

BLUE VALLEY
QUILT GUILD
PO Box 142
Seward, NE 68434
blue-valley-
quilters.tripod.com

The Scrappag Rag

The Official Newsletter of the Blue Valley Quilt Guild
Seward County, Nebraska

NOVEMBER 2008

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January Meeting & Program

Our January 19th, 2009 meeting will feature "Two Quilting Friends", Pat Pierzina (from the Calico House) and Kay Squier. Their trunk show of lovely quilts is sure to brighten up a gray January with the anecdotes that accompany each one.

There's also lots of business to discuss, this year's star-studded challenge, upcoming shows, bus trip details and lots of other activities. Be prepared to brainstorm and say Happy New Year to your fellow Blue Valley Quilt Guild Members!

This will be the last call for membership dues. Make sure to check the list at the check-in table to verify all your contact information as it will appear in the Membership Book.

Have a new Show & Tell after this long break? Please bring it and share it with us. And don't forget your Friendship Block! See you Monday the 19th!



Your Board at Work

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



The January BVQG Board Meeting was held Monday, January 5, 2009 at the Seward Civic Center. President Mary Robbins, Vice President Diane Swartzlander, Secretary Elaine Nielsen, and Treasurer Kaye McCloy will be announcing the rules for this year's challenge at the January meeting—you won't want to miss this!

Also addressed were the upcoming "Dumpster Dive" that will replace a Round Robin project (details to follow in February), and the immediate need for a fund-raising committee and co-chairpersons for the 2010 quilt show to be held during the BVQG's 20th anniversary year. The help of each and every member is needed in some capacity to make the guild a success—please volunteer for the project you feel is a good fit for you!

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

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!



The low-down
on quilt-
related books,
DVDs, music
and
magazines

From Mary's Desk

Hello Friends,

I trust you all had warm, joy filled, safe and healthy holidays and are ready to plunge head first into all the quilt projects you've had to put aside while preparing for and enjoying family visits and celebrations.

Winter holidays and quilts seem to go hand in hand, yet we've had so little time to sew, and there you have just one of the many paradoxes of quilt making that add to the allure and magic of sewing together our bits and pieces of fabric into artistic treasures that also offer warmth and comfort to us and to our loved ones.

Another "Catch 22" of quilting for me has always been the fact that, now that the weather is cold and I love to be indoors sewing and especially curled up in my favorite chair with a quilt on my lap, stitching by hand, it is the time of year with the least amount of daylight to offer for those activities. Just imagine what a dilemma that was for our "fore-quilters" who plied their craft without the advantage of even simple electric lighting much less the made for quilting lamps we are so blessed to have available to us now.

I've been reading a book of quilt history about quilts and quilt makers that traveled west along the Oregon Trail and to Colorado in gold rush days which has me thinking of the conditions under which women made quilts before computerized sewing machines, rotary cutters and Ott lights and I'm counting my blessings and wondering why I don't finish more projects!

Much has changed in the logistics and equipment and methods of quilt making as the seasons have cycled and the days have shortened and lengthened over and over again through the centuries. The grand thing is that throughout history, quilt making has been a wonderful creative outlet for women, and some men, too, a way to put our love for each other and our world into solid form, a way to celebrate life and our days; long and short, warm and frigid, prosperous and lean.

I say let's dive into a new year of guild and personal projects. Are you with me?

Media Review

by Katy Coleman

Stitchin' and Pullin'

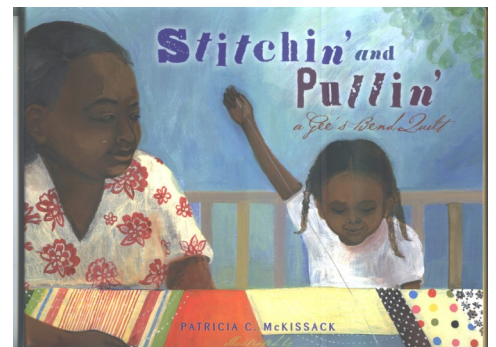
a Gee's Bend Quilt

By Patricia C McKissack

Illustrated by Cozbi A Cabrera

Random House New York 2008

\$17.99



"Look for the heart. When you find the heart, your work will leap to life...strong, beautiful, and independent."

