

# Sunflower Piecemakers Newsletter



Volume 20, Number Three

March 2009

Ottawa, Kansas

**Our March meeting will be held Monday, March 16th at  
7:00 pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 13th & Maple, Ottawa  
Wear Your Name Tag - There Will Be Prizes!**

## Letter from the President

Well, we had another good program in February! Thanks, Peggy! It was so much fun to see your collection. I hope that more of you will agree to share your quilts as well. If you would be willing to present a program, please contact Celia Davis.

It was also wonderful to see the 2010 Opportunity Quilt during show and tell. Joyce certainly did a wonderful job on the appliqué. I think Chris Campbell's idea to hand quilt it is a wonderful one and it is so nice of her to volunteer to quilt some of it. If everyone who hand quilts takes a turn we could spread the work around nicely. Any of you who would be interested in taking a turn please contact Kathy Dionne so she can organize the effort.

I recently visited the display at the Old Depot Museum's Exhibit, "Kansas Comforts – Keeping Warm in the Winter". As you know, they are displaying some wonderful old quilts and textiles and I would encourage you all to check it out. The display will be up through the first week of April, so you still have time.



See you at the March meeting!  
Melanie

"Besides the noble art of getting things done, there is the noble art of leaving things undone. The wisdom of life consists in the elimination of non-essentials."

**Lin Yutang**

## March Program

Our March program will be presented by Ferrol Lattin, who will be showing & discussing "Signature & Friendship Quilts." These types of quilts are truly treasures, whether given or received. This should be a most interesting presentation!

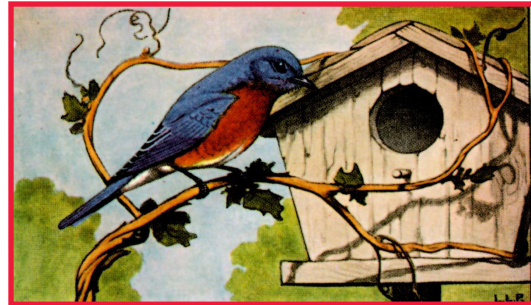
# Minutes of the Sunflower Piecemakers Meeting February 16, 2009

President Melaine Brundardt called the meeting to order on February 16, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. with 50 members present.

There was a correction to the January minutes to add Katie Ecroyd to the show and tell list for her hand-quilted wall hanging. Mary Schleicher moved and Sandy Longren seconded to approve the corrected minutes. Motion passed.

There were three guests introduced. Terri Powers was at the back table to take dues and distribute new membership cards. Mary Schleicher won the drawing for wearing her name tag. Those members present with February birthdays answered the question "Do you have any quilting resolutions?"

**Treasurer's Report:** Terri Powers  
Previous Balance           **\$2,203.52**  
Deposits                    1,489.00  
Checks                      278.45  
Ending Balance           **\$3,414.07**



## Announcements:

Celia Davis explained the block of the month for next month: a split nine patch, and announced that Ferrol Lattin will present a program on signature and friendship quilts at the March meeting.

Reeze Hansen's show at Haskell runs thru Friday and those who have been able to attend were very impressed with it.

## Committee Reports:

Mary Schleicher reported that there is a committee report in the January newsletter from the Quilt Show committee.

Mary Redeker reported that the quilt show at the Ottawa Public Library has been very well received and brought newspaper articles to share. She provided sign up sheets for anyone willing to display a quilt for the month of March or do a program at the library. Quilts for display in March should be dropped off at the reference desk during the last week of February and the February displays should be picked up the first week of March. Brenda Weien reminded that the Home & Garden Show is March 6 & 7 and she passed around sign-up sheets for it.

Kathy Dionne reported that Joyce McKenzie has completed the appliqué on the new Opportunity Quilt and she is starting the embroidery.

There was no new business, and meeting adjourned to show and tell.

## Show and Tell:

Mary Schleicher – Turning 20 quilt and Diamond in the Rough table runner, Joyce McKenzie – appliqué quilt top, Linda Hammes – Cup Cake wall hanging, Chelly King – wall hanging, Kathy Dionne – flying pinwheels baby quilt, Carol Willis – mini quilt, Florence Milliman – Roman Stripe Minis and Seeing Spots, Renita Ubel – baby quilt, Joy Basel

– Alaska Sampler quilt, Reeze Hansen – Kuboowak Wampum Belt, Michele Altendorf – three small wall hangings, Stitch & Rippers (Carol Willis, Tammy Carpenter, Florence Milliman, Shirley Hooper, Renita Ubel, Ginger Bealmer, Michele Altendorf) – row-by-row exchange quilts.

