

Blue Valley Quilt
Guild
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The Scrapbag Rag

The Official Newsletter of the Blue Valley Quilt Guild

Seward, Saline, Lancaster & Butler Counties, Nebraska

February 2009

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February Meeting & Program



At our February 16th, 2009 meeting we will welcome Nanci Quick of the Quilted Kitty in Lincoln, who will share with us what's new in her shop.

Curious about our unorthodox UFO challenge for 2009? Get details at this month's meeting.

There are still unfilled committee positions. It takes the special talents of each and every one of us to make the projects of this guild work. And if you aren't sure exactly where you fit, we'll find the spot!

Don't forget your Show-and-Tell project, your nametag, maybe a few \$\$\$ to spend on goodies from the Quilted Kitty, and your Friendship Block! See you Monday the 16th!

Your Board at Work



Pictured right are Kaye McCloy, Diane Swartzlander, Mary Robbins and Elaine Nielsen

The February 2 BVQG Board Meeting was lively and productive.

The officers are all excited that Jeanie Hecker has agreed to chair the 4th of July quilt show, featuring quilts based around the theme "A Quilt for Every Season." Be thinking about the quilts you can share with the many visitors to Seward on this day, and how you can help Jeanie make this event a success.

Becky Wallroff has agreed to plan the layout for our major show in 2010, a job she handled expertly in 2007. Hats off to Becky!

Of prime importance is assembling a program committee for 2010. A chance to plan early will keep this job from being a stressful one. We have had wonderful program-planners in the past; let's keep this trend going!

There has been some interest for the fund-raising committee, but no one can do this alone. If the little wheels in your head are turning in this direction, see one of the officers ASAP!

The next Board meeting will be held Monday, March 2, 2009.

From Mary's Desk

A Letter from our
BVQG President



Please contact
newsletter editor
Katy Coleman at
402-643-6451 or
sanityquilts@
hotmail.com if you
would like to
contribute a
photo, article,
review or another
item to the
newsletter!

Hello my friends and fellow quilt makers. I've been having a little bit of trouble finding the time to put a few thoughts down on paper to share with all of you this month and I do want to share lots of news with you because exciting things are happening with the guild.

The reason I've been slow in getting to my ramblings is that I've reached one of, what my dear friend, and yours, Elaine Nielsen, likes to call the "obsession stage" of a project. I think I can help her loosely define the obsession stage as that time in the making of a quilt when the maker's thoughts, every spare moment, and focus are consumed by the finishing of the quilt.

Now, most of you know me pretty well, well enough to doubt that I'm actually that close to finishing a whole quilt. True, but my take on obsession stage theory is that it differs with the size of a project. For instance, a fairly simple miniature might be one all inclusive obsession. One might wake up in the morning with an idea, move immediately into the obsession stage, and have a completed mini by lights out of that same day.

The project upon which I am now working is a larger quilt consisting of multiple blocks and some appliqué to be added as well. Therefore, my project will have multiple obsession stages. The first came when approximately 2/3 of the blocks were completed. I became, at this time, wildly obsessed with completing the blocks. I believe that was two years ago now.

Now I am putting the blocks together into rows that will become the quilt top. Can't you just feel my anxiety about being in front of my computer rather than my sewing machine? I must, I really must, make those blocks into something big and rectangular!

Once I am able to lock myself in the sewing room, neglecting work, exercise, my dogs, my long suffering husband and, I'm so sorry, my patient and understanding friends, and the blocks become the semblance of a quilt top, it will, undoubtedly be put aside while other plans are made, other projects begun, more fabric purchased. (Please stop me.)

When the project is picked up once again it will take me through several more obsession stages... finishing the top, layering and basting, quilting, and the final obsessive race, putting on the binding which will likely happen the night before either a county fair or quilt show drop off day. Can you relate?

