

**Q.U.I.L.T.S**  
**Quilters United in Learning Together, Schenectady**  
<http://quiltschenectady.org>

Meetings-First Thursday of Month from September to June

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FEBRUARY 2022

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Hello Again, Friends!

It's hard to believe this is the Spring edition of our newsletter when we're still in the depths of winter. It feels like only yesterday that I was contemplating the New Year's resolutions that I wouldn't keep, or even bother to make. Now, I must start thinking about the garden I probably won't plant! Yes, Lisa is a procrastinator.



In the first days of 2022 I happened upon a 21-day Sewing Room Declutter Challenge on Karen Brown's [Just Get it Done Quilts](#) YouTube channel. For some of us (or maybe just me) decluttering can be an

overwhelming task. Karen breaks the challenge down into 15-minute per day tasks, which for most is quite do-able, but I will need 15 hours a day, so I think I'll wait until I retire. I did at least decide to dive into one part of her challenge...that being Day 17 "scrap management". This involved collecting ALL my scraps and piling them up to see just how much I had. I'm not exaggerating when I say I spent every day of the last 4 weeks gathering, ironing, and trimming it all. Ever since I was a kid, I loved to sort things in different ways...by size, by color, by type. My mother never knew how her pantry was going to be organized from one day to the next. It makes sense that I spent much of my career as a data manager/analyst. So, sorting these scraps was familiar and comfortable for me and it made me feel happy to be so productive. After sorting out my larger scraps (anything larger than 2.5"), I decided to do something with my "crumbs".

The little photos you see here are just a few of the 15 ½" blocks I made with bits of fabric most sane quilters would stuff inside a pet bed. Oh, don't worry, I have 2 trash bags full of trimmings for that purpose. The process is not unlike how I take a dataset apart, cut out the unusable records, decide how to arrange the rest, then put it together in a way that tells a story. I'll sew these blocks into a quilt that will represent my 36-year career that is coming to an end in August. Retirement is one thing I will not put off!



What stories do your quilts tell? I would love to hear them.

This Spring we have two sew-ins/tie-ins scheduled and two in-person events being planned. Also, we are fortunate to have two more wonderful lecturers offering us presentations and workshops. Think of



how a new skill could help you express yourself in your quilting. If you've wanted to learn something new and have fun doing it, what are you waiting for? Don't be a Lisa.

~ Lisa ~

## The Program Committee

### **Fulfilling our guild's purpose – and having fun doing it!**

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

The Q.U.I.L.T.S. Program Committee's Mary Wade continues to work towards the guild's stated purpose while arranging lectures and workshops on topics and techniques that our guild members have expressed interest in. In January, we practiced our free motion quilting skills while learning about dimensional thread painting with Joyce Hughes of Pennsylvania. Participants embellished fabric panels, created from a photograph of Joyce's garden, with a variety of stitching techniques and thread types. In February, we went tiny with Kellie Willey who guided us through the fun process of making "wonky" log cabin block quilts in miniature from her studio in Sacramento, California and in her guild, lecture shared the wide variety of mini quilts she has created. (Examples of members' projects are shared on the guild's Facebook page following each workshop.)



We have two educational programs remaining this year. On April 7<sup>th</sup> Susan Cleveland's guild lecture will be called, "My Electric Quilt Pageant" where she will share "a plethora of tips to increase accuracy and add fresh, interesting

details with piping, prairie points, heavy

threads, and embellishments." On Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, her workshop will be on the Disappearing Dresden pattern where double points put a contemporary spin on this old favorite and eliminate the need for the traditional appliquéd circle in the center. There will be a variety of patterns, books, and tools on offer for this class so the registration deadline will be in mid-March. You can learn more about Susan, who lives in southeastern Minnesota, here: [www.piecesbewithyou.com](http://www.piecesbewithyou.com).



In May, well known presenter and teacher Dave Sorito, aka Quilt Maven Dave, will join us from Manchester, New Hampshire to talk about his anxiety free method of paper piecing that takes half the time of the old method and is fun,

easy, and quick. His workshop topic for May 7<sup>th</sup> will be announced soon. Learn more about Dave here: [www.quiltmavendave.com](http://www.quiltmavendave.com).

Watch your email for registration and supply list information for both upcoming workshops!

The Program Committee is getting great feedback about the ease, convenience, and effectiveness of virtual workshops. We are also interested in hearing from guild members who have NOT taken one yet. If you are in this category, we'd like to learn more about what is holding you back. Please share your thoughts at [QUILTSprograms@gmail.com](mailto:QUILTSprograms@gmail.com).

