

Nimble Fingers Newsletter

www.nimblefingers.org

May/June 2011

Officers 2011-2012

Co-Presidents: Linda August
and Patty Estey

Vice President: Pat Lefevre

Secretary: Evelyn Farinas

Treasurer: Barbara Kilby

*Est. 1974 = 37 YEARS OF FELLOWSHIP
National Quilting Association Chapter #MDO19*

Co-Presidents' Message – Linda August and Patty Estey

The speakers at our past two meetings have shown us that experimentation produces new and interesting results in quilting. Sue Reno delighted us with her variety of techniques for printing on fabric. Mary Stori showed how bead embellishments enhance quilts. We encourage all of you to try something new. New approaches keep our quilts fresh and lively. Mary's beaded quilts gave us all ideas on how we can use beads. Patty knows only too well beading is a fun and special skill to acquire. Didn't we all as children string plastic beads on shoestrings? Now the beads sparkle a bit more and we string them with special thread. It is still fun!

This year, NF's program committee provided us with speakers who brought new ideas and new techniques for our quilts. Even if you make just a single block, you can learn and be inspired. Speakers for this coming year promise to give us even more inspiration.

Mary Moore Payne and Margaret Natof, NF's new Quilting for Others (Q4O's) co-chairs, have been working hard to sort, wash, press and package fabric for quilts. These packets will be available at every NF meeting. You can be a topper, a quilter and/or a binder. Whatever time you have to devote to Q4O's, there is a need waiting for you.

Space at the Universities at Shady Grove has been negotiated for our next Quilt Show on October 19-20, 2012. The raffle quilt is nearly finished. Next up is planning for the show. We owe a big thanks to Chris Ritcher for volunteering to be the show chair. I know we can count on all of you to help Chris. Thanks also to Beverly Ferrell for helping Chris get started.

Anne Datko did a super job organizing our quilt retreat April 11-13. Attendees had a relaxing few days in spite of the dreary weather. Anne is now planning an autumn retreat the first week in November. Details are available in this newsletter.

Finally, we want to thank Rainie Broad, Cathy Berman, and Beverly Ferrell for volunteering to be our new Hospitality committee. And of course a great big thanks to Carole Auth, Nancy Sharp, and Karen Cyr for all their hard work over the past two years. Friendship was a major reason why many of you belong to Nimble Fingers and the lunches are key to fulfilling that role.

Let's hope that April showers bring May flowers as well as many wonderful entries in our guild challenge, block of the year challenge, and Alzheimer's quilt challenge! Our first year as co-presidents just whizzed by. We appreciate everyone's support.

Programs – Susan Sellers, Carol Clanton, Cheryl Layman, Nancy Rose Opeka, Jill Ruspi, Julie Taylor

May 4, 2011: Maria Elkins will present a lecture about “**Protecting Quilts.**” She will focus on the “Lost Quilt Come Home” website that she founded and the many ways that we can try to safeguard our quilted creations.

Challenge Quilts for the “**Inspired by Verse**” challenge are due. Prizes will be awarded!

May 5, 2011: Maria Elkins will teach us about transforming a digital photograph into a pattern for a quilt. In this full day workshop, you will cut out, fuse, and quilt your portrait. A few spaces remain in this workshop at a cost of \$50 for guild members. A \$15 kit fee will be due to the instructor at the workshop. Maria's web site is www.mariaelkins.com.

June 1, 2011: Cindy Blackberg shares her “**Sneaky Tips and Tricks of the Pros**” with us in her lecture. Cindy's fine hand piecing skills have been featured in books and magazines and she teaches across the United States.

The “**Block of the Year**” **show and tell** will feature a parade of finished split nine patch blocks and quilts.

The **Mystery Quilt show and tell** will showcase the projects from those who took Kim Jalette's mystery class in January.

June 2, 2011: Cindy Blackberg will teach her “**Mountain Blossoms**” workshop featuring a hand pieced, appliqued and quilted block of her design. Sign up at a cost of \$50 for members to learn how to perfect your hand stitching. Cindy's web site is www.cindyblackberg.com.

September 7, 2011: Ruth Powers will challenge us to “**Dare to Be Different**” with her lecture.

