



November 2023 Newsletter

President's Letter

Holiday Greetings!

The holidays are almost here, and Thanksgiving is one of my favorites – gathering with family and friends to celebrate the season always brings warmth and joy like no other time of year! So many blessings, feelings of gratitude are in the air...

I've completed a few UFOs, continued to work on others – moments of inspiration interrupting my efforts to complete projects vs. starting new ones! I'm sure many of you are working on holiday gifts too; I know I am!

And speaking of holiday gifts – a reminder that we will include a **Yankee Swap** as part of our December Holiday meeting next month. I just finished my gift for the Yankee Swap – hoping you will consider participating – it's always a hit and brings lots of laughter!

I would be remiss in not thanking and remembering **Darla Fox** for her generosity and gifts to our guild. Our auction last month generated proceeds that will help fuel future programs for us. Thank you, Darla, and to all who supported these efforts!

Our November speaker, **Sue Reich**, is no stranger to our guild – many of us have spent time with her over the years. A quilt historian, Sue is a published author and expert on quilt history. I had the pleasure of working with her several years ago when planning a quilt show at The New England Air Museum – a special exhibit of World War I & II quilts. We are in for a real treat as Sue will talk with us about the tradition of quilts and Christmas.

We're still looking for a volunteer or two to help Jan Porri with our **2024 Quilt Show**, please contact me!

Wishing you and yours a blessed Thanksgiving!

Caroline

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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

Join your friends in the guild to try a new block. Four times a year we offer a specific block with color guidelines. For each block you make and bring to the designated meeting you'll get a ticket. The winner for the evening will take home all the blocks made by their friends in the guild.

Directions can be found on the guild website or by going to tinyurl.com/FVQFriend2023

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

Guild Library

The Guild budget includes a small amount of money to purchase Library items for this year. We are looking for suggestions of items you would like to see added to the collection. They can be books or tools but should be items that would be of interest to the group as a whole. The Guild Librarians also accept gifts to the library but once again they should be newer items, in good shape, and of general interest. We do reserve the right to either refuse items or reserve them for the book sales table at the 2024 Quilt Show. Thanks from Anne Dodge, Lois Palmer, and Kitty Vangunten.

ABC Quilts

Thank you to everyone who picked up kits at the September and October meetings. We've received a substantial number of the finished blocks back at the last meeting and during the Fall Retreat. Many people commented how quick and easy they were to complete. For those of you who haven't completed them yet, please take a few minutes to stitch them up to turn in at the November meeting. If you can't get to it, you still have time as they are due at the December meeting, but sooner is always better than later. For anyone who missed out on picking up a kit or two before they were all gone, you'll have the opportunity to help at the February service meeting when we hand stitch the binding. Stop by and see us at the table to drop off your finished blocks at the next meeting. Happy Stitching, Kathie & Peggy

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

Programs and Workshops

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

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

We are excited to share the Fall lineup of Programs with everyone. We have a nice range of presenters from Barn Quilting, Modern Quilting and more traditional Christmas Quilts to inspire us.

Please note, we have a room for four more people in the September 21st Barn Quilting workshop. If you are interested, please let Kathi Maglia know by September 19th at kmmaglia@comcast.net or 860-965-3244.

Programs Lineup:

November 15, 2023

Sue Reich- Quilts and Christmas- The Perfect Blend - Trunk Show

Sue Reich is a quiltmaker, author, speaker, independent quilt researcher and appraiser. She began her study of quilt history with the Connecticut Quilt Search Project in 1991 and has served on the board since its beginning. A quiltmaker since childhood, she lectures widely on many aspects of quilt history, and is a certified AQS quilt appraiser and author of nine Schiffer Publishing, Ltd. quilt books. Sue Reich - [Quilt History: Layer by Layer \(coveringquilthistory.com\)](http://QuiltHistory:LayerbyLayer.coveringquilthistory.com)

Christmas Quilts Trunk Show- Quilts and Christmas are the perfect blend. Jump into the holiday mood with a trunk show from Sue. You might be interested in her book available on Amazon: [The Quilter's Night Before Christmas: A Treasury of Tradition](#)

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

This workshop, led by Janice and David Jones will focus on taking fabric, paint (or any medium) spread on a surface, which the artist then reviews and studies to see the abstract shape that will become the driving idea for the finished art quilt, painting, or drawing. The goal will be to compose an art quilt or artwork using this technique during the session and elicit peer ideas and input during the process. Students will be astonished and excited by the end product! Simple step-by-step techniques to create abstract work will also be demonstrated.

Programs and Workshops (cont'd)

April 17, 2024 - Presenter - To Be Announced

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

The December meeting/ Holiday Social will be held on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, (the second Wednesday of the month).

We are planning refreshments of hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Look for the sign- up sheet which will be available at the October and November meetings for members to volunteer to bring food items.

A Yankee Swap gift exchange will be held. Members who wish to participate are asked to bring a quilt related item valued at \$15-\$20, handmade or purchased. Please bring your gift in a brown paper bag.

Don't forget to bring your Show & Tell. Maybe something you plan to gift to someone for the holiday??

Linda Walter and Candy Casciano

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.

Quilt Show

From the Quilt Show Chair...

As you are aware - we are unable to rent the space at KO for our 2024 show, so we are in search mode for a new venue. Many calls have been made, some semi positive - others not so compatible to our needs. I have received a few suggestions for possible places, and those will be looked into. Some discussion has been made to change the date of the show - right now - that is just a suggestion. Again, if you have an idea - please feel free to contact me at Snow56@aol.com with your ideas. This doesn't mean we should sit back and not prepare... 'sew' ..stay quilting so we can have a full house..wherever we wind up.

