



October 2009



The Official Publication of the Omaha Quilters' Guild

**Next Newsletter
Deadline:**
Oct 20, 2009

Next OQG meeting: Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Email Elizabeth Kannedy at oqgnnewsletter@yahoo.com or mail to: 13308 South 33rd Street, Bellevue, NE 68123-2369

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**OQG
Board Meeting
October 6, 2009
7 pm
Lutheran Church
of the Master**

October Program

Linda Potter will be our guest lecturer and teacher in October. Linda is from the Kansas City area and loves all forms of quilt making and has studied and taught many techniques.

Linda will be leading a workshop on Saturday, October 10 from 9am to 4 pm on "Stairways to the Stars" a version of Barbara Brackman's antique quilt. The quilt may be created in several sizes. She suggests choosing fabrics in red, white, and blue or you will also be able to use your

own favorite colors.

On Sunday, October 11, the workshop will begin at noon and end at 6:30. You will be exploring the art of "Needle Magic". This is Linda's innovative and easy technique that will give you fast results. It simultaneously combines a variety of simple hand-quilting stitches with beading, embroidery, and Sashiko. Linda's students are able to quilt and embellish in one step.

Each class will be \$45. They will be held at Coun-

try Inns and Suites on 118 and Miami. You will find supply lists on the OQG web site.

Tuesday at guild meeting Linda's lecture will be "What is Needle Magic?" The presentation includes a trunk show.

At the November 10 meeting, Katy Coleman will be with us. She will tell us about her quilts in a lecture titled "Off The Wall". She has been a teacher many times at the Nebraska State Quilt Guild and is from Seward, Nebraska.

President's Notes

My calendar is filling quickly with OQG events. I hope you will find an event that fits into your schedule.

Remember to check the website often for current updates on the many opportunities offered.

The Member Survey is on the website, thanks to Roberta Willet and her "webmagic." It will be posted on-line until October 31st.

The printed survey will be available once more, at the October meeting. I offer my apologies for the noise level during Rising Stars at the September meeting. We are searching to find a better solution so that speakers can be heard in the future.

At the October meeting, as we prepare for the Holiday Party, it will be exciting to preview the items you have donated for both the raffle and the auction. I always

look forward to seeing the stockings you create. I marvel at your limitless creativity, and am inspired by your talents.

Thank you for donating your volunteer time to serve the community and represent the guild with these wonderful projects.

Kathy Havranek
OQG President



Programs continued:

Her workshops will be the week after guild. On November 14 she will be teaching "Mandala Playday". This will be an opportunity

for you to let your creative side shine. Katy will guide you as you create your own mandala. The cost for this class will be \$25. It will be

from 9am to 4 pm.

On Sunday afternoon she will be teaching at workshop "Crystal Quilts". This will be another opportunity for

you to create your own design with her help and guidance. The class will begin at noon and last until 6:30.

"These quilts is from the ladies of the First Baptist Church." - Community Connections

Just as our grandmothers and great-grandmothers quilted to help those in need in their communities, we too can make a difference in the lives of others with our quilts. The Community Connections committee is striving to connect non-profits in our area who would like to have quilts for their fundraising events with quilters supportive of their work. On the second Sat. of each month, the committee sponsors a sewing day at the Josie Harper Hospice House just east of Bergan Mercy Hospital. We are in hopes that this will grow into a small group interested in helping in the creation of auction quality items. Each month we will work on a project to benefit a local charity. In October, the

group is working on a top for the Nebraska affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Foundation using the Heart of My Heart quilt blocks that many of you have worked on. Please remember to bring your completed heart blocks to the October meeting. Whether Komen is the only group that you would like to quilt for or whether you are looking for a new small group and want to attend every month, we hope you will come and quilt with us Sat. Oct. 10 from 9-3.

We were a small but mighty group in September. We left at 3pm with the blocks joined into rows and sashing strips ready to be added to the top for Voices for Children. The Work of the Heart gala for Voices for Children will be in February 2010. If

you would like more information about the event or the organization, please visit their website, www.voicesforchildren.com. To see a photo of the completed top, please visit the Community Connections page of the guild website.

We have an ongoing need for baby quilts, size 32" to 40", for premature babies in the NICU at the Med Center. If you've got some free time and want to experiment with a new pattern, why not try it out in soft baby colors and turn it into a tiny quilt for one of these precious babies.

