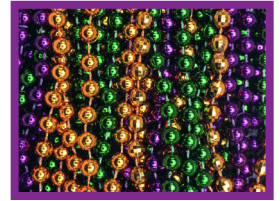




Sunflower Piecemakers Newsletter



Volume 21, Number Two

February 2010

Ottawa, Kansas

Our February meeting will be held Monday, February 15th at 7:00 pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 13th & Maple, Ottawa. Wear your nametag - there will be prizes!

Letter from the President

I hope you enjoyed last month's meeting as much as I did. Every meeting is like a shot of adrenaline for me. It reminds me of how much I like to quilt and gives me more ideas for things I can try. I'm happy knowing I will never run out of techniques or projects to do!

At this time of year a lot of us decide to clean out, organize, and rearrange our stash or our sewing area. If you end up with a pile of things you no longer want or need, consider saving them for the craft table at the quilt show. We have made a lot of money from unwanted quilt magazines, fabric scraps, and leftover blocks.

Have you been thinking about the challenge quilt like I have? I've gone online to research board games, I've been thinking about what I could do and discarding ideas that are too advanced for me. I hope you will all decide to participate in the challenge. It is a great way to stretch yourself as a quilter. You can take chances on a small quilt that you wouldn't want to take on a big project.

See you at the meeting!
Celia



February Program

Guild member Kris Peterson will be our featured speaker this month, presenting her program "Common Threads."

"One's first love is always perfect until one meets one's second love."

Elizabeth Aston

Minutes of the Sunflower Piecemakers Meeting

January 18, 2010

President Celia Davis called the meeting to order at 7 P.M. and discussed the six goals she has for the guild for this year as outlined in the January newsletter. The meeting was attended by 32 members and three guests (Verna Jones, Shirley Imai and Gwen Whitebread). Those present with January birthdays answered Celia's question, "What are your quilting goals for this year?"

The drawing for wearing your name tag was won by Florence Milliman. Reminders were to pay your dues and that it is not too late to make a block for retiring president Melanie Brungardt. Information was presented regarding the "ConKerr Cancer" pillowcase project. Celia has the quarterly magazine from the National Quilt Assn. and it is available from her as well as area guilds' newsletters.

Florence Milliman moved and Liz Smith seconded that the minutes of the November, 2009, be approved as published in the newsletter. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report by Tammy Hostetler:

Previous Balance	\$4,157.24
Deposits	398.75
Checks	-20.33
Ending Balance	\$4,535.66



Vice President's report, Michele Altendorf

Next month's program entitled "Common Thread" will be presented by Kris Peterson. Michele will not have time to continue the block of the month project. If anyone is willing to take on this project, please contact either Michele or Celia. The Quilt Challenge for guild members this year is your interpretation of "Board Games People Play" and are to be brought to share at the June meeting (held before the Quilt Show).

Quilt Show Committee report by Chairperson Mary Schleicher:

A committee meeting was held at 6 p.m. prior to the Guild meeting: the show will be June 26 and 27th at the Ottawa Middle School and will include the mini auction as before. Tickets to start selling for the Opportunity Quilt drawing will be available at the next meeting. Advertising is being placed in publications as in the past and will also be on the Web. Arrangements have been made to have the Hoffman Challenge Quilts on display during the show. There is only room for 4-5 vendors at the show, so it will probably be the same ones as before. Demonstrations taking place during the show will be work on the 2011 Opportunity Quilt and work on charity projects. Admission will remain at \$3.00.

The 2010 Opportunity Quilt is available for display if anyone has a venue for it. A committee will be set up next month for the 2011 Opportunity Quilt.

There was no Old Business.

New Business:

It was decided to participate again this year in the KOFO Home and Garden Show in March and pay the \$40.00 fee.

Florence Milliman and Brenda Weien are planning a mini-quilt workshop and will coordinate it with National Quilt Day in March.

A card was passed around for members to sign for Hank & Margaret Wilson.

Chris Campbell has information available at the shop for the "million pillowcases" project for anyone wanting to participate.

Show and Tell:

Mary Redeker: "Trees in the Forest" topper she purchased at the craft table at the last Quilt Show (Chris Campbell had donated it) then Mary quilted and bound it; Terri Powers: a 30s Dena's Wish quilt; Ginger Bealmer: New York Beauty quilt titled "Ain't Never Caught a Rabbit"; Katie Ecroyd: her first "I Spy" quilt and a Kansas quilt; Mary Schleicher: placemat set; Melanie Brungardt: 2007 Block-of-the-Month quilt project; Ginny Lancaster: K-State child's quilt; Kathleen Leary: completed quilt from the blocks she won at the November meeting; Kim Finney: Fall table runner and Thangles block-of-the-month quilt; Charlotte Rucker: two table runners and 2 Christmas gifts including a "box of chocolate covered cherries"; Liz Smith: aprons, table runners and expanded old quilt for a friend; Gloria Musick: "Victorian Cottages" queen-sized quilt.

