



April 2024 Newsletter

President's Letter

Hello to all!

I hope you all weathered the surprise snow storm and enjoyed some extra sewing time! I took advantage of the time myself to quilt a charity quilt needed for the end of this month. Now to get the binding and sleeve added!

April brings our proposal for new board officers and confirming committee chairs for next year. I'm happy to share we have a full slate for the board (2024-2025) and Ellyn will be sharing the slate with you at this month's guild meeting with a vote expected at our May meeting.

We do have a few committee slots open and this is a wonderful way to contribute to the guild without a big commitment of time. If you're approached to consider a committee chair role, please consider it! If you'd like to help with a committee, please approach the committee chair or a board member. Supporting our committees is also a wonderful way to get to know our members.

Volunteerism is what allows our guild to run, to continue to deliver programs and events that we all benefit from. Without our board and committees, our programs will change. Be sure to check out our upcoming programs, our program chairs are doing a fantastic job bringing a wonderful variety of lectures and workshops for us.

For those of you who volunteer for the guild, a heart felt thank you!

As I write this message to all of you, I'm headed to the Monterey peninsula (south of San Francisco) to take two classes with international teachers at Empty Spools Seminars.

I hope your quilting journey continues to take you to wonderful new places!

Caroline

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Membership

Hi All, we are happy to report that we have three new members that joined at our March meeting! They are Debra Denslow, Sandy Merritt, and Andrea Noble. Please introduce yourselves to them at meetings, welcome them to our group and get to know them! We currently have 111 members.

As always, if you have any membership questions, please see Gail Burk or Pam Stenman!

Gail Burk
Pam Stenman

Treasurer's Update

All the Guild accounts are balanced and in good order. The Board approved the Guild 2023-2024 Budget and it is available on Members Only section of the Guild Website. Look under the tab that says "Minutes/Treasurer/Budget. If you have any questions or concerns please let me know at annedodge71@gmail.com. Anne Dodge, Treasurer

Friendship Blocks

Share your sewing with your guild friends.
Instructions are on the website and also the link below

[Tinyurl.com/FVQfriend2023](https://tinyurl.com/FVQfriend2023)

Questions-email Linnea (neaya@aol.com) or Katha (kkerr8994@yahoo.com)

ABC Quilts

The ABC committee is looking for one or two members to join the team. The commitment level is low but the benefits are high! Responsibilities are shared including: designing the annual quilts, writing directions, assembling and distributing kits, collecting finished blocks, assembling top, securing volunteers to quilt them and create the labels, preparing the quilts to bind at the February service meeting, storing the donated fabric and finished quilts, communicating with the ABC House administration to get the information on the incoming students. The highlight is presenting the quilts the day the young men move into the house in August. If you are interested or have questions, please reach out to Peggy Thomsen or Kathie Fallon for details.

Retreats

Our next retreat is October 30 - November 3, 2024, at the Carnation Center in Ivoryton, CT.

Signups will be at the May meeting, a non-refundable deposit of \$100 will hold your spot, checks made out to FVQI.

Chair massages and machine servicing will again be offered for an additional fee.

Katha

Guild Library

From the Guild Library:

Each month, we would like to feature one special book from the Guild Library to pique interest. This month the book selected relates to our featured speaker, Mary Derry who is a National Quilting Association (NQA) Certified Quilt Judge.

Quilting for Show: A Practical Guide to Successful Competition Quilting, by Karen McTavish. On-Word Bound Books, 2007. Includes DVD

Written by an award winning long-arm quilter, this book covers a lot of what is involved in competitive quilting. She walks the reader through various techniques for making quilts that fulfill the, sometimes very picky, criteria that judges look for when judging quilts. She also discusses the ethics, requirements and logistics of entering a Quilt into a show. The book is full of anecdotes from judges and from various quilters. There is a wealth of color illustrations of techniques and pictures of award-winning quilts. One warning is useful and Karen raises it in her book. Judging trends change with the times and because this book is older some of the advice may be outdated. The DVD that is included shows how to “block” a quilt to make sure it will hang smoothly and also shows how to work specific types of feathers and other quilting designs on a long-arm machine.

Mystery Night

Everyone Loves a Mystery!! It is fun to uncover the mystery pattern clue-by-clue!

