

The Scrapbag Rag

The Official Newsletter of the Blue Valley Quilt Guild

February 2012 Issue

February Meeting

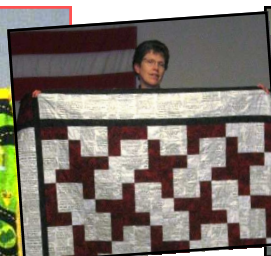
This month's meeting may be a little noisier and little more active than those featuring a lecture or trunk show program! We are going to get together for a working meeting in which we will bring any supplies we need, machines if we choose, cutting boards, ironing boards and all the quilt making paraphernalia we can carry so that we can create quilts to benefit the Orphan Grain Train and Project Linus. Quilts from infant size up to twin size are accepted by these two organizations and benefit young people and families in need of the special comfort a warm, colorful quilt can provide.

If you don't have scraps (really?...let's talk) or don't feel like doing any actual stitching, some completed tops will be on hand for tying and binding. If you have some lengths of fabric for backs that you don't think you'll be using or some extra batting to donate they would be put to good use on project night.

And this meeting will be different, too, in that we'll set up and get started at **5:30**, have a snack at 6:30 followed by a short business meeting and show & Tell and then whomever wishes to may stay and sew. Come help us complete lots of donations for these two terrific organizations!

Also remember to bring your garage sale items this month! The Havelock Crafter/Quilter sale is coming up later in February so it's time to grab a box or bag and dig in to the spillover in your sewing room. Please price your donated items, it will be a help to those working on sale day.

Members have another month to take advantage of a special price of \$15 for a personal subscription to Fons & Porter's "Love of Quilting" magazine which comes with 2 free quilting booklets and 3 free spools of sulky thread. Bring a check for Becky & she'll order yours for you!



QUILTING WITH YOUR EYES CLOSED

Do you suffer from color anxiety; have fabric phobias? Perhaps you experience periodic bouts of match-itis? Your guild is here to help! In March we'll be offering therapy in the form of a new project called "Quilting With Your Eyes Closed".

Its a simple, fun exercise that will reduce stress when you are choosing fabrics for all your future quilt projects.

We'll start with one of our favorite things...strips! **To participate we will bring a total of 18 3" x 18" fabric strips to the March meeting. They can be any color(s) but please bring 6 light, 6 medium and 6 dark strips.**

At the meeting everyone's light strips will be mixed together, our mediums together and our darks together. We will then, with eyes closed, choose a light, a medium and a dark strip and keep these three together. The process will be repeated six times by each participant so we'll be taking home just as much fabric as we brought.

At home we'll choose a simple block with which to work. The Shoo Fly pattern provided may be used but a Churn Dash, a Jacob's Ladder or any block that uses just three fabrics will work. You can make all the same block or mix together as many different ones as you like. Its your project and block size is up to you as long as you can use your 3" strips.

Make as many blocks as you like with the combinations just as they were chosen at the meeting and then arrange them as desired (side by side, on point, with sashing or any way you like) and bring the result to the September meeting to show off your brilliant "color" sense and help show us all that, when it comes to fabric choice, color VALUE is the key!

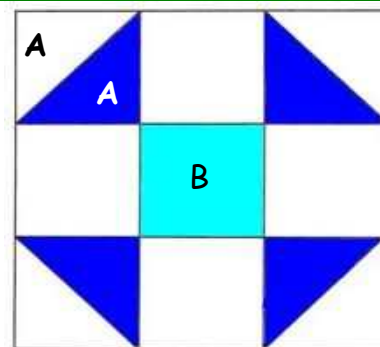
Shoo Fly Block

Cut 2 light and 2 medium $2\frac{7}{8}$ " squares and cut diagonally for $\frac{1}{2}$ square triangles (A)

Cut 4 light $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch squares. (B)

Cut one dark $2\frac{1}{2}$ " square (B)

Join pieces as shown in diagram



BVQG 2012 CHALLENGE — HOME SWEET HOMESTEAD

In honor of the 150th anniversary of the Homestead Act, our challenge this year is to make a quilt representative of what "homestead" means to you. It may evoke the pioneer spirit in you or bring to mind a home from your past, your current beloved "nest" or any structure man made, animal created, or natural that serves as a home. It could even be a quilt made from some type of block with a "homey" name but do include at least one log cabin block somewhere on the front of your quilt and add some lace, rick-rack or ribbon to the front too. Maximum size should be 144" all the way 'round (to accommodate space limitations at the fair); no minimum size...miniatures welcome! Quilts must have finished edges and be quilted. Choose your own fabrics; no packet this time. Have fun, be creative and bring the result to the July meeting!



