



A note from the Editor: We're baa-ack! And seem to be off to a good start, albeit a slightly slower one than planned. It's been really busy here but hopefully I'll have some time soon to actually do some quilting. Anybody else have that problem?

We're going to try something different this time. Hereafter, instead of 'news', we are going to be a fun magazine and print stories about individuals within CFQG, including but not limited to: Stories about yourself, your children, grandchildren, pets, and so forth. Also, please ask your Queen Bee to send in recipes, **lots** of pictures, jokes, tips and tricks, projects you're working on, etc.

Hope you enjoy the 'almost' new Buzzette, it's going to be a wild ride! Have a great Spring! See you in July! -Ed



Southern Patches Members Welcome Spring

We have gotten off to a busy start this year. It's time for us to send in our blocks for our first charity project. Ms Thimble will wave her magic wand and mumble a few words to turn the blocks into quilts. The quilts will be donated to ABC quilts for at risk babies. Then we start on our next project. Quiltsrfun will wave her magic wand, say a few words and quilts will appear for "The Pregnancy Crisis Center".

We were blitzed with a fabric attack by the madwomen. We were the lucky recipients of fat quarters from members of the madwomen. What a wonderful surprise! We look forward to doing other things with our sister group in the future.



Friendship Knot

The Patches will begin round robin quilt tops in April. This is a great way to make a quilt top together even though quite a few miles separate us. And we Southern Ladies also have a few other things we are kicking around. But we cannot tell anyone just yet...



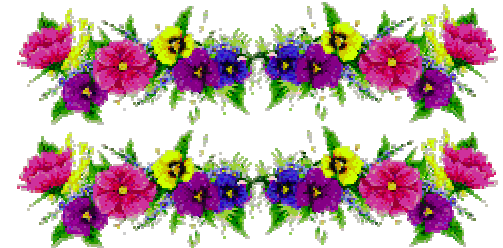
Cardinal – A sure sign of Spring

Helpful Hint for all those over 25

If you're beginning to have trouble threading your needle, invest in a Clover cassette threader or a Clover desk threader. This will make your life LOTS easier! Your needles can be stored on the cassette until needed. I have bought one for everyone in my family and most of my friends. It's been very helpful as I stitch my redwork blocks. MsThimble



Ms Thimble's first grade students entered their plants in the county fair and won ribbons for their plants. Her mother is on the left. Her garden club recently celebrated its 50th anniversary



Snowflake Quilters Hive

There are 3 surefire ways to stay warm during the cold, snowy winters in Illinois, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Ontario, Canada, New York, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Indiana - Quilt, Quilt, and eat lots of chocolate!! Hmmm . . . sounds like a good motto for our group!

Members this year include:

- | | |
|-------------|--------|
| Andylee | Anida |
| CraftyCara | Cara |
| Jomyke74 | Traci |
| char77 (QB) | Char |
| deedee | Diana |
| lionpride | Dani |
| momtat | Truth |
| rastraus | Ruth |
| tommitalk | Rose |
| AuntJo | Joanne |
| Gmahelen | Helen |



The group has become quite the family affair - Dani and Diana are sisters, and Rose is their mother. Not only do they quilt together, but they also play practical jokes together! Diana and Rose drove 2 hours to the town where Ruth lives just to mail a Secret Sister package so that the recipient thought it came from Ruth!!! Char and Ruth are also sisters who have a bad fabric addiction and get together to shop often. Truth and Cara recently found out that they live about 20 miles apart and have scheduled some get-togethers, and Joanne recently met a fellow guild member at a local quilt shop in her area! It really is a small world. Now we just need a road trip to meet Helen and Traci!

We've been having a blast doing the Block Lottery this year. We have challenged each other to see who can get their blocks in first. Rose won for the first couple of months, but we are all trying very hard to beat her! A few are doing the snowman Redwork BOM and the BOW - you should take a look at those blocks!! We chat daily in our Yahoo Group and have posted pictures of family and pets along with our quilts!

Our first community project is for an outreach group in Pennsylvania. We are each making our own quilt(s) and then mailing them to Truth for distribution in May. We will then vote on our next project due in November.

Until next time~

Char



The Fabric Lover – A Story

A woman shopped in our fabric store while her husband ran an errand. She was busy buying cuts from several bolts of quilt cotton when he returned. Surveying the mounting purchase, he asked, "Are you taking all of this?"

