



The Postage Stamp

Country Roads Quilt Guild

www.geocities.com/countryroadsquiltguild/index.html

JULY 2008

~ NO COST TRAVEL ~

If the climbing gas prices are keeping you grounded this summer, why not consider short trips to some of our fabulous, local quilt shops and/or quilt shows. Take along a friend or two and while you double the fun ... you could also split the costs. See a quilting calendar of events on [Pg. 6](#) for some nice summer distractions. For those of you who have the desire to be transported beyond the state line, check out the Florida trip shown below. If you'd like to renew acquaintances and go a little further afield, such as Alaska or Australia ... [See Pg. 5](#) and take your pick ... or enjoy both. Happy travels!

~Annual Picnic~

July 10—6 PM

*Note our earlier
start time*

*Bring a covered dish
and your table setting*

GUEST COLUMNIST ... FROM THE TRAVEL PAGES

Greeting from Florida! Its HOT what can I say!! Down here summer is for quilting and winter for other fun stuff. I belong to the "Needle Benders" quilt guild, and it's not Country Roads for sure!! There are a lot of quilters in Florida which I was surprised. I work as a nite supervisor for Hancock Fabrics. And its very HARD not to come home without a "bag"!! Its a fun job and I get to feel the fabric all evening!! I am in a knitting mode right now. We have a Tuesday afternoon session every week at the club house and its been fun. I made a quilt for the store from Batiks jelly rolls and the best part is they provide the fabric and after display I get the quilt! I am making one for them now from their "journey line" It's not what I would pick but that's ok, I get the quilt.

Sure miss all you friends. When I get the newsletter, I go into a HOMESICK mode for a week!! What can I say: I miss "Country Roads"!! Marty

(For more from our travel pages, turn to Pg. 5)

SHOP HOP

June 11-14. Many of you were able to participate in this year's **Mountain Quilt Quest**. Those we've heard from include Gitta and Deloris who started in Walton and travelled for a portion of the trip on the van provided by Scotts Run Settlement House; Debbie and group who started in Morgantown; and Melissa who started in Fairmont. Details on Pg 4.

CONGRATULATIONS CULTURAL CENTER WINNERS



Annual quilt and wall hanging exhibition on display until September 1

Art and utility unite in the West Virginia Division of Culture and History's annual exhibition, Quilts and Wall Hangings 2008, which is on display in the Great Hall and Art Gallery of the Cultural Center, State Capitol Complex in Charleston. The crowd-pleasing juried exhibition features 53 exquisite quilts and wall hangings representing the talents of West Virginia quilters. Quiltmaking is one of West Virginia's oldest and most treasured art forms, and this annual display has become a tradition with visitors from all over the U.S. and abroad.

Janet S: "Bella Bella," 1st place, Wall hanging; "Kaleidoscope"

Nancy S: "Irish Rose," 1st Place, Mixed/Other

Lou D: "Midland Trail," 2nd Place, Mixed/Other; "Maple Confection," 2nd Place, Wall Hanging

QUILT SHOW

Mountaineer Week Quilt Show "Opportunity Quilts." We are planning to have some quilted items at our show in November to help raise money to defray the cost of bringing in Pat Sloan in October. Visitors to the show will have an opportunity to donate money for a chance to win our hand-made items. If you'd like to make one, please tell Terry at the next meeting, via phone, or through e-mail. Thanks!

RAISING MONIES

Monthly Mini Schedule

July ~ Diane T

August ~ Sue M

September ~ Melissa J

The June monthly mini made by Betty was won by Nancy. If you'd like to contribute a mini in 2009, please register on the sign-in sheet! (Monies raised offset the cost of our meeting room.)

Please participate!

REDUCING COSTS

Will you help? We're busy reducing our operating costs ... and, we're able to do that as more of you indicate your willingness to receive your newsletters on-line.

If you haven't switched over to e-mail, please consider doing so. If you're willing, please contact Linda F.

SEEKING HER "SISTER"

Melissa is still trying to discover the identity of her secret sister. ... "I would love to know who my 'Secret Sister' was from this past year. She did not reveal herself to me at the May meeting, and I was not at the June meeting."

