



## New Executive Director Sought

By Eric McCarty

With June Moore's retirement approaching on September 1, Quilts of Valor Foundation Board of Directors is seeking the person who will step into Executive Director responsibilities in early fall.

If you are interested in this volunteer position, please contact QOVF Board of Directors President Eric McCarty at [eric.mccarty@QOVF.org](mailto:eric.mccarty@QOVF.org) for a pdf of the job description. Candidates need to possess outstanding administrative, communication, and "people" skills, as well as commitment to the QOVF mission.

## Name Our Newsletter

By June Moore

With our online newsletter's return to publication, we're seeking the perfect name for this formal communication that goes out electronically to our 10,000-strong community around the 20th of each month.

Graphic artist Tony Jacobson, whose day job is as a publication designer at *Love of Quilting* magazine, is our much-appreciated volunteer newsletter graphic artist. (BTW, Tony is also the designer of the incredibly popular *Three Tours* Quilt of Valor.)

Is our newsletter a Gazette? A Bee? A Chronicle? Put on your thinking

cap, chat with your sewing buddies, and maybe you'll be the one to generate the perfect name! Send suggestions to editorial assistant Marianne Fons at [marianne.fons@qovf.org](mailto:marianne.fons@qovf.org). The person who suggests the name chosen will win a patriotic fat quarter pack from Deb and Duane Granger of Freedom Star.

Along with a neat name, our newsletter needs a continuing supply of articles and quality photos to accompany them. Please send your stories to [newsletter@QOVF.org](mailto:newsletter@QOVF.org). The story should be in MSWord, and both the story and photos should be emailed as attachments to your email.

## 50 Tops Generated Via Idaho Retreat in Cascade

By June Moore

Idaho Quilts of Valor held its first-ever sewing retreat May 7-10th at Trinity Pines Camp & Conference Center in Cascade. The 35 participants were from Oregon, Idaho, and Washington. Also on hand were past QOVF Longarm/Topper Coordinator Judie Yates, QOVF Executive Director June Moore, and QOVF Deputy Director Lori Kutch.

Participants brought one-dollar bills and items for a special auction that was a highlight of the event. Each auction item had its own envelope. Campers wrote an assigned personal number on their dollar bills and decided how many dollars to tuck in envelopes of the items they most wanted. The person who brought the item got to pull the winning bill from the envelope. According to event planner Kelly McKeehan, auction money will be used to produce more QOVs.



Participants model their red Idaho Quilts of Valor Retreat t-shirts, which they received along with a canvas tote containing many must-have goodies.

Retreat participants were also asked to bring 12-inch red-white-and-blue blocks. Campers came through with enough blocks to make seven 12-block tops. Counting tops made at and brought to the retreat, a total of 50 tops are ready to be quilted. Commenting on

the "parade of tops" on the final day, Kelly said, "It says a lot about the dedication of the women who attended." Lisa Murrant and Katie Granger, owners of Huckleberry Patches in McCall, ID, will be planners for 2014.

## Meet Karla Locke, Social Media Assistant

By June Moore

QOVF has hired media specialist Karla Locke to assist with day-to-day social media communication activities of the Quilts of Valor Foundation community. A five-hour-per-month commitment of time has been approved for Karla's assistance.

Karla's tasks include maintaining and promoting the QOVF blog, working with our website team to keep site information updated, creating and maintaining our Facebook page to accompany our current Facebook group, and handling communication with the QOVF community via Constant Contact.



Karla Locke

Karla has six years of experience assisting small businesses and organizations. She lives in Anacortes, WA. Please contact her with any stories and photos: [karla.locke@QOVF.org](mailto:karla.locke@QOVF.org)

## There is a Place For You in QOVF

By June Moore

After over eight years as a Quilts of Valor volunteer, I can say unreservedly there is not a more rewarding way to spend some time. You don't need to be an expert quilter to make a lasting contribution to the health and healing of a person touched by war. If you can sew, press, operate a computer, make a list, or deliver a quilt, there is a place for you in the QOVF community. Cease Chapin is a great example.

Cease began making Quilts of Valor just last fall as part of the Beaverton, WA, Montavilla QOV/UOW group. She attended a quilt show in Portland this spring, eager to find the fabrics for her second Quilt of Valor. Encouraged by her husband (aka "Sugar Daddy") she searched the vendors, and, in the process, found "Fairy Godparents."

Blue Petunia Gifts, a vendor from Portola, California, had many new QOV fabrics, but only in one-yard pieces. Cease purchased three she liked, and owner Susan promised to send more. Within a couple of weeks, Cease received eight yards of matching fabric and a nice note from Susan Morrison and husband Keith saying, "Hope this helps with your Quilts of Valor. It's the least we can do for our



Volunteer (and new quilter) Cease Chapin displays her latest Quilt of Valor top.

heroes." Cease was stunned to receive such a generous gift.

As Cease prepared for the Idaho Trinity Pines QOV camp, stewing over what fabrics to take and what pattern to tackle, more fabric arrived from Susan and Keith. A red print with blue eagles and flags became the inspiration for her camp project.

Cease calls Susan her "fairy godmother." Susan, whose business responsibilities don't allow time for making QOVs, has found a means of participating anyway. Cease looks forward to updating her fabric friends with photos of the quilts she makes using their donated fabrics and including their names as sponsors on her QOV labels.

## Baby Lock Poster Says a Big Thank You

By Marianne Fons

The more quilting industry companies learn about the mission and work of QOVF, the more they want to recognize and encourage our community!

