



Executive Director June Moore Retires to Pursue a Normal Life

By Eric McCarty

With great admiration and a touch of sadness, I announce June Moore's retirement as QOVF Executive Director.

June began as a longarm volunteer in 2005 when our foundation was in its infancy. Within six months, she took on the daunting role of Longarm Coordinator, methodically pairing quilt toppers with longarmers across the nation and, unheard of in those days, keeping a spreadsheet of all transactions.

After six years, June said "yes" to Catherine's request to work with her as QOVF Director. In 2012, when Catherine was suffering from extreme "combat fatigue," June accepted the Executive Director position.

"Without June, Quilts of Valor Foundation would not be here today," comments Catherine. "June guided QOVF through a growth spurt that has amazed us all. During her tenure, we've transitioned from a small team to a true national non-profit. June's get 'er done personality has literally kept QOVF going."



Please join me in saying Thank You to June for her tireless devotion to QOVF and her dedication to service members touched by war. We are forever in her debt.

June steps down "officially" September 1, looking forward to pursuing a more normal life—one involving knitting and actual quilting—without the constant pull of computer and phone. According to June, "Retirement will be a welcome return to my original role as QOVF volunteer!"

First-Ever Strategic Leadership Conference

By Susan Gordon

For first time in the ten-year history of Quilts of Valor Foundation, volunteer leadership will gather to envision the future of the initiative begun in 2003 to cover our combat veterans and service members with comforting Quilts of Valor.

Goals of the Strategic Leadership Planning Conference taking place in Nebraska City, NE, July 26–28 include creating ways regional, state, and local QOVF leadership can help accomplish specific projects set forth by our Board of Directors. Additionally, our gathering will develop and strengthen relationships between and among volunteer QOVF staff and leadership by creating opportunities for face-to-face interaction. Other aims are to help Regional Coordinators develop strategies to effectively manage their geographical areas and meet local needs, and to share with all volunteer leaders the best practices that current Regional Coordinators have developed within their own regions.

Continued on page 2

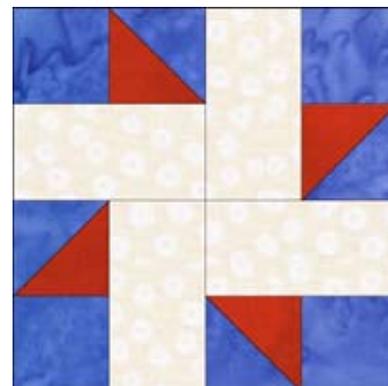
10th Anniversary Quilt Block Drive

By Karen Demaree

Ten years and over 84,000 Quilts of Valor since Catherine Roberts began her mission to comfort and honor our combat military, we're celebrating the success of her vision and the enduring efforts of all Quilts of Valor volunteer quilters via a patchwork block drive. To download a pdf of the block pattern,

directions, and mailing information go to <http://www.qovf.org/patterns-list.html>

Between now and July 1, 2013, make one, two, or as many blocks as you like. Using a fabric pen, write your first name, last initial, and your state somewhere on the front of each block. Volunteers will create special Quilts of Valor that literally wrap our warriors with the stitches and well wishes of people from all over our great country.





Lied Center, Nebraska City, NE

The conference includes a re-launch of our “Under Our Wings” initiative on Saturday. The weekend will be capped with a visit to the International Quilt Study Center & Museum at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, a must-see for every quilt lover.

Regional Coordinators can look forward to bringing back inspiration and insight to their areas to share with every volunteer within their regions. Be sure to check with your own Regional Coordinator to follow up on this exciting historic event.



International Quilt Study Center & Museum, Lincoln, NE

QOVs Growing, In More Than One Way!

By June Moore

The number of QOVs made and awarded annually has increased year by year since 2003, as has the rate of this increase; growth of actual quilts—in terms of size—is under way as well!

The original minimum size established for a Quilt of Valor was 50 × 60 inches, which is very much a lap-size quilt, not a nap-size quilt. In 2010, we upped the minimum to 55 × 65. If we truly want to wrap a Quilt of Valor recipient in honor and comfort, the quilt really should be large enough to enfold an adult. Recognizing most men are around six feet tall, and that the majority of wounded service members are men, 60 × 80 inch quilts are best.

The QOVF Board of Directors recently agreed unanimously to increase the recommended size to 60 × 80. Please know we aware fabric companies and other vendors have offered patterns that are undersize. We are doing our best to let the industry know what size QOVs should be.

Good news, Pellon’s “Legacy” batting, available from Pellon to registered QOVF longarmers at cost plus shipping is now 90 inches wide rather than 60—which means no one has to piece batting for larger quilts! If you are a QOVF volunteer quilting 12 or more QOVs per year, you may contact Director Karen Demaree, karen.demaree@QOVF.org to establish eligibility for the Pellon batting. Local groups who provide batting to their longarm volunteers may also be eligible if the QOVs are reported through the website form, or are sent through Destinations Coordinator Susan Gordon, susan.gordon@QOVF.org.



Under Our Wings Teams Honor Al on Washington Island, WI

By Ellen Graf

Nine Coach/Rookie teams plus a few helpers spent several productive days during one week in March at Sievers School of Fiber Arts on Washington Island, WI, producing nine quilt tops—all variations of the “string block” quilt Al Lind made familiar to many during the years the WW II veteran produced scores of QOVs.