Sounds like a mystery! If you know Melissa's secret sister, won't you please let her know?!

Happy Birthday!

July 4 — Gloria
July 13 — Janet
July 15 — Jan
July 21 — Mary Lou
July 21 — Sandra
July 22 — Emma Lou
August 1 — Charlene



WHAT'S HAPPENING

We neglected to include the following "thank you" note in last month's newsletter. The text of the note follows:

I want to thank my undercover quilter, Ruth Ann, for the past year of wonderful gifts. Last month, I received a patriotic star pillow kit to paper piece. I have a friend whose birthday is in July, so I'm going to try and finish it for her birthday. She likes patriotic things since she shares her July birth month with our nation. I also received a spiral notebook with a floral initial "C" on the cover. I journal when I travel, so will take that with me to NH when I visit my mom these next two weeks. I made a small pillow cover from the yellow floral fabric I received in April. Thank you Ruth Ann for the great, gift-filled year. Betty C.

Lillian missed the June meeting because of her son's wedding in Dallas, Texas. "And, I will miss the meeting in July because (I can't hold back my excitement), I am attending the American Sewing Guild convention in Chicago. The classes in embroidery, felting, sewing shortcuts and fashion sewing, I'm taking them all. If anyone is interested in the classes, I will be glad to share what I learned. I know it's not about quilting, but it's so much fun to be with a group of women who enjoy sewing. So, see you in August."

Linda F visited the Quilt Museum in Harrisonburg, Virginia, where the exhibit was "Quaker Quilts and Heritage." A new exhibit, "Five Generations of Mennonite Quilts," begins Sept. 27 and runs through Dec. 29. Then, it was on to Staunton, Virginia, where Linda made her annual visit to Rachel's Quilt Patch.

Betty C did not go on any of the shop hops, but she did go to NH to visit her mom in late May/early June and found a quilt shop she didn't know existed. "My car (Ethan—I name my cars) needed repair twice while I was there. One of the repairs was a new alternator. I was actually going to a wool store when the battery and brake lights came on. Fortunately I was near a repair shop and it was something they could fix quickly. After "Ethan" got out of the doctor's office, I continued to the wool shop. They have hand dyed and every wool you can imagine (Dorr Wool Store, Guild, NH). On the way, I happened on a sign for the Sunshine Carousel Quilt Shop in Grantham, NH. It might not have had the most plentiful fabrics, but I found a book I wanted and several fabrics I used in a patriotic table runner for a TX friend's July birthday. Ethan likes to take me to all sorts of places—but it's especially heartwarming when he just steers his way into a quilt shop parking lot!!"

TREASURER'S REPORT BY DELORIS

BEGINNING BALANCE..... \$3,000.40

Income:

Monthly mini	8.00	
No Name Tag	0	
Dues.....	45.00	
Interest.....	.12	53.12

Expenses:

Barbara G — Program.....	50.00	
Carolyn G—Picnic	25.00	
Janet S — newsletter	104.53	
Lou D — newsletter	34.05	213.58

ENDING BALANCE..... \$2,839.94

JUNE MINUTES BY MONICA

The June 2008 meeting of the Country Roads Quilt Guild was called to order by Secretary, Monica M. In addition to several members, three guests were in attendance. The May minutes were approved and accepted as written. The Treasurer's report will be approved at the July meeting.

Committee Reports ... Committee formations were discussed. A sign-up sheet for various committees was sent around.

Linus Project – Presentation of Linus quilts to the Project Linus coordinator takes place at the conclusion of tonight's business meeting.

Directory committee – Terry passed around the directory information for review/correction. The directory should be completed by the July meeting.

Old Business

WV Quilt Guild – The WV Quilt Guild will host a quilt show at the Waterfront Hotel this year, July 17-19th, 2008. It was noted that the WV Quilt Guild is looking for assistants for the show. "White glove people" and people to help with set-up are especially needed. Terry passed around sign up sheets for those that are interested.

Block of the Month – Discussion on the Block of the Month program was tabled until the next meeting.

Cookbook Fundraiser – Discussion on the cookbook fundraiser was tabled until the next meeting.

