



Quilters United in Learning Together, Schenectady
<http://quiltschenectady.org>

Meetings-First Thursday of Month from September to June

Summer 2022

Hello Again, Friends!

Hooray! The warmer weather is finally here. I know many of you will be turning your focus to outdoor activities like your gardens, perhaps travelling a little more, and enjoying more time with loved ones. I have a few trips planned myself, including an annual women's retreat in Lake George with my volleyball friends. It will be a great break from all my responsibilities so I can reconnect with nature as well as with my friends. Being close to nature is very healing. It reduces the production of the stress hormone, cortisol. Filling your lungs and soul on the clean air and peaceful surroundings lets your body, mind, and spirit calm, giving you a fresh start. This is something we can all use right now, to recharge our batteries, to propel us forward.

Please remember that even though our regular member meetings pause until September, our devoted Quilt how Committee will continue to meet and work through the summer to ensure that our show will be a resounding success. A lot goes into organizing and executing an event of this magnitude. I, for one, am grateful for their generosity of time and talents and commitment to our guild. The quilt show is our one and only

fundraiser. The proceeds from the show ensure that our guild can continue to bring you quality speakers, workshops, and guild activities. Please know the show committee cannot do this without your help. The quote "Many hands make light work" comes to mind. If you haven't yet signed up to volunteer for the show, please take a moment to do so. The jobs are not difficult, and most are very enjoyable. It's a great feeling to be a part of an event of this size and to look back after it's over and say "Wow, we did it!"

I look forward to seeing you all at our June meeting at the South Schenectady Fire Department pavilion. The start time is 6:00. Please remember to bring a dish to share, your own plate, utensils, and a drink. You may also want to participate in our usual guild activities such as the Fat Quarter drawing and the Goodie Basket raffle. You still have time to finish up those quilts for our kids and Veterans quilts projects. Most of all, it will be a great time to relax, breath in some fresh air, and enjoy each other's company.

~ Lisa ~

The Program Committee

During 2021 – 2022, Q.U.I.L.T.S. offered lectures and workshops to our members featuring presenters from across the country who shared many different quilting techniques and styles. Participation in the virtual format remained consistent from last year to this one, with almost 70% of last year's participants returning for workshops this year, and almost 30% of the participants being first timers.

As reported at the May guild meeting, plans for the 2022 – 2023 year are underway with the calendar being reviewed. There are some questions to consider, including whether to have summer workshops, and the concept of having stand-alone workshops for months with sew-ins or ties-ins. The big question is what format will be used for workshops next year, again, with questions to be answered. Feedback, from virtual workshop

attendees, has been extremely positive for the many reasons that have been shared with you in the past. How do we maintain accessibility for all our members, both physically and technologically? How would going back to in person workshops impact our budget? And our presenter options? What are their comfort levels with traveling and in person events? What are our members' comfort levels? Will there be facility limitations? In the next couple of weeks, we will be sending out another brief survey to the Q.U.I.L.T.S. membership to get your feedback on some of these questions to assist us in creating another series of programs that will fulfill our guild's primary purpose - educating our members. We look forward to your input!

Mary Wade and Connie Trigger

Straight From The Heart (Kids' Quilts)

This will be my last newsletter post, as I am retiring as **Comfort Quilt Coordinator** at the end of the guild year. I've held this position for 14 years. During that time, we have donated over 1800 quilts to Northeast Parent and Child and its successor, Northern Rivers Family of Services.

Thank you to everyone who worked with the program under my tenure quilting, making tops, binding, cutting, donating fabric, and attending the Sew-Ins and Tie-Ins. And a very special thanks to *Nancy Calkins* and *Pat Woellmer*. We were a great team who made about half the quilts the guild donated!

Linda Tripoli and *Maggie Katz* have generously stepped forward to run the Kids' Quilt Program. I'm sure they will do a great job and bring exciting new ideas to the program!

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.

Veterans' Quilts

Q.U.I.L.T.S. Supports Veterans

In 2003, Q.U.I.L.T.S. Guild of Schenectady became involved with a guild in southern Maryland which distributed quilts to injured soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. *Helen Trinci* chaired the project at this time until she resigned due to health reasons in 2005 when I stepped in to continue our Guild's involvement. Quilts were brought to the soldiers at the Bethesda Naval Hospital and Andrews Air Force Base.

