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Fleur de Heartstrings Opportunity Quilt Copyright 2009 Designed and quilted by Kelly Gallagher-Abbott,

Time is flying by – I can't believe we're almost through April. I'm spending a great deal of my time sitting at Lacrosse matches and practices with my youngest son. It is nice to be outside, but it is definitely cutting into my sewing time.

I have a very exciting event coming up this week. I will be a medical guardian on an Honor Flight (as many of you know, I'm a registered nurse). This is a chartered trip from here in Northern Colorado where we'll be taking 130 second World War veterans and 60 guardians to Washington DC to see their monuments. Grab a tissue, and check out

www.honorflightnortherncolorado.org. I promise you'll be touched. Watch the video linked on the lower left part of the screen. I'm honored for the chance to accompany these men and women, most in their nineties, on this trip. It is an amazing effort coordinated by dedicated volunteers, and I invite you to check out and support similar programs in your local community. There is no cost to the vet. I'll be posting photos and more about this in the next newsletter. One of the highlights is that every vet on this trip is given a quilt upon their homecoming. The Greeley quilt guild (Piecable Friends) makes hundreds of guilts every year for this organization and Quilts of Valor. I commend them for their dedication and hard work. I actually learned about the Honor Flight from a vet that was on the last trip. He approached me at a local guilt display where I was showing the Navy Tribute quilt, and told me about how much he enjoyed his trip. He even went home to get his guilt and photo album, and came back to the show to share them with us!

I hope you are all working hard on your Naval Aviation quilts! If you need images, check out the Library of Congress. A wonderful DVD called "The Magic of Flight" is also very inspirational, and is available from the Naval

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Aviation's Museum at

http://www.navalaviation.com/magoffligdvd.html. It reviews the history of flight, and is beautifully produced. There are also many books available from the museum, The Smithsonian Air and Space Museum, and of course, from Amazon. Military photos are generally copyright free, so can be used in your design (please always confirm this).

As always, we love hearing from you, and appreciate when you help us spread the news about the challenge, show, and other events! Call me if you need press releases, fliers for your quilt show, or anything else, and please forward this to anyone you think would be interested

Rocky Mountain Quilt Festival

Friday, August 20th-Sunday, August 22nd, 2010

Rocky Mountain Quilt Foundation

www.rockymountainquiltfoundation.org

Fleur de Heartstrings Opportunity Quilt

It's done! The 2010 opportunity quilt made by some of us at the Rocky Mountain Quilt Foundation is completed, and tickets are being sold by ChildSafe of Fort Collins. This organization provides much needed therapy to children who have suffered from sexual abuse. To purchase tickets, please see the opportunity quilt section of

www.rockymountainquiltfoundation.org. The drawing for the quilt will be the final day of our show, August 22, 2010.

I designed and quilted this quilt, and the appliqué was done with help from other RMQF members. The quilting pattern was inspired by Cindy Cooksey's "Heart Strings" quilt that we made for last year's auction (see last page).

Since ChildSafe deals with issues that tug your heart strings, we opted to continue with the theme for this year's quilt. The quilt is 66" x 77", and is made with batiks and cotton batting. Please consider purchasing tickets for this lovely quilt, and supporting this great organization. I'll be offering this as a pattern soon, and will also offer the quilting pattern electronically to quilters with computerized longarms.



Fleur de Heartstrings Detail Copyright 2009 Designed and quilted by Kelly Gallagher-Abbott,

This is the third annual Rocky Mountain Quilt Festival. We will have between 600 and 700 quilts, garments, and other fiber art pieces on display, including the entire traveling Hoffman Challenge collection. This is a great show that features 9 Colorado guilds and nearly 100 vendors.

www.rockymountainquiltfoundation.org www.rockymountainquiltfestival.com

www.jukeboxquilts.com www.navyquilts.com www.rockymountainquiltfoundation.org

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Classes

We're thrilled to have <u>David Taylor</u> and Sharon L Schlotzhauer teaching post-show conferences. <u>Click here</u> for more details of classes taught by these talented and awesome teachers. Their classes will fill quickly, so register as soon as possible.



Sir Frances 2010 David Taylor

Nine Participating Guilds

This show is very unique in many ways. Not only will it be the only place the entire traveling Hoffman Challenge can be seen, it is a collaborative effort with guilds from all over Colorado. Last year, we had nearly 600 items on display. Please consider visiting us for this show! Additional classes are offered by CD Management, so there are many opportunities and visual treats for any quilt enthusiast.





