

Lodi Valley Quilters' Guild

PO Box 132
Lodi, WI 53555

Current membership: 56



President	Mindy Skinner	592-5448
Vice President	Trish Priewe	592-4827
Secretary	Patti Hellenbrand	831-4234
Treasurer	Terri Escher	592-5838

Newsletter #3

May 2007

The fair is coming!

... are your quilts ready?

The guild is working with the Lodi Ag Fair to promote our active local quilting community. Don't get left out!

Please do your part by:

- **Entering** your quilts for judging
- **Loaning** an antique or unique quilt for the quilt turning
- **Reminding** all your friends, neighbors & family to attend the quilt events at the fair
- **Volunteering** .. we'll need help for the quilt turning, quilt exhibit, and more. Do you have a little time?
- **Attending** the 142nd Lodi Ag Fair, to be held Thursday, July 12 through Sunday, July 15, 2007

For more information on the fair, visit www.lodiagfair.com

Mark your calendar
for an

old-fashioned

QUILT TURNING

Saturday, July 14

starting about
3:30 pm

*immediately after the
celebrity pie auction*

Lodi Ag Fair

in the free entertainment tent

Can we count on your help?

HOME FURNISHING - DEPARTMENT 128

Articles should be finished within last 2 years.

All articles are to be hand or machine quilted except where specified.

A 4-inch rod pocket is required on all twin & larger quilts. All wall quilts must have a rod pocket and include rod for hanging.

Class D: QUILTS - Bed size, twin to king

11. Appliqued - hand quilted
12. Appliqued - machine quilted
13. Celebration of color quilt
14. Comforter, tied, tacked or buttoned (need not be quilted)
15. First quilt made by exhibitor, hand or machine quilted
16. Group commemorative quilt, 4 or more people. Attach to quilt a statement noting inspiration and/or purpose of quilt. (hand or machine)
17. Hand Quilted only, entire quilt
18. Long Arm Machine Quilting only- Quilt, top and back made by exhibitor, quilted on a long arm machine. Include name of person who quilted the quilt on the back of your entry blank.
19. Memory quilt to honor a person, couple or family. Made by one or more people. Any technique, hand or machine quilted. Attach an explanatory statement to the quilt.

20. Novelty Quilt (cathedral window, yo-yo, etc.). Need not be quilted.
21. Pieced - hand quilted
22. Pieced - machine quilted
23. Scrap bag quilt, at least 25 fabrics. Hand or machine quilted
24. Short or Long Arm Machine Quilting, made entirely by exhibitor, top and back
25. Any quilt using conventional home sewing machine for quilting
26. Any quilt using 2 or more construction techniques (ex. pieced & appliqued) - hand quilted
216. Any quilt using 2 or more construction techniques (ex. pieced & appliqued) - machine quilted
27. New! Any quilt using machine embroidery, may include one or more of the following embellishments, beads, machine quilting.

Lodi Ag Fair quilting categories

Lot# OTHER QUILTED ITEMS

28. Christmas tree skirt or stocking
29. Crib quilt, any technique
30. Miniature quilt (scaled down from a full size item)
31. Pillow, quilted design
32. Wall quilt, appliqued, unframed
33. Wall quilt, mixed technique, other unframed
34. Wall quilt, original/innovative, unframed
35. Wall quilt, pieced
36. Any quilted garment
37. Any table treatment (placemats, runner, etc.)
38. Holiday themed wall hanging, Christmas, Halloween, etc.

SCORE CARD FOR HOME FURNISHINGS

Design and general appearance.....	50%
Workmanship	40%
Material.....	10%

PREMIUMS:	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
	\$9.00	\$8.00	\$7.00	\$6.00

2008 Board & Committee nominees

PRESIDENT -board position

Nominated member: **Mindy Skinner**

Duties: Coordinates activities and ideas of members and the Board of Directors. Prepares agendas and presides at all meetings of the Guild.

Oversees fundraising and other Guild events.

Term is one year.

VICE PRESIDENT -board position

Nominated member: **Dotty Sutfin**

Duties: Presides over meetings in the absence of the President. Assists with the membership drive and fundraising. Chairs the By-Laws Committee and maintains the Guild By-Laws and Policies and Procedures. Term is one year.

