

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Happy New Year to all!

How are your New Year's resolutions coming? So many of the resolutions we make don't last, but this year I am determined to improve my web site. Last year my resolution was to have a web site. I accomplished that and have been thrilled that I have made sales over my web site. This year, I have enrolled in an online class to improve my web site and I have been working on it daily. It is better everyday but has a long way to go. Ignorance is bliss! Unfortunately the class shows me some of my problems and I have to work to make it better. However, this is the ideal time of the year for me to be working on my computer since it is too cold to be gardening or golfing.

I am looking forward to the Winter Quilt Retreat at Amy Berger's house, January 24 and 25 in Great Falls. Everyone is invited and it is only \$15. We can all finish up our quilts for the Big QU Show in June 2008. The forms and entry details will be available soon. Kay Burnett will take the photos at our meetings and bees since the forms are due in February. The quilts will be collected in late May.

I am quite excited about Jeff coming to our bees at the church. He is the sewing machine repairman from Hancock Fabrics and is coming to our bees and offering us the same rates he charged at Hancock Fabrics. It is a win/win for both of us. We get our sewing machines cleaned and oiled for about \$40 and our scissors sharpened and he gets some of his customers back that he lost when Hancock Fabrics closed. He will be at the church for the 1st bees of the month. Just bring your machine and he will clean or repair it and you take it home. You save the travel charge and are ready for the next blizzard.

I hope everyone had a great holiday season and is ready for a productive 2008. I will see you at the bees and meetings. It has been a long Holiday break and I miss you all.

Donna Sinrud

In This Issue

<i>January Lecture</i>	2
<i>January Workshop</i>	2
<i>February Lecture</i>	2
<i>Lancaster Bus Trip</i>	2
<i>String Quilts</i>	2
<i>Santa Fe Retreat</i>	2
<i>Winter Retreat</i>	3
<i>Scrap Org. Day</i>	3
<i>Auction</i>	4
<i>Service Bee</i>	5
<i>Schedule of Events</i>	6
<i>Inclement Weather Policy</i>	6
<i>Contact Information</i>	7
<i>Birthday Column</i>	7

Monthly Meetings

Place:
McLean Baptist Church
1367 Chain Bridge Rd.
McLean, VA

Dates:
4th Tues. each month
Time: 9:30 am

Bees

Dates:
Tuesdays
Time:
10:00 am

Place:
Check schedule for
location and directions

January 22 Lecture

Emily Martin will give a trunk show on her journey from being a contented "pieceful" quilter to the "World of Applique Addiction." She is very well known in the applique world and was Diane Kirkhart's teacher. Included in the trunk show will be her Baltimore Album Quilt. She will also have various kits and patterns for sale.

January 22 Workshop

In the afternoon, from 1:00-4:00, Emily Martin will give an intermediate techniques workshop about the designing of a cornucopia with fruits and vegetables of your own choice. (This is not a sewing workshop.)

The cost for the workshop is only \$25 for McLean members. There are still spots available. To sign up for the workshop and obtain a supply list, email Sandi Goldman, tobquilt@aol.com, 703-764-4479 or Pat Blood, bloodbj@yahoo.com, 703-356-4557.

February 26 Lecture

Stevii Graves, McLean member and quilt show judge will introduce us to "Finding Quilting Tools in Unlikely Places. The lecture is about shopping adventures to Home Depot, the auto supply store, the grocery store, etc. It is amazing what goodies these stores have for quilters. This sounds like a humorous and fun morning for a cold February day.

Lancaster Bus Trip

March 27, 2008 is the date for our annual trip to the Quilters' Heritage Celebration. The cost is \$40, payable to McLean QU. This includes entry fee, dinner at Good N' Plenty Restaurant, and bus. There will be a sign up sheet at the meetings. If you have any questions, please call Ginny McConnell at 703-764-2775 or email her at vmcconnell1@verizon.net (that is a number 1 after my name not a letter l)

Finish Those String Quilts!

We had a great response and some fabulous quilts from last year's "Ugly String Quilt Challenge." Hopefully, all of you who accepted the challenge and finished your quilts will be entering them in the show. Attach a strip of your ugly fabric, if you still have some, and make sure you circle "yes" on the quilt show form indicating that it is part of a chapter challenge.

Santa Fe Retreat

The Santa Fe Retreat will be September 26-October 3, 2007. All are welcome, new or returning. Contact Kay Burnett for information on travel schedules, places to go and things to do. Donna Sinrud (one of our most frequent usual suspects) also is a good source of information on our activities. Kay's email is mekayquilter@aol.com and cell phone 703-969-3942.

Winter Quilt Retreat

WHEN: January 24-25, 2008
WHERE: Amy Berger's house, 411 Chesapeake Dr., Great Falls
COST: \$15 each plus one meal

Everyone is invited!

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 time you get to sew, relax and have fun. The format will be similar to a bee - chat or sew, your choice. Many of us will work on our challenge. You are welcome to come for as long or as short a time as you like. It is a short drive. Just let us know for which meals you will be present. We do not want to cook for 20 if 10 will be there. The list will be finalized at the January meeting.

Schedule

Arrive 10:00 Thursday or after.

