



Lincoln Quilters Guild - Quilting Since 1973 - Meeting second Monday of each month September through May, 7:00 p.m.

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*Volume Twenty-Four, Number One*

*July 1997*

## ***The James Collection***

You are invited to "Behind the Scenes: The James Quilt Collection" on August 30, 1997 at the Home Economics Building on the East Campus of the University Of Nebraska in Lincoln from 1- 4 P.M. Tours will be conducted on the half-hour and will offer a personal tour of the storage facilities for the James Quilt Collection, a recent donation to the University of Nebraska by Ardis and Robert James of Chappaqua, New York. Mark your calendars for this opportunity to see first hand the state of the art storage facility that houses the 950 piece quilt collection.

## ***James Quilt Collection Here and Help Needed!!***\_\_\_\_\_

The James Quilt Collection has arrived and we are in the process of unpacking the quilts from the shipping cartons and re-housing them in acid-free boxes for permanent storage. As we unpack each quilt, we record its condition upon arrival in Lincoln, vacuum it to remove surface dust/soil, and then refold it, and place it in its new storage box.

***How can you help?*** First of all, we need people to assist with the vacuuming process. Vacuuming will provide opportunities to closely examine some quilts while performing a valuable service. In addition, we need volunteers to help set up the acid-free boxes. The boxes were shipped flat and now must be set up.

***When?*** During the month of July and August, we need people who are willing to commit to a half day (9 am to noon or 1-4 p.m.) ideally. Because of the time required for orientation and training, we need people who can come more than once. We would prefer to have individuals who could promise to come on a regular basis-for example, once a week or once a month.

(con't. on page 2)



## Postal Notes from Connie

It's midsummer! Have you done any quilting lately? The answer from this house is "NO"! Although our daughter, Carrie, 21, is in Oregon doing an internship for the summer, there are still plenty of things taking me away from my fabric. For instance, carrying mail. Have you noticed how a job can sure cut into your day? And then there are hubby and son, Cory, 19, home from college for the summer. They love to golf together (I, however, have never touched a club). But they need someone to drive the cart and laugh at them, a job I take very seriously! And the hours we spend at the local pub, drinking pop and playing Trivia. Lastly, the kitties, Niko and Ebony. Our game is to go outside, come in, go

outside, come in, ad infinitum, obviously trying to beat some longstanding kitty record for keeping Mom active.

Lest you think I am whining, (do you?), I do have my small quilting groups to keep me happy and "in touch". Maybe I'll try to get another UFO done this summer.....or piece that family quilt that's been on the drawing board. Maybe we could have an informal "summer-finish-that-UFO" challenge, with show and tell in September, along with our fair winners.

Well, I'm wishing you a great rest-of-the-summer, stay busy, have fun, and see you at Guild!

*Connie*

## James Quilt Collection Here (con't)

**Who to call?** If you are interested in becoming a part of this support group for the James Quilt Collection, please call the Textiles, Clothing & Design Departmental Office at (402) 472-2911 and give your name, telephone number, and the times you are available. We will keep a master calendar so that no more than three people are scheduled each morning and afternoon.

**Where?** The site of all the summer activity is Room 220 of the Home Economics Bldg. on the UNL East Campus. Visitor parking is located on the northwest side of the building. Go to Room 234 and the secretary, Sharon Reeder, will issue you a parking permit.

Patricia Crews, Ph.D.  
Professor of Textiles, UNL  
Lincoln, NE 68583-0802  
Phone: 402/472-6342  
FAX: 402/472-0640



## Summer = Santa Socks!!

It is too hot to make a big quilt this summer. You could make a fabric sock for the less fortunate. If you do it now and put it away, won't you be proud to have it ready to bring in November? Any questions - call Sock chairman, Martha Dennis.



## MEMBERSHIP LIST FINE-TUNING

If you have an E-mail address, have you notified the membership chair?

We are presently trying to update our list with our members' zip+4. For those of you who are not postal workers, we need the four digits after your 5-digit zip code, such as 68506-?????. Contact Peggy Olson, (402) 785-5400.

