Life is not perfect, and that's Ok. I was reading an article last month in Woman's Day magazine, about a concept called Wabi Sabi. Wabi Sabi is a term that describes the beauty to be found in imperfection. It originated in Japan, where artists will often leave slight imperfections in their art. The concept originated with the tea ceremony, a ritual that provided a way to step out of the chaos of daily life and reconnect with that which was simple and tranquil. Wabi Sabi has come to mean an approach to life and art that is in harmony with nature, one that values things handmade and rustic. It encourages us to accept our own flaws. As we look at nature, and all that is around us, we are reminded that no one here on earth is perfect, and that sometimes we stress over trying to be perfect. This is a really interesting topic, and you can get more information about Wabi Sabi on the internet. I really enjoyed the article and thought I would pass this on to you all. Enjoy Wabi Sabi is a term that describes the beauty to be found in imperfection.

Opportunities Still Exist

Would you like to be our next newsletter editor? The position comes with a laptop, the program used to put together the newsletter, etc. Also, past editors can fill you in on how it's done.

Other positions that need to be filled are: Bus Trip Planner, Historian, and Info Booth Person. Thanks Rita Bortz.

I need someone who will commit to scribing (taking down the names of the people who make and show their quilts at Show and Tell). This will be for the rest of this year and next year. If interested, please call me at 878-7480 or e-mail me at: kyoung1@marykay.com

Special Guest

As many of you know we are having "The Singing Quilter", Cathy Miller, as our entertainment for the May meeting. We will also have approximately 46 Canadian guest arriving by bus to join us that evening. We were contacted by Finer Vermont Tours, and asked if we would allow their group to join us. Your Executive Board voted to accept this, and hope that this makes for a wonderful evening for all. Please try to mingle and socialize with our guest for the evening. This should be a very busy and entertaining night. Please remember to wear your name badges. We will have Show-n-tell as usual, just not laying them on the pews before the meeting, as we will need that extra sitting space. Thank you.

Slate of Officers for 2010-2011

President - Rita Bortz
Vice President - Andre Emmell
Secretary - Barbara Carter
Treasurer - Thea Platt
Program - Joanne Lattrell, Janet Brunet
Camp Abnaki

Camp Abnaki is almost here. Just a reminder that ironing stations will be available. The charm square swap will be held. Bring charm squares packages (30 charm squares to package) Bring one package or up to 5 packages. Saturday night program will be held. Bring a gift if you wish to join the program. Gift $10.00. We will be playing Strip Craps on Friday night. Bring your 2 1/2 strips of fabric. 30 strips or more. Be your own judge on how many.

We will be going GREEN at Camp Abnaki. Water will not be provided by the guild this year. Water is available at camp for drinking. The amount of water bottles that we are putting in our environment is tremendous and we are trying to do something positive for our environment. If you wish to bring your own that is fine but water will be provided for you in pitchers.

Camp Abnaki* is almost here.

May 4: Cathy Miller (The Singing Quilter) Performance
June 1: Potluck Supper & Teacup Auction

This is our 5th annual Fat Quarter Basket Raffle... Stocking Raffle

Our last raffle to make money to fill the stockings next Christmas will be held at the May meeting. This is our 5th Annual Fat Quarter basket raffle and we need your help two ways. We need lots of fat quarter donations....some of those weird ones you got as part of a collection or that one you just had to have and now can't remember why you thought that!! Or maybe the ones that you won in another raffle and are not quite what you'd like to sew. And we need you to buy some tickets to help make this last raffle a success. They will be on sale before the May meeting and at the break and the draw will be that evening. As usual, the tickets will be $1.00 each or 6 for $5.00. Please help....see you there!! And thank you!! Barbara Carter

Library Notes

All library books are due back at the May meeting. I hope you had an opportunity to check out some our new book this year.

A special thank you to everyone who help me this year with our adopt a crate program. Please return your book crates to me in May.

Joanne Lattrell

2nd Annual Quilt Benefit Auction

Columbus Day weekend (OCT 9 and 10 ) in Waitsfield Vermont

Would you like to help by donating a Quilt any size, Quilt top, Wall hanging, baby quilt or an antique quilt? The monnies will go to charity. Last year we raised $10,000 to give away. This is a live auction and a lot of fun! For info email vttquilts@madriver.com or call Vee Lynch 496-2287
Debbie Caffrey’s Coming to Vermont in June

Common Threads Quilt Guild of Lamoille County will be hosting Debbie Caffrey for two workshops on June 4th & 5th. Although her name may not be familiar to some, she is a dynamic, interesting and well-organized instructor, author of numerous books, and originator of the concept of jelly rolls which she called “can of worms.” No UFOs here… Debbie is a techniques-oriented instructor sharing ways to make more quilts, more efficiently, accurately, and quickly. She’s the Deb Tucker of the western United States. So if you’ve enjoyed taking classes with Deb Tucker, you’ll enjoy taking a class with Debbie Caffrey. To learn more about her, visit Debbie’s website, www.debbiescreativemoments.com.

