

The Scrapbag Rag

The Official Newsletter of the Blue Valley Quilt Guild

March 2012 Issue

March Meeting

Tis time for the wearin' o' the green and, with the lovely spring weather we're having, some green outside too! And that means it's also time for deciding on a PhD (Project Half Done) to finish this year. In March, as per tradition, anyone who would like to participate, may show and tell a project that is in process that she would like to have finished by the November 2012 BVQG meeting. If it is, indeed, complete, or at the stage the maker has said she'd like to have it by November, it can be brought to the meeting & shown. The maker has then earned her PhD certificate and a little prize along with bragging rights and a lot of oohs and ahhs from the membership! It's a fun way to get oneself motivated to dive into one of those long standing projects. So be thinking about one of yours that is begging to be let out of the closet to help you earn your PhD.

Some of our own BVQG members will be at the meeting to help us learn a little more about the history of and techniques used in Hawaiian quilting. Sounds intriguing and just the ticket for a late winter escape to tropical climes! If your curiosity is piqued we'll see you at 7:00 at the Seward Civic Center on March 19th!

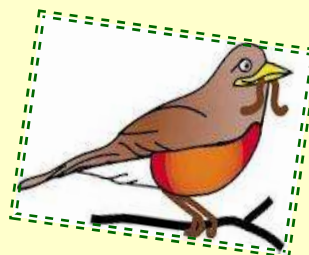
If you are one of the book club members, or someone who has read "How To Make An American Quilt" by Whitney Otto and would enjoy discussing the book (or movie for that matter) please come about 6:15 and join the discussion. The group will also be talking about it's next book club selection so it would be a good time to jump in if you're interested in a book club focusing on books with a quilt related theme.

Last month's work night produced two finished service quilts and lots of "start ups" that were taken home to complete. Bring your completed quilts to the meeting so we can all have a look before you send them off with Becky!

March came in like a lamb so, if the old saying holds true, the weather on the 31st just may be conducive to a nice day spent sewing indoors. Thankfully March 31st happens to be the date for our next sewing day at the civic center! We'll get started at 9:00ish but come anytime and sit and stitch awhile or just soak up some inspiration.



See You Monday!



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!

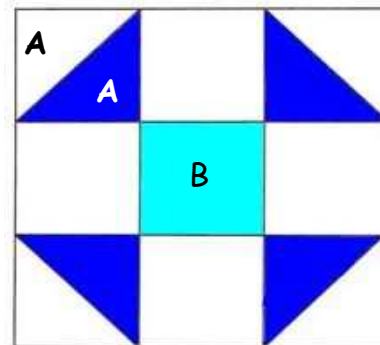
Shoo Fly Block

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
March, 2012

Beginning Checkbook Balance 1/31/12 \$1,852.02

INCOME:

2012 Dues	<u>60.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$60.00

EXPENSES:

Arrow Stage Lines- Bus Deposit	150.00
Marilyn Varner-Yearbook & Newsletter copies & postage	64.81
Change for Garage Sale	<u>20.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	234.81



Ending Checkbook Balance	02/29/2012	1,677.21
Petty Cash		20.00
Savings Account @ Cattle Bank		<u>2000.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>\$3,697.21</u>



Maralee Meyer, BVQG Treasurer

Hostesses for the March Meeting are Lori Duffek & Diane Swartzlander!

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

GARAGE SALE A HUGE SUCCESS!

Almost \$500 was raised at the Quilters/Crafters garage sale that was held in February at the Misty Isles in Havelock. Thank you to Becky Walroff, Pat Parrots, their other helpers and all the members who contributed items for the sale.

If you missed the sale, don't despair. Lots of great things were left over from the sale and we will have our chance to buy them at this month's meeting so come prepared to do a little shopping! If we buy up the leftovers at the meeting we may not need to do any more fundraising for awhile!

See Roxann at The Udder Store in Seward (or Cosmic Cow in Lincoln) to purchase your Nebraska Independent Fabric Stores Shop Hop 2012 shopping bag. Not only is shop hop a great time to get out, travel and see Nebraska and it's many great fabric stores, you can use the bag whenever there is a month with a 5th Saturday for a discount on that day on items you can fit into your bag!

ITINERARY - BVQG BUS TRIP June 2, 2012

\$40 for the trip which includes a hot Italian lunch in Salina, Kansas, snacks and a movie on the trip home.

7:00 AM - Leave Seward from the Civic Center

9:00 AM - Arrive in Bellville, Kansas at the "Sew Country" quilt shop. (1834 'M' Street) They have over 6,500 bolts of quality fabric, a large selection of patterns and books, their own hand-dyed wools and a full line of silk ribbon embroidery supplies plus various gift store items. They have two store fronts. Their web site is www.sewcountryandgifts.com

10:30AM - Leave for Salina, Kansas

12:00PM - Arrive in Salina, Kansas at the "Quilting Bee" quilt shop. (120 S. Santa Fe) Lunch will be provided at the quilt shop. You will have your selection of Italian pasta and sauces, salad, drinks and dessert. This shop has lots of traditional fabric, kits and a great notions wall. It is located downtown and there are other shops of interest nearby.

Their web site is www.quiltingbee.net

2:00PM - Leaving for Concordia, Kansas

3:00 PM - Arrive in Concordia, Kansas at the "Fabric Essentials" quilt shop. (116 West 6th Street) They have over 6,250 bolts of fabric in a three store unit in downtown Concordia. One store is filled with gift items, one is half fabric and health food and one is all fabric. They have exclusive patterns and kits from their store.

Their web site is www.FabricEssentials.com

5:00 PM - Leave for Seward, NE. Snacks and popcorn with a movie provided.