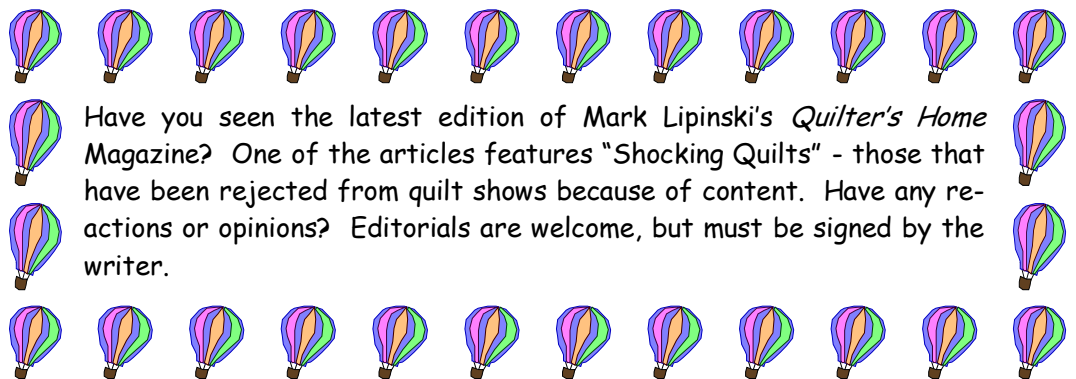
And now on to our big guild news: The word is programs! Our committee has been hard at work and we have a line up you are going to love. Don't miss a meeting! Mark all the guild meeting dates in red on your calendar and don't let anything else get in the way!

We also are getting some exciting responses to our requests for help with various guild projects. This year is shaping up to be even better than I'd hoped and I, for one, am thrilled to be along for the ride.

Read on for more info.

See you on the 16th!

Mary

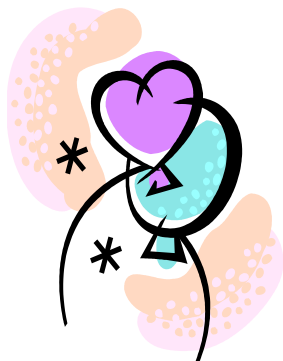


Have you seen the latest edition of Mark Lipinski's *Quilter's Home Magazine*? One of the articles features "Shocking Quilts" - those that have been rejected from quilt shows because of content. Have any reactions or opinions? Editorials are welcome, but must be signed by the writer.

Happy Birthday to You!

February Birthdays

Gen Kusek	Feb 2
Kim Piitz	Feb 7
Marian Fosler	Feb 17
Opal Bowmaster	Feb 21
Eileen Meyer	Feb 28
Joanne Neeley	Feb 28



March Birthdays

Katy Coleman	March 12
Jan Stehlik	March 15
Lillian Beckler	March 20
DeElda Herschberger	March 25

Recipes for Quilters - this month from the kitchen of Connie Doehring

Hot Crab Dip

- 2 8-ounce packages cream cheese
- 1 package imitation crab meat, chopped so it's not in large chunks
- 1 tsp. crushed garlic
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 tsp. Tabasco - or to taste

Heat and stir until all ingredients are well mixed. A crockpot works very well. Serve with chips; i.e., Fritos Dippers, etc.

(As this recipe contains dairy products, keep it stirred or the mixture will scorch).

Enjoy!

- Connie Doehring



FREEBIES!

"Free to Good Homes: Upholstery samples in various sizes (average is 18" square), colors and materials; i.e., 100% cotton, cotton/poly blends, cotton/rayon blends, nylon, etc. These are great for donation quilts of all sizes, totes, bags, placemats, decorative items. Let your imagination be your guide. I will bring them to the next meeting." Connie Doehring

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



Ongoing Exhibitions:

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

Yikes! Stripes – through April 5th

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

Other Events:

Saturday, February 28th, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm: *Quiltmaking Demonstration: Chintz Appliqué*

Friday, March 6, 5:00 - 7:00 pm: First Friday (Free Admission) Public Lecture.

An Aesthetic Life: The Story of Quiltmaker Rose Kretsinger; Jonathan Gregory Lecture.

