



Lake Region Quilters Guild

# Notions

Quarterly Newsletter

Winter 2011



## What's up?

By now, everyone is finishing Christmas projects, or looking for a quick one to get done. I'm holding off on any large projects until after Christmas. I did, however, manage to convince myself to buy a couple of neat patterns at Quilt Essential! (How long can I hold out?)

We have some great plans to look forward to in 2012—a guest teacher, and a mystery quilt group for starters. Any other ideas, large or small, are always welcome!

I hope your Thanksgiving was bountiful and full of Grace. May Christmas, and all of your holiday this time of year, be special. I wish good things for you in the coming year.

*When I give to you what I make with my hands, I share my heart.*

Betty Jo Keith

## Christmas Party!

Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2 PM

Kathy Homan is our gracious hostess for the Christmas Party. She will provide the coffee and cider. Everyone who attends should bring a goodie, sweet or not. Directions to her house: Go 4 miles east of Devils Lake on the old Hwy 2. The house is on the north side of the hwy. It's a beautiful log home with a green metal roof. There will be no gift or fabric exchange this year. Let's just have a good time without worrying about another project!

## Officers & Chairpeople

The following people are willing to keep their positions: Sue LaFleur, secretary; Kathy Homan, Treasurer; Betty Je Keith, President; Sonja Moen, Vice President. Loretta Bloomquist volunteered to be Membership chair, and Jill Nesheim volunteered to be project/activities chair. Anyone else who wishes any position can contact a board member before the December meeting. An idea we discussed at the November meeting was the change from a newsletter to a Facebook site. If we do this, we will need someone to manage the site.

## Upcoming Meetings & Hostesses

**December 10<sup>th</sup>** – Christmas party at Kathy Homan's house.

Helpers: Kim Becker and Chryl DeSautel

**January 14<sup>th</sup>** – Facebook demonstration day. Bring your laptops if you wish, or just take notes. Hostesses needed.

**February 11<sup>th</sup>**- No program at this time.

Hostesses- LaMae Bergan & Betty Jo Keith

Program information: We have a committee working on plans to get Connie Selle to teach a class for the guild. Details will be given when they are finalized. Photos of possible projects should be available at the December meeting.



## Dues are Due!

Please pay your dues for 2012 by the end of February.

Loretta Bloomquist will take dues at meetings. You can also mail a check to her at 3103 24<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW, Devils Lake, 58301. If you need more information call her at 665-3170 or email her at daleg@gondtc.com.

## My Stash Overfloweth!!

How did this happen? How can this be? I know I'm not alone in this predicament. I have no more room for fabric! ( Unfortunately, I can't seem to stop buying it!)

2012 is going to be my year of the "stash quilt"! I'm cutting one now. Yup. It's a pain in the tush. But I can't let all that perfectly good fabric go to waste. And we are NOT getting a bigger house for my sewing needs!

I dug out my favorite patterns...they're from Glad Creations and look scrappy anyway. But you can use any pattern! If completely scrappy is too much for you, choose 3 or 4 colors and pull your scraps from them. Pull your brights for kids quilts, pastel for spring or summer quilts, red, white and blue for patriotic quilts, red and green for Christmas quilts. You get the idea!

Totally scrappy is too much for me, so I choose to use 1 background for my scrap quilts. If you have lots of cool backgrounds, by all means use those up too!

If you don't have a favorite pattern, don't forget the standards...rail fence, log cabin, pineapple...they all look wonderful scrappy!

So my challenge to you is to make a scrap quilt next year! Bring them for show and tell! It would be fun to have a quilt show with all our scrappy quilts!



A picture from the October meeting. Mary Ann Sheets gave a presentation about the Asante Network. There were many beautiful handmade items to purchase!

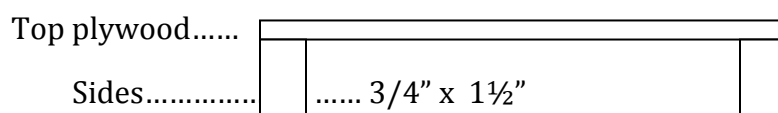
## How to make a 'Big Top' ironing board top!

I had written an article about how to make a big ironing board topper, then I went to the quilt show Grand Forks and bought one! It was just what I was planning to build, and the price wasn't much more than it would cost me to make it! So I saved myself (and my husband!) some time and aggravation.

