

Crafting memberships can turn a Challenge task up to High. Three challenges with due dates the same month...September...will give the heart rate a nudge toward “overload” in a matter of minutes.

Of course, we do not have to accept the Challenge(s). However, what is the fun with not participating? The more the better, right? Or is that saying for accepting Chocolate?

“Why are you starting a challenge now?” she asks during our Bee gathering. “We have until September to get them ready for hanging.”

“Ahhh, it takes me a year or two to think of an idea and then to gather up all the needed supplies (wool, cotton, threads, bling, and Know How) to get started on the design. “Anyway, it is fun to get ideas. Plans change with every new fabric considered. Plus, eating, sleeping and, planning meals are a must. But a fabric challenge is fun.

Fabric Greens, Browns and Blues are offered for possible use. “Cut this to form sea grass,” suggests a helpful Bee. Ideas buzz around the table where we are meeting for a social coffee and snack. Bee gatherings are a learning experience and we get a lot accomplished even with the occasional jousting.

Without challenges and friendships our creativity would be on the downslide. Quilt guilds, Art Clubs and even one-on-one pats on the back would be non-existent.

“Oh, I want to thank you for the wonderful postcard you sent to me,” says a Bee. “I hope I sent a thank you note, but just in case I forgot...Thank you.” Handmade postcards have been floating around for the past 20 years in our quilting circles. They always pluck a string in the heart of the receiver and give a feeling of Good Will to the presenter. Artwork always showers us with bits of confetti. And, at first encounter, they are always a challenge.

Challenges infuse us with strength, know how, comradery. Living without them would become a Challenge.

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