



Fat Quarter Gazette

Walla Walla Valley Quilt Guild's Monthly Newsletter

Birthdays

February

- 7 – JoAnne Stillman
- 10 – Melanie Plantaric

March

- 5 – Vicky Navarre
- 17 – Barbara Bohlman
- 19 – Kara Wagner
- 19 – Tanja Seeliger
- 29 – Cathy Weise
- 29 – Kay Raddatz
- 31 – Mary Jo Geidl
- 31 – Lila Richey
- 31 – Debbie Phillips



My fellow quilters,

Since February is the month of love, I started thinking about how much love we quilters show with our art. Several years ago my best friend's father died. She lives in Texas now, and said that one of the most difficult things about it was that there was no one from her past to give her a hug. So, I made her a lap quilt and sent it to her as my hug.

"Just wrap it around you, so you can feel my love," I said. Her husband recently had surgery for lung cancer, and she reported to me that he was napping under the "Hug Quilt." Apparently, love just keeps giving.

Like many of you, as a small gesture of love and compassion, I've made other quilts for friends who have lost loved ones. And now, each day, I cuddle under the quilt you made for me after my beloved Valentine passed away. And I feel the love that went into that quilt.

I'm one of those people who believe that our emotions can be transferred into object that we make. So, when I'm quilting, I do my best to send love and prayers into those stitches, even when I have to rip some of them out.

So, let your theme for the month be love. Put love into everything you do, whether it's cooking a meal, paying the bills, going to work, greeting a friend or—of course—quilting the next heirloom.

Sincerely,
Pam Murray, Co-Chair



Another New Year's Resolution bites the dust.

Next Meeting

March 9, 2009

7:00 pm

Refreshments

February

- Barbara Larson
- Hellburg
- Judy Luxton
- Nina Summers

March

- Terri
- Dilsey Welck
- Tanja

Mrs. Bobbins is a feature of Kansas City Star Quilts and is reprinted with the permission of the Kansas City Star. You can find a new weekly Mrs. Bobbins at www.PickleDish.com, the home of Kansas City Star Quilts.

FOOTLOOSE!

Kay Raddatz is planning to put together a lap robe-sized quilt to raffle off to raise money for scholarships at Walla Walla Community College in conjunction with this year's summer musical, Footloose. Each block will be a pair of dancing shoes, like the Footloose intro in the movie. Kay is looking for volunteers to do one block. She will have the patterns for the blocks at the Feb. meeting at break time. The blocks will all be different and people may choose their own colors for the shoes, socks, pants, background, etc. The more colorful and wilder, the better. It was the '80s! Any applique method is fine. Kay's contact information is markkay@charter.net, 522.5240.

March Meeting Preview

The emphasis for the March meeting will be Baby Quilts. The person who has donated the largest cumulative total number of baby quilts from January through March 2010 will receive a very nice prize.

Quilt Guild Mystery Challenge

Beginning in this month, we will have a three-month mystery challenge. It's like a mystery quilt, except you will be asked to create your own quilt from the instructions given in March and April. Your quilt will be due at the May meeting. The winning quilt will be voted on by the members in attendance at that meeting.

The **first step** in the challenge is to **assemble five different fabrics of one-half yard each**. This will not be a fabric exchange, so be sure that the five fabrics coordinate with each other. It's a good idea to choose at least one or two light fabrics, one or two mediums, and at least one dark. You will be allowed to use only these fabrics for the top.

You will receive further instructions at the March meeting.

We as quilters have a tendency to create and horde a stash *of fabric for ourselves*. I mean really, let's be honest here. We walk into a fabric store with bolts upon bolts of threads interwoven meticulously by machines designed by engineers and then splashed, layered and/or stamped with inks and dyes by slave labor or machine in colors that tease, tantalize and beg us to drool and just walk past close enough so it can haphazardly or not fall into our hands allowing us to feel the sensuous crisp texture and clean but somewhat tickling smell that wafts by our noses like feathers that float wispily by. Taunting us to purchase unheard amounts of a swath of cotton that we said was for so-and-so's new bundle of joy when in reality we all know why we are there *it is for us*. Who are we kidding? That is why we have a store named Stash in town (very apropos). To indulge our inner needs, wants and desires. To let the child of creativity creep out. Fill the hole that gapes within our souls. Nurture our-oh forget it! It's cheaper than a shrink okay?!

All kidding aside, sometimes we are unable to indulge our inner monster begging to roll all over a new stash of undisputedly glorious fabric, or not. Economically for some of us times are hard. Some of us have been laid off due to job cutbacks and others for medical reasons and so forth. Then again costs continue to rise.

There are times in quilting that we only need a small portion of fabric and we really can't drive to Timbuktu to find it. **There is a solution**-fabric swaps or shopping at your fellow stashoholic! I have gone shopping at my local Emporium (a fellow addicted fabric stasher) and have swapped with people in town and online respectively. It can be very addictive and fun for that matter. It is a solution to our tough times. Many of us buy more fabric than what we need for our project and there isn't really any reason that we can't share with a friend and they can share back. It increases our stash, gives us a chance to interact and get to know one another better and saves on money, time, and gas.

