

# Hammersmith Quilters Guild Newsletter



www.hqgsaugus.org

April 2020

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

**April 1, 2020- CANCELLED!!!!**

**Program:** Dr. Gladi Porsche: Trunk Show and Lecture: CANCELLED

**Show 'n' Tell: No**

**Fat Quarter:** The Fat Quarter theme for April was Flowers. This will be pushed back and will become the theme for May. For every fat quarter you enter in the drawing, you get a ticket. You may win a whole pile of FQs! (I won TWO piles last time! Of course, I did bring in 17 car related FQs! -Dottie)

(Remember to bring an extra fat quarter to give to Louise, Dana or Sally N. for the raffle basket at our next show.)

*And just a friendly reminder per Martha's instructive demonstration at the February meeting: a fat quarter measures 18" by half the width of your fabric, typically 18" x 22" (assuming your fabric is 44" wide). This is NOT the same as a standard quarter yard, which measures 9" x 44". If you grab a fat quarter from your stash on your way out the door to the meeting, just check to make sure that it is not one you have taken a piece out of and then just folded back up and put back in your stash!*

**Refreshments:** See note below

**Creative Quiltworks:** English Paper Piecing Fussy-cut Medallion- This will now be due in May.

## **President's Message: Martha Mazeika**

Greetings!

So, what is on everyone's minds? I bet it is not that Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> is National Quilting Day. Most likely your mind is filled with practicing social distance, how we prepare, and gathering information on coronavirus. Since shopping is not recommended, now is a perfect time to make a dent in your stash to work on a new project or finish a UFO.

### April's Meeting

Governor Baker announced gatherings can be no larger than 25 people until April 7<sup>th</sup>. Therefore, there will be no meeting on Wednesday April 1<sup>st</sup>. This is not a joke; this coronavirus is real. Please practice social distancing and taking care of yourselves.

### By-laws Change

We will be voting on the changes to the by-laws at the May meeting. The major changes are outlined below. Dottie will also attach the full document in an email for your review.

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

See you all on May 6<sup>th</sup>!!

*Martha*

(413)250-5449

[marthamazeika@gmail.com](mailto: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 Clean up and Good-byes

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## **Proposed Changes to the Bylaws**

Thank you to Dottie, Donna and Cynthia for taking the time to review and recommend changes/additions to the HQG bylaws. Below I have marked in red the changes that were discussed among the committee members, then presented and reviewed by the executive board. Now it is your turn to review. Please review the changes. There is a small explanation of the changes/additions. We will discuss more at the May meeting. You are welcome to send your thoughts and questions before the meeting as well.

There was discussion about the format of the current by-laws, changing the election cycle to a staggered format, and expanding the articles. These are bigger changes that need more time and input from membership. For that reason, I will be asking for 5-6 members to discuss and recommend additional changes next year.

*The reason for this change is to set a more determined date for dues to be received and explain the repercussions of not paying by June 30<sup>th</sup>. In addition, Section 3.3 was added to set the dues for people who join during the second half of the year.*

### **Article 3 – Membership and Guests**

Section 3.2 Annual dues of \$30.00 for general membership (\$25.00 for seniors ~~over~~ 70 and over) will be paid by members in June of each year. Members who have not paid by the end of June will be dropped from membership and an equal number of prospective members from the waiting list will be invited to join. In order to be reinstated, members who have been dropped due to non-payment of dues will be assessed a late fee of \$5 per month until the dues are paid.

Section 3.3 Members who join from January to June will pay half the dues for that guild year.

*These changes highlight the added July and August meetings*

### **Article 4 - Meetings**

Section 4.1 **General Membership Meetings** will be held monthly from September through June on the first Wednesday of the month unless a change is communicated prior to the meeting. In addition, two informal Sit 'n' Sews will be held during July and August. The July meeting will be scheduled to avoid the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday period. A monthly meeting will be cancelled due to inclement weather if Saugus Schools are closed during the day of the meeting.

*The amount of responsibilities for the Member at Large have been a lot. For that reason, a Membership Chairperson has been created; this will also be an additional executive board position. Also, details were added to explain when elections will be held.*

#### **Article 5 – Executive Board**

Section 5.2                      The Executive Board will be comprised of the following officers: President; Vice President; Secretary; Treasurer; Member at Large; **Membership Chairperson**, and Program Chairperson. The officers will be elected by the General Membership bi-annually at the Annual Business meeting in May **in odd numbered years**. At least one Executive Board member must have served as a previous Executive Board member.

