

# ON TRACK!

FALL 2015

PASSION ~ ARTISTRY ~ BUSINESS



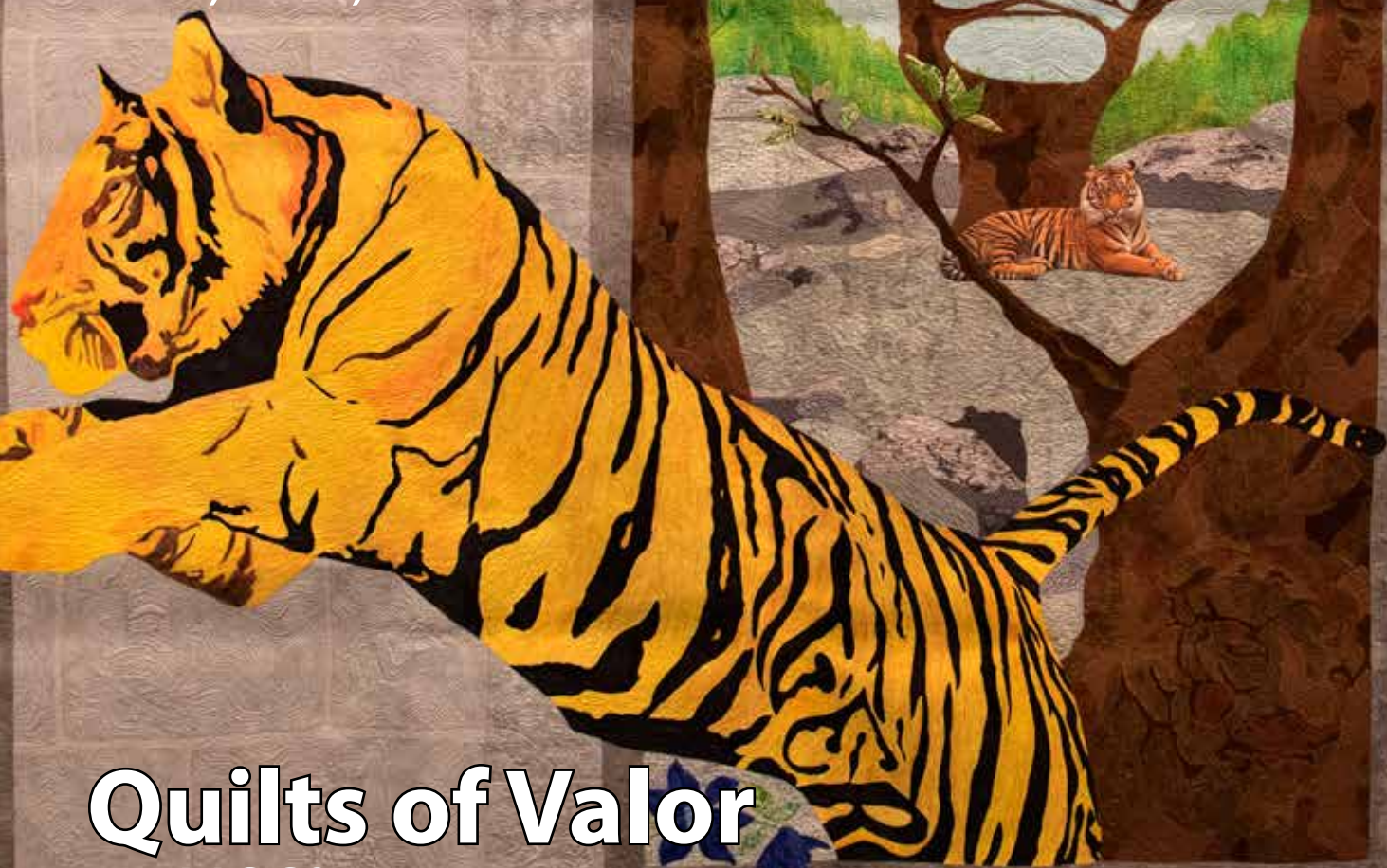
## *Tiger, Tiger*

*MQS<sup>®</sup> 2015*

*Viewers' Choice Winner*

## **Fresh Ideas**

*Row, Row, Row*



## **Quilts of Valor**

*at MQS<sup>®</sup>*





# Quilts of Valor

*presented by Quilter's Rule  
at the MQS<sup>®</sup> Auction*

by: Kathi Eubank

## Quilts of Valor Foundation

*The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor. To learn more about this organization, please visit their website at [www.govf.org](http://www.govf.org).*



Before the Audacious Auction at MQS® 2015 quilts were presented to veterans by Quilter's Rule and Quilts of Valor (QOV). As each veteran was called forward, their story was told, the quilt was shown and then draped around the veteran covering them in a warmth of thanks for their service.