Mystery Night Sign-Ups

May 17th from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM EST at Avon Church 6 W Main St, Avon, CT 06001

We have room for 15 people to attend this event. The fee is \$20 dollars due at time of registration. Once you have confirmed your registration and paid for the event, please send a message to rosemarie.j.day@gmail.com to receive the instructions required to be done prior to the event. This will include cutting your fabric and a supply list for what to bring.. The project is a small quilt roughly 42" square. It can be done with scraps, if desired. The pattern is rather beginner friendly, but does contain some smaller pieces in some spots. I promise it will be much easier to read compared to last year! Thank you to our wonderful pattern testers who provided much valuable feedback for this design and to those at last year's Mystery Night who provided feedback on how to improve this year. Any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me at rosemarie.j.day@gmail.com. Sign-up will be available at Guild meetings and payment can be given to Anne Dodge at time of sign-up or mailed to the Guild address, FVQ, PO Box 172, Weatogue, CT 06089. Since this is at dinner hour it is recommended to bring food with you or buy from one of the local shops in the area. Hope to see you for a **FUN** night of mystery and comradery!

Programs and Workshops

A PDF Printout of programs is available on our Website: FVQuilter.org

Thank you to everyone who signed up for the September and October workshops. We still have room in Satomi's workshop Reversible Appliqué and Sue Michaels' bag workshop. Please support our efforts to bring you fun workshops. There will be a sign-up sheet for both at the sign-in table at the next meeting. Also, for those of you who have signed up please bring a check for \$50 for the workshops you have signed up for and give them to Kathy Maglia at the next meeting. We are charging a little more so the room rental doesn't come out of the guild's treasury.

April 17, 2024

Mary Derry- NQA Certified Quilt Judge

Have you ever wondered what the process is when a certified quilt judge evaluates your quilt in a juried show? Wonder no more -- Mary Derry will walk us through a few sample quilts and give us the inside view of what a judge takes into consideration when looking at each part of a quilt. She will be happy to answer your questions about the process and how she arrives at a final score.

May 15, 2024

Christa Nee- Joint Protection and Body Mechanics for the Quilter

Christa is an Occupational Therapist, Yoga Instructor and Quilter.

We've all sat at our machines for hours on end...only to ache afterwards. Protect those joints! Learn the benefits of and ways to improve posture, body mechanics, joint protection and stretching to improve your quilting experience for years to come.

Socials

Our end of year social will be June 19th. We will have sign ups in April and May for people to contribute an hors d'oeuvre or desert to the evening, the guild will be providing bottled water. More information to follow!

The summer Sew-Ins will be held on July 17th and August 21st at the First Church of Christ located at 689 Hopmeadow St, Simsbury. This is a FREE event open to all guild members to enjoy, bring whatever project you would like to work on and your sewing supplies and machine. Pack a brown bag lunch or visit a local restaurant, we **do not** have access to a refrigerator or a microwave. This is a great opportunity to spend some time getting to know other guild members. The Sew-Ins are held in air-conditioned Palmer Hall from 9-3. You can attend one or both days, sign ups will be available at the May and June meetings.

Remember to mark your calendar!

Katha Kerr and Patti Slason

June Challenge

Each year we offer guild members a quilting challenge. This year's challenge topic is Endangered Species. You must pick an animal(s) from the World Wildlife Fund list. Then use that to inspire a quilted item. As always it must be quilted and finished, but can be any size or shape.

Questions? See Diane Calkin, dlcalkin@gmail.com

CT Hang-a-Quilt Day

Connecticut Hang-a-Quilt Day is Saturday, June 15
(Rain date June 16) 9 AM to 4 PM

The 6th annual Connecticut Hang-a-Quilt Day is coming up on the third Saturday in June! Help share the art of quilting with your community, wherever you are, by hanging a quilt outside your home. You can hang it over a chair, from a window, from a clothesline, or any other creative way to display one or more quilts. No registration required - just hang a quilt for the day.

The guild will be hanging quilts on the iron fence (using a clothesline) at the cemetery in the center of Simsbury, as well as at the wooden fence around the Simsbury Historical Society, both of which are on Hopmeadow Street, for anyone who would like to display quilts there. It is your responsibility to bring your quilt in the morning and pick it up by 4PM that afternoon. We could also use a few volunteers to help hang quilts in both locations on the morning of the 15th - reach out to Bernice Hovencamp if you are able to assist. You may also find other public places to display your quilt, there is no limit to how or where you display them.

We will be distributing rack cards again this year, and need help from members to distribute these cards to quilt shops and guilds across the state. We will bring the rack cards to the April meeting to hand out to members, and these will need to be distributed within a month. For those interested in yard signs, we will have more information at the April meeting.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Bernice Hovencamp or Keri Livingston.

Quilt Show

Hello, hello everyone. While there are no real 'updates' to report... this is just a reminder to still work on producing your quilts for our show for Fall '25. This gives us all plenty of time to get these quilts done!! Also, raffle basket people...start thinking about your basket themes and ideas. Also - we do need to come up with a good name for our quilt show...any ideas out there??? We won't be able to confirm our date with KO until September this year, as their 'calendar' is not out yet for 2025. Believe me, showtime will be here before we know it....let's all make this one bigger and better!

