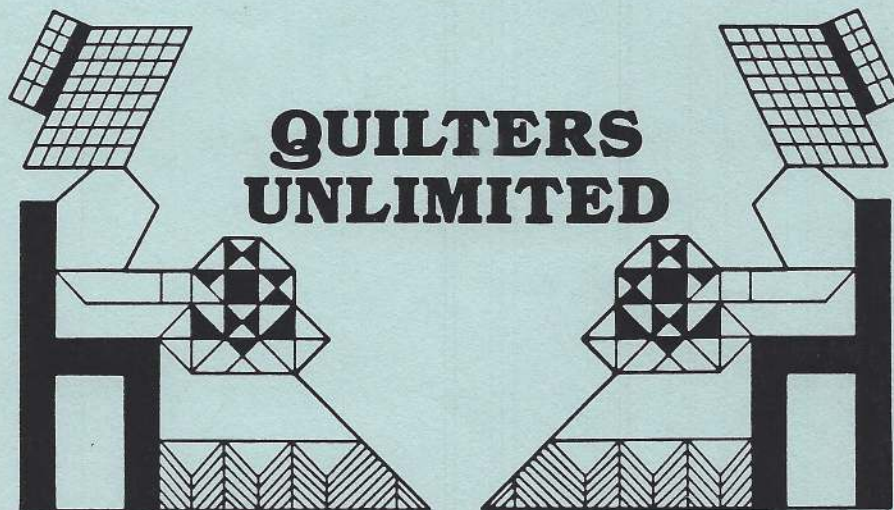


for Q. U. Presidents File

H I G H L I G H T S

O F

1 5 Y E A R S



MAY 10, 1988

I want to thank those who have given so much of their time, energy, and patience in preparing this 15 Year History of Quilters Unlimited. In particular, the Annandale Chapter -- our founding group -- has provided an extensive history on their activities. I want to thank especially Hazel Carter, Sharon Goodwin, Pam Rearden, and Kay Walker for their assistance, as well as the members who compiled information on their chapters:

Annandale

Pat Gallagher,
Carol Rutherford,
and Dorothy Martin

Arlington

Gwen Hoppe

Burke

Betty Jeanne McPherson

Fairfax

Pat McLaughlin

Falls Church

Harriet Halbig

McLean

Patt Madlener

Mount Vernon

Martha Plank

Reston

Carole Kosciw

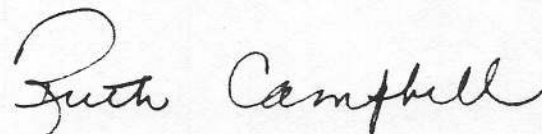
Springfield

Virginia Walsh

Vienna

Joanne Alexander
and Eleanor McCann

Information contained in our records is not always in harmony. While all aspects of our history have not been fully covered, I hope you enjoy this chronicle in the spirit it has been prepared.



Ruth Campbell
Historic Committee Chairperson

THE BEGINNING

Fifteen years ago on May 17, 1972, a group of sixteen ladies, organized by Bonnie Spather, met at the Merrifield Village Apartments "to quilt". An article dated June 26, 1972 in the Northern Virginia Sun (see History Display) shows Hazel Carter, Stella Provensano, Billie Tuzo, and Carol Wein working on a quilt frame.

Out of this informal assemblage, enthusiasm and plans were set in motion to organize a group of Northern Virginia quilters. By the Fall of 1972, the group was meeting at the Epworth Methodist Church on Sleepy Hollow Road in Falls Church. The group was affiliated with the National Quilting Association. Within a few months, however, NQA suffered organization problems and was considering actions to dissolve. Our Northern Virginia group of quilters decided their fellowship and enthusiasm for the traditions of quilting were so strong that the group should go on. Charlotte Bass (well-known needleworker and news columnist) was in attendance and prevailed upon Hazel Carter to organize the group. After many hours of extensive research, Hazel drafted a Constitution and By-Laws, and the organization, Quilters Unlimited, was born. The original purposes of the organization were to:

"Preserve the tradition, culture, and history of quilting.
Promote the knowledge and understanding of all aspects of
quilting. Enjoy, rather than judge, each other's work."

The first meeting of QU was held in January 1973, with Charlotte Bass (Director of Stitchery at the Fairfax Council of the Arts) installing the new officers. A reception followed honoring the following new officers:

President	Bonnie Spather
1st Vice President	Kitty Silsby
2nd Vice President	Suzanne Spillman
3rd Vice President	Marion Amlong
4th Vice President and Coordinator	Valerie White
Secretary	Polly Moulton
Treasurer	Marilyn Gould

A YEAR-BY-YEAR DEVELOPMENT

1973 The Epworth (Annandale) Chapter was the charter chapter, with 85 members listed at the end of its first year. It was founded in December 1972, with Bonnie Spather as President. Two new chapters were soon established (partially because of gas rationing!): (1) Mount Vernon, on May 20, 1973, with 34 members and Mary Pepe, President, who was reported to have cut out and pieced an eight-pointed star quilt in five days; and (2) Vienna, founded on June 15, 1973, with 52 members meeting in the Patrick Henry Library, grew from a "Bee" meeting at Hazel Carter's home in Vienna. Hazel was President of the Vienna Chapter, and among early members of the Chapter

were Jinny Beyer, Olive Campbell, Maxine French, Hazel Pesci, Virginia Stevens, and Ellen Swanson. There was a search for a name for a newsletter in mid-August; name tags were encouraged for members to wear; and dues were set at \$3.00 per year, which were to be paid by the end of each September. Quilt shows in the area were publicized, as well as tours for the group to Mennonite and Amish quilt showings. The Fairfax County Council of the Arts announced the "Renaissance of Stitchery" (to be held June 3-10, 1973 at Sully Plantation, in cooperation with the Fairfax County Park Authority) which was open to residents of Virginia, Maryland, and D. C. to All types of needlework were included.

Executive Board meetings, held at officer's homes, concentrated on finalizing the organizational structure, including Constitution, By-Laws, and Standing Rules. Three public libraries were decided upon as locations for instructional programs: Patrick Henry, Centerville, and Martha Washington. Other matters considered in 1973 included a permanent registry of board members to be sent to plantations, museums, crafts magazines, local newspapers, etc.; preparing a general information flier; chapter kits; and assistance programs for new chapters, limiting out-of-state membership to those members moving from area but wishing to continue membership. The treasury showed a balance of \$78 at the end of 1973, with 37 paid members in Annandale, 34 in Mount Vernon, and 52 in Vienna.

1974 The first Annual Exhibit and Annual Meeting were held on March 9 and 10 at the George Mason University. The name was changed from "Quilters Unlimited" to "Quilters of America Unlimited" and some changes were made in the Constitution and By-Laws. Bonnie Spather withdrew as President. Charlotte Bass became the Coordinator of QU and the Executive Board elected Hazel Carter as its first Director. The Woodlawn Plantation announced their Annual Needlework Show to be held March 16 through 24, 1974, and they invited our group to give quilting demonstrations and act as hostesses. Hazel Carter, in her speech at the Annual Meeting, praised the volunteers who had presented programs and had so ably assisted, including Jinny Beyer, Helen Foreman, Jane Harvey, Julie Reynolds, and Ellen Swanson. The Falls Church Chapter was founded on March 29, 1974; Arlington Chapter, with Anne Grafe as President, was formed on April 8, 1974; and the Springfield Chapter, spearheaded by Ellen Swanson and Arlene Tuegel, was formed on September 11, 1974. The membership grew to 141. Plans were started for the nation's Bicentennial in 1976, and a Bicentennial Committee formed with Jinny Beyer as Chairperson. In October, six members of the QU Bicentennial Committee (Jinny Beyer, Olive Campbell, Hazel Carter, Mary Ann Shindle, Virginia Stevens, and Ellen Swanson -- all from the Vienna Chapter) travelled to Connecticut to show quilts, demonstrate quilting, and open the Bicentennial events there. They were guests in area homes and were entertained at a banquet provided by the local Grange.

Executive Board activities included efforts to contact U. S. Congressmen to use their influence with the Smithsonian Institution to permit the showing of their quilt collection; efforts to get the membership list together; and a possible survey of the group (regarding interests, locations, etc.). A newsletter was published with news from each chapter. "Bees" would all be associated with a chapter and a Coordinating Council made up of chapter representatives. Other topics covered were voting on advisors, new chapters, forms, a redesign of QU brochure, and a summary of various chapters. There were now six chapters: Annandale/Epworth, Arlington, Falls Church, Mount Vernon, Springfield, and Vienna -- and one bee: Franconia.

1975 Through the efforts of Jinny Beyer and the Bicentennial Committee, the first QU exhibit took place at the Atheneum in Alexandria (see History Display). Quilters of America Unlimited formally restricted all chapters to be located in Northern Virginia. Teachers of Quilting listed in our 1975 brochure included: Jinny Beyer, Hazel Carter, Bonnie Spath, and Ellen Swanson. QU celebrated its 3rd Anniversary with a Christmas Tea, where members brought quilted items for Show n'Tell. Dues are now \$5.00; \$7.50 for family; \$2.00 for seniors; and \$1.00 diamond. The McLean Chapter, meeting in the Dolly Madison Library, was formally organized on December 2, 1975 with Fern Morrison (President), Carolyn Balcom (Vice President), Patt Madlener (Secretary), and Nadine Fuller (Treasurer).

