

The Scrapbag Rag

The Official Newsletter of the Blue Valley Quilt Guild

February 2014 Issue

It's Time for a Challenge

February is the month of both the Super Bowl and the Olympics. These contests have amazing athletes who have challenged themselves to perform at the top of their sports. I am amazed to think of the hours spent on the field, in the gym, on the slopes, or at the ice rink. They had to shake off the bruises, injuries, low scores, and possibly jeering fans to get up, go out, and try again. Every person needs this mental and physical toughness to reach their goals.



We also do things that amaze other people. There was a time when every quilter took a risk, bought some fabric, and started to sew. You may not have faced bruises, or jeering fans, but quilting comes with its own frustrations and failures. The pattern directions are unclear, a needle breaks, the colors are wrong, the fabric puckers, the price of everything goes up, someone refers to your quilt as a blanket...yet we go on and keep trying. How did you get past those first mistakes? Who encouraged you? Where did you find the mental toughness to conquer that challenging pattern?

Or possibly a better question is, are you satisfied with your present skills or do you continue to challenge yourself? "Happiness doesn't come from doing easy work but from the afterglow of satisfaction that comes after the achievement of a difficult task that demanded our best." -Theodore Rubin

The 2014 guild challenge project will be presented at our next meeting on February 17. This annual event is presented in February and needs to be finished and anonymously presented at the July meeting where each person will be invited to vote for their 3 favorite projects. These wall hangings will be displayed at the Seward County Fair where fairgoers will also have a chance to vote for their favorite. Winners of both votes will be announced in August, identities will be revealed, and prizes awarded. The rules this year are very simple and will be posted online after they are distributed at the February meeting. No registration is necessary, so plan now to challenge yourself!

You Are Invited

February 22 is the first of our Saturday Sew days at the Civic Center. The west fireplace room (at the top of the stairs) is reserved for us from 9-4. Bring what you need to work on your project, whether it is hand sewing, knitting, quilting, piecing, or something else. Come for all day or for a little while and enjoy visiting with friends while you sew. This is also a good chance to bring a friend who is not a member and enjoy the day together.



Paper Piecing by Jill Vanderboegh February 17—see picture above

Jill Vanderboegh challenged herself to become proficient in paper piecing. She is teaching a paper piecing project at the Civic Center on February 17 and will also be our speaker that evening.

Jill grew up in Michigan where she learned to sew and knit from her mother. She began quilting in 1991 using a metal ruler, a pair of ginger scissors and a book. To her unexpected delight most of the corners on that first quilt matched. For many years Jill made only very traditional quilts that were machine pieced and hand quilted. Then in 2003 she began taking classes from local and national teachers and her interests started to change from traditional to more artistic. Every quilt needed a new challenge, a new technique, a new idea or inspiration.

Come and see some of her fabulous creations and hear her story. If you take the workshop, please bring your unfinished projects along to the meeting so we can see what you have done.

It's a Boy!

Congratulations to Lora Jilg on the birth of Adam Stephen on Jan. 20! Despite his 8 lbs. 4 oz, 21 inches size she said, "everything went pretty easy this time," and she has promised to bring him for show and tell. There are many challenges ahead, but enjoy every minute, Lora!



**Blue Valley Quilters
Treasurer Report
January,
2014**

Beginning Checkbook Balance	12/31/13	\$2,015.32
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INCOME:

Magazine Subscripton	15.00
Library Book Sales	10.00
Library Book Sales	45.00
Dues	140.00
Bus Trip Deposits	150.00
Dues	20.00
TOTAL INCOME	380.00

EXPENSES:

Nebraska Dept Revenue--Sales Tax	26.30
Marilyn Varner-Newsletter Copies	21.00
Windstar Lines Inc--Deposit for Bus Trip	205.90
Love of Quilting Member Subscription	15.00
Postmaster--Stamps	9.20

TOTAL EXPENSES	277.40
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Ending Checkbook Balance	1/31/14	2,117.92
Petty Cash		20.00
Savings Account @ Cattle Bank		2,007.40
		\$4,145.32

Lori Duffek, BVQ G Treasurer

Do you have items to sell or a service to offer? Think our members may be interested?

