



# Pieceful Times



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## ***QUILTA – CLAN OF THE CAVE BEAR***

All right, I admit it, I love to shop. You might say it is a hobby of mine. I realize that this particular hobby has not gained a lot of respectability in modern times (and it should, as I will explain below). I cannot understand why people snicker when they see it on job applications, resumes, curricula vitae, etc. Someone who is really, really good at shopping should garner the same respect as any master craftsmen. Not everyone has the patience, skill and cunning to bag that incredibly wonderful, rare item at that low, low, never heard of before price. Those of you who enjoy the shopping experience know what I'm talking about – when you score a phenomenal bargain, it's like when a hunter bags a 14 point buck (whatever THAT means!) I have repeatedly tried to explain this to my husband who gets that expression on his face – you know the one – the “I'm trying to be interested in what she has to say because I will never see a warm meal again if I don't, but WHY is this important????” look.

If there is an outlet mall or a discount store within a hundred mile radius, I am their queen. My husband shudders when we walk through the doors and the wait staff know me by name. He finds this particularly offensive in a town where you

could go into cardiac arrest in any high scale store and actually die of neglect before a clerk would call “911.” He cannot understand that I have a *relationship* with these people that I have worked VERY hard to cultivate so that I can get advance notice of special sales, deals, or discounts. He does not understand the loving time and attention it takes to work at this. For years I have expected him to praise me for the bounty of the wonderful deals I have gotten, but instead, he gets that squinty eyed look when I walk in the door saying, “Look dear, I got a killer deal on some German nutcrackers, 3 cotton sweaters size “small” (no one in my house has seen a size “small” in 10 years), and a ceramic dog bowl (we have never had a dog).” It has taken 18 years of training, but at least he doesn't ask silly questions like, “What will we ever do with this stuff?” anymore. He has, however, developed this really annoying sigh....

A few years ago I was reading Jean Auel's *Clan of the Cave Bear* series, and I finally figured out what I was doing. I was merely responding to the hunter/gatherer genes imprinted on me from my prehistoric forebears millennia ago. According to Ms. Auel's books, prehistoric man, in order to exist, had to spend every waking moment hunting animals for food and gathering

seeds, plants, and berries to augment his diet, provide tools, clothing, daily items, and medicines. In most clans, the men did the hunting and the women did the gathering. Ms. Auel writes about Cro-Magnon man in her books (among other things) and explains that these people did not teach one another but rather passed on certain knowledge and skills through genetic memory, and later she writes that Cro-Magnon man mixed with Neolithic man to become the ancestor of modern man. Now to be fair to you all (so you don't rush out and waste your money AND time), a couple of her books are pretty bad (guess she spent the advance SHOPPING, was running up on a publisher's deadline, and her contract specified number of words to be produced by a certain time), but the first couple are pretty interesting. Anyway, after slogging through her books, I thought I had a pretty great theory about why I just had to go out shopping to look for a great bargain. I was responding to my hunter/gatherer genes left to me eons ago! This was a have-to thing!!!

Anyway, the next time my husband did that long-gaspy sigh of his (in order to reproduce this sound, you'd have to find someone on their deathbed of emphysema after smoking a carton of cigarettes a day for 37 years – there's a rattle that comes at the end of it that is not to be believed!) when I returned from one of my successful shopping forays, I explained to him how I was responding to my pre-programmed hunter/gatherer genes and merely doing a very good job of that which had been impressed into my genetic make-up long ago. He got that squinty-eyed look that signals disbelief (really annoying), and as I expounded on my theory and cited Ms. Auel's incredibly scientific tomes (fictional best sellers), he did that sigh thing again (really, really annoying!) and then rolled his eyes so far back in his head I thought I

would have to smack him to get his eyeballs to go straight! Well, clearly all this scientific breakthrough was being wasted on someone who had no vision! I am sharing it with you, however, gentle readers, in hopes that you find a more receptive and sympathetic listener at your home. If not, I find a swift thump administered at the back of the skull usually straightens those eyeballs right out and stops the gaspy sighs!!!!

It is time now for Quilta of the Clan of the Cave Bear to run her traps to see what the earth's bounty has brought to her. Quilta recommends that you do the same!!

The following are just a few of Quilta's most favorite and secret hunting/gathering places (and Quilta, who searches the world over for the best the earth has to offer – and because her job occasionally sends her to some obscure locations and she finds she has a little time on her hands! - has ranged far and wide indeed!!!!):

Vanity Fair Outlet, Reading, PA – The “mothership” of all the Vanity Fair Outlets, this covers three floors of a block-long building (only 17 miles from Sauder's!). For those of you who make sweatshirt jackets, VF sells sweatshirts in all sizes and colors 3 for \$10 or \$5 each in a broad range of colors and sizes, including 2x and 3x for those of you who have big shoulders, like me, or other generous body parts!