Picnic – Carolyn G noted that she made arrangements for the picnic to be at the West Side pavilion. It was also noted that it is now required that payment for the pavilion be made in advance. Carolyn took care of this for us and will be reimbursed.

Monthly Mini – The monthly mini, made by Betty C, was won by Nancy S.

New Business

Millennium Quilt Show – Terry passed information around about the show that the Millennium Quilters are having on July 11-12th. Classes will be offered as well. Guest instructors include Karen Montgomery from The Quilt Company. More information may be found at their website (www.millenniumquilters.com).

Quilt Tree – Sue M asked if there was any interest in participating in a "quilt tree" with the members of Rae F's quilt guild in Australia.

Brownies – Monica noted that she's been teaching her Brownie troop how to quilt and asked if there would be any objections to having some of the girls come to a meeting in the near future (possibly the July meeting) to show off their finished projects.

Announcements

It was announced that Janet S received first place and Lou D received second place at the recent Vandalia Festival.

The meeting concluded with Show & Tell, refreshments, and the guild's presentation of Project Linus quilts to the Project Linus Coordinator. The coordinator noted that in the last 29 months, she has given away ~2900 quilts (approximately 100 a month), and at that rate is still not meeting the demand. She noted that she could easily give away 300 quilts in a month. Nationwide, Linus has donated 2.5 million quilts since 1995. Qualifications of a Linus quilt are that it must be handmade (made from "reasonable" fabrics), new, and washable. Tonight, our guild was able to donate 33 quilts to Project Linus.

PROJECT LINUS

As taken from the Project Linus brochure: Project Linus is a 100% volunteer non-profit organization with a two-fold mission.

First, it is our mission to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans, lovingly created by volunteer "blanketeers."

Second, it is our mission to provide a rewarding and fun service opportunity for interested individuals and groups in local communities for the benefit of children. Anyone, any age, can help these children. It is within your power to make a difference!

Contact your local chapter and become a Blanketeer! Make a new, handmade, washable blanket and donate it to your local chapter of Project Linus. Blankets of all styles, including quilts, tied comforters, fleece blankets, crocheted and knitted afghans, and receiving blankets in child friendly colors are accepted. Blankets must be new (made with new materials), handmade, and washable. You don't have to be an expert! Elaborate or simple, they are all beautiful to a child.

If you are not inclined to make a blanket, monetary donations are gratefully accepted. For more information, please visit the Project Linus website at www.projectlinus.org.

Ask about the "sensory" blankets for the blind! That's something that's a specific current need. And there ARE things that YOU can do to help! To join the CRQG effort, please contact committee chair Pat O or Lou D. They'd love to hear from you. ...

**"The best kind of sleep
Under heaven above,
Is under a blanket
Handmade with love"**
Project Linus

SHOP "HOPPING" FUN

Deloris starts in Walton. ...

The shop hop was wonderful. Gitta, Patty, Terry S and I left town on Wednesday around 7:30 and our first stop was in Walton, a little off the beaten path. The shop is on the second floor of an old country general store. Besides the quilt shop, the upstairs is filled with antiques. I loved their quilt setting, so I bought the finishing kit, hoping I wouldn't find one I liked better. Lucky for me I didn't. We then traveled to Ceredo, Hurricane, Charleston, Victor, and Summersville. I think the drive between Charleston and Victor is one of the prettiest in West Virginia. On Friday, we took the Settlement House van to Fairmont, Buckhannon, Elkins, Harrisville, Parkersburg, and Williams-town. The shop in Harrisville will stand out because on the outside of the shop there was a 6' black snake under the porch. I'm glad we didn't see it on the way in, or I would have not gone in. The new shops are all very nice.

Debbie begins in Morgantown:

Connie H, Diane T, Rhonda L, and I visited all 13 shops in the WV shop hop. There were several new shops. We started in Morgantown at 9 a.m. on Wednesday morning. We stayed overnight at Mineral Wells and hit the lower shops the second day. We got home around 8 p.m. the second day. It was lots of fun, lots of new things to see, and lots of shopping. We had a blast.