Presentation of quilts to veterans is something that touches the heart of everyone present. The presentations that night were no exception. By the end of the evening there was not a dry eye in the audience.

We extend a special thank you to those involved in the presentation:

Karen Demaree, Wisconsin State Coordinator for QOV, prepared and printed the certificates given to each veteran, as well as prepared and coordinated the quilts for presentation. She also provided a number of the quilts as only nine quilts came from the Quilter's Rule challenge.

Jim Simons was the MC for the presentations. Patricia Simons and Elayne Gassett, longarm coordinator for QOVF, showed the quilt and draped the veteran.

*And most of all, we thank the veterans for their service.*

An interview with Jim Simons and Patricia Simons about the Quilter's Rule challenge for QOV:

*How many quilts were given at the presentation at MQS® 2015?*

A total of 20 quilts were given.

*What veterans received quilts that night?*

Quilts were given to veterans of WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan, and Iraq.

We try hard to find veterans of WWII and Vietnam. WWII vets are starting to become difficult to find. Vietnam vets are a very special case because they were treated so badly when they came home. We have noticed that when a Vietnam





vet receives a quilt, some true healing of the soul begins.

*Why did Quilter's Rule start the QOV challenge?*

Quilter's Rule has supported in various ways many groups and organizations making charity quilts (these causes include: cancer victims, preemies, children's hospitals, and veterans). Our support normally comes in the way of us donating product. However, veterans hold a special place in our heart because both Jim Simons (owner) and Devlin Simons (owner) served, and that is how we began to work with Quilts of Valor. Jim did one tour in Vietnam; Devlin served in the Reserves. When Jim was given a Quilts of Valor in 2010, it was the first time he had been thanked for his service. That was also the first year we did an auction to benefit service members.

When we talk to quilters about making a quilt, one of the greatest stumbling blocks we hear expressed is, "I don't know what to do." Many are willing to help, but some people needed a jumping off spot. Most challenges are about fabric, but Quilter's Rule doesn't deal in fabric, so we made our challenge about the block, or what to do with the block. We came up with the concept of a Tool Challenge, making it about the veterans and the tools that are so much a part of our business.

Three shows have made room for our quilts to be exhibited at their show on a yearly basis: Road to California, HMQS, and, of course, MQS®. One year we were able to exhibit the quilts at the Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival and another year they were exhibited in Palm Springs. We are in discussions with Quilts, Inc. to include an exhibit at their shows.

After the quilts have been on the road with us for one year, we then present them to veterans before the MQS® Audacious Auction.

*What are the guidelines for the challenge?*

Each year a different tool is chosen for the challenge. The designer of the tool then makes a pattern for the challenge. The participants can choose to follow the pattern, or they can create their own pattern – but the tool must be used in the majority of the quilt.

We follow the general guidelines for Quilts of Valor regarding the size of the quilt and fabrics. However, we are not strict about the guidelines. Our goal is more quilts to be given to more veterans. The piecer need not be the quilter. Because our challenge is exhibited at MQS®, HMQS, and Road to California, as well as other shows, quilts must have a temporary sleeve on them.

Quilts need to be in our offices by April 24th. For complete rules and entry form, go to our website <http://quiltersrule.com/toolChallenge/tool-challenge.html>, or contact our office (800/343-8671) and we will mail the information.

*How can people donate?*

Quilter's Rule travels all over the country and we always carry a couple of quilts with us. When we find a veteran who has not received a quilt we present one.

We will always take quilt donations ... or even just tops. People who would be willing to quilt tops should contact Karen Demaree at: [karen.demaree@qovf.org](mailto:karen.demaree@qovf.org) as she receives a number of tops that need to be quilted and coordinates getting that done. She always needs backing and batting, so any donations of product or money to purchase those supplies is greatly appreciated.

