



Q.U.I.L.T.S

Quilters United in Learning Together, Schenectady

<http://quiltschenectady.org>

Meetings-First Thursday of Month from September to June

May 2024

Dear Friends,

If you have not heard, Laurel was able to work things out with the church and we will continue to hold our monthly meetings at The First Reformed Church of Scotia next year. The dates are listed in the newsletter so mark your calendars!

Susan Baron and Sandy Butcher are stepping up and running block of the month next year. Lisa did a great job using it to make Veteran quilts but it will be fun to have it back in the traditional form.

Details on how the program works will be in the fall newsletter.

We need you! Connie and Maggie are looking to expand their respective committees. If you want to help, but don't want to chair a committee, this is for

you! It's a great way to meet new people, help the guild and have fun!



Hopefully you have already marked October 5th and 6th in your calendar for our show. The show committee will continue to work over the summer but we need you to volunteer and enter your quilts.

I look forward to seeing you at our annual potluck on June 6th. Great food, fun times and a good time to sign up to volunteer!

Karen Smith

June 6th Member Meeting & Potluck Dinner

South Schenectady Fire Department Pavilion
6 Old Mariaville Road, Rotterdam, 6:00 pm

Bring an item to share, and an appropriate serving utensil, based on the first letter of your last name as follows:

A-D bring main dish

F-H bring Dessert

I-N bring beverages, ice tea, lemon aide, water, stuff such as that (soda is not popular)

O-Z bring a side dish.



If you would like to keep with tradition, bring your own place setting. A limited supply of disposable plates, napkins, cups, and flatware will be available for those who would like the convenience. Plenty of picnic table seating is available but feel free to bring your own lawn chair if you prefer.

Election of Officers: VP membership, VP programs and Treasurer

Name Tag Drawing - don't forget to wear your name tag

Fat Quarter Drawing - red, white and blue

Goodie Basket Raffle - raffle tickets available for sale

Block of the month for vet quilts

Veterans Quilt Kits pick up and Quilt drop off

Kids Quilt Kits pick up and Quilt drop off

Show and Tell

Renew your Membership - \$30 for 2024-2025 program year; cash, check, or register/pay online

Challenge Quilt

Quilt Show raffle ticket pick up and return

The meeting dates for **2024-2025** are as follows:

- **September 5**
- **October 2** (Wednesday) - Proctors
- **October 5-6** Quilt Show
- **November 7** - Sew In
- **December 5** - Holiday Party
- **January 2** - Zoom
- **February 6** - Sew In
- **March 6**
- **April 3**
- **May 1**
- **June 5** - South Schenectady Fire Department

Straight From The Heart Quilts For Kids

At the last guild meeting we received 36 completed quilts. Thank you for all your hard work!

Beginning in July, Linda will be stepping down as co-chair of the committee and Christine Wagner will be assuming her position. The committee will also be looking to create a team of people to focus on cutting kits, staffing sew-ins & workshops, sewing binding, cutting batting, sandwiching quilts etc. Sign up at the June meeting for your favorite task and join the team!

The committee will also be looking to donate kids quilts to several other organizations in addition to Northern Rivers. This will be discussed further at the next guild meeting.

For now, we donate a majority of our quilts to Northern Rivers. They provide a wide range of services to families with children of all ages. Currently, there are as many girls as boys in their programs. At this time there is a high need for preteen to teenage quilts. Please try to choose fabrics that are as gender neutral as possible. Finished quilts should measure **54 x 72"**.

Linda & Maggie

The Program Committee

Q.U.I.L.T.S. members share their insights in 2024 Programs survey

In an effort to learn more about what our guild members are interested in learning about, and how and when they'd like to learn it, the Programs committee asked the membership to participate in a 10 question online survey. Over the course of several weeks 90 members of our guild submitted their anonymous responses. Here is what we learned:

- 91% of respondents feel information is adequately communicated, and that it is easy to register and pay for (94%), workshops.
 - Based on sign ups, 35 members took one or more workshops this year. In the survey, the top reasons others did not attend a workshop were the timing didn't fit their schedule (67%) and the topics didn't interest them (55%). Overall, when asked their preferred day for workshops, Fridays and Saturdays were exactly split 50-50. Of stating that the timing didn't work for them, 14 preferred Fridays, 23 Saturdays and 3 did not express a preference.
 - When asked the preferred mode of attending workshops, members were evenly split between in person workshops (33%), Zoom workshops (31%) or not having a preference between the two (31%).
 - We asked about interest in skill based or project based workshops. 61% preferred skill based and 51% preferred project based.
- 13% provided specific ideas in the comment option. Participants were also offered a list of possible quilting topics/skills to learn. The top choice was free motion quilting (63%) with ruler work, paper piecing, appliqué and traditional piecing garnering 38 – 41% each in the responses. The comment option for this question also received many ideas from members.
- The top two reasons our members are a part of Q.U.I.L.T.S. was to meet others interested in quilting (38%) and to learn more about quilting (42%).
 - The final question invited people to become part of an expanded Programs committee. If you were one of the 3 people who expressed interest, thank you! and please contact us at quiltsprograms@gmail.com. We are hoping to take a team approach to covering tasks like sending out supply lists, collecting payments, researching teachers, coordinating spaces, etc.