Nancy Thiele, Coach
Deb Anderson, Rookie

Coaches met on Friday to cut strips, borders, and backing from the yards of red, white, and blue prints purchased at quilt shops with funds donated by Washington Island businesses and individuals.

Rookies sat down at their Coaches’ sewing machines Saturday morning. Plenty of chocolate and coffee was on hand. By the end of the day, hundreds of blocks had been pieced, trimmed, and placed on design walls around the room, each quilt-in-progress a variation on the string-block theme. Several teams returned Sunday afternoon to finish their tops, and individual sewing continued throughout the week in the pleasant, light-filled “Sophie Studio” at Sievers School.

Continued on page 3

QOVF Partners with Northcott

By June Moore

Any day that includes interest from a quilting industry vendor in working with QOVF is a special day! Northcott reached out to us via our web site many months ago when contemplating adding a red-white-and-blue group to its popular Stonehenge line. Director June Moore and quilt-industry liaison Marianne Fons willingly interacted with President Brian O'Rourke and Marketing Specialist Jennifer Brennan as the collection developed. After careful consideration, QOVF allowed use of its logo in Northcott's magazine ads. QOVF did not request a financial contribution, but Northcott in fact donates a portion of sales from both of its Linda Ludovico Stars & Stripes collections.

As is often the case, communication led to further partnering ideas, and soon Northcott offered to print our foundation's three-fold informational brochures at no cost. In return, Northcott was allowed to include information about its "Stonehenge Stars & Stripes" collections on the brochure back panel. In the process, Marianne became the go-to person for ongoing brochure requests. (She lives next door to the US Post Office in her town.)

QOVF's brochure partnership with Northcott is for calendar year 2013, with the relationship to be revisited late this year. Northcott understands that if other quilting industry vendors wish to print brochures and make similar use of the back center panel, QOVF may grant such permission.

The partnership with Northcott is a great example of the kind of symbiotic relationships available between quilt-industry companies and QOVF, a foundation whose nationwide community uses as much (or maybe more!) fabric, thread, batting, and other supplies than any other group of quilters.



Northcott Fabrics Quilts of Valor booth display at Spring Market 2012.

Next time you purchase fabric from Northcott's patriotic group, consider telling the staff at the shop that you appreciate the company's support of Quilts of Valor Foundation.

Contact Marianne with brochure requests, marianne.fons@QOVF.org.

STATISTICS

Iraq

Killed: 4,486
Wounded: Many

Afghanistan

Killed: 2,205
Wounded: Many

Suicides to Date:

30,137

Total QOVs Awarded as of 5/5/13

84,436

Under Our Wings cont.

The event was organized by Ellen Graf, a year-round Washington Island resident, and her friend Marianne Fons, a part-time resident. Both are long-time Sievers faculty members. Sievers donated the studio space and all three full time

Sievers staff members participated either as Coach or Rookie. Fabric funding was from American Legion Post 402, American Legion Post 402 Auxiliary, Bread & Water, Detroit Harbor Ladies Aid, Washington Island Lions Club, Sievers School of Fiber Arts, Washington Island School Student Council, Women

of Trinity Lutheran Church, and several individual donors.

Tops and backings went to longarm volunteers via QOVF.org, with a "day of binding" scheduled for a spring Saturday. Teams will decide individually on the destination for each quilt.

Photos by Carolyn Foss

Event Liability Coverage Procedure

By Joyce Lundrigan

Volunteers setting up a QOVF booth at a quilt show or other venue, if asked for a Certificate of Insurance (COI), should contact Treasurer Joyce Lundrigan (joyce.lundrigan@qovf.org) so a Certificate of Insurance (liability) can be issued.

The information required for a COI to be issued is the name, address, and email address of the business running the event as well as the name, address, and email address of the person making

the request, (i.e., the QOVF volunteer team leader).

In the past, some volunteers have secured liability insurance on their own for show booths. Going forward, that is no longer necessary.

New Snail Mail Address

A US Postal Service mailbox is now in place for general correspondence and donations. Please note:

Quilts of Valor Foundation
P.O. Box 728
Lebanon, NH 03766

Events Calendar Input Requested

Regional Coordinators, please check your calendar and send news of events upcoming in your area during July, August, and September. Email info to newsletter@QOVF.org as well as posting to the shared Google calendar. Plans are for each newsletter going forward to list near-future events coming up around the country. Notices will be brief, so just include the dates, city and state, contact person, and email or web address for more information.

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/quiltawarded-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 ...

Catherine Roberts, Founder
catherine.roberts@QOVF.org

June Moore, Executive Director
june.moore@QOVF.org

Eric McCarty, President,
Board of Directors
eric.mccarty@QOVF.org

Mike Sloan, Member,
Board of Directors
mike.sloan@QOVF.org

Joyce Lundrigan, Treasurer
joyce.lundrigan@QOVF.org

Marianne Fons, Liaison to
Quilting Industry
marianne.fons@QOVF.org

Karen Demaree, Director
karen.demaree@QOVF.org

Lori Kutch, Deputy Director
lori.kutch@QOVF.org

Deb Heater, Longarm Coordinator
deb.heater@QOVF.org

Susan Gordon, Destination
Coordinator
Susan.gordon@QOVF.org

Terry Yates, IT Director
terry.yates@QOVF.org

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.