To nominate a charity for assistance by the Community Connections committee, please contact Jan Fry.

Storybook Quilts project is resuming now that the Play-

house commitment is nearly over. When my boys were small, I collected every book that I could find that featured quilts in the story or artwork in an attempt to give them a greater appreciation of quilts. Many of you have done the same for your children and grandchildren. We challenge you to make and donate a quilt based on one of the stories that you shared with your family. The goal of the Storybook Quilt project is to build a lending library of quilts and accompanying books that can travel throughout the Omaha schools supporting history, art, reading, and math curriculums. We will have more information available on the website in the very near future.

Block Exchange

It was so good to see so many stop by.

We handed out 50 plus pieces of fabric.

Please do the block in the instructions we handed out. You can also find the block on the OQG website under Block Exchange.

The block is called Simple Cross. We also found the block in the Single Irish Chain pattern, and some use it in the Pennsylvania Criss Cross pattern.

CJ designs these blocks in the Electric Quilter "EQ" program which last month's speaker mentioned.

Membership

With over 200 hundred of our members and guests attending last month we are off to a good start with membership.

Our reason number 8 for being an OQG member is the Rising Stars program,

our pre-meeting....meeting! Check it out if you haven't already. Each month has a different speaker and topic.

Hope to see you in October.

Don't forget to stop by to say hi and to pick up your

Membership Books.

DeAnne Mack,

Membership Chairman



2010 Opportunity Quilt

Our gorgeous quilt "Everlasting Beauty" will be on display again at the October meeting. We are asking each member to purchase and sell one book of tickets for

\$10 for ten tickets during the year. The tickets would be great as stocking stuffers for a friend who might be lucky enough to win a quilt.

The quilt is available for you to check out to have a "Take an Opportunity Quilt" to work or to another event that you may be able to sell tickets at.

I have the quilt's social calendar and right now it is empty so help us fill it.

Carol McCann, Quilt Mom

Helping Hands

I hope everyone has had a chance to see Roberta Willet's quilt on the OQG website. Every year quilters turn in quilts for the June Quilt Show but Roberta's quilt is on display 365 day a year at www.omahaquiltersguild.org. It's beautiful. Check it out. I wish I had a "blue ribbon" to give her...

This year we are enclosing an

information Sheet on Helping Hands and a quilt label in each kit. Thank you in advance for sewing on the label.

In reference to the Downy Quilts project, please do not mail them to "Downy" when they are finished. They should be returned to Helping Hands.

Winter is coming. 27 finished quilts were just turned in. They need the labels sewn on

them before they are ready to keep someone warm.

A request has been made to Helping Hands for 50 quilts and 50 stocking for Christmas. All sizes of quilts are needed, from infant to twin. Helping Hands will make the stockings using the serger method...fast and quick. If you turn in a quilt to Helping Hands, please attach a note to

your quilt if it is for this project. We are only making the Christmas stockings. They will be fill by a different group.

Helping Hands has new hours on Tuesdays. We are now meeting from noon to 5 pm at Millard Library.

Thank you, Chairperson of Helping Hands Angie Reed

Holiday Dinner Party

I know after last months meeting you are all getting excited about the December party for the Children's Emergency Fund. Our dinner together is one of the things that makes the party a wonderful memory each year. We will be having a buffet dinner

again this year. Tickets are \$15 for each person.

We will begin taking reservations at the October guild meeting. Tickets will not be available until after Rising Stars has finished at 6:30. If you would like to reserve a table or space for a group of quilters please have one per-

son in the group bring all of the money for the group and a list of the names of the people in the group when you come to purchase tickets. Checks should be made out to Omaha Quilters' Guild and it would be really appreciated if you could have the exact change. You will be given a table

number and tickets for members of your group.

Tickets will also be available at the November meeting or you may mail me your check and list of names after October 10.

Carol McCann
Programs

Children's Emergency Fund Project

Some children in foster care are fortunate to be placed with families who are able to provide generously at Christmas time. But it was apparent that other children were left out during the holidays. The Omaha Quilters' Guild became aware of the need and in 1992, created the Children's Emergency Fund. Originally, the project focused on sewing Christmas stockings but has since grown into a multi-faceted, annual event. There are four ways for members to participate in the project.

