



LOVE, JOY, PIECE



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Co-Editors: Marlys Wiens and Bev Patkau



Volume 3, 2nd Edition
North American Mennonite Relief Sale Board – Quilter's Newsletter

From the Editor:

Attending the 50th Celebration of the Pennsylvania Relief Sale, a question was voiced: Why do we make quilts or why are we involved with Relief Sales? The answer and reminder - it is our chance to give! 1) The purpose is not to find a "deal" but to work for other people for no personal gain. 2) Give a Sense of Hope. 3) We have many different and individual reasons! What a great opportunity. Each Relief Sale has its own personality but the goal is the same.

Sometimes we think a quilt should go for a little more money and wonder why. One thing to consider is the increase in size of the depth of many mattresses and the fact that there are more queen and/or king size mattresses. Do your quilt patterns meet the needs of today's larger beds? Asking this question may force us to think "outside of the box". Consider adding extra borders or adding another row/column of pattern. When adding another row and/or column, please be careful since some patterns require adding two rows and/or columns to complete the pattern.

Please pay attention to fabric manufacturers recommendations when it comes to laundering your new purchases of fabric. Recently I purchased a bolt of fabric and to my surprise the following was included: "Important laundering instructions for new yardage and precut patches: 1) Prewash all new fabrics 2) Unfold all fabric before putting into the washing machine 3) Wash light colored fabrics in lukewarm water with a phosphate free detergent 4) Soak dark colored fabrics individually in cold water for at least half an hour to set the dyes and then machine wash in cold water with phosphate free detergent 5) Tumble fabrics almost dry, then remove from dryer and press with an iron; 6) Precut samples

or kit pieces should not be machine washed and dried. 7) For satisfactory results, please follow the above instructions before using these fabrics. Quilts made with both light and dark colored fabrics should only be washed in cold water."

Quilter's Corner or Quilt Groups – do you need a Block of the Month idea or want to sell Quilt Books at your Relief Sale? Would you like to create a lovely quilt without a complicated pattern?

The New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale is presenting a quilt pattern "Scrappy Split Nine Patch" by Emily Hunsberger, size 152.4 cm. X 182.9 cm. (60 in. x 72 in.) for their 40th Relief Sale on May 26 & 27, 2006. Proceeds will go to MCC through the New Hamburg Relief Sale.
To order this pattern, call the MCC Ontario office at (519) 745-8458 and ask for Char or Marilyn.

There are quite a few ideas in Myra Harder and Cori Derksen's quilt books. We are grateful to Myra and Cori of Blue Meadow Designs of Winkler, Manitoba for offering discounts for several of their quilt books including their new book that just come out in May 2006 - Love, Joy, Piece. Ask your Chairperson for information and order forms or contact Marlys Wiens (contact information below.) Please give yourself sufficient time to order and receive the shipment.

Quilt Retreat: Colorado: www.rmmcamp.org - November 3 to 5, 2006. If you are interested, let them know!

Blessings and thank you!
Marlys Wiens

MCC Logo Pattern Available

Recently, Nancy Klassen from Washington, USA, designed a MCC Logo Counted Cross Stitch Pattern and it is available from Harriet Berg at Daheberg2@aol.com or (814) 445-6945. The pattern has been approved by MCC.

Email Chat room

To sign up for the email *chat room and newsletter*, please send your email address to Harriet Berg at Daheberg2@aol.com.

Newsletter This newsletter as well as back issues is available on line

<http://mcc.org/reliefsales/lovejoypiece/>

To sign up to receive Love, Joy, Piece Newsletter by mail: **US** - contact mwiens@pro-ns.net or mail to Marlys Wiens, 7310 York Avenue S. #105, Edina, MN 55435.

Canada - contact Bev Patkau at lpatkau@shaw.ca or mail to Bev Patkau at 227 Valhalla Crescent NW, Calgary AB Canada T3A 1Z8.

Heart Quilt Block Project: What we are doing together from around the World!

Thank you for your interest and participation in the Share Your Heart Block Project! Blocks have come from the Canadian and US East Coast to the West Coast and everywhere in between.

They have come from Germany, Indonesia, and Bolivia as well as other countries.