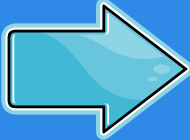
Sponsored by the Lincoln Quilters Guild in celebration of National Quilting Day.

Saturday, March 7th, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm: *Chintz Appliqué Workshop* (day 1 of 3) by Kriss Moulds.

See her website at: www.quiltsforlunch.com. Classes will take place March 7, 14, and 21.

Registration is required. Cost \$50 for museum members, \$55 non-members. (402-472-6579).

Places to go... things to do!



The 2009 Blue Valley Quilt Guild Bus Trip

Saturday, April 4, 2009

Cost: \$45.00, lunch and supper included!

Stops at "Seams to Be" in Plattsmouth, Knits and Other Notions in Creston, IA, The Quilt Coop in Clarinda, IA and the Depot in Shenandoah, IA.

The fee must be received by Lori Duffek by March 1, to guarantee your seat!

Send check made out to BVQG to 13034 Branched Oak Rd

The bus is full- but you can still be placed on a waiting list!

Friendship Block of the Month

February's Friendship Block is to be an embellished heart block, 6 1/2" square unfinished, in shades of red/pink. Use embroidery, appliqué, beading, painting or other embellishment technique For each block you bring, your name will be put in a drawing to win blocks. Please attach your name with a pin on a piece of paper to each block that you contribute.



Help Wanted!

QUILT SHOW CO-CHAIRPERSONS

Description: Coordinate and oversee all sub-committees affiliated with the 2010 BVQG Quilt Show.

No experience required. Extensive notes from previous 2 shows available, as well as adequate start-up capital.

No pay, but tons of fun!

Apply today!

Contact Mary Robbins for more information.

4TH OF JULY SHOW COORDINATOR

FILLED!

Thanks Jeanie Hecker!!!



FUND-RAISING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Have a knack for brainstorming and making \$\$\$\$\$? Then this is the job for you! BVQG is currently seeking forward-thinking individuals to serve as planners for 2009 fundraising activities. Share your experience with the only organization of it's kind in Seward County!

Raise your hand at the next meeting, or contact a Board Member soon!

Needleturn Appliqué Class

with Susan Minchow

We quilters LOVE our workshops, and January 17th found twenty-two quilters from the Blue Valley Quilt guild and surrounding guilds at the Seward Civic Center, where instructor Susan Minchow spent the day teaching her approach to needleturn hand appliqué. Each class member found a complete kit ready for her at one of the tables Susan had reconfigured for the best possible teaching set-up. The skill levels of the participants ranged from beginner to advanced, but all learned something new and left class with a usable sample.

The class sessions, which lasted from 9 am to noon and noon to 4 pm zipped by. There was much talk about what and when the next workshop might be available.

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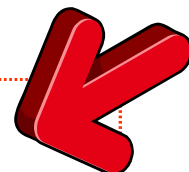
Anyone who would like to share a special skill in workshop form is encouraged to speak to a board member.



Susan shows novice quilter Jamie Hackbart of Milford how to make a sharp point on a leaf.



"Free to Good Homes: Upholstery samples in various sizes (average is 18" square), colors and materials; i.e., 100% cotton, cotton/poly blends, cotton/rayon blends, nylon, etc. These are great for donation quilts of all sizes, totes, bags, placemats, decorative items. Let your imagination be your guide. I will bring them to the next meeting." Connie Doehring





ConKerr Cancer has come to NEBRASKA!!

ConKerr Cancer was started in 2002 when Cindy Kerr began making colorful pillowcases for her son Ryan who was in the hospital for long periods of time. The pillowcases brightened up the hospital room and put a smile on his face. The pillowcases became so loved by Ryan that Cindy and friends began making them for other sick children. Ever since, the organization has grown rapidly.

Nebraska is the newest chapter in the ConKerr Cancer family. We are looking for volunteers to:

- * Make cheerful pillowcases
- * Donate fabric
- * Donate funds to help purchase supplies and expand the effort!

Donate through our website or mail to: ConKerr Cancer, 295 East Swedesford Road #396, Wayne, PA 19087. All donations will be applied to the ConKerr Cancer chapter you designate.