Executive Board minutes indicate a very busy year: another show at the Atheneum, hostessing of the Woodlawn Plantation show, and participation by various chapters in such community festivals as Sully Plantation. Various newsletter names were submitted by members; the final choice was "Bits and Pieces".

1976 Executive Board activities included the redesign of QU brochure by Twyla Dell, Virginia Pennington, and Pat Valente. Our Annual Luncheon honored Charlotte Bass, Louise Hildenbrand, and Edith Weeks. QU worked with Woodlawn Plantation on their annual show as their sole source of hostesses. We were also invited to participate in the Sully Plantation "Bicentennial Clothesline Quilt Show" on July 31, 1976 by demonstrating quilting and selling quilted items. Members traveled together by bus to the State Fair. The QU Brochure was redesigned and printed. QU was very pleased that Bonnie Lehman, editor of Quilters Newsletter Magazine, and her husband came to Northern Virginia especially to attend our Annual Quilt Show, held at the Atheneum. A reception was held in her honor at the home of Jinny Beyer. Dues are raised to \$6.00 per year.

1977 There are eight chapters now, and one bee, for a total of 248 members. The Stearns and Foster quilt was on display at our Annual Exhibit held April 29 through May 1, 1977. First Lady Betty Ford was invited, but unable to attend (see letter on History Display). We assisted Woodlawn Plantation with their annual show again this year, with the help of several other quilt groups. New stationery was designed for "important correspondence". Executive Board notes indicate a discussion of out-of-state, members-at-large limited, so could receive newsletter and announcements; regular membership limited to Northern Virginia residents. A QU Quilt As You Go project was worked on all year, for raffle at the 1978 Annual Meeting.

1978 Membership numbered 286. Executive Board meetings were held in public meeting rooms, and bees in homes. Several amendments were made to Articles in the By-Laws. Plans were made for participation in the Continental Quilting Congress to be held October 25-28, 1978 at Stouffers Hotel in Crystal City. Jean Ray Laury's workshops, lecture, and autograph party were coordinated into our Annual Show. Beth and Jeff Gutcheon were guest speakers at our Annual Meeting.

1979 Membership is now 296, and there are eight chapters. The Annual Show, held April 5-8 at the Atheneum, was a great success. Billy Tuzo edited the Bits and Pieces newsletters (for quarterly mailings) to help all members be informed of activities. Chapter programs continue to be diverse, given by both professionals in the quilt world and those interested enough to share their tips and techniques.

Other Executive Board activities included the discussion of a person holding two offices at one time; it was decided against. It was also voted that a Nominating Committee consist of a chairman and one member from each chapter. The Chairman would submit a list of nominees to the membership at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting, where voting took place. Eugenia Burwell spoke at the Annual Meeting on "String Quilting".

1980 The Reston Chapter was formed. A number of chapters contributed to the community: Annandale worked with the Fairfax County Council of the Arts on a Sampler Quilt raffled at Green Spring Farm; Arlington demonstrated quilting at Long Branch Swim and Racquet Club and Gunston Art Center; Falls Church participated in the first Annual Needlework Show at Cherry Hill Farm; McLean demonstrated quilting at Colvin Run Mill; Mount Vernon sponsored the Fall Luncheon at Gunston Hall which included a tour of George Mason's home; and the Vienna Chapter sponsored a quilt raffle to purchase portrait of Patrick Henry for library. A "New Decade of Quilting" was the theme for our Annual Show. The program for our Annual Meeting was "Hazel Carter Day" -- a tribute. There were 370 members now on the rolls.

1981 There are now ten chapters, with a total membership of 439. The tradition of selling quilt calendars was started this year as a fund raiser. The Vienna Chapter "Butterfly" quilt, made in memory of Olive Campbell, was raffled and the proceeds given to Fairfax Hospital. A memorial plaque in her name hangs in the Hospital. We joined Wolf Trap in putting on a Quilt Show held at the Potomac School. The first Winter Bee (Quilt-In) and Pot Luck Supper was held. "Hands All Around" was the theme of our Annual Quilt Show, held at the Athenaeum. Flavin Glover was the guest speaker at the Annual Meeting. Her topic was "Using Parts of Old Jeans". The Woodbridge Chapter and Franconia Bee are, because of low attendance, no longer part of our group.

1982 We are now ten years old. Our Tenth Anniversary was celebrated at a dinner held at the Springfield Hilton. Attendance, including a number of husbands, was 149 people. "A Salute to Quilters Unlimited" was the theme of Jinny Beyer's keynote presentation. The Wolf Trap Quilt, coordinated by Judy Spahn (Vienna), was made by members with fabrics donated by the Quilt Patch as a Wolf Trap fund raiser. Quilts in our Annual Show were exhibited at Gadsby's Tavern. Nancy Crow's presentation on "Contemporary Quilt Making: A Personal View" at our Annual Meeting was held at the Wolf Trap Barns. Membership now totals 467.

1983 A banner design contest was held (in honor of our second decade); the winner was Elly Dyson of the Fairfax Chapter. Steps were begun for incorporating the group as a nonprofit organization, and a By-Laws Committee was already working on revisions. New QU fliers were printed. The Annual Show this year -- A Decade of Quilting -- was held again at Gadsby's Tavern. Since the Show is such a large undertaking, a Show Committee was

formed to coordinate future show activities. Sandy Bard gave a lecture on her Artistic Vests for our Annual Meeting at Tysons Town Hall, and she conducted workshops at the Goodwin House.

1984 Donations of quilts were made by different chapters to Ronald McDonald House. Due to our growth, the By-Laws were revised and voted on at the Annual Meeting in May. The group name was changed, back to the original name, Quilters Unlimited. The "Director" title was changed to "President". Dues were changed to \$10/year general membership, \$15 family, and \$5 for senior citizens. The By-Laws Committee, chaired by Lenore Parham and with representatives from each chapter, spent many hours on this project -- reviewing/revising every word in every Article -- including the printing/ mailing, via Bits n' Pieces, to all members. Each chapter now has the job of adopting QU By-Laws into their Chapter By-Laws. Elly's new banner was displayed at the Winter Quilt-In and Annual Show. The Torpedo Factory in Alexandria was the location of the Show this year. The movie "Quilts in Women's Lives" was shown at the Annual Meeting and a quilt, donated by the Ben Franklin store, was raffled as a fund raiser for QU. It was then decided to donate the \$155 raised to the Hospice of Northern Virginia.

1985 "Airing of Quilts" was the title given the miniature quilts created by QU members for decoration of one of the Smithsonian Christmas Trees, in their annual display at the Museum of American History. (See pictures in History Display of these miniatures, as displayed at QU Fall Luncheon.) This project was chaired by Phyllis Spiker. Members hosted at the Woodlawn Needlework Show held March 2 through 24. The Vienna Chapter donated 18 quilts to Ronald McDonald House this year.

Executive Board activities included plans for the Annual Quilt Show, which was held April 19-21 at the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria. A QU pin, designed by Lesly-Claire Greenberg, was made available to the membership at a cost of \$4.00. Members were delighted with an invitation from Jinny Beyer to come to her home on December 9, 1985 for the QU Christmas Tea. The Waterford Quilters invited the club to spend a day quilting, sharing fabrics for charm quilts, and enjoying fine food. The Springfield Chapter voted to sell raffle tickets for a White-on-White Quilt, with proceeds going to the American Cancer Society in honor of Jean Cosner, who passed away in August. We received a note from the Smithsonian thanking us for our participation in "Trees of Christmas" and for the 216 miniature quilts, the Sun Bonnet Sue dolls, baskets, etc., which are now a part of their collection. A "Parade of Quilted Fashions" was the program for the Annual Meeting.

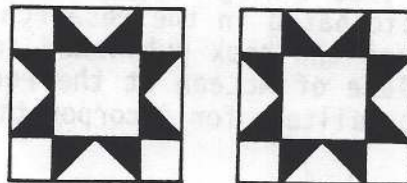
1986 A survey was made of the membership regarding the Annual Quilt Show (i.e., location, lectures, teachers, merchants, changes, etc.) by the Show Committee (Chairman and one representative from each chapter) to study the issues and to prepare a five year plan. The four QU Board activities -- Fall Luncheon, Christmas Tea, Winter Quilt-In, and Annual Show -- were very successful. The Board voted to donate \$100 to the Search for Virginia Quilts (date 1788 through 1985) organized by Hazel Carter. Many chapters and members participated in the research of this study, as well as final showing of quilts and the book published in 1987. The Virginia Star block (made by Marie Wallace of McLean at the request of the QU Board) was mailed to the Boise, Idaho quilters for incorporation in the Governors' Quilt.

Treasurer Ginny Hall designed and/or revised a number of our forms for better efficiency. As members of the Fairfax County Council of the Arts (FCCA), we have been asked to join an "Artisans" group (local area artist organizations) which was organized to further arts in the county, share space for shows, etc. The Board voted approval of a post office box as a permanent mailbox for QU -- which eventually became Box 216, Merrifield 22116. Elly Sienkiewicz gave a presentation based on her book "Spoken Without A Word" (Baltimore Album Quilts) at the Annual Meeting at the Hermitage Retirement Home.

