

Hammersmith Quilters Guild Newsletter



www.hqgsaugus.org

February 2021

Until the Governor's restrictions on indoor gatherings are relaxed and the Senior Center opens, we will not be able to meet in person. Until you hear otherwise, assume that in-person monthly meetings are canceled.

We will be holding our next meeting virtually on Wednesday, February 3rd, at 7 p.m. A link to the meeting will be emailed to you about a week before the meeting. We will be using ZOOM for online meetings from now on (see Martha's message below).

President's Message

Greetings!

I hope you all had a good holiday season! As a guild, I am happy that we are staying in touch through this pandemic. I know that meeting over Google Meet has not been the best. We will be switching to using ZOOM for meetings. I hope that this will work better for us. Dottie will send out the invitation with the link for the ZOOM meeting on Wednesday, February 3rd.

To stay connected, I will be hosting a **Virtual Sit & Sew** on Sunday, January 31st from 1pm-3pm. This will be via ZOOM and the link will be sent out separately as I do not want the link posted on our website. This is a time to just connect with others while working on a project. Feel free to join the whole time or just part of the time. I hope to see you there!

Always here to listen, talk, discuss, and answer questions.
Stay safe and healthy!!

Martha

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Treasurer's Report: Carmen Arnone

The checkbook balance as of was \$13,938.27 as of January 6, 2021.

Membership: Sally Nimblett

I will be sending out invitations to four prospective members from our waiting list, as we currently have four available spots on the membership list.

If you have a change of contact information (address, phone, email), please be sure to let me know so we can keep our membership list up to date in order to keep you informed! **Likewise, if you have decided not to renew your membership, please let me know that so I can invite a person from the waiting list to join the guild.** We currently have six people on the waiting list.

Because we are not yet having in-person meetings, the board has decided that payment of dues is suspended for now. If you have already paid dues for the 2020-2021 guild year, Carmen and I have your payment recorded; once we start meeting again and collecting dues again, those who have already paid will be all set through the 2021-2022 guild year. So far, 55 members have prepaid. You can still send me dues any time if you choose (regular dues \$30, or \$25 for age 70 and over) or you may wait until we are again meeting in person. If you do wish to pay now, please make your check out to HQG or Hammersmith Quilters Guild and mail it to me at 22 Pleasant Park Rd, Winthrop, MA 02152

Program Committee: Gail Dwyer and Dottie Macomber

Martha plans to host a **virtual Sit 'n' Sew** on Sunday, January 31st from 1:00-3:00! This will be a ZOOM "meeting" where we can log in as we do for our online monthly meetings and just visit and chat as we sew for a couple hours.

Because of the continuing pandemic, the guild will not be holding its annual getaway weekend in March 2021 at the Ramada in Saco, Maine. The hotel has graciously rolled over our deposit and is holding a spot for us in March 2022. I'm sure we will all be looking forward eagerly to this getaway and for everything to get back to normal!

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

Nothing new here; just keep making your donation quilts and once we are meeting in person again, we will find agencies that need them. Thank you for your continued support.

Creative Quiltworks Committee: Kristin Callahan & Ellen Moore

The project for February is an EPP (English Paper Piecing) Dragonfly by Kristin. This motif uses honeycomb shapes, a hexagon, and a long pointy triangle. Once you make the dragonfly, you can applique it onto anything! The directions and templates for the dragonfly are on the newsletter page of the website; they are being mailed to those members without internet access.



Kristin made this dragonfly. She offers the following helpful hints:
"I didn't have card stock so I glued the printed paper to index card pieces!
Cut fabric 1/4 to 3/8 inch larger than paper!
Glue or baste down hem!
Sew wings to head and to each other!
Sew tail to head!
Appliqué to anything!
Bling with crystals or fabric markers!"

Send in a photo of your dragonfly! It'll be fun to see what creative uses you all come up with this motif.



Disappearing Six-Patch Mug Rugs, January's project, made by Louise Nazzaro (l) and Lesley Pew (r).

Block of the Month (BOM): Kathy Connors

Congratulations to Mary Balliro, who won the Large Flying Geese blocks in January. Seven people participated and submitted a total of 36 blocks (18 groups of two).

The directions for the February block, Snowball Fight, are up on the website and are being mailed to those without internet access. Look on the Newsletter page of the website to find the directions. These blocks will be due by February 2nd. **Note the mailing instructions for these blocks.** Kathy again requests that you mail your Snowball Fight blocks to Lucille McCarthy, 7 Batchelder St, Melrose, MA 02176. Lucille will pick the winner at a drawing during our February meeting and will mail the blocks to the lucky winner.



