

The Pieceful News

Volume 32, Issue 1

September 2006

Letter from the President

Welcome to a new year of quilting,

As you may note, our new year coincides with the new "school year". Our year goes from fall to spring, so we have less time in which to accomplish our "new year's resolutions." Nevertheless, I think it very fitting that our quilter's new year resolution should be formulated now. Well, every year I resolve to finish those UFO's, to keep my sewing room organized, and to be more reasonable about buying fabric, gadgets and thread. (Notice, I didn't say I won't buy those things, just that I would be reasonable—and reasonable is a moving target). Those resolutions are probably impossible, so in keeping with our school year theme, this year I resolve (and I hope you will too) to learn something new. That resolution is possible!

Learning new techniques keeps us younger. Youth is not just chronological age—it is also a way of viewing the world. And our world is reflected in our quilts. If we do the same thing over and over we get into a rut. Sometimes to get out of a rut we need a little help. That's what your guild can provide. The guild is a great source of help and learning.

The guild offers lectures, workshops, and bees. Our greatest resource is our membership. If you don't know how to do something all you have to do is ask. Someone will be able to help. And think about taking a class about something out of your comfort zone. I truly believe if you get just one "pearl" from a class, then it's been worthwhile.

I don't look at classes as a source of UFO's. Rather, class projects are for learning. If they happen to get finished, fine. But if they don't, that's okay too. That's because classes are where we are learning. It's not about the finished project.

Classes are where we should make mistakes, because there is an instructor to help you learn to correct those mistakes. It's not necessary to strive for perfections. Sure, we want to do our best, but mistakes are our best learning tools. Correction of mistakes inspire creative thinking. As adults we have to remember that we are allowed to make mistakes, we weren't born knowing how to do what ever we came to class to learn, and we don't have to learn it all in a day.

So this year resolve to learn more and to be less obsessive about making mistakes. It will make you and your quilts younger. Let's have fun!

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		
Communications	Mary Orzech	476-4641
Farewell	Gayle Ropp	
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	
	Sandy Goldman	
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

Bees



McLean QU has always been proud of its open bees. There's nothing to join—just show up and share in the camaraderie. Our bees will keep the same set-up this year as in the past few years. The first bee of every month will be at the church and the remainder in members' homes, with all starting at 10 a.m.

The bees at the church are a "beehive" of activity. (I hadn't intended a pun but had to keep it when it appeared). These bees usually last into the middle of the afternoon with some just stopping by for a quick visit while others spend the entire time. Bring your current project and spend the day working in the company of your fellow quilters. If you don't have a project you want to drag in, the service committee usually has a few quilts to tie or fabric to cut. The help desk, a really big cluster of tables, is always open and just waiting for a problem project to be thrown in the middle. All within earshot are usually willing to lend a hand and a lot of advice. And, of course, there is always Quilters Anonymous. And what is Quilters Anonymous?

QA, as we call it, is a group of quilters who have a little trouble finishing their projects and need the incentive of answering to a group. Reminiscent of a 12-step program, we set goals for the month and the year and support each other in attaining those quilting goals. If you are interested, please join us for our first meeting of the year at the bee on October 3rd. We usually meet at about 10:45, right in the middle of the bee. All are welcome to listen in.

The bees in homes are a great way to get to know your fellow McLean members. Our hostess is helped out by a couple of others with food. These bees usually last until about 12 and are a bit more relaxed than the church bees.

We hope to see many of you at the bees throughout the year. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

Nancy Fallone
703-533-3907
fall-1@comcast.net

Chapter Challenge



Last year's chapter challenge—stash quilts—was a tremendous success with over 30 participants many of whom made several quilts. A few of those quilts were string quilts and they inspired the challenge for this year. Of course, we couldn't do anything as simple as just string quilts, so we've added a little something to make it interesting. Our challenge for the 2006 - 2007 quilting year is:

The What Was She Thinking When She Bought This Fabric String Quilt Chapter Challenge

Yes, it is a cumbersome title. Here are the rules:

1. Bring in a fat quarter (18 x 22) or quarter yard cut (9 useable inches x width of fabric) of fabric which you consider ugly or difficult to work with.
2. It must be *GOOD QUALITY, WASHED, 100% COTTON* quilting fabric.
3. Bring it to the first meeting. (You may bring extra for those who forgot or late joiners).
4. Your fabric gets put into a paper bag. When all of the fabrics are in bags, you choose 1 bag.