1987 The Show Committee is hard at work making improvements for our Annual Show, including the construction of our own poles. Insurance is, again, an issue ... the rates keep going up and the coverage for our quilts (in the show) is limited. Secretary Debbie Repass is putting in many hours working with the IRS for QU to obtain nonprofit status. It was agreed at a Board meeting that we would make some changes in two of our QU activities which include the total membership -- a Fall Quilt-In would replace the Fall Luncheon and a Harvest Brunch would replace the Christmas Tea. They were both very successful, even though the unexpected snow storm on November 11, 1987 kept a lot of folks from attending the brunch. We continued work with the Artisans group toward their incorporation which will, hopefully, benefit the member artist organizations as well as the public. Phyllis Spiker (Springfield) agreed to chair the QU Artisans Committee, with the assistance of a member from each chapter. Judy Warren was keynote speaker at our Annual Meeting in May 1987, and also provided several interesting workshops.

15th Anniversary of the founding of Quilters Unlimited. After 15 years, the membership in QU has grown from 16 to more than 625 members in its ten chapters. A contest was held to determine how we should celebrate. The winning idea was to have a 15th Anniversary Pin which was offered to the membership at cost as an anniversary present. Lesly-Claire Greenberg's design was selected from four designs submitted. Ruth Campbell (McLean) was asked to be our Historical Committee Chairperson, to gather information from our records and the chapters for a report to be shared with members at the Annual Meeting.

1988 A study was made of our insurance coverage, which included attending a seminar sponsored by the FCCA, and a report made to the Board. Our brochure was updated and made available in April, just in time for our Annual Show held at the Falls Church Community Center, which was extremely successful. The Show Committee again "knocked themselves out" ... more quilts than any previous show and a merchant mall was included. Plans continued for our 15th Anniversary Year, which included having Jinny Beyer as guest speaker at the Annual Meeting, as well as two days of workshops with Jinny. Her topic "The Magical Appeal of One-Patch and Charm Quilts: Creating Memories" was a wonderful way to end the year ... M E M O R I E S !



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1973-74

President Bonnie Spather (Annandale)
 1st Vice President Kitty Silsby (Annandale)
 2nd Vice President Suzanne Spillman (Annandale)
 3rd Vice President Marion Amlong (Annandale)
 4th Vice President and Coordinator Valerie White (Annandale)
 Secretary Polly Moulton (Annandale)
 Treasurer Marilyn Gould (Annandale)

1974-75

Director Hazel Carter (Vienna)
 Assistant Director Betty Bryant (Arlington)
 Secretary Marilyn Gould (Arlington)
 Treasurer Julie Reynolds (Vienna)
 Coordinator Charlotte Bass
 Newsletter Editor Marilyn Gould (Arlington)

1975-76

Director Twyla Dell (Springfield)
 Assistant Director Damitra Meeds (Springfield)
 Secretary Betsy Lowrey (Annandale)
 Treasurer Mary Ann Shindle (Vienna)
 Newsletter Editor Virginia Pennington (Arlington)

1976-77

Director Suzanne Newton (Arlington)
 Assistant Director Eleanor Graham (Annandale)
 Secretary Blanche Link
 Treasurer Ann Alves (Vienna)
 Newsletter Editor Virginia Pennington (Arlington)

1977-78

Director Lesly-Claire Greenberg (Annandale)
 Assistant Director Pat McLaughlin (Fairfax)
 Secretary Carolyn Balcom (McLean)
 Treasurer Sue Mitchell (Arlington)
 Newsletter Editor Virginia Pennington (Arlington)

1978-79

Director Suzanne Newton (Arlington)
 Assistant Director Louise Hayes (Annandale)
 Secretary Carol Moran (Arlington)
 Treasurer Kay Lettau (Annandale)
 Newsletter Editor Billie Tuzo (Annandale)

1979-80

Director Eleanor Graham (Annandale)
 Assistant Director Janet Betz (Mount Vernon)
 Secretary Martha Plank (Mount Vernon)
 Treasurer Coleen Gosling (McLean)
 Nominating Comm. Suzanne Newton (Arlington)
 Newsletter Editor Karen Biren (Vienna)

1991-1992

*Pres. Glenda Shriver (B)
 V Pres. Carole Nico
 Sec. Marilyn Cunningham (S)
 Treas. Ginny Hall (A)
 Nom. Com. Buhnie Jordan (F)
 News L. Darlene Keboe (F)*

1987-88

President Sharon Goodwin (McLean)
 Vice President Kay Walker (McLean)
 Secretary Debbie Repass (Burke)
 Treasurer Diane Florkowski (Arlington)
 Nominating Comm. Andrea Hays (Arlington)
 Newsletter Editor Karen Pettibone (Fairfax)

1980-81

Director Pat McLaughlin (Fairfax)
 Assistant Director Dee Grantman (Falls Church)
 Secretary Susan Thompson (Vienna)
 Treasurer Rosemary Rudolph (Falls Church)
 Nominating Comm. Martha Plank (Mount Vernon)
 Newsletter Editor Gwen Hoppe (Arlington)

1981-82

Director Dorothy Holden (McLean)
 Assistant Director Fern Morrison (Vienna)
 Secretary Betty Doffermyer (Falls Church)
 Treasurer Carolyn Lynch (Annandale)
 Nominating Comm. Kathryn Kuhn (Annandale)
 Newsletter Editor Gwen Hoppe (Arlington)

1982-83

Director Patti Marcus (Annandale)
 Assistant Director Kathy Heslep (Arlington)
 Secretary Maripat Jebo (Arlington)
 Treasurer Helen Moehle (Annandale)
 Nominating Comm. Ellen Swanson (Vienna)
 Newsletter Editor Peggy Wormington (Vienna)

1983-84

Director Jay Romano (Annandale)
 Assistant Director Kathy Richard (Falls Church)
 Secretary Carolyn Balcom (McLean)
 Treasurer Helen Moehle (Annandale)
 Nominating Comm. Pat McLaughlin (Fairfax)
 Newsletter Editor Betty Doffermyer (Falls Church)

1984-85

President Beryl O'Connor (Vienna)
 Vice President Diane Zink (Reston)
 Secretary Carolyn Balcom (McLean)
 Treasurer Eleanor Dyson (Fairfax)
 Nominating Comm. Ruth Wiggans (Annandale)
 Newsletter Editor Diane Florkowski (Arlington)

1985-86

President Andrea Hays (Arlington)
 Vice President Jackie Levine (Fairfax)
 Secretary Ila Larson (Vienna)
 Treasurer Ginny Hall (Arlington)
 Nominating Comm. Kay Walker (McLean)
 Newsletter Editor Diane Florkowski (Arlington)

1986-87

President Leslie McGregor (Springfield)
 Vice President Beverly Krysa (Mount Vernon)
 Secretary Debbie Repass (Burke)
 Treasurer Ginny Hall (Arlington)
 Nominating Comm. Janet Betz (Mount Vernon)
 Newsletter Editor Karen Pettibone (Fairfax)

1988-1989

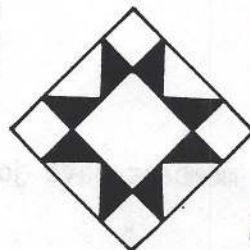
*Pres. Harriet Halbig (FC)
 V. Pres. Janet Hostik (F)
 Sec. Sally Brown (A)
 Treas. Judy Childers (Mc)
 No. Com. Nancy Karst (B)
 News L. Barbara Bockman (A)*

1990-1991

*Pres. Andrea Perkins (V)
 V. Pres. Pat Roushakes (V)
 Sec. Bonnie Spyrison (A)
 Treas. Ginny Hall (A)
 No. C. Maryann Rozzell (F)
 News L. Eileen Jennings (F)*

1989-1990

*Pres. Carolyn Lynch (A)
 V. Pres. Pat Roushakes (V)
 Sec. Kris Sabo (V)
 Treas. Judy Childers (Mc)
 No. C. Maryann Rozzell (F)
 News L. Barbara Bockman (A)*



IN SUMMARY AFTER 15 YEARS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Our original Constitution and By-Laws were so well planned/written that smooth functioning has prevailed throughout, under the umbrella of Quilters Unlimited, with rewriting coming (essentially) only when seeking nonprofit status.
- All ten chapters are different through their functions and in their personalities. They all meet at four annual get-togethers, which provides opportunities for camaraderie in quilting as an American historic art form.
- Membership has grown from 16 at the first gathering to ten chapters and over 635 members.
- Ten of the 35 members listed on our first membership list (December 1972) are still active in QU: Mary Baker (Annandale), Boots Bartell (Annandale), Hazel Carter (Vienna), Jean Cheeseman (Annandale), Marilyn Gould (Vienna), Mildred Hoover (Annandale), Elsie Orndorff (Annandale), Virginia Stevens (Vienna), Billie Tuzo (Annandale), and Lillian Brunner (Mount Vernon).
- Dues starting at \$3 are now \$10 for regular annual membership ... still extremely reasonable.
- The community involvement of our members, which has been extensive since our early days, still continues today.
- We are continually recognized by outside crafts people, museums, etc., which ultimately provides the organization with workshops, tours, lectures, and exhibits.
- Our organization, as well as a number of individual members, have been featured in various national and international quilt magazines.
- Members of all ages find a common interest and the spirit of the original charter members has continued throughout these years 1972/73 - 1987/88.

Quilt



MEMBERSHIP

Quilters Unlimited membership, as of April 1, 1988, totals 625 (not including associate status) as follows:

Annandale	82	McLean	59
Arlington	55	Mount Vernon	30
Burke	51	Reston	53
Fairfax	40	Springfield	39
Falls Church	53	Vienna	163

Since April 1, more than ten new members have joined our group.

Quilters Unlimited Members:

What began as a busy, enthusiastic "Bee" under the National Quilting Association, on December 13, 1972 became a very active Quilters Unlimited.