There will be two all-day workshops, Perfect and Painless Half-Square Triangle Units, Friday, June 4th, and Hip to be Square, Saturday, June 5th. There are few seats still available in both workshops, and Common Threads Quilt Guild is now opening up the workshops to members of other guilds. If you’d like to register for one of the workshops, please call Barb O’Toole at 635-9384 or email her at vtquilter06@yahoo.com.

**Workshop Offered on Friday, June 4th**

PERFECT AND PAINLESS HALF- SQUARE TRIANGLE UNITS:

Using the great Method #4 (bias strips) technique for making half-square triangle units from the book Power Cutting Too, you’ll learn how to make triangle units by the dozens quickly, precisely, with no individual pressing, no dog ears to trim, and no paper to tear! Use the units to make “Coyote Tracks” or “Winter Trails” (both quilts are in the Power Cutting Too book), or any other quilt requiring many small half-square triangle units.

**Workshop Offered on Saturday, June 5th**

IT’S HIP TO BE SQUARE:

Using the great Method #5 technique for making half-square triangle units from Debbie’s book Power Cutting Too, you’ll learn how to make a variety of blocks including Split Nine Patch, as seen in the book’s cover quilt “Robo-Cats”, a scrappy simple Nine Patch Autumn Leaf, a scrappy Bear’s Paw, Friendship Stars, Delectable Mountains, etc…by making very simple, large (6”-10”)
Green Mountain Guild Meeting Notice

Who: Quilt Guilds in Vermont belong to the State Guild aptly named Green Mountain Guild

What: The Semi-Annual Meeting of the Green Mountain Guild
When: Saturday May 15, 2010
Where: Whitcomb High School in Bethel, VT
Why: To meet and discuss activities in a various guilds all over the state
Time: 10:00am – 2:00pm

The spring agenda includes a business meeting, speaker Richard Cleveland and the annual teacup auction. Each guild makes a donation of a gift for the auction. All members present are allowed to purchase tickets, and bid on the items displayed by placing their tickets in the bag associated with the gift. Winning tickets are drawn at the end of the meeting.

A sandwich bar, coffee & tea are provided by the board. Members are asked to make a donation if they choose to partake.

Directions:
I-89 south to Exit 4
At the end of the exit ramp turn right onto VT66.
Follow VT-66 for 2.6 miles you may see signs for Randolph but the HS is on the way
Turn left at N Main St onto VT-12 S (this is a bridge).
Continue to follow VT-12 S for 7.1 miles.
Whitcomb High school is on your left.

Our guild is one of the 150 Supporting Guilds of the New England Quilt Museum in Lowell, MA. As a Supporting Guild we receive valuable information about area teachers, services, member guilds and their activities. We receive mailing labels so that we can advertise our quilt show throughout the area. We receive three free passes to the museum to be given to our members on first-come, first-served basis (ask President or Programs). Benefits to members of Supporting Guilds also include free admission to the museum on the fourth Sunday of every month and a five dollar discount on museum membership. If your summer travels take you to the Boston area, we highly recommend that you make a stop at the New England Quilt Museum in Lowell. Also in Lowell, you will find the American Textile History Museum, Boott Cotton Mills Museum, and the National Street Car Museum – enough to interest the family for a day trip. If you plan to attend the Lowell Quilt Festival in August, you might want to allow some extra time to enjoy the museums of Lowell. Janet Brunet
Homage to Grandmother ~ New Quilts from Old Favorites

Our quilt show plans are progressing! This year, we’ve added a new category for judged quilts. (See registrar June Sweeney’s article in this issue.) In the spirit of celebrating our diversity as quilters, the new category is for art quilts, also known as “non-traditional” quilts. These are items meant to be displayed on a wall, but still made of fabric and thread. They may or may not have traditional bindings and finishes. We do reserve the right to refuse an entry if it would be impossible for us to hang it (example—a large, framed item that is too heavy for our quilt racks to hold) or if it’s simply too big or awkward for the space. We are certainly not forgetting our traditional quilters! The new category will be limited to 25% of total entries (based on last year’s total). Remember to send in your entry early.

