



Country Quilters

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2015

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Newsletter/Publicity

Laura Deleski

lauradeleski@charter.net

President's Notes

Here we are, approaching the end of 2014, and time for our 2015 New Year's resolutions. What sort of quilting resolutions are you going to make? Here are some resolutions I'm considering.

1. Finish some UFOs. Get it bound, get it quilted, or get the piecing done - just finish some UFOs. Notice how I did NOT say finish all my UFOs - I know that is never going to happen. Maybe there's a UFO or two that I will "finish" by donating or re-purposing. If I haven't finished it in (ahem) more than ten years, it might be time to accept that I don't want or need to finish it, and it's time to find it a new home. Finishing something one way or the other will give me a sense of accomplishment.

2. Quilt some every day. I quilt for enjoyment, and I want/need my daily joy fix. Some days, my quilting time will be short, other days, I'll have lots of time, but I want to be touching fabric every day.

3. It's Quilt, not Guilt! I will not feel guilty over my stash - I love the colors, I love the patterns, and I love the process of combining fabrics and shapes into quilt designs. I will not feel guilty buying new fabric that I really love! (Reality check: watch out for SABLE - Stash Accumulation Beyond Life Expectancy. I will do my best to use or donate old stash fabrics to make room for the new.) Also, I will refrain from pointing out my "mistakes" to everyone admiring my quilts - chances are, they couldn't find them without my help, anyway!

4. Quilting might be a "disease", but it shouldn't be dis-ease. It's easy to get so absorbed, that hours fly by until I "suddenly" notice that I've developed some aches or pains. I'm going to try to pay more attention to posture, movement, stretching, hydration, and such. Breaks for water, exercise, and M&M's keep the fun going.

5. Quilting is both old and new, so I will try something new every now and then. (After I try it, I might never do it again, but at least I will try it.)

6. Quilt inspiration is everywhere. Quilt shows, Country Quilters meetings, classes, retreats, books/magazines, websites/blogs give me ideas and motivation, but design ideas are everywhere - architecture, landscapes, decorator and clothing fabrics, toys, and other everyday items. My resolution is sort of a flip side to this - I might be an inspiration for some quilter out there, so I will be encouraging to my quilting sisters/brothers.

7. Quilting is Math, that is, the calculus stuff. No, I'm not talking about 1/4 inch seams and calculations for seam allowances for triangles. That math is easy compared to velocities: number of blocks pieced per hour or inches of quilting stitches per hour. When I do this calculation in the planning stage, I might come up with 2 days for piecing and 1 day for (machine) quilting a small throw. But

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Upcoming Programs

January 13, 2015, The Country Quilters will work on Service Quilts. Coordinated by Community Service Co-Chairs Gale Johnson and Jackie Orson

February 10, 2015, Jan Martin, "Designing Quilts"

March 10, 2015, Sue Poser with Grubers Quilt Shop, Trunk Show and demonstration of the Basik XBlock Ruler

Vicki Cyn & Bonita Kallestad, CQ Co-Vice Presidents

President's Notes

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by the sewing stage, the numbers have (magically) changed, and so I'm behind even before I finish cutting my fabrics. This year, I'm going to try recording time spent on my projects so I can develop a more realistic estimate of how long things will take, thus avoiding my annual night before Christmas binding session.

Feel free to borrow my resolutions or come up with your own quilting resolutions. Just remember to keep quilting, and to make it enjoyable!

And now for something to challenge you. A Fabric Challenge will be presented at the January meeting. Participants will be asked to sign up to receive a fat quarter of the challenge fabric. By signing up, you are saying that you will make a quilted item to be shown in our Quilt Show. You can make a wall hanging, a bag, or other quilted item. You must use at least half of the challenge fabric on the front/ outside of your quilted item, and can add any number of additional fabrics of your choice. Finished items will be shown at our September meeting, and displayed in a group at our Quilt Show. Happy Quilting!

*Sharon Bannister,
CQ President*



QUILT SHOW NEWS

September 25 - 27, 2015

Keep in mind the four areas: Something Old, Something New, Something Modern, And Artsy Too. If you have an antique quilt you would be willing to share for the show, that would be great. We'll have a special display for each category.

We will have a fabric challenge compliments of Sharon Bannister. Other challenges that have gone on at the regular guild meeting will be highlighted also. A pin-cushion display was suggested which would also be fun. Some of you ladies do beautiful needle-work that would also be a nice display. Sew and Tell has been huge the past year, so we should have lots of quilts.

We still need someone to take charge of Admissions and will have sign up sheets for set up and take down as the time nears.



Quilter brain cramp!

Will you the generous quilter please contact me again. Please give me a call or e-mail so I can return your magazine that had the cardinal pattern. Louise Swenson - dlswen@frontiernet.net or 382-6323.



KNOT CRAZY MINI GROUP

From now on, the Knot Crazy Mini Group will meet at 5:30 on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, just before Country Quilters. We no longer meet the last Thursday of the month.



Fiber Folk Mini-Group

Fiber Folk mini group will meet on the 4th Monday at the Willmar Community Center from 1 to 4 p.m.

