

# Quilters Unlimited Quarterly

VOLUME 39, ISSUE 1

## President's Letter—Karen Loftus

### COMING EVENTS:

- **QU Annual Meeting & Lecture by Laura Wasilowski, May 3rd**
- **Laura Wasilowski Workshop, May 4 & 5**
- **39th Annual Quilt Show, June 1, 2, and 3, Dulles Expo Center**

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Dear Quilting Friends,

Did you enjoy our snowstorm in October? I put that storm to good use and sewed all day long! It was heaven. I hope this note finds you and your families well.

We've had a successful start to this year. The Sully Quilt Show and Sale was our first annual QU event. There were twenty of us in the tent for most of the day, demonstrating quilting techniques. Sheila Teague (President, Vienna) did a fantastic job of selling raffle tickets for this year's quilt. Thank you to Carol Duesi (Annandale) and Carolyn O'Flaherty (President, Annandale) for their hard work in promoting Sully. Please note that the organizers would like our input on possible changes to the show in upcoming years. Please take a minute and provide them with your comments.

Thank you to Burke and Mt Vernon for their hard work putting together the Fall Workshop and Lecture with Susan Carlson. The lecture was well attended, and Susan Carlson was an inspiration to all.

Many of the chapters will have their auctions in the coming months. Please check the QU webpage for dates and locations for each chapter. The auctions are a great way for the chapters to bring in revenue, and also a wonderful opportunity for all of us to pick up some quilt blocks, more fabric (which of course we need), and other hand made items!

We have a new feature on our webpage. Joanne Fitzgerald, our Vice President for QU this year, has created a calendar of events for QU that includes the upcoming events for all chapters and Big QU. You might find this

quite helpful if you wish to visit other chapters and attend their monthly programs.

The QU Annual Meeting and Lecture will be held on Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, followed by workshops on Friday and Saturday, May 4 and 5 with Laura Wasilowski. Watch for the registration form on the webpage and in the next newsletter.

Our focus will now be on the Quilt Show. Cindy Grimord and her team are hard at work putting the show together. I highly encourage you to volunteer to help your chapter in any way possible. This show is a tremendous amount of work, and Cindy brings boundless energy to the program, but she needs help! Each chapter is required to provide a quilt show rep, but there are many more jobs that need to be done. Considering joining the quilt show team now.

Finally, I look forward to hearing how each chapter chooses to educate the public about quilting. We will set up a table at the Quilt Show to highlight the year's events. You probably reach out to the community in your chapters already, so don't forget to brag about your accomplishments.

During our next year (2012-2013), we celebrate QU's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. You may wish to create a quilt to commemorate the anniversary, do a round robin in your bee, or set up a committee to design a quilt for your chapter. It's not too early to begin planning if you want the quilt to go into the Quilt Show. If you'd like to help plan for the 40th Anniversary, please contact Joanne Fitzgerald, (C).

May you have a joyous holiday season with your families and friends,

# 39th Annual Quilt Show

-Cindy Grimord, 2012 Quilt Show Chair

## Your Quilt Show Team Members:

Publicity – Chris Prestenbach (S)

Quilt Layout – Sarah Entsminger and Jeri Borsi (R)

Buses – Lisa Langlais (ArI)

Setup & Takedown – Anne Winchell (C)

Volunteers – Linda Jamrogowicz (H)

Education – Carol Duesi and Anne Westerfield (A)

Vendors – Sandra Rees (B)

Programs & Ads – Gayle Hindle and Dottie Dane (F)

Raffle Quilt – Louise Sutara (V)

Financials – Gayle Ropp and Carole Marti (McL)

Boutique – Ruth Morgan and Ro Collier (MtV)

CD Orders – Kay Burnett (McL)

Secretary – Maureen Gray (McL)

First and foremost, I want to thank the women on the Quilt Show team who are graciously giving their time and effort to produce our next successful quilt show. In addition, the team would like to thank our QU President, Karen Loftus and the full QU Board for their support.

