

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Friends:

It has been a good year. Thanks for all of the hard work. You make it easy to lead this group. We still need a volunteer for nominations for next year and a committee for quilt show set up. Please consider these positions and volunteer for next year. The final luncheon will be at the church and should be fun. Please remember your potluck item. We have so many great cooks.

I am looking forward to the quilt show. Please get your quilt ready with label and sleeve and bring it to the meeting. There are still volunteers needed so consider helping out for a few hours especially on Sunday.

I would like to schedule a quilt retreat for the summer and fall. Anyone want to volunteer your home for 30 wonderful friends? We run them Thursday and Friday 9am to 8 pm. There are no overnight requirements and you pick the date. Please let me know and I will publish the dates. This has been my favorite activity and a great way to get to know the women. Please consider joining us. As soon as we get the dates, I will send out an evite to the group.

I am enjoying the wonderful weather and my new herb garden, golfing and most of all my newly organized sewing room. It has been a pleasure to be in this new room. My daughter is painting it today.

Donna Sinrud

QUILT COLLECTION

Quilts will be collected for the upcoming QU Quilt Show at the Bees and Meeting in May. There will also be a Bee on the first Tuesday in June if you absolutely, positively cannot get your quilt to Suzie Buck or Kay Burnett before then. Remember the 4" hanging sleeve firmly attached, and the label sewn to the bottom right hand corner of the back of your quilt with your name, the quilt name, McLean Chapter, and your phone number. Quilts will be returned after the Quilt Show at the June Bees, unless other arrangements are made. You **must sign the chapter log for your quilt on return**. The Ugly Fabric Challenge quilts entered in the show should have the strip of ugly fabric basted to the upper right hand corner of the quilt. This seems to be the safest method.

Kay Burnett & Suzie Buck

QUILT SHOW CLASSES

Have you taken a look at the classes available at the quilt show this year? In addition to our local talented teachers (including our own Nancy Fallon and Barbara Hollinger), there are two nationally known quilters and two lunch lectures. Have you ever wished you could take a class from one of the teachers you've seen on Simply Quilts only to discover that they are no longer traveling? Here is your chance to do just that. Sandy Bonsib's class "Martha Washington Cake Quilt" was designed especially for us and our quilt show. Debby Kratovil is another nationally known teacher here this year. Debby is an author and magazine editor who has had dozens of her quilts on magazine covers. You will find pictures of the classes on our website www.quiltersunlimited.org or check with Donna Sinrud for her folder with pictures and descriptions of the classes. The two lunch lectures are a great deal. If you have ever stood in the line to get lunch at the Expo center and then had to search for a table and chair, then we have a deal for you. For the cost of your lunch only, there is a table and chair waiting for you and a speaker to boot. In addition, they will deliver your lunch to you.

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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

May 27 Meeting

Election of Officers

We will be voting on our officers for 2008/2009. We have the following slate:

President	Carla Schardt
Vice President	Gayle Ropp
Secretary	Peggy Knight
Treasurer	Pat Carroll
Nominating Chair	<i>Vacant</i>

We still need a member to be our Nominating Chair. Carol Miller, who was our Nominating Chair for this year, reports that this was an easy job. You can do everything by phone and making a few announcements at meetings.

Archeological Quilt Challenge Reveal

It must be completely finished, including binding. Nancy Fallone will be awarding prizes.

Charm Square Swap

Our theme for May is Africa.

Potluck

Please bring your favorite dish to share.

Chapter Challenge

Once again, our chapter challenge was an overwhelming success. The Great Archeological Quilt Challenge inspired over 30 members to finish projects which had been sitting around for years. Congratulations to all of you who took the challenge. Hopefully, you feel a bit of relief knowing that there is one less project on your to-do list. Maybe you've been inspired to finish a few more. I know it was difficult to revisit these UFO's. Often there was a very good reason why these quilts were set aside unfinished and we saw work that no longer meets our current standards. I hope you took satisfaction from not only completing it but also from seeing how far you've progressed through the years.