The first Board, following the approval of a Constitution and By-Laws, voted the boundaries of Quilters Unlimited should be Northern Virginia and would not be a national or state organization. We felt to allow the organization boundaries to be larger would mean only paper work NOT quilt work.

Fifteen years later, the spirit of those charter members has continued in many directions under the umbrella of Quilters Unlimited. I am proud of the growth of QU and all of the dedicated hours given by individuals throughout the past fifteen years.



Hazel Carter
1st Director, Quilters Unlimited

Fellow Members:

This year has been a very memorable and rewarding experience for me as your President. In particular, getting to know many of you, or more about you through this historical project, has been especially enjoyable.

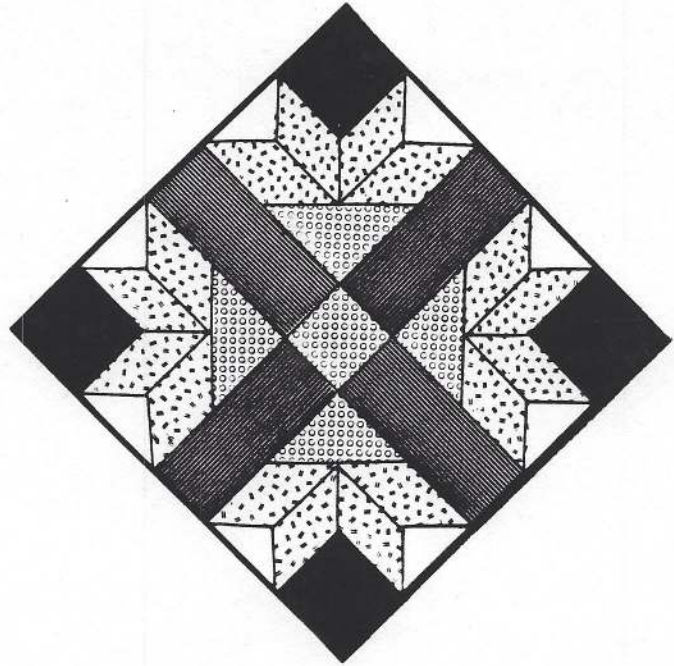
It would require publishing massive volumes, as well as a great deal of time, to recognize all of the past events and people involved in our Quilters Unlimited history. I hope these highlights will be the starting point for the continued sharing of our growth -- the past as well as the future.

I am especially grateful to all who worked on this project, and SPECIAL THANKS to Ruth Campbell for her extensive research, writing, and dedication to this time-consuming task. Thanks to our diverse and talented membership -- fabric artist, amateur, professional, young, old -- for making Quilters Unlimited the organization it is today.



Sharon Goodwin
Current President, Quilters Unlimited

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H I S T O R I E S

ANNANDALE

1972-73 The group, now known as Quilters Unlimited, began as the first Northern Virginia Chapter of the National Quilting Association. Under the organization and guidance of Bonnie Spathar, the group's first meeting was held May 17th at the Merrifield Apartment's Community Center in Merrifield and was attended by 16 people. The group participated in the Woodlawn Plantation Needlework Show in May, and the Gunston Hall Colonial Arts and Crafts Show in July. In September 1972, club member Margaret Mason obtained use of her church's social hall for club meetings, hence the use of Epworth Methodist Church for monthly meetings. The group participated in its first show in September, taking part in NQA's annual exhibit in Greenbelt, Maryland. The chapter also assisted in quilting demonstrations at the Renwick Art Gallery in October and November.

At the December 13 regular meeting of the Northern Virginia Chapter of NQA, a motion was passed to become a self-sustaining organization, without assistance from NQA. Hazel Carter chaired a group to work on a slate of officers, a Constitution, and By-Laws; also, members were asked to submit names for the new group. At the group's first meeting in January 1973, the name "Quilters Unlimited" was chosen, a proposed Constitution accepted, and the following officers installed:

President	Bonnie Spathar
1st Vice President	Kitty Silsby
2nd Vice President	Suzanne Spillman
3rd Vice President	Maria Amlong
4th Vice President	Valerie White
Secretary	Polly Moulton
Treasurer	Marilyn Gould
Advisor	Hazel Carter

In the group's early months, sewing bees were held in the afternoon, following morning meetings. During subsequent meetings in the Spring of 1973, By-Laws and Standing Rules were accepted by the group. Several new QU chapters were formed within Fairfax County, due to growing membership and a desire to maintain a small group atmosphere. Some of the group's early programs included work with Crazy Quilts and Hawaiian Quilts.

1973-74 In September, the club participated in the International Children's Day at Wolf Trap Farm Park, sponsored by the Fairfax County Council of the Arts. Club member Bonnie Spathar demonstrated quilting. In March, the group's first Annual Exhibit was held at George Mason University. At the March 9th Annual Meeting, the members voted to change the name of the organization from Quilters Unlimited to Quilters of America, Unlimited. Hazel Carter was installed as the first Director of the Executive Board.

1974-75 The year began with Betty Bryant agreeing to serve a second term as chapter President. The group planned a December Christmas Tea, to celebrate QU's 2nd Anniversary. The Constitution was also being revised at this time. With the advent of the new year, the Chapter gained a new President -- Billy Tuzo taking the place of resigning Betty Bryant. The group held an Annual QU Exhibit in April at the Athenaeum in Alexandria. The Athenaeum was also the site of the April Annual Meeting. Of final note, Annandale Chapter members of QU were invited to contribute quilts to an April

Quilt Show held in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. The Chapter had approximately 30 members at this time.

1975-76 At this time annual dues were \$5.00 a year, but by the May meeting had grown by \$1.00. Bees were now held at various members' homes on the first Wednesday of each month. In October, a new slate of officers was elected:

President	Muriel Washer
Vice President	Ellie Bennett
Secretary	Jeanne Cheeseman
Treasurer	Daisy Baout
Programs	Mary Paosell
Annual Exhibit Chairman	Boots Bartell
Bicentennial Chairman	Ann Albertson

The group began work on a Bicentennial Quilt, with blocks depicting occupations in the original 13 colonies, either pieced or appliqued. Work on the quilt was continued at the monthly bees. Another group project, the Chapter Community Quilt, continued through the year. QU celebrated its 3rd Anniversary with an Annual Tea in December. An Annual QU Show was again held at the Alexandria Athenaeum in April. Membership in the Annandale Chapter had grown to 49 members at this time. Highpoints in the year included a fund raiser Fabric Bazaar, which netted \$200, and an Open House for Bonnie Lehman, hosted by Jinny Beyer. Programs included Hazel Carter on "Pattern Drafting" and Margaret Brown's "Applique and Helpful Hints".

1976-77 The chapter planned a September bus trip to the Richmond State Fair. Betty Henderson was the lucky winner of the Chapter Community Quilt drawing. Officers elected for this year were:

President	Virginia Sherbino
Vice President	June Allen
Secretary	Lillian Sabatino
Treasurer	Diehl Lewis

1977-78 During this year, an "Evening Star" quilt was raffled off and won by Maureen Watling. In the Spring, a unique project was launched. The chapter decided to make sampler quilts, using 12" blocks. Club member Eleanor Graham originated the idea of each member contributing patterns of her choice, from which individual members could choose and select to make quilts of their own design and materials. Both pieced and appliqued blocks were acceptable. The patterns continued to come in, month-by-month. No limit was set on quilt or project size. President Pat Eye contributed Indian Hatchet and Indian Arrowhead patterns for the project. Pat provided extremely effective leadership for the Chapter during her term -- it was a good year.

1978-79 The year began with the following slate of elected officers:

President	Eleanor Graham
Vice President	Jeanne Cheeseman
Secretary	Nedra Dils
Treasurer	Pat Moloney
Programs	Mary Charlotte Baker

Sampler blocks from the previous year continued to come in; the project was eventually discontinued at the end of the year. Mary Charlotte Baker completed an Annandale Chapter Banner for the group, and there was discussion of ways in which to display it. QU's area-wide membership had grown, as 325 invitations were sent out to the now Annual December Tea. The Annandale Chapter continued to meet at Epworth Methodist Church, with the church now requesting \$15 per month for room rental. QU held its Annual Show on April 6th-8th, and various club members also participated in two Maryland NQA shows in Greenbelt and Baltimore. Notable programs for the year included: Seminole Patchwork, Joan Stevens on Old Quilts, Construction and Framing of Wall Quilts, Scrap Quilts, and Reverse Applique.

1979-80 The year began with the Chapter's participation in the Fairfax County Council of the Arts' opening night party for Green Spring Farm. In ensuing months, the Chapter put together a show of members' sampler quilts, which evolved from sampler blocks introduced to the group for several previous years. Members' sampler quilts were displayed at Green Spring Farm on May 8th through June 6th. Patterns for the blocks were organized into a booklet dubbed "Stitch and Share", and sold as a fund-raising project during the show. Initial success of the booklet led to several subsequent printings. The following slate of officers began the new year:

President	Louise Hayes
Vice President	Norma Callan
Secretary	Connie Gunn
Treasurer	Pat Most
Programs	Mary Charlotte Baker

Annual club dues were still \$6.00, but rising rental costs at Epworth Methodist Church -- now requesting \$20 per meeting -- prompted a committee which explored alternative meeting places. Committee researchers eventually arrived at the conclusion that there was no practical alternative to the church. Club members took a tour of needlework at the National Cathedral in February. QU's Annual Show took place in April. And, at the April Annual Meeting, an Annandale Chapter member was honored on "Hazel Carter Day". Also, Mary Charlotte Baker's quilt "Tumbling Angels" represented the Chapter at the 2nd Continental Quilting Congress. Programs and speakers for the year included Ellen Swanson, Katherine Kuhn, Joan Stevens on Antique Quilts, Oxon Hill Quilts by Patti Marcus, and "Log Cabin" by Marion Titman.