SECRETARY -board position

Nominated member: **JoAnn Delap**

Duties: Record minutes of all meetings and present them at the following meeting. Maintain the guild calendar. Maintain any correspondence that does not relate to another Board member's position. Maintain official Guild records of minutes, correspondence, By-Laws, equipment list and other non-financial records. Term is one year.

HOSPITALITY -committee chair

Nominated member: **Mary Beth Wagner**

Duties: Set up refreshment table prior to meeting and oversees clean-up following the meeting. Recruit and organize volunteers for refreshments, set-up, and take-down of meeting room. Plans and implements the Summer Pot Luck Field Trip. Encourages members to wear name tags. Purchase thank you gifts for presenters. Term is two years.

NEWSLETTER -committee chair

Nominated member: **Trisha Priewe**

Duties: Publishes and distributes newsletters to the membership. Maintains a library of back issues of Guild newsletters. Solicits articles. Supplies copy for the Guild website and acts as liaison to the website maintainer. Term is two years.

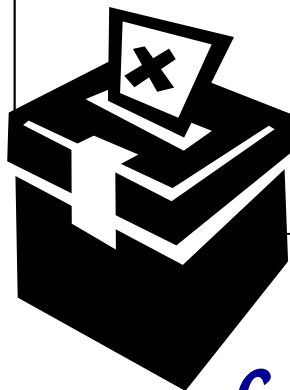
PUBLIC RELATIONS -committee chair

Nominated members: **Beth Ryan**

Duties: Prepare and distribute news releases and new member packets. Provide information to area realtors, new resident welcome packets, area posters, etc. Chair the annual summer new member drive. Term is two years.

Elections will be held at the April meeting for the board and committee positions listed to the left.

A description of each position is provided (paraphrased from the guild's bylaws) and also listed are the guild members nominated for each position.



We thought it would be helpful to you to meet these members with the following brief "getting to know you" bios.

Get to know a few members:

Joann Delap

I moved to this area from lola in 1962 when my husband took a teaching job with the Lodi Schools. We lived in town for 35-1/2 years when we bought a larger home in the country so my aging parents could live with us. We both retired in 1998 to care for my parents, who were having health issues.

We have a son and two daughters, one grandson and three granddaughters with another granddaughter to arrive in July. I started teaching in 1968, and

As a family we enjoy camping, hunting, fishing and watching the Badgers, Packers & Bucks. I enjoy crotcheting, knitting and crossword puzzles.

As a quilter, I am new to the art. I have always sewn, especially when the girls were young. I had never quilted until I joined the Comfort Quilters nearly two years ago, and I was hooked. I have finished three quilts that my husbands grandmother had pieced and as a goal for this year I am working on Grandmother's Flower Garden which she had done by hand and never finished. I made a necktie quilt, a quilt for our motor home and am currently working on a quilt for my oldest granddaughter for graduation from high school. I have sewn a few table runners.

I have learned many things, but I would like to learn more. I know there is a wealth of talent and knowledge in the Lodi Valley Quilters and I hope to gain something from you.

Beth Ryan

I've lived in Lodi my whole life. I haven't quilted in a long

Bios ... continued on page 3

time, and recently got back into it. I just finished a family tree embroidered quilt for my mother in all St. Patty's Day colors—you'll get to see it at the May meeting!

I work at Walgreens full-time nights, and my husband is a self-employed builder. We have two teen-aged boys. When I'm not sewing, I also enjoy gardening.

Dotty Sutfin

We bought our home in Harmony Grove in 1990. We kept the house as a cottage until we moved here permanently when my husband retired in 1998. I quit working to take care of my mother-in-law, which I did until she passed away in 2004.

I have always had a passion for crocheting, knitting, cross-stitch, needlepoint and spinning. I needed a change after the passing of my mother-in-law so I decided to try quilting. My mom and sisters have been quilting for a long time so I decided to see what they saw in quilting. I bought a used sewing machine when Good Samaritan had a garage sale and sold their machines. I took a beginning quilt class at Village Creek, and also joined the Lodi Comfort Quilters. They have been wonderful for showing me how to quilt.

My mom and sisters also have embroidery ma-

chines, so I went a step further and bought an embroidery machine. I have now found the love of quilting that my mom and sisters have had for years. I would say that I am a traditional quilter. I love to work with neck ties and I try to put embroidery on most of my quilts.

