

Hammersmith Quilters Guild Newsletter



www.hqgsaugus.org

February 2020

For This Meeting

February 5, 2020

Program: Member Sally Clapp: Quilting Inspirations from India

Show 'n' Tell: **YES**

Fat Quarter: Fat Quarter theme for February is Stripes. (Remember to bring an extra fat quarter to give to Louise, Dana or Sally N. for the raffle basket at our next show.) For every fat quarter you enter in the drawing, you get a ticket. You may win a whole pile of FQs!

And just a friendly reminder: 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".

Refreshments: Jean Balliro, John Balliro, Dana Giunta, Cathy Juliano, Margie Berkowitch, Carole d'Entremont, Dottie Macomber, Barbara Martinson

Creative Quiltworks: Pincushion on a Stand (directions on website)

President's Message: Martha Mazeika

Greetings!

Congratulations on a successful auction in January. Thank you to all who brought in bags to auction and those who purchased those bags. The winter months can be long but we are lucky to have quilting to keep us busy. Have you all made a list of what you want to accomplish? We have our quilt show in October so I hope you are working on quilts to hang in the show!

I am lucky to have a great brother who got me a wonderful gift for Christmas. He found me a quilter's rocking chair! He is going to refinish the chair before I can take it home to use it. It has no arms and a secret drawer to keep my tools in! Best brother ever!

In February, Sally Clapp will be giving a presentation on Quilt Inspirations from India. Very excited to continue to have HQG members presenting at meetings!

Always here to listen, talk, discuss, and answer questions.
See you all on February 5th!

Martha

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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

Treasurer's Report: Carmen Arnone

The January auction took in a total of \$1,032!! The live auction generated \$745 and the silent auction raised \$287. Twenty-six of the 67 attendees were winning bidders, although I'm sure that others tried to outbid their friends and tablemates (and sometimes their spouses- Millie and Jerry!).

The current checkbook balance as of January 8, 2020 was \$18,871.03. About \$9,000 of that will be paid out to the hotel for the March getaway weekend.

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

Welcome to new members Patti Knight and Helen Fortucci! In January, 66 members and 1 guest signed in.

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.

Refreshment Committee: Barbara Martinson & Kathy Connors

The following members have signed up to bring refreshments in February: Jean Balliro, John Balliro, Dana Giunta, Cathy Juliano, Margie Berkowitch, Carole d'Entremont, Dottie Macomber, and Barbara Martinson.

If you have yet to bring snacks to a meeting, please sign up; we especially need some more people for the March and May meetings. 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. With our growing membership, we should have about 10 people signed up each month. 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 in.
- 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

At the February meeting we are pleased to have our member Sally Clapp giving a slide and textile presentation about quilting inspirations from India.

We will also have a show and tell, so bring the projects you've been doing this winter and provide us with more quilting inspiration!

I will also very briefly show membership a super simple fabric necklace that I made and get a show of hands on who would be interested in learning how to make one during the summer meetings. This way I can get an idea how many instruction sheets to print up and how many circles to make if, in fact, there is enough interest. -Gail

Thank you, everyone, for a successful auction in January. Just by cleaning out our sewing rooms and donating "stuff" to be auctioned off, we raised \$1,032 for the guild! Well done, and thanks to Linda Reppucci, who stepped in at the last minute to act as our auctioneer.

Thanks to the following people who donated items for the silent auction: Ann Ambrose, Carmen Arnone, Dottie Macomber, Bev McGrath, and Holly Petersen. And thanks to everyone who brought in bags of stuff, and to everyone who bid!

We would welcome **feedback and suggestions regarding the auction**. What do you like? Do you have any suggestions to make it better? Please convey your ideas and comments to your member-at-large, Sally Nimblett, when you sign in at a meeting, and she will pass it on to the Program Committee and Executive Board. Please put them in writing so Sally doesn't have to remember your comments, as she is often very busy at the front table! Your comments can be anonymous.

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!

And thank you to the following members who completed and turned in their UFO quilts at the January meeting: Betty Carr; Nancy Sandreuter (who couldn't be at the meeting but who sent in her finished quilt- be sure to see me in February, Nancy, for your UFO charm); and Caroline O'Brien (front and back shown).



The “secret” word for February is **Needle**. (If you don’t know what this is or why it is here, read the rest of the newsletter to find out!)