### **Program:**

Peggy Watts presented a program of some of her antique quilt collection. In addition to displaying the quilts, she gave the history of many of them and dated them.

Celia Davis won the drawing for 32 Ribbon Star blocks.

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## **Guild Challenge 2009**

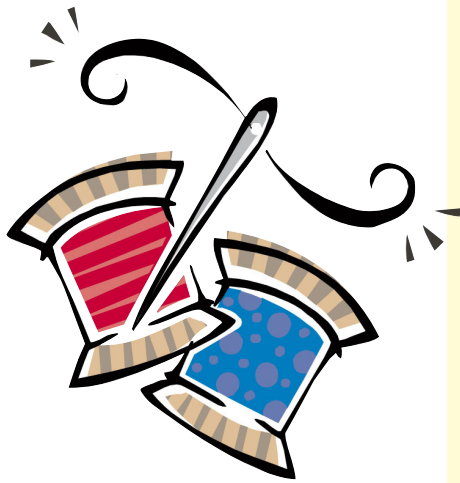
### **“Two Bits” - Our Silver Anniversary!**

Our quilt challenge for the year commemorates the 25th anniversary of the Guild. Make a quilt using 25 of something: blocks, buttons, fat quarters, colors, patterns, UFOs, beads, etc. It can be any size, but should incorporate the challenge guidelines. This should be a wonderful exhibit of our members’ creativity! We’ll show the finished projects at the June meeting, so we have an extra month to work on them. But don’t wait - that deadline will sneak up fast!

### **Hand Quilters Needed**

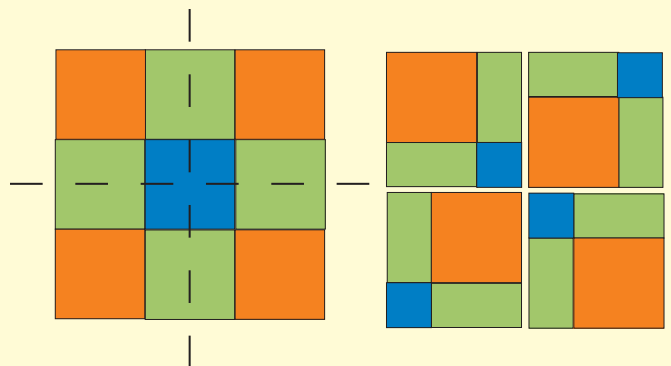
Those of you at the February meeting saw the 2010 Opportunity Quilt - it is a masterpiece! Beautifully hand-appliquéd by Joyce McKenzie, this is sure to be a crowd-pleaser. In keeping with the overall look of the quilt, it was suggested that it be hand-quilted. Chris Campbell volunteered to work on PART of it, but we will need many more hands & needles.

If you hand quilt, your skill is needed to complete this stunning quilt. This will certainly be one of our most successful Opportunities ever!



### **Block of the Month Drawing**

March’s block is “Split Nine-Patch”; directions were provided at the meeting. These are super-easy to make & very interesting-looking. Every block you bring increases your chances of winning!



### **Simple Instructions**

Make a 9-patch block using 2 1/2" squares. Assemble in the usual manner (left), then cut through the center each way. Turn segments as shown (right) & re-assemble, using 1/4" seams.

## News from Chris' Corner - 242-1922

**Chris' Corner Quilt Shop and Brenda's Machine Quilting will be CLOSED Sat., March 21**



### Classes for March & April

**STAINED GLASS APPLIQUÉ IRIS-** Daylong workshop taught by Dora Davis. Saturday, March 14, 10:00 AM. The appliqué & quilting are done at the same time, so you can have this done in plenty of time for the Mini Auction!  
\$25.00 class fee includes pattern

#### **QUILT BASICS (by popular demand!)**

Rather than doing a Beginning Quilting Class, I am offering three sessions on specific topics. Each session will be \$ 20.00 (or all three will be \$50.00 for a \$10.00 savings!) Supplies not included.