5. You may join late by bringing your ugly fabric to the next bee or meeting.
6. You may not trade fabrics with anyone or switch with another from home.
7. You must use this fabric to make a **STRING** quilt.
8. Please use most—at least 75%--of your chosen fabric.
9. Save 1 strip to display with your finished top.
10. Your top must be completed by the **APRIL** meeting.

Prizes will be awarded to all who have completed a top and displayed it at the April meeting.

There seems to be some confusion as to exactly what a string quilt is. A string quilt is strippy but a strip quilt is not necessarily a string quilt. Sounds a bit vague, doesn't it? While a concise definition is difficult, I would describe a string quilt as one made with strips or "strings" of irregular widths. These irregular, unplanned widths give the quilt its' very random, unplanned look.

To help in the planning of your quilt, we will be holding a "String Quilt Extravaganza" on Tuesday, October 3rd, 12:30 - 4, during our regular bee at the church. We will talk about what makes a string quilt a string quilt, share patterns, resources, ideas and piecing methods. You may also get started right then and there on your project. Feel free to bring your machine and fabric. You may also take this opportunity to swap fabric with others.

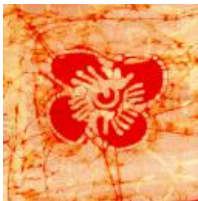
There is a lot of excitement about this project and I think we'll have fun with it. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Nancy Fallone

fall-1@comcast.net

703-533-3907

Charm Swap



It is time to sign-up for the 2006-2007 Charm Swap. We will be looking for a coordinator for our 6" squares this year. Mary Orzech has agreed to finish up last year's squares. This year's theme will be announced soon.

Here are some rules we will follow:

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 **FULL** 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.

Membership



Membership dues are still being collected for the 2006-2007 year. Please fill out the form found later in this publication and submit it to Maureen Gray. The sooner you pay your dues, the sooner you get your membership/discount card. Remember, if you don't renew in person be sure to include a self-addressed stamped envelope so Maureen can mail your membership card. Also, please PRINT CLEARLY when filling out this form. Many committee members rely on the information you provide and if they can't read it, they have incorrect information which is frustrating for everyone. Lastly, please note that if you want your name and number to be in the Big QU Directory, dues must be paid by September 30th.

Programs



Our first meeting will feature Rose Rushbrooke. She will be giving her lecture on How to Make a Fractal Art Quilt. To see more of Rose's work, visit www.roserushbrook.com. On October 24th Jo Griffith will be giving a lecture on Appraising Quilts and our workshop that month will be "Dying for the Timid". More information and sign up sheets will be available at the September meeting.

As most of you know, in the past the Vice President has been responsible for identifying and organizing our monthly lectures and workshops. There is now a committee that will take over these duties. Thank you to Pat Blood, Sandi Goldman and Barb Hollinger for volunteering!

Service Committee



In need of a quilt project? Packets, to make quilt tops, will be available at our bees and meetings at the church. Quilts for seniors were donated to Arlington County Department of Social Services. Baby quilts were given to The Parenting Program for Arlington County and to the Assistance League of Northern VA. Below is the text of a letter from the chairperson of the Assistance League.

Mary Pace, Suzie Buck and Loretta Sullivan

July 12, 2006

Ms. Mary Pace
McLean Quilters Unlimited
4900 Yorktown Blvd.
Arlington, VA 22207

Dear Mary,

I am writing to express our sincere appreciation to you and others in the McLean Quilters Unlimited for your donation of beautiful baby quilts last month. These quilts will help tremendously with one of our philanthropic projects, and we feel very fortunate that your organization is a partner in our efforts again this year.

As you may know, the Assistance League of Northern Virginia (ALNV) is a chapter of National Assistance League, a non-profit, non-political, non-sectarian, 501(c) (3) organization founded in the early 1890's. Today, more than 24,000 Assistance-League members in 26 states touch the lives of more than one million youth and adults very year. Our philanthropic services are implemented entirely by volunteer members who develop, fund, and staff service projects. The quilts which the McLean QU donated will be a part of layette "bundles" which the ALNV is putting together for the OB/GYN Clinic at Inova Fairfax Hospital. Along with the quilts, we will provide digital thermometers, baby bottles, pacifiers, clothing and educational material in both English and Spanish. This year, we hope to donate 600 of these bundles to Fairfax Hospital for the clinic to provide to very low income mothers who obtain medical care at the clinic. Your donation will help us meet our goal.

Sincerely,
Jeanne Sclater
Hugs Chairperson



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.