Section 5.3                      The term of office for each Executive Board member is two years beginning on July 1 of odd numbered years and ending on June 30 **of the next odd numbered year**. Executive Board members may not serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

Section 5.7                      Specific Executive Board member duties are as follows:  
SECRETARY:

- Records and posts minutes for General Membership meetings and Executive Board meetings
- Gathers, maintains and organizes historical files of the minutes, correspondence, bylaws, and all other non-financial records relating to the Guild
- Organizes Guild photo opportunities
- Oversees the Sunshine and Shadow program
- ~~Is responsible for the newsletter~~
- Collects and distributes Guild mail from post office box

#### MEMBER AT LARGE

- ~~Maintains Guild Membership list and contact information~~
- ~~Signs in members and guests at General Membership meetings~~
- ~~Welcomes new members~~
- Conducts **annual member surveys, compiles the results, and makes the results available to the membership**
- Solicits and communicates to the Executive Board feedback **from members** on programs, activities, administration and meetings

#### MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON

- **Maintains Guild Membership list and contact information**
- **Signs in members and guest at General Membership meetings**
- **Is responsible for helping to recruit and retain members**

#### PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON

- Presides at Program Committee meetings
- Has the authority to enter into contracts in the name of the Guild
- Presents calendar of events to the Executive Board **for review in July/August**
- Seeks approval for funding of various activities and speakers for General Membership meetings

*Similar to the executive board, this section explains when committee chairs are selected; adds a separate Newsletter Committee and eliminates these duties from those of the Secretary; and updates language to be more inclusive and to eliminate redundancy.*

#### **Article 6 – Committees**

Section 6.2                      Volunteers for each committee will be solicited by the Nominating Committee with assistance from the Executive Board. The new volunteers

will be announced during odd numbered years at the annual meeting in May. One Chairperson for each committee will be selected by the volunteers for that committee, with the exception of the Program Chairperson (See Article 5.2) and the Monthly Drawings (see Section 5.7 under Vice President). Both volunteers and Chairpersons will serve a two-year term beginning ~~in~~ on July 1st of an odd numbered year and ending ~~in~~ on June 30<sup>th</sup> of the next odd numbered year. In the event that a committee volunteer or Chairperson is unable to fulfill her/his duties, she/he may submit a resignation to the Executive Board, who will appoint another person.

Section 6.3

Standing Committees of the Guild are as follows: Program, Charitable Donations, Creative Quilt Works, Monthly Drawings, Refreshments, Hospitality, Webmaster, Quilt Show, Nominating and Newsletter.

Section 6.5

Specific duties of the Committees are as follows:

**CHARITABLE DONATIONS**

- Researches and recommends to the Executive Board charities recipients eligible for monetary and other donations from the Guild
- Publishes and/or communicates notes to the Guild from charities donation recipients
- Coordinates ongoing charitable donations, special annual charity and holiday projects such as food pantry donations and Christmas stockings holiday pillowcases
- Supports NEQM

**REFRESHMENTS COMMITTEE**

- Organizes refreshments for monthly guild meetings
- Organizes other food-related events such as potluck suppers and ice cream socials

**HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE**

- Greets guests, potential members and new members
- Answers questions that guests and potential/new members may have about the guild
- Explains monthly activities and drawings to new members, informing guests that only members may participate in monthly activities and drawings

**WEBMASTER**

- Oversees maintenance and upkeep of the Guild website

**NEWSLETTER**

- Solicits information from the various officers and committee heads and compiles the monthly newsletter (no newsletters for July and August)
- Is responsible for disseminating the newsletter to the membership by direct mailing and/or by transmitting it to the Webmaster for inclusion on the guild website

**Treasurer's Report: Carmen Arnone**

The current checkbook balance as of Feb. 29, 2020 is \$24,348.31. As the getaway for this year has been cancelled, over \$8,000 will be returned to members who were attending, and another almost \$800 will be paid to the hotel for partial payment of food that was already purchased. The hotel was very fair, cancelling our guest rooms with no penalty, giving us the option to roll over the deposit for the

conference center and apply it to next year's getaway, and charging us only 50% of the cost of the meals with no extra gratuity charge or meal taxes included. (We had passed the contractual cancellation date, and the food had already been purchased, so this was a fair compromise for all.)