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

We received a thank-you note from the food pantry for the many bags of groceries we donated in December. We also received a thank-you from the Home for Little Wanderers, which is one of the locations where we donated the holiday pillowcases stuffed with gifts and necessities. We stuffed a total of 100 pillowcases, some of which went to the Home for Little Wanderers; the rest were donated to the Department of Children and Families.

In addition to the holiday pillowcases, we donated 60 pillowcases to the Hole in the Wall Camp for kids dealing with cancer and other serious illnesses. There are also two new charities to which the guild can make donations, Citizens Inn of the North Shore area and Mass Coalition for the Homeless in Lynn, MA; children's and teenage-themed pillowcases are wanted. We also continue to collect patriotic-themed pillowcases 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

Bring in your Pincushion on a Stand to the February meeting and be sure to vote for your favorite. Ribbons are awarded to the top three vote-getters.

Eight Crazy Patch pincushions were made for the January challenge. The winners of the voting for favorite Crazy pincushion were:

1st place: Jean Balliro

2nd place: Margie Berkowitch

3rd place: A tie between Ellen Moore and Joyce Rodenhiser



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

The quilt show committee met on January 16th. Among the items discussed was a new way to register your quilts for the show this year. We are going to try online registration, where instead of filling out and passing in a paper form, you type your information into a form online and send it to the committee that way. This will reduce the amount of typing that is needed on our end when we enter the information into a spreadsheet in order to generate the quilt tags that go on your quilts in the show. Of course, if you are not comfortable with this process, we will still accept paper forms. More about this shortly!

If you like to make handcrafted items and would like to make some money on them, we will again have a **Boutique** at our quilt show where you can offer your items for sale. Our show this year will be October 17th and 18th, so you have plenty of time to start making things. Any handcrafted items are welcome: quilts and other quilted items; knitted and crocheted items; your own photography; notecards; handmade soap; ornaments of various kinds; etc. (but no food). The guild retains 20% of the selling price and you get 80%, so price your items accordingly. As the time gets closer, you will get specific information about submitting your items, including getting a seller number and what kind of price tags to use. In the meantime, start crafting!! -Joyce Rodenhiser and the Boutique committee

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

For the next several months we are putting out signup sheets for the **raffle baskets**; the baskets are a significant money-maker at our quilt show. Please look at the sheets; we have listed several basket "themes". If a theme interests you, please sign up on that sheet. We ask that one person on each sheet be the chairperson in charge of that basket, coordinating what items are purchased and donated for that basket. If you have a different idea for a basket that you and some friends or tablemates would like to do, you are welcome to do that but please run it by us first to make sure that we do not already have a similar basket.

If a group needs an empty basket for their items, we have some and will bring them to the February meeting.

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.

We will have the signup sheets available for a few months. Then you can start to plan your baskets. They 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!

Note: The listing of ribbon categories in the January newsletter contained one error. There will be no Committee's Choice ribbon in the "Entry by a Child 12 and Under" category; instead, all children entering a quilt in the show will receive a Participation ribbon.

All winners, with the exception of Viewer's Choice, will be determined by voting by the Quilt Show Committee. The following ribbons will be awarded:

Large Rosette Ribbons (6):

- Best Large Quilt (perimeter 321" to 440")
- Best Medium Quilt (perimeter 241" to 320")
- Best Small Quilt (perimeter no more than 240")
- Best Other item (wearables, table runners, bags, etc.)
- Best Challenge item (theme: "Walk Around the Block", perimeter no more than 80")
- Viewer's Choice

Smaller ribbons for Technical Merit (10):

Best Machine Applique
Best Hand Applique
Best Machine Embroidery
Best Hand Embroidery
Best Traditional Machine Piecing
Best Hand Piecing (includes Traditional piecing and EPP- English Paper Piecing)
Best Paper Piecing (foundation piecing)
Best Machine Quilting, Longarm or Movable Machine
Best Machine Quilting, Domestic or Stationary Machine
Best Hand Quilting

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.

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

We received a thank-you card from the **Friends of the Saugus Senior Center** for the memorial donation we made in the name of Bernice Howard Smith who, while not a founding member, was one of the members of the guild in its earliest days

Member News: 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 or 9 Fletcher Rd, Woburn, MA 01801.

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 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 Louise Nazzaro for finding the secret word in January!

Respectfully submitted,
Dottie Macomber, Secretary