

# Hammersmith Quilters Guild Newsletter



[www.hqgsaugus.org](http://www.hqgsaugus.org)

October 2021

## October 6, 2021 Meeting:

**We are going to hold off on having the Refreshments and the Free Stuff table for October;** we hope to resume those again soon. So please only bring refreshments and drinks for yourself, if you want them, and do not bring any items to give away on the Free Table. **HOWEVER:**

**We are going to resume all drawings and raffles for the October meeting!** As with the September meeting, we will try to have the tables spaced apart so people will not be crowding together in one area.

To inform the new members, and to remind the old (veteran?) members: All of these drawings and raffles are optional; you do not need to participate at all, or you can pick the ones that interest you!

**Fat Quarter (FQ) Drawing:** Bring a fat quarter in the designated color or theme. For each FQ you bring, your name goes into a drawing. You could win a whole bundle of the fat quarters! The theme for October is **Halloween fabrics/colors**. Remember: a fat quarter of fabric measures 18"x21".

**3/\$1 Raffle:** Buy 3 tickets for \$1 and you are entered into a raffle for notions or other quilty things. Buy as many tickets as you want!

**Name Badge:** Wear your guild name badge and enter a drawing for a prize. This is to encourage everyone to wear their name badge so we get to know who you are! New members received a printout of the directions when you joined as part of your tote bag welcome pack; the directions can also be found on our website [www.hqgsaugus.org](http://www.hqgsaugus.org) under Member Information.

**Word of the Month (WOM) Drawing:** Win a prize just for reading this newsletter! Look elsewhere in this newsletter to find the WOM! There will be three winners!

**Block of the Month (BOM) Drawing:** Make one or more blocks according to the directions for this month, bring your blocks to the meeting, and give them to Kathy Connors. For each block you submit, you get an entry. One person will win all the blocks for that month: instant quilt (almost)! This month we will have two drawings, one for the September block, "Pick Up Sticks," and one for the October block, "Scrappy Apple." Directions for both blocks are on the website on the Newsletter page and are mailed to members who get their newsletter by regular mail.

**Creative QuiltWorks:** Every month, Nancy Sandreuter will provide instructions for a fun, creative quilting or sewing project. These projects give you a chance to try a technique or make a fun sewing-related item that you may not have tried before. Bring your creative project to the meeting, where all the projects will be displayed for members to vote on their favorites. The top vote getters win a prize ribbon! Be sure to take your project home with you at the end of the meeting!! As with the BOM, the instructions are on the Newsletter page of the website and are mailed to members without internet access.

## President's Message

Greetings!

It was great to see those who attended the meeting in September. It was a great opportunity to see everyone in person. For our October meeting we will have the return of the raffles, block of the month, and creative quilt works. We will also continue our show and tell. We will also be voting on the changes to the by-laws that were discussed at the September meeting. Here is a summary of changes to the HQG by-Laws.

- There has been a change to state that members who do not pay dues will be dropped from the membership list by a specified date.
- There is a proposal to change the election cycle to staggered years. This will allow the Board to have experienced board members represented at all times.
- We are adding a Membership Chairperson on the Board.
- We are removing the responsibility of the Newsletter to a committee position instead of it being a part of the Secretary position.
- Language has been added to the by-laws to allow business meetings at other times during the year when needed (in addition to the current May meeting).

The changes will be voted on at the October meeting.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the Senior Center on October 6<sup>th</sup>! Remember to wear your mask! (This is a rule specified by the Senior Center,)

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

*Martha*

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## Treasurer's Report: Carmen Arnone

As of Sept. 5, 2021, the bank balance is \$14,713.88.

## Membership: Sally Nimblett

We had about 55 members and 2 guests at our September meeting; it was nice to see everyone!

As of September 5, there are 8 members whose dues are outstanding. I will spend time trying to reach them by phone to see if they plan to rejoin the guild.