"Oh, yes," she replied, waving her arm at the display of fabric behind her, "but look what I'm leaving behind."

author Teresa A. Soll copied from Reader's Digest March 1989

DIVA'S DOINGS

The Diva's are continuing their charity project with the small quilts for Children's Advocacy Center. For those who do not know, this organization services the needs of children who are in dangerous or tragic situations. The age range is from infant to older children. We found out about this organization from one of our members who belongs to Woodmen of the World. The Woodmen group has been donating items, such as crayons and coloring books, stuffed animals, etc., to the CAC for years and this year, they asked what they really needed. The answer was "quilts or blankets". Well, we jumped on that idea and have provided them with 34 quilts since late last year. We have 10 ready to go, 17 more in progress and have decided to keep this as our charity project for CFQG. It is heartwarming to know that the children are

receiving a "hug in a quilt" but also heartbreaking to know the reason for the need. May God Bless all of these children and keep them Safe.

On a lighter side, the Divas are swapping seasonal Table runners this year. Last year we did wall hangings and the results were amazing. The talent of these ladies is fantastic. We have already swapped the Spring runners and everyone was thrilled with the results. We are now working on the Summer runner that will be swapped by May 15.

We have 4 ladies in our group that have birthdays in April. We send birthday greetings and a FQ to each lady. It is so much fun to receive these FQ's in the mail as well as the warm wishes that accompany them.

Are you aware that we are an international group? We have a member from New Zealand, Pat (Daphne's Mum). We also have a Texas Snowbird who will be returning home to Canada in the next month or so. All of us in the Tyler area are hoping that Claraine and Harold will plan their homeward bound route through our area so we can meet them and have dinner and visit. We were delighted to meet them when they stopped off on the way South for the CFQG Thanksgiving Dinner. Which, by the way, everyone is invited to attend this year. It's so exciting to meet with "fellow cyber-quilters" we have come to know over the year.

Several of the Divas are getting ready to attend the Tyler Azalea Quilt Show held the first weekend of April. We usually meet with some of the Stompers who come to the show also. This is a great show and well presented.

This is all of the news for now. See you next time.



Volume 1, Issue 1 - April/June 2006

LindaTX, Queen Bee of the Nimble Quilting Divas.

Oops, I also found a cute picture from one of our members! Here's the explanation behind it:

One of our members, Lynnae, has a little grandson named Liam. His mother kept finding him outside and couldn't figure out how he got there! She finally caught him. Here's a picture of him escaping through the dog door! Too cute!

Judy



Liam's Escape Route

Cross Country Quilters (CCQ)

The Cross Country Quilters have members from Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Wyoming, Kansas and Western Canada. We now number 18, with all but two participating in almost everything we do. We meet each Thursday night online, sometimes for business, but mostly to chat and have fun and bond. Meetings are usually attended by at least 6 members and sometimes up to 12 participate. We laugh a lot and have such fun! Most business is done through e-mail and snail mail.

The Cross Country Quilters got off to a bit of a slow start in 2006, but are now running at full speed! Our Community Projects are being chaired by a number of people in the group so the responsibility is spread among us. Here is some of what we are doing:

Row by Row Quilts

The group has been divided into groups of four people. Each group decided on a theme and color scheme. Each person will do a row of a Row-by-Row Quilt and

send it along with sashing, border fabric or backing to the next person, who will add their row and in turn send all materials on to the next person. The last one in the group will put the quilt together and sandwich and quilt it. Each person has a deadline by which they need to send it on. These quilts will be donated when they are completed. Ann in OR/Dwynn is heading up this project.

Challenge Quilts

Last year, as you may remember, the CCQ members each received a square of challenge fabric from which we each made a block. They were posted on the CFQG site and all members were asked to vote on them. The winner received a fat quarter packet. We had so much fun with these that we decided to do it again and the winner, Nan, stepped up to be the chair of the project this year. We have just received our fabric for this year and will all be working on our 2006 Challenge Blocks. Be watching for them on the CFQG site so you can vote for the winner of this year's prize!