*Mary Wade and Connie Trigger*

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## **A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE KIDS' QUILT PROGRAM**

Did you know that our Kids' Quilt Program is actually called "Straight From the Heart?" When our guild was founded in the 1980s, the founding members wanted to do something for the community. Northeast Parent and Child was selected as the beneficiary of quilts made by the guild. Ten years ago, Northeast and Parsons Family Center joined together to form Northern Rivers Family of Services. Q.U.I.L.T.S. has continued to support the

neglected, abused, and children in need of other services for 32 years, donating a total of 2836 quilts over those years. 86 of those have been donated this guild year so far.

Incidentally, our Straight From the Heart program is not the same as the national organization, “Quilts for Kids,” despite what we usually call it!

Thank you to everyone who has supported the program over the years. The children love the quilts. Many of them have never had anything of their very own, and certainly nothing so lovely that was handmade for them. They treasure the quilts.

Keep on quilting! Kits for tops are available from the usual volunteers, or you can make your own twin size quilt from your own stash. Until we can regularly meet in person, I am accepting only completed quilts.

**Kit pick-up (and completed quilt drop off) locations:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>
Felicia Campo	1096 Van Antwerp Rd, Niskayuna	(518)588-8256	<a href="mailto:feliciancampo@gmail.com">feliciancampo@gmail.com</a>
Connie Trigger	4072 Windsor Dr., Niskayuna	(518)469-6857	<a href="mailto:cctrig@aol.com">cctrig@aol.com</a>
Linda Tripoli	1832 Wagner St., Rotterdam	(518)346-3921	<a href="mailto:ltripoli01@gmail.com">ltripoli01@gmail.com</a>
Pat Terry	1059 Garner Ave., Schenectady	(518)371-8431	<a href="mailto:rterry3@nycap.rr.com">rterry3@nycap.rr.com</a>
Emily Spooner	9 Durham Way, Clifton Park		<a href="mailto:emilydspooner@gmail.com">emilydspooner@gmail.com</a>
Patti Alfano	10 Woodside Dr., Glenville	(518)878-2146	<a href="mailto:alpattig@yahoo.com">alpattig@yahoo.com</a>

*Emily Spooner*

**Binding Help For Kids Quilts**

Nancy Gifford has graciously volunteered to bind your quilted or tied Northern Rivers or Veterans quilts. She has even offered to supply the binding fabric from her own stash. Contact Nancy at [ngifford@giffordabstract.com](mailto:ngifford@giffordabstract.com) or 518-346-2154.

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**Veterans' Quilts**

Veterans Quilt Sew-in: Come join us for the Guild's first virtual Veterans' Quilt Sew-in from the comfort of your own sewing room. It will take place on Friday, Feb 25 from 9:30 – 12 noon. Lisa will send the Zoom link the week prior to the event. Kits have been assembled that are ready to sew including pattern, fabric cut, ready to sew, batting and backing. You just have to assemble the quilt. Kits may be obtained from contacting either Nancy Calkins ([nancy.calkins@nycap.rr.com](mailto:nancy.calkins@nycap.rr.com)) or Pat Terry ([rterry3@nycap.rr.com](mailto:rterry3@nycap.rr.com)). Any questions, call Pat Terry, 518-372-8431OR, if you would prefer using your own fabric and pattern, that is fine. Size of quilt is 50" x 70". Thank you for your support.

*Pat Terry*

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## 2022 QUILT SHOW AND BOUTIQUE

I am looking forward to working with everyone to, hopefully, have a show in 2022. Thank you to everyone who is helping along the way.

The space is reserved at Proctors for our **show on October 8 and 9**. Please mark your calendars in the hopes that we have a show!

I met with past show chairs along with Lisa and will be meeting again with them in April to reevaluate the covid situation and discuss whether to have a show. We want to make sure we can have a show before we invest money into advertising. I will have an update at our April meeting.

The **Boutique** will be held this year either at the show or at the firehouse like last year. Look for Pat's info about donations in the newsletter.

The beautiful **Raffle Quilt** made for our 2020 show will be raffled this year. The drawing will be on

December 1<sup>st</sup>, at our holiday party (hopefully, in person). Details about ticket pickup will be announced soon.

Thank you to Kristen for chairing the raffle tickets and Sonya for assisting Suzanne in hopes of doing it for the 2024 show.

**We need someone to take over the boutique** - This will be Pat's last year doing the boutique. She needs a partner(s) who could learn the ropes and hopefully be the chairperson for the 2024 show. Pat is well organized and has procedures in place so whoever takes over will have an excellent guideline. Plus, she is great to work with! Please let me know if you or a few of you are willing to take over the boutique.

*Karen Smith*

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## Quilt Boutique, 2022

I will be accepting fabric and notions once a month starting Saturday, March 12, 2022 from 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm. Please don't leave any boxes on my porch. You can bring the donated fabric and/or notions into my home and leave them neatly in my cellar. The fabric will need to be measured and marked before dropping off to my home. If you can put the fabric in a plastic bag, that would be appreciated.