I have heard on the grapevine that some folks are discouraged with last year’s paucity of ribbons, especially blue and red. Well, the show committee has addressed that by finding different judges for this year and reviewing the scores that are awarded ribbons. Here’s what the VQF website says:

POINT SYSTEM (100 points total)

Visual Impact 15 points maximum
Design 40 points maximum
20 points: use of pattern and design
10 points: effectiveness of color in overall design
5 points: suitability of materials
5 points: border treatment
Workmanship: 45 points maximum
20 points: precision of work, top and bottom
20 points: quality of quilting and/or needlework
5 points: binding and edges

RIBBON CATEGORIES
Exceptional Merit (purple): 98 - 100 points
First (blue): 94 - 97 points
Second (red): 90 - 93 points
Third (yellow): 85 - 89 points

And here’s the ribbons system for a Maine guild show, using the exact same point system as VQF:

Exceptional Merit 97 - 100 points
First Place 90 - 96 points
Second Place 83 - 89 points
Third Place 76 - 82 points
Honorable Mention 70 - 75 points

Finally, here’s the scoring for traditional quilts at our show:

Overall Impact 10 points
Color & Design 15 points
Construction & Workmanship 35 points
Quilting 20 points
Finishing 20 points

Bonus – Judge’s Discretion 5 points
Total Available Points 105 points

First (Blue) 94 - 105 points
Second (Red) 88 - 93 points
Third (Yellow) 80 - 87 points

So, there is a considerable difference in what color ribbons are awarded, even using the same judging rules! But a blue ribbon still means excellent workmanship.

Our goal as a quilt guild is to promote the love of quiltmaking and the skills that help it to endure and continue through the generations. If we can embrace all types of quilts and all skill levels, the best use of our show is to help each one of us improve our quilting. The judges’ comments both tell us what we did right, and also, hopefully, what they didn’t like as well. This gives us a goal to shoot for in the next quilt we make for competition or gifting or just for fun! Good workmanship means the quilt will last longer; all the seams are well-sewn, appliqués are stitched or fused down securely, there are no puckers on either the back or front, the binding (whatever the style!) is stitched well with no gaps or loose stitches to catch on a toenail, fingernail, or picture-hanging nail.

Please consider entering a quilt in our show this year. You don’t have to have your quilt judged if you don’t want to. And as always, it is not necessary for it to be a “theme” quilt. Show us what you are doing with your fabrics, threads, patterns, and your imagination! All sizes are welcome too!

Sue Rivers
2010 Quilt Show Chair
See Website for 2010 Quilt Show Registration Information & Forms

Program Information

May 4, 2010: Cathy Miller, The Singing Quilter

Cathy Miller is a well-known quilter and folksinger/songwriter from Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. With her engineer and musician husband, John, she has toured her program of songs, stories and quilts across North America, and to Australia, New Zealand, the UK and Germany. Over the last nine years, they have performed for over 500 guilds and quilting events, including the American Quilters Society Nashville show and the International Quilt Festival in Houston, as well as for Jinny Beyer's Quilting Seminars and Eleanor Burns' Quilt Retreat. Cathy has also appeared on Alex Anderson's "Simply Quilts". To date Cathy has released four CDs of songs about quilting, ranging from the hilarious to the poignant. This evening Cathy and John will present a selection of songs from the CDs and show some of her quilts.

If you think you may be interested in buying one of Cathy’s CD’s, we suggest you preview them on her website. It may be very difficult choosing which one! Go to her website, select music, then recording. http://www.singingquilter.com/ Watch Cathy on youtube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M0QjV8K4vQM

June 1, 2010: Annual Potluck Supper & Teacup Auction

Our end of the year program is an auction of goodies and a pot luck dinner.
Proposed By Law Changes…2010

The following changes to our by laws, (which were last amended in 2004,) are being proposed by the Executive Board of the Guild. They will be voted on at the June meeting. The present by law is in regular print, with the part to be changed underlined and the change is in bold type. The explanation for each change follows the proposed wording.

1. Article III....Membership
   Section 3...Classification of Members
   b....Honorary Members...Officers to include the President, Vice President/President Elect, two Program Chairs, Secretary and Treasurer, as well as quilt show chairs shall be granted honorary membership.

   Members of the executive board and the quilt show chairs shall be granted honorary membership.