Table Runner Swap

Those who choose to participate in this swap are paired with another member of the group. Each of them sends their partner a FQ of fabric along with any size requirements/wishes they may have. The partner then uses the FQ and other fabric from her stash to make a table runner for the other one. I'm so curious to see what lovely table runners are made from this swap!

Block of the Month

This is another project that, due to its popularity, is continued from last year. Each month, one person signs up to be hostess. That person designates what size, pattern of block, and colors they wish to receive and the others in the group send her two blocks from her choices. The hostess makes the blocks into quilts, hopefully one for herself and one to donate to a charity. Since most of the members contribute blocks to these quilts, they can be donated as a group community project.

Sharon/cabinqlter, our Community Projects Chair, and I have a couple other things in store for later in the year, but for now we are trying to focus on what is already in progress. Sharon has sent each of us a roster of the other members

with their addresses and phone numbers, birthday, anniversary and other pertinent information, and a listing of the BOM Hostesses, their months and choices. We have also decided that those of us who can are going to try to make it to the SewExpo in Puyallup, WA next year. Eighteen of us met there in 2005 and went out to lunch and on a Mini Shop Hop. We gained a couple new members from that meeting (friends whom some of us brought along) and had the most wonderful day! We want to do it again!

JudyOR/Judy Minami, Co-Queen Bee

Here's the buzz from the Hummigees

The newly formed Hummingbees are off to a great start this year. We started out by gathering together a bunch of lost and lonely bees, chose a name, a Queen (MaJ) and a CoQueen (mjinia). Now we're humming along with our community projects, Maggie Smith's Quilts with Love and The Good Earth Village

.The biggest news in our hive is our new little bee, Rockin Bobbin's new little baby boy Aaron Nathaniel. Check him out in the Nursery. He's cute as a bug's ear!!

We are meeting twice a month and are having a great time getting to know each other.

Maj/Liana

Stompin' Stitches

A big Hello from the Stompin' Stitches! We are off to a great start for the first quarter of 2006. We have chosen the recipients for both our Charity Projects (CP's) for the year. The first CP will be crib quilts for the Shriner's Pediatric Burn Unit in Galveston; the second CP will be twin size quilts for the VA Hospital in Houston. We have voted to keep the Shriner's Burn unit as a permanent CP so we will be making crib quilts for them year round. We are excited about our projects and have a number of crib quilts completed.

We are continuing our Birthday FQ swap this year and we will be making Four Season Wall hangings for our fun project. We will "swap" them in November at the annual Thanksgiving Dinner in Tyler. We hope to see a lot of our "out-of-state" CFQG cyber Sisters at the dinner this year! If at all possible you need to come to this gathering, we have soooo much fun!!!!



The Buzz from the Stomper Hive:

We have one new member this year, Jackie, from the Gladewater/Longview, TX area. Jackie is the president of her local quilt guild so we look forward to her sharing some of her quilting experiences with us. Jackie and Gladewhite (Cynthia) went to a quilt retreat recently. We're waiting for a report from them on what they did while they were there.

Kfb (Kim) and her DH are finally out of their motor home and back in their house. They are making excellent headway on rebuilding the parts that Hurricane Katrina destroyed. They still can't use their kitchen but Kim does have her sewing room back!!!! Yea, Kim!!!! *Ed. Note: We must keep our priorities straight!*

Carol took a one-day workshop with Billie Lauder in Galveston. Way to go, Carol!!!! She has also volunteered to do some of the quilting on our CP projects. Quiltob-session has been doing most of the quilting for us so she is very happy to have some help!!

Quiltobsession (Kathy) is our "gad-about" Stomper, she just returned from a trip to Little Rock. Now she is getting ready for a cruise trip with 4 of her sisters!!!! She also stays busy going to her grandson's ball-games. She has completed 3 crib quilts for our CP project. Don't know where she finds the time!!!! *Ed Note: Please tell us your secret, Kathy!*

Heartoftexas (Marv), and her husband are going to visit Washington D.C. the first of April. They should get to see lots of cherry blossoms. They also make frequent trips to the Dallas area to check on Marv's elderly aunt.

Charlie (grannycharlie - that's me) has been busy planting new azaleas and a dogwood tree during our recent spring like weather. As soon as the first warm days appear I have to get out in the dirt and start digging! I'm running out of space to plant things!!!!