Guild members who expect to be reimbursed for purchases made for the guild are asked to put receipts in an envelope, which I can provide if necessary. Please write your name on the envelope with the amount due and indicate the category to which your expenses are related.

For example: Molly Member  
Hospitality supplies  
\$ 13.76

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!

#### **Membership: Sally Nimblett**

Seventy-five members signed in at the March meeting, plus we had two guests. 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.

If you have a change of contact information (address, phone, email), please see me and get a change-of-information slip. We want to keep our membership list up to date to make sure you are informed!

I have patterns for pillowcases and name badges with me at every meeting; if you need one, see me.

**Dues for the 2020-2021 guild year are due by June 30<sup>th</sup>. You may pay them at the May or June meetings or, if you will not be at either of those meetings, you may mail them to me, Sally Nimblett, at 22 Pleasant Park Rd, Winthrop, MA 02152. If you have special circumstances which prevent you from paying in a timely manner, please contact me and we'll work something out.**

#### **Refreshment Committee: Barbara Martinson & Kathy Connors**

The following members signed up to bring refreshments in April: Linda Talanian, Sheila Darcy, Linda Anthony, Mary Whitaker, Nancy Kershaw, Dianne Cheney, Diane Bucknill, Maureen Matthews, Kathy Boardman, and Rebecca Mohammadi. They may now bring snacks to a future meeting, perhaps one of our summer meetings or the fall. Barbara will have the summer and fall sign-up sheets at the May meeting.

The following members have signed up to bring snacks in **May**: Mary Fitzpatrick, Susan Bidollo, Jean Balliro, Ellen Moore, Lesley Pew, Lyrel Gillette, Mary Ann Andree, Linda Reppucci, Barbara Adler, Helen Fortucci and Matty Graciano.

If you have yet to bring snacks to a meeting, please sign up. The sign-up sheet is available at the snack table. Please sign up to bring snacks- sweets, fruit, veggies, cheese-and-crackers, whatever- to one meeting per year (more if you choose to do so). And don't forget to pick up any containers or plates after each meeting.

#### **"Free Stuff" Table: Rosie Graham**

Here is a reminder of the "rules" for the free stuff table we have at our meetings. This is the round table just to the right as you enter the main hall in the Senior Center. A big thank you for those of you who take stuff and take your own stuff home at the end of the night.

- You may bring in any quilting-related items that you no longer want: patterns, magazines, notions, and fabric (quilting cotton, wool, silk- fabrics used for quilting- **no** upholstery fabrics and those generally used for garments), etc.
- Anyone may take items from the free table, whether or not you brought anything.
- Make sure nothing is left behind. Please take home anything you brought in that was not taken by others. The table should be empty ten minutes after the meeting ends.

Thanks for your help so we can keep this program going!

**Program Committee: Gail Dwyer and Dottie Macomber**

*From Gail:* As previously noted, I am happy to have a casual "how to" lesson during the summer meetings in July and August on my stuffed yo-yo necklace that I wore to the February meeting. In addition, I am also willing to teach yo-yo basics.

Dottie is willing to bring her Accuquilt die-cutter to the summer meetings in order to make cutting fabric circles quick and easy. Just bring your pieces of fabric and Dottie will help you cut circles. Please let me know if you are interested in this project so I can have an idea of how many handouts to make

Also, please let me know over the next few months if there are any other basic techniques you may want to learn. The casual summer meetings are a great opportunity to use the two hours for learning the basics! **Summer meetings will be on Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

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*From Dottie:* All of the **UFO quilt tops** have now been taken. To everyone who has taken a top to complete: there is no deadline for completing these quilts, but **remember** to report to me with your finished quilt before you turn it in to Gretchen and the Charity Donations committee so I can take a photo to send to the group of seniors in NH who donated all these tops to us AND so I can give you your UFO charm!

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

We continue to collect pillowcases for kids and for Quilts of Valor. You may pass these in at any time.

As a reminder, we ask that each guild member donate a pillowcase and a small quilt each year. The pillowcase can be a generic kids' fabric one, a winter- or Christmas-themed one for our holiday stuffed pillowcase project, or a patriotic-themed one for Quilts of Valor.

