

The Pieceful News

Volume 32, Issue 3

January 2007

Letter from the President

I hope you all had happy holidays. December is over and 2007 has arrived. Most have taken down their decorations, and are ready for something new.

For many, January is a month of "let-down" after the holidays. But to me, this is a time when I first begin to notice that the days are now getting longer. Each week the sun is up a little earlier and night takes a little longer to get here. To me, that somehow equates to the fact that I feel like getting more done. And because it is too early to think of spring planting, it means I should be doing more quilting. After all, is just a short time I will prefer being out of doors.

So January is my month to start new quilts and maybe work on some UFO's. This year I started January by starting to cut my "strings" for the challenge quilt. I had my "ugly" on my design wall all this fall. I was hoping it would talk to me, but it never really said much. It remains ugly, but now that it has been cut into strings it's harder to notice how ugly! Adding many other fabrics to the "ugly" has certainly helped to change its' character. I have only one block completed. This is point in a project I like best. I'm enthusiastic because I want to get a sense of the end product, but not yet bogged down with the monotony of the sewing strips. I always hope to remain enthusiastic, but somewhere in the middle of most projects I lose some of the excitement. That's the reason for so many UFO's. If I have enough momentum to get past that, then I get to a point where I want to finish.

Quilter Anonymous has done a great job of helping keep up the enthusiasm for many of our members. Another technique is not having all your fabric chosen at the beginning of a project. This justifies a trip to the fabric store. There is nothing like a fabric shopping trip to add new life to a project! Still another technique is not to plan the whole quilt at the beginning, but rather, to let the quilt evolve. And of course there is the UFO technique of coming back to the project at some time in the future when you can develop a renewed interest in the quilt.

Regardless of which technique we use the key to enjoy the process. Quilting is like life, it's not just the destination that's important, but the journey as well.

Happy quilting.

Amy Berger

McLean QU 2005 - 2006 Officers and Committees

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------|----------|
| President | Amy Berger | 757-2885 |
| Vice President | | |
| Secretary | Kay Burnett | 242-8732 |
| Treasurer | Donna Sinrud | 620-3627 |
| Nominating | Diane Kirkhart | 749-4645 |
| AQS Books | Jill Halbert | 759-4498 |
| Auction | Kathy Stearman | 242-2886 |
| | Cathy Rees | 757-8477 |
| Bees | Nancy Fallone | 533-3907 |
| Challenge | Nancy Fallone | 533-3907 |
| Charm Pack | Lura Alsalam | 356-6032 |
| Communications | Mary Orzech | 476-4641 |
| Farewell | Gayle Ropp | 527-6983 |
| Food | Jane Heile | 893-1664 |
| Greeters & New Members | | |
| | Kathy Kinghorn | 536-3923 |
| | Evelyn Penn | 356-0766 |
| Hospitality | Lorelei Crerar | 503-3424 |
| Lancaster | Ginny McConnell | 764-2775 |
| Librarian | Pat Blood | 356-4577 |
| Membership | Ruth Nielsen | 527-4971 |
| | Maureen Gray | 503-8162 |
| Newsletter | Mary Terhune | 241-2110 |
| Programs | Pat Blood | 356-4577 |
| | Barb Hollinger | 757-3831 |
| | Sandy Goldman | 764-4479 |
| Quilt Show Rep | Diane Kirkhart | 749-4645 |
| Service Projects | Mary Pace | 536-5857 |
| | Loretta Sullivan | 536-1692 |
| | Suzie Buck | 536-5211 |
| Sunshine | Dorothy Stringer | 573-8839 |
| Telephone Tree | Carolyn Lynch | 288-4944 |

All numbers are in the 703 area code

Useful Information

Monthly Meetings

Place: McLean Baptist Church
1367 Chain Bridge Road

Dates: Fourth Tuesday each month

Time: 9:30 am

Bees

Dates: Tuesdays

Time: 10:00 am

Place: Check schedule for location
and directions

QU Digest: To receive our Big QU online
newsletter, send your email address to
Barb Tricarico at QUDigest@cox.net

McLean QU Auction
March 27th 2007
9:30 am

Be generous, donate, bring a friend and most of all bring money and bid. This is our main money making event. The money we make provides us with the excellent facilities and programs we all benefit from each year.

We will be passing around sign-up lists for volunteers starting at the January meeting. Please consider helping with the auction. It is a one day event.

BARGAIN TABLE: Bring sewing related items early so they can be priced at \$5.00 or less.

LIVE AUCTION: Bring your items early so they can be checked in and numbered. If you cannot bring them the day of the auction please call Cathy Rees at 703-757-8477 to make other arrangements.

RAFFLE BASKET: Please bring fat quarter for the raffle baskets to the meetings. Please bring a fat quarter you would be pleased to win.

Thank you,

Cathy Rees

Chapter Challenge



Those who've been working on their string quilts keep reporting on the fun they are having. If you haven't finished or haven't started—never fear. During the church bee on February 6th, we're going to spend the day sharing, cutting and sewing. We'll show off what we've done and then we'll get back to work. Take this time to start or continue your project, ask questions or simply be inspired by your fellow quilters around you. If you haven't joined the challenge yet, it's not too late. There is still "special" fabric left to choose. We start at 10 a.m. and have until the church closes at 4. Don't let that ugly fabric you chose discourage you. Once you get going on this project you'll see why we're all having such a great time with it.