Morning Visitor 2009 Sharon L. Schlotzhauer

New Regional Quilt Guild Organization

The Quilt Guild Network (QGN) was established to facilitate communication and collaboration between quilt guilds, teachers, and fiber art related businesses in our region. This operates under the umbrella of the Rocky Mountain Quilt Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization. Annual dues are \$30. The QGN will offer quarterly meetings, a public website and a Yahoo discussion forum for members only. The website will help increase awareness of quilting events across the region. Quarterly meetings will present topics of interest to guilds. We will vary the meeting location across the region.

The QGN will host an annual meet-the-teacher event where member teachers can give a short presentation to guild representatives. Guilds will have the opportunity to contract with the teachers at this event.

Our next meeting will be held on Saturday, May 1st at the Denver National Quilt Festival at the Merchandise Mart in Denver. I will present a short program on writing speaker contracts - what you need to include in the contract to protect your guild's interests. We'll meet from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. in room J-30. The Merchandise Mart is located at I-25 and 58th Avenue.

There is no cost for the program and you do not have to be a QGN member to attend, but there is a \$12 admission fee to the building and quilt show.

We hope you'll stop by to visit with us and learn more about QGN!



A Quilt Challenge and Traveling Display Celebrating 100 Years of Naval Aviation Kelly Gallagher-Abbott, Curator

Email: kelly@navyquilts.com • Phone: 970-224-9975

www.navyquilts.com

Sponsor Announcement

We are very pleased to announce that Robert Kaufman Fabrics has agreed to become a "Fleet Admiral" sponsor of the Thread Tails and Vapor Trails Navy Quilt Challenge. Kaufman will be donating \$12,500 worth of wonderful fabric for the prize packages! (Try out their Radiance line, this cotton/silk is extremely tasty. Photos don't do it justice, but when quilted it simply glows.)



Because this quilt exhibit will be seen by so many individuals, sponsoring is a perfect way to put your company or product in front of thousands of potential new customers! See the Sponsor section of www.navyquilts.com or contact me if you have any questions.

If you have received this newsletter from someone else, and would like to sign up for our mailing list, please click here!



This quilt, titled, "Our Tribute to the US Navy, Marine Corp, and Coast Guard Aviation" was made by members of the Pensacola Quilters Guild as a tribute to the men and women of the U.S. Navy, Marine Corp, and Coast Guard aviation. They serve their country's aircraft with dedicated service to ensure the safety of all citizens of the United States of America. The guiltmakers salute the National Museum of Naval Aviation for preserving this aviation history for future generations. This quilt took over 4,000 hours to complete, and is now part of the Pensacola Naval Aviation Museum's permanent collection. It is being shown to introduce "Thread Tails and Vapor Trails," a quilt challenge and traveling display celebrating 100 years of Naval Aviation.



The National Flight Academy

The National Flight Academy is poised to become the premiere aviation-inspired learning adventure for our Nation's youth, delivering a best-in-the-world experience that ignites students' passion for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). The curriculum will be based on these STEM principles designed to help prepare 7th-12th graders to compete in the challenging technological future. Attendees (up to 264 student "aviators") will spend 5 ½ days in an immersive, aviationbased learning environment reaching beyond the traditional academic experience. Fastpaced, aviation-based missions challenge and inspire "aviators" on a wide range of topics, from basic three-dimensional physics and motion to more advanced concepts of aeronautical engineering and propulsion systems. These missions all play into enhancing the aviators' education, ultimately enriching their understanding of STEM principles. Additional information is available at www.nationalflightacademy.com.

If you are considering donating your Navy quilt for auction, the proceeds will go to the National Flight Academy. Kids may apply for scholarships.

On a personal note – my youngest son, Ryan, visited Pensacola with me last November. He was profoundly impacted by the museum and pilots he met, and can't wait to attend a session at the National Flight Academy. He's been much more engaged in school, and has

NATIONAL FLIGHT ACADEMY

a deeper interest in doing well in math and science after hearing repeatedly how important they are in learning how to fly. If there was a sign up list for this Academy yet, he would have had his name at the top (it opens in the spring of 2011). There are many incredible things about participating in this challenge, but one of my favorites is that young people will be inspired and engaged by this wonderful place.



Overhead view of National Flight Academy (under construction)



Artist's rendition of National Flight Academy.

