

Hammersmith Quilters Guild Newsletter



www.hqgsaugus.org

December 2018

For This Meeting

December 5, 2018

Program: Annual Potluck Supper, Mr. & Mrs. Wright gift swap, bring canned goods and other nonperishable food for the local food pantry

Show 'n' Tell: Yes

Fat Quarter: Black and White

Refreshments: All of you! Our annual potluck supper!

Creative Quiltworks: The third and fourth blocks for a 12-block "fidget quilt" or mat!

Don't Forget!

Our "Free Stuff" table is back!!!!

Here are the "rules" for the Free Stuff table:

- All destashes/scrap are welcome and you need to only bring them in, no sorting or packaging required. Also, any quilt-related item: patterns, quilt magazines, etc.
- If you bring stuff, you don't have to take someone else's home, if you don't want to. And, if you don't bring any stuff, you can still take some home. A win-win, as they say.
- All scraps, **all** sizes (scrap is a relative term and yardage to some is a scrap to another), useful for quilting (so please no upholstery samples...), so wool, silk, of course our beloved cotton...all good.
- **But make sure no scrap is left behind.** Take home your own scraps and other stuff at the end of the meeting if not taken by others.
- The table should be empty ten minutes after the meeting ends. Please check for items or fabric scraps that you brought in and, if they are still there, please take them back home with you.

Remember: If you want this feature of our meetings to continue, please clean up after yourself and take your leftover stuff home at the end of the meeting.

President's Message: Martha Mazeika

Greetings HQG Members!

Season's Greetings and Happy Thanksgiving to you all !!!!

The holiday season is upon us. It is a time that as a quilter, I am thinking "What projects can I get done by Christmas for family and friends?!" I know I should start these in the summer but the procrastinator in me puts them off to the month before Christmas. I like that our guild meeting is the first Wednesday of the month as it is usually my first holiday event of December. I am looking forward to our potluck dinner and the return of Mr. and Mrs. Wright. It is always nice to start the season with fellow quilters. I wish all of you a wonderful holiday season.

Happy stitching!

Always here to listen, talk, discuss, and answer questions.

See you all on December 5th!

Martha

(413)250-5449

marthamazeika@gmail.com

Reminder of schedule for monthly meetings:

6:30pm

Hall opens

7:00pm-7:30pm Business meeting and Raffles

7:45pm-8:45pm Speaker/Other Program/Show 'n' Tell (when applicable)

8:45pm-9:00pm Good-byes and Clean up

Please clean your tables, throw away trash, and pick up your snack containers at the end of the meeting.

Vice-President's Report: Gail Dwyer

Biennial Elections are coming up in May 2019. At that time, we will hold elections for the following positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Program Chair, and Member-at-Large/Membership Chair. The term is for 2 years, July 2019-June 2021.

We will also be asking for volunteers for non-elected chairperson positions for the following committees: Charitable Donations, Creative Quilt Works, Refreshments, Hospitality, and Webmaster, as well as volunteers for Monthly Drawings (Fat Quarter, 3/\$1 raffle, Name Tag). If you are currently in one of those positions as either the chairperson or as a volunteer and wish to continue, please see Gail. Also, if anyone who is good at arm-twisting (just joking- sort of!) and would like to help in the search for volunteers, see Gail.

(Note: Once Martha appoints the next quilt show chair/co-chairs per our bylaws, the chair/co-chairs will solicit volunteers for that committee.)

If you would like to nominate someone, including yourself, for one of the elected positions, please let Gail know ASAP.

See the message from Gail below:

Please be thinking of the upcoming elections in the guild!

Serving really is fun and sociable and gives a great sense of purpose!

You get to know more guild members!

Come see me to nominate yourself or another member you think would be great!

Thank you,

Gail Dwyer

Treasurer's Report: Carmen Arnone

Our account balance as of November 8 is \$21,378.95. This reflects all funds taken in thus far as well as all bills paid to that date. It does not reflect the payouts to members for their boutique sales or reimbursements paid for receipts presented to me on November 7th.

Guild members who are expecting to be reimbursed are requested to put receipts in an envelope, which I can provide if necessary. Please write your name on the envelope, amount due and indicate the category your expenses are related to.

For example: Molly Member
Hospitallity supplies
\$ 13.76

***receipts placed in the envelope

Every effort is made to reimburse you at the meeting if possible. If not, a check will be mailed to you ASAP. Thanks for your cooperation.