Nancy Fallone
703-533-3907
nnfallone@verizon.net

Charm Swap

Here are the fabric requirements for the remainder of our meetings:



January: Flora (plants)-any color
February: purple
March: green
April: orange
May: pale-any light color

Please be sure to follow our rules:

1. If you are unable to attend a meeting you must send your squares with a friend.
2. Please bring nice fabric-give what you'd like to receive-100% cotton.
3. Each month all squares you bring will be cut from the same fabric.
4. Please launder and press your fabric before cutting.
5. Cut into *GENEROUS* 6" squares - no short cuts.
6. Bring squares to the meetings in a Ziploc bag with your name and the month on the front of the bag. Stagger your squares for easier sorting and pick up your bags during the break (after the business portion of the meeting).
7. You may give the entire year of squares at one time. You will then only have to remember to pick up your squares at each meeting.

Call with any questions 703-356-6032 or email me at lura.alsalam@gmail.com.

Lura

Church Bees



I could say that the church bees are a "hive" of activity or that we're "busy bees" when we're there. Both of these statements, despite being corny, are quite true. We have a large group of tables pushed together which, besides being a natural meeting place, also serves as the "help desk." Take the opportunity to throw out a problem project and seek advice or fish for compliments for a project you are particularly proud of. Quilters Anonymous meets to discuss progress on projects and make deadlines. While it is always a lively discussion with much badgering among its regular members, all are invited to join in. Tables are also scattered around the room for you so you can spread out and dedicate the day to your own project. If you don't have anything you want to drag in, we can always give you something to do. The service committee usually has projects you can help with such as tying quilts or cutting fabric. Sometimes, we set aside the afternoon for special projects and we have one coming up soon. No matter what you choose to do at the bees, there is always time for conversation and friendship.

Nancy Fallone
703-533-3907
nfallone@verizon.net

Lancaster Trip



The Quilters' Heritage Show bus trip is on April 12, 2007. The cost is \$40. That includes bus, dinner and show entry pass. The bus will leave the McLean Baptist Church at 6:45 AM and return about 9:30 PM. Sign-ups will start at the January meeting. Any questions please call Ginny McConnell 703-764-2775.

Programs



Join us in February for a trunk show presentation of antique quilts, quilt tops and blocks from Elaine Kelly. By her own admission, Elaine spends far too much time on eBay acquiring quilts and fabrics that just seem to really NEED to come live in her home. In addition to working on her own creations, Elaine completes and restores some of her acquisitions. She also has big plans for interesting ways to use the antique blocks and fabrics that some other quilter never found time for, and she promises to get to work on some of them soon. (Honest!) If you love old fabrics, particularly pre-1900 and turn of the century, you're sure to enjoy the presentation.

QU 2007 Quilt Show Challenge



Note: this is the official Jamestown2007.org emblem. It is depicted here for sample purposes.

Create a wall-hanging sized quilt that commemorates the 400th anniversary of the settling of Jamestown. Your quilt will be displayed at the 2007 QU Quilt Show in a special exhibition.

1. The outer perimeter must be between 30" and 156" around.
2. The colors bright blue, light olive green, cranberry, and gold will be used somewhere on the front of the quilt.
3. A symbol of Jamestown shall be depicted, i.e. Godspeed sailboat, Jamestown fort, colonial people, Powhatan Indian village, food of the day (corn, fowl, fish), transportation (canoes), housing, wildlife, etc.
4. Three layers shall be used in the construction of the quilt, and tied quilts are prohibited.
5. Embellishments are highly desired.
6. The due date is when the quilt show entry forms are due. Use an entry form to submit your challenge.

Service



The service committee wishes to thank the many quilters who made the service bee day a success. Forty-one quilts were tied, trimmed and finished with a label in record time. Our thanks to Jenny Emry, Nancy Fallone, Diane Kirkhart, Gail Ropp and Donna Sinrud who brought their sewing machines to motor throughout the morning into the afternoon; Mary Hastings, Peggy Knight, Barbara McCracken, and Dorothy Stringer who brought their mat and cutting items to trim the many quilts....standing and cutting....over and over. A final check of quilts was performed by our quilt sleuth Connie Doberenz. Thanks Connie. And finally, a special thanks to Donna Sinrud....our doc for the day who treated several quilts in need and set up refreshments for our time outs. Ten

finished quilts were added to the forty-one quilts finished at the service bee and delivered to the Teenage Parenting Program in Arlington County, Seniors in Need in Arlington County through Social Services and to the Assistance League of Fairfax. The Assistance League incorporates our quilts with other baby items for moms in need who deliver their baby at Fairfax Hospital maternity ward. Our next service bee will be in June '07.