Hancock's of Paducah – I shop their “Amazing Web Specials” all the time. In addition to a broad array of fabric choices at regular prices, the Web Specials offer name brand fabrics at huge discounts. For example, there are usually some Bali batiks at \$3.99 per yard, and Auntie Grace fabrics

for the same price. Hancock's regularly run specials on shipping, so check out the monthly special. Sign up for their on-line newsletter, and they will let you know what's on super sale.

[www.fabricboutique.com](http://www.fabricboutique.com) – one of my favorite websites to check at year's end. The Fabric Boutique is a GREAT quilt shop in Las Vegas, Nevada that runs all kinds of different monthly specials. It's a cool place to stop by while in Vegas, but once a year the teachers in the shop band together and sell at huge markdowns their shop samples. I've bought full sized quilts for \$100 or less. And Honey! I wouldn't make 'em for that!!!! The workmanship, materials, and designs are magnificent. Check them out. (Warning: they have a really dumb, annoying theme song - I call it the chicken egg-laying song - that plays automatically when you hit their web site. Turn your sound off before proceeding....)

The Omidaka, San Francisco, CA – the Omidaka is the Japanese Trade Center, in the heart of San Francisco. It is a series of small, Japanese run businesses in two connecting buildings. There are several textile stores and a couple of antique stores (among other shops). There are bargains and real finds to be had by the careful shopper. While in SF, check out the Black Cat Quilt shop, 2608 Ocean Ave. Nice little shop, friendly staff (and yes, there really is a black cat!), and accessible by SF's wonderful public transportation system (train stops right outside the door!). A great pastry shop across the street serves sandwiches and marvelous cakes and pastries!

Happy hunting!

*Andrea Gribble*  
*President*



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Upcoming events include:

March 15 Ann Littleton speaking on "The Joys and Pitfalls of Group Quilts"

March 16 Embellished Wall hanging or Vest; 10:30-2:30. A copy of the supply list follows. The workshop will be held at the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Vienna.

April 19 Linda Pool will be speaking on 3-D appliqué.

May 17 Kit Robinson will be presenting a trunk show.

At the last meeting only 4 people sign the sheet to state a preference in regards to a shopping trip to Pennsylvania. The sheet will be available at the upcoming meeting, but if there is insufficient interest, then we will not hire a bus. We might still arrange a car pool or two, but the amount of interest will dictate the plans.

Supply List for March 16 workshop:

Premade wall hanging (use back or front as a base) or vest (check out thrift stores)

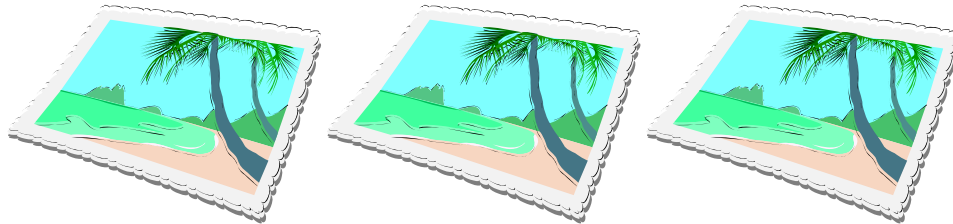
Choose any theme: Valentine, St Patrick, Seasonal, All Blue (any color), Asian, Red Hat, Tea party, Patriotic, etc.

Threads, yarns, buttons, beads, stickers, greeting cards, lace, charms, doilies, old jewelry, coordinating fabric, orphan blocks, fabric strips, ribbons, hankies, feathers, old linens, silk flowers, tiny fabric bags, etc. Bring anything that might add interest to your theme. (If in doubt, Bring it!)

Scissors(fabric and paper)  
Coordinating threads, needles  
Glue stick  
Fusible web(Heat/Bond, Wonder Under, etc)  
Safety pins, Straight pins  
Masking tape  
Saran wrap

I'm anticipating that participants will want to share/trade embellishments. Come have fun and leave with an "almost finished" project!

*Amy Berger*



## QUILTED POSTCARD

Keep those postcards coming!