We have had three productive team meetings thus far and are right on target with our planning. The team would like to take this opportunity to dispel some rumors floating out there: First, the Dulles Expo & Conference Center is closing the South Hall. Not happening! We have spoken directly with the management staff; they indicate they have contracts signed into 2013. Secondly, that QU is renting buses to bring people to the show. Not in the plan! We are, however, reallocating chapter resources to work on one aspect of publicity regarding our outreach to guilds and organizations who might be interested in bringing in buses, thereby increasing our gate attendance.

While we're on the subject of gate attendance, you may have heard by now that we are foregoing classes for this year's show. We have had declining participation in our classes the last couple of years; therefore, the chapter designated for the "classes" job will instead work on increasing bus registrations. They are already working on some plans and we'll be able to share that with you in the next newsletter. Other pertinent information for the next newsletter will include how to access our vendor list, volunteer sign-ups, educational demos, CD orders and Boutique details.

I had the pleasure of meeting with John Dubreville from Hale Northeastern at the Dulles Expo & Conference Center and work up the first draft of our floor plan. It never ceases to amaze me how it all comes together on setup day. If you've never volunteered on that day, this year you must try it! It would be great to show that with time lapse photography....hmmm, something we could try this year – what do you think?

By now your show representatives have talked about our focus for the show – it's all about the chapters! This year's show, our 39<sup>th</sup>, will highlight the uniqueness of each chapter. When you walk in the front door of the Expo Center, you will see chapter banners and storyboards across the front sections of the quilt displays. Each of your reps have two blank poster boards and I challenge you to use your tremendous creativity and skills to fill them with your chapter story – pictures of your events, workshops, auctions, retreats, charity workshops, brochures and information about YOU! And take a look at your chapter banner. What, you don't have one? Now is a great time to create one! Does your banner have sentimental value? A great treasure! Does your banner look like it may be a bit worn from a lot of tender, loving use? Make a new one! Show our attendees who you are! You may be asking, "Is this working up to something?" YES, our vision for next year is for our eleven, special and unique chapters to come together as one guild, with a common mission to educate our communities and share our love of quilting by celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and what a great celebration that will be!

We have a lot of work on #39 to do, though. I hope you are busy creating and working on your beautiful quilts, especially since Kay Burnett will be taking CD orders again this year (Thank you Kay!). Many of you have had the pleasure of viewing our beautiful Raffle Quilt – thank you, Vienna Chapter.

I'd love to come and visit your chapter and meet you. I also want you to visit your quilt show team on Facebook! Google, **Quilters Unlimited of Northern Virginia Quilt Show 2012**. You will see regular postings about some of the aspects of the show not covered in this article and some fun things too. We welcome your participation with comments and questions, amusing quilt show sayings – let's talk about the show!

It is truly an honor to serve as your Quilt Show Chair. **I love this show!**

## QU Commitment to Our Communities

The focus of Quilters Unlimited this year is on educating the public about the joys and benefits that quilters bring to their communities. Be it in schools, libraries, retirement homes or at shows, quilters make an impact with their love of this art form. Here are examples of the creativity and industriousness of our many members.

### Burke Chapter

When Jean Taylor and Nancy Dubiell (Burke QU members) were asked to offer "Learn To Sew" classes to the residents of one of the Wesley Housing Development Corporations apartment complexes in Fairfax County, they jumped in with both feet. Their students were a multi-ethnic group of nine ladies from the local area and from around the world. They planned to offer instruction in making one project in each weekly 3-hour session: a wallet, a back-pack, an apron, a tote bag, and a sun dress.

Their short-term goal is to help the ladies with sewing, English, improved self-esteem, and community building. A long-term goal is to help these ladies improve their financial situation through savings on clothing and repair.