We'd like to thank the almost 70% of the guild who took the time to share their thoughts with us. The resulting suggestions, feedback and preferences will be taken into account as we plan for the future and work towards fulfilling the purpose of Q.U.I.L.T.S. as stated in the bylaws:

*The purpose of this group shall be to learn about quilting,
to promote the knowledge and understanding of all aspects of the art of quilting,
to share quilting information and education with its members and the community.*

Mary Wade and Connie Trigger

Autumn Inspirations Show October 5 & 6, 2024

It's getting closer; we're less than six months to our show! How are your plans and projects progressing? Here's a few reminders:

- The final call for donations for the **Boutique** is the June meeting. Please, no decorator or dressmaker fabrics, no tablecloths, books, or magazines.
Boutique workshops continue on Tuesdays in June at the Rotterdam Community Center, 705 Curry Road, Rotterdam. June 4 & 18 from 9am-12pm and June 25 from 1-4pm. Contact Paula Ross with questions. At 518-423-7671.
- The **Volunteer** schedule is posted, sign up here: <https://signup.com/go/UmJWMaJ> Remember, every volunteer slot you fill will give \$1.00 off your admission. (However, no discount is given for providing food items to the Hospitality room.)
- If you haven't done so already, pick up your **Raffle Tickets** at the June meeting and turn in monies for tickets already sold. Additional tickets will be available at the June meeting.
New this year, the individual selling the most raffle tickets will be awarded a prize.
- Quilt **Registration Form & Instructions** are posted on the Q.U.I.L.T.S. website and are due by **July 1**. You may opt to have a piece judged or simply displayed.
You must be a paid member of Q.U.I.L.T.S. for the 9/2023-6/2024 year (cut off 4/2024) and pay by July 15th for the 9/2024-6/2025 year to enter a quilt in the show.

Please be generous in your commitments to our show, remembering it is the primary fund-raising event help to support guild activities including speaker fees/travel, meeting room rentals, Straight from the Heart Kids and Veterans Quilts.

A special thanks to the Show Committee Chairs, including the newest volunteers, for all the work accomplished to date. And thanks to guild members who have generously donated to the Boutique. And finally, thanks in advance to all guild members for your volunteer efforts to help make the Show a success.

Please contact me by email (dgmcintosh@nycap.rr.com) or phone (518-369-2649) to let me know what your questions are.

Debbie McIntosh
Show Chair

Block of the Month

I hope everyone who participated in any of this year's Block of the Month enjoyed them or at least learned something new and added some blocks to your library. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone. It was so much fun to collaborate with you on these blocks/quilts to be donated. I laugh at myself for being surprised when a favorite of mine was NOT a favorite of yours but I appreciate your enthusiasm and willingness to play along with me.

If you have any outstanding BOMs please try to return them by the June meeting so that I can work on assembling them into quilts over the summer. If you have BOM kits that you know you won't be completing please feel free to return them...no judgement. If you do intend to complete them over the summer that's perfectly fine too. You can return them to me in September.

We have one Veteran's Quilt completed already and another one is almost ready to be quilted. Several more are just a few blocks shy of being ready to be stitched together.

Did you like the fun little fish blocks from the May BOM but miss out on getting a kit? I'm going to try something new for me. Here is a QR code that will link you to Missouri Star Quilt Company's YouTube video on how to make the "Summer School" quilt. This is the video that shows how to make those fish blocks. If you have a smartphone, you should be able to use your phone's camera or a QR code reader app to bring you to that video. If that doesn't work, here is the link: <https://youtu.be/4rmit4H0OPU?si=dDFNP6M9srtEywzq>.



Many THANKS to Pat McGurn for manning the Veteran's Quilt table at guild meetings so I could share the BOMs with all of you. Stay tuned to see if I do one last BOM for June!

Lisa Wend

Veterans Quilts

Thank you to everyone who turned in pieced quilt tops, quilted a top, put on a binding, labeled some quilts, or turned in a completed quilt this year. These quilts are so appreciated by the inpatient men (and some women!) at the VA hospital and families staying at the Fisher House who choose one for their Veteran receiving treatment at the VA hospital. I have several quilts ready to go the VA, a pile that needs to be labeled before they can go, and I'm sure I will receive several more at the June meeting. We will probably make a delivery to the hospital and Fisher House before the end of June. We've already delivered over 66 quilts and I anticipate we will exceed my initial goal of donating 80 quilts this year.

I will have many VQ kits available at the June guild meeting if you want one to work on over the summer. Kits will include a pattern, fabric for the top, backing and binding fabric, batting, and fabric labels for you to complete and apply. Unlike the kid's quilts, Veterans quilts can be quilted OR tied (4" apart). If you are only able to piece the top that is okay. We will ask other members to quilt and bind it.

As a reminder, VQs ideally should be between 45-50" wide and 60-74" long. They should be 100% cotton and in colors and patterns of your choice. While its tempting to make them all patriotic we are finding that many of the Veterans prefer other colors and patterns. I would estimate about 98% of the recipients are men.

