

Hammersmith Quilters Guild Newsletter

www.hqgsaugus.org



February 2022



February 2, 2022



February marks the return of the FREE TABLE!! If you have any quilting-related items that you no longer want (magazines, books, fabric, scraps, etc.), you may bring them and put them on the Free Table to the right as you enter the main hall. ** You may bring as much as you like and may take anything you like. The only stipulation is that at the end of the meeting, if anything you brought is still on the table, you must take it back home with you. It is not fair to the board members (who are often the last ones to leave the meeting) or Margie (who opens and closes the senior center for us) to have to throw your stuff out at the end of the evening. Thank you.

** If you have **brand new** items that you don't want (new kits and notions in the original packaging, never used; brand new books; new spools of thread; fabric precuts in original packaging- but not yardage), please consider giving those to Dottie to be used as door prizes at our upcoming show in October and as prizes in April for QUILT-O, which we will be playing at that meeting!

We are still holding off on having shared refreshments at the meetings.

See below in the Program Committee section for this month's meeting activities.

Also be sure to look at the Creative Quilt Works section for the new challenge for February.

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 color for **February is GREEN**. Remember: a fat quarter of fabric measures 18"x21", or 18" by half the width of the fabric as it comes off the bolt, so your fat quarter may be slightly different in width.

President's Message

[President's message was unavailable by publication time]

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

Martha

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marthamazeika@gmail.com

Treasurer's Report: Carmen Arnone

The weather and the COVID omicron variant and surge kept some people away from the January meeting. As a consequence, we did not have either the number of auction bags or the number of bidders (35) that we usually have. However, despite that, we made \$509 from the auction; \$281 of that was generated from the live auction, which included 23 bags, so the average bid per bag was \$12.21. Some people got some real bargains! The silent auction netted us \$228, with the almost-brand-new Oliso iron being the big-ticket item and going for \$100.

Our current treasury balance is \$21,293.95; this figure includes about \$8,000 which will be paid out to the hotel for the March getaway.

Two requests:

- 1) If you are making a payment to the guild, such as for dues or getaway registration, please make a note on the memo line of your check to indicate what the payment is for. For example, dues '21- '22 or Getaway/double '22. This helps with the guild's bookkeeping and helps resolve questions when members are not sure whether or not they have paid for something.
- 2) Anyone requesting reimbursement for legitimate, authorized expenditures on behalf of the guild, please submit your receipt in an envelope on which you have printed your name, type of receipt, total amount due & category.

For example:

Carmen Arnone
USPS receipt
\$49.99
Postage Stamps for Treasurer

This helps in tracking our expenses and in determining our budget for the next guild year. And remember: No Receipt, No Reimbursement!

Membership: Sally Nimblett

Thirty-eight members signed in at the January meeting. It looked like we may have had a few more than that in attendance. Remember to come to the front table at some point before the meeting starts in order to sign in. We keep attendance for our information but the Senior Center also wants us to sign in with our name and phone number in case COVID contact tracing is needed.

Remember, if you have a change of address, phone number(s) or email, please notify either Sally 617-970-2148 or Dottie 781-932-3602. Also, membership cards are available; see Sally.

Program Committee: Gail Dwyer and Dottie Macomber

For February, we are going with the following activities for the evening: Show & Tell; Sit & Sew; AND (drum roll, please) the return of the Free Stuff Table!

For Show & Tell, bring anything you have completed, are still working on, or have questions about (such as How should I finish this? What color binding goes best with this quilt? Should I add a border?) and show us your handiwork!

For Sit & Sew, bring any projects you are working on by hand (the room isn't really set up to do machine sewing). You can work on a binding, some hand piecing, English Paper Piecing, or even knitting and crochet. Here's a chance to just sit and sew and visit with your fellow guild members.

The Return of the Free Stuff Table!! Got stuff you don't want but that you didn't put in the auction in January? Bring it to the Free Table. This could be fabric, fabric scraps, or anything related to sewing and quilting: notions, quilting books and magazines. You may bring what you want and take what you want. **We just ask that if anything you brought is left on the table by the end of the meeting, please take it home with you so no one else has to pick up all the leftover stuff.**

We are still not offering group snacks, so if you want to munch while you sit and sew, you are free to bring your own snacks.

Our Quilting Getaway Weekend is fast approaching: March 17-20, 2022!

We have filled the 46 of the 48 available spots for the getaway. If you would like one of those last spots, I need to know before February 1st, when I have to notify the hotel of our room count. Contact Dottie at 781-932-3602 or mcandmac@comcast.net.

If you have to cancel before Feb. 1st, you will get your entire payment back; on that date, it is all nonrefundable unless we can fill your spot, as we have to give the hotel the final number of guests and rooms by then.

Over the next couple months, attendees can expect to get a number of communications from me: directions to the hotel; a listing of some of the quilt shops on the way and near the hotel; a handy checklist to make sure you bring everything you need for the long weekend; and information about a couple of activities during the weekend (a Guess How Many Items in a Jar to win a prize, this year's mystery quilt administered by Kristin Callahan, and instructions to make blocks for Quilts of Valor- little prizes to anyone who turns in at least one block or pillowcase, and bigger prizes for the top block or pillowcase producers during the weekend). Stay tuned!

