

Newsletter #125, Month of July, 2011

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

The purpose of the newsletter is to provide information, in advance of the Monday meeting to reduce the amount of announcements and discussion at the meeting. Submissions for publication in the newsletter can be made through the Newsletter Submission form located in the "Member's Only" section of the website, or in an email to Frank Fuqua confuqua@gmail.com.

The deadline for submission is 5 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month. The newsletter will then be placed on the website as soon as possible thereafter.

Reminders: We meet Monday mornings at 9:00 a.m. and will begin the meeting at 9:15. Sign-in sheets, Quarter for a Quarter raffle and the "Tip jar" are on the lay-out table at closest to the sink in the back of the room.

For New Members Only

If you are new to Quilters II be sure you connect with Vel Peters after the meeting so she can give you a tour of the sewing room, explain what-is-what and answer any questions you may have.

From the Substitute Summer Editor (Adrienne Bortell)

Summer is here ... with a vengeance! I put a picture of the big snowstorm we had several years ago on my desktop to get some psychological relief. The monsoon is trying very hard to get started ... it's hard to believe how wonderful it is to hear the sound of thunder ... rain is right around the corner.

You can tell the news from Quilters 2 is pretty sparse when I start out with the weather. Vel is away for a while so I'm filling in as reporter. Attendance is down to 6 or 7, even less on the Wednesday workday, but we have discussed several topics important to the group. We had a big discussion about the upcoming "Christmas Raffle" – whether or not to do it at all; should we rely on the January quilt for the bulk of our income; what are the alternatives? The Christmas quilt doesn't make much money so we decided to offer placemat sets as an alternative ... they were a big hit last year. We will do our Halloween coffee like last year and solicit donations there. So far, we have 5 Halloween quilts finished and more in the pipeline. We need to rev up production but our main worker bees are out of town. Also discussed, and approved, was the acquisition of new, sturdier poles for the HQ16 ... I am working on that. Jan was approached by Alice Chang of the Association for Cancer Wellness for a quilt to be raffled off starting in October. We decided to take that on and do a paper pieced, maybe NY Beauty, design. The one we did for Quilt for a Cause was pretty spectacular.

Along with the individual quilts we're all doing, we decided to paper piece a bunch of half square triangle blocks using the Halloween scraps. We passed out the printed papers for 3" squares so we had lots of design options. One quilt is already on the wall, a second is in progress, and we're just getting started. It's a nice option to the panel quilts.

That's the news for now, comments are appreciated. Lynne wanted me to print out a formula I found for enlarging blocks to a specific size. Previously, I did it by trial and error ... and went through tons of paper. The only caveat is that you can only enlarge to 8 1/2" because that's the size of the copy paper. If you want to enlarge to 12 or 14, you'd have to take it to Kinko's, but you'd know what percent to use. The formula is

Divide the finished size wanted by the size of the original pattern and multiply by 100.

So, if you want an 8.5" block, and what you are starting with is 4.5 $8.5 \div 4.5 \times 100 = 189\%$
..... or for a 14" block it's $14 \div 4.5 \times 100 = 311\%$

On a final note, I thought all of you who took my appliqué class and turned in your flower blocks would like to see the quilt I made using them. I was able to include each and every one.

Stay well. Adrienne