SHOP "HOPPING" WINNERS

Each shop had daily drawings with a \$50 value. Grand prize drawings included:

\$50 Shopping Spree from each shop (A \$650 value)

- ♦ Won by Paul J (*Congratulations Paul ... and best of luck to Melissa in garnering a portion of the "spoils"*)

\$100 Gift Certificates (3 winners)

- ♦ Alice Osbourn, Bridgeport
- ♦ Ginger Jansen, Virginia Beach, VA
- ♦ Vada Igo, Charleston

\$25 Gift Certificates (3 winners)

- ♦ Jean Vogel, Glen Gary
- ♦ Martha Kerns, North Spring
- ♦ Kathy Weekley, Thornton

WEST VIRGINIA — QUILT QUESTING



Melissa and husband begin in Fairmont:

My husband and I make our vacation during the WV Mountain Quilt

Quest shop hop week. This is our 5th one. We have been doing it since they started. We started out on Thursday morning with Sew Chic as our first. (We had hit The Sew Inn on Wednesday evening, with my husband finding some biker fabric that he instructed the girls at the shop to tell me to purchase for him.)

We took 4 days to spread it out. Thursday saw us at Sew Chic, Elkins, Buckhannon, and Summersville, which is where we stayed. On Friday we went to Victor, Charleston, Huntington, Hurricane and Ceredo and stayed in Charleston. We also met with our friend Jennifer on Friday afternoon for lunch. It was at this time that I gave Jennifer her wedding gift, you guessed it, a quilt! Saturday we went to Walton, Harrisville (I won the daily basket here, but did not know it until Sunday evening when we returned home), Parkersburg and the Williamstown's Woolen Willow and Pumpkin Patch (this is their off shoot antique shop). Then we stayed overnight at Mineral Wells. All the hotels we stayed in had swimming pools and hot tubs of which we had to take advantage!!

My husband loves doing the shop hop! He gets to see what the excitement is and meet the shop girls and sample the food, all the while I am snatching up fabric and tools of the trade! This year, he purchased all the packets and collected the charms and purchased a pin to give to one of the girls in the Scott's Run Settlement House Quilter's on the Run group that has been too ill to try even one shop.

He was able to do a little shopping of his own at the Harbor Freight Store in Ceredo (?). I think that was where it was. And he said that was just icing on the cake for the trip! He also won the FIRST PRIZE this year! Lucky dog! He says he might even let me purchase something from his winnings! First prize is a \$50 shopping spree from all 13 shops. Isn't he the lucky one?

We did not do the PA shop hop but are planning to do the mini one in August and maybe the big tri-state one in October! If you go to this site (www.planetpatchwork.com/travel/mountainquiltquest.htm), she has some lovely pictures and a description of her travels. I agree with most of her comments. All the shops were friendly and beautifully laid out!

Tina participates in PA Shop Hop:

I haven't been to a meeting for many months! Just got back from FL four weeks ago and got the newsletter about the shop hop. I decided driving 1200 miles wasn't too bad and looked at the "shop hop" on line and I took off on Friday. I visited Monaca PA and signed up for a class!!! Traveled to New Brighton PA and bought fabric for my "stash". Decided New Wilmington PA was not tooooooooo far and then traveled to Portersville PA. A week later I got a call from The Quilting Bee (New Wilmington - the farthest one!) that I won the "goodie basket". I went alone and met some very nice people in the shops and other quilters. I still haven't joined a guild in PA. I would still like to keep my membership with you all. I love getting the newsletter!

A MESSAGE FROM "DOWN UNDER"



Hello from Australia, and especially from Bacchus Marsh which is 35 miles west of Melbourne, Victoria – southeast corner of the country! We are heading into winter just now, which means of course, good weather to be indoors and sewing.

Craft is a huge pastime here, as in the USA, with patchwork and quilting being among the most popular. Melbourne has 4 regular quilt and craft fairs each year (January, March, July, and September), usually over 4-5 days each and they are becoming more and more popular each year, to the extent that the venues have had to upgrade to larger and larger ones regularly to keep up with the growing crowds. We always have visiting experts from overseas who bring all the latest trends and innovations, and I was really pleased to meet and chat with Jinny Beyer at our last quilt fair.