**Session # 1- Basic Rotary Cutting & Template-Free Piecing:** learn the correct and safe way to use rotary cutters and rulers as well as the basic template-free formulas for piecing  
Sat., March 28, 10:00 am

**Session # 2 - Adding Borders:** the correct way to prevent ruffled edges. Squared and mitered corners will be covered as well.  
Sat., April 4, 10:00 am

**Session# 3 - Binding Basics:** how to finish the quilt and various ways to attach binding.  
Sat., April 11, 10:00 AM Sat April 11 10:00 AM

#### **CLUB SANDWICHES TABLE RUNNER**

Daylong Workshop taught by Melanie Brungardt

Sat. April 18- 10:00 AM

Class Fee \$ 25.00 & supplies

**See Chris for additional information & class policies.  
Class space may be limited**

### March Birthdays

Donna Adell - March 4

Adria Butler - March 10

Sharon Haney - March 27

Edith Hornberger - March 22



"When you come to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on."  
**Franklin D. Roosevelt**

Since our upcoming program deals with signature quilts, I've included another piece of this quilting timeline, this part from 1800 to 1850. It's always interesting to me to find out when various blocks appeared as well as the technological advances that made cloth (for sewing of *all* sorts) more colorful & easy to acquire. Some of the popular blocks today are actually quite old - notice when the "Ocean Waves" made its appearance. I just saw it featured few months ago on a magazine cover!

**~1800** Beginning of the Pioneer Era. Nine-Patch and Grandmother's Basket (basket with no handle) appear as block patterns. Cloth panels specifically for making into quilt tops begin to be imported. Floral motifs are cut out & applied in swags, wreaths & bouquets to frame a pre-printed center medallion panel. Marseilles work, a type of loomed weaving in imitation of whitework quilting is a popular import.

**1806** Irish Chain pattern known. May be first use of block pattern as an overall design.

**1809** A successful single green dye is introduced, making the color easier & cheaper to produce. Prior to this green is made by printing blue & yellow in the same space.

**1810-1830** County Fairs begin to appear, offering prizes for needlework. Log Cabin patterns developed, first Barn Raising and then Courthouse Steps variations. The zig-zag Streak of Lightning pattern appears. Quilting is done in flower, heart & quatrefoil designs.

**1812** Second War of Independence. Patriotic themes increase.

**1814** The power loom is installed in Waltham, MA. First American factory production of cloth & thread begins.

**1815** Eight-pointed Star, Ohio Star & Hour-glass patterns are in use.

**~1820** The quilting bee is "an established tradition". Quilting is introduced to Hawaii by missionaries. The pieced patterns Irish Chain, Double Irish Chain, Clamshell & Thousand Pyramids are known.

**~1830** Permanent ink makes signature quilts more popular. Appearance of Feathered Star, and Nine-Patch-Wild-Goose variation. Lone Star (Star of Bethlehem, Rising Sun) patterns known. Godey's Lady's Book introduced, with regular needlework & quilting sections. American mills are producing cotton calicos.

**1800-1840** Increase in use of block patterns rather than whole-cloth quilts, although whole-cloth is still more fashionable. Sashing comes into use to frame individual blocks. Patchwork blocks are both portable & frugal uses for scraps, and may have become popular among pioneer women as a result.

**1833** Chips & Whetstones (aka Mariner's Compass) appears. Colorful, bright & flamboyant chintz is popular.

**1834-1859** Applique album samplers popular, using applique in borders and consisting of individual blocks made in patterns of flowers and leaves. Often referred to as the "Baltimore Album" style, these quilts are found from New York to Virginia. Patterns are created from folded paper. Dresden Plate pattern known. Development of Lemoyne Star, Texas Star & Blazing Star variations. Manufactured blankets & bed coverings are competing with home-made quilts.

**1835** Quilts made in blue & white become common. Bay Leaf, Magnolia & appliqué patterns known. Appearance of hexagon Honeycomb patchwork (aka Grandmother's Flower Garden).

**1837** Carolina Lily pattern known. Stenciled names, dates, flowers, birds & other motifs appear on quilts, mirroring the practice of interior decorating.