Happy Quilting!!

Jan Porri

Celebrating Quilting

Celebrating many, many years of quilting.

The FV Guild is having an exhibit in the Friends of the Simsbury Library Room in the Simsbury Public Library. Dates will be September 4 - October 30, 2024.

This exhibit will showcase quilts and wall hangings from FV member's work.

I have asked many of you to be a part of this event., and there is still room!

We can hang up to twenty quilts. There is space for 15" wall hangings too!

Please contact Ellyn Mansfield 860-561-2878 (text or voice) for further information.

NEQM Guest Passes

The guild's membership to the NEQM has been renewed and we have received 4 complimentary tickets for anyone interested in visiting there in the next year. If you've ever wondered about this museum, check them out on YouTube where you'll find informative videos on current happenings.

Neonatal Quilts

Committee: Darcy Grey

Kitty Vangunten

Linda Johnston

Maureen Hulsart



Six quilts were turned in at the last meeting. Some of the recent neonatal quilts are on display at Liberty Bank in Simsbury this month. We will be at the meeting with fabric, batting and labels. Please stop by and pick up some supplies.

Thank you for supporting the neonatal committee.

Sunshine

As a caring Guild, we want to send a cheer card or sympathy card to any member that might need one. In order to do this, Kathy Lettieri should be informed if you know of anyone who could use a card from us. If you do, please contact Kathy Lettieri (860-651-8330) or any Board member. Kathy's e-mail is kbakerl@att.net

We have recently sent a sympathy card to Paula DeSilva on the death of her daughter. If anyone would like to send a card of their own, e-mail me and I will give you Paula's address.

Sew Thankful Quilters

Please join **Sew Thankful Quilters** at the Avon Congregational Church for sewing your charity quilts on the second Thursday of the month from 9:30 to noon. We will be sewing Quilts of Valor, but would welcome anyone who would like to sew charity quilts.

If you have any questions, please call Susan Elliott at 860-748-1775.

Quilts 2 Heal

There will be a Sew In at Sew Inspired Quilt Shop, 8 Wilcox St., Simsbury from 10:00-3:00 on April 8th. Please join us if you can.

CONTACT: Paula DeSilva, quilts2heal@comcast.net, 860.306.7000 OR Kathi Maglia, kmmaglia@comcast.net

Granbees Quilt Guild

Interested in quilting? * The Granbees Welcome You * Beginners to Experts

When: Third Tuesdays September to June 9:30 am – Noon

Where: East Granby Senior center

Programs: Trunk Shows, Demonstrations, Guest Speakers, Charity Quilts, Members helping members, Retreats, Applique, Basting Day, Refreshments

Contact: Elyn Mansfield Email: elhmansfield@gmail.com Phone – 860-561-2878

Advertisements

If you would like to advertise a service or are looking to sell or buy something related to quilting/sewing, advertise it here. Your advertisement will be in the Newsletter for six months; after which it will be removed.

FREE! ABSOLUTELY FREE!

Great 4' long sewing table/desk. Handmade. Owner (recently passed away) used it as a sewing table.

The family does not want this piece.

Please contact Elyn Mansfield for further information. Simsbury location.



4/24

For Sale - Babylock Quilters Choice sewing machine. Lovingly maintained, great machine! \$350. Happy to let you test drive it to check it out before you decide. Contact Peggy Thomsen (psthomsenquilter@gmail.com)

4/24

For Sale - Accuquilt Go with multiple dies and cutting mats. \$400 or best offer but must take it all. This is a steal as the dies alone sell for \$50- \$100+ each. Contact Peggy Thomsen (psthomsenquilter@gmail.com)

4/24

Quilting Events in the Area

CROSSROADS QUILTERS AUCTION

APRIL 16, 2024
Living Hope Church of the Nazarene
556 Cabot St. Beverly, MA
6:15 Preview – Doors Open
Silent Auction and On-the-Spot Items to Purchase
7:00 Live Auction Begins

Southford Falls Quilters' Auction

April 20, 2024
Immanuel Lutheran Church Hall
25 Great Hill Rd., Oxford CT 06478
<https://www.facebook.com/Southfordfallsquilters/>

Amoskeag Quilters Guild Presents: Tomorrow's Heirlooms Quilt Show

April 20 – 21, 2024
Manchester Memorial High School
1 Crusader Way, Manchester, NH 03103
<https://www.amoskeagqg.org/welcome>