Remember: no receipt, no reimbursement! If you are not sure if your purchase qualifies for reimbursement, please check with Martha. The Executive Board recently began firming up a budget for each area of guild activities; please try to stay within your budget. If an unusual purchase is needed (for example, when we recently needed to replenish our supply of guild tote bags that we give to new members), please check first with Martha or one of the other members of the Board.

Membership: Sally Nimblett

Great attendance at our November meeting; 75 members signed in! We also had one guest who is considering joining the guild.

Some people have still not picked up their guild membership cards. Sally has them at the front table where you check in. These cards may be needed in order to receive discounts at quilt shops that give discounts to guild members (although it seems that these are becoming fewer and farther between).

Just a reminder to everyone: be sure to sign in each month as you come in, or circle back to the front desk after you have dropped off your "stuff". We like to keep attendance records because it helps us to know which programs/months are the most popular, and it give us an idea of how many handouts to prepare for meetings.

Refreshment Committee: Barbara Martinson & Kathy Connors

For anyone who is still considering what to bring for the Pot Luck Supper at the December meeting and would like to know what we have so far...here's the list. Looks delicious!

Appetizers- cranberry orange bread, chicken wings, stuffed mushrooms, shrimp cocktail, veg and dip, meatballs, cheese and crackers(2), shrimp, chicken salad and crackers, and?(1).

Salads- Caesar, broccoli(2), cabbage, green bean, garden(2), and?(1).

Main Dishes- meatballs and sausage, lasagna, zucchini quiche, sausage peppers and onions, ham, pizza(3), macaroni and cheese(2), pasta(2), chicken surprise, eggplant parmesan, rice and vegetables, and?(1).

Desserts- gingerbread trifle, bars(2), chocolate cake, fruit platter, cookies, brownies(2), coffee cake, and yet to be determined(2).

...and a partridge in a pear tree!

Please remember to bring necessary serving utensils for your dish and put your name on anything that you want back (dishes, serving spoons, ladles, knives, etc.). If there are any questions, contact me at 617-387-7199 or w.martinson@comcast.net

-Barbara

Program Committee: Joyce Rodenhiser, Janice Moore & Dottie Macomber

December's meeting will feature our ever-popular **Holiday Potluck Supper** as well as the equally-popular **Gift Swap**. This year will also feature **the triumphant return of "Mr. & Mrs. Wright"**, newly home after visiting the Crowned Heads of Europe (oh wait, that was Professor Marvel in "The Wizard of Oz"!). Anyway, Mr. and Mrs. Wright have been away for a couple years and are happy to "join" us again this year. To participate in the gift swap (and this is completely optional), bring a wrapped gift worth between \$10 and \$20. This should be **new and quilting-related** but does not have to be fabric, as we swapped in past years. It could be some sewing notions; a beautiful yard of fabric with a package of sewing needles or pins or spool of matching thread attached; or some other useful item or items- use your imagination. Make it something that you would like to receive. We will be forming two long lines facing each other and trading our gifts **left, right** and **across** as Dottie reads a story containing those directional words. The gift you are holding when the story ends is the gift you keep and may then open.

Remember to start saving your quilting and sewing stuff that you no longer want for the **January auction**. (And then you can buy some stuff at the auction to replace the hole in your stash!) We will provide large ziplock plastic bags to put your unwanted stuff in; then you can just bring it to the auction in that same bag! Janice Moore will have the bags; you may pick one up at the December meeting. Of course, you may always bring your items in a regular brown paper grocery bag. If you have a large item, like a floor quilting frame or floor lamp, you do not have to put that in a bag; just bring it in to the January meeting.

Dottie has started taking signups for the March 22-24, 2019 getaway at the Ramada Inn and Conference Center in Saco, Maine! Forty-four people signed up at the November meeting alone!! To hold your place, a \$50 nonrefundable deposit will be due by our December meeting, with the balance due by the January 2019 meeting. Your deposit can be refunded to you only if we have enough attendees to fill your spot. For 2019, dinners Friday and Saturday night will still be included and the overall price is the same as it was this year. Prices will be going up in 2020 (how much, I don't know yet) so if we return to the same location, we will be able to make the meal plan optional that year. For this time, prices are:

Per person, double occupancy: \$140 for two nights, \$170 for three nights (optional 3rd night is Mar. 21)
Per person, single occupancy: \$200 for two nights, \$270 for three nights

All the slots (48) filled up last year, so if you haven't yet signed up, do so now! If all the slots fill, I will start a waiting list in case of cancellations. As of the date of publication of this newsletter, there is only one spot left!