I can't accept books and magazines at this time as I have limited space in my cellar. I am looking for someone to help me take the books and magazines, sort them and store them until the Boutique sale. I will also need someone to take over this position as this is my last year. Thank you for all your help. My home address is: 20 Edgewood Drive, Burnt Hills, NY, 12027. If you have any questions, call me at 518-369-8896.

*Pat Mahoney*

### **Sad News**

Long-time guild member, Mary Drisgula, passed away on January 25th. If anyone wishes to honor Mary's memory, please consider a donation to the animal Protective Foundation, 53 Maple Avenue, Glenville, NY 12302.

## Challenge for our June Guild Meeting and Quilt Show

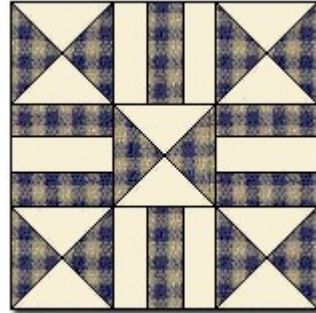
This challenge was originally introduced towards the end of 2020, but with all the uncertainties we faced, it never got off the ground. This challenge will serve as our end-of-the-guild-year (June) challenge and for our upcoming show challenge which is tentatively scheduled for October 8th & 9th, 2022. You can enter your quilt in either the June or the show challenge, or both.

The challenge is “Color Me Happy” and based on an idea (“Visual Coloring”) given to us by Joan Wolfrom, our October 2020 speaker. You are to select a photograph that makes you happy and make a wall hanging or table topper of your own creation using ONLY the colors in the photo. You may use any block or design of your choosing and the piece must measure no more than 160" in perimeter. The photograph must accompany the piece. Also, a 4" hanging sleeve is required, especially if you intend to enter this piece in the show. These pieces will be displayed at our June meeting and voted on by the guild members in attendance. They will also be displayed as a group at our next quilt show and will be voted on by the show attendees. There will be a separate quilt show registration form for these pieces. More information regarding the quilt show will be announced after the committee meets in April.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Wagner at [kathywagner96@gmail.com](mailto:kathywagner96@gmail.com).

## Block of the month By Tina Novak

The February BOM is a free 12" *Chain and Hourglass* block available on [QuiltersCache.com](http://QuiltersCache.com)



Responses are coming in for the next set of questions from The Notions Department. We'd like to hear from you, too! Here are our current questions:

**What are some online quilting related resources - websites, YouTube channels, etc. - that you find helpful? Why?**

**What do you do with projects that you make in workshops? Save them? Gift them? Display them? Toss them? Just use the techniques on future projects?**

Send YOUR “notions,” and ideas for new questions, to [QUILTSPROGRAMS@gmail.com](mailto:QUILTSPROGRAMS@gmail.com)!

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**Join East Side Quilters for a bus trip to the XLI QUILT SHOW of the NORTHERN STAR QUILT GUILD, in Purchase, NY, on Saturday, April 30, 2022 .** The show typically has on display more than 300 quilts including about 200 registered quilts, a charity raffle quilt, and displays by the special interest groups (SIGs) and NSQG Challenge Quilts “Put a Heart on It”. Additionally, there are 30+ vendors and demonstrations <https://www.northernstarquilters.com/quilt-show/speakers/>

**The featured speaker this year is Jane Sassaman.** (11 am and 2 pm) An Award-winning quiltmaker, Jane Sassaman is known for her bold designs celebrating the energy and miraculous beauty of garden flowers and plants. <https://www.janesassaman.com>

The length of the bus ride is approximately 2 ½ hrs. after the pickup at up at Crossgates Commons. The bus will make one quick stop on the way down and one quick stop on the way back, departing the show at 4:00 pm.

**\$60 includes:** bus ride, show admission, lecture by Jane Sassaman and tip for the driver. **MONEY DUE MARCH 16 TH.** No refunds after March 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Trip departs: Wal-Mart parking lot, 279 Troy Rd., (Rt. 4), Rensselaer,** at 7:15 am; 2nd pick-up: Crossgates Commons (behind Wal-Mart & PetSmart, look for the bus trip parking sign), at approx. 7:30 am. Catskill Thruway exit pickup if needed.

**Make checks payable to: East Side Quilters**

Mail to: Pat Piniazek, PO Box 259, Nassau, NY 12123

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone / Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact-Name & Number \_\_\_\_\_

Where will you get on the bus? Walmart, Rens. Crossgates Commons Catskill Thruway Exit Paid by:

Cash or Check (Danbury, CT)

Contact: Pat Piniazek 518-577-0491 [patpen1018@gmail.com](mailto:patpen1018@gmail.com)

Please contact Pat if you have any special needs or questions.