Schedule of Events

October 3 - bee at the church -- String Quilt Extravaganza

October 10 - Mary Brederhopt (703-534-2189) 6107 Woodland Terrace, McLean. From Kirby Rd. R. on Chesterbrook Rd., R. on N. Albermarle, immediate R onto Woodland Terrace. Food volunteers - Carolyn Lynch and Cathy Rees

October 17 - Ilse Johnson (703-243-5683) 5911 N. 5th Road, Arlington. From Tyson's Corners to Seven Corners on Route 7. Left on Clarendon/Wilson Blvd. Stay on Wilson Blvd, Right on Manchester. 2nd Right on 5th Road (if you are on 5th St. you went too far). Food volunteers - Lura Alsalam and Gayle Ropp

October 24 - Monthly Meeting at church --- Jo Griffith. Lecture on Appraising quilts. Workshop --- Dying for the timid.

October 31 - Mary Pace (703-536-5857) 4900 Yorktown Blvd., Arlington. Old Dominion Rd to Arlington. Bear R. on Glebe Rd. Right on 26th Street. Right on Brandywine. Left on Yorktown Blvd. 4th house on left. Food volunteers - Suzie Buck and Dorothy Furey

November 7 - bee at the church

November 14 - Monthly Meeting --- Paula Golden. Lecture on "Quilts of Virginia"

November 15 - Workshop --- Paula Golden. Mariner's Compass.

November 21 - NO BEE

November 28 - Diane Kirkhart (703-749-4645) 1452 Carrington Ridge Lane, Vienna. From Beltway take Rt. 7 West. As soon as you cross Toll Road, turn left onto Jarrett Valley Dr. Take 2nd left. House is on the corner. Food volunteers - Susan Owen and Mary Orzech

December 5 - bee at the church

December 12 - Holiday Fair at the church

2006-2007 McLean Chapter Budget

	2005/2006 Actual		2006/07 proposed budget	
	Income	Expenses	Income	Expenses
Administration		\$ 474.83		\$ 500.00
Auction	\$4,419.49	\$ 203.51	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 300.00
Bank		\$ 13.00		
Donations		\$ 500.00		\$ 500.00
Gifts/door prizes		\$ 452.58		\$ 500.00
Hospitality		\$ 134.58		\$ 200.00
Field Trips/Lancaster	\$1,659.00	\$ 2,556.65	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 3,000.00
Library		\$ 92.38		\$ 100.00
Membership	\$2,107.00	\$ 987.56	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Newsletter		\$ 349.97		\$ 500.00
Programs/workshops	\$1,405.00	\$ 3,486.09	\$ 800.00	\$ 2,500.00
Service Projects		\$ 204.21		\$ 300.00
Space Rental		\$ 925.00		\$ 1,300.00
Total	\$9,590.49	\$ 10,380.36	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 10,700.00
Checking Balance		\$ 10,423.65		

Have a tip you'd like to share? Email Mary at mterhune@verizon.net

McLean Chapter of Quilters Unlimited 2006 - 2007 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

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

If applicable, QU may e-mail my chapter newsletter to me YES NO

If applicable, QU may e-mail the Big QU Newsletter to me YES NO

Below is my work phone number. I understand it will not be included in the directory:
(work phone - optional) _____

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

___ Regular (\$20.)

___ Senior - Age 65+ by June 30, 2006 (\$ 10.)

___ Life - Age 75+ by June 30, 2006 (no charge at primary chapter, complete form for annual records)

___ 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 home 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 2006-2007

Name

Phone #

WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please let us know how you are able to contribute this 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
- Hospitality - assist with refreshments for the meetings
- Hosting Bees - have a "Bee" in your home
- Librarian Aide - carry a crate of books to meetings
- Magazine Swap - handle donations made in magazine swap
- Membership - work with the chair to get new members acquainted
- McLean QU Auction - lend a hand at our main fundraiser
- Quilt-In - work with committee
- Quilt Show - work with committee chair
- Telephone Tree - occasionally relay urgent messages to a few members

Big QU Events Calendar

Sept. 28 - Lecture - Barbara Randal --- Crazy Quilts with Attitude

Sept. 29 - Workshop - Barbara Randal --- "Pic Sac"

Sept. 30 - Workshop - Barbara Randal ---- "The Church Lady Bag"

Need more information? Look up www.QuiltersUnlimited.org.

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 ongoing 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."

The Pieceful News
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Falls Church, VA 22042