This is just one of the many word-treasures to be found in **Stitchin' and Pullin' a Gee's Bend Quilt**. Through the eyes of Baby Girl, we start her journey beneath the quilting frame in Gee's Bend, Alabama. She shares with us the influences of generations of women—their recipes, home remedies, gospel songs, wisdom, folklore and philosophies as she looks toward the day when she is finally ready to create her own "puzzle made of cloth." Though this book is found in the children's section, the sociological and historical snippets it contains make **Stitchin' and Pullin'** equally appealing to adults. The subject matter and exquisite illustrations by Cosbi A Cabrera make this book a wonderful addition to any quilter's library.

Happy Birthday to You!

January Birthdays:

Linda Schiessl	Jan 3
Margaret Witte	Jan 6
Kriss Moulds	Jan 11
Suzanne Reinke	Jan 15
Barbara Pike	Jan 27



February Birthdays

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

Recipes for Quilters - this month from the kitchen of Gen Kusek

Kolaches

In mixing bowl place:

3 C. hot water and 1/2 C. sugar. Stir.

1 C dry instant milk

1 C instant potatoes

2 envelopes rapid rise dry yeast

Mix well with a wooden spoon.

Add 1 stick melted margarine, and 2 eggs, mixed well. Set in bowl and let bubble.

Add: 3 cups sifted flour (may need a little more) and 1 1/2 tsp salt.

Mix well by hand until dough is smooth—will be sticky. Place in greased bowl & grease top of dough. Cover with a towel.

Let rise, stir down, let rise again. Put half on floured board or pastry cloth and make your favorite rolls, kolaches, cinnamon rolls, dinner rolls, etc. Then do second half.

Let rolls rise a little. Bake at 350° for 10-12 minutes, or as your oven dictates, until slightly brown. Brush tops with melted butter. Cool. Freeze if you like.



Upcoming Quilt Events

At the IQSC:

Inspired by Red and Green:

Selections from the 2008 American Quilt Study Group
November 2008 to January 11, 2009.

From Imitation to Icon:

The Evolution of Chintz Appliqué Quilts
November 2008 to May 24, 2009.

Yikes, Stripes!

January 16 - April 5, 2009.

Elsewhere:

Quilting Time at Stuhr Museum, Grand Island

Stuhr Quilts: "Back from the Smithsonian" by Leslie Vollnogle, Curator of Collections

"History is What You Make It; Quilts from a Contemporary Grandma" by Katy Coleman

Quilt Contest & Exhibition, Merchants Mall

"Quilting Your Memories" Workshop

Jan 31-Feb 1, 2009

mpaulsen@stuhrmuseum.org for more info

"Gee's Bend women are Mothers and Grandmothers Wives Sisters and Daughters Widows. Gee's Bend women are Cooks and Homemakers Gardeners Church members, Choir members Leaders. Gee's Bend women are Talented and Creative Capable Makers of artful quilts Unmatched. Gee's Bend women are Relatives Neighbors Friends-

Same as me."

-from
Stitchin' and Pullin' by
Patricia C McKissack,
spoken by
Baby Girl

2009 Blue Valley Quilt Guild Bus Trip

Saturday, April 4, 2009

Cost: \$45.00, lunch and supper included!

Depart Seward Civic Center at 7:00 AM to allow extra time at each of the shops on the tour.



We'll stop at **"Seams to Be"** in Plattsmouth, a large shop which carries over 6,000 bolts of fabric, enjoy a brown box lunch on the way to Creston, IA. **"Knits and Other Notions"** Quilt Shop in Creston is very large, with over 7,000 bolts of fabric, lots of batiks and fun fabric. Our next stop is Clarinda, IA, at the farm where **"The Quilt Coop"**, a shop in a barn, has kits, oodles of fabric, a whole wall full of notions and batting and a 10% discount for everyone on the bus! We'll next head to Shenandoah, IA for a buffet supper at **"the Depot"**, where even your drinks and tip are included in the price. We plan to be back in Seward by 10:00 PM.

To reserve a space, call Lori Duffek at 402-783-2804, or e-mail her at:

lduffek@gmail.com.

