

March 2024 Newsletter

President's Letter

Happy Almost Spring to All!

I hope this finds all of you doing well and anxiously looking forward to some warmer weather.

I just recently returned from a fantastic retreat weekend at The Incarnation Center – have you attended one of our Guild Retreats? If you haven't, you should consider doing so. It's a wonderful program that serves our mission as a guild. I find it extremely therapeutic – *spending hours doing what we love, with a group of like-minded friends* – what could possibly be better! And a shout out to Katha Kerr for organizing our retreats for us...she does an amazing job! Our next retreat will be in November, so watch the Newsletter for details on when to sign-up.

Thank you for your wonderful response to our ask last month to fill our programs! You seem to all agree - we have some great programs lined up for the Spring and we need to support them! We do have a few openings for our March workshop, please consider signing up for that workshop or any of the others that still have spaces available. The details on each program are included inside this Newsletter.

Hang-A-Quilt Day is just around the corner and it's at risk of not happening this year! We need our membership to volunteer to help! Just a reminder to all – our guild created this event and it's spread across the country, been featured in Quiltfolk, on local news magazines, and is another program that brings our mission to life. Please consider this opportunity seriously and get involved ASAP. Please reach out to me, Susan Elliott, or Ellyn Mansfield for more information.

Hope your quilting journey continues to take you to wonderful new places!

Caroline

President's Letter	1
Membership	2
Treasurer's Update	2
Friendship Blocks	2
ABC Quilts	2
Retreats	2
Guild Library	3
Mystery Night	3
Programs/Workshops	4-5
Socials	5
June Challenge.	5
Celebrating Quilting	6
NEQM Guest Passes	6
Neonatal Quilts	6
Sunshine	7
Sew Thankful Quilters	7
Quilts 2 Heal	7
Advertisements	7
Area Quilting Events	8
Newsletter Submissions	9
Board & Committees	9

Membership

Our membership currently stands at 103 members! Thank you all for your continued support of the guild! Our February meeting was attended by 36 members and one guest. The group did a great job getting several of our charity quilts bound and had a great time visiting with each other while they stitched!

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.

Make a Violet block and bring them to the March meeting. You might walk away with a garden of flowers.

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

Thank you to everyone who participated in the February Service meeting where completed binding the two ABC quilts for this year. This brings our total number of finished quilts in our inventory to four, awaiting new students to join the ABC house. With that, we will be taking a break for the next few months until we start planning next year's quilts. Thanks for the continued support of the ABC Service Project – Kathie & Peggy

Retreats

Mark you calendar, our next retreat is October 30 - November 3, 2024. We will again be at the Carnation Center in Ivoryton, CT.

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

More information to follow.
Katha

Guild Library

News From the FVQ Library:

Starting this month, we would like to feature one special book a month to pique interest. This month the book selected relates to our featured speakers, Janice and David Jones.

Inspired by the National Parks: Their Landscapes and Wildlife in Fabric Perspective, by Donna Desoto. Schiffer Books, 2016.

“What happens when you challenge a group of fiber artists to create original fiber art pieces to honor each of the national parks?” This is a sentence from the introduction of this book and it says it all! This book features each of our wonderful national parks and shows the art work of multiple artists. Some pieces are of scenery and some are flora or fauna. They are not traditional quilts but beautiful art quilts that express the natural beauty and uniqueness of our national parks. Each chapter is about an individual park with an introduction by a park employee and three or four art quilts accompanied by an artist statement. This book is a feast for the eyes and nourishment for the imagination

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

Please contact Kathi Maglia (kmmaglia@comcast.net) or Joanne Farrell (jsanrafael@aol.com) with any questions about these programs or suggestions for future speakers.

.March 20, 2024

The Art of Janice and David Jones

The husband-and-wife team of Janice and David Jones share a passion for creating art and enjoy presenting lectures, trunk shows and workshops.

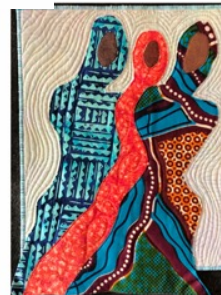
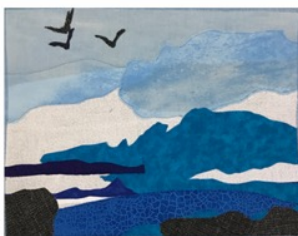
Janice has been quilting since she was a child. From seamstress work to art quilting, this creative passion has always been part of her life.

David's passion was Indian ink and brush drawings for the six years he lived in Paris before moving to Massachusetts in 1980. The transition to oil started in 2007. David has exhibited his oil paintings and has won many awards at juried shows, including "Best in Show". His work has been published in many modern art books. He is the President of the Arts Institute Group of the Merrimack Valley and belongs to many artists guilds.