## *A Peek into the Design Process*

*By Marilyn Lockard*

In late winter of 1996 LQG president-elect, Becky Haynes, asked me the big question: Would I design the Guild's raffle quilt for 1998? I pondered this for days, then accepted her invitation expecting to have fun playing with color and studying quiltmakers' books and videos. This was one project that couldn't end up being a UFO! (unfinished fabric object)

Practical and creative ideas came from the work of Jinny Beyer, Mary Ellen Hopkins, Marianne Fons, Liz Porter, Mary Coyne Penders, Diane McClun, Laura Nownes, Faber Birren, Willow Ann Soltow, Doreen Speckman, and Ruth McDowell. I found pleasure and enlightenment from their words.

I decided to design a pieced top, though I admire applique, and chose the block, Picket Fence, which Barbara Brackman attributes to Gutcheon. It has a diagonal line which makes it versatile as well as biased!

Other blocks in the running were Queen Charlotte's Crown, Beggar Block, King's Crown, Oriental Poppy, Fireflies, Garden Maze, Swamp Patch, Birds in the Air, Flying Leaves, Blue Fields, Birds Nest, Amber Waves, Round Robin, Darting Birds, Memory, Pigeons in the Coop, Road to Oklahoma, and Braid and Bow.

I drew several small Picket Fence blocks, shaded them light, medium and dark, photo-copied them, cut them out, then arranged them in different ways on poster board sprayed with dry mount adhesive. This was a delightful exercise.

I glued fabric to scores of oaktag pieces to create a six-inch Picket Fence block whose 12 pieces could be manipulated for contrast and beauty. Sewing the 12 pieces of real fabric was even more fun! I studied these then changed some fabrics to improve their appearance.

Fabric selection was part of this whole project day in and day out! Clear,

vivid fabric colors attracted me. I glued my fabric samples into a color palette on a file folder for reference while shopping. Some fabrics were wonderful alone, like the freesia print of gold, magenta, green, and purple. Some were to be almost invisible in the quilt top like the lavender and black print. Have you found it?

I photocopied four-inch strips of many of the fabrics to verify lights and darks, but was disappointed in the results. Squinty eyes worked better!

Greens I loved were the greens of magnolia leaves, duckweed, green ink, olives, emeralds, crème de menthe, moss, and holly. Purples were amethysts, iris, purple satin ribbon, lavender tulips, violets, and turnip tops.

Color theory defines split-complement harmony as combining a color with the two adjacent hues of its exact opposite on the color wheel. Green with red-violet and red-orange is one split complement in the quilt top. Violet with yellow-green and yellow-orange is a second. It is these adjacent colors that glow in the small triangles of the quilt.

In my reading I learned of the Ives color wheel used by the fabric industry. Its primary colors are magenta, yellow, and turquoise, rather than red, yellow and blue.

"Tack and spin" is my name for a technique I used to create the 12 inch block. I identically colored four small Picket Fence blocks, marked each one with an A and B edge, glued them to cardboard, placed a tack in the center of each, and tacked them in a 'four patch' arrangement on an empty box lid where they could be turned 90 degrees or more. This technique is based on a Ruth McDowell concept in symmetry I learned at a January 1996 lecture in Fremont, Nebraska.

Each of the 35 twelve-inch blocks is made of four 6-inch blocks turned in a specific direction. After deciding on the block positions, I drew a scaled arrangement on graph paper and colored each of the 1680 teeny-tiny shapes with Prismacolor pencils. This was the master plan, the map!

### *A Peek into the Design Process (con't)*

The quilt top, 80" x 104", was sized to take a queen size batt of 90" x 108".

There are nine different block colorations arranged symmetrically on the quilt top. I charted the number of pieces and fabric in each of the 140 six-inch blocks then rotary cut them on my new kitchen counter. These 1680 pieces were stacked and sorted into nine different boxes prior to machine piecing.

The piecers were Janiece Goin, Kathi Kinnaman, Lynn DeShon, Sandy Anderson, Elaine Nielsen, and myself, sewing in my home on autumn afternoons with light from south windows. Our machines were on the dining room table and on my old kitchen counter top mounted on saw horses. We all earned frequent sewing miles... and even some for frequent ripping!

