

Blue Valley Quilt
Guild
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The Scrappag Rag

The Official Newsletter of the Blue Valley Quilt Guild

Seward, Saline, Lancaster & Butler Counties, Nebraska

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April Meeting & Program

The April 20th, 2009 meeting of the Blue Valley Quilt Guild promises to be a great time for us all to catch up on our latest projects and discoveries in the quilt world. Many of us traveled over the Easter break, some have done bus trips and some have been out teaching or taking classes. We'd love for you to share your special observations.

The speaker for this month is Arlyn Brown from Hastings, NE who will present "Piecing From a Man's Perspective." Be prepared for an interesting evening.

Also, bring your best brainstorming hat, because it's that time again! Members did so well with the challenge quilt brainstorming session that these resources (YOU!) are being called upon one more time. The topic will be announced at the meeting.

If anyone still wants to participate in the "Dumpster Dive" project, see President Mary Robbins. She can make it happen!

Don't forget to bring your Show-and-Tell items! See you there!

Letter from the Editor

Dear Quilting Buddies,

The older I get, the more important my girlfriends become. No, we don't get together to do each other's nails and talk about boys (okay-maybe a little), but it's common interests and life experiences that bind us together now. We've rejoiced together when new babies arrived and when 1st place ribbons were awarded. We've mourned together the loss of a parent or spouse, or even a project gone awry. We've giggled at our changing bodies like teenagers—and eaten cake anyway. We've held each other up during sickness and health better than some couples who've pledged to do this forever. We've learned together, worked together, played and prayed together. And through all of this, the qualities of our friendships are the same qualities we see reflected in our quilts: comfort, energy, creativity, warmth, consistency, dependability, color. Movement and light. Uniqueness. And always an element of surprise.

Be the quilter you would want for a friend. And take time to get to know the quilters and potential friends around you. Each one you meet adds yet another color to your "stash" and a unique texture you may never even have known you were missing.

Happy Spring!



Suggested Springtime Reading

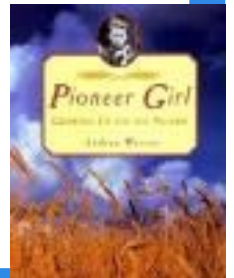
By Dorothy Heidemann-Nelson



April would be a great time to read a book about Grace McCance Snyder, one of the twentieth century's most accomplished quilt makers. A collection of the Grace Snyder quilts will be featured as a new exhibit at The International Quilt Study Center (IQSC) from April 10-June 14 partially overlapping with the Chintz exhibit which runs through May 17.

Grace came to Nebraska in 1885 as a young child with her parents who homesteaded land in Custer County. She didn't need dance lessons and gym work-outs to get plenty of exercise as the second in a family of nine children and later the wife of a rancher in the Sand Hills! Reading her story takes us through an amazing piece of Nebraska history. Her marvelous quilts are just part of her life accomplishments.

The Seward Public Library has two books about this incredible woman. The memoirs of Grace McCance Snyder are recorded in her biography, *No Time on My Hands*, as told to her daughter, Nellie Snyder Yost (total pages 545). And more recently, Andrea Warren wrote a book for grade school children about the life of Grace Snyder called, "*Pioneer Girl: Growing up on the Prairie*" (total pages 88).



The calendar for upcoming events at the International Quilt Study Center and Museum:

Ongoing Exhibitions:

Chintz Appliqué: From Imitation to Icon – through May 17th

Grace Snyder: A life in Extraordinary Stitches April 10 - June 14, 2009.

Places to go
Things to do



Stitches in Springtime Quilt Show

Friday, May 1, 2009 7-9 PM and
Saturday, May 2, 2009 10 AM-4 PM
Palmyra United Methodist Church
535 C St, Palmyra NE
Admission: \$5.00

Happy Birthday to You!



