

## *Going Home*

A 2010 opportunity quilt for the benefit of  
Fox Valley Genealogical Society, Naperville, Illinois

*The words “going home” conjure up a wide range of thoughts and memories for each of us. Going home may mean a short drive to the next town or a cross-country trip or an ocean voyage. It may mean returning to a familiar homestead where you lived as a child. Or perhaps it means it is time to leave this life and return to another not of this world, but nevertheless believed in and prepared for.*

*Our ancestors, who crossed oceans to make a new life in what they believed would be a better place, surely hoped to see their homelands and the faces of their family members again one day. But despite their dream, we know that most were never able to go home again.*

*Belonging to a place where love, comfort, and acceptance are freely given is well represented by the pattern of this quilt. It is pleasant to imagine going home to a place where light spills from the windows in anticipation of our arrival, where the out buildings are snug and well-stocked, with pure waterways nearby. Tall trees stretch toward the heavens and flowers stand at attention as they watch the road for our approach. The warm sun pours itself on the apples in the nearby orchard as we walk down the path. Then the door opens and we hear the words, “Welcome home.”*

The quilt, a Thimbleberries kit whose design origin could not be determined, was pieced in 2009 by the following members of the Tuesday Night Bee of Faithful Circle Quilt Guild in Downers Grove, Illinois: Karla Anderson, Selbye Baez, Trish Fagan, Connie Gaul, Holly Hackelberg, Nona Jones, Marla Kuettler, Rita Ptacek, and Barb Rathke. The quilting was done by Blue House Quilting of Wheaton, Illinois.