Seams within the six-inch blocks were pressed open; seams joining the four blocks into the 12-inch block were pressed to the side. We often wondered, which way is up?

Geometric shapes of the quilting design echo the piecing seams, but avoid most seam allowances. The design was marked during a couple of weeks on my dining room table with a silver pencil. I used handmade plexiglas templates cut by my husband, Keith. A photocopy of the quilt top was marked with the quilting design as a guide for the hand quilters. Circular quilting lines on the border are really smiley faces! I did have fun on this project!

Binding was cut 2" wide on the bias joined with 45 degree seams and attached to the quilt so no seams were condemned to turn a corner.

Voting by the quilt show committee on March 5 decided the quilt's name, Enchanted Forest, also the 1998 Quilt Show's Theme.

### *This is a chronology of progress on the quilt:*

1996:

April 8 - agreed to be the 1998 raffle quilt designer

June 13 - settled on design and made paper mock-up

July 31 - all 1680 pieces for the top rotary cut

Aug. 5 - LQG board shown fabric block samples

Oct. 29 - completed machine piecing of the top

Nov. 11 - LQG members shown the quilt top; (my 63rd birthday!)

Dec. 3 - finished marking quilting design pattern on the quilt top

Dec. 12 - seamed and finished the backing

1997:

Jan. 9 - backing, batting, and top fastened on the quilting frame in the LQG Resource Room by Donna Svoboda, Genie Sullivan, Jean Baker and Ginny Welty

Jan. 20 - finished 23" wall quilt for a drawing from volunteer names

Febr. 20 - hand quilting is finished by 127 quilters scheduled by Donna Svoboda

Febr. 24 - binding is sewn on and quilt is completed

Mar. 3 - sleeve is sewn on by Becky Haynes

Mar. 4 - "trial hanging" of quilt in LQG meeting room

Mar. 8 - handwritten label is sewn on

Mar. 10 - Enchanted Forest, the raffle quilt, unveiled at LQG meeting; Helen Sulek wins wall hanging drawing