Stocking Challenge: At our September meeting, members line up to get their \$2.00 kit for the stocking challenge. All the completed stockings are then displayed, at our December Banquet where members vote on the stockings by monetary donation. A small prize is given for the 24 stockings that raise the most money. All the stockings and the monies raised are donated to Child Protective Services (CPS)



Angel Bags:

An empty stocking isn't much fun, so we ask the members for donations of stocking stuffers. This part of the project is referred to as the Angel Bag Project. Members pick up a bag at the November meeting, and then they put new, unwrapped gifts in the bag and return it to the December meeting. CPS case-workers select stockings and stuffers which they then deliver to children who are



in foster care, shelters, or hospitals.

Santa's Workshop: Members make and donate items to be raffled, and those are raffled at the December Banquet.

Thanks to generous members, we usually have over 150 items!



Caring Friends Auction: We also have a project created specifically for members to work together. This part of the fund-raiser is

OQG Board Meeting Minutes September 1, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M on September 1, 2009. There were 14 in attendance. All attending groups gave a brief summary of important things going on.

Helping Hands meetings are still held at the Millard Library but due to the change in library hours, they will meet from noon to 5:00 PM instead of 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Helping Hands is getting some kits to make quilts from the Downy Fabric Softener company.

Cindy Erickson has agreed to help the Library review the list of books in order to make room for new books. Also, there are quite a number of books that have been checked out and not returned. It would be helpful if members would return these books without being contacted. Members that have checked out books and have not returned them will be contacted asking them to return the book if they are done with it. There will not be any fines we just want the books to be available to other members that might be able to use them.

We want to be sure that ANY AND ALL donations are acknowledged and thank you notes sent on official guild stationary. Many times these thank you notes are used for income tax purposes. Jan Mitchell is the Corresponding Secretary.

Camp Wannamakeablankie has had some cancellations. The registration form is on the website.

We have several opportunities to help Lutheran Church of the Master. We have our board meetings and at least one of our small groups meet there which saves OQG quite a bit of money. They want to put in a playground at their west campus. This will be used by the community as well as the church and preschool. They will be having a fundraising event in November. The idea was brought up to make a quilt for them to auction off at the fundraiser. There is enough time to get a small quilt done by that time. Jan Fry and Dee Acklie will be in charge of this for us. Lutheran Church of the Master will also be needing some doll quilts for their preschool.

Threads Across Nebraska has requested quilts for display October 2nd & 3rd. The show is in Grand Island. There will be 37 vendors.

The Membership Book will be available at the October meeting for the 09-10 year.

If every member would be responsible for 10 raffle quilt tickets - either for their personal use, gifts or to sell to someone else the quilt raffle would make at least \$2,900.00. The proceeds from the quilt raffle help with our programs and expenses. We need the support of all members to make this a success.

The price of the tickets for our December meeting will be \$15.00. One person from each group will buy the tickets for the group.

There are still a few places left on the bus trip to Des Moines on October 31, 2009. Check the website if you are interested.

UNMC needs baby quilts for premie babies. The smallest size is 26 inches square. The largest should be 40 inches square. These quilts will be special to these families as

they are stressed and thinly spread emotionally, physically and financially.

The block exchange for September is 4-patch cross. It is one beginning quilters should enjoy doing.

We would like to get pictures of our Modern Quilters as well as some members of the board on the website.

When requesting reimbursement or payment of a bill the member must fill out and submit a voucher along with her request to Terri Caffrey. Requests will not be paid without the voucher.

The web page has a new look. Please email Roberta Willet with any changes you feel are appropriate. Frequent updates are OK.

Surveys will be available at the September meeting and also on the website. We want to encourage ALL members to fill out a survey. We want to see what the members want to happen in the 2009-2010 year.

Respectfully submitted

Kathy L. Mainelli

Children's Emergency Fund Project continued:

called the Caring Friends Auction. Each year there is a theme, and quilters may make any item they believe reflects the theme. The only rule is that the item be made by at least two people, and

have some quilting somewhere on the project. The items are then auctioned during the December Banquet and proceeds benefit CPS. This year's theme is "Stars".