My ironing board is 15" x 54". My topper is 18" x 60". This is just what I wanted. My sewing space is small. I really just wanted my board to not have a taper. Now, if you have a large space and want a large topper, go for it!

You can use either ½" plywood or chipboard for the base of your topper. Mine is chipboard. The sticker on the back said it was 7/16" thick. Whatever you use, make sure it is exterior grade wood. Over the years interior grade wood glue may fail from the steam. Cut the top whatever size you want. I would be careful about getting too large because of stability when you are pressing. The base of your ironing board ( the part that actually sits on the floor) is not increasing, so if you get too big, your board may get wobbly.

The sides of my topper are made of wood that is 1½" X ¾". 2 pieces are cut the same length as the length of your topper and 2 pieces are cut the width minus 1½". Run a light strip of wood glue along one of the ¾" sides. Keeping the edges even, screw the ¾" side of your strip of wood to the bottom of your plywood or chipboard at evenly spaced intervals. ( I would use about 5 screws on a 60" length) Do the same for the other side piece and both end pieces. A cross cut section should look like this:



If you are making a large topper, you may want to screw a piece of wood on the bottom of your topper at each end of your ironing board and possibly at each side. Turn your topper upside down and lay the top of your ironing board centered inside the "frame". Mark both ends and sides and screw a small block of wood there so your ironing board doesn't shift while you are pressing. My topper has no such blocks and I have not had any problem with it moving when I'm working.

Cut several layers of batting the length + 3" and width of the top + about 3". You want the batting to overlap to the bottom of the sides.

After you have your batting cut, measure from the inside of your 'frame', across the ¾" width, up the 1½" side, across the top, down the other side, across that ¾" and about an inch up on the inside. You need to cut your cover fabric the width of the top + about 7" and the length + about 7".

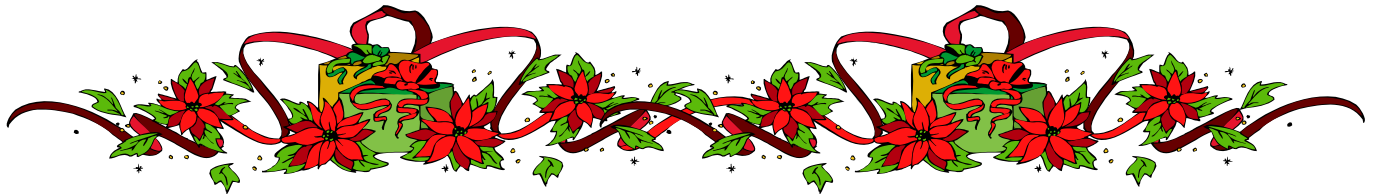
Lay your cover fabric wrong side up and your batting on top of that. Center the top of your plywood "frame" on your fabric and batting. Staple or tack the fabric to the inside of your frame on one side at about 2" intervals, pull the fabric taught across the top and down the opposite side, and staple to the inside of the frame. Repeat for the short ends. You can either miter or gather the corner fabric and staple that to the inside too.

I have included pictures of the bottom of topper for reference!



Corner of topper.  
Fabric was  
gathered together  
and twisted, then  
stapled.

If you think this sounds like WAY too much work, I bought mine from "The Sawdust Brother", Steve Schultz. Phone: 218-998-3488. Or email: [saschultz@prtel.com](mailto:saschultz@prtel.com)



## Show & Tell



Marsha made this beautiful quilt from a Marti Michell kit she bought at market. Wow!





Jill made this quilt from blocks she bought from Mary Ann at a previous Asante Network presentation. The batik prints are made by hand by women in Africa.

Katie says this is her first (and last!) custom quilted quilt! She did a very nice job...lots of feathers!



Audrey's Halloween table runner. Very cute!



## Quilting isn't just for quilts!

Recently I've seen some pictures in quilting magazines that make me go hmmmmm! I thought I'd share some of these ideas with you.



These photos are from the August/September 2011 Quilters Newsletter. You can find the full article there.



The picture below is from the October 2011 issue of *American Patchwork & Quilting*. This is the floor of a long arm quilter's studio in Wisconsin. Blocks were drafted and cut without seam allowances, mod-poged in place, and then varnished! Very cool! Complete article can be found in the magazine.