I am also an avid golfer, curler, and bowler. I spend most of my summer on the water - swimming, fishing. And anyone who lives on the water will tell you, I spend most of my summer entertaining.

Mary Beth Wagner

I have been quilting for over 25 years. I started before rotary cutters were invented. I'm not sure what kind of a quilter I am. I like speed piecing, but the last few years I have been making a lot of scrap quilts. I have been trying to use up my stash. I also like the look of machine appliqué and incorporate that into a lot of quilts.

I have a son Layne who is twelve and a daughter Kiley who is ten. They cut out all of my appliqué pieces for me. When they don't want to do that anymore, I will probably be done appliquéing. I don't have time to do hand work, but I can appreciate it. My favorite quilt site is www.quiltville.com. She has great ideas for scrap quilts and ideas on organizing your scraps and stash.

I have lived in the area my whole life. My husband Dale and I purchased a run down hundred year old house in '99. We both love old houses. I think I should have been born a hundred years ago.

Bios ... continued on page 6

Looking for a good reason to quilt?

Betty Bertrand recommends sewing for the organization Soldiers' Angels. This group collects & ships blankets and much more to wounded soldiers.

For more information, visit their website:
www.soldiersangels.org
and go to the "Blanket of Hope" section.

Betty says she and her sister have been sending lap quilts and have received numerous thank you notes, both from the organization and from soldiers, too.

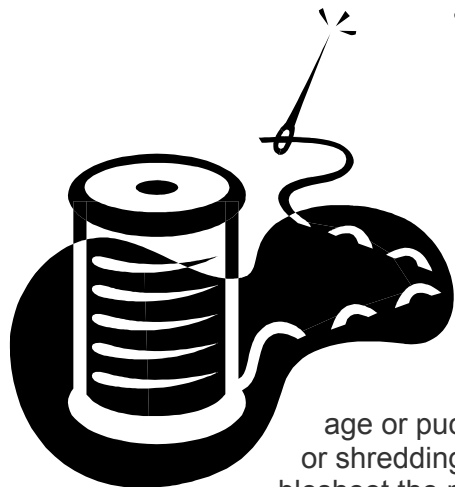


Guidelines

1. Size: 36/45" wide by 45/50" long.
2. Fabrics: fleece, knitted/crocheted, or quilted cotton/flannel with batting. If using double sided fleece, please finish the edges. If using single sided fleece, please back with another fabric. If using purchased fleece blankets, please personalize with buttons, appliqué, etc. If you are doing something with batting you can tack with embroidery thread or buttons to keep the batting in place instead of quilting.
3. Colors: Most recipients are men. Bright/patriotic colors are good.

troubleshooting seminar

Thread Education



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www.superiorthreads.com.

Help!

I'm having problems with breakage or puckering or looping or shredding. How do I troubleshoot the problem?

There are many players in the perfect stitch game. The machine, the thread, the needle, the tension settings, the batting or backing, the fabric, the thread path and thread guides, speed, use of lubricants or adhesives, thread delivery system, and perhaps even the weather.

Here is an easy and practical guide to problem solving.

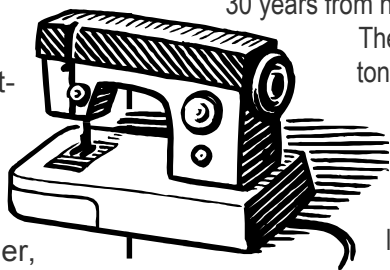
First, determine if the problem lies with the machine or with the thread. If you experience breakage or other problems with a particular spool of thread, put on another spool of the exact same type of thread (same brand, same type, and same thread weight) and test it, without changing any of the other variables or settings. It is OK to use a different color.

If the second spool works perfectly fine, we might have an easy fix. Try the first spool again. If it works this time, it was probably a threading mistake and the problem is solved. If the original spool still does not work, we can conclude that it might be a bad spool and needs to be replaced.

If the same problems occur with a second spool of identical thread, it's time to look at other areas.

Thread quality and usage: Are you using a good quality thread? Are you using it in the intended manner? Inexpensive serger thread found in bargain bins at discount stores are not intended for machine quilting. Fine, lightweight piecing threads may not be suitable for high speed longarm quilting. Linty and inexpensive threads may not be suitable for your application. Decorative heavier threads may be intended for couching, serger, and bobbin work; not for the needle.