You can see why our December meeting is one of the highlights of the year as members enjoy good food, good friends and a feeling of well-being. It's a great reward to use our talents and

enthusiasm for such a meaningful cause. We are reminded that working together we can do so much to brighten the life of a child

Rising Stars

Donna Stenneche is the Rising Stars speaker in October.

She will be demonstrating mitering corners and a couple

of different ways of ending bindings on quilts.

Rising Stars begins at 6 p.m. in the back of the meeting room. Hope to see you there!

OQG Meeting Minutes September 8, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Kathy Havranek.

Carol McCann introduced our speaker for the evening, Judy Laquidara. Judy's presentation was inspiring and showed us that a little extra can add a lot of interest to our quilts.

The minutes were approved as printed in the September newsletter. A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed changes to the Bylaws. A vote was taken and passed.

This month's Modern Quilter, Roberta Willet was crowned.

Roberta Willet, Webmaster, wowed us with the figures showing not only the increase in "hits" on our website, but how popular our website is with quilters here and abroad. The month's Modern Quilter will be on the website after each meeting.

Registrations are due for this year's Wannamakablankie.

Threads will be in Grand Island

October 1-3. There will be 37 vendors-some of them new to the midwest.

The 2010 quilt show will be at the LaVista Conference Center on June 18, 19 & 20, 2010. The show challenge will be "Spoken without a word...the message within the quilt". The quilt challenge for the show was announced and the fabric is available for purchase.

The bus trip to Des Moines will be October 31, 2009. There are still a few places left. The bus is leaving the parking lot at the College of St. Mary's promptly at 6:00 AM so we can be there when the doors open at 9:00 AM. Contact Jan Fry with questions.

Terri Quinn told us about an opportunity to support the Sacred Heart School. The fund raiser will have 10 pieces of art (this year quilts)-one for each grade. These pieces are auctioned off and typically go for \$3,000.00-\$5,000.00. They would like large lap quilts. The

theme is nature. They will also need 18" quilted pillows as thank you gifts for their sponsors. Quilt bats and pillow forms are available. The fund raiser will be March 27, 2010.

There will be a retreat in Gretna at the 4-HCamp on October 16-18. Please contact Peg Pennell for more information.

Please let Terri Marx know if you have any changes to your small group or if you would like to join a small group.

Quilters is playing at the Playhouse. Thank you to all who helped make it a success. Everyone who has attended has enjoyed it. The Play will be extended an additional week. There is a link for information posted on the website. Peg Pennell recognized the contribution of Connie Kleinschmidt, who quilted the Legacy Quilt.

The Christmas party is December 15th. The tickets will be \$15.00. Members need to get their table together and buy tickets for the whole table at

one time. This saves a lot of confusion. The theme this year for the Caring Friends Auction is star(s). Contact Elizabeth Kennedy if you will be donating a quilted item for the auction. Tickets for the mini raffle will be sold at the November and December meetings at 3 for \$1.00. If you have donations for the mini raffle call Becky Draper. She will make arrangements with you to get them. If you have stockings to donate contact Pat Sears or Lois Palmisano. We still need a coordinator for the Angel Bags. We also need gifts for the children that are new and not wrapped.

The raffle quilt was made by Harriet Hagedon. She made it without a pattern and it is beautiful.

Property Chair, Andi Chakravarti, entertained us with a plea for "holders & folders".

Respectfully submitted
Kathy Mainelli

Modern Quilters

This month features our Newsletter Editor Elizabeth Kennedy.



How long have you been quilting? Off and on since I was a teenager and seriously since 1996.

Who or what inspired you to quilt? Watching Eleanor Burns on Saturday mornings. My family watched the shows with me. My son used to throw things over his shoulder to get rid of them like Eleanor. I had the opportunity to meet Eleanor when

we hosted the NQA show. I was thrilled to meet her! I embarrassed my friend Judy Unrein when I insisted she take a picture of us.

How long have you belonged to the Omaha Quilters Guild? Since 1996.

In what positions have you served? I started out as the Librarian moved on to President, and co-chaired a Quilt Show. I am currently the Newsletter Editor and Caring Friends Auction Chair.

What was your first quilt and where is it now? My first quilt was a log cabin baby quilt for my Sister's first child. I used a rotary cutter for the first time to cut the strips. I didn't know I needed to buy a mat so I cut

the strips on the tops of magazines. The blade didn't last very long...The quilt was lost when her house burned down.

