



## **JOIN PENNY'S POSTCARD POSSE**

**[WWW.FABRIC-POSTCARDS.COM](http://WWW.FABRIC-POSTCARDS.COM)**

Memorial Day is a time for reflection and honoring soldiers who have given their lives to protect the freedoms we enjoy here in the US. As I sat in my cozy house, surrounded with warmth and the love of my family, friends and animals, I began to think about the soldiers who were 7,342 miles away from their family and friends, and wondered whether there was something that we, quilters, could do to let them know how much we appreciate their dedication.

Quilters have a history of making quilts for wounded soldiers and the families of fallen soldiers. And I wondered whether it might be a good idea to send quilts to soldiers who were actively in harms way.

Regular size quilts for the troops seemed pretty impractical. I could just imagine showing up at a military base with 1000 quilts and asking them to send them to the desert. It didn't seem likely that anyone would be too happy to see those boxes. The troops would probably love the quilts, but it just didn't seem like the right thing.

But, what about smaller quilts? **Pocket-size quilts**, even? It seemed like the perfect thing, since a soldier could carry it around with him or her, or tuck it away easily in the corner of a duffle bag or trunk. And the beginning quilters of [www.How-to-Quilt.com](http://www.How-to-Quilt.com) would be able to test their quilting skills on a small project that would be much appreciated.

Thus **Penny's Postcard Posse** was formed, and the first project was to gather fabric postcards to send to troops for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2006.

That 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Penny's Postcard Posse rounded up more than **239 tiny postcard greetings for the soldiers in Iraq**. These fabric cards were sent through Camp Pendleton in San Diego, California, and pictures of them are posted on this site at:

<http://www.fabric-postcards.com/memorialdaypostcards.shtml>

How-To-Quilt has been honored to sponsor Posse Roundups in 2006, 2007, and now in 2008. By way of planning ahead, here are the dates and deadlines for the **2008 Postcard Posse Roundups**:

Dates for Penny's Postcard Posse 2008		
Celebration	Send your postcard by this date	Actual date of Celebration
Easter / Spring	March 21	April 8
US Independence Day - 4th of July	June 8	July 4
Halloween (just for fun!)	October 2	October 31
Thanksgiving	November 6	November 22
Christmas / Holidays	December 1	December 25

To date our **Posse has sent more than 7705 miniature quilts to soldiers abroad.**

**You can join in the fun!**

Any size, any shape, any color, any design is welcome. There are FREE quilt block patterns you can download at [www.Fabric-Postcards.com](http://www.Fabric-Postcards.com) and use. Or create your own design. "Welcome Home," "Thank You" and other general designs are also appreciated.

Most of the cards have been about 4" by 6." But, as you look at the pictures of the fabric postcards that have been gathered on previous Posse Roundups, you can tell, there is a wide range of sizes. In addition, many quilters have written messages, including their names and addresses, hoping that a soldier might decide to write to them.

Quilters have shared the project with their family and friends. Several veteran husbands have made cards with special messages to the soldiers. And quilting groups have gathered together to make cards to send.

In short, it's easy, it's fun and also very rewarding to know that you will light up a soldier's life with a design and a few words of appreciation.

Send your finished cards to us at:

**How to Quilt  
Penny Halgren  
7925 Pasadena Ave.  
La Mesa, CA 91941**

If you have any questions, feel free to email me at: [penny@fabric-postcards.com](mailto:penny@fabric-postcards.com)

Happy Quilting!

Penny Halgren  
[www.Fabric-Postcards.com](http://www.Fabric-Postcards.com)