We would like to remind people to please refrain from talking during the business portion of our meeting and during speakers' presentations. Some of our members have hearing difficulties, and chatter from others makes it even more difficult to hear. **Be considerate of the speakers and your fellow guild members and do your socializing before & after the meeting and during the break.**

And another reminder: **PLEASE refrain from wearing fragrances** (perfumes, scented lotion, etc.) to our meetings so all can enjoy themselves without having difficulty breathing. Thank you!

Charity Donations Committee: Gretchen Berkowitch, Sally Nimblett & Louise Nazzaro

1. **There will be no collection of quilts or pillowcases at the December meeting.** We need a break from having so much stuff in our houses and garages!

2. Remember to bring your **canned goods and other non-perishable food items** for the Saugus Food Pantry to the December meeting. Someone from the Saugus food pantry will be picking up the items.

3. **Our next pillowcase drive is for Quilts of Valor.** Please make pillowcases from patriotic red, white and blue fabrics. These pillowcases are used to put the quilts in when presenting them to the veterans. This tradition started when Quilts of Valor were presented to wounded veterans in combat areas; the quilts were put over them as they were sent to military hospitals and their belongings were put in the pillowcases. Now, even when quilts are presented to retired service members, they are given with a presentation pillowcase.

We would like to build an inventory of donation quilts of all types and sizes, so please keep them coming after December. Some years we only get about 30 quilts. Please try to donate a quilt every year. It does not have to be elaborate. You can always use a fabric panel and add borders to it. Simple all-over quilting is fine.

Gretchen would also like to make everyone aware of a quilt retreat coming up February 22-24, 2019. This is not a Hammersmith guild event; it is offered by the Barbara C. Harris Camp & Conference Center in Greenfield, NH. See the website at <http://www.bchcenter.org/quiltingretreat> for details and to register. Evidently there are several quilting areas at the center, so if you do sign up, say that you are with the Merrimack Holy Quilters to be together with other Hammersmith folks. There are several lodging options; prices are all-inclusive for 3 days, 2 nights and include 6 meals. Here's a nice feature: if you donate a quilt to the center, you stay free!! Speak to Gretchen and/or check out the website for more details.

Creative Quiltworks Committee: Kristin Callahan, Ellen Moore & Lynda Galvin

The CQW project for December is to make Blocks 3 & 4 for a 12-block fidget quilt or mat. The link to the instructions for these and the previous blocks is on the website under the Newsletter tab. We will be making a Button block and a Touch block. For this month, I will also put the directions here:

Block 3 - Zipper

Stabilize fabric with a low loft fusible fleece:

Cut fleece into 6-inch squares.

Cut fabric for background into 6-inch squares.

Fuse together.

Create a zipper block! Maybe add a peek-a-boo. Do some decorative stitching.

Use your imagination.

Make more than one if you like.

Block 4 - Ribbon and/or Lace

Stabilize fabric with a low loft fusible fleece:

Cut fleece into 6-inch squares.

Cut fabric for background into 6-inch squares.

Fuse together.

Make rows of different textured trims: vertical, horizontal or diagonal.
Again, use your imagination.
Make a few of these too!

This will be a seven-month project. For each of six months, we will make 2 blocks for a fidget mat. On the seventh month, we will get the instructions to complete our mats. If you make several blocks each month, at the end of the project you can make several mats. We plan to donate them to a local nursing home or memory care center. If you have a suggestion of such a place that could use fidget mats, please let Kristin Callahan know.

If you've never heard of fidget mats or fidget quilts or would like to see what one can look like, do a Google search. These are typically used with children with autism or with dementia patients to give their hands something to do; this often has a calming effect.

While your fidget quilt will not be completed until after the seventh month, bring your two blocks in each month; we will vote on our favorites in the same way that we have been voting on other Creative Quiltworks projects. There will be ribbons for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Everyone is eligible to vote for their favorite, so be sure to check out the projects at each monthly meeting and vote for your favorite.

Please pick up directions for each project from Ellen, Lynda or Kristin. The directions for the current and most recent projects are also available on the website under the Newsletter tab. Directions for older CQW projects can be found on the Archives page.

The winners of the viewers' choice voting for November for the first two fidget blocks were: 1st place, Linda Reppucci; 2nd place, Joyce Rodenhiser; and 3rd place, Dana Giunta.



