

Newsletter #13, Month of August, 2007

The Quilters II newsletter is published weekly during the season, and monthly during the off season. During the off season, the newsletter will be in a much more informal and relaxed format.

The following general report was submitted by Adrienne Bortell.

This is your summer reporter digging deep to find some news to keep you in the summertime loop. We are all learning new skills and working at getting a running start for the new season. The top shelf ... quilts to be finished ... is getting pretty empty as more of us are getting more experience on the Handquilter. I guess the biggest news is the list of new supplies we have added. We took a vote and decided to buy some more register-type stencils to use with the pounce pad, so we now have the S-curve as a base for feathers, circles, 1 1/2 inch lines, and a Basic 8 lines, which is the basis for so many designs. Plus we got the workbooks to go with each ... to stretch the imagination ... and the "magic" pounce pad that provides a more lasting mark than the regular powder. For the other side of the room, we now have a rotating cutting mat and for those who have complained about the rulers slipping, we are trying a new product called Omnigrid Invisi-Grip, which is clear and adheres, but does not stick, onto the underside of the ruler. Eleanor talked to some of her buddies in the woodshop and they built feet for our big ironing board. We raised it 4" so it's more comfortable to work there. I also made a cover for the ironing board in the big room, as the old one was really bad.

Since it is summertime and "the living is easy" as the old song goes, I decided to bite the bullet and try doing our labels the right way. So I ordered the Bubble Jet Set and set to work. Let me tell you that this is a process I will not willingly undertake again. It's probably worthwhile if you are doing a picture for the front of a quilt but to expend such time and energy on labels is questionable. First you have to soak each sheet separately in the solution for 5 minutes, hang to dry, press, then press onto the freezer paper (so it goes through the printer), let the ink set, wash the sheets, hang to dry, press again, and they're ready to cut apart. I did black and colors and they did not run when washed but they did fade. It was the consensus of the group that it wasn't worth going the extra mile unless someone out there is willing to take on the challenge. The suggestion was made that we look into ready-made labels. Do any of you have a source or other suggestions?

We had a great workday on Wednesday and decided to make it ongoing. Both Jan and Claire had made quilts out of the Nickel book so we took that on. I was fascinated by the fact that you could put 2 5" blocks together, make 2 half-square triangles, from which you get 2 light squares, 2 dark squares and 4 half square triangles. Sounds complicated but that was the easy part. Two of those combinations made up one block and it was a bear to put together. Not a beginner's quilt. We all learned a lot ... the most important thing was not to make that particular quilt again. But we had a lot of laughs and hope to finish the quilt this Wednesday.

Finally, I hope you all have watertight homes here because the monsoon is in full swing and we have had several pavement pounders in the past week. We're not quite ready to kayak down the ditch but our plants and trees are very happy right now.

Adrienne

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The following was received from the **Quilters Desert Patch**.

BIG, BIG, SALE AUGUST 8-11! 30% OFF EVERYTHING IN THE STORE, EXCEPT FLATFOLD. WE WILL BE OPEN EVERY DAY DURING THE SALE. WE NEED TO MAKE ROOM FOR ALL THE NEW FABRIC WE'LL BE GETTING IN SEPTEMBER!

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Comments from the Editor

Someone sent in some suggestions for publication. The message was lost with a lot of other stuff in a computer crash. The name of the submitter is lost somewhere in my faulty memory. My apologies. Please resubmit.

Members are encouraged to submit comments, suggestions or news items for possible publication in this newsletter. If the editor does not lose them, they may appear in print. Publication discretion will rest with the editor at all times.

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