold on to your work! There's a better way and when you're done it looks just like traditional hand piecing. You'll be amazed at how easy set-in patches, and complicated blocks can be.

Prospective students need to check out the supply list on her web page ([www.amisimms.com](http://www.amisimms.com)) under WORKSHOPS & LECTURES for the most recent supply list.

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Ami Simms Workshops

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

If registering for both classes, indicate first choice:

Picture Play Quilts: \$35 \_\_\_\_\_

A new Way to Piece: Applique \$35 \_\_\_\_\_

**Fall Quilt-In**  
**Wednesday, October 16, 2002 – 3:30-8:30**  
**Falls Church High School**

Mark your calendars NOW for this year's Fall Quilt-In!

**Newcomers:**

This is a special time to experience the fun and camaraderie as all 11 QU chapters come together. Come when you can and stay as long as you can. We eat, talk, have show and tell, walk around to see what other quilters are working on, and have door prize drawings throughout the quilt-in. Near the end, we have block drawings and a raffle drawing for major prizes.

**Arrival:**

Check in at the sign-in table so that you will be registered for door prizes. Remember, dues must be paid to attend the Quilt-In.

**What to bring:**

Bring your own hand project to work on (no sewing machines); a snack, hors d'oeuvres, or dessert to share; your completed blocks for the drawing; any show-and-tell that you might want to share, and any door prize you want to donate.

**What to expect:**

Fun, food, friendship, and freebies.

**Directions:**

Falls Church High School, 7521 Jaguar Trail, Falls Church. From I-495, take Exit 8 East (Arlington Blvd/Rte. 50). Turn right at the first traffic light onto Jaguar Trail. The school is about 100 yards down on your right. The cafeteria is located at the rear of the school.

**Parking:**

The cafeteria is easiest to reach if you use the parking at either the back or at the right side of the school where the basketball courts are.

**Potluck:**

Bring a dish to share – snack, hors d'oeuvre, or dessert. To make cleanup go quickly, members are encouraged to use disposable food containers and serving utensils. We do not have cold storage or warming equipment. Many people have food allergies, so please label your dish if it has MSG, artificial sweeteners or if it contains nuts or nut oils of any kind.

**Door Prizes:**

Chapters and individual members are encouraged to donate door prizes to add to our fun. Quilt-related items are the best! Please no white elephants. Items should be in new or nearly mint condition. Items that do not appeal to quilters should not be donated. Please remember to include your name and address so the winner can send her thanks. Winners, please remember to send a thank you note if you win a door prize.

**Raffle Prize:**

Don't forget to get your raffle ticket to win big.

**Block Drawings:**

This year's Fall Quilt-In theme is nature. Each pieced block should be 6½" unfinished. There is a pattern included for those who prefer to paper piece.

The applique block should be 7" unfinished. Choose one or both. Make as many blocks as you like; you get one chance to win for each block. If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Wright.

***See the following pages for the  
block designs.***

## Blocks

### Acorn

The appliqued acorn should be done on muslin (not bleached). The top is plaid and the bottom should be tan, brown, brown-green – you know, "acornish".

### Wild Goose

*(The diagram is shown on the following page)*

A- Green print; cut three 2" x 3½" rectangles

B- Beige background print, cut six 2" squares

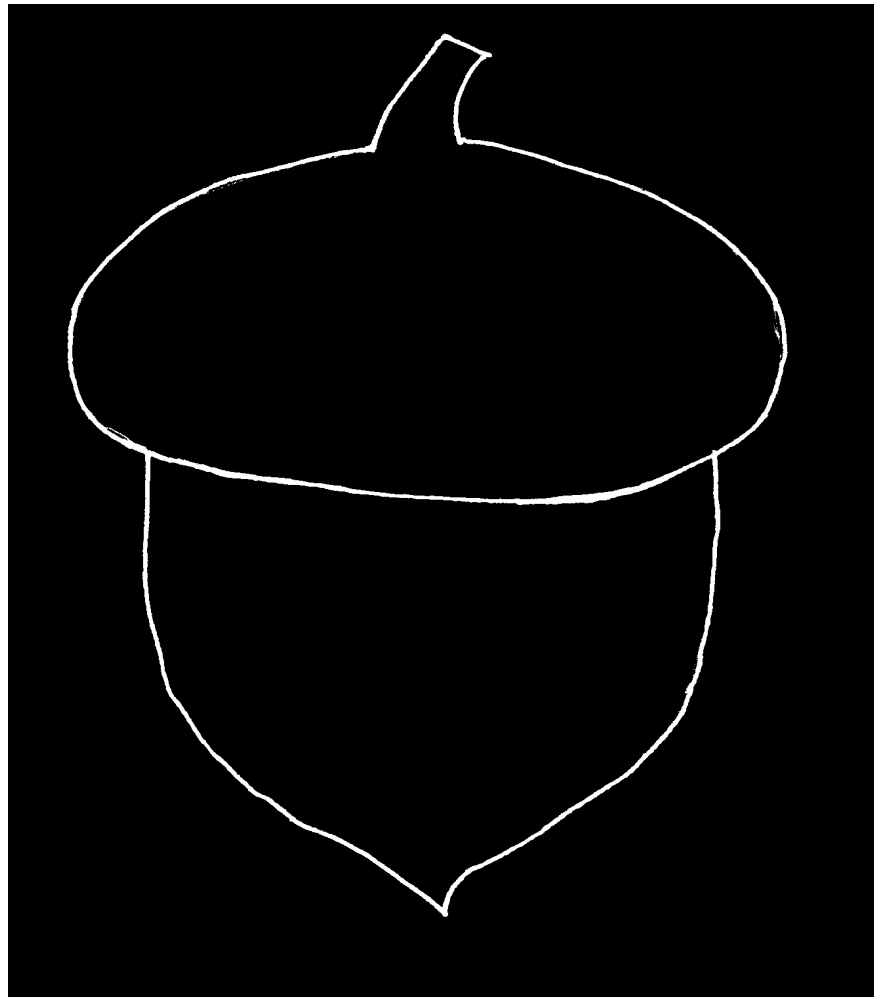
C- Brown print; cut one 1½" x 2" rectangle