1980-81 The year opened with a QU luncheon in September at Gunston Hall. The annual Quilting Congress was held in October this year, with several Chapter members participating in a Quilt Display. Also, several members displayed their quilts at the DAR Constitution Hall during the Fall. The Annandale Chapter's Sampler Quilts -- inspired by the Stitch and Share project -- were shared with the Vienna Chapter at that group's October meeting. The newly elected slate of Chapter officers for this year were:

President	Patti Marcus
Vice President	Kay Lettau
Secretary	Helen Moehle
Treasurer	Jay Romano
Programs	Sue Hannon

The November meeting was held at Jeane Cheeseman's Alexandria home, built in 1734 by her husband's family. The Annual Christmas Tea was held the last

Sunday of November this year. A Winter Quilting Bee and Pot Luck Supper, which included all area QU chapters, was held in late January in Vienna. The Annual QU Show was again held at the Athenaeum, in April. The QU Annual Meeting, held in May, featured Flavin Glover as guest Speaker. Programs for the year included Scrap Quilts by Nancy Wischnowski and Machine Applique by Jean Wittig.

1981-82 The Chapter made a special effort to participate in community service projects during the year. Among these were making wheelchair totes for residents of Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home, completing squares for a quilt to benefit Wolf Trap Farm Park, providing expertise and assistance for the fifth grade at Little Run Elementary School for a quilt project, and providing docents for Green Spring Farm. New officers were:

President	Kay Lettau
Secretary	Helen Moehle
Treasurer	Phyllis Baldus

Billie Tuzo took on the job of editing a Newsletter. As we get bigger and bigger, keeping in touch gets more important. Applique is becoming more in vogue and will be the emphasis for programs and projects.

1982-83 This was a very busy year and wide ranging. The slate of Chapter officers included:

President	Jay Romano
Vice President	Kay Lettau
Secretary	Carolyn Lynch
Treasurer	Phyllis Baldus

The Chapter participated in a Quilt Show at the Clara Barton House, but withdrew from the Arlington County Folk Festival because jurying was required. Needles kept flying with a quilt being made for the Fairfax County Council of the Arts to raffle. "Footlights" was the name of the quilt made in support of Wolf Trap Farm Park. Our members rallied round to help with a one-woman show by Kathryn Kuhn, "Pieced Perceptions". Kathryn also designed the cover for note cards, which were printed by the Chapter for a fund-raising project. Applique patterns were exchanged all year long, with one or two members providing the designs at each meeting. Patterns ranged from active to stylized, dainty, realistic, and traditional. Since the project started in 1982, some 42 patterns have been distributed.

1983-84 Chapter members were especially supportive of educational and exhibition efforts during the year. Green Spring Park, CQC, and the QU Quilt Show were all recipients of our help. New Chapter name tags were made, based on a design by Jay Romano. Officers this year were:

President	Gwen Harris
Vice President	Ruth Wiggins
Secretary	Jeane Cheeseman
Treasurer	Boots Bartell

Fund-raising projects were especially successful, including note cards and quilt raffle. The group quilt this year was a tulip design, with Kathryn Kuhn and Louise Hayes directing the effort.

1984-85 The warm and friendly contributions of Kathryn Kuhn, who holds the bees at her home, and Elsie Orndorff, who sees to the refreshments after each meeting, continued during the year. These generous, personal efforts make for a friendly continuity that adds much to our group -- to say nothing of how much easier it makes communications. Chapter officers were:

President	Jackie Louden
Vice President	Mary Ann Rush
Secretary	JoAnn Hathaway
Treasurer	Connie Dunlap

The programs this year included some real headliners, among whom were Susan McKelvey and Jinny Beyer. Scrap quilts are the emphasis this year, with much exchanging of fabric pieces. Everyone brings a swatch from which members cut the pieces that fit their needs. Our By-Laws were revised, based on a lot of spade work headed by Kay Lettau. Epworth United Methodist Church, where we meet, celebrated its 25th Anniversary. In appreciation for the good times we have had in Fellowship Hall and all that the building has provided, a coffee maker was presented. A highlight program of the Chapter was an exhibit of long-time works-in-progress, complete with imaginative "excuses". The "Stitch and Share" booklet of block patterns selected and designed by Chapter members is almost sold out. It has been so successful, consideration is being given to reprinting.

1985-86 Officers elected for the year included:

President	Ruth Wiggins
Vice President	Jackie Louden
Secretary	JoAnn Hathaway
Treasurer	Connie Dunlap

A lot of effort and interest went into making miniature quilts, Sun Bonnet Sues, and baskets to help decorate a quilt-theme Christmas Tree displayed at the Smithsonian Institution. Annandale sponsored the annual Holiday Tea held at the Falls Church Women's Club. "Beulah", Carolyn Lynch's alter ego, distributed pincushion gifts made by Annandale members at the Tea. While Mary Charlotte Baker designed and made the first Chapter Banner in 1974, a new banner has been presented; but, members were reluctant to give up the original. Both will herald the chapter's activities.

1986-87 The new slate of officers included:

President	Ruth Wiggins
Vice President	Sue Hannon
Secretary	Pat Gallagher
Treasurer	Pat Maloney

Annandale members have been dropping in at the Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home once a month to visit and quilt with residents. It's a friendly way to contribute a bit to our community. Among the special programs this year, Janet Elwin traveled from New England to share her interest in the hexagon as a design element. She held a workshop to show how this traditional shape can be adapted for imaginative and contemporary quilts. Just before the holiday season, we held a spirited auction, with Billie Tuzo as the auctioneer. Billie can make a sow's ear become a silk purse. The treasury benefitted through her patter and members' generosity. The Chapter participated in

"Quilt Discovery", the recording of Virginia-made quilts. The stories attached to some of the items underscore the perpetuation of interest in quilts. Our group quilt this year was a striking navy and unbleached muslin modified single Irish Chain. Enough squares were made for there to be three winners of blocks. Several members represented our Chapter in a quilt show held at the Fairfax Ben Franklin Store. We plan to use the bolt of unbleached muslin given by the store for future Chapter projects. In appreciation for the efforts of our Past Presidents, handmade baskets full of fabric swatches were presented to all of them. We were saddened by the death of Muriel Washer, a long-time active member who contributed much to our association.

1987-88 Officers include:

President	Pat Gallagher
Vice President	Helen Moehle
Secretary	Carol Rutherford
Treasurer	Brenda Jones

Annandale joined with the Arlington Chapter to plan the Harvest Brunch for all QU members. Carolyn Lynch and Mary Quarles represented us and the arrangements were fantastic: a great meeting place with a fine kitchen; first class caterers and a tempting and delicious menu; charming weathervane decorations; knowledgeable and delightful panel of speakers on group quilts "Quilting in the All Together"; and 14 inches of snow! A wonderful time was had by the handful of members brave enough to plow through the blizzard. They were rewarded by food to carry home, gifts of the decorations, a delightful program by the one (of four) panel member who defied the elements, and a treacherous three-hour trip home. It was worth it all.

Since there was no QU Holiday Tea this year, the Chapter threw its own party, complete with balloons, perfectly beautiful quilt blocks won by two lucky members, and a sumptuous lunch. Several members had expressed their desire to improve specific quilting skills. In response, a mini-series of "clinics" was held, each to emphasize a particular method or problem-solving technique. A very informal and open teaching/learning session developed for four or five months. Little postcard reminders of upcoming activities seemed to be well received. Our group quilt this year was a beauty, won by Sue White. A real friendship quilt with signatures and sentiments, the design was honcho-ed by Jackie Loudon who did a super job of organizing the cutting, marking, and distribution. A real winner -- both the quilt and Sue. The memorabilia collected over the years was organized into a history album by Dorothy Martin and Carol Rutherford -- fifteen years of friendship and quilting.

ARLINGTON

The Arlington Chapter was founded on April 8, 1974. There were eighteen people present, but we could not find a membership list. The meeting place was the Carlin Springs Recreation Center. As the membership increased, the larger Goodwin House became the permanent meeting place. In addition to the monthly meetings, bees were held at members' homes. The Friday morning bees were popular with mothers. Monday evening bees were held to accommodate working members.

Chapter quilts have been a popular activity. A red, white, and blue Sampler Quilt was made to honor the Bicentennial of the American Revolution. A Dresden Plate in earth tones was made and raffled to benefit Arlington Hospital. A blue and white Odd Fellows Cross raised funds for the Northern Virginia Hospice. Other Chapter quilts have included Scenes of Northern Virginia, Winter Memories, and a Victorian Fan.

BURKE

The Burke Chapter of Quilters Unlimited had its first meeting at Burke Elementary School on April 13, 1983. There were 43 ladies present. Jay Romano and Eleanor Graham were instrumental in getting the group started. Initially, the majority of members were new to quilting. Our group always meets in the evenings, as a large number of the members hold jobs outside the home.

Our first project was a pieced tablecloth to be used at Chapter functions. Our many activities have included the popular Christmas auction; friendship quilts; several group quilts, as well as an orphan fabric sale. The past presidents are given friendship blocks in appreciation for their services. We have just completed 14 quilts for Ronald McDonald House.

