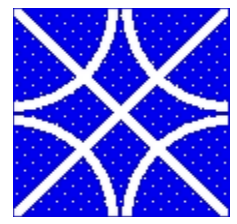


The Postage Stamp



Country Roads Quilt Guild

www.geocities.com/countryroadsquiltguild/

April 2006

Terry's Tidbits

November 13, 1986 – it was a dark and gloomy night (okay, it wasn't really gloomy). It was the first time I attended a Country Roads Quilt Guild meeting. I was a young mom of two little girls and had never quilted a stitch. I grew up loving Grandma's bright and beautiful quilts and now it was time for me to become a quilter. I had tried many other types of needlework, but once I started quilting I never looked back. My first quilted items were my guild nametag and a guild challenge. I've managed to avoid being president for almost 20 years, so I guess it's my turn! I've made good friends through the guild and I'd like to thank all the past and present members who have and continue to inspire me as I pursue what has become a real passion in my life.

After spending about 15 years trying to perfect quilting techniques so I could execute others' patterns I started creating some original designs. A dream came true this year with the release of my first commercial quilt pattern. It's been a great experience collaborating with Ami Simms. Her mother recently moved from Ami's home into an Alzheimer's care center and since then Ami has started the "Priority: Alzheimer's Quilt Initiative" to raise money for research. She is inviting quilters to donate small quilts to be auctioned off on her website. The April 1st auction will include quilts made by Lisa and myself. Others in our guild are thinking about participating too. It's lots of fun making a tiny quilt for a good cause. Contact me or check

out Ami's site for details (amisimms.com).

We're planning lots of fun this year (like a Retreat and Phat Sisters) and we could use your help! Please think about which committees you'd like to help – there will be another opportunity to sign up at our next meeting. And, if you haven't filled out a program survey yet you can do that too – we'd like your input! Thanks to Susan, Janet & Lu-Ann for providing refreshments at our last meeting.

Our National Quilting Day event at the mall was fun. It was a relaxing day of sewing and getting to know each other better. Thanks to Linda for organizing it. We enjoyed the day so much we may do something similar more often. We'll discuss ideas for other fun Sewing Saturdays at the meeting. Thanks also to Carol for orchestrating another visit by Patricia Knoechel – she's terrific!

Our April meeting is our Challenge quilt show. It's always great fun to see how we each create such different and wonderful quilts from the same set of guidelines. A big thanks to Susan, Vicki, Jane & Carolyn for organizing this year's challenge. And thanks to our members who participate. I can't wait!!! Enjoy reading the rest of the newsletter and then get to work on finishing your challenge!

Terry

Next meeting:

When?

April 13 @ 6:30 p.m.

Where?

Mountaineer Mall
Community Room

Hostesses:

Lillian and Linda

What?

2006 Challenge

Time is up! The challenges are due this month. Please cover the label so we cannot see your name for the judging and place your challenge in a bag so that others can't see it until the unveiling.

If you are a beginner (have only quilted for the last 2 years) please mark the outside of your bag "BEGINNER." Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place as well as 1st place Beginner.

The committee would like to thank everyone participating in this year's "Whatever Suits Your Fancy Challenge."

Carolyn, Jane, Susan & Vicki

What's Happening

Four of our members were seen at the recent West Virginia Quilters, Inc. meeting in Glenville: Judy, Ruth Ann, Vicki, and Carolyn. (One of them returned home with a door prize and another with a raffle prize! Ah, the luck of the draw!)

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Are you an artist?

Read the following before you answer!

"He who works with his hands is a laborer, he who works with his hands and his head is a craftsman, he who works with his hands, his head and his heart is an artist."

(St. Francis of Assisi, or Louis Nizer)

Monthly Mini Schedule

April—Melissa
May—Karen

Last month's winner:

Melissa

Mini made by: Lisa

March Minutes by Sarah

The March 9th meeting of the CRQG was called to order by our new President, Terry, in the Community Room of the Mountaineer Mall. The February Minutes and Treasurer's Report were approved and seconded.

A *Get Well* card for Jan was passed around. She is doing well after her surgery.

Also circulated was a sign-up for the next year's Committees: Challenge, Community Service, Holiday Party, National Quilt Day, Newsletter, Publicity, and Quilt Show. There is a new Retreat committee this year: Judy, Carol, and Beth are already heading up the committee.