Thursday and Friday lunches are at 12.

Each afternoon, we will have a White Elephant exchange at 5.

Dinners will be at 6.

Things to bring:

Sewing machine and cutting supplies or hand sewing items

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

Contact Donna Sinrud, coordinator with questions or to sign up --- dsinrud@msn.com or 703-620-3627

Scrap Organization Day

Do you hate to throw out any scraps of fabric? If bits of fabric keep going into those scrap bins and none seem to go out, then maybe you need to join us for our **Scrap Organization Day** at the church bee on February 5th. Instead of digging through those boxes of scraps trying to find a piece the proper size and color, ironing it, cutting it and then starting all over again for the next piece, have scraps waiting for you which are exactly what you need and in a location where you can find them.

Bring your scraps (or at least a bag full) along with 3 or 4 patterns for scrap quilts you'd love to make. Don't forget your rotary cutter, mat, ruler, a few sheets of scrap paper and a box of Ziplocs. Starting promptly at 10 a.m., we'll share our patterns and organizational ideas. After Quilters Anonymous, we'll start trimming our scraps and organizing them so they will be ready to put right into a quilt.

McLean QU Auction**Tuesday, March 25, 2008**

Please 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 and enjoy each year.

BARGAIN TABLE: Bring sewing related items that can be priced at \$5 or less.

LIVE AUCTION: Bring your items in early so they can be checked in and numbered. We are planning to be at the church the day before the auction and would be happy to have the items brought in then so we have time to organize them. If you cannot bring your donation the day before the auction or early the morning of the auction please call me, Cathy Rees, at 703 757-8477 to make arrangements.

FAT QUATER BASKET: We are asking that fat quarters be donated by all McLean members. Bring a nice fat quarter that you would be happy to receive. We are not going to raffle the basket this year, we are going to have it in the silent auction. I will bring a basket to the January and February meetings to collect the fat quarters and will try to make arrangements to have a basket at the bees.

SILENT AUCTION: We are starting something new this year - a silent auction in addition to our live auction. This should make the live auction shorter as there will be fewer items in the live auction.

GIFT CERTIFICATES: This year we will have gift certificates as door prizes. We are planning to have three \$50 dollar gift certificates. The idea is to have one certificate from G Street, one from the Artful Quilter and one from Web Fabrics. Everyone who comes to the auction and puts their name in the hat can win. **YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.** This is our attempt at encouraging people to attend the auction.

Help Still Needed

I am still in need of assistance with the newsletter. Are you good at proofreading? Would you be able to get the newsletter printed at Office Depot or Staples a couple of Mondays in the next year. If you can help with either or both of these tasks, please contact me.

Connie Doberenz cdoberenz20191@comcast.net

SERVICE BEE

Our winter service bee was held on Tuesday, January 15 at the McLean Baptist church. The bee was well attended by many quilters. We started at 10 am with 8 machines motoring, 5 quilters trimming the quilted quilts, and many quilters tying the quilts. Lunch was tasty with pizza, sodas, a wonderful salad and many delicious sweets. Our quilt policewoman was busy checking and rechecking each quilt--thanks Pat Blood. By 2:30 pm we were finished and packing my car with 62 completed quilts.

This achievement was only possible with your help. Our deepest thanks from the service committee.

Mary Pace, Loretta Sullivan, Suzie Buck and Pat Carroll



Big QU Newsletter

Big QU is going green. There was a question on your membership form asking if we could email your big QU newsletter to you. If you answered YES or you didn't answer the question, but you gave us an email address, you should have gotten emails with links to the previous 2 newsletters (Sept. & Dec.) on the QU website. The next newsletter will be available around the beginning of March. Mailed copies should arrive in your mailbox after March 15. If you did not get the newsletters or the links in the way you thought you requested, please contact me and I will investigate. Also, if you want to change your "answer," notify me.

For the first two issues of the big QU newsletter this year, approximately 75% of the members were notified by email. This saved hundreds of dollars in printing and distribution costs.

Schedule of Events

- January 22 Lecture with Emily Martin
Workshop - 1:00-4:00
- January 29 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 – Lura Alsalam & Suzie Buck
Elevator operator – Pat Carroll
- February 5 Bee at the church - Scrap Organization Day
Sewing machine repair and scissor sharpening available
- February 12 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 – Ellen Lott & Vernell Hutchinson
- February 19 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 – Gayle Ropp & Jill Halbert
- February 26 Lecture with Stevii Graves
- March 4 Bee at the church
Sewing machine repair and scissor sharpening available
- March 11 Bee at Peggy Knight's (703-533-9821) 1912 Virginia Ave., McLean. From the beltway take 123 East. Right on Old Dominion through McLean. Right on Park Rd. Immediate left on Vermont, right on Massachusetts. Right at Rhode Island Ave. Rhode Island turns left and becomes Virginia Ave.
Food volunteers – Kathy Kinghorn & Carla Schardt
- March 18 Bee at Paula Rubinoff's (703-620-0174) 2127 Twin Mill Ln., Oakton. 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). Turn left at Twin Mill Ln.
Food volunteers – Connie Doberenz & Nancy Fallone
- March 25 Auction at the church
- April 22 Lecture with Diane Herbort

Inclement Weather and Home Bees

If the winter weather is less than perfect, there is no reason for us to base whether or not to hold home bees on what Fairfax County schools are doing. The decision is left up to each hostess. For some, if the weather is clear but there are large piles of snow along the sides of the roads, a bee may have to be cancelled due to lack of parking. Always check your email before leaving for a bee. For those without email, the phone tree will be activated. If all else fails and you are still in doubt, you can always call the hostess.