There are currently 69 members, with 21 of these ladies being original members. Some of the ladies on the original roster who are still active include: Staci Castaldo, Elizabeth and Cheri Clum, Ann Crosby, Barbara Davis, Janet Gaulthey, Dorothy Hunter, Patricia Herzog, Mary Hildebrand, Nancy Karst, Lee Lanpher, Jackie Leahy, Peggy Logue, Joan McGowan, Mary McDermott, Betty Jeanne McPherson, Sarah Psitos, Kathy Quinlan, Debbie Repass, Betty Ruth, and Pat Stone.

FAIRFAX

"Fairfax -- a new Chapter is being formed! You are invited to the organizational meeting of a Fairfax Chapter of Quilters of America Unlimited on May 13, 1975 at 10:00 am at the Fairfax Baptist Church, 10830 Main Street, Fairfax. Please bring any heirloom quilts you might have and/or your quilting project so that we might all share in the art of quilting."

Twyla Dell, Director of QU, and Damitra Meeds, Assistant Director, conducted that meeting. Also present was Hazel Carter, former Director of Quilters Unlimited. Eight ladies responded to that invitation, and the Fairfax Chapter was organized as a "Bee"/Chapter on May 13, 1975. The eight charter members were Shirley Gelman, Lois Lightfoot, Edith Martin, Pat McLaughlin, Mary Michael, Bethel Moore, Fay Suthard, and Rita Vining. Pat McLaughlin was appointed by those attending as Chairman, and Edith Martin was appointed as Annual Exhibit Chairman. Of the eight original members, Lois Lightfoot, Mary Michael, Bethel Moore, and Pat McLaughlin have remained faithful members of the Fairfax Chapter.

In September 1975, we started on our first Chapter project. It was our appliqued Cardinal and Dogwood Bicentennial Quilt, hereafter (lovingly ??) referred to as "that darned bird quilt"! What an undertaking for such an inexperienced group of quilters! But oh how proud we were of that quilt, especially when we entered it at Woodlawn. The fee to enter was \$25.00, which was more than we had in our treasury.

We held two drawings for that quilt -- it's a long story!! -- and Margie Anderson is it's owner. We have completed three quilts as Chapter projects over the years -- Janet L'Enfant won our White on White Quilt and took it to Hawaii that summer, and Carey Levine Nathan won our scrap Irish Chain Variation.

From the very beginning, Fairfax Chapter has met at the Baptist Church on the first and third Thursdays of every month from September through May. We have a Christmas Pot Luck Luncheon and gift exchange at the church, and a luncheon in a restaurant in June to celebrate our anniversary and to end our year for the summer. We always have a drawing or two for sets of quilt blocks at these luncheons.

In those early years, Fairfax Chapter was small but mighty! Our membership stayed around 20, or fewer, but our enthusiasm never waned. We were actively involved in every aspect of QU from working on the first QU banner and at least three raffle quilts (Evening Star, Footlights at Wolf Trap, and an Amish quilt for the Winter Quilt-In) to hostessing the Fall Luncheons and co-hostessing at least two Christmas Teas, to hostessing at Woodlawn, and helping hang and hostess our own Annual Shows. Our members always have a good showing of items in our Annual Show.

Since QUs involvement with Ronald McDonald House, our Chapter has donated at least nine large quilts to that project. We also contribute and take part in the annual Holiday Craftique at the Fairfax Baptist Church.

An impressive number of our Chapter members have served on the QU Executive Board over the years, including: Elly Dyson, Treasurer; Jackie Levine, Vice President; Karen Pettibone, Newsletter Editor; and Pat McLaughlin. Since

being our first President, Pat has continued working with QU at the executive level, serving five times as President of Fairfax Chapter; Assistant Director (VP) under Lesly-Claire Greenberg in 1977-78; Director (President) in 1980-81; Nominating Committee Chairman in 1983-84; and on various other committees too numerous to mention. Also, Joan McDonald has served the QU Board as Membership Chair for the last two years.

Other highlights from these past thirteen years include a trip to the Virginia State Fair in Richmond and an overnight trip to the Mennonite Quilt Auction near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in the early years. Also, the making of our Chapter Banner (the Fairfax Courthouse) in 1980 -- day trips to Bette Faries' home in Clifton and Fern Morrison's home in Washington, Virginia -- participation in the Fairfax Ben Franklin's Quilt Festival in June 1987 -- two day bus trips to the Lancaster, Pennsylvania area in 1987 and 1988 -- and we had a lot of fun making the blocks for the "Quilting Ladies" top for our outgoing President Karen Pettibone in 1986.

Happy 15th Anniversary QUI! We are looking forward to many more happy and peaceful years!

FALLS CHURCH

Twelve years ago, last December, the Falls Church Chapter was chartered. It has held its meetings at the Falls Church Community Center since its formation. Charter members who still are active in the group include Dot Decot, Joyce Purdue, Rosemary Rudolph, and Helen Smith. The Chapter holds two bees monthly, one during the day and another at night, usually meeting in the homes of members. We have an Annual Pot Luck Dinner and Auction in May. This serves as our major fund raiser as well as an exciting evening of fun and buying. Over the years, the Chapter has made at least one full quilt yearly or two quilt tops, ready to be completed by the lucky member whose name is drawn. Other quilts have been made and given to persons who helped with the project. Our membership is increasing rapidly, indicating a continual interest in quilt making. Monthly evening programs offer a variety of opportunities to develop new skills, practice existing ones, and gain added inspiration to rush home and start another project.

Officers

1974-75	Lu Morris
1975-76	Marge Mills, Helen Smith
1976-77	Helen Smith, Rosemary Rudolph
1977-78	Kathryn Hamilton, Jean Shelley
1978-79	Helen Smith, Joyce Purdue
1979-80	Rosemary Rudolph, Joyce Purdue
1980-81	Kathy Richard, Dot Decot
1981-82	Louise Terwilliger, Loretta Chick
1982-83	Betty Sue Doffermyer, Debbie Dishmon
1983-84	Barbara Swartchick, Jean Shelley
1984-85	Harriet Halbig (Pres.), Edith Caldwell (VP)
1985-86	Betty Sue Doffermyer (Pres.), Gail Wentzell (VP)
1986-87	Betty Schulten (Pres.), Louise Terwilliger (VP)
1987-88	Harriet Halbig (Pres.), Barbara Swartchick (VP)

The names listed during 1976-84, to my knowledge, were called Co-Presidents. With the adoption of new by-laws in 1984, the titles changed to President and Vice President.

MCLEAN

The first meeting of the McLean Chapter of Quilters of America Unlimited (as QU was then known) took place on September 9, 1975 in the meeting room beneath the Dolley Madison Library. Twyla Dell, then the Director of QU, explained the purposes and activities of QU and helped us to organize the Chapter. We voted to meet on the first Tuesday of each month at the Dolley Madison Library. Fifteen members joined at the initial meeting, and elected the following officers: Fern Morrison, President; Carolyn Balcom, Vice President, Patt Madlener, Secretary; and Maxine Fuller, Treasurer.

Most of our early meetings consisted of show and tell by the members and visitors, with an occasional demonstration or workshop. Some of our early guest speakers were Hazel Carter (Christmas decorations), Ellen Swanson (her collection of antique quilts and tops), Sophie Wheat (her prize-winning family history quilt), Suzanne Newton (crazy quilts), and Ed and Thelma Barr (slide show of National Quilting Association show).

In March 1976, we began meeting in a larger and brighter room at the McLean Community Center. At this time, we changed our scheduled meeting day from the first Tuesday to the fourth Tuesday of each month. The first group project that our Chapter undertook was a red, cream, and blue shoo-fly quilt, which we began early in 1976. After piecing the blocks and setting them together with blue sashing, we began meeting at Jo Shearer's home every Tuesday morning to quilt on the frame. That was the beginning of our Tuesday morning bees, which continued at Jo's house every week until the quilt was finished. In April 1977, we had a drawing to determine which of our members would win the Shoo-Fly Quilt. Anyone who had pieced a block or had quilted on the quilt was eligible to put her name into the drawing. The quilt was won by Patt Madlener. We had enough blocks left over after putting the quilt top together to make two baby quilts. These were raffled off at the 1976 McLean Days Celebration. Carolyn Balcom won one of the two baby quilts, and part of the proceeds from that raffle was donated to the McLean Community Center. After the Shoo-Fly Quilt was completed, we took pity on Jo and began rotating the bees at the homes of other members. We also decided to begin a block pattern exchange each month, and to put aside any thought of group projects for the time being.

From 1975 until 1978, our Chapter met monthly on a year-round basis, except for the month of July. After 1978, the attendance at the summer meetings became so sparse that we decided not to meet formally during the months of July and August. An occasional bee was held for anyone who wished to attend. In June 1978 we held our first Annual Pot Luck Luncheon. At this luncheon we elected our officers for the coming year and enjoyed a wonderful variety of dishes provided by the members. This tradition has continued ever since.

In December 1979, we held our first Christmas Cookie Exchange at the home of Flo Sander. This is another annual tradition which we continue to enjoy. In September of 1981, our Chapter held a contest to choose a Chapter banner design. A \$25 gift certificate was to be the prize. The contest was won by Patt Madlener in October 1981. The banner design consisted of a Dolley Madison Star block surrounded by four white roses (her favorite flower). The piecing, embroidery, quilting, and binding of the red, green, and white banner was accomplished by various members of the Chapter.

