

Calico Capers Quilt Guild

www.ccqg.org

“Modern sewing has many influential people who have shaped the way you sew/quilt, where you sew/quilt, and how you sew/quilt.

We know the names of Eleanor Burns, Nancy Zieman, Alex Anderson and many talented women who introduced us to new ways to design and fabricate everything from quilts to home décor. These women are held up in modern times as leaders in the sewing industry and their means of delivery has been a large part through television and the internet, along with many publications.

In her article, *Influential Women Shaped The Way We Sew in Modern Times*, Kimberly Chaffee introduces us to the most influential woman who transformed thousands of women from ordinary clothing menders to clothing specialists, capable of making a living and improving their homes with their sewing machines. At a time when most women were not able to vote, and less than 10% worked outside the home, a widowed woman from the Midwest, moved East and began the most fascinating and influential career in sewing.”

Her name is Mary Brooks Picken and if you look through your library, you may find *The Singer Sewing Book* published in 1949 and written by Mary. This book is the authority on proper sewing technique, covering everything from dressmaking to rugmaking.

If you look closer in your library, you may find several of her books [an American author of ninety-six books]. By the time Mary was 28 years old in 1914 she had already written sixty-four textbooks and two dressmaking courses for the International Correspondence School in Scranton, PA. Her *Fashion Dictionary* published by Funk & Wagnalls in 1957 was the first dictionary in the English language to be published by a woman.

Check out *The Country Register*/March-April 2017 for Kimberly’s complete article.

The web-site, www.madalynne.com, was a great look at Mary from a ‘modern contemporary’. Here is an excerpt of her on-line article...

“To dedicate a life, an entire life, to one hobby or career - that’s not common. Between the ages of 18-25, we work at one job or career. Bored, fed up, or wanting a change, we work at another job between the ages of 25 to let’s say mid-thirtyish. This continues until we’re 60 years old and we are ready for retirement, at which point we have a report card that says we dabbled in many rather than excelling in one. That’s not a bad thing but I respect and look up to the person who sticks to one career or hobby their entire life rather

than the one who tries many. When a career or hobby becomes boring or difficult, it’s harder to stay with it than hit the high road. It’s also hard to make a hobby fresh, new, and exciting when you get tired of it.

This is what Mary Brooks Picken, an influential seamstress and international dressmaking authority of the early 1900’s did - she stuck to her guns like Annie Oakley and stitched her whole life.

Mary Brooks Picken was born on August 6, 1886 in Arcadia, Kansas. Not much of her early life was documented but what was known and apparent from an early age was that she had a knack for sewing. She moved to Kansas City to study fashion and after moved to Scranton, Pennsylvania, where she founded the Women’s Institute of Domestic Arts & Sciences in 1916. Similar to online schools of today, the institute was a correspondence school that used classroom instructions in dressmaking, millinery, cooking, fashion design, beauty and homemaking. The school’s enrollment reached 300,000 at one point, becoming the largest school in history solely dedicated to the education of women. The school was nothing short of amazing in that it was affordable and immediately generated income for women after graduation.

Her books didn’t just provide information and knowledge on sewing, rather, her books provided timeless wisdom on the every day philosophy of life - how the home arts can prompt dignity, joy, meaning, and self esteem in a woman’s life. In her book, *Thimblefuls of Friendliness*, Mary writes, “*Knowledge of any constructive kind, any educational or human hobby, is a rainy day fund. It makes life interesting, develops appreciation and teaches us the virtues of fidelity to honest purpose.*”

Mary’s pioneering inspired woman to form ‘Institute Clubs’ around the world where women found one another, shared with one another, and taught one another. A vintage form of Facebook, women wrote to newspapers asking editors to introduce them to other women of their type so that they could share and learn. Kind of like the online sewing/quilting communities of today, right? And we thought we were ahead of our time!”

Check out Eileen’s book report on page 4 to learn where to find more information on Mary.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Our monthly meetings will be held at the Trinity United Church of Christ Fellowship Hall located at 234 North Church Street, Endeavor unless otherwise noted.