Take time to talk and get to know each other better, you may find an Emporium suited to your needs.

LeeAnn Riley, Co-Chair

La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum

Exhibits: Jan – Mar 28, 2010 La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum: “Imagery and Imagination” by Lura Schwarz Smith and “On the Surface” by members of the Whidbey Island Surface Design Association. Museum admission is \$5.00 per person, members and children under 12, free. Museum hours: Jan- Mar, Wed-Sun, 11 am-5 pm. La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum, 703 South 2nd St., PO Box 1270, La Conner, WA 98257. Phone: 360-466-4288 or www.laconnerquilts.com

Textile Enrichment Series: QSI—Quilt Scene Investigators

February 20, 2010; 11-1 or 2-4. Anne Dawson, Quilt Restorer, and Karen Alexander, Quilt Historian, will help you discover the age of your quilts and give you valuable tips on cleaning, restoration, storing and the recording keeping of your quilts. Discover the identity, age, and how to care for your treasures. You will also pick up a bit of quilt history along the way. Two sessions on Saturday, February 20, 2010; 11-1 or 2-4. Cost: \$25 for analysis of two of your quilts, \$20 for analysis of one quilt, or \$15 for presentation only. Admission to Museum is included. Seating is limited. For more information, please contact the Museum by phone at 360-466-4288; by mail at PO Box 1270, La Conner, WA 98257-1270; by email at info@laconnerquilts.com; or visit our website at www.laconnerquilts.com

Call for Entries: Quilt Fest 2010, sponsored by the La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum, will be held October 1, 2, & 3, 2010 and will be featuring quilts from The Appliqué Society. We would love to see your appliqué quilt at Quilt Fest 2010. Deadline for entry is July 31, 2010. Please check our website to download an entry form for Quilt Fest 2010. www.laconnerquilts.com

Announcing **Quilt Fest 2010**, sponsored by La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum and featuring quilts from The Appliqué Society, is scheduled for October 1, 2, & 3, 2010. **Quilt Fest** takes place in two venues over three days: Maple Hall and the La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum. **Quilt Fest** includes Workshops with teachers: Elly Sienkiewicz, Nancy Lee Chong, Heidi Lund, Barbara Shapel, Maureen Goldsmith, Meg Hawkey (Crabapple Hill), Teri Bever, and Marcia Harmening. **Quilt Fest** also features a Silent Auction, Specialty Vendors, and a Quilt Walk in local La Conner shops. La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum is located at 703 S. 2nd St., PO Box 1270, La Conner, WA 98257. 360-466-4288; info@laconnerquilts.com or www.laconnerquilts.com

FINANCIAL REPORT

Jan Balance	\$ 3,834.34
Paid Out	89.59
Deposit	196.50
Balance	\$ 3,941.25

A Star's Legacy
Marie Smith
Sommers, Montana

Grandma left three years ago,
She didn't want to go.
"Your Grandpa, he's been awaiting,"
She said. "I have been kinda slow
To join him, hate to leave you girls,"
And she smiled up through her tears.
She'd requested her granddaughters
visit.
We'd not been together for years.
Now we gathered, hating the reason,
Wished we'd just came to say hello.
Outside a fall wind rustled leaves,
When her voice rose, whispering low.
"My mother's ring's for Jenny,
my own is for Estelle,
Wedding dress and ring's for Sissie,
I hope they fit her well.
"For Mary the silver teaspoons,
The fire opal's there for Sade,
the golden chain's for Bethie
and Tammy gets the jade.
"For Annie there's my mother's pin,
and that's all the jewels that be."
I was left out and I felt the loss
When she turned and smiled at me.
Her breath it came so slowly,
"Honey, this here old quilt's for you."

I reached across and touched her cheek
As she stroked the patterns blue.
In years past I'd loved those little stars
That she'd stitched and appliquéd.
"Remember to reach for yours," she'd
said,
Then your life will be well made."
Now she whispered, "But most of all
It's what's inside," and I learned
Why the batting wasn't fluffy
Like others that were fair-prize earned.
"Back in years before you were born,
Oh, it must have been sixty-two,
Your grandpa bought me a blanket
In my favorite shades of blue.
"It really meant a lot to me,
See, blues weren't his favorite shade,
But he slept beneath that blanket with
me
For more than two decades.
"Year after year we used it,
Despite its thinning weave.
We just added another one
When it's warming started to leave.
"It's binding frayed and fell apart
The year God called him home.
I slept alone beneath it then,
It cheered my spirit, warmed my bones.

