



Bits & Pieces

June 2007

Jeri Taylor, Editor

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GUILD GLIMMERS

Quilters have to get extremely close to Sally Collins' quilts to see the details. Or even, sometimes, to see the quilt squares themselves! Sally Collins is widely known for her miniature quilts, although she makes quilts of all sizes. On May 18th the Guild was privileged to have Sally speak on the topic of quality workmanship. She possesses this skill to an extreme degree, because in her small quilts any tiny error is magnified. Many discovered this fact in her Wednesday and Thursday class on precision piecing.

To Sally Collins, quality workmanship means performing each part of the quilt-making process one step at a time. This calls for focus — focusing on the project at hand — and determination — keeping at it until you get it right.

Sally broke "quality workmanship" into four areas. The first is high intention. We must be very motivated to do what we set out to do, or we simply will not do a good job. The second item is that we need sincere effort in our work. We must be willing to spend the time necessary to do the job right. Our attitude plays a big part here!

Third is intelligent direction. Take classes, gain knowledge. And — surprise — we are actually supposed to read the quilting books we buy!

Fourth is skillful execution, which we know takes practice, and correcting our mistakes as we go. Sally says, "Sew, critique, correct, sew, critique, correct, etc." She told us that good sewing is more about getting out of trouble than sewing perfectly. The secret is to correct as we go, rather than at the end.

At the conclusion of her talk, Sally answered questions, then graciously permitted us to closely examine and touch her miniature masterpieces.

Jan Carter



JUNE QOV WORKSHOP

JUNE 15
10:00—4:00
UPSTAIRS AT GA

Please join us for a most important workshop — making Quilts of Valor for those members of the armed forces who have been wounded in Iraq. The workshop will be held upstairs at Gualala Arts and there will be people to help carry your sewing machines up the stairs.

If you can't come for the whole day, come for any part of it that you can. Our wonderful hospitality committee will be providing lunch!

There are lots of jobs that need to be done, so whatever your quilting skills are there is a job for you. If you are already working on a QOV please bring it along to work on or get help if you need it.

This is such a worthy cause. Let's turn out in big numbers to show our gratitude for those brave people who have sacrificed so much!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Quilts of Valor web site is connected to our Pacific Piecemakers site. Besides getting QOV information, you will also see pictures of the soldiers receiving their quilts.

There are several ways to complete your QOV quilt:

1. Sharon Malachowski has agreed to do one quilt a month for us. You can call her and see how many quilts she has lined up to do and if she can do yours. She also knows other long arm quilters that may help out as well. So give a call.

2. You can work through the QOV website and make your own connections with them. Working on your own, you should make faster and more personal connections.

3. You can bring your quilt and backing to the Guild meeting and I will be happy to make connections with the QOV web site. This plan will take longer and that is why I have given you other options.

4. You can complete the entire quilt yourself. Some ladies wish to do it that way and that is great. Please check the QOV site for information on labels and other interesting things that can be included with your quilt if you wish.

In all four options, you will most likely have to do the binding.

WHAT DO I DO...?

Janet Sears and Mary Austin will teach "What Do I Do Now That I Have All These Blocks?" Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room at Gualala Arts.

June 7: Arranging your blocks: straight, on point, sashing, borders, determining the finished size of your quilt.

June 14: How to "sandwich:" kinds of batting, backing (whole or pieced), layering (pinning or basting).

June 21: Preparing to quilt: hand or machine quilting, choosing a design, marking the quilt for quilting.

June 28: Squaring the Quilt: blocking, binding, mitered corners, sleeves and labels.

No need to bring sewing machines, just your questions! Cost for the class is \$40 for members of both PPQG and GA, or \$60 if you're a member of either PPQG or GA. You can audit one class for \$10.

CHALLENGE QUILT NEWS

The 2007 challenge, "Flights of Fantasy," opens at the Gualala Arts Center on June 9 from 5:00 to 7:00 with a gala reception. Come to see wonderful quilts created by vivid imaginations using a pre-selected fabric. How can these quilters use this ORANGE flowered fabric???? Imagine all the possible ways quilters can disguise/hide or openly use orange mums.

At 6:00 during the reception, attendees will be invited to the library where Anna Hines, 2008 Challenge Chairman, will announce the theme for next year's Challenge which will be held in March.

Join us for our annual Challenge celebration!

Carol and Polly
2007 Challenge Chairwomen

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Patricia Sagan	3
Ellen Soule	3
Paula Osborne	9
Trudy Armer	10
Jackie Gardener	11
Jo Dillon	16
Judith Jones	20
Bev Sloane	21
Marg Tarp	22
Gail Spencer	27
Jeri Taylor	30

BLOCK OF THE MONTH

Why not make a square — or three or four — for the block of the month. The pattern for the Drunkard's Path block is available on the website or from Renata Lopez or Janet Sears. Dig out those batik scraps in blue/violet/rose and some white fabrics and have fun. Four 6-inch blocks make a complete 12 inch square, but you may make as many 6 inch blocks as you like. Don't bother to sew them together — the winner will decide how to assemble them. You have one chance of winning for each 6 inch block you turn in by the June meeting. Questions? Contact Janet or Renata



THE LIBRARY CORNER

We have added Sally Collins' book, *Bindings and Edges: The Art of Finishing Your Quilt*, to our library. It has lots of suggestions for adding interesting and well constructed borders and finishes.

Another library addition, for those who aren't sure where just exactly a book goes, is a new shelf for returning books. If you understand the Dewey Decimal system, then go ahead and reshelve, but if you have doubts, leave the book on the return shelf and a volunteer will pit it in its place.

I'd also like to remind everyone to please include those call numbers and letters from the spine of the book when you sign it out. It really helps those of us who are trying to keep track of what's in and what's out.

Thanks — and do check out those great books!

Anna Hines

FROM HOSPITALITY

In June we are having a special workshop for a good cause — the QOV workshop on the 15th — so we will be offering soup, salad, and bread to those who come and participate. On the list to bring cookies for June are Katherine Gyfori, Elaine Reed, and Polly Dakin. If you have found that you won't be there or can't bring some goodies, please let us know. If anyone else wants to bring goodies we will not begrudge your doing so, but let us know.

Thank you all! Laura, Joyce, and Lola

CALLING ALL QUILTS!

Do you have a quilt you're not using right now? Lynne and Kathy would like to borrow it for a few weeks to decorate the GA auditorium during the production of "The Diary of Anne Frank." It can be any size. The quilts not only beautify the auditorium, they really help in enhancing the sound quality of the show.

If you can help, please drop your quilt at the GA office no later than June 13. We will be taking the quilts down on June 26. If your quilt doesn't have a label, please pin your name and phone number on the back.

Thank you so much — and be sure to see the show!