**March:** Spring Fling

**April:** Black and White and "Red"  
or "Read" All Over

**May:** How Does Your Garden Grow?

**June:** Anything and Everything Goes.

## ***VOLUNTEER FOR THE QUILT SHOW***

The quilt show is scheduled for June 3, 4, and 5 at the Dulles Expo Center. Signups to volunteer during the show began March 6th at the quilt in and will also be available at one of our chapter meetings. Reminder postcards will be provided for all volunteers. Volunteer needs include white glove, supervision of the event rooms, vendor relief, and entry tables for ticket sales and other sales (raffle quilt, cameras, etc.)

For those members who are new this year, the quilt show is entirely staffed by volunteers, and we couldn't run it without you! The only way QU can afford a facility large enough to display all quilts offered by QU members is to use our members to fill the hundreds of jobs necessary, and this is what makes it possible to put quilts in the show without paying a fee. Volunteers are allowed to purchase a three day admission for the cost of one day.

Other volunteer needs include setup and takedown of the quilt show, on Wednesday June 1st from 6-8 p.m., Thursday June 2nd from 8-4 p.m., and Sunday June 5th from 5-9 p.m. Volunteer for this by contacting Connie Gallant at [mcgallant@msn.com](mailto:mcgallant@msn.com) or calling 703/754-4314. We would also appreciate husbands to volunteer for this! QU will pay any quilters' children (from ages 18 through 28) or their friends of the same age range \$10 an hour to come and help, but that has to be prearranged with Connie Gallant. Three day admission armbands will be sold during the day to volunteers on Thursday, June 2nd.

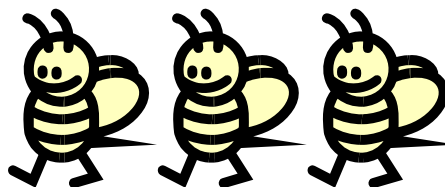
We hope everyone will volunteer for one of the available positions, and thank you.

*Bonnie Wilbur*

## ***CALLING ALL BEES***

We'd like to get an up-to-date, accurate listing of all the VQU bees. Would someone from each bee please stop by the Vice President's table at the March 15<sup>th</sup> meeting and give Theresa Nichols the name of your bee, when and where it meets, the name, phone number and e-mail address of your contact person(s), the size of your bee, and whether or not you are accepting new members into your bee.

Thank you.



## ***PLEASE STOP AT THE VICE-PRESIDENT'S TABLE***

Please stop at the Vice President's table at the March meeting. Theresa Nichols will be handing out instructions and fabric for the President's quilt. Shhh! Don't mention it to Andrea!!!

## ***APRIL RETREAT***

A reminder that payment in full for the April Retreat is due by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Please send your check made payable to Vienna QU for any outstanding balance to:

Dottie Reed  
4515 Sonata Court  
Fairfax, VA 22032

or

Oneida Stephens  
2912 Buell Court  
Dumfries, VA 22026

The VQU retreat is April 1 - 4 at New Windsor, Md.

**Costs:** 2 nights - Single occupancy - \$182; Double occupancy - \$162

3 nights - Single occupancy - \$259; Double occupancy - \$229.

## ***BOOK BEAT***

The list of books and videos we own is quite impressive! The listing is 7 pages long (397 KB). If you'd like to have a copy e-mailed to you, please contact either our

Librarian, Diane Dresdner at [ddresdner@cox.net](mailto:ddresdner@cox.net) or me at [tsommerfield@pwcgov.org](mailto:tsommerfield@pwcgov.org). There will be some copies available at the March meeting.

## ***JEWELS FOR ELLEN***

A reminder from Barb Tricarico: We all know what a "gem" Ellen Issner (V) is! Since Ellen is undergoing another round of chemotherapy, what better way to perk her up than by sending her a little note of encouragement. While you're at it, tuck a bit of jewel-toned fabric inside to let her know how much we appreciate her!

Ellen loves batiks, fossil ferns, or any deep, rich, saturated color of fabric. (She's also partial to hand-dyes, we've heard.) Even a little 6" square will give Ellen the pleasure

of planning a new project while she's having her treatments. Ellen's goal is to get through this latest battle and attend the VQU Retreat! Let's encourage her along the way. Her address is:

Ellen Issner  
6836 Camus Place  
Springfield, VA 22152

**Ellen's email address is [ellen.issner@cgi-ams.com](mailto:ellen.issner@cgi-ams.com)**

## ***SAVE THE DATE FOR THE JUNE DINNER***

It's almost time for our annual June Dinner! Save the date...June 21 at Kilmer Middle School Cafeteria...6:00 p.m.... for an evening of Quilters' Favorite Foods, Fun, and

Fabrics! Want to help? Contact Linda Montross at 703/281-0764 or [amovos@aol.com](mailto:amovos@aol.com)

