

Hammersmith Quilters Guild Newsletter



www.hqgsaugus.org

February 2019

*****For This Meeting*****

February 6, 2019

Program: Kristin Callahan, "Hearts and More"

Show 'n' Tell: NO

Fat Quarter: **Reds**

Refreshments: Jean Balliro, John Balliro, Carole d'Entremont, Janice Meade, Paula Fallon, Wendy Ward, Barbara Adler, Maureen Ward, Diane Bucknill, Dianne Cheney, Nancy Kershaw, Donna Cormier (water), Kathy Connors, and Mary Ann Andree

Creative Quiltworks: The seventh and eighth blocks for a 12-block "fidget quilt" or mat (see directions below)

President's Message: Martha Mazeika

"Tradition" is defined on the Merriam-Webster Dictionary App as "A way of thinking, behaving, or doing something that has been used by the people in a particular group, family, society, etc., for a long time." Last month, I bid and won Lot 1005 with a tag that states – "The opportunity to be the caretaker for a year of a piece of Hammersmith Auction History – Priceless." I joined the Guild four years ago and always wondered what the item was and the history of Lot 1005. I want to share this tradition with all of you so next January, maybe you can be the caretaker of this piece of history.

This item went to auction about 20 years ago. Back then, the auction was not limited to just quilting related items. Since then, it has passed from highest bidder to highest bidder at each HQG Auction. I am proud to be the caretaker for the next year as it is a "priceless" piece of "art". I don't want to tell you all what it is; you will have to bid on it next year!

We have many things in the guild that are tradition from year to year. I will try to make sure these traditions are explained for those who were not part of the guild as long as others. The nice thing is, new things can become tradition as the membership changes. It is fun to mix the new and old. Don't hesitate to try something new or make a twist to a tradition. We welcome the participation.

Always here to listen, talk, discuss, and answer questions.
See you all on February 6th!!!

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

Vice-President's Report: Gail Dwyer

Please talk to me if you are interested in volunteering for the next two years (Gail Dwyer 617-846-6551). It really is very rewarding to make decisions about our guild and is a great way to get to know more members. There are many volunteer opportunities available; they are not limited to just running for an Executive Board position. The guild runs on the collective efforts of all our members; we welcome your participation in all efforts, large and small!

Treasurer's Report: Carmen Arnone

Our auction took in \$793!! Wow!! Twenty-seven people made winning bids, and more than that tried to outbid their friends! Out of the total realized, a donation in the amount of \$100 will be sent to the New England Quilt Museum from proceeds from the silent auction items that were donated to the guild in the memory of former member Ruth Ruggeri and of Florence Hardt Robb, whose daughter donated BOXES of fabrics and other sewing items to the guild as she cleaned out and readied her mother's house in Melrose for sale last year. The families will receive notice from the museum that donations to the museum were made in memory of their loved one.

The balance on the December bank statement for the guild's account was \$18,824.11. This figure includes about \$9,000 that will be paid out to the hotel for the March getaway. The final expense receipts for the quilt show have finally come in; after all of these have been paid, a final accounting of the show's profits will be prepared and presented to the guild.

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
Hospitality 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! Before making an unusual or unusually-large purchase, or 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.

Membership: Sally Nimblett

Fifty-four people signed in at our meeting in January including a repeat guest, Susan Stowe, who was one of the livelier bidders at our auction!

Please pick up your membership card if you have not already done so.

And please notify me if you have a change in address, phone number or email address. We want to keep our information current so we can communicate with each of you.

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 gives us an idea of how many handouts to prepare for meetings.

Refreshment Committee: Barbara Martinson & Kathy Connors

The following members have signed up to bring snacks to the February meeting: Jean Balliro, John Balliro, Carole d'Entremont, Janice Meade, Paula Fallon, Wendy Ward, Barbara Adler, Maureen Ward, Diane Bucknill, Dianne Cheney, Nancy Kershaw, Donna Cormier (water), Kathy Connors, and Mary Ann Andree.

The sign-up sheet is always on the snack table so folks can sign up for upcoming meetings.

-Barbara

Program Committee: Joyce Rodenhiser, Janice Moore & Dottie Macomber

The Program Committee wishes to send heartfelt thanks to all who participated in our lively auction in January! Thank you to Martha Mazeika for being a sweet auctioneer, to Carmen Arnone and Dottie Macomber for record keeping, to Margie Berkowitch and Anne Smith for helping with labeling the bags and for delivering treasures to the winning bidders, to Sally who passed out bidding numbers, to all who brought things to be sold, to those who bid and purchased the items, and to all who brought refreshments! We had a great evening!!

Kristin Callahan is our featured speaker for February. Kristin has recently become a Certified Instructor in Sue Pelland's Innovative Rotary Cut Appliqué techniques. She will be speaking about the Hearts and More templates and patterns. We so look forward to seeing her projects, to learning how to do these new techniques, and to trying them when we have a chance. We are proud of you, Kristin, for bringing us these new, nationally-presented skills! You have great proficiency and competence and we love your work with "Hearts and More!"

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce

Please note: the guest fee for this meeting is \$10.

Once again, from August 7-September 8, the New England Quilt Museum will feature the "Summer Celebration of New England Quilts: The Best of the Region's Quilt Guilds". This exhibit features a gallery exhibition of exceptional quilts made by the Museum's Supporting Guilds. Each Supporting Guild may submit one quilt, selected by their membership, to be included in this special exhibition. Entries must exemplify excellence in design, construction, and finishing. The quilts will not be judged, but a Viewers' Choice Award will be presented. The winning guild will be invited to display its members' quilts in the Classroom Gallery of the museum in 2020.