**~1840** Fox & Geese, Garden Maze & Orange Peel patterns known. Red, green & white become a popular combination of colors for quilting; red & green are more available in solids. Fringe is used on bindings. Inscriptions are quilted, applied & worked in trapunto.

**1842-1843** Oak Leaf & Reel, Wild Goose Chase/Goose in the Pond, Crosses and Losses/Fox and Geese, Feathered Star, Ocean Waves & several variations of Chips and Whetstones appear in a sampler quilt with pinwheels, album patches & 8-pointed stars. Piecework starts to become unfashionable.

**1845** Roller printing technology used in America. Introduction of permanent inks makes signature friendship quilts popular in following years.

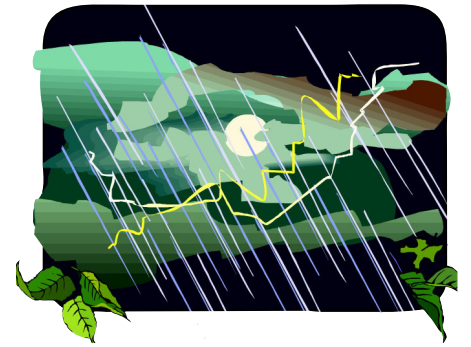
**1846** First commercial quilt batting is produced. Princess Feather applique pattern known.

**1850** First "cheater cloth" available on the American market. Whig Rose appliqué pattern is known. Pineburr & Pickle Dish pieced patterns known.

~ Indicates an approximate date

## Letter from the Editor

A few nights ago, one of the TV weather-guessers was urging viewers to update their tornado preparedness supplies & plans. Great idea! This *is* Kansas, after all, bisected by "Tornado Alley" (although not Oklahoma or Texas, the states having the most tornadoes annually in the U.S.). It just makes sense to be ready: Dorothy wasn't & look what happened to *her*.



I checked my "tornado box", which has copies of important papers, toilet paper (which is *very* important paper!), duct tape, candles, a wind-up radio & flashlight, big trashbags, extra socks, a can opener, fork, knife & aluminum foil plus a big crossword puzzle book for whiling away the time sitting in the basement.

There's also enough canned food to last until 2020 (assuming I can live on green beans & hearts of palm - what was I thinking?), plenty of water bottles & several 5-gallon plastic buckets for whatever seems necessary. Every year I think of a few more items I should add: a whistle, some rope, a first-aid kit, an extra pair of glasses, more socks. Pretty soon it'll be so big I can't carry it.

I have an emergency sewing box, too. It has the basics (thread, pins, scissors, needles, bobbins for every sewing machine I own) plus a lot of odd stuff: a cardboard rhinoceros, a broken silver ring, a Hello Kitty pencil case, some red crayons. Very important to have those things! It's easy to pick up & go if I want to go to a class or I'm planning on being stuck somewhere with nothing to do (a little hand work makes you feel like you've accomplished something!).

Maybe it would make sense to have an emergency quilting kit, too. That way I could just pick it up & start sewing, without spending time looking for all my stuff. I'd start with the basics: scissors, rotary cutter, pins, thread & whatever fabric I was using for my project. I'd need my pattern or directions (or, since it's *me*, I wouldn't be using any; therefore, double the amount of fabric), a ruler or two & a seam ripper.

But then there are the really important things: a bag of candy, a radio, a package of turkey feathers, an old eraser, a backup bag of candy, a big fat Sharpie, an old shopping list, one earring, huge handfuls of scraps (no match to the current project), some dog treats, 8-year-old packages of marigold seeds, pretzels in case I get tired of candy & the rest of the crayons. Top it all off with a couple of cats (or a pile of cat hair) & it seems like I'd be all set.

I'll be the first to admit I'm SOMEWHAT of a pack rat (my family might view it differently), but my stuff makes me happy. I like to look at it. I also know a lot of you have pictures of kids, grandkids, pets & friends in your sewing rooms. You may have some of your favorite quilting books, even though you've never made a single thing in them. Scraps? I know they're in there! A special snuggly sweater, a funny coffee mug, some cookies stashed in a drawer . . . you may have different "stuff" in your creative area, but it's still special to you.