March 21, 2024: Workshop: Seeing the Everyday in and Abstract Way- see description below:

Workshop "Seeing the Everyday In An Abstract Way" Presented by Janice & David Jones

Bring your scrap bag and let's create small art quilts using simple shapes. Step-by-step techniques to create landscapes and abstract work will be demonstrated



Expand your quilting repertoire, learn some new techniques, and have some fun!

Please join us for the upcoming workshop "*Seeing the Everyday in an Abstract Way*" on March 21st with Janice & David Jones. This husband-and-wife team share a passion for creating art.

The workshop will focus on recreating an inspirational picture of your choosing. You as an artist will spread fabric out on a surface, which you will review and study to see the abstract shape that will become the driving idea for the finished art quilt.

Simple step-by-step techniques to create landscapes and abstract work will be demonstrated. The goal will be to compose an art quilt (8"X10") using this technique during the session and elicit peer ideas and input during the process.

Bring an inspiration picture you want to re-create, your scrap bag and sewing machine. A supply list will be provided upon registration.

Bring an inspiration picture you want to re-create, your scrap bag and sewing machine. A supply list will be provided upon registration.

The Workshop will be held on March 21st from 9:00-4:00 at the Avon Congregational Church.

Please sign-up at the February meeting with a check made out to FVQ for \$35.00. If you can't attend the February meeting, please contact Joanne to make arrangements at jsanrafael@aol.com

Programs and Workshops (cont'd)

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

Celebrating Quilting

Celebrate Farmington Valley's many year of quilting!

During the months of September and October 2023 you will have the opportunity to exhibit a quilt you have made. What a wonderful way to show non-members who we are and what we do. Please consider being a part of this exhibition. No matter how long you have been quilting, here is a way for your work to be seen.

Please contact Ellyn Mansfield if you have any questions.

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



On March 4, Darcy Gray and Maureen Hulsart delivered 14 quilts to the Neonatal Unit at St. Francis Hospital. Samantha, the nurse receiving the quilts, gratefully accepted them and noted how beautiful all the quilts are. She also shared how much the parents appreciate receiving our quilts when they are leaving with their little one!

We just want to review the requirements for Neonatal Quilts:

100% cotton fabric is used to make these quilts 40" x 40", but any square size close to that is accepted.

Quilts should be quilted with good quality material and machine binding on the edge is preferred.

A Specially Handmade by Farmington Valley Quilters label is available at the Neonatal table. If you don't have one we will stitch one on for you.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU REMOVE ALL LOOSE THREADS. We have found a couple of quilts with loose threads a little one might grab and put in their mouth. Be sure to look over both sides of the quilt and trim everything for the infant's safety.

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 for us 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

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

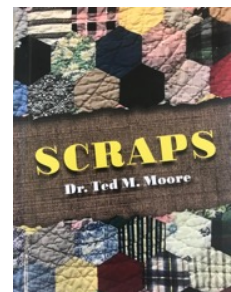
Contact: Ellyn Mansfield Email: elhmansfield@gmail.com Phone – 860-561-2878

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.

Scraps a novel by Dr. Ted M. Moore 214 641-4114

I am writing to see if my new novel "Scraps" would be of interest to members of your quilt guild. It was inspired by a hope quilt my mother made for my father while he was flying 32 missions in a B-17 bomber over Nazi Germany during WW II. She was pregnant with me at the time. It is now available in print on BookBaby Bookshop, Barnes & Noble or Amazon (slower delivery) or can be instantly downloaded as an e-book. It is a work of fiction suitable for anyone except children due to some violence but no bad words or explicit sexual content. I do think it is a good read and somewhat unique with a quilt as the connecting link. *Scraps* is a journey of love, loss and family spanning the years from the end of the Civil War through WW II.



Quilting Events in the Area

The Best of Modern Quilting

by Shoreline CT Modern Quilt Guild
March 1 - 30, 2024
Willoughby-Wallace Memorial Library
146 Thimble Island Rd, Branford CT 06405
<https://shorelinecmqg.com/>

Quinobequin Quilters Quilt Show

March 22-23, 2024
Needham Masonic Hall
1101 Highland Ave, Needham, MA 02494
<https://www.quinobequin.org/quilt-show>

24th Annual Franklin County Quilt Show

April 6 – 7, 2024
St Albans City Hall Auditorium
100 North Main Street, St Albans, VT 05478
<http://www.franklincountyquilters.org/>

Burlington Quilters Guild Quilt Show

April 6 - 7, 2024
112 Middlesex Avenue, Wilmington, MA 01887
<https://www.burlingtonquiltersguild.org/>

County Line Spring Quilt Show

April 6 – 7, 2024
Fuller Middle School
31 Flagg Drive, Framingham MA 01702
<http://www.clquilters.org/>

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>

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, 2024: 10am - 5pm
Sunday - May 5, 2024: 10am - 4pm
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>

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/>

Newsletter Submissions

Due the Friday before the Wednesday Guild Meeting. Submit to dlcalkin@gmail.com
Submissions for next newsletter due April 12, 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