In addition to the Shoo-Fly Quilt, the Chapter has produced numerous other group projects. In 1977, we made applique blocks, the only common element of which was a round appliqued circle of green bias tape. Each member then added whatever flowers she wished to the green circle "wreath". The blocks were set together and then won (as an unquilted top) by Helen Stevens. In 1982, we made blocks in the "Fascination" pattern and then assembled them; this top was won by Thelma Gold. In September 1986, Chapter members made blocks in the Album or Chimney Sweep pattern. There were enough of these blocks to divide into two sets, which were won by Betty Dammer (who claimed to have never won anything of significance in her 75 years) and Myrna Schatzman. Starting in January 1987, two sets of lovely navy blue and rust "Star in Square" blocks were made; they were won in the Spring by Pat Hanson and, again, lucky Betty Dammer. In December 1987, six lucky members won sets of burgundy, green, and cream blocks in the "Good Cheer" pattern.

In addition to our participation in the McLean Days Celebrations (including craft and bake sales, etc.), the Chapter has participated in such community-oriented activities as donating quilts to Ronald McDonald House and making "Heart Pillows" for Fairfax Hospital's heart patients, as well as hostessing at the annual Woodlawn Show each Spring. The McLean Chapter has co-hosted numerous QU functions over the years, including two Christmas Teas, a Fall Luncheon, and several Quilt-Ins, as well as the Annual Meeting this year.

In effort to raise money for our treasury, we held our first auction in February 1985. Members donated items to be auctioned, including handmade quilted items and things from their sewing rooms which they no longer wanted. That first auction brought in approximately \$200; thanks to the generosity and talent of our members, the last two auctions have brought in more than \$700 each.

During the years 1975 through 1988, the Chapter has been led by the following Presidents:

1975-76	Fern Morrison
1976-66	Carolyn Balcom
1977-78	Lena Behme
1978-79	Jo Shearer
1979-80	Dolly Saunders
1980-81	Mary Lou Nelson
1981-82	Colleen Gosling
1982-83	Kay Walker
1983-84	Patt Madlener
1984-85	Flo Sander
1985-86	Marie Wallace
1986-87	Sharon Goodwin
1987-88	Pat Hansen

We have grown over the years from a small group of hesitant beginners to a much larger group of very talented quilters, some of whom now qualify as "professionals". The common threads of a love for quilts and pleasure in each others' company continue to bind us together, and we look forward to many more years of friendship and sharing.

MOUNT VERNON

The Mount Vernon Chapter started in June 1972. A group of women met at the Martha Washington Library to form a quilting group. Mary Pepe was Acting President of the Martha Washington Bee. They joined the organized group on December 13, 1972. The name Quilters Unlimited was chosen for this organized group on January 17, 1973. In March 1973, the Martha Washington Bee became the Martha Washington Chapter. The Summer 1973 newsletter referred to our Chapter as the Alexandria Chapter, and at that time Mary Pepe was President. NEWS OF QUILTERS UNLIMITED newsletter, dated September-October 1973, referred to us as the Alexandria Chapter and also as the Martha Washington Day Group, and we were now meeting at the Sherwood Hall Library. Sometime in 1973, our name was changed to our present name, Mount Vernon Chapter.

The Mount Vernon Chapter now meets two times each month at the Sherwood Hall Library. We have a business meeting and quilt program on the second Tuesday, and a bee on the fourth Tuesday. At the bees, we work on the group quilt, community projects, or our own quilting projects. We make a group quilt each year as a learning process. This quilt is then raffled off at our Annual Luncheon in June. The more you work on this quilt, the more chances you have to win it. We also have an auction at this luncheon to raise funds for the group quilts and community projects.

Our group has been involved in various community projects. We have helped several senior citizen groups in the basics of quilting, and helped them put quilts together. We helped a first grade class make a quilt. We made 60 quilted wheel chair bags for the Mt. Vernon Nursing Home. We make and contribute items to the yearly Mt. Vernon Hospital Fund Raising Bazaar. We have made four quilts for the Ronald McDonald House.

In addition to our monthly meetings, we have an Annual Christmas Tea and ornament exchange.

RESTON

Attending classes at the Greater Reston Art Center (GRACE) was the inspiration for several area residents to form a group devoted to quilting. Learning that Quilters Unlimited existed in Northern Virginia, the newly established group joined the organization, and in 1981 the Reston Chapter of Quilters Unlimited was created.

The Chapter has grown from approximately ten charter members to more than 50, who meet the fourth Tuesday of the month, from September to June, at the Lake Anne Elementary School at 11510 North Shore Drive in Reston. Our meetings consist of Chapter and organization business, a very popular tradition of "Show and Tell", during which we enjoy the work of our membership, a workshop/demonstration which is most often presented by one of our own Chapter members, as well as time for socializing and refreshments. We feel very fortunate to be able to draw upon the talents within our membership for the variety of programs presented at the monthly meetings. Informal quilting bees are occasionally held at members' homes, the dates and times selected by the hostess.

Chapter traditions include a December Holiday Party, during which we exchange hand made ornaments, as well as a Salad Bar Supper at the May meeting, when election of new officers takes place.

The Reston Chapter Banner presents a view of the First Village Center at Lake Anne and incorporates both traditional and original blocks representing life in Reston.

Programs over the last couple of years have included:

Marking Your Quilt Tops	Joni Hoffman
Quilter's Portfolio	Diane Bruce
Christmas Folded Star Wallhanging	Carol Horne
U. S. Commemorative Stamp Workshop	Bette Ferre
Circle of Hearts Wallhanging	Carole Nicholas
Pieced Pictorial Quilts	Elly Dyson
Amish Quilts: Lecture/Demonstration	Diane Bruce
World of Quilts, slides of Michigan Show	Jean Wood
Smithsonian Quilt Collection, slide show	Kay Walker
Pineapple Welcome Hoops	Joni Hoffman
Appliqued and Quilted Fall Decorations	Joni Hoffman
Construction of Double Irish Chains (machine)	Jeanne Culbert
Charm Quilts	Ellen Swanson
Quilted Clothing	Shana Spiegel
Workshop on Binding Quilts	Joni Hoffman
Stained Glass Applique	Joan Nakovich
Trip Around the World quick piecing method	Carole Kosciw
Miniature Workshops	Carole Kosciw
Three Quilts made for Ronald McDonald House	Membership
Christmas ornament workshop and seasonal decorations, quilt pattern exchange, and demonstration on transferring quilt patterns to fabric.	Membership

SPRINGFIELD

FIRST TEN YEARS

The Springfield Chapter of Quilters Unlimited was formed in September 1974 under Hazel Carter's supervision, at the Richard E. Byrd Library, with 12 members. Out of the 15 current members, only two charter members remain -- Jean Cosner and Virginia Walsh. In the Spring of 1975, the Byrd Library was closed on Mondays to conserve energy, and we moved to the Grace Presbyterian Church, where we still meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

We are a small Chapter, but have had some recognition in Quilters Unlimited. In 1975, Twyla Dell was Director of QU and in 1980 Dee Grantman was Assistant Director of QU. Dee now has a full-time job, but still is a member of our Chapter. In 1980, Jean Cosner's quilt "Gems" was selected to represent Springfield QU at the Continental Quilting Congress in Arlington. You may remember its beautiful pastel colors. This was Jean's own design, inspired by a workshop in our own Chapter. This quilt is now living in Baltimore in Jean's daughter's first apartment.

We have had three group projects. The first was a bicentennial quilt, two years in the making, made up of applique blocks depicting our country's history -- Paul Revere's Ride, the Statue of Liberty, the Wright Brother's Flight, Betsy Ross, and others. This quilt was won by Betty Downing in a drawing for members who worked on the quilt. The second quilt -- Summer Star (under the direction of Carolyn Goodling) was made the following year. It was shades of blue, gold, and orange. This quilt top went to Kansas with Twyla Dell. The third quilt was an Attic Window, started last year, with assorted three inch squares contributed by our members. We now have 359 squares. After the first of the year we hope to start putting the blocks together and quilting this one.

We have enjoyed our association with Quilters Unlimited, especially the Annual Quilt Show and the Winter Quilt-In. Thank you Hazel for Quilters Unlimited.

FIVE YEARS LATER

The Springfield Chapter is still active and meeting at Grace Church with 40 members now. We did about one-fourth the quilting on the Attic Window Quilt, and at the Christmas Luncheon in 1984, we drew names among members who had worked on the quilt. The lovely colors of the Attic Window Quilt now grace the guest room of Karen Kavlick.

Our interests turned to White-on-White work -- with a whole cloth quilt designed by Phyllis Spiker. Upon the death of Jean Cosner in August 1985, the beautiful white work quilt Festal Wreaths was donated to the American Cancer Society for fund raising in Jean's memory.

Leslie McGregor was our Chapter President for two years, and went on to be QU President in 1986-87.

We have had several exciting activities in the last five years: a trip to Dayton, Virginia to see the Berry Sisters' beautiful quilts and white work patterns; quilting demonstrations at the Kennedy Center during the intermission of the musical "Quilters"; and a bus trip to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania to the Amish quilt shops. In five more years, QU will celebrate its 20th Anniversary and the Springfield Chapter will still be going strong at Grace Church.