7:00 PM - Arrive in Seward at the Civic Center.

To register call or email member Linda Riesberg. Payment for the trip will be due by May 1st, 2012. Make your check out to "Blue Valley Quilt Guild" and give it to Linda Riesberg or Meralee Meyer or you can mail it to Meralee. Any questions about the trip after May 1st please call Meralee.

Nebraska State Fair Quilt Show 2012

2012 Nebraska State Fair Information

From: Jan Sittler, 2012 Nebraska State Fair Quilt Show Superintendent



Spring Greetings! You may think it is way too early to think about the 2012 Nebraska State Fair Quilt Show, but I assure you – it will be here soon. We want you to start thinking now about **additions** being made to the State Fair Entry Book. Also – Please put these **dates** on your calendar and Please, Please be a **volunteer** to make this the best Nebraska State Fair Quilt Show ever!

Aug. 24-Sept. 3

Nebraska State Fair Quilt Show – Grand Island, Nebraska

Entry deadline: Aug. 8. Quilt receiving dates: Aug. 15 and 16. Check the web site at www.statefair.org for updated information.

2012 Nebraska State Fair News

We are adding 4 new competition classes and 5 new special contests to the existing 70 competition classes and 18 special contests from last year.

The new classes are: a quilt from recycled components (i.e. old quilt blocks/tops or fabric or item originally designated for a purpose other than a quilt), a doll quilt class for adults (this is in addition to the two doll quilt classes for youth) and two additional Senior Adult classes (a throw quilt size and a bed quilt, mixed techniques).

The new special contests are: Best Scrappy Quilt, Best Humorous Quilt, Best Blue & White Quilt, Best Quilt from Southwest Nebraska Counties (Red Willow, Hitchcock, Dundy, Chase, Frontier & Hayes), and the Diamond Award to the best bed quilt in the Senior Adult classes made by someone 75 or over.

Can you help with White Gloving? We will need about 240 white glove workers during the eleven days of the State Fair from Aug. 24 through Sept. 3. There are three shifts per day: 9am-1pm, 1pm-5pm, and 5pm-9pm. Consider getting a group from your local guild to car pool, white glove and then see the rest of the wonderful fair. You will receive a free entry ticket to the fair on the day you work. White glove workers do not need to be members of NSQG. The white glove chairperson for 2012 is Susan Smith from Grand Island. Please contact your board or Dorothy Heideman Nelson for Susan's contact information. Check the Nebraska State Fair web site for updates on the 2012 Entry Book (available around May 1) and other information: www.statefair.org. We encourage guilds to carpool their entries to and from the fair.

Happy Birthday BVQG Members

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

March Member Birthdays

Katy Coleman, 12th

(Katy shares a birthday with Liza Minelli; no wonder she is so musically inclined!)

Jan Stehlik, 15th

(Jan shares a birthday with another great leader, Andrew Jackson!)

Lillian Beckler, 20th

(Lillian shares a birthday with Johann Sebastian Bach two classically talented artists!)



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

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>

* You will find many more Nebraska quilting events at: http://nsqg.org/quilting_events.html

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 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!

February Meeting Minutes

BVQG Meeting Minutes February 20, 2012

President Becky Wallroff called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., welcoming 19 members.

Prior to the meeting, several members arrived early to work on charity quilts. Snacks were provided by Carol Isaac and Becky Reisinger.

February birthdays were recognized and the door prize was won by Pat Parrot.

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

OLD BUSINESS: Becky reminded the group that Fons & Porter subscriptions are still available.

Additional donations were brought in for the Quilters/Crafters Garage Sale being held on Sunday, Feb. 26 at Misty Isles in Lincoln. The guild will have two tables; admission is a canned good and lunch will be available.

Linda Riesberg provided additional details about the bus trip in June and a sign-up list was started.

The book club was extended to March. Anyone who would like to participate can read "How to Make an American Quilt" by Whitney Otto. Discussion will be held at 6:15 prior to the meeting on March 19th.

NEW BUSINESS: Yearbooks are completed and available to pick up.

The next Sew Day is Saturday, March 31. Becky will see if the Civic center west room upstairs will be available.

March 17th is National Quilting Day with free admission to the IQSC in Lincoln.

Kriss Moulds reminded the guild that Coffee with Kriss & Roxann starts Tuesday, February 28 at the Udder Store. It will be held every Tuesday from 10:30 - noon and everyone is welcome to stop in for "show and tell."

For many years BVQG has provided two awards for the State Fair at \$10 each. A suggestion had been made for awards to be increased. Barbara Pike made the motion to increase each award to \$25, seconded by Marilyn Varner. The motion was approved.

Sheila Beins, via email, provided some information about Discover Nebraska for 2012. There will be a change this year with the 4th grade students designing their own paper blocks, rather than coloring in blocks provided by the guild. Students will also bring their family quilts to school for viewing. The first Discover Nebraska will be held March 5th at Milford Elementary from 1-3 p.m. Joanne Neeley reminded the guild this is a fun project and encouraged all to participate.

Roxann O'Hare announced that Shop Hop bags are available for purchase at the store. Shop Hop will be held April 19 - 29 with the theme "Quotable Quilts."

The meeting was adjourned to Show & Tell, with many members remaining to continue work on the charity quilts.

Submitted by Jeanie Hecker, Vice President

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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
 March Program—Jean Algya & Friends

Remember to bring:
 Strips for Quilting With Your Eyes
 Closed Project
 Nametag
 Show and Tell
 Money for Magazine Subscription
 And for Garage Sale Leftover
 Items
 PhD Show & Tell
 Completed Service Quilts

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!