Mar. 10 - box made by Sandy Anderson to hold 18" x 27' x 5' folded quilt

Mar. 19 - quilt portrait made at Light Impressions by Mark Renken

Apr. 21- muslin tote bag made for holding the raffle quilt

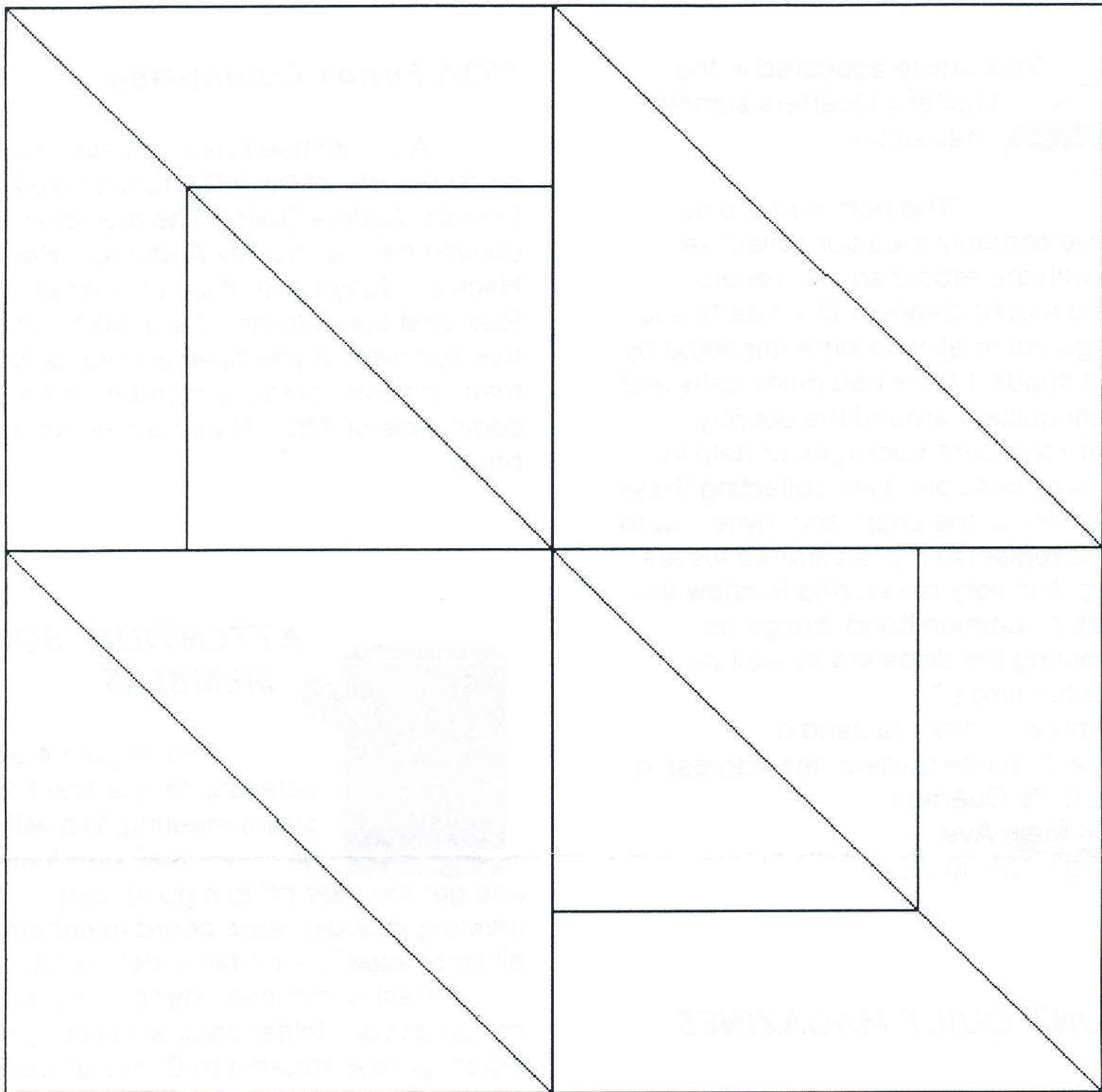
May 12 - distributed raffle quilt tickets with 4 x 5 photo by Mark Renken

1998:

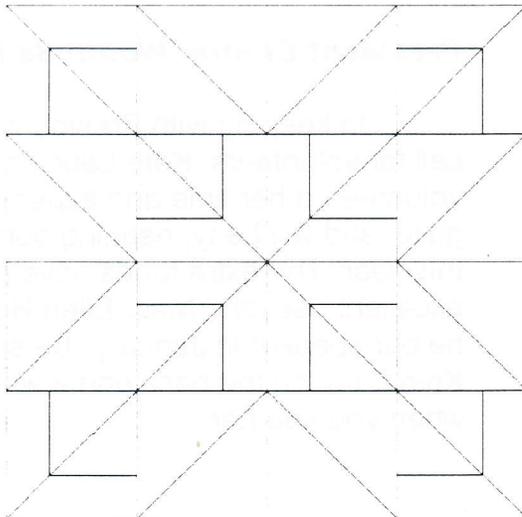
June 14 - drawing for the raffle quilt, Enchanted Forest.

The raffle quilt is made of 100% cotton fabric purchased from Lincoln fabric stores. It is machine pieced and hand quilted with Mettler cotton thread. The batting is Fairfield Lo Loft polyester. There are 38 different fabrics in the top.

Life is Good!



6" Picket Fence Block



Four 6" blocks together

## Help for Flooded Quilters



This article appeared in the Quilter's Quarters summer newsletter.

"The past winter and spring have certainly tried our collective patience with the record snows, record floods, and record cleanup. Our hearts and thoughts go out to all who were impacted by the recent floods. I have had many calls and letters from quilters around the country wanting to send care packages or help in whatever way possible. I am collecting these packages here at the shop, and invite you to stop in and replenish if you suffered losses this spring. It is very reassuring to know that quilting, as a common bond, brings us together during the disasters as well as during the fun times."