Terry presented a Thank You gift to outgoing President, Carol, "Who stepped up to bat when no one else did." The gift was a well-received Shelley Marshall teacup.

Linda J reported on National Quilting Day. She has put an announcement in the Dominion Post inviting the public to come in to see us working on our projects. Any guild member is welcomed to demonstrate their skills or just show up to have fun.

Carol spoke about Patricia Knoechel's upcoming visit on March 28th for the afternoon and evening programs. This will be free for members. All we need to bring are the refreshments. Let Carol know what you will bring. Patricia will be talking about the newest of Eleanor Burns' books that is coming out soon. Several members commented on what to expect: *A hoot!...Awesome...A lot of fun...FREE.* Carol asked for gift ideas for Patricia who

does not charge us for her time.

Joan reminded us that we need a Sign-up for the year's refreshments. [A necessity for every meeting.]

Lisa is collecting Program ideas and surveys regarding your input for the coming year.

Susan put out a last notice for the Challenge quilts which will be displayed and voted on at the April meeting. They must be quilted and bound with a nametag attached to be considered finished. Kudos to Susan and Lillian and any others who have theirs already completed.

Judy updated us on possibilities and prices for a Quilting Retreat. Jackson's Mill is well set up for a retreat and has a list of instructors and classes. Judy wants to know what people are interested in, the timeframe, and instructors available.

Sue talked of Ian Stroop's impending surgery in Philadelphia. The raffle quilt brought in over \$2,000 and the benefit over \$8,000.

Carolyn announced that the WV State Guild is looking for board members of geographic diversity and is hoping to find someone from our area willing to serve. The next meeting is on April 1st at the new Senior Center in Glenville.

Under new business, Debbie brought up the new "Phat Sisters" idea. She made applications available to those who were interested. Parameters were discussed. We will be drawing names in the next few

weeks. During the discussion, Terry mentioned the *Silver Rule*, which is, "Do unto others as they would like done unto them." Therefore, the *Phat Sisters* is the perfect opportunity to get to know someone new. Monica, *aka* the Mystery Mailer, mentioned ways to remain anonymous.

Terry passed around Guild Surveys to find out what members are interested in.

Melissa presented and passed out the proposed budget as prepared by Sue. After a line-by-line inspection, the new budget was approved for the coming year. The main differences were the *Programs/Speakers* category from the last year split into a *Workshops* category and a separate *Programs* category. Also, funds were designated for the much anticipated Guild Retreat. The new budget was approved.

Lillian mentioned the annual Fabric Fair slated for April 1 at the Home Ec Center in South Park with proceeds going to the Salvation Army. Cheap fabric and books!—Who can beat that?

Melissa won the monthly mini, which was described as, "A sweet doll made by Lisa."

During *Show and Tell*, Hope displayed teapot fabric for making minis as part of a fundraiser for the Shelley Marshall Foundation. The meeting concluded with a Yard Sale and refreshments.

Treasurer's Report by Melissa

BEGINNING BALANCE.....	\$2,733.08
<u>Income:</u>	
No name tag.....	3.30
Monthly mini.....	20.00
Dues.....	575.00
Interest.....	.11
	598.41
<u>Expenses:</u>	
Terry-president gift.....	38.69
Terry-copies.....	3.71
Lisa-copies.....	7.64
Judy—newsletter.....	49.02
Mountaineer Mall.....	25.00
	124.06
ENDING BALANCE.....	\$3,207.43

Please pay your dues!

Dues are due! Please get \$15 to Melissa by the April meeting. If you mail her a check, please include the following: name, address, phone number(s), birthday and e-mail address. If over age 65, dues are free, but please send the info to be included in our newsletter mailings and directory. Thanks!

Challenge reminder!

- (1) Cover your name on the quilt label;
- (2) bring in a bag—marked if you're a beginner;
- and (3) take it to the back room.

Phat Sisters ... April meeting deadline

If you'd like to participate in our new Phat Sisters activity, you'll need to fill out a questionnaire so your "sister" will know your favorite colors, etc.