July—No Monthly Meeting

August 7 6:00 PM [NOTE: Time & Location Change]

- IT'S PICNIC TIME! Get ready to have fun at our annual quilt guild picnic!
- Our location for tonight's event will be in the Endeavor Community Center. Invite your neighbors and friends to this annual event. Advance Registration Requested—see note below.
- Members are asked to bring a dish-to-pass. Food Assignments: A-G bring main dish; H-O bring salad and P-W bring dessert. Your beverages & table settings will be provided by the committee.
- Featured Guest: Bev Getschel Trunk Show 'Magazine' Quilts & Their Stories Plus Up-Cylce
- Fat Quarter Exchange: We are having a summer/picnic themed fat quarter exchange. If you wish to participate, please bring as many fun fat quarters as you'd like.
- Charity Giving: Donations of paper goods will be accepted at the door for River Haven Homeless Shelter. Thanks for your kindness to those in need.
- Hostesses: LH & JVSF

Our picnic theme will be a surprise, but we're sure you'll find it a real hoot!

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUESTED

Something new for 2017 picnic!! In order to make plans for this year's event, the picnic committee requests that you register in advance by July 1st. This will give them an approximate idea of how many people to plan for as they create place favors & door prizes. Thank you.

September 11 6:15 PM Snacks/6:30 PM Meeting [NOTE: Date Change]

- PROGRAM: Cutting A Dime Bag—Jane will share options of creative cutting.
- *Reaching Out BOM*
- Show 'n Tell & JOT
- Hostesses: PA; RM & JM

Hostesses:

Thank you for sharing your hospitality with us.

We ask that you have the snacks ready for members by **6:15 PM**. We will start with this and then proceed to our meeting promptly at 6:30 pm.

Doors at the church Fellowship Hall will be opened by 6:00 PM for your convenience unless you make other arrangements.

Thank you.

MEET OUR SPECIAL PICNIC GUEST

At our annual guild picnic, our featured guest will be Bev Getschel from Amery, Wisconsin. Bev is a self-described "quilter not writer". To learn more about Bev or her published designs, check out the web-site: www.bevgetscheldesign.com.

On her web-site, Bev shares: *"In 2003 I stumbled into quilting and it was a great fit. Retiring from hair-dressing in 2004 gave me time to pursue my new found hobby.*

At first I thought I would do competition quilts, with some success on a regional level. I soon realized it is the design process I really enjoy and I am not a perfectionist by nature. I want to enjoy quilting, so I have pursued the fun part, designing and I do not have to drive myself crazy with the perfectionist part."

Over the years Bev has had 150+ featured patterns in major quilt magazines such as: Mc Call's Quilting; Quilting Quickly; Easy Quilts; Quilter's World; Quiltmaker; American Quilter; Time Friendly Quilting...to name a few. If by chance your don't have that 'magazine with a quilt you like'—in most cases you can go on the magazine's website and purchase either digital copies or download the quilt pattern. OR check out your local library system—they carry back issues of numerous magazines and might just have that issue you're looking for.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Our Co-Vice Presidents, Anne Oelke & Jeannette Warzynski will move up to share the President position in October. At our Annual Meeting, the Calico Capers Quilt Guild will be in need of the volunteers to serve in the following positions on the Officer Team:

- ☐ Vice-President who will serve first as VP [two year term] and then move into serving as President [two year term].
- ☐ We will need a Secretary/Treasurer [two year term].

NOTE: There has been discussion about the possibility of splitting the Secretary/Treasurer position. See page 3 of this newsletter. If proposed by-law change of Article 5/Section 5 is approved by the membership—we would then need:

- ☐ Secretary [two year term]
- ☐ Treasurer [two year term]

PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGE

The current Officer Team is working on the CCQG By-Laws with updates & amendments to be brought before the organization at the Annual Meeting in October 2017. With the growth of the organization, one of the proposed by-law change would be to Article IV Section 5 :

Currently:

Section 5. Secretary/Treasurer

As Secretary, she shall keep all the records of the organization. She shall attend all meetings, take and prepare minutes covering such meetings, prepare and keep such other records as may be necessary or determined by the directors and handle all correspondence of the organization and shall be in charge of printing.