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

Here is a note received from the Home for Little Wanderers, one of the donation locations for our stuffed pillowcases:

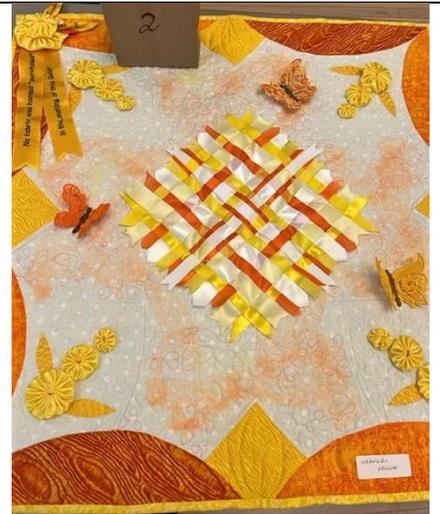
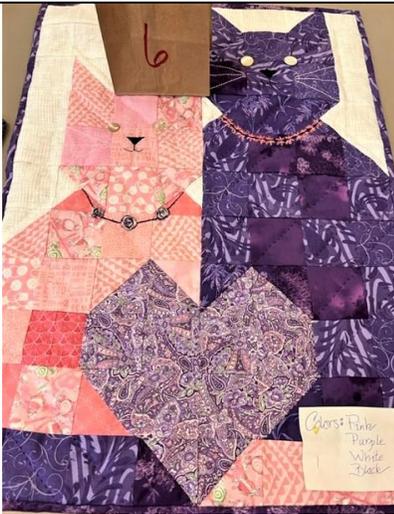
Hi Gretchen... It's Amy Kesselman... Just a couple of things. I wanted to say thank you so much for the pillow cases that you all provided from the quilting guild to our clientele... Every single one of them found a grateful home. I would make a thank you card and have the clinicians sign, however I'm not seeing anybody in person from work- but just know that we appreciated the generosity from the quilting guild!

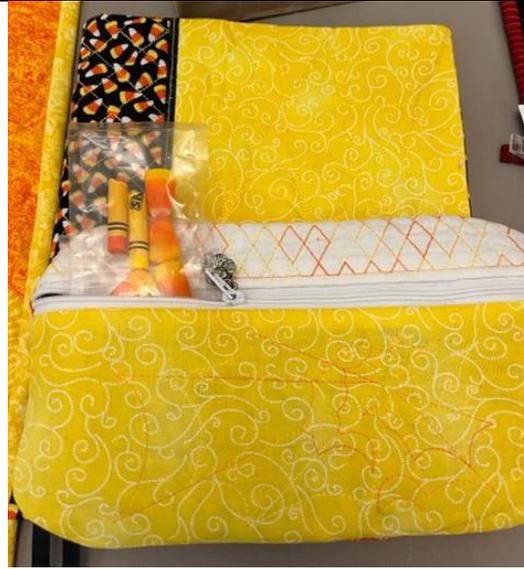
Creative Quiltworks Committee: Nancy Sandreuter and Carol Healy

We had 11 Terrific entries for the January "Color Play" Challenge, all of which displayed creative use of the assigned crayon colors. Thank you, everyone.

The winners of the Members' Choice voting were:

- 1st place: Barbara Talanian for her pink and purple cats wall hanging
- 2nd place: John Balliro for his pink and yellow elephant wall hanging
- 3rd place: Linda Anthony for her bright yellow and orange wall hanging with yo-yos and woven ribbons





FEBRUARY 2022 CREATIVE QUILTWORKS CHALLENGE:

At least this month's quilt challenge is a little one... or a really little one! Make a “mini” quilt! The smaller the better. It can be pieced, whole cloth, applique, improv, traditional... as long as it's **SMALL!**

Bring your Mini Entry to the February meeting. Have fun and Good luck!!

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

Congratulations to John Balliro, the winner of the January blocks, “Snow Trees.” He won 18 blocks.
The block for February is “Heart of the Four Patch” Directions are on the Newsletter page of the website.

Quilts of Valor: Merle Gordon

As Merle reported at the January meeting, Darlene Coit, who is the regional coordinator for QOV, has recently had a stroke. The good news is that she is out of rehab and home recovering. Motivating her is the fact that she is looking forward to joining us on our getaway in March. For those of you who are making block kits, please bring them to the February meeting as Merle will be seeing Darlene in the middle of

February. You can also drop them off at Merle's house. If you would like to send Darlene a card, her address is:

Darlene Coit
6 Ryan Road
W. Townsend, MA 01474

Merle is still accepting blocks, quilt tops, and quilts to be donated to Quilts of Valor. 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 or a quilt top or a completed quilt you'd like to drop off. Her number is 781-233-6125. If you have any questions about QoV, ask Merle.

Darlene also needs pillowcases made in patriotic fabrics and colors. Each quilt is presented to a veteran in a pillowcase. You can use the pattern that we use for our winter donation pillowcases; the pattern is on the website under Member Information.

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).

Member News & Miscellaneous: Dottie Macomber

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 and drop the slip in the bag at my place. I'll pick three winners. The WOM for February is **Pin**.

Congratulations to the following members who won prizes for reading the January newsletter: Barbara Talanian, Louise Nazzaro, and Ellen Moore.

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.

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 or 9 Fletcher Rd, Woburn, MA 01801.

And finally, despite donating loads of stuff to the auction...