Jan Porri

Retreats

Wow, 25 of us just returned from our November retreat at the Incarnation Center in Ivoryton, what a great time we had! If you are curious, or on the fence about attending one of our retreats, please let me know. I would be happy to talk to you about it or point out some of the others who attended so you can talk to them. The retreat is a great opportunity to get some uninterrupted sewing done, collaborate on projects and get to know some of your fellow guild members. Of course there's more to tell however what happens at retreat stays at retreat.

The next Farmington Valley Quilters Retreat is February 28 - March 3, 2024 at the Incarnation Center. Registration will begin at the November 15th meeting, your \$100 non-refundable deposit holds your spot, with the balance due at the January meeting. There are a limited number of spots available, first come first serve. The cost has gone up slightly for the first time in several years, \$340 for the 3 night option (Thursday-Sunday), \$390 for the 4 night option (Wednesday-Sunday). Meal service begins with Thursday dinner and goes through Sunday lunch with a departure of 2pm Sunday.

Katha

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, kkerr8994@yahoo.com or (860) 970-1570.

Neonatal Quilts

For information contact:

Kitty Vangunten, Darcy Gray, Maureen Hulsart, Linda Johnston

Snowflake Shop



By Maureen Hulsart

The Snowflake shop is a service provided by Connecticut Children's Hospital to families with children in the hospital over the holidays. Gift items are provided to the Snowflake shop over the course of the year. The Guild provides drawstring bags which allows families to take away their selections in a decorative bag, concealing any surprises from the children and even omitting the need to wrap (if this is preferred!). Last year, close to 200 families shopped The Snowflake shop at Connecticut Children's Hospital and their NICU Snowflake Shop setups.

The Guild has committed to continue to make these draw-string gift bags for the Connecticut Children's Hospital's Snowflake Shop. Deadline for delivering the bags is December 15, 2023.

Requirements:

- ❖ re-usable bags with drawstring (approximately 36"x24" to hold up to 50 pounds)
- ❖ Fabric: solid colors including blue, silver, white, green. Some Christmas/winter prints, children's prints etc. Some of our families do not celebrate any of the winter holidays

Completed bags can be left with Maureen at our monthly meeting. Visit our Gift Bag Table where a limited amount of fabric is available to help you make a gift bag.

Thank you for your support!

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

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

SEW DAYS

Monday, November 13

Sew Day, Simsbury

10:00-3:00

Sew Inspired Quilt Shop, 8 Wilcox St., Simsbury

Monday, December 4

Sew Day, Simsbury

10:00-3:00

Sew Inspired Quilt Shop, 8 Wilcox St., Simsbury

Tuesday, November 14

Sew Day, Colchester

8:00-12:00

St. Andrew Church Hall, 128 Norwich Ave., Colchester

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

Sew Day, Avon

9:30-3:00

St Ann Church Hall, West Avon Rd., Avon

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.

Grace ez3 quilting frame—includes wall mount. \$75 pick up in Litchfield CT
see Linnea Amodio or call 860-967-4859

9/23

Quilt stand in very good shape that I would like to give away. Contact me if interested.

Suzanne Salat

Salatsuzanne3@gmail.com

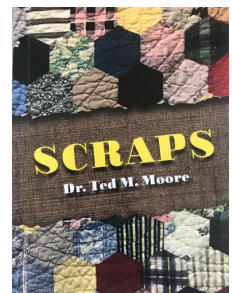
914-572-4771

5/23



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.



10/23

Quilting Events in the Area

Boston Modern Quilt Guild Showcase

Nov. 1 – Dec. 30, 2023

Morse Institute Library

14 East Central Street, Natick MA 01760

<https://bostonmqg.blogspot.com/>

12th Annual Yuletide Quilt Show

December 2, 2023

United Congregational Church of Haddam and Higganum

Haddam Campus

905 Saybrook Road, Haddam CT 06438

<https://haddamchurch.org/>

The Art of the Quilt

Dec. 4, 2023 – Jan. 21, 2024

Menino Arts Center

26 Central Ave, Hyde Park, Boston MA 02136

<https://www.hpa-mac.org/>

Thimble Pleasures Quilt Show

March 16 - 17, 2024

Blackstone Valley Regional Technical High School

65 Pleasant Street, Upton MA 01568

<https://thimblepleasures.org>

Burlington Quilters Guild Quilt Show

April 6 - 7, 2024

112 Middlesex Avenue, Wilmington, MA 01887

<https://www.burlingtonquiltersguild.org/>

Membership

There was one new member who joined in October and we had four guests attending the meeting. We now have 127 members. All members are encouraged to reach out to our new members welcoming them and answering any questions they might have about the guild. Beginning at the November meeting, we will be collecting \$25 dues for the year 2024 or dues can be mailed. Make out checks to FVQI and mail to Farmington Valley Quilters, PO Box 172, Weatogue, CT 06089.

Contact Pam Stenman or Gail Burk for any membership questions.

Newsletter Submissions

Due the Friday before the Wednesday Guild Meeting. Submit to dlcalkin@gmail.com
Submissions for next newsletter due December 8th.

2022-2023 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

Website: Fvquilters.org
Facebook: Farmington Valley Quilters
Instagram: @farmvalquilters

2022-2023 Committee Members

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