Thank you again. It has been my pleasure to serve in this role with help and support and I look forward to many more.

Lisa Wend

Q.U.I.L.T.S. MEMBERSHIP

Membership dues are \$30 for the 2023-2024 guild-year, which runs July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Membership renewals for the upcoming guild year, which runs July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 are being accepted and dues remain at \$30 for the year. Members wishing to enter a quilt in the Quilt Show in October 2024 must have paid for membership in the 2023-2024 guild-year, as well as renewing for the 2024-2025 year by July 15, 2024.

Membership can be initiated or renewed by visiting the membership desk at any monthly guild meeting. The website also has links to download the membership form for the current year which can be submitted by mail with a check or if one wishes to pay using the PayPal link. The online link for the 2024-2025 membership dues is:

<https://forms.gle/aBJzcV97nUezHZgHA>

You can type this link into your web browser, and it will take you to a page with the membership form. You have the option to pay via PayPal, a \$1 convenience fee has been added or you may indicate that you will pay by check. Cash can only be accepted at the membership desk when we meet in person.

Please feel free to ask someone you know to attend a monthly meeting as a guest if they'd like to check us out or refer them to the guild website for more information: <http://quiltschenectady.org>

Note: Guests may be asked to pay a fee to attend depending on the type of meeting, but guest fees may be put toward the annual membership dues if a guest decides to join the guild.

Name Tag: Guild members are encouraged to wear a hand-made name tag to in-person meetings. Wearing a name tag helps members get to know one another and qualifies members to enter the monthly drawings for gift certificates to local quilt shops.

While the guild has adopted a pattern for the name tag (Hands All Around), any hand-made name tag is acceptable. Here is the pattern for the guild nametag:

<http://www.quiltschenectady.org/images/nametag.pdf>

Many thanks to Adirondack Quilt Shop for sponsoring our name tag drawings!

Arilee

2024-2025 Fat Quarters - Darlene Balfourt

Sept. - Birds
Oct. - Trees
Nov. - Snowman
Dec. - A Winter Scene
Jan. - Fruits and Veggies
Feb. - Jungle Animals
Mar. - Hearts and Dogs
Apr. - Tea Pots or Coffee Pots
May - 10 inch squares (Bring 5)
Jun. - Hearts and Chocolates



Pet Beds

PetAPalooza is the last destination for the remainder of the Over 100 Pet Beds made during our March Pet Bed Sew In! Thanks to the Wonderful QUILT ladies that attended the Sew In, 30 went to Forever Home Greyhounds, 10 went to people who contacted me because they adopted a new Fur Friend and the remainder, looks like at least 70 will go to PetAPalooza for their June 15th event! Jennifer has a sign thanking the ladies of QUILTS so everyone knows where they came from!



Jane Martinec

Hi Jane!

I hope all is well with you and the entire guild at Q.U.I.L.T.S.! Yes, we would absolutely love to have some pet beds for PetAPalooza again this year. Our guests just absolutely love them, and it gives their newly adopted pet such a nice welcome and comfort to their forever homes. Yes, feel free to drop them off anytime. I will be out of the office for a month starting tomorrow, however, I will let our cashiers know at the service counter you are dropping off the dog beds. They can assist you with placing them in carts and will hold them for the event. I also have a sign that I place with the beds that lets our guests know that the beds are hand crafted and are from Q.U.I.L.T.S. of Schenectady as everyone asks as they stop by the table to choose one for their new pet. If you have any questions or need assistance besides the cashiers, feel free to call Jim Carpenter, Marketing Director at 518-490-1337. His email is jim.carpenter@curtislumber.com

Thank you so much for your generous donation of the pet beds. You girls are the best!

Jennifer



Since we have a number of Long Arm quilters in our guild, we are adding a listing of paid members who wish to advertise to the general membership that they offer this service.

Quilting that highlights YOUR artistry! Longarm quilting and finishing services, custom quilting by appointment. Quilting styles: edge to edge and custom, free motion and ruler work. No computerized or pantograph. Please go to www.JMCQuilts.com for prices and details. Jeanine Czech, jeanineczech@gmail.com

Chrissy's Contemporary Quilting

Computerized Long arm services. Over 1,000 designs
Quick turn around time approximately 2-3 weeks

Chrissy Wagner

Call 518-605-3813 or email at cw32907@gmail.com

Finish Line Quilting

Provides computerized edge to edge quilting service

Kathy Wagner

(518) 369-3376 (call or text)

PhoebeMoon Designs. I write quilt patterns for Connecting Threads, Northcott, Banyan Batiks, and Quilting Treasures. These patterns and their accompanying tutorials are available on my website, <https://phoebemoon.com>. I also have an active blog and participate in many blog hops, sew-alongs, and mystery quilts.

Q.U.I.L.T.Schenectady Website and Contact Information

Website: www.QUILTSchenectady.org

Programs: QUILTSprogram@gmail.com

Newsletter: QUILTSnewsletter@gmail.com

Webmaster: QUILTSwebsite@gmail.com