"One day in an upper corner
I noticed a tiny hole,
And wondered how to preserve the
spread
Before it got too old.
"So twenty-five years after he bought it,
I used it to stuff this quilt.
If you're careful, dear, it will last
Like your home that's newly built."
After she left I took it,
To clean and preserve it I must,
And stored it these years on the closet
shelf
Away from light and dust.
But did Grandma mean me to store it?
I thought one day this past fall,
And the answer strong it came to me
As I hurried down the hall.
I opened up the closet doors
What made those blue stars glow?
Was it the love seeping through the
blanket
From those years so long ago?
Oh, I did have a jewel and it spoke to me
Of love and devotion and care,
And that night as we snuggled beneath
it
I could feel their love gather there.

WALLA WALLA VALLEY QUILT GUILD
MINUTES
12 JANUARY 2010
Blue Mountain Community Church, Walla Walla, WA

CALL TO ORDER: _____ The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Pam Murray at 7:04 pm.

ATTENDANCE/GUEST INTRODUCTIONS: _____ Guests were introduced. Attendance and guest sign-in sheets are attached to the secretary's copy of the minutes.

ACTION ITEM : APPROVAL OF MINUTES: _____ The minutes of the 8 December 2009 meeting were corrected as follows (change underlined):

Under Action Item: Adoption of Budget, 1st paragraph: 2nd sentence: "dues increase to \$2" should read "dues increase to \$20."

Jean Fletcher moved that the minutes of the December 2009 meeting be adopted as corrected. Second. Passed.

FINANCE /TREASURER'S REPORT: _____ The Finance Report was included on the Addendum to the newsletter which is attached to the Secretary's copy of the minutes.

BIRTHDAYS RECOGNIZED: _____ Happy Birthday was sung to those celebrating a January birthday and those whose dues were paid selected a fat quarter.

RAFFLE QUILT PRESENTED: _____ The raffle quilt was presented to Janice Anhorn of Walla Walla who thanked the Guild for the quilt and all of the work involved in making it.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY QUILT: _____ Jean Fletcher showed a completed quilt top for the next recipient of a house. Since this quilt top is to be presented to a family once it has been quilted and more houses are being started Jean reported that more house blocks are needed. Blocks should be 12 1/2 inches square unfinished and can be any sort of house that the imagination can come up with.

DOOR PRIZE: _____ Pam explained a new way of awarding the door prize. The door prize will be tied to participation in a Guild project or event. In February everyone who brings a house block will have their name in a drawing for the door prize.

RECESS: _____ 7:13 pm

RECONVENE: _____ 7:37 pm

GUILD PIN: _____ Please see Treasurer Barbara Bohlman for a Guild pins if you have paid your dues and do not yet have a Guild pin.

ACTION ITEM: JUNE YEAGER WORKSHOP: _____ Jan Eaton reminded everyone that June Yeager will be here March 13-14. The expense breakdown for her workshop is as follows:

Workshop	\$400/day x 2 days =	\$800
Mileage		336
Room rental	\$42/day x 2 days =	<u>84</u>
Approximate total cost		\$1450

What this means is that the price Guild members pay for the workshop should be higher. June's workshop at the Sisters Quilt Show in Bend, OR is \$75/day. Pam suggested that we set a base price of \$20/day and if anyone is so moved, the Guild is a 501(c)3 and can accept donations that may be tax-deductible and give the appropriate receipts for tax purposes.

By consensus the group agreed that \$20/day was very reasonable for a hands-on workshop.

Jan asked that those planning on attending the workshop to indicate which quilt of the four choices members want to make.

FREE MEMBERSHIP TO ALEX ANDERSON'S QUILT SHOW MAGAZINE: Co-Chair Pam Murray won a free 6 month membership to Alex Anderson's show magazine. A drawing will be held later in the meeting so those interested can add their names to the drawing.

BABY QUILTS: Guild members have been making quilts for at-risk moms and donating them through the Family Medical Center. Those who made 12 quilts last year received gift certificates.

NAME TAG BOX: The name tag box was circulated. Members were reminded that after 6 months each member is to have and wear a handmade name tag or pay the monthly penalty of 25¢ for each year they have been members.

HEARTS AND FLOWERS QUILTS: Jan Eaton explained the purpose of hearts and flowers quilts. She will email patterns for a variety of blocks for people to use to make 6 1/2 inch unfinished squares.

PUTTING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA: To put items on the agenda Pam asked people to let her know, ideally about one week before the next meeting.

SHOW AND SHARE/HELPING HANDS: In addition to the many examples of creativity presented by members and guests, baby quilts were donated by Pat Jones-4, Becky Lund-8, Barbara Em-1, and Audrey Campbell-1.

DOOR PRIZE: The door prize was won by Audrey Campbell,

BLOCK LOTTO: The block lotto was won by Dilsey Welck. Lynn Wilson shared patterns for February's block lotto.

FREE MEMBERSHIP TO ALEX ANDERSON'S QUILT SHOW MAGAZINE (continued): LeeAnn Riley won the free six month membership.

SECRET PALS: Those participating in the Secret Pals program were asked to turn in the names of their newly drawn secret pal to Jan Eaton.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:35 pm

NEXT MEETING: 8 FEBRUARY 2010

Ann Bisgard
Secretary, WWVQG

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