After this initial program in Arlington, Jean and Nancy plan to teach at WHDC's other two housing complexes in Fairfax County. They need used working sewing machines for all three centers. Most importantly, they are seeking individuals or groups to join in this effort and offer follow-up sewing classes after they conclude their introductory series. This effort is a lot of fun and the students are so enthusiastic about improving their basic skills.

Jean and Nancy are happy to provide details and suggestions for running sewing classes but an experienced seamstress with a loving heart is really all that is needed. They hope you will consider helping with this charity project which helps the women and their families improve their lives. For more information, please contact Jean Taylor or Nancy Dubiell at: [ndu-biell@yahoo.com](mailto:ndu-biell@yahoo.com). And see more photos of this wonderful project at: <http://share.shutterfly.com/action/>



### Fairfax Chapter

The Fairfax Chapter sent a dozen completed quilts to the Quilts of Valor program this fall. The members have also completed and delivered twenty-eight quilts to NOVECO, to be distributed to a battered women's shelter .

## Haymarket Chapter

Haymarket QU presented a quilt to the Town of Haymarket to be displayed in the Town Hall for viewing by the general public. The idea of a town quilt began last fall and designing began in January after consulting with Gene Swearingen, the Town Manager and Ellie Ivancic, town historian.

In June the fabrics and elements were selected and distributed to twenty quilters. Betty Ratliff spent 55 hours in August hand quilting the sections. The quilt was completed in time for the September 6<sup>th</sup>, Town Council meeting presentation and then displayed for the public beginning on Haymarket Day, Sep. 17<sup>th</sup>.

Haymarket is known as a center of community events for the surrounding area with the natural beauty of the Bull\_Run Mountains in the back ground. This quilt demonstrates our appreciation for Haymarket and will be a visual reminder of the historical importance of the town. Many of the buildings on the quilt are still in use today.

As members of Haymarket Quilters, we really enjoy holding some of our events here in the center of town, where we can easily walk to and support the shops and restaurants. We hope you and our Haymarket community will enjoy this quilt for many years to come. It has been our great pleasure to make this contribution to Haymarket.

Members who constructed the quilt are: Ann Chaney, Karen Czapla, Elaine Evans, Connie Gallant, Stevii Graves, Shirley Holien, Patty Kerns, Chris Kmak, Dolly Krach, Linda Jamrogowicz, Eleanor Mantoni, Janet Moore, Jo Moury, Liz Sampson, Cindy Simms, Betty Ratliff, Joyce Tobias, Pat Widener, Karen Williams, and Anne Winchell.

A Town Quilt Plaque with the history of each element and the names of the members who constructed them will be displayed adjacent to the quilt.

We have learned that the Town Council appreciates the quilt so much that they are planning to construct a cabinet in which it will be displayed to protect it from viewers.



### From the Desk of the Treasurer:

As of 31 October 2011, QU has \$63,543.29 in its checking account. QU is within its spending limits for all line items. Everyone is encouraged to submit requests for reimbursements promptly. Also, please cash checks as soon as possible to reduce the probability that they get misplaced!

## QU Raffle Quilt

The 2011-2012 raffle quilt is named “*Virginia Beauty*.” The Vienna Raffle Quilt Team will be in contact with each QU chapter president to bring the raffle quilt to their chapter meeting to sell tickets. Professional photographs will be placed on our website, when they are completed, along with ticket sales information.

Karla Vernon designed “*Virginia Beauty*” using EQ7 software with an outer border block named “*Jamestown Square*” to reflect the Virginians who made this quilt. Appliquéd vines, leaves, and flowers, and a paper-pieced center star reveal different quilting techniques. The Vienna members who worked on the quilt are: Judy Beach, Tommie Curtis, Delores Hanger, Bunnie Jordan, Lorraine Heady, Betty Ladd, Julie Riggles, Mary Ellen Simmons and Karla Vernon.

Christy Dillon’s spectacular machine quilting is showcased in the abundant free space in the quilt. She used two different thread colors. This quilt is queen sized at 90” x 90”. The drawing for the quilt is on June 3 at 2:30, during our quilt show. Tickets will be sold at the quilt show all four days. Tickets are 6 for \$5.00 or \$1.00 apiece.