Secretary Report: Dottie Macomber

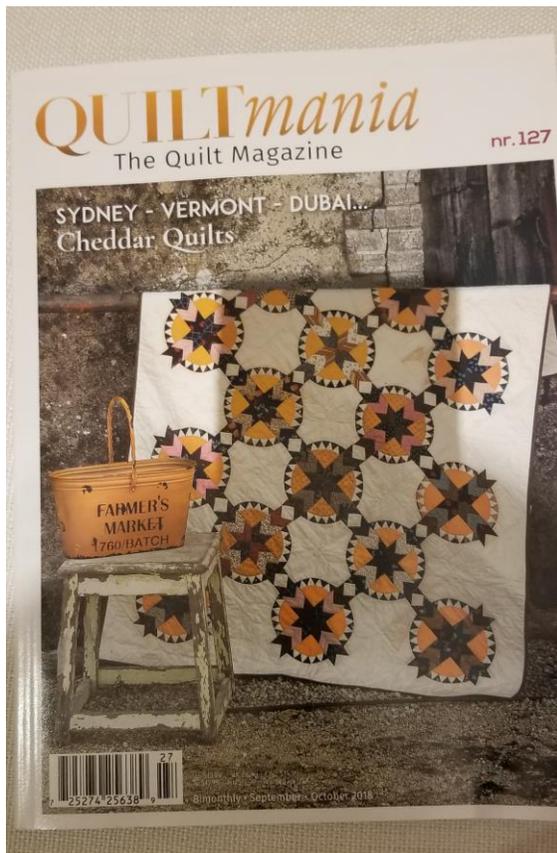
Printed reports containing the full minutes of all previous meetings for the current guild year, both general membership and executive board, will be available for your perusal at monthly guild meetings. Minutes of the Executive Board meetings will also be posted on the website under the Newsletter tab.

As the Secretary, I am in charge of the **Sunshine and Shadow** "committee". If you know of any member who has suffered a serious illness or accident or has had a death in the family, please let me know so I can send them a card on behalf of the guild: 781-932-3602 or mcandmac@comcast.net

Member News: Dottie Macomber

As always, if anyone submits quilts to shows or fairs, or if you have any other quilty accomplishments to report, please send the information (with photos if possible) to me, Dottie Macomber, at mcandmac@comcast.net or 9 Fletcher Rd, Woburn, MA 01801. Let us celebrate your quilty news with you!

Congratulations to **Gretchen Berkowitch**, whose quilt “Eureka” was pictured in the latest issue of Quiltmania magazine! Gretchen had no idea her quilt was going to be featured in the article about the Vermont Quilt Festival, but when she thumbed through the magazine, there it was. What a nice surprise!



News Around the Guilds and at the New England Quilt Museum, and Other Events

Melrose History Quilt

In December 2018, Melrose, Massachusetts welcomes back an inscribed quilt made in 1898. The red and white quilt includes more than 200 signatures, most of whom were Melrose residents. On exhibit at the Beebe Estate, the quilt is the center of a fiber art exhibit “Stitched Connections.” Artists include Augusta Agustsson, Sue Colozzi, Janis Doucette, Valerie Maser-Flanagan, Madalene Axford Murphy and Alanna Nelson. Beebe Estate, 235 West Foster St. Melrose. Open Saturdays December 1 - 22 from 11 - 3 pm. Reception December 7, 7-9 pm.

On December 8, at 1 pm, Ann Wasserman, the textile conservator who researched the quilt, is giving a talk about taking care of old quilts and how she conserved this piece. You are cordially invited to [RSVP on Eventbrite](#).

The [Melrose History Quilt](#) project is funded in part by the Melrose Messina Fund for the Arts and the Melrose Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

NEW ENGLAND QUILT MUSEUM
nequiltmuseum.org
18 Shattuck St • Lowell, MA • 978 452 4207

Through December 30, 2018:

FABRIC COLLAGE QUILTS OF SUSAN CARLSON

LIBERTY AND JUSTICE: THE SATIRICAL ART OF SALLEY MAVOR

EXPLORATIONS I
Inside the Quilt Artist's Studio

HOURS:

MAY - DECEMBER
Tuesday to Sunday, 10 - 4
Closed Monday

The museum library accepts donations of quilting magazines that are no older than 10 years as well as quilting books (not general sewing or crafting books) that are no older than 20 years. Thank you for thinking of the museum when you are cleaning out your book and magazine stash and for adhering to these donation guidelines. Please be sure that any magazines you donate do not have pages torn out.

Respectfully submitted,
Dottie Macomber, Secretary