Needle: Shredding is often the result of thread passing through a needle that is too small. It's like trying to lace up shoes with a shoelace that is too thick for the shoe eyelet. It will shred and eventually break. Some styles of needles have larger eyes than others. For home machines, the



Thread question ... ask the experts

Can I quilt with serger thread?

Yes, but why would you? Most serger thread on the market is the cheapest type of spun polyester thread. When used on a serger, multiple strands of this thread are overlocked, resulting in a strong and secure stitch. However, if used as a single thread for quilting, it is weak and fluffy.

It doesn't make sense to put \$2 worth of thread onto a \$300 quilt. Inexpensive serger thread has a loose twist, is not very smooth, has a lot of lint, and is not intended for single-strand use.

Will polyester thread tear my quilt?

This is a Top 10 question every year. The answer is No. If thread ever tears through the quilt, it is only because it was much stronger than the fabric.

Some cotton thread is stronger than poly. To prove this, get some glazed (or coated) cotton thread and compare its breaking strength to a similar size polyester thread. Polyester is perfectly safe to use. Choose the thread by its quality and for the effect it gives and ignore the myths.

What is the shelf life of thread?

A good quality thread today will last much longer than thread which was made 20 or 30 years ago. Even the best quality cotton thread of a generation ago did not have processing techniques available to us today and it would probably be best to avoid using them. However, a top quality cotton thread manufactured today will probably be fine to use 20 or 30 years from now.

The difference is due to a higher quality of cotton and advancements in spinning, dyeing, and twisting technology. As for polyester thread, the color may fade over the years with exposure to sunlight but there is no evidence that the thread deteriorates so it will last a lot longer than we will.

Topstitch and Metallic needles have the largest eyes and really do make a difference. Size 90/14 is recommended for medium to heavy threads and any sensitive thread. It seems that most stores I visit sell metallic needles, but

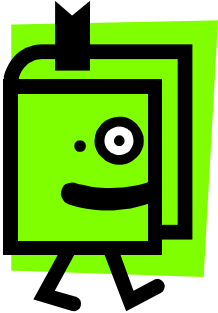
Thread ... continued on page 5

LVQG library news

So far, the proceeds from each month's Buck\$ for Book\$ has allowed us to purchase a new book for the library. Thanks to Patty at Village Creek for purchasing these at her discount!

A few of our latest acquisitions:

- **No-Sweat Flannel Quilts:** *Fast & Fun Designs* by Beth Garretson
- **Clever Quarters, Too:** *More Quilts from Fat Quarters* by Susan Teegarden Dissmore
- **Quilting in the Garden** by Barb Adams, Alma Allen & Ricki Creamer
- **Simple Blessings:** *14 Quilts to Grace Your Home* by Kim Diehl



LIBRARY CONTEST

Before the end of the year
(yes - December 31, 2007 is your deadline!)
make a quilt using a pattern you checked out from our library and you'll be eligible for a special prize drawing!

More details to come -
but check something out and GET SEWING!

Donations Welcome!

Do you have any books, patterns, or magazines you aren't using anymore? Why not donate them to the LVQG Library. You still have access to them, and others could enjoy them too!

BUCK\$ FOR BOOK\$

At each meeting you'll have the chance to purchase raffle tickets. Each \$1 gets you one chance to win that night's raffle prize. It's a different prize each month, valued at approximately \$7. All proceeds go to purchase books for the library.

Questions about the library?

Contact library chair
Linda Mitchell at 592-5527

Thread ... continued from page 4

they are almost always size 80/12. That is too small for metallic threads. Change to a 90/14. It is estimated that up to 10% of needles have some imperfections. Even if your needle is new, try another new one.

Tension settings: You have permission to change the tension settings. They are there for you. Most machines are factory preset to sew, using a fine (50 wt.) piecing or construction thread. Quilters and embroiderers often use medium wt. and heavier threads which require loosening the upper tension settings.

Whether your machine has an automatic or manual tension system, learning to adjust the upper tension will prevent and resolve a lot of frustration. On a scale of 1 to 10, the upper tension setting on most machines is factory preset to 5. Automatic tension systems may adjust the settings down to 3 or 3.5. That may not be enough. With metallic thread, we adjust the tension down to a 1, regardless of machine brand. The most commonly used tension settings for other threads are between 2.0 and 3.5. Don't rely on the factory presets.