## Membership Info

Keep your eyes peeled for a bright **ORANGE** Directory in your snail mail!

This year’s membership directory is on its way. Would you like to receive your QU Newsletter via email? The electronic version of the newsletter

would arrive in your mailbox in a more timely manner and the pictures will be much more enjoyable.

It would come to you as an email with the newsletter attached. To change the way you receive your QU Newsletter (either by

email or snail mail), email Cindy Pedder at [quiltscindy@gmail.com](mailto:quiltscindy@gmail.com) or call 703-644-5945.

**Contact Cindy Pedder with changes to your email address so that you can continue receiving your newsletter.**

## QU Lectures and Programs

Here is a partial list of the programs being offered by various Chapters in the coming months. All QU members are welcome to attend the lectures. Attendance at workshops is by reservation only and must be arranged with the Chapter Program Coordinator. Be sure to contact the chapters directly to confirm time and location of lecture. Check out the QU website for a consolidated program calendar.

### Reston Chapter

- Jan 24 Lisa Ellis, "Healing Quilts" Lecture
- Feb 28 Ann Weber, "A Quilt Designers Journey" Trunk Show and Lecture
- Mar 27 Barbara Hollinger, Trunk Show and Lecture
- Mar 31 Barbara Hollinger, Full Day Workshop - "Zen Quilting"
- Apr 21 Jo Morton, Full Day Workshop - "Rhubarb Crisp"
- Apr 24 Jo Morton, "Decorating With Small Quilts" Lecture

### Fairfax Chapter

- Jan 19 Gayle Ropp, Lecture, Trunk Show and Workshop—"Spoon Quilting"
- Feb 16 Laura Blanchard, Designer Tales Trunk Show and Workshop—"Shadowplay"
- March 15 Beth Wiesner Trunk Show and Workshop—"Mountain O'Laurel"
- April 19 Jo Morton Lecture—Make Something New That Looks Old, and Workshop—"Peppermint Twist"
- May 17 Debbie Wick Lecture and Workshop



The Virginia Quilt Museum will feature an ongoing exhibit of quilts from the 1860's to honor the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. The wives, mothers and daughters who watched their men leave to fight stayed at home to carry on daily life. In addition, they sewed for the army, cared for the wounded and protected property and family. Surviving Civil War quilts made in Virginia are rare and very unusual. The Civil War era quilts in this exhibit are part of the collection preserved by the Virginia Quilt Museum and is an ongoing exhibit.

The Women Who Stayed Behind, Stories of Civil War Quilts and Their Makers, is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Virginia commission for the Arts and James McHone. The Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 AM to 4 PM at 301 South Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA. Parking in the municipal lot behind the museum is free. Phone 540-433-3818 for more information and for group tours.

# Chapter Directory

## Annandale (A)

3rd Wednesday of the month, 10am  
**Sleepy Hollow United Methodist Church**

3435 Sleepy Hollow Road  
 Falls Church, VA 22044

President: Carolyn O'Flaherty  
[carolynoflaherty@gmail.com](mailto:carolynoflaherty@gmail.com)

## Arlington (AR)

2nd Monday of the month, 7:30 pm  
**Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads**

3440 South Jefferson Street  
 Falls Church, VA 22041

President: Andrea Harles  
[andrea@harles.com](mailto:andrea@harles.com)

## Burke (B)

2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, 7:30pm

### Cherry Run Elementary School

9732 Ironmaster Drive  
 Burke, VA 22015

President: Pat Price  
[thymewpvp@verizon.net](mailto:thymewpvp@verizon.net)

## Centreville (C)

2nd Thursday, 7:30pm  
**Colin Powell Elementary School**  
 13340 Leland Road  
 Centreville, VA 20120

President: Margo Towhey  
[ttowhey66@hotmail.com](mailto:ttowhey66@hotmail.com)