We continue to collect quilts as well. Because of the cost to you that is associated with making larger quilts, we are no longer going to ask for specific sizes each year; if you would like to pass in a small baby quilt (size of baby quilts is between 30" x 35" and 40" x 40") or a child's lap quilt, that is fine. Of course, if anyone wants to make and donate a larger quilt, we will certainly accept it and find a good home for it!

As always, thank you for your support of our various comfort projects.

**Creative Quiltworks Committee: Kristin Callahan & Ellen Moore**

**Project for May:** English Paper Piece a Medallion.

Fussy cut fabric for medallion pieces to make an interesting piece ready to appliqué to a bag, a jacket or make into a quilt.

Hexies, diamonds, triangles... You can make a simple Grandmother's Flower Garden flower with seven hexagons, a Patchwork of the Cross block, a Brimfield block (What is that?!?) - whatever design you choose. Google English Paper Piecing for ideas and see sample ideas under the Creative QuiltWorks area of the Newsletter page on our website.

What you need:

- Card stock for EPP shapes, or buy ready-made shapes at a quilt shop
- Fabric...something different, amazing, awesome, out of your box!

Directions:

1. Cut out card stock in shape of pieces you are going to use: hexagons, jewel shapes, etc. (See sample shapes in the links on the website.)
2. Fussy cut fabric pieces 1/4 inch larger than card stock cutouts.
3. Glue or thread tack fabric over cardboard.
4. Arrange and whip stitch together.
5. Appliqué to whatever you like!

Several zippered selvage pouches were made for the March challenge. The winners of the viewer's choice voting were:

1<sup>st</sup> place: Mary Ann Andree

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Jean Balliro

3<sup>rd</sup> place: tie between Margarita Blyumkina & Joyce Rodenhiser



### 2020 Quilt Show: Dottie Macomber & Holly Petersen, co-chairs

**Registration Forms** for the quilt show will be available at the **May** meeting, and they will also be posted on the website shortly for those who wish to print out their own copies. If you do so, remember that there are only 3 entries per person. If the number and total size of entries exceeds our hanging space, we will ask members who have entered more than one item to withdraw an entry in order to give

all members a chance to have at least one item on display. With our membership now at capacity (120 members), we may have more of a challenge including quilts from all members who wish to display an item at our show, so we want to be as fair and inclusive as possible. Thanks for your understanding.

There were some **questions at the February guild meeting about the Challenge category** for the quilt show. This is a separate entry category for those who would like a challenge; the challenge is to make a small quilt, no larger than 20"x20" (or 80" perimeter, for those who were at the February meeting and saw Martha's geometry lesson!). This quilt should be your interpretation of the challenge theme, which is "Walk Around the Block". What do you think of when you read that phrase? Do you think of a quilt block or a city block- or kids' building blocks?? Do you think of what you see when walking around your block or neighborhood? Whatever that phrase means to you, make a small quilt (no larger than 20"x20") illustrating that. This entry is entirely optional, but it's always fun to see how different people interpret the same theme. Also, keep in mind that this challenge entry counts as one of your 3 entries.

-Dottie

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*Join with us and fill the Boutique,  
Make some gifts that are truly unique!  
Sew some things, use our table,  
Contact us as soon as you're able.  
Lots of occasions are coming along,  
Take advantage, you can't go wrong!  
What can you sell? What can you make? Change purses, table runners, bags, signs,  
pocketbooks, towels, quilting notions, greeting cards, necklaces, bracelets, pin cushions,  
pillowcases, jackets, needle holders, quilts! You name it!*

You will attach a hang tag to each item (the kind with string- no adhesive stickers, as they tend to fall off, and we need to cut the tags off as items are sold in order to track your sales). Your tags will need your initials, your selling price (keeping in mind that the guild will retain 20% of the selling price), and your seller number (which will be assigned later, as we get closer to the show).

