

24 July 2020

Dear Guild Members,

I am hoping that you are having as healthy and fulfilling summer as possible during this most trying and exceptional pandemic time.

Your leadership and I have been working behind the scenes to try to reframe our guild activities to continue to serve you while considering your own health and safety as our overarching priority. As you well know, businesses and institutions of all sorts all 'round the globe are struggling with similar issues and the road maps to that goal didn't even exist six months ago!

So I thank you for your patience for hanging in there while we have been shifting from our initial Covid-19 emergency response – the mask making project – to how we can handle our Guild's business as usual – or shall I say, business as UNusual!

As you know, we usually "take off" for the summer after our June meeting. However, no rest for us THIS year, I am afraid. I called an emergency board meeting on June 29th and nearly every chairperson and officer attended a Zoom meeting. The following news follows directly from the discussions during and surrounding that meeting. Our intrepid secretary, Holly DeLape's minutes are attached here in a PDF file.

May the birds and summer blossoms that seem to be exploding heedless of our human tribulations, bring the healing spirits of nature into your heart and home. Aaahhh, Emerson was right, "Beauty is its own excuse for being." Nobody knows that better than us quilters.

Kathleen Morris
President, QUILTSchenectady

Stuff You Need to Know

FINANCES

Our current checkbook balance is \$23,527.39 – enough money to sustain us for over two normal (do you remember "normal?") years of operation. Kudos to us for such financially prudent operations to build and retain such a "rainy day fund." And a rainy day has certainly arrived with this pandemic! Maryann McDermott, Linda Cary and I completed our audit today and our last year books are in picture perfect shape due to Maryann's diligence and attention.

OFFICERS

Several board and committee positions would have expired this June. But due to the tremendous goodwill of our leadership everyone that was set to retire has agreed to extend their terms through the next Guild year - 'til summer of 2021.

MEMBERSHIP

On the suggestion of our Membership Chair, Kathy Wagner, and with the wholehearted support of the board...

You will remain a member in good standing of our Guild for the 2020-2021 year with NO ADDITIONAL DUES assessed.

In other words you are getting a **Free Year as a gift** from the Guild. Our finances can support this and you deserve it for the activities that have performed been cancelled last season and the forced changes in our activities for the coming year.

OUR VENUE

First Reformed Church of Scotia, our meeting home is unavailable to us for the foreseeable future. The church has decided to remain totally closed for their own and rental activities until some (as yet unknowable) future date when a vaccinated public is totally safe to reconvene as before.

PROGRAM

Mary Wade, Our Program Chairwoman, has been working very hard to reschedule our fall presenters since we were forced to cancel all of our in-person meetings. **These workshops AND presentations will be via Zoom coming to your computer** in the safety of your home. The lectures will be on first of the month Thursday nights – the same schedule as our regular meetings. However, the **workshops will be on Saturdays**. Our hope is that this change will allow some of our working members to attend. *Please note the change of the day of the workshops.*

Thursday - September 10

Michelle Renee Hiatt Lecture

When Life Gives You Fat Quarters, Make a Quilt

Michelle's journey into quilting, plus hints in organizing, playing with color and designing. Michelle will present versions of quilts, changing color placement and values. <https://sewonthego.net>

Saturday - September 11

Michelle Renee Hiatt Workshop - half day

Combo Weave

Workshop fee.....	\$30.00
Combo Weave Pattern (required).....	\$11.50
Tucker Trimmer 1 or 3 Ruler (required).....	\$21.50
TOTAL.....	\$63.00

*If you sign up by August 15th, Mary can order the pattern and tools from Michelle at a 10% discount.

Checks payable to Q.U.I.L.T.S. can be sent to Mary Wade at 1346 Myron Street, Niskayuna NY 1230

Thursday - October 1

Joen Wolfrom Lecture

It's Color That Makes the Quilt Go WOW

Take a journey into the world of color, finding clues to basic color ideas and such wonderful illusions of luminosity, luster, depth, shadow and highlights. <http://joenwolfrom.com>

Saturday - October 3rd

Joen Wolfrom Workshop

A Celebration of Color

This class is designed to help you become more comfortable with selecting colors and fabrics for your quilts.

Participants are limited to 18 students

Workshop fee.....\$40.00

For a supply list, contact Mary Wade

518-393-5469

mwade1946@gmail.com

No sewing machine required. Optional - before class- - Read chapters 1-4 of Joen's book Color Play, second edition or chapters 1-2 of the original Color Play book

Stay Tuned

February 4 & 6

Carole Lyles Shaw

Program and workshop to be announced

Mary has contacted **Melinda Bula** who is excited to do a program. The dates and details are in the process of being finalized.