If you're going to miss our April meeting, and you didn't fill out a questionnaire in March, please contact Terry or Debbie BEFORE the April meeting so we can fill out a form for you so you'll be in on the name drawing. If you want to participate, you must do SOMETHING for your sister at least six times during the next year. You don't have to make six purchases; you could mail a note or clipping from a magazine or newspaper you think your "sister" might like. If you want to anonymously mail something, you can use Terry's address for the return address (address in Guild directory).

You can also bring things to meetings, and we will try to find ways to deliver them without identifying ourselves. One more rule – you MUST keep it a secret until we reveal ourselves next spring!

Here's what we need to know:

Name; Address; Birthday; Anniversary; Favorite Pattern; Favorite Colors; Favorite Quilt Shop; Biggest Challenge.

Are you a beginner? Intermediate? or Advanced quilter?

Anything else you'd like to tell your Phat Sister?

Get that information in! Again, we need to know PRIOR to the April meeting when we'll be drawing names! Don't miss out on all the fun!

Terry's Tips on making photo transfers

I use 200-thread count white muslin (available from Keepsake Quilting). You might try the unbleached version of this fabric with antique photos. Prewash, without fabric softener. I've had good experience dealing with Tanya at Next Print in the Sellaro Plaza (near where Collins Ferry Rd joins University Ave, a few doors down from The Asian Garden). I take the photo and my fabric (cut a little larger than the picture for seam allowances) to Tanya and she will scan the photo and print the image onto a transfer sheet that she then transfers

onto the fabric with her heat press. The image is then permanent and washable and no harm is done to the photograph. After scanning the photo she can also touch up imperfections and/or resize the image before transferring to your fabric.

And, don't forget about Terry's new pattern! She'll be teaching "What's in YOUR Cup?" on May 9 at Sew Chic in Fairmont. ... *Remember ... we knew her when.* Register soon!



A special "thank-you" from our outgoing president

Dear Country Roads Members,

I want to thank you so much for the Shelley Marshall teacup you presented me last month. I decided to take you up on exchanging it for the 2005 cup when it comes in. For when I grow OLDER (and wear purple!), I will be able to look (not necessarily see!) the years that I served as President! I truly love both teacups (the one from

last year plus this one) and will treasure them always.

The two years have been great, but I have all of you to thank for that! It takes a great board, and cooperative members to make it all work. Again THANK all of **YOU** for all your contributions making the duration of Presidency very enjoyable!

Keep on stitching!! Carol

What's Happening con't

Debbie went to Berlin, Ohio, last weekend where she attended an Amish quilt show. While in the area, she also visited several quilt shops.

Many of our members participated in the 10th anniversary retreat at Jackson's Mill. Gitta, Deloris, Chris, Sandy, Linda F, and Susan H all took advantage of this wonderful "weekend" opportunity. Susan took a class in basic hand quilting and, in a short pre-class session, not only discovered what a "rucksack" was, but made one ... complete with two Ohio Stars as decoration! Linda took "Jacobean Appliqué"; Sandy took Martha Offutt's dimensional embroidery; and Deloris and Gitta took Lone Star Log Cabin.

Deloris and Debbie are making quilts from Jinny Beyer's Around the World pattern (featured at Sew Chic)!

Linda R will once again be teaching at the summer quilting retreat in Hillsboro that runs from Thurs.-Sat. (the first week in August), and Linda's one-day class will be taught on Friday. She'll be teaching her reversible table runner, and she may even have a class scheduled here locally! Watch for details at the Sew Inn!

Gitta and Judy took advantage of last months' UFO Night (and day) at the Sew Inn. This is a wonderful opportunity to take your unfinished projects into the Sew Inn and do your quilting where a capable staff can lend you their assistance and advice. Judy purchased the fabric for several new sets of pillow cases and even completed two!

Next UFO Night (and day) at the Sew Inn on Friday, April 14!

Next month's meeting features Mary Beth Harnett, owner of Quilters Corner
Topic: History of Quilting

Next month, get your May newsletter info to Linda F by April 28!

QUESTION: Do you know Eleanor Burns' greatest asset?

Many of us would agree that it's younger sister ... Patricia Knoechal!

Again this year, everyone was thrilled by the **Patricia Knoechal Show(s)** where we all had first-hand view of the quilts from the new *Quilt in a Day* book: Quilts Through the Seasons.