Next year's challenge will be announced at the May meeting. An email will be sent out after the meeting with a complete description for those of you who can't be there. I've tried to choose a theme which I think will have our members trying something new and learning a few things along the way. I hope you'll join me in this new challenge.

Nancy Fallone

Quilters Anonymous

Quilters Anonymous was started in 2002 to help those of us who were completion challenged. Through the years, we've encouraged and maybe even shamed a few (hey, whatever works) into setting goals and completing projects. Many of us have learned to schedule our quilting into the day, giving our work more importance, and, as a result, accomplish our goals. And for the others? Well, we discovered why it is we have so many UFO's. Our group at the bees has become so large that it's difficult to continue Quilters Anonymous as it was set up without disrupting the rest of the group. Therefore, we will be taking a break from QA. As we grow and change as quilters, we need to change the way we do things. There are some new and exciting things in the future so there will never be a dull moment at the church bees.

Quilt Folding Suggestion

Let's do all we can to make our quilts look beautiful while they are hanging at our quilt show. This applies to larger quilts mostly, but is not a bad habit to get into for all quilts. In order for our quilts to have the least amount of creases from folds at the quilt show, please fold your quilt in this manner: Fold your quilt from the bottom to the top and then the bottom to the top again. This should make your quilt the width of the pillowcase. Then fold the sides in so the quilt will fit entirely into the pillowcase. If we fold the quilt in this manner the hardest crease (which would be the first one) will have the weight of the quilt to help pull it out.

Scrap Organization

It's a common problem for many quilters. We start throwing our leftover scraps into a bin planning to use them someday in the future. Soon, the bin starts to fill and we move on to another bin. Before long, we seem to have mountains of scraps in such a disorganized mess that trying to use them becomes a lesson in frustration. We can never find the right color, a piece big enough, or even worse, we're not quite sure why we saved them in the first place. What do we do with them?

During the winter, about a dozen of us got together to share ideas on how to organize our scraps. Here are some of the items we discussed, some of the organizational methods we use, and some advice on how to organize your scraps so you will actually use them.

First, what is a scrap? It may sound like a cop-out but a scrap is in the eye of the quilter. Each quilter must decide when a piece of fabric is small enough that it can no longer be kept with the general population of the stash and must be relocated to the scrap bin. Small, oddly-shaped pieces can be useless to the strip quilter but just right for the appliqué-er. So, here is our first piece of advice: figure out what kind of quilts you make and what you plan to make in the future. Your organization plan starts by tailoring your scraps towards these projects. If you discover that you don't like quilts which contain many different fabrics, it may be best to give your scraps away or donate them to the chapter auction.

You've now decided that you want to not only save your scraps but to use them. Look at the patterns for those quilts you're itching to make and see what the fabric requirements are. If the instructions call for lights and darks, you can simply sort your scraps this way. If your pattern calls for three different color groups, the scraps can be sorted by color. Another option is to sort your scraps by sizes. Are you going to need a lot of 2 1/2 inch squares? Does the quilt use nothing but 2 inch strips?

If you are going to sort your scraps by sizes, as I mostly do, you are going to have to start trimming. Every now and then, I take about 15 – 20 minutes to pull out a handful of scraps, stack them, and trim them to useable sizes. They then get thrown into bins for different sized squares, strips and bricks. As I'm working on a project and I have small pieces left over, they get trimmed to these sizes on the spot instead of just being thrown into a general scrap bin.

You can also sort your scraps by types of fabrics. Keep your 30's repros separate from the bright kiddie fabrics and your batiks separate from your florals.

You have projects in mind, you've decided how you want to sort your scraps and you're ready to store them. You now must decide what to put them in. Clear, see-through storage was the most popular. These include stackable bins, shoe boxes and drawer units along with the ever popular Ziplocs. Make labels so you can quickly toss the appropriate scraps in without having to hunt for the appropriate container. Be sure you put these containers in a place which is easy to reach and not buried in the back of a closet. If you can't sort your scraps with ease then you probably won't sort them at all.

