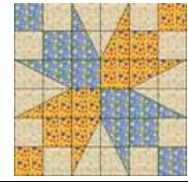


Pieceful Times



Volume 32, Issue 10

Vienna Quilters Unlimited

June 2005

FINALE

About three weeks ago, I finally retired from 25 years as a public servant. Don't get me wrong, I probably will go BACK to work one day, but an opportunity arose to retire now. I had been working since I was fourteen years old, and frankly, there wasn't a closet in my home whose door I wasn't terrified to open; so I figured it was a golden opportunity that I couldn't pass up.

My children haven't really known anything different than my working outside the home – and for anyone who wonders if it will cause confusion in their children's lives if they retain their maiden name, I have, and I can honestly say that the schools, the pediatrician, and the orthodontist have NEVER had a problem immediately catching on to this slight anomaly. In fact, they've done a better job of dealing with it than the place where I work ever did. (My husband and I worked for the same employer, which for years attempted to force me to use my married name!)

In fact, my two boys immediately asked the question as to what I would do with myself now that I wouldn't be going to work every day. They are both in their teens, and I thought this would be a golden

opportunity to become interested in their lives; so I promptly replied that I would now use my time to try to insure that they would remain virgins until they married. The look on their faces at this notion was worth the paperwork I had to do to retire!! Somehow they were not amused at this notion and immediately pleaded with their father that I should return to the workforce. As if!!!

My youngest then thought about this a little longer and finally decided that I would get up to mischief if left to my own devices. A couple of months before my retirement, I finally bought a much-coveted picture hat from a hat artist. I actually bought several hats, but one was covered with huge red silk cabbage roses (think something the costumer for Titanic would come up with!) The thing about living in a house full of males is that frequently they give you THAT look – you know the one I'm talking about – the one that's about 40% “We're going to have to send for the boys in the white suits for her” and about 60% “I think she's speaking a foreign language to me – maybe Mandarin - because I am only getting about every third word out of her mouth!” I hate THAT look!! Anyway, when I came home with this particular hat, I got THAT look from all three of the men in the

house, and the cat (who's also male) was giving it HIS Siamese best too! I LOVE, LOVE, LOVE this hat. I'm not sure where I'm going to wear it, but I HAD to have it.

Anyway, back to the story. Sam, upon learning about my retirement, looked at me squinty eyed for a while and then said to me "What about all your jewelry? Where are you going to wear it now that you won't go to work every day? BET YOU DIDN'T THINK ABOUT THAT!!!" (I forgot to mention that I also am a jewelry fanatic and never miss a gem and jewelry show in the area. I MIGHT have one or two pieces...) Then he thought for a few more seconds and shouted, "OH MY GOD!! WE'RE GOING TO COME HOME AND FIND YOU IN BED WEARING THAT STUPID HAT AND ALL YOUR JEWELRY, AND YOU'LL JUST LIE THERE ALL DAY SHOUTING 'BRING ME COOKIES!!!"

It took me forever to quit laughing, because this particular image pleased me so much. It made me sound like a jaded Tennessee Williams' character. I could just see me lying in bed with a droopy old slip, with the straps falling off my shoulders, that big old picture hat on with its gi-normous red silk, cabbage roses, wearing enough jewelry to sink a battle cruiser, a bottle of bourbon in one hand and a bag of cookies in the other, and occasionally pounding the floor with my cane (it is a Tennessee Williams' character, so there has to be a cane in the story) shouting, "Bring me cookies!"

I am going to wait until they all least expect it and let them find me at home that way one day. Have to keep them on their toes!

With a finale to that part of my life, I now look to my past year as president of VQU.

I hope you all have enjoyed yourselves as much as I have this past year. The purpose of my articles was to remind you to step back and look at life with some humor. I hope they have succeeded. I want to take this opportunity to thank my Board who have been so instrumental in making this past year possible. You all rock! Everyone was super, and I couldn't have done it without you. So many of you stepped forward and took on jobs without having ever done so before, and you were each amazing. I thank each of you. I hope the rest of VQU will support Theresa in the upcoming year. She is still looking for volunteers; so if you have not served in a position on the board, please consider doing so. It's a great way to get to know the membership, and if you don't like how things are done or want some change, it's your chance to have an impact on what happens in the chapter and in big QU. Please consider taking on this responsibility.