For more information, contact your NE coordinators:

Donna Tajvar / Cathy Pasko
 402-677-0033 / 402-305-9992
 conkerrnebraska@aol.com

The Grand essentials of happiness are:

something to do,

something to love,

and something to hope for.

-Allan K Chalmers



Blue Valley Quilters
 Treasurer's Report
 January 2009

Beginning Checkbook Balance	Dec 31, 2008	\$2,209.76
INCOME:		
Member Dues		\$140.00
Challenge Fabric Sales		18.00
Donations		15.00
TOTAL INCOME		\$173.00
EXPENSES:		
Marilyn Varner—Copies		\$ 13.55
Pat Pierzina—January Program		100.00
Mary Robbins- Challenge Fabric & Notions		36.03
NE Dept of Revenue—2008 Sales Tax		32.81
Kincaid Coach Lines—Deposit on Bus		250.00
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$432.39
Ending Checkbook Balance	January 31, 2009	\$1,950.37
Petty Cash		20.00
Certificate of Deposit Balance***		2,074.89
TOTAL ASSETS	January 31, 2009	\$4,045.26

***Certificate of Deposit, Cattle Bank 9 months, 1.75% Rate, 1.76% APY, Due 6-29-09

Kaye McCloy, BVQG Treasurer



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Jean Greenwade

878 238th Rd

Milford, NE 68405

402-761-2487

jg44517@windstream.net

Betty Pleskac

923 N 9th St

David City, NE 68632

402-367-3618

And WELCOME BACK:

Joanne Neeley

2827 Branched Oak Rd

Seward, NE 68434

402-643-2702

joanne.neeley@gmail.com

January Meeting Minutes

Blue Valley Quilters Guild Meeting
Monday, January 19, 2009
Seward Civic Center
6th and Bradford
Seward, NE

Kay Squier shares a
Sawtooth Star quilt
from her collection.



The meeting was called to order by President Mary Robbins at 7:00p.m.

Guests were welcomed, January birthdays were recognized, and the door prize was won by JoAnne Neeley. Those not wearing name tags were asked to tell about any encounters with famous people that they may have had.

Friendship blocks that were turned in were divided into two sets which were won by Lorraine Richie and Jan Stehlik. For next month, friendship blocks will be an embellished block of one or more hearts in any shade of red, 6 ½ inches unfinished.

The program, "Two Quilting Friends", was presented by Pat Pierzina and Kay Squier. It was an inspirational trunk show of their quilts along with stories of their quilting journeys. This was followed by a refreshments break and a chance to view their quilts more closely.

The minutes of the last meeting and the treasurer's report were approved as printed .

U.F.O.s were revisited, with Carla Fiedler showing her completed baby heirloom quilt.

Members were reminded to pay their dues in order to be included in the membership list.

Participants in Susan Minchow's January 17th appliqué workshop showed the blocks they completed. A very nice display, with comments on how well prepared the workshop was, with kits and helpful demonstrations.

Lori Duffek reported on the bus trip which will take place on April 4th. Forty four people have signed up already. The \$45.00 fee should be turned in by March 1.

The Help Wanted section of the newsletter was reviewed, with some very good results. Becky Walroff volunteered to do the layout for our quilt show in 2010. Possibilities were discussed for co-chairs for the show, with an announcement to be made later. Jeanie Hecker volunteered to be the 4th of July show coordinator.

A correction was made to Gen Kusek's kolache recipe which was printed in the November newsletter. Add 3 more cups of flour!

The 2009 guild challenge was issued: Dinner and a Movie. Challenge packets are available to purchase for \$1.00.

Show and Tell was presented. Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be February 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

-Elaine Nielsen
Secretary

Hostesses for the
February meeting are
Maralee Meyer and
Diane Swartzlander



Blue Valley Quilt Guild

PO Box 142

Seward, NE 68434

We're on the web!

blue-valley-quilters.tripod.com

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

Ideas

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!