Because we are a supporting guild, we may enter a quilt in this summer's exhibition. The rules are as follows:

- Entries must consist of two layers of fabric with a middle layer of batting. They must display quilting by machine and/or hand. Tied quilts are not permitted. No kits please.
- NEQM will not accept entries made prior to 2015.
- Due to limitations in the Museum's gallery space, quilts should be no larger than 80" wide and 88" long, but no smaller than 24" x 24".
- All quilts must have a 4" hanging sleeve sewn to the upper back.
- All quilts must have a label on the back with the title, guild name, quiltmaker's name, address and phone number.
- A completed entry form and two photo images are required. (More about this later to the maker of the chosen quilt for our guild.)

At our March meeting, we will vote on a quilt to represent our guild. In the meantime, please be thinking about the quilts you have made in the past 4 years. If you have a quilt that you think exemplifies the qualities required and that fits the size parameters, please bring it to the March meeting. Each member may bring one quilt, and we will each vote for the quilt that we want to represent our guild.

March Getaway!

We have filled all 48 spots for the March Getaway weekend! I guess the word has spread and folks have heard what a great time we have there. A month or so before the getaway, I will send out information on the schedule for the weekend, a list of quilt shops in the area, and a list of some of the restaurants in the area for those who want to go out to eat for lunch (remember, lunch is not included in our weekend package). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me (781-932-3602 or mcandmac@comcast.net).

This weekend is an "open sew"; that is, there are no formal activities or instruction. Each of us brings our own projects to work on. That being said...

Kristin Callahan is once again organizing a **mystery quilt** project that may be done during the weekend. This will be **baby-quilt sized**, and Kristin will give us the fabric requirements and initial cutting instructions soon. For those who have never done a mystery quilt, this is a project where you do not know what the finished quilt will look like! You are given general fabric requirements (such as pick a dark, a medium and a light; OR pick a focus fabric and choose three contrasting fabrics to go with it; etc.) and are given the instructions only one step at a time. As you complete each step, you go get the next step; continue in that manner until the steps are done and the final quilt design is revealed. It's fun to see how the same pattern can look so different depending on the fabric choices that everyone makes. This is an optional activity, and you can certainly work on other projects instead, or in addition to, the mystery quilt; this is just an additional activity that is being offered for those who do not already have other projects planned. Kristin asks that you sign up with her if you would like to do the mystery quilt so she knows how many sets of directions to have printed.

- Dottie

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 strong 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

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. 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.

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

The CQW project for February is to make Blocks 7 & 8 for a 12-block fidget quilt or mat. The directions are below. (These directions as well as directions for previous months' blocks are on the website under the Newsletter tab.)

Creative Quilt Works- due February 6, 2019
Fidget Mat Challenge Quilt Month 4
Blocks 7 and 8

Block 7- Elastic

Stabilize fabric with a low loft fusible fleece.

Cut fleece into 6-inch squares.
Cut fabric for background into 6-inch squares.
Fuse together.
Attach the elastic to the fabric...
Use your imagination.
Make more than one.

Block 8 - Rings

Stabilize fabric with a low loft fusible fleece.

Cut fleece into 6-inch squares.
Cut fabric for background into 6-inch squares.
Fuse together.
Loop some rings onto a ribbon or string so they can slide back and forth; again, use your imagination.
Make a few of these too!

Month 3 Winners for Buckles and Velcro

- 1st place, Ellen Moore, left two blocks
- 2nd place, Linda Reppucci, right two blocks
- 3rd place, Louise Nazzaro, middle two blocks



This is 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.

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 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, so even if you did not join this activity at the start, you can find inspiration for fidget blocks here at any time!

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

Gail Dwyer's quilt "Red Heart" is being featured as the February art piece in the MGH "Illuminations" 2019 calendar! These calendars are given to cancer patients at MGH. "Illuminations" is a rotating art exhibit housed in the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center and many of its affiliate locations. The exhibit is intended to offer enlightenment and encouragement to patients, families, staff and friends of the Cancer Center as they receive care, provide care, or accompany loved ones. "Illuminations" has transformed generic waiting areas into a virtual art gallery of revolving exhibits that feature works by numerous regional and national artists. The work of several artists, representing various media, is on display for four months at a time. "Red Heart" was part of an exhibition at the MGH Boston Yawkey Building last spring. The photo below shows "Red Heart" at our quilt show in October 2018.



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!

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

NEW ENGLAND QUILT MUSEUM, 18 Shattuck Street, Lowell, MA

Open now for winter hours, Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00-4:00

Three new exhibits are now at the museum:

Through March 30, in the main gallery, you can see "Just for the Fun of It: Quilts from the Pilgrim/Roy Collection". Gerald Roy will also give a gallery talk at 1:00 pm on Saturday, February 9th. These are never-before-shown quilts from the collection.

Through April 27th in the classroom gallery, the museum presents “Guns: Loaded Conversations”, an exhibition from members of SAQA, the Studio Art Quilt Associates. There are also two talks related to this exhibition, one on Thursday, March 7th, at 12:30 and the other on Saturday, March 17th, at 1:00.

The third exhibit is “Big Impressions: Mini Art Quilts by Nancy Messier”.

For more information about these exhibitions and events, see the museum’s website at www.nequiltmuseum.org

Respectfully submitted,

Dottie Macomber, Secretary