

COUNTRY NOTES

***Country Patchwork Quilt Guild
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April 2014***

From the President

I am looking forward to this month's program. Our speaker will be Renee' Nanneman from The Need'l Love Co. in Gravois Mills, MO. She will be giving a workshop from 9 to 12 on a felted wool pincushion and then her lecture in the afternoon will be about what inspired her to start her business. She is also a fabric designer for Andover Fabrics.

Also, I want to express my heartfelt thanks for the support that was given to the Quilts of Valor group and to the 3 veterans who received quilts that day. I received a very nice thank you note that I will read to the group, but I wanted to say that they received enough quilt blocks to make 6 quilts! They were very appreciative of the support our guild gave to them and this is a wonder example of how giving quilters can be.

Finally, you will see we have added a new feature to our newsletter this month. The Board has decided it would be helpful if we had a hints section in the newsletter. No matter how many years you have been quilting, there always seems to be a new way of doing something. Some times this is using a specialty ruler and other times it is because someone was shown a new way to piece a block that is easier. The number of hints each month will vary, but if you have some hints you would like to share, please send them to Bobbie Jo. She will choose how many she can put in each month's newsletter as space allows.

Take care.

Janet E

REMINDER

There will not be a Board Meeting at the April meeting due to our workshop that day.

TREASURERS REPORT - April 1, 2014

(see emailed newsletter for financial information)

REMEMBER.....If Marshall schools do not have classes, CPQG will not have a meeting either.

MEETING MINUTES - March 11, 2014

President Janet E called the meeting to order. The Treasurer's report and the Minutes from the last meeting were approved as written in the February Newsletter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CHARITY: Several charity quilts were shown. Several people also donated fabric for either charity quilts or for the Quilts of Valor program.

SUNSHINE: A card will be sent to Betty P who is in ICU at Fitzgibbon Hospital in Marshall.

HOSPITALITY:

QUILT SHOW: The raffle quilt is nearly complete and thanks were given to Bobbie Jo for hosting the quilting sessions. Raffle tickets will be available to members at the April meeting. The quilt will be taken to Arrow Rock and to the Arts Council event at MHS. Karen and Michael will chair the silent auction for the quilt show. Paula S will chair the bazaar.

FRIENDSHIP BLOCK: Donna B passed out instructions for her Friendship Quilt and Janet E's name was drawn for April.

DOOR PRIZE: Door prizes were won by several members.

SHOW AND TELL: Quilts and projects that were shown and were enjoyed by all.

MISC: A Crayola Light Up Tracing Pad for kids was shown as an alternative for a light box. An under the bed plastic container could also be used for this with a fluorescent light (as it would not heat up and melt the plastic as a regular light bulb would).

OLD BUSINESS: Marty continues to work on the cookbook and the plan is to have them available for purchase when the raffle quilt is being shown.

NEW BUSINESS: Norma Jeane presented the Quilt Show Challenge called "Something That Makes You Happy". Participants paid \$3.00 and they were given a strip of focus fabric. They were instructed to design a quilt block to illustrate what makes them happy. Any other fabric, color, or embellishments may be added and it is not to exceed a perimeter of 100 inches (in any dimension). Date for completion is August 12, 2014. If you would like to participate, call Norma Jeane.

Due to the Wool Pincushion workshop which will be held on April 8, there will be no executive board meeting. If members would like to participate in the pincushion workshop, contact Janet.

PROGRAMS: The QOV program was presented by Jan Hobbs from Columbia. The three QOV quilts presented during the program to veterans were: Robert R, David W, and Jim T.

Meeting was adjourned.

BOARD MEETING March 11, 2014

The CPQG Board met on March 11, 2014 with the following members present: Janet E, Bobbie Jo P, Kathy C, Karen G, Beth C, Marlyn M, Kathryn J and Barbara D.

Janet called the meeting to order.

A question was raised as to who was ordering the quilt frames and camera that had previously been approved to purchase. Someone will talk to Mary Pat to see if she would be more comfortable using her own camera and using a card specifically for the guild. Then a decision would be made as to the purchase.