   This change includes the Past President as an honorary member and better reflects the way the board is working at present.

2. Article V  Duties of the Officers
   Section 1  Duties of the President....
   Must appoint an auditor to review financial records

   someone to evaluate the financial records of the guild for apparent discrepancies.

   This change reflects the way the financial records have been examined the last few years, we have consulted two members with expertise in this matter and both feel our books are not complicated enough to warrant a professional audit.

   To present the findings of the auditor of accounts by either presenting a report at Guild meeting or publishing a report in the newsletter.

To present the results in writing to the guild board.

   Section 5 Duties of the Treasurer
   To make all financial records available for inspection by the auditor of accounts.

   the person so appointed by the president for evaluation.

   These two changes bring these by laws into compliance with the previous change.
Champlain Valley Quilters' Guild  Minutes, April 6th, 2010

President Joanne Guilmette chaired the meeting and asked visitors to introduce themselves. Our speaker was Sue Nickels who showed slides and some of her quilts which told the story of her machine quilting experience. She graciously answered many questions about her methods.

The minutes were approved as printed on motion of Ruth Whitaker and Linda Lees. Program co chair announced the speaker for the May meeting will be Cathy Miller and her husband who will present some of her quilts and sing original songs. Her CDs will be for sale. Interest has been expressed about a winter retreat at the Strong House Inn in Vergennes. This would be in addition to our two quilt camp weekends. Someone needs to step forward and head this up.

Wendy Thompson announced the raffle quilt was on display in the lobby. It will be taken to the fair, Franklin County Quilt Guild, and the Shelburne Harvest Festival to sell tickets. If someone has an idea of other place to take it, they may contact Wendy. She will accept spools for Tammie Schmitt who is collecting them for the humane society.

The winner of the Community Quilt raffle was Amy Bursley. Ruth Whitaker has five seats left for the August bus trip to Manchester, NH. She thanked the presenters at the March workshop night and said she was impressed with the diversity of the workshops held. Around of applause was given to Janet Brunet and Claire Graham Smith, program co chair.

Sally MacIntyre reported forty people have signed up for the spring quilt camp. Registration will close this weekend. Many activities are planned.

June Sweeney announced the revised registration form for our show will be on line in May. The deadline will be early in October. A new category will be offered which will allow for more diversity. The traditional category will remain as three layers and quilted. The non traditional category will include crazy quilts, wearables and others as presented. This category will be limited to 25% of the previous years' entries which in 2010 will be 28 items. They may or may not be judged...as the entrant decides, with the same number of points as traditional quilts but the breakdown will be different.

Raffle block chair Anne Standish announced there were 10 miniature Carolina Lily blocks entered and the winner was Sue Rivers.

Pam Farnsworth, Info booth chair explained the name tag raffle...check in at the info booth and if you are wearing your name tag, you may put your name in for the raffle. Janet Brunet was the winner this month.

Joanne made several announcements.....Common Threads Quilt Guild is sponsoring a two day bus trip with visits to five quilt shops the same weekend as our quilt camp. The Green Mountain Guild will hold their Spring meeting May 15th in Bethel. Positions left to be filled for next year are membership, newsletter editor, stocking raffle, bus trips, historian. Green Mtn Rep Linda Lees will be the keeper of the storage shed key. The next board meeting will be April 15th at Yankee Pride. Memberships may be paid at the May meeting. Our membership is down nearly 100 members...if anyone has ideas why, please let someone. The Franklin County Guild will have their show in St Albans April 10th and 11th. Quilts Around Town will be a feature. The meeting adjourned for Show and Tell on motion of Hope Johnson and Anne Standish.

Barbara Shaw
Yankee Pride Quilts
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www.yankeepridequilts.com

Great service, reasonable prices
Stop in and see us! We've always got new inventory – books, notions, and fabric galore!

May Sales
Sat. May 1: 20% off batting
Sat. May 8: 20% off blue fabric
Sat. May 15: 20% off one notion
Sat. May 22: 20% off purple fabric
Sat. May 29: 20% off one book/pattern

New at Yankee Pride
*Sophia from Windham Fabrics
*Martinique from Moda
*Friendly Visitors from South Seas
*Rural Jardin from Moda
*Dimples from Andover
We always have new books, patterns, and notions arriving!

Yankee Pride will be closed
Sunday, May 9 for Mother's Day, and
Monday, May 31 for Memorial Day.

May Classes
Ocean Breeze
Flag Placemats