April Birthdays

Ellen Singleton April 1
Betty Pleskac April 4
Carrie Johnson April 5
Gloria Bell April 14
Jean Greenwade April 14

May Birthdays

Phyllis Hronik May 23



Recipes for Quilters

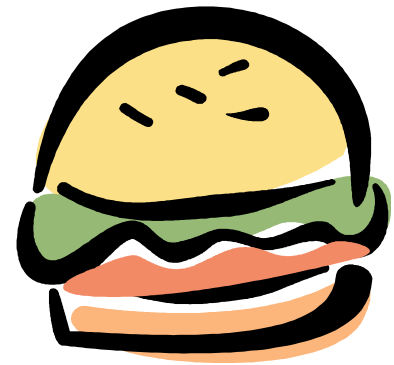
this month from the kitchen of Amanda Bowers

Vegetarian Black Bean Burgers

- 1 can (15 oz) black beans, drained, rinsed and mashed
- 1/4 cup finely chopped onion
- 1/3 cup whole kernel corn
- 1/4 cup thick & chunky salsa
- 1 garlic clove, pressed
- 2 T. snipped fresh cilantro or parsley (optional)
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/8 tsp ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup unseasoned dry bread crumbs
- 2 egg whites, lightly beaten
- 4 whole wheat hamburger buns

Optional toppings: reduced fat sour cream, salsa, lettuce leaves, grated cheese

1. Mash beans in bowl. Add onion, corn, salsa, garlic, cilantro, salt & pepper. Mix well
2. Add bread crumbs & egg whites. Mix well.
3. Form bean mixture into 4 round patties about 1/2" thick
4. Heat skillet over medium heat until hot. Lightly spray pan with cooking spray; cook patties 6-8 minutes or until lightly browned turning once.
5. Serve burgers on buns, top as desired.



Hostesses for the April meeting

are Judy Polacek &

Betty Pleskac





Help Wanted!

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Three imaginative people needed for the program-planning for 2010. Will work within a budget and suggested parameters to schedule local and regional presenters and other activities for regular monthly meetings, as well as the 4th of July Celebration.

Contact Vice President Diane Swartzlander to offer your help for this committee.

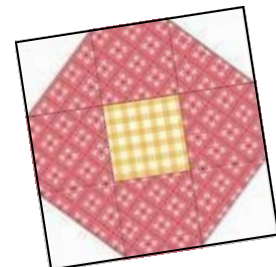
Two quilters who pledged to complete UFOs by November were Kaye McCloy, with a hand-pieced Grandmother's Flower Garden, and Lorraine Ritchie with a Batik beauty.

UFO Challenge



Friendship Block of the Month

This month's friendship block is to be a 6 1/2" square made of black, white and one other color, and should include at least 4 half-square triangles. The design is your choice. Make as many as you like and your name will be entered in the drawing once for each block you bring!



BVQG Does Its Part for the Economy

April 4th saw a bus load of 48 quilters headed to Plattsmouth, NE, Creston, and Clarinda, IA for a day of fabric shopping and fellowship. Twenty-six members, twenty-one family and friends of members and one quilter/bus driver

contributed over six thousand dollars to the local economies of shops in these towns, and then finished out the day with a boost to the food service industry in Shenandoah, IA. Trip coordinators Linda Riesberg and

Lori Duffek provided treat bags, prizes and a great time to all aboard. Upon leaving the final shop on the tour, member Sheila Beins was heard to say (with a bit of irony), "Hmmm. More projects to do. Good thing—I was running out."

Gloria Bell at Seams to Be in Plattsmouth



Becky Wallroff, mom, aunts, and cousins.



Shoppers wait in line to "settle up" at Quilts & Other Notions in Creston, IA.



A welcome from the owner of Quilts & Other Notions



Marilyn Varner scores some gorgeous wools at the Quilt Coop



Sheila Beins and Ardith Roebke at the entrance to the Quilt Coop.



The Quilt Coop in Clarinda, IA—before the shopping frenzy...



The Quilt Coop after the shopping frenzy? (Okay- we found the barn by accident and it was too picturesque to pass up—even through rain spotted windows!

Thanks, Linda and Lori for a job well done!

Waiting for food at the Depot in Shenandoah, IA



4th of July Opportunity Quilt is Underway!

Thanks to members who contributed pinwheel blocks in many patterns, the top has been assembled by member Katy Coleman, bordered by Dorothy Heidemann-Nelson, and will next go to Carla Fiedler who will machine quilt the piece. Marilyn Varner will complete the binding, with back-up assistance offered by Elaine Nielsen. The label is being made by Connie Doehring. The plan is to have the finished top ready prior to the 4th so members can sell tickets in advance. Drawing will be at the close of show on the 4th, and all proceeds will go toward fees for next year's 4th of July guest Speaker.

A Note from Katy: It is really exciting to see what this group can do! Volunteers for each step of the quilt-building were generous, and responded immediately to a call for help. We'll meet at my place to sew on buttons to the pinwheel centers when the quilt is done. I'll provide the coffee and snacks. Watch your e-mail for updates, and please keep your friends who don't use e-mail in the loop.