As Treasurer, she shall have custody of all monies of the checks upon the same as is proper in the course of business of the organization; subject to control by the Board of Directors. She shall keep regular books and prepare regular financial statements for presentation at all meetings.

Proposed change: Splitting the office of Secretary/Treasurer into two offices

Amend Article 5 to Read...

Section 5. Secretary

As Secretary, she/he shall keep all the records of the organization. She/he shall attend all meetings, take and prepare minutes covering such meetings, prepare and keep such other records as may be necessary or determined by the officers and handle correspondence for the organization and shall be in charge of printing the minutes.

Section 6. Treasurer

As Treasurer, she/he shall have custody of all monies of the checking and savings upon the same as is proper in the course of business of the organization; subject to the control by the officer team. She/he shall keep regular books and prepare regular financial reports for presentation at all meetings. She shall file any licenses and pay required fees. She/he shall prepare and present the annual budget at the annual meeting.

COUNTY FAIR RIBBONS



Summer is here!!! And that means county fairs are just around the corner:

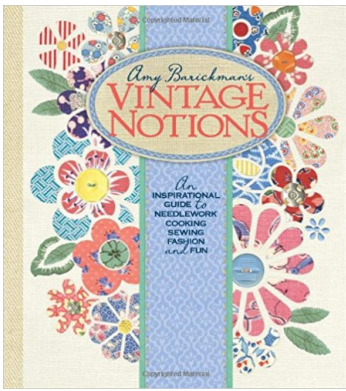
Marquette County Fair [America the Beautiful] July 6-9, 2017

Sauk County Fair [Food, Family & Fun] July 10-16, 2017

Columbia County Fair [Sow It, Grow It, Show It] July 26-30, 2017

SB & AM will be making our fair ribbons this year. AM would like to host a meeting of the CCQG Fair Judges—at this meeting the judges will discuss the criteria for winners in both Open Class & 4-H. They will then make up a notice to be hung at the local county fairs we award ribbons at. This will let fairgoers know what the CCQG ribbons are and just who the Calico Capers Quilt Guild is.

BOOK REPORT



Amy Barickman's book, Vintage Notions, is a compilation of inspirational essays, clever sewing patterns, cooking basics and illustrations from the Institute's newsletters and is dedicated to Mary Brooks Picken.

Her book is organized seasonally—each chapter represents a month of the year. I enjoy the many inspirational quotes, recipes and patterns from this early 1900's era.

Amy says this book is a celebration of what women can do, with just their own two hands and together as a united community.

She includes directions for turning a man's shirt into an apron. The April chapter includes an article on patchwork & appliqué. How about a magic pattern for a summer purse? There are a few more simple apron patterns. Also, the

perfect pie recipe, cookies or creamy fudge...the list goes on and on.

This is a book I have checked out many times from our Winnefox Library System. It is a joy to look through and find something new and inspiring every time. Enjoy!



Mary Brooks Picken

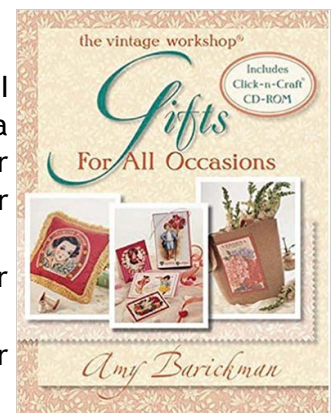
'beautiful stitching is essential with lovely fabrics and modish patterns. Keep the stitch perfect, the stitching line straight throughout the making of your project.' -MBP-

'always take correct position at the sewing machine your eyes straight in line with the presser foot. If your position is correct you will be able to stitch more accurately and with less fatigue.' -MBP-

Amy Barickman has another book, Vintage Workshop: Gifts for All Occasions. I enjoyed the vintage charm of her book and the variety of project. It includes a CD-ROM with all of the images in the book. This allows printing them with your home ink-jet printer. There are several dozen images you can click on and transfer to paper or fabric.

There are baby gifts, pillows and gifts for every holiday. You can make a hanger cover or personalized stationery. Perhaps a fabric mail holder?