Other recommended websites for inspiration or information:

www.navalaviationmuseum.org www.blueangels.navy.mil www.cnaf.navy.mil www.nationalflightacademy.com







Heartstrings

This was the quilt we donated to ChildSafe last year for raffle. Over \$3,500 was earned! Designed by Cindy Cooksey of Irvine, CA, it was appliqued and pieced by members of RMQF. I quilted it. This quilt is always well received and a favorite of those who love bold graphics and color.

Recently a good friend's daughter fell ill and suddenly needed a liver transplant. It has been a terrifying time for this family, although she is now doing very well and is now home. I hope you enjoy seeing this guilt, and it serves as a good reminder to make it clear to your loved ones if you wish to be an organ donor. Robin, this beautiful high school senior, is alive thanks to a family's generosity at a very difficult time. Watching her condition deteriorate while fearing that a liver might not become available in time was simply horrifying. Many individuals die waiting as organs are in such short supply. Please consider discussing this with family and friends. I encourage you to commit to becoming an organ donor if you haven't already made this decision.

To order the Heartstrings pattern, click here.

Upcoming events:

Please stop by to visit us at the Denver National Quilt Festival V (http://quiltfest.com/). I'll have the Navy Tribute quilt on display, as well as the Fleur de Heartstrings quilt and my quilt made of this year's Hoffman Challenge fabric line. We'll be able to answer your questions about the Hoffman Challenge (Julie, the new curator, will be at the show on Saturday), the Thread Tails and Vapor Trails quilt challenge, The Rocky Mountain Quilt Foundation and show, and the Quilt Guild Network.

Please forward this newsletter to anyone you think may be interested. In upcoming issues, we will have more exciting announcements, free patterns and some really cool tricks and techniques. Email me at kelly@jukeboxquilts.com if you have ideas of what we can include here!

Book Recommendations

I love reading-always have. I am blessed with folks in my life who share this interest, so I keep a long running list of books others have enjoyed that I'm anxious to read. I thought I might pass a few of these recommendations on to you.

I've spent time two weeks ago in California visiting friends, family, and judging the "Best of the Valley" quilt show (awesome quilts!) I was due to fly out on a Thursday at 7 a.m., which was to be a two hour flight from Fresno to Denver that turned into a major deal. After five hours, it was officially canceled, and I was flown to San Francisco to catch a 4:30 p.m. flight home. After hours of delays in San Francisco, due to mechanical problems, we were told to unload for the third time to find other arrangements. I looked around at others as their blood pressures were shooting up and it was clear there were homicidal thoughts floating around, but I was happily insulated from a potential stroke by a simply hilarious book loaned to me by a friend, Patty B. This book is "The Sweet Potato Queens' Book of Love" by Jill Conner Browne. It came out in the late 90's, and has become the basis for several other Sweet Potato Books. Buy one immediately. If you are not a reader, order it on www.audible.com and download it to listen to while sewing, although I warn you that you soon won't be able to see straight, let alone sew straight. If you don't have time to read it right now, put it in your purse or on your Kindle for any future emergency.

As I was standing in an unmoving line to try to deal with my second canceled flight for the day, I pulled out this life saver. Within seconds, I was giggling, then laughing through tears, and ultimately snorting, it is so funny. It's great that I was in a crowd of people on the edge, because not only will I never see them again, they were all frantically trying to reach an airline rep on their cell phones so they couldn't immediately take time to call the men in white coats to take me away. One cannot go wrong with a book about

Mark Your Calendars

Denver National Quilt Festival V

April 29-May 2, 2010

Enjoy textile art from around the country, workshops, and lectures at this Mancuso guilt show. http://www.quiltfest.com.

Nature's Patternings by Patty Hawkins

May 14 - June 20, 2010

The Art Center of Estes Park features work by this well known fiber artist.

www.artcenterofestes.com

Robin Nicolai Homecoming and **Fundraising Event**

May 16th, 2010

First United Methodist Church, Fort Collins, CO Please join us for this silent auction and ice cream social to celebrate Robin Nicolai's recovery from a recent liver transplant. Money earned will help alleviate the astronomical costs of medications and ongoing treatment. Email kathy schmidtke@att.net for more information.