If you would like to send a contribution to these quilters, the address is:  
Quilter's Quarters  
604 Main Ave.  
Fargo, ND 58103

## DISCOUNT QUILT MAGAZINES

Chitra Publications is again offering guild members a 33% discount off the cover price of "Quilting Today", "Traditional Quiltworks", and "Miniature Quilts" magazine subscriptions. This offer is for new subscriptions and renewals. If you would like to take advantage of this offer, bring your checkbook and sign up at the September meeting.

## NQA Funds Committee

A committee has been selected to study the use of the NQA funds held by the Lincoln Quilters Guild. The members of the committee are: Sandy Anderson, Pat Hackley, Judy Lane, Kate Laucomer, Wendy Ray, and Lois Wilson. They will be meeting this summer. If you have any ideas for them, please contact a member of the committee SOON. Their names are in the book.



## ATTENTION BOARD MEMBERS

Put August 4 on your calendar for our first full board meeting. We will have a potluck and introductions and get the year off to a good start. This meeting includes exec board members and all committee chairs. More details later .

Past committee chairs.....if you have not given your folder back with your yearend report, please return it to Becky or Connie ASAP. Thanks.

## President Clinton Would Be Proud!!!!!!

In keeping with President Clinton's call for volunteers, Kate Laucomer has volunteered her time and expertise to the guild, and will be typesetting our newsletter this year. The extra funds have been put to excellent use, and Mary Ellen Hopkins will be our speaker in January. Be sure to give Kate a pat on the back and a warm fuzzy when you see her.



## RECYCLING 101

Idea submitted by Martha Dennis

If you have old sweatshirts that are still pretty good, but stained or fading, try this. Use them for the lining of a jacket. Take a heavy flannel shirt from your husband's closet. He doesn't need so many!



Cut the sweatshirt from neck to waist on the plain side. If there is a picture on the front of the shirt, cut down the center back. Put the wrong side of the sweatshirt to the wrong side of the flannel shirt. In this case, the center front of the sweatshirt is pinned to the center back of the flannel shirt. Stitch one place on each ribbed sleeve (of sweatshirt) to the flannel shirtsleeve button placket or seam allowance.



Turn under the raw edge that you cut (neck to waist). Stitch to the inside of the flannel shirt, keeping back from the buttonholes.

If you're vertically challenged (short), you may want to hem up the flannel shirt to your preferred jacket length.

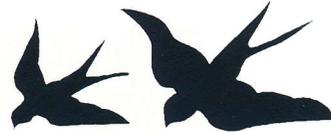
## 1998 Quilt Auction

The 1998 Quilt Show and Auction is coming sooner than you think!

Start planning (and working on ?) your item to donate to the Auction now!!!

Call Kate Laucomer for details at 423-4611.

## "BIRDS OF A FEATHER FLOCK TOGETHER"



The Lincoln & Omaha quilters' Fall Retreat, Eastern 4-H Center, Gretna, NE, Friday, September 19 - Sunday, September 21, 1997.

Meals, Lodging, Activities: Total cost \$60.00

Hosted by Lincoln Quilters Guild; Committee: Mickey Andersen (coordinator), Lynn DeShon, Cindy Weyers and Diana Dreith; Guest Artist: Millie Fauquet (who designed the exchange blocks especially for this retreat!)

There will be games, make 'n take ornaments, outdoor activities, fun and sharing; but most of all there will be something you've all asked for MORE of in the past... lots of free, unfettered time for you to work on your own projects!

So, feather your nest by finally completing that UFO started long ago. Or try your wings by starting something with that new technique you've been wanting to try.

Registrations will be accepted after August 6, 1997 for 40 spaces for each guild. Information packets will be mailed after Labor Day. If any spaces are still available at that time, they will go first -come-first serve basis until all 80 spaces are filled.

Send checks payable to Lincoln Quilters Guild and a SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE to:  
Mickey Andersen  
6200 Colfax Ave.,  
Lincoln, NE 68507 (402) 464-7755

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