Bobbie Jo reported that at the last board meeting it had been decided to offer "mini-classes" to help improve quilting skills of all types. She found a DVD bundle from Fons and Porter called "Master Class" which is 11 DVDs costing \$77.98 on sale. During a discussion of purchasing the DVDs, a concern was voiced about having these "mini-classes" during the regular guild meetings as far as members being able to see demonstrations, taking up meeting time, and that perhaps we needed to slow down in the approach. Marlyn suggested using the newsletter to address helpful hints. It was also suggested that the guild members should be encouraged to ask for help if there is some problem that occurs. It was also stated that if we purchased the DVDs, they could be used in the library as check-out items. Bobbie Jo motioned and Kathy seconded to purchase the DVDs from Fons and Porter. Motion carried.

Quilt Show report: It was reported that the raffle quilt was mostly done. There is a label made but not attached yet. Karen and Michael will chair the silent auction. There was still no one to chair the Bazaar. Arrangements had been made to take the quilt to Arrow Rock, to the Arts Council event at Marshall High School, and Marlyn will arrange to have it taken to Waverly and Norborne events. It was also suggested that the quilt could be taken to the local Farmer's Market when it was not being shown in other places. It is also hoped that the cookbooks will be ready to be available when the quilt is being shown.

We would like to thank Bobbie Jo for hosting the quilting in her home for the raffle quilt. Marlyn motioned and Kathy seconded that the guild give \$35 to Bobbie Jo for hosting the quilting.

A discussion was held about reimbursement for expenses in driving to the meeting in Lenexa. The guild does reimburse for meals and those sent by the guild should turn in their lunch expenses (\$10).

There is a workshop on the regular meeting day in April on a wool pincushion which will be \$15. Those interested should contact Janet. There will be no executive board meeting that day.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Shirley G	April 8	Christena W	April 12
Donna R	April 10	Millie M	April 19

APRIL HOSTESSES

Anita C, Paula S, Gayle H

MAY HOSTESSES

Mary Pat W, Eileen H, Darlene L

CHARITY PROJECTS

Kathryn J took a comfort quilt to a nine year old girl in Slater who, with her father, lost everything in a fire recently. Kathryn reported that the girl and her dad were very happy to receive the quilt from our Guild. Thank you, Kathryn, for doing this for us.

Michael has finished machine quilting another one and we are looking for a volunteer to complete it by attaching the binding. If you can do this, please call him. He is now quilting on one that Norma Jeane made. After much discussion about the best backing fabric, Karen generously donated a coordinating fabric for the back. Thank you, Karen and Michael.

Remember, Members, we have fabric already for you in coordinating bundles. Any easy, quick pattern will work for the comfort quilts. The design doesn't have to be complicated.

Square Corner, a store on the east side of the square, is displaying the quilt that we donated to Fitzgibbon Hospital for their Spring Fling. It looks good!

Thanks to all of you who have shared your fabric and your time to make blocks or quilts for the various Charity projects.

Marlyn and Norma Jeane, Charity Committee

OPPORTUNITY QUILT

Yea, the raffle quilt is finished. Thank you so much to everyone who did a block, donated fabric, the batting, and quilted on the quilt. It was an ambitious project and thanks to all your help it came out

beautiful. We took it to the Craft and Art Festival and sold tickets March 22. We only took in \$64, but there was no cost. The next time out will be the Spring Garden Show in Arrow Rock, May 10th.

The raffle tickets will be at the April 10th meeting for all the CPQG members. Beth C asked me if we ever have a prize for the person who sells the most tickets. I said we have in the past, but the problem was coming up with a nice prize. *She told me she would donate some machine quilting, a small quilt, or \$75 toward any quilt.* I accepted the offer gladly. So get out there and sell those raffle tickets.

I hope everyone will have at least one quilt to show. Borrow one from a friend if you need to. We need some nice items for the silent auction and bazaar. Paula S volunteered to chair the bazaar, so talk to her if you need some ideas. Also I have seen some cute ideas for the challenge, see what you can come up with.

I know we ask a lot of our members, but this is what it takes to have good programs, and workshops. Remember it also takes money to finish the many quilts we donate to the cancer center and to families that have a need in the community.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO - Kathy C

FRIENDSHIP BLOCK WINNER

Due to an oversight on our side, the Friendship Block winner for November was Janet B and her profile was not included in the newsletter. This month we will have Janet B for November and Janet E whose name was drawn in March.

JANET B

I retired from teaching at Sweet Springs in 2007 after 31 years, and then started quilting.

