

Calico Capers Quilt Guild

www.ccqg.org

J A P A N E S E I N D I G O D Y E I N G

Japan has a long history of indigo dyeing (known as *aizome*), and the deep blue hues are almost as representative of the country's textile traditions as sashiko stitching and kimonos.

Indigo dyeing began to grow in popularity in Japan during the 16th century when silk was forbidden to the lower classes and cotton textiles were introduced in the country. In addition to being readily available (the indigo plant is native), the resulting dye reacted well with cotton, a difficult-to-dye textile. The indigo dye was also colorfast and resisted fading, adding to its appeal.

To make the dye, dyers harvested and fermented the indigo plant. Fabric or yarn then was dipped into a vat of the dye. Depending on the desired shade, dipping was repeated multiple times or the fibers were allowed to soak.

"Indigo dyeing is very technical because you don't see the results of your work right away," says Carolyn Ducey, curator of the International Quilt Study Center & Museum in Lincoln, Nebraska. *"It's not until after you take the piece out of the vat and the dye oxidizes that the color begins to appear."* - Maria V. Schwamman-



Indigo Dye Pot

Tangled Up In Blue

Back in the spring of 2017, Midwest Living Magazine© featured an article on working from *seed to cloth* with Japanese indigo dyeing.

"With one sweep of his hand across the surface of a concrete vat, Rowland Ricketts' fingers turn to sapphire. He shares that this carefully nurtured mixture of fermenting indigo leaves is ready to transform whatever cloth he submerges. He does this all from his studio at Indiana University, where he teaches textile art. At the farm he shares with his wife, Chinami, they not only create striking fabric designs but grow, harvest and process indigo plants to make dye. The beautiful rich blues of Indigo dye is derived from the leaves of the plant."

In the early 1980's, Rowland & Chinami met as apprentices to an indigo dyer in the city of Toskushima, Japan. Drawn to the history and working with their hands, this couple has mastered the age-old techniques of cultivation and dyeing which they 'carry forward' yet today."



Creating Japanese indigo dye is a time consuming and difficult task! There are many suppliers of natural dyes that have already gone through this laborious process for you. To view the whole process...check out www.allnaturaldyeing.com/japanese-indigo-indigofera-tinctoria/

SHIBORI

A Japanese term for binding, then dyeing cloth indigo. A Google search will find many techniques that one is able to DIY right at home. There are even classes in some of our local 'modern-themed' quilt shops on indigo dyeing.

- * **Folding:** Using white cotton fabric, create different designs by folding, twisting, wrapping and binding with a variety of items such as twine, rubber bands, clips & clothespins.
- * **Triangle Compression** - accordion-fold the cloth lengthwise as if you were making a paper fan, then fold the resulting strip like you would a flag so you finish with a triangle. Place the triangle between two square pieces of wood. Sandwich between wooden craft sticks & secure with rubber bands.
- * **Wrapping** - working on a diagonal, wrap the fabric around a wooden dowel or PVC pipe. Tie string at one end of the pole, wrap it up the length of fabric. Tie to secure - twine will create a wave effect.



The list for Shibori techniques go on such as Square Compression; Circle Compression; Clipping; etc.

Looking for something creative to add to your 'blue' collection?!?! How about digging out a dye pot?

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Our monthly meetings will be held at the Moundville United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall located at W5501 County Road O, Endeavor unless otherwise noted.

October 1st 6:15 PM Snacks/6:30 PM Meeting

- ANNUAL MEETING (agenda appears on page 3 for your review)
- PROGRAM: RULE WITH RULERS-members are encouraged to bring along one of their favorite rulers and then share a tidbit or two about it & how it has helped improve your quilting journey.
- REACHING OUT BOM
- SHOW 'N TELL & JOT
- Hostesses: JD; EN & JP

November 5th 6:15 PM Snacks/6:30 PM Meeting

- PROGRAM: Homemade Ornaments
- REACHING OUT BOM
- SHOW 'N TELL & JOT
- Hostesses: PJ; JM & AO

December 3rd 5:30 pm Arrival/6:00 pm Dinner [NOTE Time & Location Change]

- ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GATHERING (Invitation & Details on Page 10 of this newsletter)
Moundville United Methodist Church—Endeavor
- THEME: *Christmas from the Kitchen*
- JOY OF GIVING—Sleep In Heavenly Peace, WI-Portage Chapter
- Hostesses: JM, EN, JO & CW

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.

OUTREACH NEWS

We hope all of you had a wonderful summer! It seems we wait forever for summer to arrive and then “poof” it’s over and we are raking leaves!