So if you want a very special and individual gift for Mother's Day, Christmas or any other holiday...check this book out. -EN



\$ 8 SPECIALS

Thursday, September 21 9:00 am–3:00 pm TWISTED TUCKS Instructor: JO @ First National Bank Community Room, Montello

Sign-up sheets will be at the monthly meetings. Upon payment, you will receive the supply listing.

No \$8 Specials sessions will be held in June/July or August—enjoy your summer!!!

RETREAT

Calico Capers Quilt Guild Retreat—October 8, 9 & 10, 2017

Mt. Morris Camp & Conference Center, W6016 Blackhawk Rd., Wautoma, WI [920-787-2861](tel:920-787-2861)

REGISTRATION: The seventeen beds at Black Oak Lodge will first be offered to guild members until September 1, 2017. Any remaining rooms will then be made available to non-members [with non-member registration deadline of September 15th].

Rooms will be assigned in the order that registration/payment is received. **NO** refunds, but you can send someone else in your place.

If requesting a roommate efforts will be made to accommodate your wishes.

WORKSHOP INSTRUCTOR: Nora, along with her daughter Jill, from Antoinette's Quilt Shop in Plover will teach our two day workshop. After the 8:00 AM breakfast in the Conference Center on Monday (10/9), the workshop will commence at 9:00 AM and will conclude on Tuesday (10/10) at 4:00 pm.

WORKSHOP: We will be introduced to a new concept on how to design your own quilt using the EASY BLOCK TOOL Book along with samples and offerings of creative ideas. Book will be supplied & included in your registration fee. Save money by never needing to buy another quilt pattern!

SUPPLIES: For lap size quilt - Bring one (1) yard **each** of three (3) of your favorite coordinating colors. Picture panels can also be worked into your quilt. (For larger size purchase fabrics accordingly). Packets are available at Antoinette's Quilt Shop at three (3) yards for \$30.00. Nora will again bring her shop fabrics, panels and patterns for purchase during our retreat.

RETREAT OPTIONS & FEES: **TWO NIGHTS PACKAGE:** 3 days & 2 nights/5 meals @ \$159.00
ONE DAY PACKAGE: 2 meals (NO OVERNIGHT) @ \$65.00
TWO DAY PACKAGE: 4 meals (NO OVERNIGHT) @ \$85.00

BRING: Sewing machine, in good working order; usual quilting tools, your own mat & iron if you prefer. Bring your project [Every Which Way] from the 2015 Retreat for Show 'n Tell.
DON'T FORGET TO PACK YOUR FLASHLIGHT.

Anyone interested in again meeting at Lake Shore Restaurant in Wautoma for Sunday (10/8) lunch before checking in at 2:00 PM at the Black Oak Lodge, contact the committee so reservations can be made.

NO meals will be prepared for us Sunday night. We will have a salad bar for anyone interested-bring along your favorite veggies or toppings to add the lettuce salad.

RETREAT RESERVATION FORM

NAME: _____ PHONE _____ EMAIL: _____

TWO NIGHTS PACKAGE (Three Days/Two Nights) _____ \$159.00

ONE DAY PACKAGE (NO Nights) _____ \$65.00 (Circle two meal choices) B L D

TWO DAY PACKAGE (NO Nights) _____ \$85.00 (Circle four meal choices) B L D (Monday)
B L D (Tuesday)

DIET RESTRICTIONS? _____

Mail your Retreat Reservation Form & Check payable to CCQG to:
BB E14331 Wall Street Baraboo, Wisconsin 53913

PRESSING QUILT BLOCKS

“Stitching a quilt together is a dream when you have done a good job pressing your quilt blocks. This technique is, hands down, the absolute simplest thing in the world to do and the results are AMAZING! No special tools or products to buy.

Easy...Cheap...Terrific Results--- - What more could a quilter want!?!

The best pressing technique for perfectly pressed quilt blocks starts with:

- * * Pieced quilt blocks or the units that make up the quilt blocks
- * * An iron
- * * Rotary cutting ruler and/or a stack of magazines

That’s it! Easy Peasy!