Winchester Center Congregational Church Quilt and Needle Arts Show

April 27 - 28, 2024
1 West Rd, Route 263, Winchester Center, CT
<http://www.winchestercenterconchurch.org/>

Narragansett Bay Quilters' Association Spring Quilt Fest

April 27 and 28, 2024
West Warwick Civic Center
100 Factory Street, West Warwick RI
<https://nbqa.org/>

Hannah Dustin Quilters Guild Quilt Show

May 3 – 4, 2024
Hudson Community Center
12 Lions Avenue, Hudson, NH 03051
<https://hdqg.org/>

Pioneer Valley Quilters' Guild "Up, Up and Away Quilt Show"

May 4 – 5, 2024
Elks Lodge #61
440 Tiffany St., Springfield MA
<https://www.pvquilt.org/>

A WORLD OF QUILTS XLIII

Presented by: Northern Star Quilters' Guild
Saturday - May 4-5, 2024:
SUNY Purchase College, Physical Education Building
735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, NY 10577
Guest Speaker: Irene Roderick
Invitational Exhibit: Timna Tarr

North Parish Quilt Guild Annual Auction and Sale

May 8, 2024
Union Congregational Church
148 Haverhill St., N Reading, MA 01864
<https://northparishquilters.wordpress.com/>

Quilters Connection 2024 Quilt Show

May 18 - 19, 2024
Arlington Town Hall
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
<https://www.quiltersconnection.org/QCindex.html>

Chelmsford Quilters' Guild, Inc. Biennial Quilt Show 2024

May 18 – 19, 2024
Chelmsford Senior Center
75 Groton Rd, North Chelmsford, MA
<https://www.chelmsfordquiltguild.com/>

Quilts after Covid Was: April 6 - 7, 2024

Now: June 1 - 2, 2024 Date Change
Tewksbury Senior Center
175 Chandler Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876
<http://www.tewksburypiecemakers.com/index.html>

A Vermont Quilt Sampler at Billings Farm & Museum

June 29 – Sept. 2, 2024
Billings Farm & Museum
53 Elm Street, Woodstock, VT 05091
<https://billingsfarm.org/quilt-exhibition/>

Art Quilts to Dye For

July 20 to Aug 31, 2024
The Brush Art Gallery & Studios
256 Market Street, Lowell, MA 01852
<https://thebrush.org/>

Maine Quilts 2024

July 25 - 27, 2024
Augusta Civic Center
76 Community Dr., Augusta, Maine
<https://mainequilts.org/>

Bayberry Quilters of Cape Cod's Annual Quilt Show

July 31 – August 2, 2024
Cape Cod Technical High School
351 Pleasant Lake Ave., Harwich, MA
<https://bayberryquiltersofcapecod.com/>

Autumn Festival of Quilts

Sept. 14 – 15, 2024
Hawthorn Brook School
64 Brookline Rd (Rt 13), Townsend MA 01469
<https://squanicookquiltguild.com/>

With These Hands 2024: Herring Run Quilters' Guild

Sept. 21 – 22, 2024
Boys and Girls Club of Marshfield
37 Proprietors Drive, Marshfield, MA 02050
<https://www.herringrunquiltguild.com>

Newsletter Submissions

Due the Friday before the Wednesday Guild Meeting. Submit to dlcalkin@gmail.com
Submissions for next newsletter due May 10, 2024.

2023-2024 Board Members

President	Caroline Berman
Vice President	Ellyn Mansfield
Membership	Pam Stenman, Gail Burk
Secretary	Keri Livingston
Treasurer	Anne Dodge
Programs	Kathi Maglia Joanne Farrell
Newsletter Editor	Diane Calkin
Publicity	Rose Day Bridget Shanley
Social Programs	Linda Walter Candy Casciano Patti Slason Katha Kerr
Webmaster	Kitty Vangunten
Quilt Show Chair 2024	Jan Porri

2023-2024 Committee Members

ABC Quilts	Peggy Thomsen Kathie Fallon
Fabric Swap Box Friendship Blocks	Margaret Dooley-Duncan Linnea Amodio Katha Kerr
Hospitality	Donna Gosselin Marie Knapps Diane Calkin
June Challenge Library	Anne Dodge Lois Palmer Kitty Vangunten
Mystery Night Neonatal Quilts	Rose Day Maureen Hulsart Darcy Gray Kitty Vangunten Linda Johnston
Sunshine Photographer Retreats CT Hang-a-Quilt-Day	Kathy Lettieri TBD Katha Kerr TBD

Website: Fvquilters.org

Facebook: Farmington Valley Quilters

Instagram: @farmvalquilters