



Prayers & Squares International



The Prayer Quilt Ministry –April, 2008

President’s Message:

We are back from Texas and we missed you!



There were about 100 quilters in attendance and we learned a lot from our wonderful speakers and from each other. When we did the “Chapter Shout Out” to show off our group outfits and celebrate how long we had each been a chapter, we found out that we ranged from 1 month old to 16 years old! It was great to see the “older” chapters (there is no nice way to say that...) get to know the “newbies” and offer their help. The gals at Palisades Presbyterian in San Diego adopted Jennifer from Texas on the spot for when she moves to the West Coast! She doesn’t even know where she is moving to!



The **Shop Hop** was so fun! We had 2 buses full of happy quilters that visited 4 quilt shops.



Here are Janet Graf (l) and Susan Head showing us some of their purchases. We had some great show-and-tell and heavier suitcases... A big thanks to Nikki Mundt and the two Hop hostesses, Donna and Donna (it’s true!)



This is me (Kathy Cueva) in Quilt Country with owner Sandy Brawner cutting just one more piece for me...

For our Opening Session Friday night, we were blessed to have Tricia Cribbs talk to us about how God has worked in her life and the life of her husband Gary as they became successful with their “Turning Twenty” patterns and books. This was followed by a PowerPoint presentation with all of the chapter pictures you sent in and a delicious assortment of desserts!

Saturday morning opened with a time of devotion as Kimberly Winston, author of *Fabric of Faith* and her new book, *Bead One, Pray Too*, spoke to us about Creativity and Spirituality. She

reminded us that each time we sit down to work on these prayer quilts, that is time we have set aside to “work within our gifts” and spend time with God. Check her blog at www.kimberlywinston.wordpress.com to read more about her speech and see pictures from our conference!



Here are Board Member Corie Carroll (l) and our Treasurer, Corky Kuhlman working at the P&S “Vendor Mall” which is featured in the picture below with Board Member Carla Meade (l), Wendy Mathson, our webmaster and one of the P&S founders, and Dorothy Freeman from Foothills UMC, Chapter #3.



Saturday brought us speakers who shared new techniques and new ideas. Eileen Urbanek took our book, *The Giving Quilt*, and talked about how to prepare boxes of strips and squares ahead of time so that “kits” were always available.



We also had “The Susans”– Susan Ziegler and Susan Jackson from Quiltintia.com and CrackerJackQuilts.com speak about fast and beautiful quilts that are good for every level of quilter:



Board Member Carolyn Ketterer and pattern designer Susan Head talked about the wonders of “Fast Blocks” found in “*The Giving Quilt*”



One of the primary fund-raisers that we do for the Prayers & Squares Organization is the “Chapter Basket” raffle. We asked each chapter that was attending to bring something. Thanks to all that brought one or two!

Nikki Mundt donated a brand new Janome sewing machine! Diane Dippet, Chapter 639 from Iowa won it and had to ship it home!



Election of the Board of Directors

Our bylaws as a non-profit organization mandate that we elect a new Board every two years at the International Conference. The new slate was elected at the this conference and officers and members chosen are listed below:

- Kathy Cueva – Chap. #3 - President
- Carolyn Ketterer – Chap. #64 - Vice President
- Corky Kuhlman – Chap. #1- Treasurer
- Cheryl Louie – Chap. #78 - Secretary
- Corie Carroll – Chapter #5
- Carla Meade – Chapter #244
- Nikki Mundt – Chapter #558

Watch the newsletter for all the great new ideas this group will bring to this organization. I’m excited!!



Watching and Waiting:

Can you tell we are inspired? Now it is our chance to share it all with you. Here is what to watch for!

- Sales of tote bags, pins, lanyards, pens and our new devotional book on the website.
- The last clues for the Mystery Quilt and pictures of your quilts posted on the website.
- New ideas for adopting new chapters.
- A new prayer and devotion on the website each month to take to your workshops.
- New quilt patterns written for us.
- More pictures of the conference posted on the website.

Watch for your May newsletter and keep your eyes on the Message Board!



These are prayer beads made from Kimberly Winston’s book, [Bead One, Pray Too.](#) They are another wonderful, tangible form of prayer. My daughter, Andrea, made these.

A Time of Devotion:

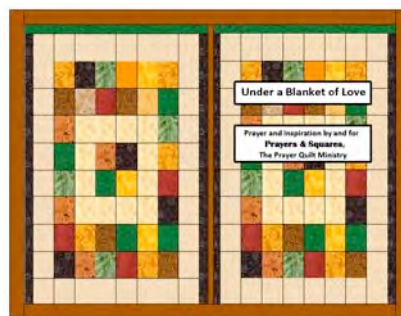
We are blessed as an organization to have a number of wonderful, spirit-filled writers who allowed Louise Lucas and me to use their poems, prayers, devotions and ideas to create our new book, “Under a Blanket of Love”. In honor of our beginnings in Hope United Methodist Church, here is a prayer from Corky Kuhlman, Chapter 1.

“Wrapped in Prayer”

*Gracious and Loving God,
May we be open to Your guidance this day as we prepare these quilts to be freely given, wrapped in prayer.*

*We ask that You surround the recipients of these quilts with Your healing touch and warm comfort. Help us as we work in community to remember to:
Breathe in Your grace,
Listen with our hearts,
Trust in Your divine presence,
Touch those in need with love, and
Serve You with every stitch and every prayer.*

Amen.



A Closing Note:

It has been an exciting 2008 in this organization with first time chapters in Maine, North Dakota and South Africa. We have had the opportunity to be together as “Prayers & Squares Sisters” twice in Texas already and there is promise of many more in the excitement we felt. My heartfelt thanks to all the chapter leaders and everyone who helped with the conference. I know that God is with us and “all things are possible”!

– Kathy Cueva ,*President,*
Prayers & Squares International