A Little Background Information

In tailoring, shaping is added to wool garments by first steaming the wool around a Tailor’s ham or other such tool. The wool is then left to cool and dry in place. Wool fibers have scales on the outside. These scales mesh together. The combination of the steam, heat, shaping tool and cooling time create the desired shape.

But cotton fibers don’t have scales. We can not mold them into shape like wool. Fortunately, that is not really a problem. What we WANT are flat blocks, not bulky, bumpy-lumpy ones.

So we borrow the idea of heating the fibers and letting them cool in place around a shape. However, in this technique instead of a curved tailor’s ham we will use our flat rulers. Instead of ‘around’ we use under. [Pretty smart, eh?!?!]

The Process

This method of pressing quilt blocks works just as well for paper piecing or traditionally pieced units. I heartily recommend and use it for both. I also recommend you use it at each step throughout our block’s construction. You will love how flat your finished patchwork lays.

This technique works equally well, in my opinion, whether you use steam or not. I have done it both ways and go back/forth depending on if there’s water ready in the iron. The same goes for using starch. If you are a starcher, use it.

Step 1: Press your pieced unit in the closed position to set the seam. In technical terms, this helps smush the fibers of the thread into the fibers of the fabric.

Step 2: Press your unit open. The seam allowance can be pressed:

- To the dark (most common)
- To the light (to reduce bulk—just remember to grade your seam allowances so that the dark fabric doesn’t show through) OR...
- Open (again to reduce bulk or keep dark fabrics from shadowing through)

The technique isn’t dependent on ‘which way’ the seam allowances are pressed, just that they ARE pressed. Be careful not to press in any tucks a the seam allowance.

NOW DON’T BLINK!

HERE COMES THE MAGIC!

Step 3: After pressing your blocks/units (remember, they are still hot from the iron), lay your rotary ruler on top of them. The ruler might steam up a little, that’s okay. Never, never ever put your iron on top of the ruler. The residual heat from pressing your blocks is enough.

Step 4: Now for the hard part...do not remove the ruler until the block is cool & dry—it is apt to stretch when it is damp and still warm.

It won’t take very long. But it must be cool completely. Once it is, you are ready to get back to piecing!

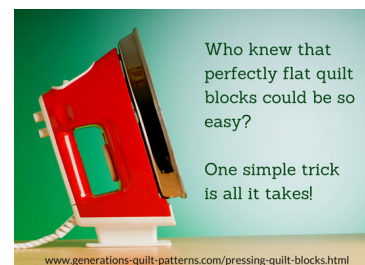
That’s ALL there is to it! Surprised?!? I certainly was! But it is that simple to get amazing flat quilt blocks/units!

What Do Magazines Have To Do With Pressing Quilt Blocks

You probably don’t piece just one unit at a time. Right? And there is a limit to how many rulers you have. Right?

Keep a stack by your ironing board—we have all got plenty of quilt magazines! When you run out of space under your ruler, use the magazines to weight down the units and flatten them. Keep pressing and stacking until you have run out of one or the other.

I have been using this technique for several years now and have never had any nasty transfer from the magazine to the fabric.”



OUTREACH NEWS - 3rd QUARTER

Tuesday, May 23, 2017 was our last workshop until September. We had a wonderful day tying up some loose ends on quilts we started in January.

Since January we have:

- Pieced 8 QOV
- Pieced 3 BOM quilts
- Finished 3 Comfort Quilts
- Dropped off 6 more Comfort Quilts to Divine Savior Healthcare
- Several more quilts (completed last fall) were quilted by several of the long armers in our group
- We have about 12 more quilts now ready to be long armed and bound!

Wow! The members in this guild are amazing! A big "THANK YOU!" goes out to all of you! This could not have happened without all of your help! Maybe you donated fabric or made a block of the month block or came to a workshop or put on some binding, it all helps us get so much accomplished!

As of now, if you have any BOM from 2016 that you have made, please turn them in so we can "close the books" on those. Let's just focus on the 2017 BOM from this point on.

Here are the dates for the fall workshops:

Tuesday, September 26

Tuesday, October 24

Tuesday, November 28

The Outreach Committee wants to wish you all a fun filled summer!