Please note: Any bee or meeting at the church will always follow Fairfax County Schools.

**McLean QU 2007 - 2008
Officers and Committees**

President	Donna Sinrud	703-620-3627
Vice President	Carla Schardt	703-478-2964
Secretary	Peggy Knight	703-532-4417
Treasurer	Pat Carroll	703-533-3199
Nominating	Carol Miller	301-460-6478
AQS Books	Jill Halbert	703-759-4498
Auction	Cathy Rees	703-757-8477
	Judy Kozlowicki	703-759-6576
Bees	Nancy Fallone	703-533-3907
Challenge	Nancy Fallone	703-533-3907
Charm Pack	Cathy Brown	703-556-9165
	Jan Fuoto	703-255-2067
Communications	Mary Orzech	703-476-4641
Farewell	Gayle Ropp	703-527-6983
Food	Susan Owen	703-893-0194
Greeters & New Members	Janet Ball	703-255-0598
	Kathy Kinghorn	703-536-3923
Hospitality	Lorelei Crerar	703-503-3424
Lancaster	Ginny McConnell	703-764-2775
Librarian	Pat Blood	703-356-4577
Membership	Maureen Gray	703-503-8162
Programs	Sandi Goldman	703-764-4479
	Pat Blood	703-356-4557
Quilt Collector	Kay Burnett	703-242-8732
Quilt Show Rep	Cathy Rees	703-757-8477
Service Projects	Mary Pace	703-536-5857
	Loretta Sullivan	703-536-1692
	Suzie Buck	703-536-5211
	Pat Carroll	703-533-3199
Sunshine	Dorothy Stringer	703-573-8839
Telephone Tree	Carolyn Lynch	703-941-6987

Please send any information on someone needing "Sunshine" (a card) to Dorothy Stringer dstringer@cox.net or 703-573-8839

Birthday Column

Happy birthday to the following members with birthdays from late January through the end of March:

So many of you were born during this time period that I've created a separate page for this issue.

See page 8.

(Your name will not appear in this column unless you put your birthday on your 2007/2008 membership form. If you want me to check, let me know. ed)

QU Digest

Do you subscribe to the QU Digest? The QU Digest is published every few days, depending on the amount of news submitted. Once you subscribe, you will receive regular news about QU events, QU members and the quilt community at large, quilting tips, and interesting websites. There is also on-going news about workshops and shows by QU and other guilds, bus trips, pleas for missing books or fabric, moving notices, classified ads, yard sales, etc. A submission doesn't have to be quilt related! Subscribers are able to log onto a website to see QU Digest archives for the last few years, download a directory of e-mail subscribers, access a wide range of quilting tips submitted by readers, and see photos of workshops and events. If you wish to subscribe to the QU Digest, e-mail Barbara Tricarico (V, McL) at QUDigest@cox.net. Include your name, QU chapter, and e-mail address.

Newsletter Submissions and Suggestions

Have you visited a quilt show recently and had a good time? Did you find a great quilt shop on your vacation that you think others should hear about? Please send a review to me for the newsletter. Also, send in your photos, tips and hints. I'll try to include as much as I can. Any input from you would be gratefully appreciated. Any comments or suggestions about our newsletter would also be appreciated.



Are you overwhelmed by paper? Would you like to help QU "go green?" If you get your McLean and big QU newsletters mailed to you and you would like to see them on your computer, let me know. I'll get you added to the email lists. You'll get them sooner and see the pictures in color, too. Connie Doberenz at cdoberenz20191@comcast.net

Submission deadline for the next newsletter - March 5

Birthday Column

Janet	Nelson	1/23
Linda	Bell	1/26
Susan	Owen	1/27
Paula	Golden	1/29
Pat	McCracken	1/30
Cathy	Brown	1/31
Ellen	Engelson	1/31
Stephanie	Russell	2/2
Peggy	Knight	2/3
Jill	Halbert	2/6
Ruth	Sackadorf	2/11
Nancy	Burke	2/13
Pat	Carroll	2/16
Suzie	Buck	2/17
Maureen	Gray	2/17
Grace	Lents	2/20
Janet	Sampson	2/22
Arlene	Wagner	2/22
Carolyn	Lynch	2/24
Mary	Bredehoff	2/25
Toni	Alaimo	2/28
Karen	Alexander	2/28
Pamela	Stratton	3/1
Ilse	Johnson	3/4
Barbara	Hollinger	3/5
Paula	Rubinoff	3/10
Cindy	Wilson	3/10
Sharon	Undal	3/11
Pam	Matthews	3/12
Rita	Christopher	3/17
Ginny	McConnell	3/23
Helen	Peterson	3/29