Baby Lock, one of 20 companies that provided funding for Iowa Public Television's 2012 "Quilts of Valor" Pledge Special (still airing nationwide through 2014), recently reached out to give our foundation a unique gift. Because the company has its own printing department at its Fenton, MO, headquarters, Advertising Manager Mary Polanc and Marketing Director Christine Hong offered to print, as a donation, a beautiful poster to be used as a form of Thank You to volunteers, QOVF groups, guilds, shops, recipients, and other vendors—anyone associated with Quilts of Valor Foundation who deserves a memento of thanks.

Iowa-based graphic artist Emily Sheeder created the powerful design, also as a contribution. Lines of type at the very bottom of the poster acknowledge both Baby Lock's and Sheeder's support.

The 14" × 18" poster is a standard size for which reasonably-priced ready-made frames are available. The poster will look great in any sewing room occupied by a QOVF volunteer. Posters will be available to the QOVF community for a nominal mailing-tube-and-postage charge only once a volunteer is in place to handle mailing.

We're seeking a Midwest-area volunteer willing to store the box of posters (18" × 21" × 6"), stock a supply of mailing tubes, and ship posters upon requests from our community. If you are interested, contact [marianne.fons@qovf.org](mailto:marianne.fons@qovf.org).



## Island Batik Launches “Quilted in Honor” Initiative

By Marianne Fons

Island Batik introduced a special 18-month fundraising initiative called “Quilted in Honor” at International Quilt Market in Portland in May. The goal of the program is to raise money for Operation Homefront, the fundraising organization that provides emergency financial assistance and other needed support to families of military service members and wounded warriors.

At the center of the initiative is the company’s Quilted in Honor (QIH) patriotic fabric collection, beautifully designed by artist Kathy Engle. A portion of revenue from every yard of QIH sold goes to Operation Homefront. Island Batik’s goal is to rally support across the quilting industry for Operation Homefront, and the company is forming partnerships with other vendors who are creating special products to generate Operation Homefront funding. A-list designers have created stunning quilts using the QIH fabrics. The second phase of the initiative is scheduled to launch this October at International Quilt Market and Festival in Houston. More information about the program is available at <http://www.islandbatik.com/quiltedinhonor/>

Bearing in mind that many of the quilts made from the QIH fabrics will be Quilts of Valor, Island Batik is creating a special label for QOVF. The design will be a downloadable pdf that can be printed at home using an ink-jet printer and a printable fabric sheet. Watch for a link to the label in an upcoming issue.

Since its inception, Operation Homefront has provided more than \$128 million in funding to programs to benefit military families. Find out more at [www.operationhomefront.net](http://www.operationhomefront.net). Caleb Willis, Island Batik CEO speaking about the Quilted in Honor program, commented, “We know that the great people of the quilting industry will join us in making quilts and raising funds that will support military families across our country.”



*Eleanor Burns presented her Island Batiks quilt Flying for Freedom to Adam Jennings, Medically Retired, US Marine Corps, at the “Quilted in Honor” kickoff event in Portland in May. Pictured are Eleanor, Adam, and Adam’s wife Kristyna and the couple’s daughter.*



*Island Batik designer Kathy Engle created an outstanding collection of batiks perfect for Quilts of Valor. Shown are the red-white-and-blue colorway.*

## 4H-ers Practice National Service

by Newsletter Staff

Earlier this month, ten York, Nebraska, 4H members ranging from middle-school students to teenagers gathered at the York County Fairgrounds 4H building to create patchwork blocks for Quilts of Valor Foundation. An adult volunteer was positioned at each sewing station to lend a helping hand as needed. By the end of the day, each young sewer had completed a top ready to be quilted.

Making Quilts of Valor perfectly fulfills elements of the 4H Pledge, which was adopted in 1927:

*I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living, for my club, my community, my country and my world.*

According to group leader Eileen Krumbach, by the end of the summer, York County 4Hers will complete approximately 23 QOVs. One participant commented, "I have a cousin who's in Afghanistan. . . he means a lot to me."

For a slide show of photos, courtesy of the York Newstimes of York, NE, please visit <http://goo.gl/d4XVL>.

## STATISTICS

### Iraq

Killed: 4,486

Wounded: Many

### Afghanistan

Killed: 2,229

Wounded: Many

### Suicides to Date:

30,137

**Total QOVs Awarded as of 5/5/13**

86,621

## Reminders

### Remember the R's

**REGISTER** Yourself, your group, or your shop as a part of the QOVF community.

**REPORT** quilts awarded directly by you or your group <http://www.qovf.org/quiltsawarded-report.html>

**RECRUIT** friends, family and locate organizations to donate time, talent and/or funds. We need Coaches, Rookies, Local Quilt Shops to cover all combat service members and veterans touched by war.



QOVF Staff

Let us know how we can help you ...

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Regional Coordinators (RCs) are here to assist you establish new groups, help fundraise, establish new points of contact and to maintain QOVF standards. If you have any questions or need guidance, please contact the RC assigned to your state. A full list can be found at <http://www.qovf.org/content/regional-coordinator-overall-view.html>

For more information regarding QOVF Structure and Volunteers, please visit: <http://www.qovf.org/content/about-us.html>

## Newsletter

June Moore, *Editorial Director*

Marianne Fons, *Editorial Assistant*

Tony Jacobson, *Graphic Designer*

*The mission of Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover all those service members and veterans touched by war with wartime quilts called Quilts of Valor (QOVs). Quilts of Valor Foundation is not about politics. It is about people.*