Linda Eberhardt was the guest speaker who presented a program discussing how to overcome obstacles with humor. During her presentation she showed many quilts she had made. Florence Milliman won the drawing for a door prize Linda donated.

Meeting adjourned.

Remember - if you put up bluebird houses, mid-February is the time to do it! They'll be back looking for nesting sites right about now, so be ready for them.



Quilt Show Committee Report - Mary Schleicher

The 26th Annual Sunflower Piecemakers' Quilt Show will be held at the Ottawa Middle School gym on Saturday and Sunday, June 26 & 27, 2010, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. both days. Setup and quilt entries will begin at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday. Quilt release will be at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. The Miniature Quilt Auction will be at 3 p.m. The Opportunity Quilt Drawing will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday. Admission will remain at \$3. The 2009 Hoffman Challenge of 40 quilts will be our special exhibit.

Quilt Entry forms will be available on the website with a limited number of printed copies at the April guild meeting and Chris' Corner. Entry forms are due on or before the May meeting. Advertising of the show will be placed in area newspapers/magazines, sent to radio/tv stations and posted at online websites. Last year's vendors will again be contacted for participation. 4-H teens will set up quilt racks Friday evening, June 25.

Demonstrations during the show will include working on the 2010 Opportunity Quilt, making pillowcases for charity and making quilts for the Sheriff's dept. to distribute to children.

Opportunity Quilt tickets will be available at the February meeting. A picture of the quilt will be on our website for members to print or copy to an email. Contact information for purchasing tickets will also be posted on our website.

Memberships Due Now!

Remember to renew your membership in the guild at the meeting. Dues are \$20 & payable to the Treasurer.

Be sure to let us know when your birthday is so we can include you in the newsletter! Those of you who have web ads on our site can pay your \$12 annual fee, as well.

February Birthdays

Tammy Hostetler - February 4
Jan McConnell - February 20
Judy Meyer - February 6



"There is no pleasure in having nothing to do; the fun is in having lots to do and not doing it."
Mary Wilson Little

News from Chris' Corner - 242-1922

Winter/Spring Classes 2010

I certainly don't need to tell you that the Kansas winter to this point has been a fierce one, so let's get right to the perfect cure for bad weather and the accompanying cabin fever: quilt classes! Stop by soon to see the samples of all these great projects!

Monterrey Medallion A 3-week class taught by Melanie Brungardt. Saturdays, Feb. 13, 20 & March 6, 9:30 am - 12:00 noon. Class fee is \$40.00 plus supplies.

Basic Hand Appliqué Taught by Joyce McKenzie. 4 weeks on Tuesday mornings, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon, March 2, 9, 16 & 23. Class fee is \$40.00 plus supplies.

Sew a Simple Sampler Beginning quilt class for 6 weeks. Monday mornings 10:00 am - 12:00 noon, March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5, & 12 or Wednesday evenings 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm, March 10, 17, 24, 31 & April 7 & 14; taught by Chris Campbell. Class fee is \$ 60.00 plus supplies.

Garden Window A day-long class on Saturday, April 17 beginning at 9:30 am. Taught by Melanie Brungardt. \$40.00 plus supplies - class fee will include lunch!

Paper Foundation Piecing Learn the process Wednesday evening, April 21, 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Class fee of \$25.00 will include patterns & book. Taught by Chris Campbell.

Wobbly Rail Fence Saturday, May 1, starting at 10:00 am for a day-long workshop taught by Chris Campbell. Class fee of \$40.00 plus supplies also includes lunch.

See Chris for additional information & class policies.

Class space may be limited

Mini Quilt Workshop Planned

Brenda Weien & Florence Milliman are again hosting a workshop to help members get started on their miniature quilts for the auction.

Everyone will meet on Saturday, February 20th at the Pomona Community building at 9:00 am. Bring your sewing machines & a power strip, if you have one. There will also be a salad lunch, so bring a dish to share!

Brenda & Florence will have patterns available at the meeting to look over; they also have plenty of 80/20 batting scraps to use. If you have any questions, ask Brenda or Florence.

Block of the Month Drawing - Revived!

Kim Finney has kindly agreed to take over this very popular part of every meeting. She will be posting a link to the block so everyone can see it in color, along with cutting & assembly directions.