Classified or Monthly Section Ads in the newsletter are available!

Classified Ads are .10 per word with a \$2.00 minimum and must be quilt or member related.

Monthly Ad Sizes/Rates: 1/8 page \$10.00, 1/4 pg \$16.00, 1/2 page vertical or horizontal \$30.00,
full page \$60.00

(pssst...you can also just make an announcement at the guild meeting...it's free!)

Itinerary-BVQG Bus Trip April 26 2014

\$50 for the trip which includes lunch. (Payment is due by April 1st to Lori Duffek)

6:45 am - The bus will arrive at the Seward Civic Center (616 Bradford St., Seward, NE)

7:00 am - The bus will depart from the Civic Center.

10:15 am - Arrive in Cameron, Missouri at the "Crossroads Quilt Shop".



Crossroads Quilting is no longer the "little" quilt shop. We are continuing to grow and are still BIG on service. We offer a wide variety of quilt fabric, wool patterns, books and notions, gifts, and quality quilting. (1720 N. Walnut, Suite D, Cameron, MO Phone 816-649-0550)

11:30 - Leave for Hamilton, MO.

11:50 - Arrive in Hamilton, Mo. at the "Missouri Star Quilt Co.". Lunch will be served in the retreat center next to the quilt shop.



This company now ships hundreds of packages every single day to customers all over the globe. Due to their popularity on YouTube, the brick and mortar shop has become a quilting destination attracting quilters from all over America and around the world to the small town of Hamilton, Missouri. The company now employs more than 25 people, which is the largest employer in Caldwell County. There are three quilt stores with a large store, a reproductions store and a seasonal store. The town also has other interesting little shops. (114 N. Davis St. Hamilton, MO, Phone 888-571-1122)

Amish center for fabric supplies. Complete fabric supplies in a large barn building. Everything for the home seamstress and more! It is located next to H&M Country Store and the Country Side Amish Bakery specializing in fresh baked goods, homemade jams and friendly service.



16:00 - Leave Jamesport, MO.

17:15 - Supper at the Cracker Barrel in St. Joseph, MO on your own

18:30 - Leave St. Joseph, MO

21:30 - Arrive in Seward, NE

What's coming up in Nebraska's quilting world?

International Quilt Study Center and Museum Events

National Quilting Day—March 15—Free Admission

Standing Activities: Free with admission

Tuesday - Saturday: Guided tour of Exhibitions, 11:00 AM

Saturday: Guided tour of Exhibitions, 1:00 PM

Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Sunday 1:00- 4:00 PM

Closed Mondays and University Holidays

Regular admission:

Members FREE, Adult \$6

Student (with school ID) \$3

Child (5-18 years of age) \$3

Child (4 and under) FREE

Family (up to 2 adults and their children or grandchildren) \$12

UNL Student (with UNL ID) FREE

UNL Faculty/Staff (with UNL ID) FREE

For more information please visit www.quiltstudy.org or call (402) 472-6549.

Look for upcoming Nebraska Quilt Events at: http://nsqg.org/quilting_events.html

More info for Quilters

Online Quilt Database at Nebraska History Museum, 15th & P Streets, Lincoln, NE The Nebraska State Historical Society's collection of over 400 Nebraska quilts are now searchable and available for viewing on the web [online database](#). Just type "quilt" into the search box to see all the items or enter more specific terms depending on your needs



Happy Birthday BVQG Members

Birthdays are nature's way of telling us to eat more cake.