One of our members, Stitchn' (Pat), lost her dear mother at the first of the year. The Stomper's and CFQG made a Comfort quilt for her and the Stompers sent flowers. Several of our Stompers have family members who are experiencing serious health issues so we ask that you keep them in your prayers.

That's the Buzz for now; see you again in three months!!!!

A message from Pat:

I would like a special notice be made that my Stompin' Stitcher Sisters made me a Remembrance Quilt in honor of my Mother who died two days after Christmas. The quilt was the most beautiful thing, in all the colors of pinks and purples and lavenders which were mother's favorites, and mine. Mother would have loved this quilt. She always thought every quilt block I made was just beautiful. Even though she didn't sew, she loved the quilts and was so impressed with my Cyber Friends and all the good times and quilting we share with each other. So for my mother and myself... Again, Thanks so much to all the Stompers. You are just the best friends there are.

Pat Mills... Stitchn

(* Note from Charlie: Some of the blocks in Pat's quilt were made by the CFQG members.)

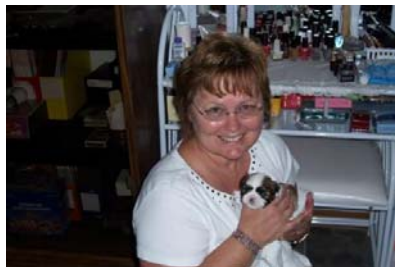


Pat's Comfort Quilt

Sunshine Quilters

We've been busy lately too.

See pictures of Vicki and her new Miss Molly, to young to come home yet.



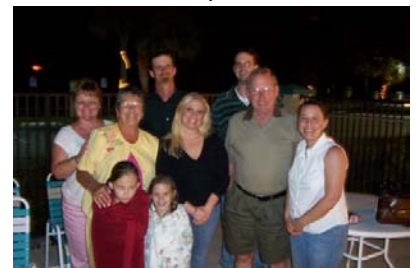
Vicki & Miss Molly (2 wks young)

Jeanette and boys with the first Miss Murphy (she got sick and couldn't come home with them but found another good mommy). Second Miss Murphy is at home and doing great.



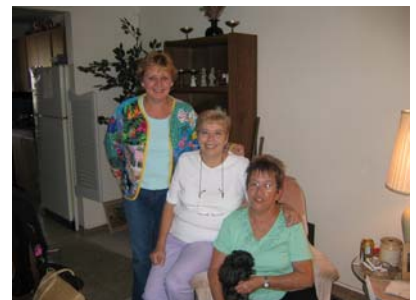
Miss Murphy (also 2 wks young) & Friends (Jeanette & Boys)

Vicki had several family members visiting recently and took some pictures of her great-looking family



Vicki & Family

Suzi had a day-retreat at her house in late January. Several former and current members enjoyed a day of show-and-tell, eating, and good fun.



Mel, Diana, Miss Crissi, & Suzi

Another remedy for quilters' sore fingers:

After hand quilting, soak your fingers in rubbing alcohol for 30 seconds. You will be surprised at how good your fingers will feel next day. Keep a bottle just for this purpose.

Brooxie



Quips & Quotes –

A Little something to put things in perspective...

After a forest fire in Yellowstone National Park, the forest rangers began their trek up a mountain to assess the inferno's damage. One ranger found a bird literally petrified in ashes, perched statuesquely on the ground at the base of a tree. Somewhat sickened by the eerie sight, he knocked over the bird with a stick. When he gently struck it, three tiny chicks scurried from under their dead mother's wings. The loving mother, keenly aware of impending disaster, had carried her offspring to the base of the tree and had gathered them under her wings, instinctively knowing that the toxic smoke would rise. She could have flown to safety but had refused to abandon her babies. Then the blaze had arrived and the heat had scorched her small body. The mother had remained steadfast. She had been willing to die, so those under the cover of her wings would live. "He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge." (Psalm 91:4)

That's it for this time ladies! Hope you enjoy, and see you in July!

PS – Sorry, but computer is acting up and can't get this to format correctly to save my life! Hope to have it fixed by next time.



!!!!This just in!!!! Today (April 8th) is Evelyn and Mel's anniversary, so here is Mel all wrapped up in his new Baseball quilt that Evelyn made for him.



Mel happily wrapped in new quilt