The \$45.00 fee must be received by March 14, 2009 to guarantee your seat.

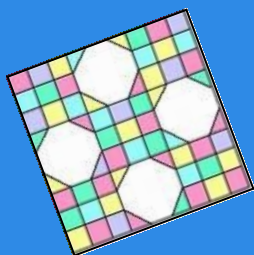
Make checks payable to the Blue Valley Quilt Guild and send to:

Lori Duffek

13034 Branched Oak Rd

Raymond, NE 68428

Friendship Block of the Month



January's Friendship Block is to be any kind of 9-patch, contain the color blue, and be 6 1/2" square unfinished. 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!

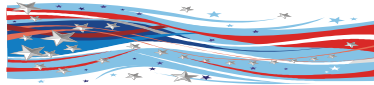
Apply today!

Contact Mary Robbins for more information.

4TH OF JULY SHOW COORDINATOR

Description: Plan and oversee installation and display for Seward's annual 4th of July celebration. Volunteers will assist in set-up, take-down and security. Temperature-controlled environment in beautiful downtown building.

See Mary Robbins or any BVQG Board Member to volunteer today.



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!

"The nice thing about teamwork is that you always have others on your side."

- Margaret Carty

Needleturn Applique Class with Susan Minchow

A reminder for those signed up to spend a day with Susan, and learn the technique that has won her county and state-wide "Best" awards.

When: Saturday, January 17, 2009 9 AM to 4 PM

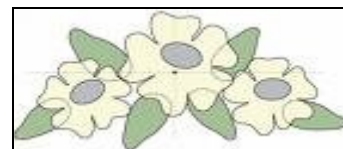
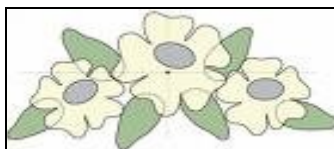
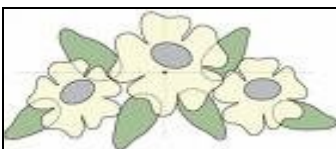
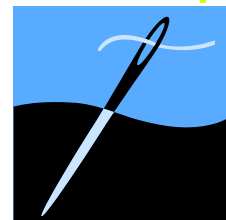
Where: Seward Civic Center, 616 Bradford, Seward, NE

Cost: \$20.00 (includes kit)

Lunch will be on your own—brown bag it or choose one of the nearby restaurants, most within walking distance.

What you will need to bring: a small pair of scissors, an ultrafine black Sharpie, a notebook and pen, and a thimble (optional)

Call Susan at 402-761-2851 if you have questions.





Chintz Applique!

BVQG member Kriss Moulds has been invited to teach a 3 session class at the International Quilt Study Center in Lincoln. Her topic will be "Urns & Ferns: Revisiting Chintz Applique." This class is open to anyone who registers ahead. Sessions are the first three Saturdays in March. The fee is \$50 which will include a kit to make a wall-hanging "chintz applique" project. All quilters are welcome. If people aren't sure what chintz applique is, they should check out the latest exhibit at the Center which is an awesome display of early 1800s chintz applique quilts - the real things! Interested quilters can find out more at www.quiltstudy.org.



Blue Valley Quilters TREASURER'S REPORT November 30, 2008

Beginning Checkbook Balance	October 31, 2008	\$1,061.30
INCOME:		
Member Dues		\$480.00
Craft Show sales		650.00
Quilt Show Donations		85.00
Void Lost Check #1016		52.78
Craft Show change		<u>100.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME		\$1,368.28
EXPENSES:		
Peggy Bruns—State Fair Winner		\$ 10.00
Cash-Craft Show change		100.00
Marilyn Varner-Copies		14.95
Becky Wallroff—Website(29.70—Dues & Ad (22.00)		7.70
Mary Robbins—UFO Prizes + Replace Ck #1016		65.17
US Postmaster—Box rent 1 Yr		<u>42.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$239.82
Ending Checkbook Balance	November 30, 2008	\$2,189.76
Petty Cash		20.00
Certificate of Deposit Balance ***		<u>2,074.89</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	November 30, 2008	\$4,284.65