That's what makes our work special: the differences between us, the events in our lives that have influenced us. Our (sometimes odd) possessions reinforce those memories, recalling times & occasions that are still important to us. I think of my "stuff" as a really valuable resource, letting me mix & match shapes, colors & items from all different times in my life.

Maybe I don't need an emergency quilting box. I'll just take my Johnny Depp/Captain Jack Sparrow spiral notebook, my Sharpie, my crayons, a few dogs & cats, candy (of course!) & sit downstairs, thinking creative thoughts while the wind blows. I've got lots more stuff in the basement!

Ed.

## A Few Handy Tips for Quilting

- When cutting several layers of fabric, iron them together first. They tend to stick together & not shift as much.

- Put spray adhesive on the back of paper or cardboard templates - they will stick slightly to the fabric, but are easy to reposition.
- Keep two rotary cutters on hand: one for fabric only, the other for paper, cardboard, plastic, etc. You can get more use from your not-quite-as-sharp blades in the second cutter.
- Lay out all your fabrics for an upcoming project on a bed, table or the floor (if you have room!) & leave them for several days. Seeing them in different lights & in different combinations may prompt you to change or rearrange your choices.



## Ottawa Library Quilt Display - Mary Redeker

The Sunflower Piecemakers Quilt Display is currently being featured at the Ottawa Library. The quilts are being displayed in the Reference Room as well as in the downstairs Circulation area during the months of February, March, and April.

Through February, the "Fiesta" 2009 Opportunity Quilt was displayed in the Reference Room, then moved to the Lawn & Garden Show at Municipal Auditorium the first weekend in March.

The display has caught the eye of many customers of both the library and City Hall. Comments have been very positive. Wonderful memories of family quilts are being shared with a few of the staff. Some of the comments thus far have been: "Beautiful! Looks very nice. Looks beautiful! Gorgeous! Where can we buy Opportunity quilt tickets? Are these quilts for sale? (No!) How long will the display be here? How do I get in touch with a member?"

Rosemary Honn wrote in her February 9th column "Library Line" about the Sunflower Piecemakers guild's quilt display as well as listing some non-fiction books for quilters and some fiction books with themes on quilting. Lisa Slavin, who is in charge of Adult Programming at the Ottawa Library, mentioned Reeze Hanson's upcoming classes in her article "New Face Leading Programs," Monday, February 23, 2009 in The Ottawa Herald.

The Library Quilt Display Committee wishes to thank members who displayed their quilts for the months of February and March. Reeze Hanson will display some quilts from her one-woman show in Lawrence at Haskell University during April at the library.

### Color Theory for Quilters with Reeze Hanson

Ever wonder how to select the right colors for a quilting project? Sometimes getting "this" color to make a statement with "that" color can be a challenge. Reeze Hanson will be teaching a color theory class for quilters, Monday, March 30, 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Chamber Room at City Hall, Room 104.

One may sign up for attendance at the Ottawa Library. For the \$15 class fee, each person will receive a color wheel, crayons, color handouts and fabric swatches. These items will be helpful in selecting colors for quilting projects. Those attending should bring 3-4 color pictures from magazines that appeal to them plus twelve 3-inch scraps of fabric in your favorite colors.

### Quilting on the Computer with Reeze Hanson

This class will be at the Ottawa Library, downstairs on the library computers, Monday, April 6, 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. While signing up for the class at the library is necessary, there is no class fee.

Reeze Hanson will be teaching how to lay out a quilt design and plan projects on the computer.

### See pictures from this exhibit online!

#### Sunflower Piecemakers - Ottawa, Kansas - Est. 1985

<b>President</b>	Melanie Brungardt	<b>Treasurer</b>	Terri Powers
<b>Vice-President</b>	Celia Davis	<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Kathleen Leary
<b>Secretary</b>	Gloria Musick	<b>Historian</b>	Mary Redeker

Sunflower Piecemakers meet at 7 pm on the third Monday of each month (there is no December meeting). Meetings are held in Roberts Hall at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 13th & Maple, Ottawa, KS. Memberships are \$20 & renewable every January. Guests are always welcome. For more information, write:

Sunflower Piecemakers, P.O. Box 822, Ottawa, KS 66067 or e-mail

**chriscorner@sbcglobal.net.**

Submit items for the newsletter to **leary@aceks.com** no later than the **4th** of each month.