Quilt top before it left Katy's house



← With borders by Dorothy added



Detail

Blue Valley Quilters Treasurer Report March-09

Beginning Checkbook Balance	February 28, 2009	1,896.52
INCOME:		
Bus Trip		2,115.00
Garage Sales		101.91
		\$2,216.91
EXPENSES:		
Kincaid Coach Lines - Final on Bus Trip		735.00
Marilyn Varner - Copies		12.50
Save Mart - Bus Trip		
Lunches		162.72
		\$ 910.22
Ending Checkbook Balance	March 31, 2009	3,203.21
Petty Cash		20.00
Certificate of Deposit Balance***		2,074.89
TOTAL ASSETS	March 31, 2009	\$5,298.10



*** Certificate of Deposit Cattle Bank 9 month, 1.75% Rate,
1.76% APY, Due 06-29-09

Kaye McCloy, BVQ Treasurer



March Meeting Minutes

Blue Valley Quilters Guild Meeting
Monday March 16, 2009
Seward Civic Center
6th and Bradford Seward, NE

Carla Fiedler
shows the back
of a machine-
quilted piece.



The meeting was called to order by President Mary Robbins at 7:05 p.m.

March birthdays were recognized. The door prize was won by Diane Swartzlander.

The program was presented by Nancy Fleecs, Carla Fiedler and Diane Swartzlander. They discussed their experiences with long arm quilting, shared some of their favorite methods, and showed examples of their work.

Business meeting:

The February minutes and treasurer's report were approved as printed.

This month's pinwheel friendship blocks were divided into three groups and were won by Janalee Petsch, Gloria Bell and Becky Reisinger. Many special patriotic colored pinwheel blocks were also turned in and will be used in our 4th of July raffle quilt. The quilt top will be assembled by Katy Coleman, with other opportunities coming up soon for members to help with the process. Next month's friendship blocks are to contain four half square triangles in black and white and one other color (6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "unfinished).

Members were reminded of the Dinner and a Movie Challenge.

It was announced that the Fundraising Committee is now in place, with Connie Doehring, Carol Isaac and Katy Coleman working together.

We still need a Program Committee for next year. A suggestion of possibly having more workshops by our members was mentioned.

The Dumpster Dive has 5 participants so far.

Lori Duffek announced that there will be a slight change in timing for the bus trip on April 4. Participants may arrive back home in Seward slightly later than first scheduled.

It was announced that the Aurora Guild has been invited to our October workshop and pot luck program.

Jan Stehlik reported that Dorothy Beekley has appreciated the cards and messages sent to her by BVQG members during her convalescence.

Katy mentioned that she would welcome short stories, poems, news announcements, etc. for the Scrapbag Rag.

U.F.O.s were presented with these expectations:

Gretchen Gephardt will assemble her embroidered butterfly blocks from the 1970s into a top.

Becky Wallroff will complete her Father Christmas quilt.

Mary Robbins will complete her Bow Tie blocks and assemble them into a top with border.

Kaye McCloy will complete her Grandmother's Flower Garden quilt.

Nancy Fleecs will complete two of her Block of the Month quilts.

Lorraine Ritchie will complete her Batiks and Tulips quilt.

Dorothy Heidemann-Nelson will complete her Grandmother's Flower Garden quilt.

Diane Swartzlander will finish her Bargello Heart quilt top.

Show and Tell was presented. Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be April 20, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Elaine Nielsen, secretary

Blue Valley Quilt Guild

PO Box 142

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We're on the web!

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BVQG Board of Directors

President—Mary Robbins

Vice President—Diane Swartzlander

Secretary—Elaine Nielsen

Treasurer—Kaye McCloy

Non-Voting Assistance provided by:

Past President/Advisor—Linda Riesberg

Library Coordinator—Gloria Bell

Program Committee—Jeanie Hecker.,
Maralee Meyer, Susan Minchow & Linda
Riesberg

County Fair Liaison—Sheila Beins

Newsletter—Katy Coleman

Webmaster—Becky Wallroff

Don't forget to bring:

Nametag

Show and Tell

Friendship Block

General meeting is held the third Monday of every month except December in the Seward Civic Center lower level at 7:00 PM.

Board Meeting is held the first Monday of every month.

Any interested quilter in the Blue Valley area is encouraged to attend a meeting as our guest!