September 8, 2011: A full day workshop entitled “**Introduction to Picture Piecing**” will feature Ruth Powers' Coneflowers pattern. Register to learn this interesting technique and

create a lovely wall hanging at a cost of \$50 per member plus a pattern fee of \$8.50. Visit www.ruthpowersartquilts.com for more details.

Please contact Susan Sellers for more information or to register for a workshop.

The program committee would like to thank everyone in Nimble Fingers who has supported our efforts to find interesting programs through this year by signing up for workshops. We are finalizing plans for an exciting schedule of lectures and workshops for next year. Please contact us if you have suggestions for future programs and guild activities. We try to incorporate as many requests as possible into our plans. Next year's topics will range from thread sculpture to quilted jackets and will include applique, machine quilting and our popular mystery quilt class with Kim Jalette. Stay tuned!

Hospitality – Carole Auth, Karen Cyr, Nancy Sharp

The May meeting will be sandwiches, salad, desert and a beverage and there will be a charge of \$4.00. Hostesses will be: Uschi Kirk, Evelyn Farinas, Ruth Cohen, Mary Zmitrovich , Patrice Thomas, Helen Wasserman, Winnie McCarraher.

Our June Luncheon will be our end of the year luncheon which will be a pot luck with direction and it always has been very special with everyone's contribution:

- A - G Appetizers
- H - K Salads
- L - R Finger Food, Cheeses
- S - Z Fruits,Desserts,Breads

Hostesses for this luncheon will be asked to bring beverages: Fran Kline, Adrienne Fogel, Grey Miller, Lois Smith, Beverly Ferrell, Shirley Malia, Linda Benkin.

Ladies - I want to thank you for signing up to be hosting, and look forward to the guild meeting and meeting you all. You are to arrive at 9:15 to help get the supplies and set up for the luncheon. We will start lunch at 12:30 and after lunch you will be expected to help clean up and put the supplies away. There will be a captain there to help out: Nancy for May and Carole for June.

We welcome our new hosting committee, Rainie, Cathy and Beverly.

Have a wonderful summer and most importantly a very safe one. Thank you from our committee to all the very special people who helped make our job very pleasurable and fun.

Membership – Mila Haberman, Mary Jo Haczewski, Liz Brigham

New Members:

Michele Barnard
Lisa Hicks
Carole Jeffers
Jane Phillips

Quilting Bee – Francie Parrack

Next scheduled dates are May 19 and June 16. Any changes will be announced as available by broadcast e-mail, and at the monthly meetings.

Our Bee Location: Habitat for Humanity, 9110 Gaither Rd. in Gaithersburg (past Capital Quilts, on the left), beginning around 10 and continuing until 12:30.

Mini Groups – Jane Oden

I am organizing a list of members interested in being part of a mini-group.

Mini-groups are a way for individuals to form closer relationships with fellow quilters, and also to learn more quilting skills and techniques. Because mini-groups are not guild-sponsored activities, each group makes its own decisions about how often, when, and where to meet.

If you would like to find some quilting buddies, there will be a sign-up sheet at the May and June monthly meeting. Please sign up if you are interested. You will be contacted when enough members (3-6) who want to meet on the same day of the week add their names to the list.

For more information or to sign up, please contact Jane Oden.

Current Events – Ann Plunkett

Current - December 31 **Women of the Civil War Era - Their Quilts and Their Stories.** Also Sewing Machine Collection. 301 S. Main St. Harrisonburg VA
www.vaquiltmuseum.org

Current - May 14 **Jinny Beyer: Kaleidoscope of Quilts** 301 S. Main St. Harrisonburg VA
www.vaquiltmuseum.org

Current – January 8, 2012 **Second Lives: the Age-Old Art of Recycling Textiles**, The Textile Museum, Washington DC www.textilemuseum.org

April 16 – September 11 **Green: the Color and the Cause**, The Textile Museum, Washington DC www.textilemuseum.org

May 2-30 **Cloth and Chocolate presents Then and Now**, a celebration of their ten year anniversary, Friendship Heights Community Center, Chevy Chase MD. Meet the Artists on Sunday May 15, 2011--11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
<http://www.clothandchocolate.net/exhibits.htm>

May 14 **Textile Day at the Baltimore Museum of Art**, special activities and exhibits by local quilters, Baltimore MD <http://www.artbma.org/calendar/events.html#Textile>