February Member Birthdays

Mona Kunasek 1st

Kim Piitz 7th

Marian Fosler 17th

Joanne Neeley 28th



The Tootsie Tool
A Tasty Tool for Quilters

10 Handy Uses for this Helpful Tool

1. Hold the ball in the palm of your hand and use the stick as an extension of your finger when sewing at the machine – the perfect Stiletto.
2. Use the stick as your "stylus", to draw your quilt design on your block before quilting.
3. For a temporary adhesive.....just "lick and stick".
4. Emergency piece of freezer paper for appliqué.
5. The stick can be broken off and used as an emergency replacement for the thread spindle on your sewing machine.
6. Pressing tool... Hint: Leave wrapper on if you don't want your pieces to get sticky.
7. Use the stick as a turning tool.
8. Quick fix when your blood sugar drops too low... remember, if you get the "shakes" your stitches won't be even.
9. Wrapper can be used as a template for 2–3½" finished half square triangles. Just draw a line on the diagonal and stitch ¼" on both sides of the line.
10. Lint grabber when changing your bobbin.

Show us how you use your Tootsie Tool!
#thetootsietool

moda

Minutes from Blue Valley Quilt Guild meeting Jan. 20, 2014

President Gretchen Gebhardt called the meeting to order.

Guests Ruth Fosler and Marian Fosler's daughters Susan and Corky were introduced.

Birthday wishes were given to Julie Owens, Kriss Moulds, Lori Duffek and Barbara Pike.

Marian Fosler, one of the guilds founders, gave the presentation, "Everything Old is New Again". Members enjoyed listening to Marian's stories and seeing her many quilts.

New Business:

Gretchen thanked Jessie McCloy, Kay McCloy and Shirley Schluckebier for sorting through the library and agreeing to be librarians for this year. Out dated books were sold for \$1.

Three sign-up sheets were passed around. Members were asked to sign up to be a hostess or greeter. Also to sign up for Fons and Porter, Love of Quilting being offered for \$15.

Barb Pike and Carol Issac were hostesses for the evening.

The members who remembered 3 fat quarters gathered for a Fat Quarter Roll. The group divided into 3 groups and rolled Left, Right or Center. There were 3 winners and the remaining fat quarters were donated to the fat quarter basket for birthdays. Thank you to Lori Duffek for organizing the project.

The minutes report had an error. Schluckebier was misspelled. The minutes and treasurer's report were then accepted as printed in the newsletter. Members were reminded to pay any outstanding dues to get their name into the yearbook.

A letter was received from Jan Sittler from the State Fair asking if the guild would sponsor the same classes as last year. A motion was made and approved.

Becky Wallroff gave a report on the quilt show that will be at the library on April 7. Please bring quilts no larger than 50" x 70" to the March meeting, or contact Becky later for delivery.

Linda Riesberg gave a report on the bus trip. A motion was made to change the price of the trip to \$50. All were in agreement. The bus trip is on April 26, 2014.

New home for pipe and drape.....??????

Linda Riesberg also gave a report on a Charity Quilt project. The children where Linda works could use some quilts. Linda said 18 would be a good goal. 40"x60" would be a good size.

Free Sew Days will be held at the Seward Civic Center, West Fireplace Room, Feb 22, March 22, Sept 20 and Oct 25.

The meeting was adjourned for Show and Tell. Mona Kunasek, Secretary

Blue Valley Quilt Guild
PO Box 142
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Find us on the web at:
Blue-valley-quilters.tripod.com

BVQG Board of Directors

President: Gretchen Gebhardt

Vice President: Jean Algys

Secretary: Mona Kunasek

Treasurer: Lori Duffek

Non Voting Assistance Provided By:

Past President/Advisor: Jeanie Hecker

Library Coordinator: Jessie McCloy

Program Committee: Susan Minchow
and Barb Pike

County Fair Liaison: Susan Minchow

Newsletter Editor: Becky Wallroff

Webmaster: Becky Wallroff

Remember to bring:

Dues

Bus Trip payment

Nametag

Show and Tell

General meeting is held the third Monday of each month, excepting December, at the Seward Civic Center (lower level) at 7:00 PM. Board Meeting is held the first Monday of every month or as decided by board. Any member may attend. Contact any board member for time, date, location. Any interested quilt maker or quilt lover is encouraged to attend a meeting as our guest!

