

Blue Valley Quilt
Guild
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The Scraphag Rag

The Official Newsletter of the Blue Valley Quilt Guild

Seward, Saline, Lancaster & Butler Counties, Nebraska

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Book Review 2

Birthdays 3

Revised BVQG Program
Schedule 3

Photos from April
Meeting's Speaker 4

Friendship Block 4

Scraps and Snippets 5

Treasurer's
Report 6

February
Meeting Minutes 7



May 18, 2009, Meeting & Program

Quilts and quilting are common subjects in books, and not just in how-to books for quilters. "Sew Many Quilts", a program presented by Carla Ketner, will explore books for children and adults, both fiction and non-fiction, that deal with quilts in a variety of ways. These include books about Nebraska quilts, historical fiction in which quilts show slaves the way to freedom and mystery novels featuring characters who quilt.

Presenter Carla Ketner is the daughter of a quilter and so has an appreciation for quilts and the time commitment, skill and effort required of quilters. For the past five years Carla has owned Chapters Books and Gifts, a book and toy store located on the north side of Seward's historic square. She holds a PhD in elementary education and has taught elementary school in Millard and Lincoln. At Nebraska Wesleyan University and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Carla has also taught children's literature and language arts class. Her work at the store and her two sons, Joel and Nathan keep her very busy, but when she finds spare time she enjoys reading, walking and gardening.

The Business Meeting will include a report from the fund-raising committee, that, with your help, has narrowed down the list of fund-raising activities and will offer a proposal for the upcoming year.

Bring your Show-and-Tell and join us, won't you?

Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

Life is busy, yes?

It's the season for graduations, weddings, yard work and gardening, abundant community, church and family activities, for many of us the ongoing challenge of full time jobs, and for all of us the never ending business of life maintenance.

We are bombarded daily with information and ideas. We're sold a million ways to be a better us and have a better life.

There is much to do, much about which to think and many who depend upon us. We have husbands, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, parents, siblings, extended family, friends, co-workers, bosses, clients, church groups and communities that need us.

It's good to be needed and wonderful to belong and contribute to something bigger

(continued on page 2)

Suggested Reading

By Dorothy Heidemann-Nelson

Tallgrass by Sandra Dallas

In February of 1942 just two months after the attack on Pearl Harbor, FDR signed Executive Order 9066 authorizing the US federal government to relocate people of Japanese descent living on the west coast of our country. More than 100,000 people, many native-born Americans, were interned in ten inland camps. One of these camps was located in Southeastern Colorado.

This is the setting for the historical fiction book, *Tallgrass*, by Sandra Dallas. The story is narrated by thirteen-year-old Rennie Stroud, the youngest daughter of a beet farmer in the area. Tragedy comes to the community when a young girl is murdered. Prejudice and fear abound.

Tallgrass is a quick-read, hard-to-put-down novel. It's a recent addition to the Seward Public Library. As with other Sandra Dallas novels, quilts play a part of the story but perhaps a more subtle role than in some of her other books such as *The Persian Pickle Club* and *Alice's Tulips*, also available at the Seward Public Library.



than ourselves. We help to shape and improve our families, businesses, churches, communities, and circle of friends.

Sometimes, though, with modern life offering so many opportunities, we can become a bit overwhelmed and the "little old me" within may suffer.

I know many of you pretty well and I know that you are givers by nature. You give of your time, your work, and your resources so generously. You think of each other and come to me often with reminders to announce each other's triumphs and trials but never your own. The quilts you make as gifts or as contributions to various organizations and causes leave me in awe.

Just for today let me be the one to tell you that you are fine just the way you are at this moment; no improvements needed.

Let me encourage you to remember to take time, no, to *make* time for you. Sew on the project you've had in the back of your mind or on the back burner; the one that features your favorite colors and that you are going to keep for yourself. Schedule that check-up you've been putting off. Drop everything and take a walk. Sign up for a class. Shop for some little thing you don't need. Do a little research on your next vacation trip. Read for fun. Watch the sunset. Gaze at the stars. Dance, sing, and laugh. Or stop doing and just be for a bit. Whatever it takes to nurture and renew little old you.