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

Kaye McCloy, BVQG Treasurer

Blue Valley Quilters TREASURER'S REPORT December 31, 2008

Beg Chkbk Bal	Nov 30, 2008	\$2,189.76
INCOME:		
Member Dues		<u>20.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 20.00
EXPENSES:		<u>\$ 00.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 00.00
End Chkbk Bal	Dec 31, 2008	\$2,209.76
Petty Cash		20.00
Cert of Dep Bal***		<u>2,074.89</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	Dec 31, 2008	\$4,304.65

Kaye McCloy, BVQG Treasurer

Welcome New Members

<i>Connie L Doebling</i>	<i>Pat Parrott</i>
<i>1930 Breckenridge Dr</i>	<i>2131 140th</i>
<i>Lincoln, NE 68521</i>	<i>Raymond, NE 68428</i>
<i>402-261-3864</i>	<i>402-783-2238</i>
<i>Birthday: August 17</i>	<i>Birthday: June 8</i>
<i>cdoehring@neb.rr.com</i>	<i>pp32421@alltel.net</i>

November Meeting Minutes

Blue Valley Quilters Guild Meeting

Monday, November 17, 2008

Seward Civic Center

6th & Bradford

Seward, NE

Linda Riesberg "Shows and Tells" a multi-generation quilt featuring the women in her family. ➡



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

Officers were introduced, plus Scrapbag Rag editor Katy Coleman and webmaster Becky Wallroff. Our newest member, Connie Doe-hring, was also recognized.

October's treasure's report was approved after treasurer Kaye added \$20.00 petty cash to the accounting. Kaye also reminded members to pay dues by December 31.

October's minutes were approved as printed.

November and December birthdays were recognized with fat quarters and singing. Those not wearing name tags were asked to stand and answer the question of the month. The door prize was won by Carla Fiedler.

Marilyn Varner reported that \$550.50 was brought in from the BVQG booth at the November 15 craft fair. She reported that out of 62 members in the guild, 30 contributed at least one item to the sale. She then asked if those who did not contribute items to the sale would be willing to make monetary donations. There was a very good response to this request throughout the evening, plus several items that were not sold at the craft fair were purchased by guild members.

The rest of the meeting consisted of outlining and discussing events for the upcoming guild year.

A sign-up sheet was passed around and completed for hostesses for the meetings.

Linda Riesberg and Lori Duffek will plan this year's bus trip, with a probable destination of southern Iowa and northern Missouri.

Friendship Blocks will be reinstated in January, with the assignment of "some kind of a 9-patch in blue, unfinished size of 6 1/2".

The board is looking into ideas for the possibility of having Blue Valley Quilt Guild shirts made up as a fundraiser. More discussion on this to follow.

The possibility of a "Dumpster Dive" project was discussed. This would involve bringing an unfinished project and turning it over to another guild member to finish in whatever fashion they wish.

A chairman is needed to manage the 4th of July show.

A vote was taken to determine whether or not we wish to put on another big quilt show in October 2010.

Barbara Pike commented on how popular the show has been, what a good venue it has at the Ag Pavilion, and how great it is for showing off our quilts.

Katy Coleman commented on the good variety of types of quilts that were shown in our last show.

It was also mentioned that perhaps we could see if the Seward County Museum would like to display some of their quilts in our next show.

It was stressed that all guild members need to help with this big undertaking, and that it is work but also lots of fun.

There were 41 yes votes and 1 no vote, so we will begin the planning process. We are needing a volunteer to chair the show.

After a refreshment break, we had a Challenge Quilt brainstorming session where ideas were written down and collected. The Board will consider these when choosing a challenge project for this year.

U.F.O.s were presented. Those who did not complete their projects were: Barbara Pike, Becky Wallroff, Carla Feidler and Linda Riesberg. Marian Fosler had her project partially done, Doris Kohout completed hers, and Sheila Beins had hers done, plus one extra.

Show and Tell was presented and the meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be January 19, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

-Elaine Nielsen
Secretary

Hostesses for the
January meeting are
Barbara Pike
and Gen Kusek



Blue Valley Quilt Guild

PO Box 142

Seward, NE 68434

Address Label Goes Here

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

**Your business tag line
here.**

Don't forget to bring:

Nametag

Dues

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!