*Submitted by Lauren Laughlin, Martha Borkan, & Joyce Rodenhiser MAY YOU BE WELL.*

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*From Dottie:* I had a question at the February meeting about the boutique. This is not like a craft show where you rent a table and have to man it during the show; you will be bringing your items and a list of those items (two copies, one for the boutique committee and one for you to keep as a record of what you dropped off- more about this later) during the show set-up times on Friday, October 16, before the show (times to be announced later) and they will be counted and taken by the boutique intake volunteers. You will pick up any unsold items during pick-up times on Sunday after the show is over. During the show itself, your items will be displayed and sold by members who sign up to volunteer in the boutique; this is just one of the jobs available during the show. In a few months, our volunteer coordinators, Martha Mazeika and Janice Moore, will be asking everyone to sign up for a job before, during or after the show. Working in the boutique is one of those jobs, and just because you bring items to sell does not mean that working the boutique is the job you have to volunteer for. We will have many jobs to choose from.

I hope that answers some questions that some new members have about the boutique. More information will be forthcoming. In the meantime, please always to feel free to ask if you have any questions that I did not address.

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*From Sally Nimblett, Louise Nazzaro and Dana Giunta of the Raffle Basket committee:*

We will have the sign-up sheets for the raffle baskets at the May meeting in the event more people want to donate some items to any baskets. Check the lists and see what basket you would like to donate to.

If a group needs an empty basket for their items, we have some. Just let us know that you need one.

The items for the raffle baskets should be new, unused items- something you would want to receive yourself- and not old or used items.

When you make up your basket, we ask that you include a legible list of the contents, preferably typed, which we will attach to the basket once we wrap it in a cellophane gift bag. Please do not wrap the basket yourself; we will do that.

The filled baskets will be due to us by the September guild meeting so we can get them wrapped and can attach the lists.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask. Thank you for your help with this fundraiser!

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The "secret" word for May is **applique**. (If you don't know what I'm talking about when I mention a "secret word", read the rest of the newsletter to find out!)

#### **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, are available for your perusal at monthly guild meetings.

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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, has had a death in the family, or needs cheering up for any other reason, please let me know so I can send them a card on behalf of the guild: 781-932-3602 or [mcandmac@comcast.net](mailto:mcandmac@comcast.net)

#### **Member News & Miscellaneous: Dottie Macomber**

As always, if anyone submits quilts to shows or fairs, or if you have any other quilting accomplishments to report, please send the information (with photos if possible) to me, Dottie Macomber, at [mcandmac@comcast.net](mailto:mcandmac@comcast.net) or 9 Fletcher Rd, Woburn, MA 01801.

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Two of Nita Penfold's quilts honoring our foremothers and commemorating the Women's Suffrage movement have been chosen for display at the following venues:

- March 3-April 3, 2020: Dakota County Historical Society in South St. Paul, MN
- June 11-13, 2020: Minnesota Quilters Show, St. Cloud, MN
- August 5-7, 2020: American Quilters Society Show, Lancaster, PA
- August 19-22, 2020: American Quilters Society Show, Grand Rapids, MI



Congratulations, Nita!

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In an attempt to get more people to read the newsletter so they can stay more well-informed and get the most out of every guild meeting and activity, I am hiding a **“secret” word** or phrase somewhere in the newsletter. If you find this secret word, when you come to the next guild meeting come see me and write the word or phrase on a piece of paper, which I will provide, along with your first **and** last names. During my monthly announcements, I will draw a name and if that person has the correct secret word, then she/he gets a small prize. (These prizes are from my personal stash of brand new, unused, fun items; no guild funds are being used.) Look elsewhere in the newsletter for the secret word!

Congratulations to Margie Berkowitch; she entered the correct the secret word for March! Her name was drawn out of about 25 entries, and she was able to pick a little prize. (I have thread, patterns, and other small notions for prizes; all you have to do is read the newsletter to be eligible!)

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A reminder: if you have any fabric that you would like to donate somewhere, Irene Dwyer is still collecting cotton quilting fabrics for the **Peace Quilts Haiti** program, which provides women in Haiti a way to earn income by making and selling quilts and other fabric items. (Google them and check out their website.) Just bring your fabric in to a meeting and give it to Irene; her contacts who travel to Haiti will see that it gets there.

The New England Quilt Museum also accepts donations of 100% cotton quilting fabric yardage, which they bundle up and sell for \$4 per gallon ziplock bag in the museum’s shop. They also accept fat quarters of batiks, which they sell for \$10 per bundle of 10 FQs.

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Check out the website [sewmanysows.com](http://sewmanysows.com) to see a month-by-month listing of quilt shows and other fiber events. In addition, I list shows on the Bulletin Board page of our website.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Dottie Macomber*, Secretary