ORPHAN BLOCK



Remember that brown paper bag you received early this year and was asked not to open until you got home? Well...did you open it and have you met the challenge? If not, we will refresh your memory here.

Inside that bag was an orphan block. Your challenge was to make it into a placemat. The completed placemats are to be turned in at our August 7th picnic, after which they will be given to the Meals-On-Wheels Programs in Columbia & Marquette Counties. When you bring the orphan block

back (completed into a placemat of course) your name will be put into a basket. At our picnic, our featured guest speaker will draw a name and a prize will be awarded!

You were also encouraged to make additional placemats using your own orphan blocks or scraps. This opens up another chance for those of you who didn't get a bag to participate in our placemat project. Any additional placemats that you make and turn in at our September 11th meeting - once again your name will be placed in another drawing. This gives you TWO chances at winning something wonderful plus making something that will brighten the day of those who receive their meals at home. Have fun and be creative!



Sponsored by CCQG Community Outreach Committee

DOWN UNDER ROAD TRIP



G'day mate, as the Aussies would say. Husband B. and I spent January touring part of Australia. Of course I did manage to visit two different quilt shops. Yes, I did buy fabric. The shops were very similar to quilt shops here in the United States, with many of the same fabrics. Prices were in Australian dollars and were for a meter of fabric, or using Australian spelling, a metre. Most fabrics were \$20-\$30 Aus. dollars/meter which would be \$15-\$22.50 US dollars for a yard plus inches, so more expensive than here. Quilt shops also sell sewing machines, the same brands we are used to seeing here.

One of the shops we visited was in Sydney, Patchwork Fabrics, <https://patchworkfabrics.com.au/>. They stocked a lot of familiar fabrics, in addition to a variety of fabrics designed by Aboriginal artists in the traditional Aboriginal art style. They also had fabrics highlighting Australian wildlife and scenes, just as we find US wildlife and scenes prints here. I purchased several of these prints. The charm packs were 5" x 5", or 13 cm x 13 cm. A charm pack of the Aboriginal prints was 7"x7". The fat quarters were ½ meter (or 20 inches) by half the width of the fabric, so they were just a bit bigger than fat quarters here.

Another shop we visited was in Narooma, southwest of Sydney. Pepper Lane Designs <http://www.pepperlanedesigns.com.au/> not only has fabric, quilting supplies, but also stitchery, bear and doll making supplies and other fiber products. The shop owner is originally from Michigan. I was able to get some locally hand-dyed fabrics here.

Some of the shops we found were closed for "holiday". January is summertime in Australia, and students are on their long summer break, or "holidays". Some shops and restaurants close from Christmas until mid-January so the owners and staff can go on holiday.

I wanted to bring home some of the Australian quilt magazines, and found that I needed to visit the news agents to buy them. News Agencies sell newspapers, magazines, cards, stationary, and often, lottery tickets. They are small shops located in shopping malls and in business districts of many of the smaller cities.

-AE-

ARCHIVE YOUR QUILT LIBRARY

Quilters are notorious for saving magazines and/or printed patterns with the goal of 'some day' making those projects. Or their bookshelves are brimming with quilt books that hold more 'some day' projects. What happens when space becomes an issue and a quilter has to decide what to keep and what has to go. What's a quilter to do?!?!?

Lindsay Mayland shares the following, "A scanner is a lifesaver when you don't have space to store magazines!

- ✦ I scan patterns I like and save them as PDF's in folders on my computer.
- ✦ I name each PDF with the pattern name, magazine and date for search ability.
- ✦ I name the folders according to type of project, such as baby quilts or holiday quilts, so I can easily track down a pattern for a specific occasion."

If you go to APQShop.com/archive you will find that you can order the complete history of *American Patchwork & Quilting*® (1993-2016) and *Quilts and More*™ (2005-2016) magazines [many of them now out of print] on one USB thumb drive.



One hundred thirty-seven issues of *American Patchwork & Quilting* + forty-one issues of *Quilts and More* ALL on ONE USB DRIVE! This massive collection of 1,767 projects:

- ✦ Printer-friendly
- ✦ Fully searchable
- ✦ Contains high-quality illustrations & photos
- ✦ PC & Mac compatible