I also co-ordinate a quilt group in my home town, which we have named "Not Just Quilters" as we have members who also enjoy hand embroidery, knitting and other craft work. We started in 2004 with five, and since then have grown to over 25 members who come from several different areas around Melbourne, as far as 50 miles away. As well as our regular meeting, the local members meet on the "off" fortnights, and those who don't work during the day often get together on a casual basis as well.

In May we have a dinner meeting, when we begin earlier than usual, order in and sew all night, until we can't see well enough to do any more. This is always a lot of fun.

Each August we go on a quilt retreat, where we spend a weekend sewing, and doing a lot of talking and laughing. We chose August as it is our coldest month and perfect for hibernating with friends and the sewing machine. We don't travel very far, having found a lovely venue just 15 minutes drive away. We arrive any time during Friday afternoon, set up our sewing machines and begin. On the Friday night, we have a social evening, with a theme (and it is always a silly one). Last year we all wore tiaras (as we decided that we are all princesses at heart and should be allowed to show it) and dressed in our "best 2nd hand shop" formal attire. We had a trivia quiz – all about craft, of course, with prizes and give aways for all. It was very silly, but a lot of fun. This year the theme will be "Red", where again, the most outrageous outfit will win the prize. On Saturday, it is down to business in a serious way. Everyone has their own project, and sets to work, only breaking for meals. Again, not everyone does patchwork all the time. We take other things as well, so that if inspiration fails us, we can have a break and recharge the batteries before going back to work. We are fed very well by the staff at the venue, and with no chores to be done, a lot can be achieved in the 2 days.

I hope you all have a lovely summer holiday period, and wish you all "Happy Sewing,"

Regards, Rae

GREETINGS FROM ALASKA



Greetings from Alaska! As I write this bit for the newsletter, it is mostly sunny, 61° and there are a few

clouds clinging to the tops of the mountains that surround our valley (the mountain heights range from 3,700-7,000 ft). We sit around 180' above sea level, 10 miles from the mouth of Cook Inlet, and 40 miles north of Anchorage, the largest city. We have two glaciers nearby and rivers running off them, with very cold water.

Summer in Alaska is pretty, but short. The leaves usually bud around the middle to end of May, with planting taking place no sooner than Memorial Day weekend due to the chance for late frost. This year has been a bit cooler and cloudy, so our gardens and crops are off to a slow start. Late July & August become more cloudy and rainy, with the first frost by usually the middle to end of September and often some snow by Halloween.

The city I live in is pretty small, about 5,000 people, but there are around 70,000 in the surrounding area. We have 2 quilt stores within 2 blocks of my office, but the store I prefer is 10 miles away in the next town over. Alaska has a ton of very talented quilters, teachers, & a few nationally known authors/quilters.

Like most of us, I don't spend as much time quilting as I would like. My goal for this year is to take more classes and improve my skills. Working full-time doesn't allow for as many classes since most here are during the week. This spring my mom and I took a Surprise class at our favorite shop. We showed up at 10 a.m., sewing machines and basic necessities in hand, and had no idea what we were in for. Once the class started everyone drew a packet of fabric from a basket and awaited our first instruction. We ended the day with a completed table runner, from a kit containing 1 charm pack, a piece of batting, and backing. It was so much fun the shop owner has decided to continue the Surprise classes each season. We've signed up for the next one in July and again, have no idea what we'll be making.

~ Message from guild member Susan B.~

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Jul. 11-12. Millennium Quilters Quilt Show will be held in conjunction with the Bridgeport Benedum Festival. Bridgeport High School, 515 Johnson Ave., Bridgeport WV 26330, Door entry fee: \$5.00, 75+ quilts. Will include vendors, door prizes, raffle quilt, Hoffman Challenge Exhibit, and demonstrations.

www.millenniumquilters.com.

Jul. 12. New Deal Festival commemorating Arthurdale. "The quaint 1930s style festival features crafters, demonstrators, quilt show, home-cooked food, antique cars and tractors, traditional music, hay rides, and pedal tractor pulls. Visit the working forge, ESSO service station, museum, and family homestead."