If you did not pick up your membership card at the September meeting, I will have them at the October meeting. Some independent quilt shops give a discount for guild members if you show them a membership card.

## Program Committee: Gail Dwyer and Dottie Macomber

We will hold our next extended Show & Tell session in October. We're sure that you all have been hard at work creating many beautiful quilts, and we'd like to see them! We want to give people a chance to talk about the creations they have made during the COVID pandemic, so we will hold a "Tell Us Your COVID Quilting Stories" Show & Tell. We are dividing the alphabet up in the hope that members will want to spend a few minutes talking about their creations and/or how quilting was for them during the time we were not together as a group. In order to give members more time to talk about their creations, **we are going to**

invite only members whose last names begin with H through M to bring items for Show & Tell in October. Everyone else will have a chance to bring Show & Tell items in the next couple of months. After that, we will go back to our usual Show & Tell format, but for now, please plan to bring your items to show when your last name's initial comes up. Thank you!

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**Our next Quilting Getaway Weekend is in March of 2022!** The Ramada Inn in Saco, Maine, is holding the following dates for us: Thursday, March 17 through Sunday, March 20, 2022 (four days, three nights). I (Dottie) will begin taking signups in November. To make it as fair as possible and to avoid the crush of people when you have signed up in person in the past, I will start taking signups on November 1<sup>st</sup> and only through the mail; my address is on the registration form, which is included with this newsletter for those who get snail mail, and which is on the website on the Newsletter page. I will also bring a limited number of forms to the October meeting for those who are unable to print one out at home. **Only letters postmarked November 1<sup>st</sup> or later will be accepted; if you mail them sooner, you will go to the end of the signup list and may not get a spot!** I am trying to be fair to everyone who wants to come; there are 48 spots. The price of a single room for the three nights is \$285 and for a double it is \$156 ppdo (per person double occupancy); the hotel is not allowing any triples. This price includes the breakfast provided by the hotel each day. You are on your own for lunch and dinner; each room will have a refrigerator so you may bring some of your own food or go out to eat.

If we have food delivered, the hotel wants me to keep a list of where it comes from so they can do contact tracing if there are any problems with someone getting sick. For that reason, they are not allowing homemade snacks; you may bring commercially prepackaged snacks into the conference/sewing room for your own consumption, but we will not have a Snack Table as in the past.

If you are opting for a double, please be sure to include your roommate's name on the registration form. If you like, you may mail both of your forms and deposits together, but if I receive one person's form first, I will reserve a double for you and your roommate. If you like, you may pay the entire amount now; otherwise, the final balance is due by the January guild meeting and may be given to me in person at the December or January meeting or mailed to me.

If you have to cancel before Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>, you will get your entire payment back; on that date, it is all nonrefundable unless I can fill your spot, as I have to give the hotel the final number of guests and rooms by then. (I usually have a waiting list, so it should not be a problem, but just in case...)

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

Thank you to everyone who brought in donation quilts last month. This month we are asking only members whose last names go alphabetically from **Cobucci through Grenier** to bring donation quilts to the October meeting. Please do **NOT** bring any pillowcases at this time; we will collect them later. Thank you for understanding and for holding onto your donations just a bit longer!

**NOTE:** If anyone still has one of the UFO quilts that they finished as part of a project that Dottie was running, where she got a whole bunch of quilt tops donated to us from another quilting group, you may bring that quilt in and give it to Dottie. If you still have the top and have decided that you don't want to layer, quilt, and finish it, you may bring that back to Dottie as well and someone else can finish it for a donation quilt.

#### **Creative Quiltworks Committee: Nancy Sandreuter**

Many thanks again to Nancy, who volunteered to head up this committee. (If anyone would like to work with Nancy on this committee, or if you have any ideas for projects or technique challenges that would be fun for the membership to try, contact Nancy at 781-710-9614.)

Any members who choose to do so may bring their project, a Tea Cup (or other container) Pin Cushion, to the **October** meeting, and we can all vote for our favorite. Each of the top winners will get a prize ribbon!