Quilts of Valor: Merle Gordon

The need remains for **blocks** to be made into quilts for veterans through the Quilts of Valor program, so if anyone wants to make any 12 1/2" blocks out of red, white and blue fabrics, Merle will accept them any time. You can mail them to Merle at 15 Pleasant Ave., Saugus, MA 01906 or you can call Merle to let her know that you have blocks you'd like to drop off. Her number is 781-233-6125.

Thanks to Margie Berkowitch, who recently donated a number of lovely blocks.

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 (or by email on request until we can meet again in person).

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

Patti Knight sent a card to thank everyone who sent her well-wishes as she has been recovering from a long illness. She said, "Thanks so much for the get well wishes- brightened my day right up!"

A sympathy card was sent to Peter Ruggeri, husband of long-time late member Ruth Ruggeri. Ruth and Peter's daughter passed away on Christmas Day 2020.

A sympathy card was sent to Rebecca Mohammadi on the death of her husband from complications due to COVID-19.

Member Photos



Margie Berkowitch sent in this photo of her "Pandemic Tree".



Linda Anthony is working on a three-quilt series called "Quilts from the Dark Side." This is the first of the three in the series. She invites us to guess about the meaning of the name of the series. My guess was wrong; I thought it might have something to do with Star Wars- you know, Darth Vader going over to the Dark Side, and this quilt having stars- but I was wrong. What is your guess?



Sally Nimblett's recently completed table runner and Ellen Moore's "Cat-a-Tude" quilt made for her great-granddaughter's birthday in February.

You can also see many photos posted directly by members on our new Facebook page!

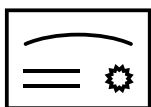
Member News & Miscellaneous: Dottie Macomber

A challenge! To follow up on Martha's challenge in January to look into our stashes for our next project, I am issuing a challenge to you all to do just that! All you have to do is pick out 12 fat quarters' worth of fabric (or 12 pieces of fabric at least 14" square) to make an **Ugly Quilt!** These fabrics can be ones you've had for a while and now your tastes are different; they can be ones you got in our Fat Quarter drawing that just don't go with anything else you have; or they can be WWITs (What Was I Thinking?!?). Karen Brown of Just Get It Done Quilts has a tutorial for using these fabrics to make what she calls The Ugly Quilt, a quilt that you can use for utilitarian purposes (keep in the car, take to put on the ground if you go on a picnic, etc.) Or you can use more coordinated fabrics if you don't like the hodge-podge look. However, it is interesting how the resulting quilt doesn't look quite as ugly as some of the individual fabrics in her example! I'm going to try one of these this year; I've already picked out some ugly fabrics from my stash. How will it turn out? Who knows, but the process looks like fun.

Here is the link to Karen's YouTube video tutorial called "5 Ways to Use Ugly Fabric; the quilt tutorial is at the end of the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RePQz1eN5Ko>

I have also posted a pdf of the written instructions on our website under the Newsletter tab, and I've included them with this newsletter for those of you without internet access.

Karen's basic directions are for a quilt that finishes at 36" x 45", a lap- or child-sized quilt, but you can also make the quilt larger by using more fabrics and making additional blocks.



What do you say? Ready for the Ugly Quilt Challenge? Be sure to send me a photo of your Ugly Quilt and I'll send you an "Award" Certificate "suitable for framing", as they say!

The Word of the Month (WOM): If you have read this far into the newsletter, you have the chance to win a little prize! Email me at mcandmac@comcast.net or call me at 781-932-3602 and tell me the WOM and you will be entered into a drawing for a prize. I will be choosing **three** winners each month!

The **WOM** for the February meeting is **Thread**. Submit your answer to me by February 2nd so I can conduct the drawing for the winners at our February 3rd virtual meeting. (Don't worry if you can't sign on to the meeting or don't have email; you can call me at the number above with your entry and you will still be in the drawing and able to win a prize.)

Congratulations to the following people whose names were drawn from the 27 people who responded with the January WOM: Dana Giunta, Cathy Wilson, and Merle Gordon. Each of them received a little prize for reading the newsletter.

Congratulations to Sally Nimblett, who was one of the winners in the Senior Center fundraiser raffle! She won \$50, as did the guild. The guild's winnings have gone back into our treasury.

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.

You may continue to send me photos of any of your projects- quilts, BOM, Creative QuiltWorks projects, etc.- and I'll be happy to put them on the Photo Album page of the website and in this newsletter as space permits. You may also post your photos directly on our new Facebook page!

The following comes to us courtesy of member Margarita Blyumkina. This sentiment has been a slogan for many of us during the pandemic; thank goodness we have such a wonderful hobby that can keep us busy!



Respectfully submitted,
Dottie Macomber, Secretary