D- Beige background print; cut two 1½" x 2" rectangles

E- Plaid print; cut two 2" x 6½" rectangles

### Goose Assembly Instructions

1. Draw a diagonal line down each of the 2" beige squares (B).
3. Place a beige square on the left corner of the green rectangle (A) with the diagonal line starting at the center of the green rectangle and running to the left bottom corner. Sew on line. Trim the excess fabric away, leaving a ¼" seam allowance.
4. Place a beige square on the right corner of the green rectangle with the diagonal line starting at the center of the green rectangle and running to the right bottom corner. Sew on the line. Trim the excess fabric away leaving a ¼" seam allowance.
5. Repeat for the remaining geese.
6. Refer to the drawing for the rest of the block assembly.



wild goose placement

## QUILT SHOW NEWS

It's taken those of us who worked on the quilt show most of this summer to recover, but I think if you were able to see the show you'll agree it was worth it. The Dulles Expo Center came through for us, and the show was simply spectacular!! A BIG THANK YOU to all who made our show a success. To all the volunteers, the white glove ladies, the quilt collectors and the committee members - SALUTE!!!! And a big bouquet thank-you to Gayle Hindle, our vendor coordinator, Gail Franchi, design and layout, and Betty Dietz, advertising, who all did yeoman's service in making the show happen. These women were tireless in their endeavors and made an invincible team!!!!

Here's a little info for you about the show: over 600 quilted items were shown, including quilts, wallhangings, wearables and dolls. Approximately 5,000 people attended the show, which was an increase of almost 2,000 people from the previous year's show. As you can see from the attached accounting, we broke even on this show, and actually made a little bit of money. By a little bit of money; however, I mean a small amount in relationship to how much it costs to put on the show. What I'd like to do now is talk about next year's show, some changes we're going to make, and what we as a guild can do to make our show even better.

Next year's show will be again be held at the Dulles Expo Center. This time, however, we will be in the North Hall, which has even better lighting, because it also has skylights. The building is slightly smaller than the South Hall (which is where our show was this year) but it should even out in size. We will have the entire building for our show. We're very excited about the fact that attached to the North Hall is a Conference Center that has large classrooms. We've also contracted for most of the classrooms for next year's show, in order to have classes during our show. This is going to cost us more money, but we think it is well worth it!

The dates for our show will be Friday, May 29 through Sunday, June 1.

Because of the significant increase in cost we are going to have to pay to get the classrooms, and the increased costs in space rental, we're going to have to make a couple of changes to help pay for the increased costs. We think they are very fair, and hope you agree with us. Quilters' Unlimited currently has a membership of over 1,300. Over 500 of you worked as volunteers at the quilt show. That means over 500 people were able to attend the show for free. While we desperately need volunteers and we could not have the show without them, we also need to be able to pay for the facilities. We considered several options to increase revenue, such as increase ticket price, or charging a quilt entry fee. We don't feel either of these options work well for our guild. The best and fairest solution we were able to come up with is to continue to charge \$5 for a one-day pass, \$10 for a 3-day pass, and require anyone who volunteers to work the show to buy a pass, but permit that volunteer to buy a 3-day pass for \$5. What we noticed during the last show was so many people kept coming back day after day. We feel our volunteers will get value for their service in this way, and we will still be able to get sufficient revenues to pay for the rent for the building space.

We feel the show is well worth a \$5 contribution, and hope you all will agree with us. There are few things as entertaining in the DC area for this great bargain price!