Blue Valley Quilters
Treasurer Report
February, 2011

Beginning Checkbook Balance 12/31/11 \$1,714.66

INCOME:

Receipts for Fons & Port Subscriptions	60.00
2012 Dues	<u>220.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$280.00



EXPENSES:

Becky Walroff-Copies for January Meeting	31.95
Becky Walroff-Website for Nov., Dec., Jan	14.85
Fons and Porter-Four Subscriptions (see above)	60.00
Dept. of Revenue-2011 Sales Tax	<u>23.64</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	142.64

Ending Checkbook Balance	01/31/2012	1,852.02
Petty Cash		20.00
Savings Account @ Cattle Bank		<u>2003.39</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>\$3,875.41</u>

Maralee Meyer, BVQG Treasurer



Hostess for the February Meeting is BECKY REISINGER! Thanks Becky!

Pick up your copy of the 2012 Blue Valley Quilt Guild Yearbook at the February meeting. Many thanks to Becky Wallroff, Pat Parrot, and Marilyn Varner for creating the yearbook this year.

February Fundraising Opportunity

Havelock Garage Sale to benefit the Lincoln Food Bank

The guild has paid a nominal \$20.00 fee for 2 tables at the Quilters/Crafter's GARAGE SALE to be held at the Misty Isles in Havelock Saturday, February 26th. Becky, Pat Parrot and Mona Kunesek will set up and man the table and the membership will provide the sale items. The \$20 fee goes to the Lincoln Food Bank along with food items donated by attendees. Our table's sales go to the guild. We all love to organize and downsize this time of year so, if you have quilting, sewing, crafting items that you would like to donate, bring them to the February meeting. Please price the items beforehand. Hours for the sale are 10 am to 4 pm. Leftover items will be offered for sale at the March meeting and anything not reclaimed or sold will be donated to the Etcetera store in Seward.

Happy Birthday BVQG Members

Anyone who keeps the ability to see beauty never grows old - Franz Kafka



February Member Birthdays

Marian Fosler, 17th

Marian shares a birthday with Larry the Cable Guy and Paris Hilton. She has the looks AND the sense of humor!

Joanne Neeley, 28th

Joanne shares a birthday with Mario Andretti. That explains a lot!

Kim Piitz, 7th

Kim shares a birthday with Laura Ingalls Wilder and Charles Dickens. Sounds like Kim would make a great newsletter editor!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

National Quilting Day

March 17, 2012

8am-4pm

*International Quilt Study Center & Museum
33rd & Holdrege, Lincoln, NE.
This is a FREE community event!*

On your marks...get set...SHOP!

The 2012 Nebraska Independent Fabric Stores **SHOP HOP**, "Quotable Quilts" will be held April 19th to April 29th. For more info see Roxann at the Udder Store or, on the web, go to:

<http://www.fabricsandquilts.com/>

WRAP YOURSELF UP IN THE HISTORY OF AMERICA AS SEEN THROUGH THE EYES OF A QUILT MAKER!

APRIL 28, 2012

Twenty Two inspirational quilt patterns that make up the "Quilt Discovery Experience" will be unveiled at the **Homestead National Monument in Beatrice, Nebraska.**

Event is free & open to the public.

The patterns on display will be patterns used by homesteading women. More information about this event & others celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Homestead Act is available at:

<http://www.nps.gov/home/index.htm>

Coffee with Kriss & Roxann

Join BVQG member and Certified National Quilting Instructor, Kriss Moulds of Seward and shop owner, Roxann O'Hare at The Udder Store, 636 Seward Street, each Tuesday from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., beginning February 28th, for quilt talk, questions and answers, and friendly discourse surrounded by beautiful fabrics, books, patterns, notions and experience. Chat, learn and sip coffee steeped in inspiration. What a great way to spend a Tuesday morning!