Challenge Quilt 2010

This year's guild challenge is to create a quilt (any size or shape) using the theme of "board games." (No card games!) We'll share our efforts at the June meeting & hang them at our show.

Consider some of these: Monopoly, Clue, Candyland, Sorry!, chess, checkers, backgammon, Risk, Chutes & Ladders, Trivial Pursuit, mah jong, Parcheesi, Scrabble, Life there are a lot to choose from!

You don't have to recreate the game; perhaps use some of the playing pieces or motifs to create a quilt showing what you like (or hate!) about a particular game.

These challenges are always exciting to see at the meeting; our members are so inventive!



Easiest Truffles Ever!

Perfect Valentine treat for YOUR sweetie! Even better, make some with a small friend who likes getting their hands dirty! Only three ingredients, but they're not for the calorie-conscious.

One 15-18-oz. pkg. chocolate sandwich cookies (such as Oreos or Hydrox)

One 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese, room temperature

One 17-oz. block candy coating (or almond bark or 16 oz. of semi-sweet morsels)

Place cookies in food processor in small batches & process until medium/small crumbs. Or place in a resealable bag & crush with pan or rolling pin. Kids like to help with this part!

Mix thoroughly with cream cheese; form into small balls (this is the messy part). Place on cookie sheet & refrigerate until firm, about an hour or until your helper gets cleaned up.

Melt morsels or coating over hot water; dip/roll each ball until covered, then use two forks to lift out.

Place on wax-paper-covered cookie sheet until set. Refrigerate leftovers (like there'd be any!).

You can decorate these with sprinkles, crumbs, dragees or cinnamon hearts before coating cools, if desired. Makes about 40-45, depending on size & how many disappear into your helper's mouth.



Letter from the Editor

Ah, February: the month for lovers. Well, that's what the ad for cheap hotel packages in Miami said. Here in Kansas, it's the month for runny noses, muddy floors & sleet.

It's the month for reading seed catalogs, with all those tantalizing plants that won't grow anywhere but the Amazon rain forest. I finally learned that "abundant tropical foliage" means it dies after the thermometer goes over 90 & "stunning exotic blooms" means you'll never see them outside of a greenhouse. So I stick with zinnias, marigolds & coneflowers because I know they'll survive the summer & maybe eventually produce a few flowers.

I can't really justify spending too much time outside in the mud - it's still too early to plant anything, the crocus & daffodils are barely up half an inch & lately, it's been snowing all the time. Knitting is good - I've made a couple of hats & scarves for charities later in the year. I'll sort through some of my hundreds of yards of fabric & likely make a few pillow-cases, too. I've sketched out some "big projects": things that may or may not actually get done, like an appliquéd quilt for my mother. She thought she was being funny, giving me a huge box of fabric at Christmas. I'll show her! She'll get her fabric back PLUS some of mine - IF I get it done.

I did manage to sort out the junk in a couple of kitchen cabinets a week ago - what was I thinking? It's amazing the stuff that accumulates over 20 years. And who picked these crazy dishes out? Not me - I would NEVER buy anything that ugly!

I've even been considering moving the furniture around. Not for any good reason, either, but just because I can. My mother never leaves her furniture in the same place more than six months. Why an eighty-year-old woman feels compelled to push a double bed, dresser & dining table from room to room, I don't know. Maybe it's a genetic defect; my sister's always moving her stuff around, too.

Whatever I get around to doing this month, I'm sure it'll be too little, too late. I have MOUNTAINS of sewing projects that need finishing, years of accumulated junk that needs sorting, fabric that I don't even recognize poking out of boxes & drawers, ever-growing piles of "important" papers & several miles of woodwork that needs painting.

But instead I'll probably buy some lettuce & radish seeds & plant them too early. I'll spend several hours shivering outside looking (vainly) for flower buds on the shrubs. I'll send encouraging thoughts to the mushy-topped, frozen daffodil leaves. I'll knit a couple pairs of mittens, maybe with matching hats. I'll start cutting the appliquéd quilt blocks & draw out the flowers I want in the blank spaces. I'll drink lots of coffee, re-read a few good books while the cats sit in my lap & take the dog for long, muddy walks to look for deer antlers & buckeyes (there aren't any, but it's a good excuse!).

So if you're not heading to Miami, maybe this month is the one to do the things you really love before it gets too hectic. That's a happy Valentine's Day in my book.

Sunflower Piecemakers - Ottawa, Kansas - Est. 1985

President	Celia Davis	Treasurer	Tammy Hostetler
Vice-President	Michele Altendorf	Newsletter/Web	Kathleen Leary
Secretary	Gloria Musick	Historian	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 **learyo@netzero.net** no later than the **4th** of each month.