What is your latest quilt and what are your plans for it when it is completed? A baby quilt for my Granddaughter's first birthday. I agonized over selecting a "special" pattern and finally made a very simple quilt knowing it will get loved to pieces. I will keep searching for that special pattern to make when she is older and will appreciate it.

What has quilting brought into your life that you did not expect? Life long friends, being pushed outside my comfort zone and a lot of laughter!

Where have you traveled to see quilts, see a show, or to buy fabric? All over the Midwest. Now that my kids are on their own, I plan on expanding my travels.

What is your proudest quilting accomplishment? An alphabet quilt I gave to my grandson the year he started school. He practiced his ABC's with it.

Do you have any personal comments? If you aren't a member of a small quilt group I would encourage you to join one. Not only did I make life long friends but they helped me to improve my quilting techniques and encouraged me to try new things.

Camp Wannamakeablankie



Camp is fast approaching. Pack your comfy clothes. Plan on eating food you neither have to make or clean up. If you have special dietary needs please call the chef prior to arriving at camp.

Have you started stock piling your projects? This is a great stretch of time to finish up things or complete one big project. Please, remember that if you bring music it should be listened through your ear buds for your enjoyment only.

Camp will open at noon on Friday. **Please, do not arrive early!** We need to have everything set up prior to campers arriving and checking in.

You must be checked out of your room by noon on Sunday. We may sew until 3.

Please bring your blocks to camp. We will collect them all weekend. Remember blue and white. We would prefer blues to be batiks or hand dyes. Any shade of blue will do and whites only. We also need one, 1 1/2" strip from salvage to salvage of each color. Pattern can be found in this newsletter

and on the OQG website.

List of things to pack: flashlight, comfy clothes, camera, snack to share, sewing machine needles, nametag (If you took it home), ear buds for your music, jacket, projects, chocolate, and chocolate to share!

We look forward to seeing you at camp.

Dee Acklie and LeAnne Killion
Camp Directors

OQG Website Facts

Our Webmaster Roberta Willet has been busy over the summer sprucing up the OQG website. Each page on the website looks different. Its worth taking the time to check out all the changes.

Also if you missed hearing Roberta talking about the website at the September meeting,

here are some of the facts she passed on:

A visit happens when someone visits a site. One visitor can view multiple pages. If they visit again within 24 hours, they are counted as one visitor.

June 2004 was the end of the first year OQG website statistics were available, we averaged 975 visits per month.

For the year ending June 30, 2009 we averaged 8,116 visits per month. Totals visits for the year were 113,637!

Top cities to visit our website last year:
Sunnyvale, CA 20,578 hits
Mountain View, CA 12,874 hits
Tempe, AZ 2,087 hits

Leading states to visit our web-

site last year:
California 36,371 hits
Nebraska 11,018 hits
Arizona 2,203 hits

European countries who visited our website last year:
France 1,415 hits
Sweden 1,968 hits
Netherlands 393 hits
United Kingdom 266 hits

2009-10 OQG Workshop Registration Form

Please register on line using the form on the OQG website. Send your Check (payable to OQG) to Carol McCann, 13954 P Street, Omaha, NE 68137-1534

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, zip _____

Daytime Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Please sign me up for:

Linda Potter "Stairways to the Stars" Saturday Oct 10, 9am to 4pm

Linda Potter "Needle Magic" Sunday Oct 11, Noon to 6:30pm

Cost for each workshop: Members \$45.00

Location for both days: Country Inn and Suites, 11818 Miami St, Omaha, NE

If you need to cancel your attendance at the class, we require seven days notice for a refund.

Camp Wannamakeablankie Shoo Fly Blocks

To make two blocks:

Colors – Any blue. White on white (not beige or off white).