In keeping with looking at life with humor, I encourage each of you to bring your first and last quilt to our June dinner and share with us your successes (and failures) because while we celebrate our successes, we learn more from our failures! With that in mind, for anyone who wants to capitalize on the learning process, we are holding a contest for Worst First Quilt at the June Dinner. The prize is a rolling sewing machine carrier with detachable sundries case worth over \$100 which will be donated to VQU (by yours truly). In order to participate, however, you must actively enter your quilt in this contest (no one has to participate if they don't want to, and please still bring your first and last quilts whether you wish to compete or not). No beginning

quilt is too humble, and remember that this can be a real inspiration to those beginner quilters out there who can learn how far someone can progress from this experience.

We'll see you at the June Dinner!!!!
Ya'll come!!!

*Andrea Gribble,
President*

VQU Annual June Dinner
Tuesday, June 21
6:00 -9:00 p.m.
Kilmer Middle School Cafeteria

Potluck Dinner
(Bring a salad or dessert, please!)

Installation of 2005-2006 officers
Raffle Prizes
A VQU Gift for you!
Table Decorations to win!
Show and Tell...Bring your latest creative endeavor!
Bring your first and last quilt!

Don't miss our final activity of the year!

Want to help? Contact Linda Montross, 703-281-0764 or
amovos@aol.com

WAIT, WAIT; IT'S NOT TOO LATE . . .

It's not too late...to join the fun of the Chapter Challenge and Swap. Many of us have had a wonderful season of swapping postcards, always wondering what work of wonder would appear in our mailbox just days after the VQU monthly meeting. You, too, can join in the fun! If you've been swapping postcards throughout the year, we hope you'll participate in June's swap with the "Anything Goes" theme. But, if you've not yet experienced the thrill of opening your mailbox and finding a precious piece of art inside, we hope that June's "Anything Goes" postcard swap will inspire you to give it a try. Here's the link back to the August VQU

Newsletter to get an easy review of the guidelines:

<http://www.quiltersunlimited.org/docs/ViennaAug04.pdf>.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: If you're one of the lucky folks who have already participated in the Challenge Swap, or if you're one of the bold ones ready to jump in and participate in the June swap, there will be a special gift waiting for you at the June dinner IF you bring a sampling of the postcards you've received. So, remember, **BRING IN THOSE POSTCARDS** and share the works of wonder!

KEEPING UP WITH QUILTING NEWS IN THE AREA

Subscribe to the *QU Digest*! Since 1995, the *QU Digest* has been an informal way for members to network and share information between official QU newsletters. It's sent electronically to over 1,000 QU members via e-mail. There is no cost to subscribe.

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 at QUDigest@cox.net. Include your name, QU chapter, and e-mail address.

BOOK BEAT

by Diane Dresdner

Important Reminder: *Please return all library books at the June meeting for the annual June book inventory.*

Reservations – To reserve a book or video for the summer, please contact Diane Dresdner at 703/378-0994 or ddresdner@cox.net. For a listing of our

library holdings, go to the Quilters Unlimited website. Click on the Vienna link, and follow the instructions for the library listing.



QUILT SHOW PARTICIPANTS

If by any chance you have not yet picked up your quilt, you must do so as soon as possible - but definitely before June 19th when the insurance is no longer in effect. (So

you can't wait until the June dinner.) Call Joan Gifford at 703/255-9366 to arrange a pick-up time. Thank you.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS CONTINUE

Bill Rice donated a large bag of teddy bears, and Dottie Reed made 100 bears for

the Pediatric Emergency Room at Fairfax Hospital. Karla Vernon delivered them.

VQU MEMBER'S QUILTS ON DISPLAY

Gayle Ropp's quilts are on display at the Potomac Mills G Street Fabrics store from

May 27 to September 9, 2005. Gayle says, "If you are in the area, please stop by.!"

VQU TRADITIONAL BOARD DINNER

The traditional Vienna QU In-Out Board Dinner will be held at Amy Berger's

home on Thursday, June 23 at 7:00 p.m. This is the dinner for both outgoing and incoming Board members.