Making a quilt entirely out of your scraps is a fun and rewarding experience. A scrap quilt is next to impossible to duplicate and frees you from the drudgery of deciding if a certain shade of a color goes with another. It is also a wonderful feeling to know that you've used fabric that others would have thrown out, giving you the feeling as though you've gotten something for free. Being able to immediately put your hands on the scraps you need simply speeds along the process and adds to the pleasure.

McLean QU Library

The library for Mclean QU now is online! I decided to check out the website www.LIBRARYTHING.com following the mention by another QU guild that had used it. I figured that if I, your 'challenged' librarian, could manage to navigate the website, and I CAN, so can YOU!

Once you go to the website, you will need to supply the 'user name' *quunlimited* and the 'password' *mclean* in the boxes on the right of the page. It's that easy!!

I recommend that everyone do the 'guided tour' that the website offers, just to familiarize yourself with what's available.

THEN, go to the 'search' tab, and enter the title or author to see if it is in our library. In most cases, a thumbnail cover will appear, in a column, followed by my description of the book. There should be a color listed at the end of the entry telling you what box to search when the books come to a meeting at the church. If you desperately need the book before the next meeting, contact me. I can tell you if it is checked out; or I can retrieve it and you can collect it from me.

There are various 'styles' with which to view books: alphabetically; by author; by title; by the cover. Look and find the manner you prefer. Please note that some of the older books will have only a black cover shown.

If I can be of more help, contact me. Pat Blood 703 -356-4557 bloodbj@yahoo.com

Birthday Column

Happy birthday to the members with birthdays from late May through the end of September. Please note: your name will not appear in the birthday column unless you put your birthday on your 2007/2008 membership form.

MAY

Janet Fuoto	24
Betty Larson	28
Donna Pendleton	28
Bea Sommovigo	28
Evelyn Penn	31

JUNE

Stevii Graves	1
Cathy Eckbreth	16
Loretta Sullivan	16
Lura Alsalam	20
Terri Fischer	21
Sandi Goldman	22
Andrea Perkins	28

JULY

Mary Voytko	1
Nancy Fallone	4
Eileen Linares	4
Vernell Hutchinson	6
Janet Ball	7
Emilie McGee	12
Gayle Ropp	16

AUGUST

Kay Walker	4
Diane Kirkhart	5
Jennifer Emry	14
Kathy Kinghorn	18
Dorothy Staebler	22
Shirley Knowles	31

SEPTEMBER

Patricia Overton	12
Cindy Grisdela	13
Barbara McCracken	16
Elizabeth White	17
Alice DeLaVergne	20
Mary Lou Nelson	20
Catherine Crerar	22
Barbara Toohig	29

McLean Chapter of Quilters Unlimited 2008 – 2009 Membership Form

Annual membership runs from July 1 – June 30. Membership payment must be received by September 30th for inclusion in the Annual QU Directory.

YOU MUST COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION, EVEN IF RENEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP.

Name _____ Telephone (Home) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code + 4 (need all 9 digits) _____

Email Address _____ Birthday* (Month/Day Only) _____
*Optional, but necessary if you want to be included in the birthday column.

Work Phone – optional (Work phone number will not be included in the QU directory.) _____

Circle “Yes” or “No” for each question below (if blank, YES is the default):

- | | | |
|---|-----|----|
| QU may put my e-mail address in the directory | YES | NO |
| QU may e-mail the Big QU Newsletter to me | YES | NO |
| QU may e-mail my chapter newsletter to me | YES | NO |

Membership Categories (check one) and Dues: Renewal _____ New Member _____

- Regular (\$20.)
- Senior - Age 65+ by June 30, 2008 (\$ 10.) If you are already a Senior member of another chapter, please register as an Associate.
- Life - Age 75+ by June 30, 2008 (No charge at primary chapter, complete form for annual records) If you are already a Life member of another chapter, please register as an Associate.
- Family - two or more people at the same address (\$30.) - Please list names at the top
- Associate – primary membership in other QU chapter (\$10.)
(Name of primary QU chapter: _____)

\$ _____ Membership Dues
\$ _____ QU Membership Pin @ \$4.00 each, if desired
\$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED

Make your check payable to **McLean QU**.
Include a SASE if you wish to have your membership card mailed to you.