## Fairfax (F)

1st and 3rd Thursdays, 10am  
**St. Peters In the Woods Episcopal Church**

5911 Fairview Woods Drive  
 Fairfax Station, VA 22039

President: Dottie Dane  
[dottie.dane@cox.net](mailto:dottie.dane@cox.net)

*Be sure to contact the chapter before you attend an event to make sure there have been no unforeseen changes*

## Haymarket (H)

1st Thurs every month ,6:30 pm  
 Early Bird, 7:00 pm Meeting & Program at the **Evergreen Volunteer Fire Department**  
 3510 James Madison Highway  
 Haymarket, VA 20169

President: Linda Jamrogowicz  
[hqu.president@gmail.com](mailto:hqu.president@gmail.com)

## McLean (MCL)

4th Tuesday of the month 9:30am  
**McLean Baptist Church**  
 1367 Chain Bridge Road  
 McLean, VA 22101

President: Pat Blood  
[mcleanquilting@gmail.com](mailto:mcleanquilting@gmail.com)

## Mt. Vernon (MTV)

2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 12:30pm  
**Hollin Hall Senior Center**  
 Room 216  
 1500 Shenandoah Road  
 Mt. Vernon, VA 22308

Presidents: Ro Coller/Ruth Morgan  
[Russ.coller@verizon.net](mailto:Russ.coller@verizon.net)

## Reston (R)

2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7:30pm  
**Armstrong Elementary School**  
 11900 Lake Newport Road  
 Reston, VA 20194

President: Virginia Hodge  
[restonqu@gmail.com](mailto:restonqu@gmail.com)

## Springfield (S)

1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 9:30am  
**Greater Springfield Volunteer Fire Department**  
 7011 Backlick Rd  
 Springfield, VA 22150

President: Joan McGowan  
[joquilter@aol.com](mailto:joquilter@aol.com)

## Vienna (V)

3rd Tuesday of the month, 7pm  
**Vienna Volunteer Fire Dept**  
 400 Center Street S.  
 Vienna, VA 22180

President: Shelia Teague  
[vqupresident@yahoo.com](mailto:vqupresident@yahoo.com)



P.O. Box 216  
Merrifield, VA 22116-0216

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Mistakes? Moving? Please report any corrections or changes to your Chapter Membership Coordinator.

## Join the QU Digest

Since 1995, the QU Digest has been an informal way for members to network and share information between official newsletters. It's sent electronically via email. Once you subscribe, you will receive news about QU members, quilting tips, interesting websites, and pleas for missing books or fabric. There is also ongoing news on workshops by QU & other guilds, bus trips, members' news, job announcements, quilt shows, moving notices, classified ads, yard sales, etc. A submission doesn't even have to be quilt related!

The QU Digest is published every few days, depending on the amount of news submitted. At the QU Digest website, you'll be able to see QU Digest archives for the last seven years, an email directory of subscribers, quilting tips, quilting websites, and other pertinent files. You must be a subscriber to the Digest in order to access the information.

If you wish to subscribe to the QU Digest, contact Cindy Grisdela (McL) at [cpgrisdela@gmail.com](mailto:cpgrisdela@gmail.com).

Quilters Unlimited (QU) is a non-profit organization of quilters, with all chapters and activities in Northern Virginia. Founded in 1972, it has grown to approximately 1,400 members in 11 chapters, unified by a central Board of Directors. Members include women, men and children of all ages; traditionalists and contemporary quilters; beginners to renowned experts. Each chapter has its own scheduled events and functions. All chapters come together for a variety of functions throughout the year. Visitors are welcome to attend a meeting of any chapter, as well as other QU activities. Annual membership is \$20. Our webpage is [www.quiltersunlimited.org](http://www.quiltersunlimited.org). All QU members are welcome to contribute newsletter submissions. Send to Robyn Kampf—[rhkampf@gmail.com](mailto:rhkampf@gmail.com) with "newsletter" in subject line.