Arapahoe County Quilters Festival of Quilts XI

June 10-12, 2010

Englewood, CO

Enjoy 150 guilts, demos, and a boutique. http://www.acqcolorado.org

Quilt Colorado

June 16-20, 2010

Estes Park, CO

Five days of quilting classes from 18 nationally known teachers. There will also be a juried show with cash awards, merchant's mall, lectures, banquets and other fun activities. http://www.coloradoguiltcouncil.com

Firehouse Quilts 5th Annual Quilt Show

July 16 & 17, 2010

Cherry Hills Community Church, 3900 Grace Blvd, Highlands Ranch, Colorado http://www.firehousequilts.org

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women unafraid to laugh at themselves and everyone around them. It is filled with wonderful advice, side splitting stories, and emergency recipes. In particular, I recommend the chapter on frozen concoctions. Who wouldn't want to know the secrets of a drink called "Knock-you-Naked Margaritas?"

The last time I laughed this long and hard in a public setting where no one else was sharing my glee was while reading Ami Simm's book, "How NOT to Make a Prize Winning Quilt."

(http://www.amisimms.com/index.html) I'm sure the other folks in that speedy car lube place still remember me. Another great comedic read is Bill Bryson, in particular "The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid." Any of these would be perfect crisis tension relievers.

I finally stepped up to the frazzled airline clerk to be "re-accomodated." {This is their word for finding a new flight for hysterical passengers. Isn't this an odd phrase? I mean, to accommodate is to basically make alternate arrangements. If you re-accommodate, aren't you reversing the initial accommodation, therefore leaving someone in the situation where they started - ouch, this makes my head hurt...} I was recovering from uncontrolled spasms of giggles, so was probably the first out of 100 people who hadn't threatened his very existence. He gave me a \$250 credit toward a future flight (no one else got this!). Just as he was issuing me a new boarding pass for another flight, our original plane was fixed, and the few of us left re-boarded for the fourth time. We were soon looking down on San Francisco and a beautiful sunset. I had three full rows to myself, so stretched out and snoozed in peace and guiet. I didn't get home until around 2 a.m., but owe my sanity and ongoing good health to Her Majesty, the Most Royal Highness, Queen Jill Conner Browne. I'm certain many of my fellow passengers couldn't claim the same success.

Of course, after the delays created by the volcanic action the last week, it seems I have no room to complain about cancelled flights. In reality, it was great to have some time to read. I'd love to hear from any of you about other books you recommend!

Calendar Continued...

Wyoming State Quilt Guild's Annual Meeting

July 15-18, 2010 Rock Springs, WY

Teachers include Larkin Van Horn, Marylou Weidman, and Barbara Broshus, as well as 15 others, offering a wide variety of classes. There will also be a quilt show and vendors mall. http://wsqq.org/QW10.htm

Quilt-A-Fair

September 24 & 25, 2010 Boulder County Fairgrounds in Longmont, CO http://www.coloradoguiltcouncil.com

Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum

1213 Washington Avenue in Golden, CO

Now through May 1, 2010: Wranglers Among Us: Quilts by Men

Ricky Tims, David Taylor, Joe Cunningham, Carmon Slater, Scott Murkin, Edward Bostic, and Allen Tremain are among the artists included in our 10th biennial men's show.

May 4th: Kickin' Up Our Heels See a selection of exquisite antique bedcovers from the Sharee and Murray Newman Collection. The exhibit contains a wide variety of quilts, from graphic 1860s Amish pieces and fancy "best" quilts to the cheerful patchwork of the 1930s.

The Lost Heroes Art Quilt. RMQM is one of just three Colorado venues for this powerful quilted tribute to the servicemen and women who gave their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan. The dramatic, non-political mixed-media artwork is monumental in size and memorializes 82 heroes who were chosen to reflect the diversity of America.

Visit www.rmqm.org for more information on all the Museum's events.

Quilter Friendly Recipe

This is a great recipe for a group, and most can be done ahead. I frequently make it for meetings and classes here at my studio.

Chinese Chicken Salad

From Kelly@JukeboxQuilts.com

Rotisserie Chicken – pulled from bones 1 bottle Chinese Chicken Dressing 2 tsp. sesame oil 1-2 tbsp. toasted sesame seeds Green onions, chopped Large package of shredded cabbage Large package of shredded carrots Several celery stalks, sliced Sliced water chestnuts Additional lettuce if desired Chow mien noodles



Place chicken, dressing, oil, seeds, and onions in a large Ziploc and marinate overnight. Mix other veggie ingredients and refrigerate. Toss ingredients together prior to serving and top with the noodles.