

## *Newsletter #12, Month of July, 2007*

The Quilters II newsletter is published weekly during the season, and monthly during the off season

With this issue of the newsletter, we are shifting to a much more informal and relaxed format until the snowbird invasion later this year.

The following general report was submitted by Adrienne Bortell.

This is your summer reporter sending greetings from Tucson! We may be experiencing record temperatures ... that's a high, ladies ... but our quilting room is a cool place to be. Our numbers have dwindled quite a bit ... we're down to 10 regulars but we're busy little bees and have not only been very productive but we're having lots of fun.

Eleanor Plienes is back from North Carolina and it's just like she never left us ... we're trying to keep up with her production. She started out with placemats and soon filled up the shelf, so we stepped her up to full sized quilts where she belongs. She suggested, when possible, making the placemats like pillow slips, wrong sides together, sewing them together and turning them right side out. This means that you don't have to sew and then stitch a binding. And they look marvelous.

Barbara Atwell took her yearly trip to Washington, this year to see her grandson graduate, and came back with a badly broken arm that needed surgery. She's doing better and, I'm sure, would love to hear from you.

Jan Tuttle bit the bullet and bought an HQ16. She negotiated with the company for quite a while in hopes of getting a left-handed machine but they finally turned her down, so all you lefties ... forget it. As a consolation prize, they got Bernina to set up her machine but it sounds like it was more like a penalty. It seems that they had never set one up before and it became a comedy of errors. Jan should get a medal for patience. Don't touch that one. We hear that Jean Nickelson is also getting an HQ16. Anybody else?

Pat Davis returned from California with a lot of great cowboy fabric ... enough for 4 quilts. It was parceled out ... we'll see what the recipients come up with.

As for activities, we had a workday centered around the Chinese coin design. Vel's team whipped a quilt out before the end of the session. Claire and Anna decided to concentrate on the signature quilts we are trying to stockpile during the summer ... and decided to rethink the size of the blocks. A quilt was finished from that but we're still developing the concept. Any suggestions would be appreciated. Several Wonky Star quilts have been finished ... we have a lot of finished quilts in the closet.

Since a couple of our members were not familiar with all of the quilt shops in our area, we decided to do a shop hop. Six of us visited Quilters Market, Bella, Quilt Basket and Quilter's Desert Patch. Some of us bought lots of fabric – we won't say who – and then we treated ourselves to lunch at Argenziano's at Houghton & Sahuarita –a super suggestion from Bev. A great time was had by all.

I'll close by sharing an interesting news item just to let you know what you're missing this summer. Faculty and staff from UA College of Public Health stuffed several cars with food last week ... potatoes, Spanish rice, brownies and cake ... to see if they would cook. The brownies and rice were ready to eat at 4pm ... a cooking thermometer in the rice read 170°. The message was "Don't leave anything in your car that you wouldn't leave in your oven." Did I say it was hot?

Adrienne

### *Committee Reports*

One committee has not totally vanished for the summer. Kudos to Sue Patch, who submitted the following.

Hi everyone - I hope you are having a busy, productive summer - or a very leisurely one...your choice. In a later newsletter, I will provide you with a more detailed schedule, but right now, I am interested in opinions.

Ellie Briefer has suggested a class on quilting on a regular machine. Things to cover might be:

- selecting designs
- dealing with the "bulk" of a quilt
- appropriate stitches
- tips for success,etc.

Is there someone who would like to TEACH this subject? When? How long a session(s)?

I'm wondering if there are people who would like to tackle a new block, but don't understand the instructions, or need to change the size, or whatever. Perhaps a problem-solving session. At our vocational school, we used to teach "Sewing Workshop" and students came and the teacher worked with individual(s) with their project. Anyone could "listen in" on projects and often the teacher did informal demonstrations to better show a technique. Is there any interest in having "Quilting Workshop" this season? Could be a few hours a week, or each month.

Do either of these ideas seem interesting? Do they inspire other ideas? Please respond to: Sue Patch at [jspatch@mwt.net](mailto:jspatch@mwt.net)

Thanks, Sue Patch, for the education committee

### *Comments from the Editor*

One of the group sessions was devoted to place mats and other activity. A group of pictures have been placed in the Picture Gallery on the Web Site.

Claire and Anna are both using the summer as an opportunity to push the envelope a bit, and develop their HQ16 quilting skills. Both are making good progress in mastering new techniques. In the process, they are also churning out finished charity quilts. What a deal.

Jan Tuttle is not far behind, with her new HQ16 up and running. Freedom from contention for resources, and the ability to quilt at any time of the day or night make quilting a lot more fun.

What is your favorite web site related to quilting? Please submit the web address and associated information to me via the submission form on the web site. We would like to add it to our links page.

Speaking of the web site, we have added financial reports to the “Members Only” section. We all owe Adrienne Bortell a debt of gratitude for the excellent job she does of managing and accounting for Quilters 2 finances. Accountability and transparency are the name of the game. Adrienne plays the game well. Those members who are unable to access the Internet can still review the reports at the Monday meetings.

Members are encouraged to submit comments, suggestions or news items for possible publication in this newsletter. Publication discretion will rest with the editor at all times.