Bobbin tension settings are usually more reliable, but it is still OK to make adjustments. Before doing so, make sure the bobbin case is clean and threaded properly. Use a permanent marker to mark the current setting so you know where you started.

Thread delivery: Sensitive threads, such as metallic threads, may need more care than others. Spools and cones are wound differently. Most spools are wound with a straight or parallel wind whereas cones are wound in a criss-cross pattern.

On stationary tabletop machines, straight-wound spools often perform better with the spool positioned on the vertical pin spool holder so the thread unwinds straight from the side. If you position the spool in the usual manner on the horizontal pin, the thread unwinds over the end of the spool and puts a twist on the thread as it unwinds. This twisting action may cause problems with a sensitive thread.

If your machine unwinds the thread over the top of the spool and not from the side, it is strongly recommended that you use only cones. Spools are not intended to unwind at high speed over the top.

Speed: Machines are getting faster and faster. Reducing the sewing speed often solves breakage problems.

Other factors: Some high sheen threads don't do well with adhesive sprays. Some fabrics are more densely woven. Some fabrics have sparkling coatings. On longarm machines, the tautness of the fabric between rollers affects the results (relaxed is better).

All these variables contribute to the end result. Fortunately, we have control over most of them!

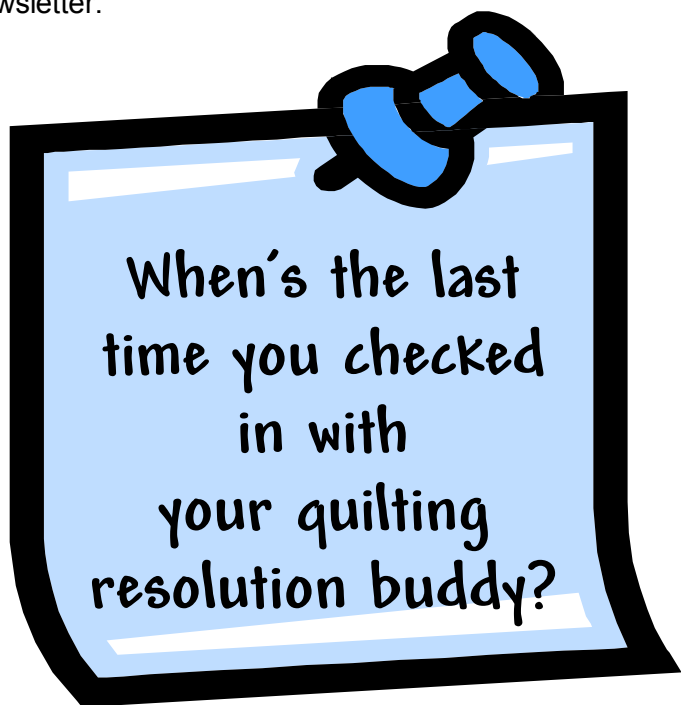
Bios ... continued from page 3

It's a mile west of Arlington on WIBU road. We have done most of the restoring and remodeling ourselves. We have also done extensive flower gardens and landscaping. Perennial flower gardening is my other passion. I love digging in the dirt and having flowers on my desk for half of the year. I don't quilt much in the summer because my flower gardens.

I work full time in Madison . My kids participate in five sports between them, so I am on the run a lot. I have been spotted at sporting events working on quilt projects. As a family, we enjoy biking and hiking. My husband and I enjoy staying at different bed and breakfasts, but only old ones.

Trish Priewe is the current guild vice president and public relations chair. Her bio was presented in the December/January newsletter.

Mindy Skinner is the current guild president. Her bio was presented in the December/January newsletter.



Just a note:

This first year of the guild has been amazing: we hoped for a little, and got a lot. **WOW!**

Thank you for being a part of Lodi's quilting community. In the crazy quilt of life, we're glad you're in our block of friends!

\$\$ report

\$ 601.06	Balance 3/10/07
- 15.79	book for library
- 11.33	February birthdays at Good Sam Center
- 14.00	expenses
+100.00	memberships
+ 53.00	Bucks for books
\$ 712.94	new balance 3/30/07

A few things no quilter should be without ...