US "Share Your Heart Traveling Quilt

Some quilt blocks that were created with a theme (i.e. Christmas, flowers) are being sent to various Relief Sales for a quilt to be made for a Relief Sale. Two "Share Your Heart" quilts have been created – one in Canada and one in the US - that are available upon request to be presented at auctions as a representation of love for others. These will be displayed as a MCC story is told about a need. The quilt will not be sold but donations will be accepted for the project and then will travel to the next relief sale. The US quilt will finally be sold at the Minn-Kota Relief Sale in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, in July of 2007. The quilt borders include four years of slogans from MCC (Moving with Compassion, Living in New Ways, Listening with our Heart, and Celebrating God's Love).

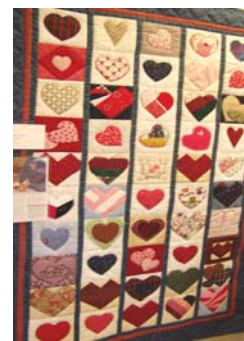
To arrange to have this quilt at your sale, contact *Edie Tschetter, MCC Central States P.O. Box 416, 121 East 3rd St., Freeman, SD 57029 605-925-4859 Email -emt@mcc.org.*

Canadians: Contact Bev Patkau (contact information on front) to sign up for the Canadian Traveling Quilt that is scheduled to start traveling in the summer of 2006.

Your creativity and commitment has generated quilts!

The effect of the Heart Block project can be measured in so many ways and that is the easy part. The exciting part is the stories we are hearing of Relief Sales, MCC Resource Centers, and individuals taking the concept and building their own idea. In March, the Pennsylvania Relief Sale in Harrisburg celebrated their 50th year. I joined others around a quilt frame adding a few stitches to the quilt that was being quilted the day of the sale and was going to be auctioned. A lady stood by me and after a few minutes I asked her if she would like to make some stitches.

**Heart Quilt
PA 50th Sale**



She did not want to make any stitches but she wondered if I knew anything about this "Heart Block Project." She and her daughter had just arrived at the sale and had read a *Common Place Magazine* article. The following is the daughter Paula Snavely's story:

"Paula teaches English as a Second Language (ESL) at a public school in Lebanon County, PA and loves working with immigrant and migrant students from all over the world. She is also completing graduate studies at Eastern Mennonite University in Lancaster.

As one part of an Action Research project, a daily sustained silent reading time was implemented in her high school ESL class to assist struggling readers gain motivation to read. After receiving an issue of MCC's newsletter, a *Common Place*, she took the newsletter to school to read during the silent reading time.



After reading the article about creating appliquéd heart blocks to be sewn together for sale at relief auctions around the U.S. and Canada, she was really excited about trying this herself. "I am, by no means, an expert at sewing but I've recently learned how to quilt and I enjoy sewing in my spare time. As part of our discussion after reading, I shared the article with my ESL class. One of the students, Tatyana, is very interested in sewing and she takes a Clothing Class at our high school. She asked if she could show the article to her clothing teacher who is completing her graduate work at EMU. The instructor was very happy for the article and mentioned that her level 2 sewing students could all complete these heart blocks as mentioned in the article. Tatyana and the rest of the level two sewing students have all created heart blocks for the MCC project.

Heart Quilt at Idaho's 1st Relief Sale

I am so pleased that my ESL students had the opportunity to observe one of the many benefits of being a life-long reader - reading can motivate one to social action. Many high school students are very egocentric. Reading texts such as a *Common Place* helps all of us realize that the world is full of people that need support, and we can all play a part in relief work around the world. This heart block appliqué project provides young people who are learning to sew a purpose for their sewing outside of themselves and helps them to focus their efforts on people around the world."

(To obtain a free subscripion to a *Common Place Magazine*, www.mcc.org/acp or MCC Office (888) 563-4676)

Have an Extra Quilt? You could share with: *Georgia Peach Cobbler (November)* contact: Brenda Shelby at 404-344-5012 ashelby@comcast.net; *Rocky Mountain (October)*, contact: Pat Miller at 719-383-0154; *Ritzville (October)* contact: Debbie Miller at 206-789-5370 or DSM@Cypressmail.net; *Western New York (November)* contact: Linda Wideman 716-542-9082 or bnlwideman@rochester.rr.com