Your Outreach Committee is ready to start up again with some fun quilts for us to put together! We are going to start with some Comfort Quilts (Approx. 36x42-inches) for men at the September workday on Tuesday the 25th. We have a nice selection of fabrics that were donated earlier this summer by Sandie Becker that we will make into some tops. Along with the tops that came in from members at the picnic, we will have quite a few to donate to Divine Savior, Portage once they are quilted and bound. The committee wants to thank the guild members for your help in this worthy project! Each time we drop off quilts to the hospital they tell us how much the quilts mean to the patient and family. The quilts truly give comfort during a very difficult time.

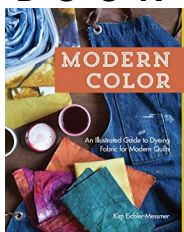
The next project we will be focusing on is in conjunction with the *Joy In Giving* (WI-Portage Chapter/Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Inc.—see page 10) that the CCQG Christmas Committee has chosen. It will require fabrics for children which we have a limited supply of in the guild stash. So if you are able to go through your own stash and donate some cute fabrics appropriate for boys or girls we would appreciate it! Size of the bunk bed quilts will be approx. 70 or 80 x 110-inches wide—no larger please. If you have any quick & easy patterns that you are willing to share with the committee, that would be awesome! More about this project will be revealed when we meet at the workday in September.

Mark your calendars for work days: September 25th; October 23rd & at this time, November is pending.

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Your Outreach Committee

BOOK REPORT



Modern Color-A Illustrated Guide to Dyeing Fabric for Modern Quilts by Kim Eichler-Messmer introduces the novice to dyes, fabric, how to dye & even dyeing from your own recipes.

There are nine projects. They include dip-dyed placemats, quilts and a quilted shibori wallhanging.

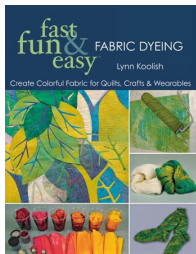
Shibori is the traditional Japanese method of resist dyeing fabric to create patterns. Shibori is tie-dyed much 'cooler' older cousin.

Kim says she loves quilts. Her words, *"I love quilts. I love looking at them, thinking about them, reading about them, sleeping under them and most of all making them."*

I enjoy quilting and I hope you will enjoy this book. Even if you don't dye your own fabric, these projects will work with your stash!

For anyone interested in dyeing their own fabric, there are many books out there in the marketplace as well as in the Winnefox Library System that focus on dyeing fabric. It is hard to choose just one book!

The book, Fast, Fun & Easy Fabric Dyeing by Lynn Koolish seems to be a wonderful book for beginners. It doesn't deal with Japanese Indigo Dyeing though, just the basics.



She includes dyeing wool & silk—not just cotton. There are many fun tips in side bar boxes—either fast, fun or easy.

There aren't any projects in this publication, but Lynn has many examples of her dyed fabric and how she utilizes it.

COUNTY FAIR RIBBON WINNERS 2018



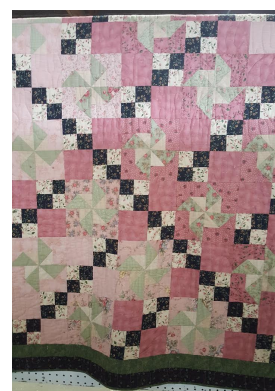
COLUMBIA COUNTY: 4-H JW/Open Class KMCL

MARQUETTE COUNTY: 4-H BB/Open Class SR

SAUK COUNTY: 4-H OH/Open Class VP

Thank you to our ribbon makers & county fair judges. Your time is appreciated.

Also thanks to all who entered and supported our local county fairs!



SPORTS FOR QUILTERS

Some times you pick up a book at a library book sales or a garage sale and it is amazing the little gems one can glean from it.

This little gem comes from, It's A Stitch, with a 2004 copyright by the author Karen Bolesta. Enjoy.

SPORTS FOR QUILTERS

Little did you know that when you are there in your sewing/quilting space that you are actually participating in sporting events? Check out this listing and see which ones you are most proficient in—you just might be eligible to enter next time these events come to our area.

- * RUNNING to the quilt shop
- * KICKING around new ideas
- * HURDLING over piles of books
- * LIFTING large quantities of fabric
- * RACING to finish a project deadline
- * SWIMMING through pages of quilt magazines
- * CYCLING through decades of quilting designs
- * SPINNING new yarns about quilting adventures



If you read your 3rd Qtr CCQG Newsletter, you will remember the request by the Christmas Gathering Committee.

They are seeking two favorite Christmas Cookie recipes from each of our members.

We all have those 'special' ones that seem to appear on our cookie treat plates each holiday. Please share those with the committee.

If you have already submitted yours, thank you and if not there is still time to do so. The deadline is 9/20/18.



\$ 8 SPECIALS

Thursday, October 18 9:00 am—2:00 pm CARD WORKSHOP [Create (4) four greeting cards in this session]
Instructor: CG Fortifi Bank (former First National Bank) Community Room, Montello