JUNE/JULY BIRTHDAYS

6/2 Shelly McAllister
6/11 Lillian Ryan
6/17 Mary Ellen Simmons
6/18 Ludy Rauber
6/20 Marjorie Midili
6/22 Joanne McCallum
6/27 Mary Joyce
6/29 Diane Dresdner
7/? Catherine Gilger
7/3 Tammi Yiakoumatos
7/4 Heidi Graff
7/11 Alice Hughes

7/13 Madaline Stutes
7/14 Pam Bauernfeind
Linda Birkner
7/16 Gayle Ropp
7/18 Louise Sutara
7/20 Lois Hermanson
7/25 Mary Lawrence
Mona Wunderlich
7/26 Polly Dombroski
7/30 Karla Vernon

VIENNA QUILTERS UNLIMITED BOARD 2004-2005

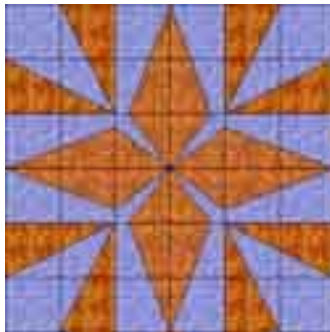
Executive Board:

President	Andrea Gribble andreaagribble@hotmail.com 703/764-9331 (H) 202/736-0291 (W)	Recording Secretary	Kathy MacNabb kmmacnabb@aol.com 703/938-4355
Vice President	Theresa Nichols nicholsfamily1@earthlink.net 703/938-3553	Corresponding Secretary	Janice Feather featherjl@cox.net 703/425-0381
Treasurer	Bill Rice 703/503-7378	Newsletter	Trudi Sommerfield tsommerfield@pwcgov.org 703/921-9135
		Nominating Committee	Karla Vernon kvernon@cox.net 703/281-0738

VIENNA QUILTERS UNLIMITED BOARD 2005-2006

Executive Board:

President	Theresa Nichols nicholsfamily1@earthlink.net 703/938-3553		
Vice President	Carole Marti		
Treasurer	Bill Rice		
Recording Secretary	Barbara Cannon	Newsletter	Trudi Sommerfield
Corresponding Secretary	Kathleen Kurke	Nominating Committee	Dottie Reed



TIME FOR ANNUAL DUES

It's time to pay dues for next year. The Big QU Board voted to increase dues to \$20 for regular membership, to \$10 for senior & associate members, and to \$30 for a family membership. See the Big QU March

newsletter. Please bring your renewal form and a check to the June Vienna QU meeting or mail it to Membership Chair Betty Ladd at 2310 Concert Ct.; Vienna, VA 22181-3224.

Vienna Quilters Unlimited 2005 – 2006 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.

Name	Telephone (Home)
Address	
City	State
Zip Code + 4	
Email Address - optional optional	Birthday (Month/Day Only)

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 you wish to receive your chapter newsletter by regular mail, there is a \$10 charge. Please provide Treasurer Bill Rice with \$10 in cash or check.

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, 2005 (\$10)

___ Life - Age 75+ by June 30, 2005 (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

To give the board help in planning events and activities for the coming year please indicate your interest in helping Vienna with the following committees/projects:

Auction	Block of the Month	Challenge	Community Service	History
Hospitality	June Dinner	Library Make-A-Quilt Night		Membership
Newsletter	Programs	Quilt Show	Retreat	

Please bring this completed form and payment to the Vienna chapter meeting. **Make your check payable to Vienna QU.** Details on meeting times and days are available from our website: <http://www.quiltersunlimited.org>

QUILTING DATES TO REMEMBER

- June 16-18 National Quilting Association's 36th Quilt Show; Columbus, OH
(www.nququilts.org)
- June 17-19 "Blue Ridge Quilt Festival – Images in Fabric" – Blacksburg, VA
(www.brqfestival.com)
- June 17-19 Schoolhouse Quilters Guild, Inc. 26th Annual Quilt Show; Cumberland, MD
- June 21 VQU June Dinner at Kilmer Middle School **Cafeteria** (6:00 p.m.)
- June 24-26 Vermont Quilt Festival; Northfield, VT (www.vqf.org)
- July 28-31 Quilt Odyssey; Hershey, PA (www.quiltodyssey.com)
- September 9-11 32nd Annual Sully Quilt Show & Sale (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully)
- September 24-25 "A Quilters Harvest" – Friendship and Eternal Quilt Guilds biannual quilt show. Brooklyn Park Middle School; Baltimore, MD

Quilt clipart courtesy of Dawn Stewart at <http://dlstewart.com/clipart.htm>

Trudi Sommerfield
6579 Grange Lane #204
Alexandria, VA 22315