Cut 5 – 3-1/2" squares of each color

Cut 4 – 3-7/8" squares of each color

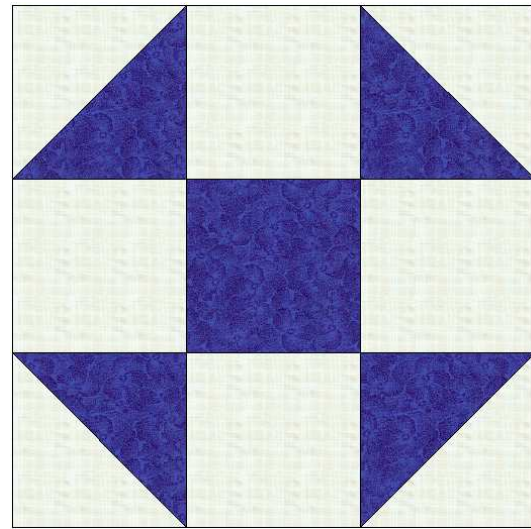
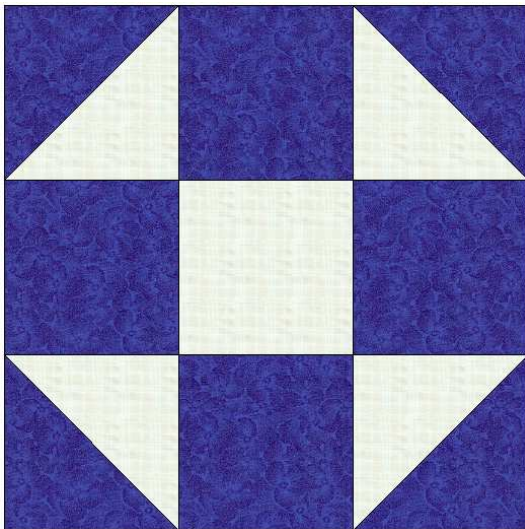
Cut 1 – 1-1/2" wide strip of each color (or two strips of each if using fat quarters, minimum 20" each). Just turn these in, as is. They will become the sashing.

Place one color each of the 3-7/8" squares, right sides together. Draw a line from one corner, across the diagonal, to the other. Stitch 1/4" from each side of the line. Cut apart on the drawn line. Open blocks and press seam to the dark side. Repeat with the other sets of 3-7/8" squares, forming 8 dual color half square triangle blocks for the corners. Check square size and trim to 3-1/2", if necessary.

Assemble half-square triangles and solid squares into rows and then columns to form the blocks as shown.

Block should measure 9-1/2" from edge to edge, including seam allowances.

Shoo Fly Blocks



Gatherings

At the Sept. meeting, I announced that I was in charge of getting 10 twin size quilts made to be auctioned off as art at a fundraiser called The Gathering, which is held each year to raise money to help sustain Sacred Heart School in north Omaha.

Gracious people throughout Omaha generously support this school. The auctioneer usually starts the bidding on each piece at \$1,000; each item usually sells for ~ \$3,000.

Additionally, 2-3 'bonus' donors are found to enhance the bid, thus each art piece (quilts this year) usually raises \$10,000. I am making an "art"

quilt pillow for each of these additional donors, and thus will need ~30. I wasn't very clear at the meeting what I meant by an "art" pillow and I think I scared some of you away who might enjoy making one of these. I just meant that I didn't want any Sunbonnet Sues or yo yo's. This would be a great chance to try out that intriguing paper-pieced pattern you always wanted to try, or maybe a few blocks of a New York beauty. Your design could be as simple as using some of the fun Betty Boop or I Love Lucy or other interesting fabrics that are out there, and adding a little more pizzazz with a few beads or decorative stitching. How about

a Snails Trail or 3-D Tumbling Block or Attic Window using sophisticated colors or gradated batiks? These don't have to be pieced; you could try thread painting, felting, fusing, Paint Sticks, or even hand embroidery or appliqué or a crazy quilt design. You don't even have to make the entire pillow. If you just want to make the 18" pillow top, I will be glad to make it into the actual finished pillow (either way, I will supply your pillow form). Where else could you get the chance to make a unique pillow, knowing that someone will donate thousands of dollars and receive your work as a thank you gift????!! Many of these will go to corpo-

rate offices and your name will be on your piece.

I'm also going to take my Bernina down to the school and let each of the 200 students sew a few pieces of fabric together. If you are free during the day and like to work with kids, I would love to have you join me.

Thanks for any help you can give. I also need several more volunteers to help machine quilt a few of the 10 twin size quilts.

The date of the Gathering is March 27, 2010. Contact Teri Quinn at teriSEWand-SOW@aol.com if you have any questions.