Jul. 17 - 19, 2008. West Virginia Quilters, Inc. will be sponsoring their 6th biennial quilt show, "WEST VIRGINIA WILD AND WONDERFUL" (9-6 PM) at The Waterfront Place Hotel in Morgantown. In addition to all the quilts made by quilters around the state, this year they'll be featuring the special traveling quilt exhibit: Alzheimer's: Forgetting Piece by Piece (sponsored by the Law Office of Julie Gower Romain).



Jul. 26-27. Summer Sidewalk Event. The yearly event, sponsored by Quilters Corner of Finleyville, takes place Saturday (10-5pm) and Sunday (12 noon—4 p.m.). (See full description in column to the right.)

Aug. 1-2. End of Summer Shop Hop. Shops included are: Pieces of the Past Quilt Shop Harrisville, WV; Parkersburg Sewing Center; Neff's Country Loft, Belpre, OH; Woolen Willow, Williamstown, WV; Quilters' Corner, Marietta OH (740) 373-6150 (moving, call for new directions) and Sew Happy Quilting, Little Hocking, OH. Shop Hop hours are 9am-6pm.

Aug. 1-3. Art From The Heart IV, the Quilt Company East biennial show, will be held at the Community College of Allegheny County — Boyce Campus in Monroeville. As always, the show will offer spectacular quilts to see, demonstrations, raffles, door prizes and classes led by amazing instructors. www.quiltcoeast.org

Show hours are: Fri./Sat., Aug. 1-2 (10-5 p.m.); Sun., Aug. 3 (1-3 p.m.)

Classes are offered during the show. Class fees vary for each class offered, and are open to all quilters. Please check the web site for the most recent class information. Marilyn Doheny, from Washington State, is the featured quilt teacher.

Sept. 1-30. Quilts: Past Present & Future. This is a month-long celebration of the artistic and cultural significance of quilts in our lives, honoring the traditional, historic, and contemporary art quilts. Exhibits and special programs showcasing the full gamut of quilting traditions and styles will be offered in Staunton, Waynesboro, Harrisonburg, Dayton, and Augusta County. Join the celebration with quilting bees, gallery walks, quilt appraisals, and "Quilters" the musical. Check the web site (www.staunton.va.us), and do a search for "Quilts: Past Present & Future." You can also contact the Staunton Convention Center & Visitor's Bureau at 540-332-3865, 116 West Beverley Street, Staunton, VA, 24001. It's too late to register for the 2-day conference, but there are still plenty of quilts to see in numerous locations in the area.

Sept. 4-7. Pennsylvania National Quilt Extravaganza — Expo Hall of Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, PA. www.quiltfest.com

Oct. 1-4. Mystery Harvest Quilt Shop Hop. Come join a fun filled adventure as you travel through the states of Ohio, West Virginia, and Kentucky. This 4-day event is filled with activities including a scavenger hunt, fun and prizes. Make a beautiful sampler quilt, with exclusively designed fabric, unique kits and patterns. Shop Hop Hours, 9am-7pm. Visit the WV Quilters web site for more details and a listing of participating shops.

QUILTERS CORNER

Summer Sidewalk Event

Saturday, July 26 ~ 10:00am – 5:00pm
and Sunday, July 27 ~ 12:00pm – 4:00pm

This yearly event continues to be a guest favorite, and if you haven't been, you need to go!

Visit their sidewalk and parking lot to be part of a giant quilter's flea market.

From their website: "We spend months preparing fabrics (in backing size cuts at unbelievable prices), books, patterns, magazines and models for sale. Many of the pieces are items that have overstayed their welcome in the shop and others are gently used items from our collections – such as the patterns and books we have used to create shop models. The biggest hits by far are the special gift baskets put together for the event – ranging in price from \$7.95 to \$17.95 – they're a treat you won't be able to pass up!" See you there!

SEW INN

Christmas in July

Classes to be announced soon ... along with the introduction of the new "top of the line"! Remember too that previously-loved machines are also available! Don't wait too long! And don't forget the "end of bolt" sale celebrated during the last two days of the month. GREAT savings can be yours. ...

APOLOGIES

Our apologies to anyone who didn't get a newsletter last month. We had technical difficulties with incompatible software programs that delayed production. We're sorry!

August newsletter info
should be sent to Monica
by August 1