Fourteen of those in attendance placed advance orders, although NOT TO WORRY ...books WILL be available later from your local quilt shops.

In fact, many of the popular Eleanor Burns' books were on display, including: It's 'El'ementary: Quilting Tips and Techniques and, of course, all of the companion products that make a "quilt in a day" possible!

If you didn't make it to one of the two shows, you missed out ... BIG TIME! There were 56 in attendance at the afternoon show and 43 in the evening. Of the 99 who attended, 36 were guild members!

Hopefully, we can look forward to another visit next year. You should definitely plan to attend! But, if you just can't wait, go to the Quilt In A Day web site (www.quiltinaday.com). You'll see many of the quilts that we all saw in person, and you'll also see "Yours Truly" ... *the new fabric line offered through Quilt in a Day*.

Ah, Pink Lemonade ... I'd like to make myself one. ... How about you? (*Photograph available on the Quilt in a Day web site.*)

Happy Birthday!



4/06 Carolyn R
4/11 Joan
4/12 Lillian
4/18 Rhonda
4/28 Linda R
5/09 Jane B

The Merry Quilter

Have you ever reached the last blocks of your quilt and found yourself short of fabric? If you know the name of that fabric ... help is only a keystroke away! (www.quiltshops.com/index.html)

I recently purchased a 1/2 yd piece from The Merry Quilter. My little package arrived in a 9x12 envelope, but inside that envelope was a pretty gold and mauve colored tissue-wrapped package with a large golden seal ... and a single serving of Almond Amaretto coffee. All this for a \$3.61 order (including shipping)! If mail order can have a *personal* touch, this one did. I sent a note of thanks. A reply from the owner said although she didn't get to greet her customers in person, this was the best way to buy a great customer a coffee and that "no order is too small to appreciate it." Pamper yourself with The Merry Quilter (www.themerryquilter.com/). You'll be MORE than pleased.

Sew Chic News

Remodeling Sale April 17-22 (10-40% discount on Fabrics—Notions—Books)

Video Quilt Classes?

We used to have a guild library of books for members, but we closed it several years ago when the books became too cumbersome to bring to meetings and weren't being used. But, maybe it's time to think about how modern technology can change our idea of a lending library. There are "Quilt Classes" available on VHS videotapes and DVDs (and they're a lot lighter than books)! They're tempting to buy, but you'd probably only watch them a time or two. But the idea of the group buying them for everyone to share sounds smart. Think about the idea, and we'll discuss later.

Retreat Committee

The Retreat Committee wants your input. And, at Tuesday evening's Quilt in a Day program, someone suggested "Pink Lemonade."

Do let us know what you think! Remember ... this is a joint venture! Twenty two of you signed the sheet that was circulated at the last meeting indicating your interest. Another two have since included their names. Let Judy, Carol, or Beth know if you're interested. ...

Podcasts

Alex Anderson is now creating "podcasts" which are available on her website. Podcasts are like radio shows you can listen to on your computer or download to listen to later. Alex shares her thoughts on the cancellation of Simply Quilts on the first podcast, and there are nine installments so far. There's a link on our website (www.geocities.com/countryroadsquiltguild)! Check it out and let us know what you think!

SHOWS and OTHER HAPPENINGS!

April 6-9—Quilters Heritage Celebration, Lancaster (www.AmericanQuilter.com)

April 7-8—Jackson County CEOS 30th Annual Quilt Show and Sale (Epworth United Methodist Church, Ripley, WV) (Free demonstrations both days)

April 13—Challenge Quilt Show (hostesses: Linda and Lillian)

April 21-23—2006 Three Rivers Quilt Festival at Castle Shannon Fire Hall

November 3-5—West Virginia Quilters, Inc. 5th Biennial Quilt Festival: *Christmas in the Mountains* at the Tamarack Conference Center in Beckley. Judged quilt show and workshops, merchant mall, little quilt auction, and more. Featured lecturer Scott Murkin. Workshops with Linda Cantrell, Ann Kessel, Fran Kordek, Judy Lilly, and Barbara Sawyer. Check the WV Quilters web site (www.wvquilters.org) See, too, about joining ... it will put you in touch with quilters throughout the state!