VIENNA

The Vienna Chapter of Quilters Unlimited is only six months younger than the QU organization. The past fifteen years of the Chapter have been exciting, productive, and caring ones for Chapter members. The first meeting of the Vienna Chapter was held June 13, 1973 at 7:30 o'clock in the evening at the Patrick Henry Library. The previous month, there had been an organizational meeting to form a local chapter for Vienna quilters. Hazel Carter described that day, "The Vienna Library was bedecked with quilts. On the afternoon of the Quilters Unlimited meeting there were more and more quilts brought to show and were admired by all present. There were over fifty persons in attendance and some 30 quilts brought." Hazel went to a Vienna quilting bee to ask for help in organizing the Chapter. The first slate of officers were:

President	Hazel Carter
Vice President	Nadine Dale
Treasurer	Avis Hill
Secretary	Jinny Beyer
Program Committee	Ellen Swanson
Nominating Committee	Virginia Stevens
Membership Chairman	Helen Foreman

Due to illness, Jinny had to turn her secretarial duties over to Olive Campbell. After fifteen years, most of these women are still members of the Chapter, with the exception of Olive Campbell, Nadine Dale, and Avis Hill.

The Chapter has grown from the fifty enthusiastic members that Hazel Carter organized that first year to 174 members in 1988. The Presidents of the Chapter have done much to provide inspiration, organization, creativity, and new ideas to continue the growth process here in Vienna. The women who have so ably led our Chapter over the past fifteen years are the following:

1973	Hazel Carter
1974	Jane Harvey
1975	Sheila Musselman
1976	Barbara Denman
1977	Nancy Nelson
1978	Lesly Greenberg
1979	Julie Reynolds
1980	Betty Larsen
1981	Chris McDermott
1982	Marilyn Titman
1983	Annette Spitzer
1984	Dorothy Trask
1985	Gayle Ropp
1986	Linda Pool
1987	Sue Kessel

To recognize the time and talents of these Presidents, the Chapter began a tradition in the 10th Anniversary Year to give each outgoing President a quilt or wall hanging top. That year wall hangings were made for each of the past Presidents. They were all of an Amish design. This effort was organized by Lesly-Claire Greenberg. Now each outgoing President is presented with a quilt top made by the membership as she leaves office. The design is kept a secret, and is chosen according to what the President would like. The President may choose to do the quilting, or have someone else quilt her memory quilt.

During the first year, a quilt top was purchased to begin the tradition of Chapter Quilts. Everyone helped quilt the two inch squares, and finished the quilt in 1974. All of the Chapter Quilts are signed differently to be a learning experience in quilt signing. The first one has a cross stitch signature label on the back. There are now eight Chapter Quilts and wall hangings. The Maple Leaf was the second quilt, finished in 1974. This was a quilt-as-you-go project, under the direction of Ellen Swanson. This quilt was signed on the front in embroidery. A Bicentennial Quilt was made in the Crazy Quilt style, showing all 50 states. The Chapter donated it to the Town of Vienna, and it is hanging on permanent display in the Freeman House in Vienna. The Patchwork Sampler Quilt was started in 1976 as a group project. The fabrics, selected by a committee, were blue, gold, and rust colors. This quilt was quilted on a large frame and carried to bees, meetings, and shows. It was finished in 1979 under the chairmanship of Nancy Nelson. It is signed on the back with a pieced flower basket. Another of the Chapter Quilts is the Spring Quilt, which is a 53x68 wall hanging. It was appliqued from a design created by Lesly-Claire Greenberg, and was made between 1978 and 1980. The Baltimore Bride Quilt, coordinated by Lenore Parham, was made during this same period. This quilt was a two-year project in advanced applique. Although the color scheme is modern, the execution is very traditional. The large blocks were designed, appliqued, and signed by the project members. Lattice strips were made using the seminole piecing technique. Other Chapter members joined in to do small blocks and to help with quilting. This quilt is signed with a floral wreath signature label on the back. The Chapter has made two smaller wall hangings to add to this collection. An early yellow calico Bee Hive wall hanging is embroidered with bees. The Vienna Chapter Banner was made between February and April 1983, and is a blue and beige kaleidoscope with cross stitched lettering. It is signed with a typed muslin label on the back.

The membership continues to make Chapter Quilts; there are two current projects. One is a beautiful, complex Mariner's Compass, that was designed and organized by Judy Spahn. The quilt was started in 1986, with members volunteering to make a block from the pre-selected blue, burgundy, and beige colored fabrics. Presently, the top is pieced and being quilted. In addition, a less complex design -- Irish Chain Quilt -- is being made. Dottie Trask organized members to begin this quilt in 1986. Due to her recent move from the area, the quilt is now under the chairmanship of Mary Cross. The colors are blues on a white background. One of the Bees, the Knight Owls, is putting the quilt together. The skills of the membership have certainly progressed in these fifteen years, from making a Chapter Quilt from a purchased quilt top to piecing a complex Mariner's Compass design.

One of the outgrowths of a larger membership is the increase in the number of Bees in the Vienna Chapter. In 1976, there were three Bees. By 1988, there are 104 quilters in ten Bees. Bees are smaller groups of quilters who enjoy exchanging quilting ideas and the camaraderie of a smaller group. Many Bees make friendship squares. They either choose fabric for one person and all make different blocks for that person, or they may choose a pattern to be made with different fabrics from each person in the group. Bees have done many service projects, as well as their other quilting activities. In 1977, the "Bumbling Bees" made a quilt to donate for a raffle to benefit the Fairfax County School Bus Drivers' Emergency Fund. More recently, a number of Bees have donated over 65 quilts to the Ronald McDonald House. The Knight Owls provide social activities for the Lewinsville Senior Center in McLean. Bees also help organize or finish Chapter group projects, such as piecing together

the Irish Chain Chapter Quilt. Bees provide the friendship and caring that grows from the quilting process.

One of the charter members of the Chapter, and of the Busy Bees, was Olive Campbell, who suggested the name of the Bee. Olive, who died in 1981, was a multi-talented person, who enjoyed a remarkable ability to get things done. In 1974-75, Refreshment Chairpersons (Sue Thompson and Joan Myers) realized the need for a tablecloth to cheer up the bare card table used for refreshments. Olive's recommendation was to have each member of our Busy Bees (12) complete a square, sew them together, and surprise the Chapter with it. The colorful tablecloth, protected by a plastic sheet at each meeting, is still in use. (The Vienna Chapter has grown so much, though, that a new, larger tablecloth is being planned, not to replace, but to supplement the original.) Olive gently persuaded even our (then) newest member, a non-sewer, that she could make a square; and, indeed, the Shoo-Fly square is the product. In tribute to Olive's memory and her talents, member Sue Thompson spearheaded a campaign to make a quilt and raffle it, donating the proceeds (ultimately) to Fairfax Hospital's Oncology Department. A bronze plaque in Olive's name hangs there as a result of the contribution. The quilt was made in squares by the Busy Bees, and with the help also of several Chapter members. The beautiful Butterfly was designed by Kathryn Kuhn (see photo in History Display).

The programs we enjoy in the Vienna Chapter are the results of many additions and changes in the last fifteen years. However, several things have remained the same. Dues were \$6 in 1976, and only \$4 more in 1987. Our library can always use more books, which is accomplished periodically. A monthly newsletter keeps members informed about coming activities now, just as it did twelve years ago. The membership is still quite varied in age span, as well as in quilting skills, so programs need to appeal to quilters of various levels of accomplishment. Programs have included more special speakers in the past few years, but members still offer exciting ideas as speakers at the monthly meetings. For example, in 1973 Mary Moench gave a lecture on Hawaiian Quilting, and in 1987 Linda Pool presented her ideas and quilts on Hawaiian Quilting. One of the reasons the Chapter can afford more speakers today is that the Holiday Auction, the cook book, and other fund raisers have provided funds for extra program activities.

This past year's program has highlighted specialty speakers, as well as presentations by our experienced members. The year began with Ann Oliver's exciting program "White on White". A new element was introduced into the monthly meetings with the "Meet-A-Quilter Interviews", when a member or members could talk about their own quilting ideas and show some of their quilted items. Additional special programs enrich our quilting experiences. An ongoing project of a two-patch square was used to create wall hangings for lucky winners at the June dinner. Other projects include the creation of a new tablecloth with an appliqued iris design with pieced curves. At the February Make-A-Quilt Night, members created autograph blocks which were arranged into eleven wall hanging groups for the winners of the drawing. Each month at Nottoway Park, an Open Bee is held on the fourth Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. This program was started in 1983 under Annette Spitzer's leadership. There is usually a program planned for each monthly meeting at Nottoway. Field trips and a retreat have become important social and quilting experiences for the membership. This year 36 members went on a retreat to

Camp Highroads for a weekend. Members quilted, talked, and laughed throughout those three days. A field trip to Savage Mill is planned for June. The membership still supports the Annual Woodlawn Exhibit, just as it did in the 1970s. In the late 70s, the group participated in the National Wildlife Federation Show. Currently, the Chapter contributes to the Annual Children's Festival at Wolf Trap, as well as the Sully Plantation Show. Even though we have diverse activities in our Chapter, the membership continues to support Quilters Unlimited functions, such as the Fall and Winter Quilt-Ins, the Annual Quilt Show, the Holiday Brunch, and other activities of the sister chapters. The group, started by those women who met on that June day in 1973, is still increasing in numbers and is a caring, creative, and contributing group of quilters here in the Vienna Chapter. The women support each other, Quilters Unlimited, and the community with their talents as quilters.

HAPPY 15TH

BIRTHDAY

QUILTERS UNLIMITED