Fiber Folk Mini group schedule:

January 26, 2015 Show and Tell of fiber art projects and program planning for 2015

February 23, 2015 and March 23, 2015 To Be Announced after program planning.



Of all the things a woman's hands have made,
 The quilt so lightly thrown across her bed—
 The quilt that keeps her loved ones warm—
 Is woven of her love and dreams and thread.

CARRIE A HALL
 "THE PATCHWORK QUILT"



The information below was shared with us by Deb Bomstad.

She recently attended a wedding where a "quilt wrapping" was done in place of a unity candle lighting.

The details below were printed on the back side of the couple's wedding program. The mothers of the bride and groom wrapped the couple in the quilt.

Quilt Wrapping Ceremony

(BRIDE & GROOM) HAVE ELECTED TO BE WRAPPED IN A QUILT AS A SIGN OF UNITY. THE QUILT IN THIS INSTANCE SYMBOLIZES A HUPPAH. IN JEWISH TRADITION, MARRIAGES TAKE PLACE UNDER A HUPPAH, WHICH CAN BE CONSTRUCTED FROM THE FABRIC OF FRIENDS AND FAMILY. SOME COUPLES MAY USE A FAMILY HEIRLOOM, SUCH AS A GRANDFATHER'S PRAYER SHAWL, A PRIZED FAMILY TABLECLOTH, OR A WELL WORN FAMILY QUILT, AS THE HUPPAH COVERING.

THE HUPPAH SYMBOLIZES THE NEW HOME THAT THE COUPLE WILL CREATE. THE ANCIENT RABBIS COMPARED THE HUPPAH TO THE TENT OF ABRAHAM, FOUND IN BIBLICAL STORY. ABRAHAM WAS FAMED FOR HIS HOSPITALITY; HIS TENT HAD ENTRANCES ON ALL FOUR SIDES SO THAT TRAVELERS COMING FROM ANY DIRECTION WOULD HAVE A DOOR TO ENTER.

THIS QUILT SIGNIFIES THE WARMTH AND SUPPORT OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS THAT ARE NEEDED TO SUSTAIN A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP.

IT SIGNIFIES THE BOND BETWEEN GROOM AND BRIDE AND THE CLOSENESS THAT WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP DAY AFTER DAY. IT SIGNIFIES THE HOSPITALITY THEY HOPE TO EXTEND TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

IT SIGNIFIES THE COMFORT AND BEAUTY THEY BRING TO EACH OTHER AND WILL CONTINUE TO BRING TO EACH OTHER.

MOST IMPORTANTLY IT SIGNIFIES GOD'S PROTECTION - HIS COVERING.

Check out the Country Quilters Blog at
<http://www.countryquiltersguild.blogspot.com>

QUILT SHOP NEWS from Gone To Pieces Quilt Shop - Kimball, MN

Established in 2002, **Gone To Pieces Quilt Shop** has grown from being located in the old bank building in downtown Kimball (remember the vault in the bathroom) with approximately 750 bolts, to its current location in the Tri County Building with 1750 bolts. As we have grown, we first acquired a Gammill Classic long arm and started machine quilting for customers as well as renting it out. Then several years ago we acquired the second long arm, a computerized system which has allowed us to keep machine quilting while the Classic is in use.

Gone To Pieces sponsors two retreats a year, has a bag lady group and a Kim Diehl Club (the new club will start in February), is involved in several shop hops each year as well as doing two or three block of the months a year. The new BOM, Stars Over Capri, done with Timeless Treasures Batiks will start in February. Also new for 2015 - Bring in your completed top and receive 20% off your backing on the first Wednesday and first Saturday of each month.

Gone To Pieces welcomes you with the following coupon.



GONE TO PIECES
QUILT SHOP 320-398-5300

20% off regularly priced purchase.

Cannot be with any other specials.

Some exclusions apply.

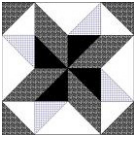
Expiration date—March 31, 2015

SHOP HOURS—MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
 9 A.M. TO 5 P.M. SATURDAY 9 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

Gone To Pieces Quilt Shop

70 South Main P.O. Box 186

Kimball, MN 55353-0186



Country Quilters

PO BOX 1845

WILLMAR MN 56201

Quilt Shows & Shop Hops & More...


 **Sargent's Nursery Quilt Show**, Feb. 7-8, 2015 – Red Wing, MN. www.sargentsnursery.com/quiltshow.php
Admission \$3.00

***Country Quilters is a nonprofit organization
dedicated to promoting and preserving the art of quilting.***

Membership is open to anyone interested in quilts and provides opportunities to meet and fellowship with other quilters in Willmar and its surrounding towns.

Annual dues are \$25.00 and visitor fee is \$4.00 per meeting.

The Guild meets the second Tuesday evening of every month at 7:00 p.m.
at the Willmar Community Center located at 624 Hwy. 71 NW, Willmar, MN.

 <http://countryquiltersguild.blogspot.com> 