My dear friends, you are important, you are special. You deserve to take a stitch in time for no other reason than you want to. If anyone objects, makes demands, or tries to circumvent your "me" time, just tell them you're acting on an official order from "the president".

See you soon, refreshed, renewed, relaxed and ready for a good time at the next BVQG extravaganza!

Mary

May Birthdays

Phyllis Hronik May 23



June Birthdays

Patsy Mellen June 1

Pat Parrott June 9

Doris Kohout June 11

Becky Wallroff June 15

Gladys Hildebrand June 21

Lorraine Ritchie June 24

Kerri Meyer June 29

REVISED BVQG PROGRAM/EVENT SCHEDULE

MAY—Carla Ketner of Chapters Book and Gifts "Sew Many Books"

JUNE—Leah Sorensen Hayes from the UNL Textiles Department, and Michael James' studio assistant.

BVQG Garage Sale night.

JULY 4th— Kriss Moulds and Barbara Pike "The Times in Which She Quilted", a short history lesson in clues about how to tell when a quilt may have been quilted.

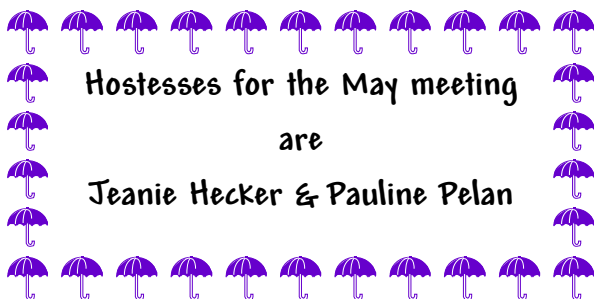
JULY—BVQG member Maralee Meyer, Trunk Show featuring her award-winning quilts. "Dinner and A Movie" Challenge quilts due.

AUGUST—Pam Estrada, owner of the Fabric Faerie in Auburn, Nebraska

SEPTEMBER—Peg Spradlin from Cozad. Peg has been published in numerous magazines and has lots of quilts to share. "Dumpster Dive" quilts due.

OCTOBER— Bea Bauerle, Champion, Nebraska. Recent Past-President of the Nebraska State Quilt Guild and master hand quilter. This will also be our annual pot-luck dinner.

NOVEMBER— Pat Kunc from Lincoln will present a trunk show of her many award- winning miniatures. Silent Auction to be held.



Hostesses for the May meeting

are

Jeanie Hecker & Pauline Pelan

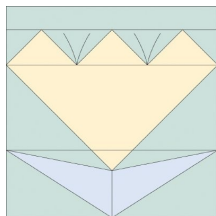
Thanks to all those members who have provided treats at the meetings so far this year—you are very much appreciated!



Some photos from guest speaker Arlen Brown's presentation.
(His wife made him do it.)

Friendship Block of the Month

May's friendship block is any 6 1/2" flower block. This can be pieced, appliquéd, embroidered, dimensional—anything you are inspired to do— as long as there is some element relating to the symbol of May—flowers! For each block you bring, you will be able to enter your name in the drawing.



WHITE GLOVE HELP NEEDED



White glove volunteers are needed for the quilt exhibit at the Nebraska State Fair August 28—September 7. This will be your last opportunity to volunteer so close to home for this event, so please think about what day(s) you might like to attend the fair. Each volunteer will receive a State Fair pass for the day and will be entered in the NSQG drawings for \$50 off your Quilt Nebraska 2010.

Time slots this year will be: 10 AM- 1 PM, 1 PM-4 PM, 4PM-6:30 PM, and 6:30 PM—9 PM

Please contact the coordinator for the white glove volunteers if you are interested: Sue Lantz, 3511 S. 79 Street, Lincoln, NE 68506
402-489-1441
gimmeayard@gmail.com



Take time out to teach a child! If they express and interest, they are never too young to start! Scarlett, 3 years old, is working on her first embroidery, a kitty for her mommy.