January Meeting Minutes

Minutes January 16, 2012 BVQG Meeting

President Becky Walroff called the meeting to order at 7:00 welcoming 37 members & guests.

Five groups of members moved between 5 demonstration tables for 10-15 minute instructional sessions. Demonstrators were: Dorothy Heidemann-Nelson = needle felting; Maralee Meyer = binding; Susan Minchow = hand appliqué; Katy Coleman = embellishments; Becky Wallroff = 2 for 1 piecing shortcuts.

We took a break for lunch provided by hostesses Jeanie Hecker and Elaine Hughes

The business meeting was started by acknowledging our members with January birthdays. Becky asked them to share their New Year's Quilt Resolutions. Door prize was won by Jeanie Hecker.

November meeting minutes & November treasurer's report were approved as printed in the January newsletter.

Members were reminded to pay dues in Jan. so they will be included in the 2012 yearbook. Any changes in contact information should go to Becky and she will forward to Pat.

Several members have already signed up for the Fons & Porter magazine offer, open to Guild members until the end of March. Subscriptions are \$15 & include 2 free booklets and 3 free spools of Sulky thread. There will be 2 more chances, at the Feb. & Mar. meetings to take advantage of the offer.

Becky and Roxanne O'Hare explained our first Fundraiser/Service project of 2012 = The Quilter's/Crafter's Garage Sale to be held by Roxanne's small quilt group at the Misty Isles in Havelock 2/26, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Our two tables will cost the guild \$10 each which will go to the Lincoln Food Bank. Admission to the sale will be a can of food which will be donated to the Lincoln Food Bank.

BVQG Members are asked to donate sale items (priced). The proceeds from those sales will go into our treasury, as a fundraiser. We received a large donation of 20 boxes from Janalee Petsch, and several smaller donations at the January meeting. Please bring more donations to the February meeting. Any "leftovers" from the Sale will be brought to the March meeting and offered to membership. Anything left after that will be donated to Etcetera in Seward.

Linda Reisberg gave initial plans for our annual Guild Bus Trip to be held 6/2. We'll be heading down Hwy 81 to Belleville, Salina & Concordia, KS. More details to come later.

Jeanie Hecker gave a short description of a new activity open to members called the BVQG Book Club. Plans are to choose a title & then meet before the Guild meetings to hold discussions. Contact Jeanie for more information.

Mary Robbins explained our 2012 Challenge "Home Sweet Homestead". There will be no packet to buy this year. Details are in the newsletter & the deadline will be the July meeting so voting can take place & the quilts can be displayed at the Seward County Fair.

Information on the 2012 Mystery/Round Robin quilt activity will be printed in the February Newsletter.

Commitments for the PhD (Projects half Done) – previously known as UFO – will be requested in April, with finished items due at the November meeting.

The Guild will continue to have our free Sew Days in 2012 on the last Saturday of each odd-numbered month (except November) from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Drop in or stay all day 3/31, 5/26, 7/28, 9/29.

It was suggested that we might make a raffle quilt using the extra 2011 challenge fabric as a focus. More info to come. Contact Becky Reisinger if interested in getting involved in this project.

Roxann O'Hare donated a quilt top for the Cattlemen's Ball pending Doug Brand's willingness to pay to have it quilted. Doug had offered to pay for materials. Roxanne will figure the price for the quilting and the guild will contact Doug.

With no old or new business brought by members, the meeting was adjourned to "Show and Tell"

Submitted by Becky Wallroff, President

Blue Valley Quilt Guild
PO Box 142
Seward, NE 68434

Find us on the web at:
Blue-valley-quilters.tripod.com

BVQG Board of Directors

President—Becky Wallroff

Vice President—Jeanie Hecker

Secretary—Becky Reisinger

Treasurer—Maralee Meyer

Non-Voting Assistance provided by:

Past President/Advisor—Joanne Neeley

Library Coordinator—Gloria Bell

Program Committee—Membership

County Fair Liaison—Sheila Beins

Newsletter—Mary Robbins

Webmaster—Becky Wallroff

February Program—Membership

Remember: We'll start working at
5:30!

Remember to bring:

Nametag

Show and Tell

Garage Sale Donations

Money for Magazine Subscription

2012 Dues

Work Night Supplies

Batting/Backing to Donate

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 quilter or quilt lover is encouraged to attend a meeting as our guest!