I and my husband, Randy, have been married for 38 years and have 2 daughters and 1 son-in-law. We farm south of Sweet Springs and Concordia.

I have an aunt who makes beautiful applique quilts. Thought since I like jigsaw puzzles I would try piecing. And I enjoy the process of choosing a design, selecting fabrics, and seeing the final results.

My favorite would be "Day and Night" by Eleanor Burns. I have made 3 quilts; the pink & black & white is my favorite.

I like fishing, playing bridge and jigsaw puzzles. I also enjoy a monthly luncheon with retired staff from Sweet Springs.

For my choice for the friendship quilt, I spent days looking through books and online. I went to my fabric stash and found colors to use, then chose "Spring Floral" because I love it and already had the fabric.

JANET E

I am looking forward to getting my 2nd set of friendship blocks. As most of you know, my husband Larry & I moved to MO 5 years ago from Las Vegas. I have been quilting for about 25 years and used to teach beginning quilting at some of the quilt stores in Las Vegas. I also worked part time at one of them for about 2 years. We have 4 kids and 8 grandkids who are the love of our lives! After seeing Paula's adorable top with all of her brightly colored floral snowball blocks, I decided I would like to have something similar. I have always wanted a combination snowball and 9 patch quilt so that is what I chose. I am including a paper pieced pattern for the snowball blocks. While this is a block that can be made without paper piecing, I wanted to make sure that the corner triangles were spaced the same on every block so that they line up with the 9 patch blocks correctly. I am asking that each person then make me a simple 9 patch block using the same dark fabrics that were used on the corners of the snowball block. I will provide 5 background squares for the 9 patch blocks so that they will be the same throughout the entire quilt. I will have packets available to hand out at the next meeting.

MAY MEETING

Scheduled program is to be "I am a Designer--You are Too" presented by Candy Hargrove of Kansas City. Candy design the patterns for Andover Fabrics that highlight Jo Morton's Fabrics.

CLUB COOKBOOK

Marty W has been working on this project with a little editing help and it is now completed. It has now been turned over to the printer for publication. Whoo-hoo!!

DID YOU KNOW.....

The Stover "It's A Gatherin" Show is this weekend, April 4-5 at the Stover Community Center.

Have you noticed how expensive your new blades are for your 45m rotary cutter. Go to Harbor Freight and look at the rotary carpet cutters!! They are about \$1.00 each!

Got any good tips? Send them in and we will put them in the newsletter. Not everyone was born a master quilter. Or maybe you can let us in on an embroidery or sewing tip. Whatever, lets help out our not-so expert quilters.

My favorite straight pins are the IBC glass head silk pins that are 1-3/8" long. If you can't find these locally, you can buy them from www.anniescatalog.com. (This used to be Clotilda's). You will find it much easier to line up the pieces of a block, etc. when using these pins as they are much thinner so they don't distort the intersections like the fatter pins do. (Hint submitted by Janet E)

For those of you who like to paper piece, I highly recommend buying a ream of 8-1/2" x 11" newsprint from www.dickblick.com. It is very inexpensive and will run through most printers with ease. You will only have to reduce your stitch length to 2.0 as well, which is a huge bonus. (Hint submitted by Janet E)

Not to gross anybody out, but how many times have you stuck your finger and got a drop of blood on your work. Don't worry.....just spit. On your work that is. If you do it right away, your own saliva will take out the blood spot.

Looking for a good storage spot for all your "extra" quilts? Store them flat on the spare bed, just make sure this isn't the secret sleeping spot for your dog or cat!

Looking for something to do?

April 11 Kiss & Pie Eating Contest-Martin Community Center, Marshall. This seems to be a chocolate event. Should prove to be interesting.

May 10 Arrow Rock Spring Garden Show. We will be selling tickets here on our Opportunity Quilt

May 17 Marshall Spring Fling in conjunction with Bike Rodeo, Jim Day (Jim the Wonder Dog), Rotary Shoot Out, hot dog eating contest, and Shriners Parade. This will all be on the Downtown Square in Marshall

SPECIAL REMINDER: Everyone who signed up for the April workshop needs to bring a small (3") pair of scissors that they will use to cut the felted wool with. They can also bring a thimble if they wish to, but that is not required.

website for Harbor Freight is: www.harborfreight.com