S T E S C I S S O R S R I F
 T H R E A D A M S N I P R A
 L R A L N I B B O B T A O T
 S G D F R I E N D S M T F Q
 B E T H I M B L E E P T S U
 I N E E D L E S G D I E E A
 R O T A R Y C U T T E R U R
 O T A L C I T Q S T C N Q T
 N T L I E O B S A N I I I E
 H O O N R S L L M A N L L R
 S C C G F H P O A D G S P I
 A K O M Y M U J R D L U P N
 T D H A E N N O A W E M A O
 S H C T G N I T T A B S C S

- | | | |
|-------------|------------------|----------|
| appliqué | iron | template |
| batting | muslin | thimble |
| blades | needles | thread |
| bobbin | pattern | |
| chocolate | piecing | |
| color | pins | |
| cotton | rotary cutter | |
| fat quarter | scissors | |
| frame | self-healing mat | |
| friends | stash | |



Don't forget to have fun sometimes!

Mark your calendar

Date	Event	Details
April 14-15	Crazy Quilters 20th Anniversary Show	Park View Middle School in Mukwanago Email for info: lbohling@wi.rr.com
May 7	Lodi Valley Quilt Guild meeting	Bring a floral quilt show & tell, voting on board & committee chairs, machine maintenance program
June 10	Dalton Amish Auction	Carpool details below.
July 14	Quilt turning at the Lodi Ag Fair	Antique & unique quilts from members of the Lodi Valley Quilt Guild
July 25-29	9th annual South Central WI Quilters Road Trip	Shop hop around the southern part of the state, info will be mailed in May
August 4-5	Northern Lights Quilt Show	Ladies of the Lakes Quilt Guild, Minocqua
September 10	Lodi Valley Quilt Guild meeting	
September 13-15	WI Quilt Expo	Lectures, workshops, vendors, quilt contest, www.quiltexpo.com
October 1	Lodi Valley Quilt Guild meeting	
October 6-7	Lighthouse Legacies Quilt Show & Competition	Case High School in Racine, biannual juried show of 200+ quilts, www.lighthousequiltersguild.org
November 5	Lodi Valley Quilt Guild meeting	
November 8-11	Greater Chicago Quilt Exposition	Workshops, lectures, exhibit, www.quiltfest.com
December 3	Lodi Valley Quilt Guild meeting	

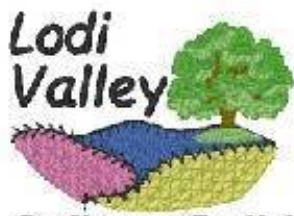
Interested in going to the Dalton Amish auction?



The Amish group from Dalton is loaning us their quilt display unit to use for our quilt turning at the Lodi Fair.

How about a carpool to their auction on June 10? We're leaving early so there's time to look before the bidding begins. We'll meet at 7 am in the Lodi Good Samaritan Center parking lot to organize drivers, riders and schedules for return—each car can have a different return time, if necessary.

Contact Mindy Skinner at 592-5448 if you have questions about the carpool.



Quilters Guild

PO Box 132

Lodi WI 53555

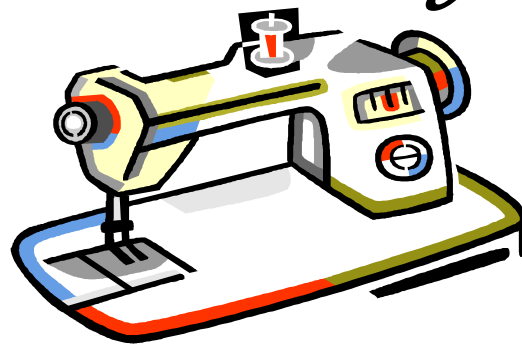
Come to the May 7 meeting

Rose Mary Huber Pauls

from Walcott Sewing & Vacuum in Madison

**will give a presentation on
sewing machine maintenance**

*How can you help your machine work better? When do
you need to have it serviced? Have questions ready!*



Show & Tell - bring a "flower" quilt to share

and bring your completed Mystery Table Runner to show!

Plus ... board & committee elections for next fall, snacks,
and as always ... great conversation with other quilters!

This will be our final meeting until September. Have a great summer!