The BVQG Garage Sale—Part II

Coming in June!

Bring your pre-marked items to the June 15th meeting.

Bring your friends!

Bring \$\$ to spend!

Proceeds will be added to the BVQG Treasury.

Now is the perfect time to do spring cleaning in your sewing room AND benefit your quilt guild!



The 4th of July Opportunity Quilt is almost finished!

Tickets will be available at the May meeting. You may purchase a packet of 10 for \$10.00 and keep the tickets or sell to your friends, family and co-workers. A box for completed entries will be available beginning at the June meeting and will be brought to each meeting until the 4th, when the winner will be drawn. Remember— the proceeds will help to fund the appearance of a speaker at the following year's Seward 4th of July Celebration, a project of the Blue Valley Quilt Guild. A photo of the completed quilt will be available upon completion by e-mailing Katy Coleman at the address in your membership book. Questions? Contact Mary Robbins, BVQG president.

**Blue Valley Quilters
Treasurer Report
April-09**

Beginning Checkbook Balance	March 31, 2009	3,203.21
INCOME:		
Membership Dues		20.00
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 20.00
EXPENSES:		
The Depot - Bus Trip		
Dinner		525.00
Marilyn Varner - Copies		12.60
Mona Kunasek - Bus Trip Refund		45.00
Arlen Brown - April Program		100.00
Linda Riesberg - Bus Trip Supplies		99.47
Mary Robbins - Birthday Gifts		15.76
Becky Wallroff - Website		19.80
Quiltmaker - Subscription for Library		21.98
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 839.61
Ending Checkbook Balance	April 30, 2009	2,383.60
Petty Cash		20.00
Certificate of Deposit Balance***		2,074.89
TOTAL ASSETS	April 30, 2009	\$4,478.49

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

Kaye McCloy, BVQ Treasurer

Wisdom consists not so much in knowing what to do in the ultimate as in knowing what to do next.

~ Herbert Hoover



April Meeting Minutes

Blue Valley Quilters Guild Meeting
Monday April 20, 2009
Seward Civic Center
6th and Bradford Seward, NE

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

Louise Welsch introduced her guest for the evening, her husband, Eugene.

April birthdays were recognized.

The door prize was won by Elaine Nielsen.

The program was presented by Arlen Brown from Hastings, NE. In telling us about “Piecing from a Man’s Perspective”, he shared many interesting and humorous moments from his quilting journey, along with many wonderful examples of his work.

Business meeting:

The March minutes and treasurer’s report were approved as printed.

This month’s Friendship Blocks were divided into two sets and won by Doris Kohout and Gen Kusek. Next month’s friendship block will be a 6 ½ “ unfinished flower block...any design, pieced or appliquéd.

A good report was given by those who went on the April 4th bus trip...the good driver, the chance to get to know others, a fun time, and a good chance to stimulate the economy were mentioned.

The 4th of July raffle quilt has been assembled and is in the process of being machine quilted by Carla Fiedler. Raffle tickets have been made.

Mary reminded us of the Movie Quilt Challenge which will be due in July, the County Fair coming up in August, and the Dumpster Dive which will be due in September.

The Quilt Show book was passed to the new chairwomen, Marcia Cieslik, in preparation for our show in 2010.

There was a special announcement telling us that the quilt DeElda Hershberger donated to the MCC sale sold for \$3,900.00. Congratulations to DeElda on her beautiful work and her generosity! DeElda has also donated a Basket Quilt to the State Historical Society in Lincoln. The top was made in 1910, and DeElda quilted it in 1990.

We had a brainstorming session for ideas for fundraising, a reminder that we still need a program committee for next year, and NSQG registration for the meeting in July was discussed.

Show and Tell was presented, including a finished UFO project by Carla Fiedler.

Meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be May 18, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Elaine Nielsen, secretary

Carla
Fiedler
and her
finished
UFO



Blue Valley Quilt Guild

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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

\$\$ For Opportunity Quilt
Tickets

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!