The second thing we are going to do to cut costs is reduce the size of our programs by eliminating the extensive text with each quilt from the program. The card that is pinned to each quilt and displayed in the show will still have the quilter's "story," but that information will not be included in the program. Several attendees complained about the large program, and the cost

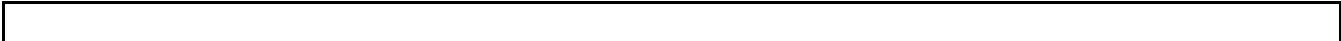
*(Continued on the next page)*

has become prohibitive due to size - almost \$6,000 for printing this last show - so we will be more conservative in what is printed in the program. We will still include name of quilt, quilter, chapter, and style of quilt in the program.

Priscilla Stultz (F), has agreed to take on the job of finding teachers for the classes for next

year's show. If you know of any teachers you'd like to see in the classes, and how to get in touch with them, please let Priscilla know.

We have several positions that could use some volunteers. At the moment, we are looking for someone to take over the position of coordinating the Silent Auction. If you are interested, please e-mail me at [andrea@gribble.com](mailto:andrea@gribble.com)



### Friendship Blocks for Ray Kock

Ray Kock (AR, FC) and his wife Jackie have sold their home and moved to the Midwest this summer. They will be dividing their time between the Sioux Falls, SD area and Reston and Richmond (Where their daughters live). How about filling Ray's new mailbox with friendship blocks from his Virginia quilting friends. The block should be 6" finished (6½" unfinished including seam allowances) in the pattern of your choice, in bright colors and signed, please! He'll be pleased and surprised to hear from all of us.

Thanks, Elaine Lynn, Arlington, QU

Andrea Gribble, Quilt Show Chair

### Notes from the Vendor Coordinator

If you missed our Quilt Show, this past Mother's Day weekend, you missed a really great show! Thanks to the help of hundreds of volunteers the show went off very well and was a tremendous success. When you consider the newspapers were continually making it sound like the Expo Center was closing forever, the fact that we had to make changes so close to the date of the show; that we hung and displayed over 600 quilts, art-to-wear garments and dolls; I'd say we all did a "yeoman's" job. You ladies were great! We couldn't have done it without you.

Just thought I'd let you know, I've received e-mails and notes from many of our vendors to thank our Guild for their support. Many of our vendors commented on how welcoming and friendly our Guild's membership was. They really appreciated your well wishes, words of encouragement and, of course, your buying their goods. They also

commented on the beautiful quilts and the overall high quality of workmanship displayed. Many of our vendors participate in shows all over the country and they stated that they really enjoyed the show, loved the location and thought we had the potential to be "the next Williamsburg". Now that's a real compliment ladies.

Our show dates have changed for next year. Mark your calendars now for May 30 - 1 June, 2003. This notice gives you plenty of time to invite friends and family to come to the show. It is the weekend after Memorial Day weekend. So you can have your DC visitors come for Memorial Day celebrations and stay for the show.

Just to let you know, I've sent out next year's show contracts to many of last year's vendors and  
*(Continued on the next page)*

## Quilt Show Vendor News

*(Continued from the previous page)*

invitations to many new vendors. The number of total vendors will remain constant and varied. I have taken many of the suggestions you all have made and I am trying to get new vendors to fill your needs. If you have any suggestions for future vendors, please feel free to e-mail their name, address and any other pertinent information to me. My e-mail address is located

on our web page. Go to the Board listing site and see QU Vice President. Just click on the site and I'll get your email. I'll provide a listing of vendors to our Web Page manager NLT the beginning of November.

I'll have articles in the newsletters throughout the year to keep you informed about the show and the vendors.

Gayle Hindle,

QU Vice President and Vendor Coordinator

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## Mark Your Calendar for This Year's Big QU Events

Sully Quilt Show	September 8
Fall Lecture	October 11 — Ami Simms
Fall Workshops	October 10 & 12
Fall Quilt-In	Wednesday, October 16
Winter Quilt-In	January 19, 2003
Annual Meeting	May 2003
QU Quilt Show	May 30 – June 1, 2003

Quilters Unlimited (QU) is a non-profit organization of quilters, with all chapters and activities in Northern Virginia. Founded in 1972, it has grown to approximately 1,400 members in eleven chapters, unified by a central Board of Directors. Members include women and men of all ages; traditionalists and contemporary quilters; beginners to renowned experts. Each chapter has its own scheduled events and functions. All chapters come together for Fall and Winter Quilt-Ins, a Fall Seminar, a Spring Quilt Exhibit showcasing members' work, and a May annual meeting with accompanying workshops. Visitors are welcome to attend a meeting of any chapter, as well as other QU activities. Annual membership is \$15. Quilters Unlimited Newsletter is published for members quarterly — September, November, January, and April. All QU members are welcome to contribute submissions. This year we are establishing a new database. If there is a mistake in your address, please let Susan Allbritton know about it.