Mail to: Maureen Gray
8702 Cromwell Drive
Springfield, VA 22151

McLean Quilters Unlimited Volunteer Form 2008-09

Some of these activities already have volunteers this year. However, if you are interested in helping or being responsible for it in the future, please let us know. Thanks!

Name	Phone #	E-mail
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Another Opportunity to excel-

Auditor – check the treasurer’s records at the end of the year

Chapter Challenge – help develop guidelines and arrange display

Charm Squares – help distribute at monthly meetings

Farewell Quilts – coordinate collection and assembly of blocks

Greeter - welcome members and guests at the door at meetings
- help new members get acquainted

Hospitality – assist with refreshments for the meetings

Host a “Bee” in your home

Bring food to a “Bee”

Librarian Aide – man the library at a meeting

Magazine Swap – handle donations made in magazine swap

Membership – back-up membership chair at meetings

McLean QU Auction – lend a hand at our main fundraiser

Big QU assignment – to be determined.

Quilt show assignment –Set Up Lead

Service Committee

Telephone Tree – relay messages to a few members who do not have email

Schedule of Events

- May 27 Election of Officers, end of year potluck and Archeological Challenge Reveal at the church. (Remember, your quilts need to be completely finished.)
- June 3 Bee at Barbara Wynne's (703-893-7814) 901 Mackall Ave., McLean. One mile inside beltway on Georgetown Pike. Left on Mackall (just before Langley High School.) Food volunteers – Carolyn Lynch and Terri Fischer (final chance to turn in quilts for show)
- June 10 Service bee at the church
- June 24 Bee at the church
- July 8th Bee at the church
- July 22 Bee at the church
- August 5 Bee at the church
- August 26 Bee at the church
- Sept. 2 Bee at the church
- Sept. 23 Jeanne Benson 'Tools of Art' trunk show and workshop
- Oct. 28 Heidi Thayer 'Cotton Theory' trunk show and quilted placemat workshop
- Nov.18/19 Nancy Prince 'Thread Painting' trunk show and 2 workshops
- Additional bees or events may be added at a later date. Any changes or additions will be announced by email and phone tree.

McLean QU Auction Results

We netted \$4,133 at our auction this year. This will help pay for many of our programs in the next year.

Santa Fe Retreat

The Santa Fe Retreat will be September 24-October 1. 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.

SERVICE COMMITTEE

Reminder....Our service bee will take place on Tuesday, June 10 beginning at 10 am. This is the second Tuesday of the month. We have many tops to finish with tying, trimming and sewing. Thus, there will be a volunteer sheet for you to sign up for trimming (bring a mat, ruler and rotary cutter) and sewing (bring a sewing machine) at our May meeting.

Come and enjoy some beverages and pizza for lunch and pick up your quilt from the quilt show.

Again, our deepest thanks for your help this year in providing so many beautiful quilts for service. If you have any questions, call Mary Pace 703-536-5857 or email shannon1216@hotmail.com.

Mary Pace, Loretta Sullivan, Suzie Buck and Pat Carroll

**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	703-356-4557
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	703-288-4944
	Evelyn Penn	703-356-0766

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

Big QU Newsletter

Big QU has gone 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 3 newsletters on the QU website. **Please consider answering YES on your 2008/2009 membership form for the big QU newsletter and the McLean newsletter.**

The big QU newsletter is being viewed on the website by nearly 80% of the members who were notified by email. This is saving hundreds of dollars in printing and distribution costs for each newsletter.

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 - September 5

Please honor the deadline so that I can get the newsletter out on time.