Mary Pace, Loretta Sullivan and Suzie Buck

String Quilt Retreat

WHEN: January 26 to 28, 2007

WHERE: Amy Berger's Home, Great Falls, VA

COST: \$15 each plus one meal

Each person is responsible for one buffet meal (with 3-4 helpers). This includes the planning, purchasing, cooking, and clean up. The rest of the meals you get to sew, relax and have fun. We have 20 signed up, some for only Friday or Saturday. About half will be commuting.

The format will be similar to a bee, chat or sew your choice. Many of us will work on our string projects. You are welcome to come for as long or short a time as you like. It is a short drive. Just let us know for food preparation. We do not want to cook for 20 if 10 will be there and will finalize the list at the January meeting.

Schedule

Arrive 10:00 Friday or after

Friday - Lunch String Quilt ideas - Please bring Books to share

Dinner - White Elephant exchange to follow 8:00

Saturday - Brunch 10:00- Pillow project to follow

Dinner

Sunday - Brunch. Leave around 4 or before

Everyone is invited! Contact Donna Sinrud, coordinator with questions or to sign up ---

dsinrud@msn.com or 703-620-3627

Things to bring:

Sleeping bag or blankets and pillow

Towels

Light to quilt with

Sewing machine and cutting supplies or hand sewing items

Pillowcase class supplies if going to make one.

Snack or assigned supply

Items for meal - can shop that day for large items (meals assigned at January meeting)

White elephant item (no purchases allowed- the worst gift you ever received or purchased)

Bring Your Own Beer or Wine

Tips from our Members

Thanks to Suzie Buck for contributing this tip, which could easily be classified as a cautionary tale.

Recently I purchased a good quality, packaged batting for a king size quilt. I opened the package and spread it out for a day or so to let the wrinkles fall out, then took it to a professional quilter. She was almost finished the quilting when she noticed a very thin area (almost shredded) in the batting. She had to take out lots of stitches and "push" the batting back together in order to make it an even thickness. I just thought our members might want to take a closer look at their packaged batting prior to using in order to avoid this situation. I hadn't opened all the folds enough to inspect.

Schedule of Events

January 23 - Meeting at the church --- Cyndi Souder lecture "Lessons learned"

January 24 - Workshop --- Cyndi Souder workshop "Trees"

January 26 - 28 - String Quilt Retreat. Amy Berger (703-757-2885) 411 Chesapeake Dr., Great Falls. From McLean, take Old Dominion toward Great Falls. Make a left turn onto Georgetown Pike at the entrance to Great Falls Park. Make the first right turn onto River Bend as if going to River Bend Park. Go 2 miles to the first stop sign. Make a left onto Arnon Chapel. Go to the first cross road and make a left onto Chesapeake Dr. It is the first house on the left, the one you just passed on Arnon Chapel. It has light tan bricks and a blue-grey roof.

January 30 - Bee at Donna Sinrud's (703-620-3627) 10938 Stuart Mill Rd -- right across from Stuart Mill Ct. From 66 take exit 60 (chain bridge road) towards Vienna. Turn Left on Hunter Mill Rd. Turn Left on Vale Rd. Stay straight onto Stuart Mill Rd. (sort of a Y intersection). House is about 1 block down on right after the fire plug. It's best to park on left side of road. Food Volunteers: Pat Blood and Jean Hansell.

February 6 - Bee at the church.

February 13 - Bee at Nancy Fallone's (703-533-3907) 3542 N. Abington St., Arlington. Old Dominion Road to Arlington. Turn left on Williamsburg Blvd. Turn right at light at Glebe Rd. Make 2nd Left on Abingdon. Turn left into cul-de-sac. Food volunteers: Peggy Knight and Lura Alsalam.

February 20 - Bee at Amy Berger's --- See above for directions. Food volunteers: Kathy Kinghorn and Gayle Ropp.

February 27 - Meeting at the church --- Elaine Kelly Trunk Show of Antique Quilts

March 13 - Bee at Carolyn Lynch's (703-288-4944) 1450 Emerson Ave., #406, McLean. From the church parking lot, turn left onto Chain Bridge Road. At the light at Old Dominion, turn left. Turn right on Lowell (at Café Oggi). The main entrance to the building is at the corner of Lowell and Emerson. It is that big building with the green roof. Food volunteers: Mary Orzech and Peggy Murray.

March 20 - bee at Sandi Goldman's (703- 764-4479) 4616 Duncan Drive, Annandale, VA 22003. From the beltway take exit 52 A-B, Rt. 236 Little River Turnpike towards Fairfax (west). Turn left at first light - Duncan Drive. Continue to #4616 on the right. Food volunteers: Jill Halbert and Nancy Fallone

March 27 - Meeting at the Church --- Annual Auction



Are you overwhelmed by paper? Would you rather open your email and have this newsletter waiting for you? Email Mary Terhune at mterhune@verizon.net and ask to be put on the email list.

Quilters' Unlimited

Did you know that if you visit www.quiltersunlimited.org you can find all the information you need for the 2007 quilt show? You can find directions to make a hanging sleeve, the entry form, the challenge directions as well as important dates for upcoming events. You can also find links to other chapter newsletters there. Take a look!

February 6 --- Deadline for Quilt Show Applications and for 2007 Jamestown Challenge

June 1-3 --- 2007 Quilt Show

The Pieceful News
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