Monetary donations can be made directly to Quilts of Valor or to your local QOV group. Tax deductible donations can be made at [QOVF.org](http://QOVF.org) and can be designated to a particular group (such as "Wisconsin.") When money is designated for a



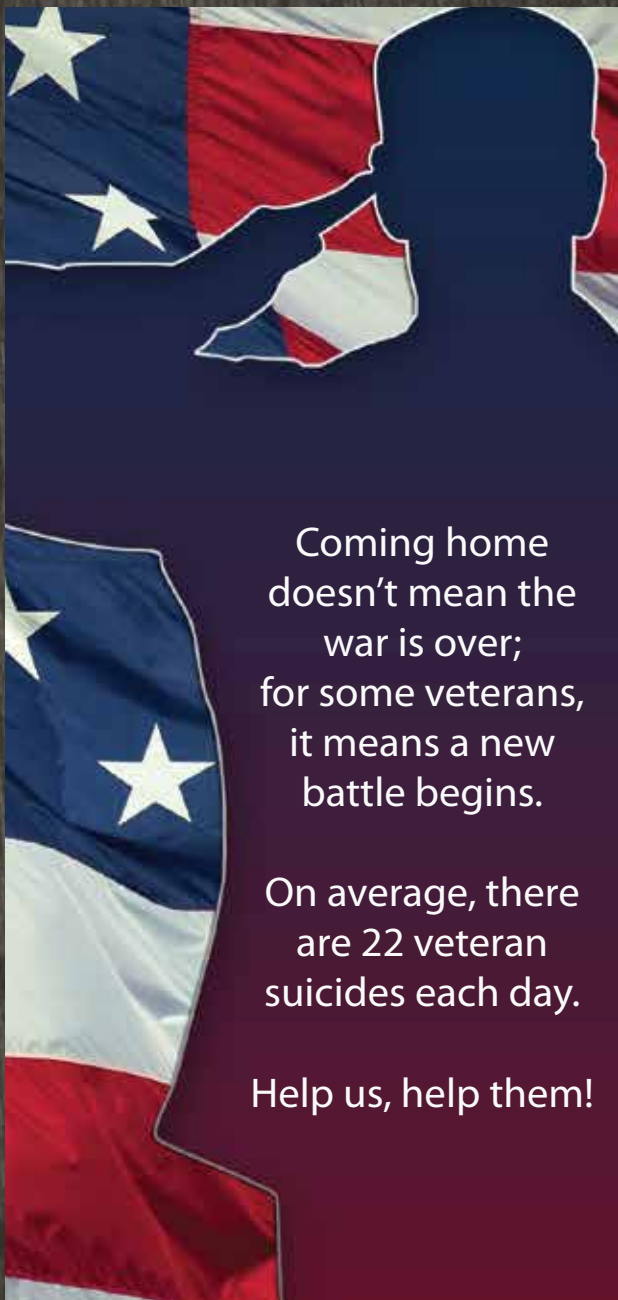


particular group, all of those funds are turned over to the designated group.

Piecers and quilters can join the challenge or make any QOV quilt for a veteran. There are far more veterans who deserve a quilt than quilts that will be made for them.

Veterans are committing suicide at a rate of 22 per day. If receiving a quilt helps just one, it is worth all the effort.

**Quilter's Rule and IMQA  
extend a special thank you to  
our military for all you have  
done and continue to do for  
our country.**



Coming home  
doesn't mean the  
war is over;  
for some veterans,  
it means a new  
battle begins.

On average, there  
are 22 veteran  
suicides each day.

Help us, help them!



## Fifth Annual Quilter's Rule™ Tool Challenge



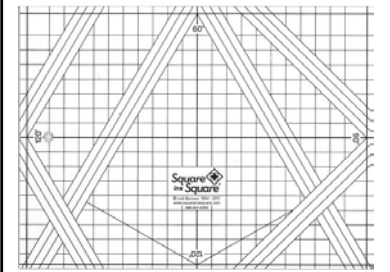
Make a quilt for  
a veteran or  
service member



Quilts are presented and  
donated to veterans and or  
military service members



### 2016 Challenge Tool: Square in a Square



Visit our website for information  
[www.QuiltersRule.com](http://www.QuiltersRule.com)

Help support our veterans by participating in the Tool Challenge  
and for awareness of the Quilts of Valor program([www.qovf.org](http://www.qovf.org))



Quilter's Rule  
817 Mohr Ave.  
Waterford, WI 53185  
[www.QuiltersRule.com](http://www.QuiltersRule.com)



[customerservice@quiltersrule.com](mailto:customerservice@quiltersrule.com)