## **MARCH/APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

<p>3/10 Kate Untiedt            3/11 Marcia Perkins            3/18 Christina Ferguson            3/21 Carole Farrell                  Louise Matthews                  Joni Seidenstein            3/25 Helen Foreman                  Sheilah Musselman                  Susan Sladek            3/26 Mary Jo Loder            3/27 Connie Sherrill            3/30 Andrea Gribble            4/2 Margaret Sheridan</p>	<p>4/5 Linda Macrancy                  Ann Myers                  Alice Oliphant            4/6 Terri Jones            4/8 Barb Celio            4/15 Oneida Stephens            4/17 Janet Marney            4/21 Martha Blevins                  Barbara Tricarico            4/22 Beryl O'Connor            4/24 Margaret Sos            4/30 Prudence Traut</p>
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## **VIENNA QUILTERS UNLIMITED BOARD 2004-2005**

### **Executive Board:**

President	Andrea Gribble andreagribble@hotmail.com 703/764-9331 (H) 202/736-0291 (W)	Recording Secretary	Kathy MacNabb <a href="mailto:kmmacnabb@aol.com">kmmacnabb@aol.com</a> 703/938-4355
Vice President	Theresa Nichols <a href="mailto:nicholsfamily1@earthlink.net">nicholsfamily1@earthlink.net</a> 703/938-3553	Corresponding Secretary	Janice Feather <a href="mailto:featherjl@cox.net">featherjl@cox.net</a> 703/425-0381
Treasurer	Bill Rice 703/503-7378	Newsletter	Trudi Sommerfield <a href="mailto:tsommerfield@pwcgov.org">tsommerfield@pwcgov.org</a> 703/921-9135
		Nominating Committee	Karla Vernon <a href="mailto:kvernon@cox.net">kvernon@cox.net</a> 703/281-0738
Auction	Pam Missaglia Kristen Ellsworth <a href="mailto:jmassaglia@cox.net">jmassaglia@cox.net</a> 703/860-9678	Librarian	Diane Dresdner <a href="mailto:ddresdner@cox.net">ddresdner@cox.net</a> 703/378-0994
Block of the Month & Challenge	Jenny Klostermeyer <a href="mailto:jgk12@cox.net">jgk12@cox.net</a> 703/641-0249 Kathleen Kurke <a href="mailto:Kathleen@kurke.net">Kathleen@kurke.net</a> 703/352-2341	Membership	Betty Ladd <a href="mailto:bettylooms@hotmail.com">bettylooms@hotmail.com</a> 703/281-2579
Hospitality	Caletha Gould <a href="mailto:elagm@bellatlantic.net">elagm@bellatlantic.net</a> 703/503-5981	Quilt Collector	Joan Gifford <a href="mailto:giffordj@georgetown.edu">giffordj@georgetown.edu</a> 703/255-9366
June Dinner	Linda Montross <a href="mailto:amovos@aol.com">amovos@aol.com</a> 703/281-9366 Joan Gifford <a href="mailto:giffordj@georgetown.edu">giffordj@georgetown.edu</a> 703/255-9366	Programs	Amy Berger <a href="mailto:rmberger@ix.netcom.com">rmberger@ix.netcom.com</a> 703/757-2885
		Retreat	Dottie Reed <a href="mailto:dottie@crosslink.com">dottie@crosslink.com</a> 703/978-7298 Oneida Stephens <a href="mailto:oneida.k.stephens@irs.gov">oneida.k.stephens@irs.gov</a> 703/221-3404

## ***QUILTING DATES TO REMEMBER***

March 15	VQU Meeting at Kilmer Middle School (7:00 p.m.) – Ann Littleton on the Joys and Pitfalls of Group Quilts
March 16 thru March 18	Ann Littleton Workshop “Embellished Wall Hanging or Vest” (\$25) “Common Threads” at Caton Merchant Family Gallery in Old Town Manassas – 9139 Battle Street
March 24	VQU Board Meeting
April 19	VQU Meeting at Kilmer Middle School (7:00 p.m.) – Linda Pool on 3D Appliqué
May 5	QU Annual Meeting - Guest Lecturer - Charlotte Warr Andersen
May 6	Workshop - Pieced Pictures - Charlotte Warr Andersen
May 7	Workshop - Appliqué for Realism in Brief - Charlotte Warr Andersen
May 17	VQU Meeting at Kilmer Middle School (7:00 p.m.) – Kit Robinson Trunk Show
June 3-5	QU Quilt Show
June 21	VQU June Dinner at Kilmer Middle School <b><u>Cafeteria</u></b> (6:00 p.m.)

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