**Block of the Month (BOM): Kathy Connors and Lucille McCarthy**

This month's BOM is a double take! There's a cute Apple block and an accompanying Apple Core block! Make one of each and you'll get TWO tickets in the drawing to win all the blocks submitted!

We will also hold the drawing for the September "Pick Up Sticks" blocks, so be sure to bring those, too.

Directions for the blocks are on the Newsletter page of the website [www.hqgsaugus.org](http://www.hqgsaugus.org)

**Quilts of Valor: Merle Gordon**

As mentioned in September's newsletter, Merle's contact in the QOV program, Darlene Coit, is planning to retire at the end of the year from her position as regional coordinator for QOV. We hope that someone else in Massachusetts will step up to take the position that Darlene has filled so ably for many years.

In the meantime, 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 ½" 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. You can also donate quilt tops and completed quilts made of patriotic fabrics/colors. If you have any questions, ask Merle.

We will always be able to find an outlet for these quilt blocks, whether it is to give them to a new regional coordinator, to send them to the national organization, or to find our own local veterans organization who would appreciate completed quilts that we can make from these blocks.

**Secretary Report and Sunshine & Shadow: 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).

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**Lori Sue McNeely** is still recovering from knee surgery but she is home now. If you would like to send her a card, you may send it to her home address, 426 Lebanon St, Melrose, MA 02176.

## Member Photos



This "Ugly Quilt" was made as a donation quilt by Diane Bucknill. (See Karen Brown's website <http://www.JustGetItDoneQuilts.com> and look under Patterns to find the pattern for this fun quilt that helps you use up "ugly" fabrics) Diane added a border to her quilt to make it a bit bigger and cozier!



Margie Berkowitch is getting ready for Christmas early with this Dresden tree, which she says looks like neckties!

## Member News & Miscellaneous: Dottie Macomber

**DRAWING FOR PINTUCK & PURL GIFT CARD!** I sent an email out in September to tell everyone about a drawing for a free \$20 gift card to the Pintuck & Purl shop in North Hampton, NH. The owner, Maggie Smith, sent it to me in exchange for publicizing some classes and Bernina events she was sponsoring. I am going to draw a winner of the gift card at the October 6<sup>th</sup> guild meeting. If you would like to be entered in the drawing, please call me at 781-932-3602 (leave a message if I'm not home), email me at [mcandmac@comcast.net](mailto:mcandmac@comcast.net) or see me before the start of the October meeting so I can enter your name.

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**The Word of the Month (WOM):** Just for reading the newsletter, you can be in a drawing to win a little prize! At our next meeting, write the WOM and your name on a slip of paper (I will have these) to enter the drawing. The WOM for October is **Stitch** (rhymes with "witch"- good for October, right?).

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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 Gallery page of the website or in this newsletter as space permits. You may also post your photos directly on our Facebook page!

If you haven't joined our Facebook page yet, find the Hammersmith Quilters Guild page and click on the link to "Join Group;" Martha is the administrator of our Facebook page and she will let you in the next time she is on Facebook. The page is private to guild members only.

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Ryco Creative Sewing Center in Lincoln, RI will be closing on December 1<sup>st</sup>! ☹️ Some of you will recall that we went there as one stop on a Shop Hop bus trip a number of years ago. It was an old mill building in amongst a bunch of run-down buildings and I remember thinking, what on earth of any value could be in HERE??? But they had a super good assortment of yardage, precuts, notions, trims, and a great bargain section. The owner, Pat, is retiring after 37 years; good for her, but sad to see yet another independent quilt/fabric shop go away. There will be bargains galore as she closes this large "shop," so if you're up for a fall road trip, you can check it out!

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As always, if anyone submits quilts to shows, fairs, or other contests, 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.

I will try to get photos of guild member quilts at the Topsfield Fair, but if you take a photo of your quilt hanging in the fair, please send it to me. Your picture may be better than mine!

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And **FINALLY**...