ZOOM PRACTICE SESSION

7pm on Tuesday, 8 September

We understand that ZOOM meetings are not everyone's cup of tea. But the situation being what it is, we could imagine nothing else safer and better for continuing to bring you the art, inspiration and instruction that you have become used to. Since we also know that not everyone is equally comfortable with this new electronic format, we are scheduling a Zoom practice session for anyone who wants to link in/join to become more comfortable with how it works. We're holding this prior to our first presentation on September 10th. We know from experience that many newbies logging in to a Zoom call can cause a lot of initial confusion and delay. It is not practical to add this confusion to our presenters scheduled Zoom presentations. Please attend if you are uncomfortable or new to using Zoom. We will, to the best of our ability, hope to help you eliminate sound or visual problems and questions.

We will be sending out a separate email in a few days with invitation links to the practice session on September 8th and Michelle Renee Hiatt's presentation on September 10th.

We will include a very helpful document of Zoom etiquette and hints that you may find useful.

*It will have "ZoomZoom" included in the subject line.
Look for it. It is your doorway into these sessions.*

KID'S COMFORT QUILTS

Emily Spooner has 75 quilts stockpiled at her house awaiting delivery to Northern Rivers. Because of Covid-19 restrictions, they are not receiving them until a later time.

She asks that you continue to make kids quilts as you always so generously have done. But please hold onto them in your house until the delivery situation at Northern Rivers changes.

VETERANS QUILTS

Pat Terry has about 50 completed quilts at her home. Like Northern Rivers, the VA Hospital has curtailed their volunteer efforts until probably sometime in 2021. Like Emily, Pat asks that you continue to make veterans quilts but please hold onto them in your house until the delivery situation at VA Hospital changes.

PET BEDS

Jane Martinec is still serving the needy furry community with providing pet beds to all manner of animal rescue and adoption facility. She asks that you drop off your materials on her covered porch at 425 Charles Street in Scotia.

Please remember that the needs of kids, veterans and abandoned animals have, by no means, diminished during this pandemic. In fact in some cases, sadly, they have grown. So this temporary hiatus in deliveries should not be misinterpreted as a slowing or cessation of our efforts.

"SHOW & TELL" GALLERY & ENHANCED FACEBOOK PRESENCE

Even though we are not able to meet in person, we can still show off our wonderful creations to each other and to other quilters beyond our own guild members. This will give you an opportunity to take good, sharp photos of your quilts without hands, feet and faces attached if you wish. You can also include a short narrative to accompany your quilt if pertinent.

Website

Send sharp photos of recently completed quilts. *Include your Name, quilt dimensions, any pertinent description.*

Kathie Lutz (WebMaster) will post them on our webpage.

Send your photos and info to Kathie at: quiltswebsite@gmail.com

Facebook

Stay tuned to our Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/quiltschenectady> (You can access the website without a Facebook account, but you cannot post to it.)

Lisa Wend (Historian) and Kathy Wagner (Membership) are adding to our Facebook presence substantially by planning the following...

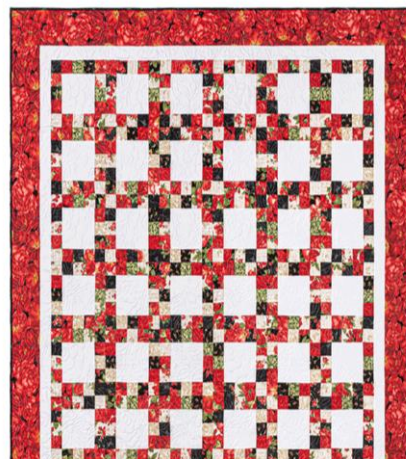
- **Photos of your quilts.** *Include your name, quilt dimensions, any pertinent description* based on changing themes they suggest (i.e. your favorite table runner, log cabin quilt, red and white quilt, etc.)
- Weekly, quilt-related meme - something for fun or motivation.
- Guild highlights, updates and programs
- Weekly "Flashback Friday" post of award winning and other quilts from our past quilt shows or highlights from our guild history.
- News from local quilt shops
- Quilt related items for sale (sewing machines, etc).

NOTE: Lisa and Kathy will control the postings and monitor the comments for any inappropriate material.

SHOW AND BOUTIQUE

As you probably already know, our Quilt Show is postponed until next fall, 2021. We will continue to collect items for the boutique – which has a tremendous head start already – but hope you will hold these donations in your home until we can safely collect them – perhaps in the spring. Stay tuned. Because of the extra year, we hope that both the number and quality of your quilts as well as the size and variety of our Boutique will make our next show an absolute SPECTACULAR!

BLOCK OF THE MONTH





For our block of the month challenge start with a white on white print 8 1/2 inch square
cut 20 different color batik of 2 1/2 inch squares
Border 2 opposite sides with 4 of the 2 1/2 inch squares so no two colors touch
Border the remaining 2 opposite sides with 6 of the 2 1/2 inch squares so no two colors touch
Your finished block should measure 12 1/2 inches
Please mail your finished block to:
Tina Novak
1305 Princetown Rd
Schenectady, NY 12306
For questions you may call her at: 518-479-9946

FOR SALE

Singer Featherweight, with case, in good condition and in great working order. Contact Kathleen Morris at kathleen@morrises.org