May 20-22 **First Annual Quilt Show, Bayside Quilters of the Eastern Shore**, Oxford MD, for info contact: baysidequilters@gmail.com

June 3-5 **38th Annual Quilters Unlimited Quilt Show**, Dulles Expo Center, Chantilly VA
www.quiltersunlimited.org/show.htm

June 24-26 **Biennial Quilt Show 2011** Schoolhouse Quilters Guild, Allegheny County Fair Grounds---10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Cumberland MD www.schoolhousequilters.org

July 13-16 **American Quilter's Society Quilt Show & Workshops**, Knoxville Convention Center, Knoxville TN www.americanquilter.com

July 15-17 **Mid Appalachian Quilters Annual Quilting Seminar**, Mount St. Mary's University, Emmitsburg MD www.maqonline.org

July 28-31 **Quilt Odyssey**, Hershey Lodge & Convention Center, Hershey PA,
www.quiltodyssey.com

Bits and Pieces

From Jill Ruspi:

Recently I came across an interesting article by Susan Soderberg in the *Germantown Then and Now Column* within the Germantown Patch Newsletter. The featured quilt in the article

is the Woodbourne Quilt, described in the article as "a masterpiece of craftsmanship and design."

If you are interested in reading the article about this lovely and interesting quilt, use this link.

<http://germantown.patch.com/articles/germantown-then-and-now-woodbourne-house>

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Call for Entry - National Juried Quilt Exhibit
September 3- 25, 2011

The Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center (DVAEC) located in historic downtown Frederick, Maryland, is hosting a national juried quilt exhibit September 3-25. For more information, go to this link: <http://www.delaplaine.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/2011-Quilt-FINAL-1.doc>

Priority: Alzheimer's Quilts, Round 2 – Kim Jalette

We will have **two** collection target dates: the June meeting and the September meeting. Contact me if you need a registration form. All quilts must be submitted with one.

Visit the AAQI website at <http://www.alzquilts.org/> for more information and a look at their new traveling exhibit, "From Heartbreak to Hope".

Autumn Retreat – Anne Datko

Autumn Retreat Back by Popular Request.

Nimble Fingers members who attended the Spring Retreat in April had such a wonderful time that they have requested an Autumn Retreat. This will be held November 7-9, 2011 at Hallowood (www.Hallowood.org) at the foot of Sugarloaf Mountain in Comus, Maryland.

The facility has a large room for sewing, a Great Room with fireplace for doing handwork and visiting, and 16 private bedrooms with bath. The retreat includes your room for 3 days and 2 nights and seven meals and evening snacks prepared by Chef Howard.

We can accommodate up to 16 participants, but we need a minimum of eight in order to reserve the dates at Hallowood. The cost is \$305.00, with a \$100 per person deposit due by June 1.

Register **May 18, starting at 12 noon** (not earlier!) by contacting Anne Datko by phone or email. Instructions for payment of the deposit (due **June 1**) will be emailed once the

attendee list is compiled. Final payment will be due October 1. Deposits and retreat fees may not be refundable unless we have a waiting list and another member agrees to take your place.

The retreat is a lot of fun and a great way to get projects finished. The scenery is beautiful, the retreat center is well-equipped, the cuisine is delicious and the company is terrific! We hope you can make it.

Committee Chairs – contact these people to volunteer or get information:

Current Events:	Ann Plunkett
Historian:	Susan Sellers
Hospitality:	Cathy Berman, Rainie Broad, Beverly Ferrell
Library:	Chris Ritcher
Membership:	Mila Haberman, Mary Jo Haczewski, Liz Brigham
Mini Groups:	Jane Oden
Newsletter:	Kim Jalette
Programs:	Susan Sellers, Carol Clanton, Cheryl Layman, Nancy Rose Opeka, Jill Ruspi, Julie Taylor
Quilt Consortium:	Elizabeth Davison
Quilt Show:	Chris Ritcher
Quilting Bee:	Francie Parrack
Quilting for Others:	Margaret Natof, Mary Moore Payne
Retreat:	Anne Datko
Sunshine:	Betty Ford
Website:	Jane Van Horn
Welcoming:	Jane Oden

All telephone numbers, snail mail and e-mail addresses can be found in the Membership Directory. Copies are available from the Membership Chair.

Please notify Mila Haberman, Membership Chair, with any changes in home address/phone number and/or e-mail address.