In 2009, *John Bena*, son of guild member, *Lois Bena*, was a video journalist with CNN and submitted his idea to follow a quilt made by Christina Powell, from its beginning to its delivery to an injured soldier. It was accepted and was featured in their Thankfulness program shown on Christmas Day, 2009. A video of this project has been available on the Guild website, "quilts on CNN". Before this effort was disbanded in 2012, when American forces were withdrawn from Iraq, our guild contributed over 200 quilts to this project. Our focus then turned to the Stratton VA Hospital in Albany, NY. A welcome packet, including a quilt or an afghan, was given to each veteran admitted overnight to the hospital. (Other groups also contributed quilts and knitted afghans.) Two or three guild members went to the VA Hospital about six times each year to pass out the welcome packets and our quilts to the patients. The recipients were

always very grateful for our thanks for their service and for the quilts. We passed out over five hundred quilts made by guild members from 2012 to February 2020. The pandemic shut this and all voluntary services down at the hospital.

As there were no in-person visits allowed in the hospital, we investigated if there were other means to distribute quilts to the patients. We spoke with the manager of voluntary services, and he presented the idea of giving quilts to families of in patients who use the Fisher House on the VA campus. This facility is very similar to the Ronald McDonald House concept where veteran families from out of town can stay while their family member is in the hospital. It is also used by veterans, who live away and need daily treatment. Quilts are given to the family member and then passed on to the veteran. In September 2021, we brought out first supply of quilts. They were very well received, and the recipients were heartily grateful and surprised they could take a quilt home. As of March 2022, 55 quilts have been distributed in this manner. Attached to each quilt is the label from its maker, a tag with Guild thank you and contact information, and a star from a USA flag. Although it is not the same as actually handing a quilt to a veteran, we feel it is a good way to thank a veteran for his/her service to our country.

Patricia Terry, Chair April, 2022

2022 QUILT SHOW

Registration forms for the show are on the website. Please get your quilts registered! To register a quilt for the show http://quiltschenectady.org/?page_id=4972

Please sign up to volunteer! There are many spots to fill.

- Using SignUp.com to manage volunteers
- Use the link: <https://signup.com/go/LjCCKWm> to reach our page

- A confirmation email is sent, option to add to personal calendar
- Site allows you to sign-up others and cancel your spot if needed

• Thank you to all those who have already volunteered

Karen Smith

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 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.

2022-2023 Member Meetings

September 8th

October 5th (Wednesday @ Proctors for pre-show meeting and quilt drop-off)

November 3rd (Kids Quilts Sew-in)

December 1st (Holiday “Sweet & Savory” Party)

January 5th

February 2nd (Kids Quilts Tie-in)

March 2nd

April 13th

May 4th

June 1st (Year End Potluck)

We were informed us that there will be an informal gathering to celebrate the life of *Mary Drisgula* on June 11, 2022, from 2-4 PM at the First Reformed Church of Schenectady 8 N. Church St. Schenectady, NY 12305. Even though this gathering is in a church, you don't have to wear your Saturday or Sunday best. Attire is casual. The family would appreciate any stories or memories of Mary you would like to share during the gathering.



Will go out in a separate membership mailing in the near future.

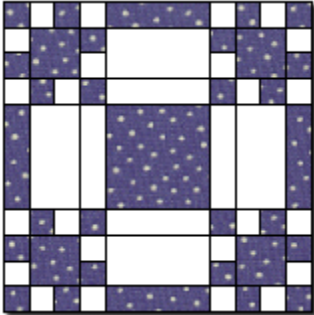
Send YOUR “notions,” and ideas for new questions, to QUILTSPROGRAMS@gmail.com!

Block of the Month

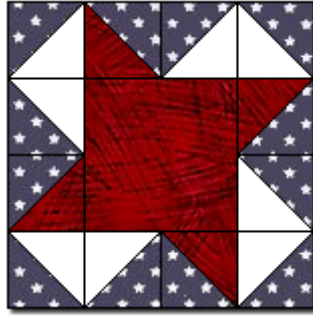
Tina Novak

These can be found on QuiltersCache.com and are all 12" blocks

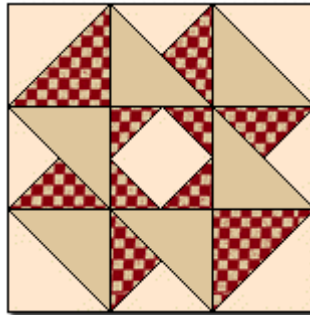
June BOM- Jitterbug



July BOM-July Fourth



August BOM-Castle in the Air



Sad News... *Joan Hawley*, creator of Lazy Girl Designs, died suddenly Tuesday, May 3, 2022. She was a creative dynamo, prolific designer, and excellent instructor. She founded and ran Lazy Girl Designs, an innovative and successful online pattern, sewing & quilting business. She lived in Westerville, OH, with her husband of 27 years. Joan will be sorely missed by family and friends as well as her public, fans and followers. She was 66 years old.

Below is a listing of emails for the various Q.U.I.L.T.S. departments:

Newsletter: quiltsnewsletter@gmail.com

Program: quiltsprograms@gmail.com

Website: quiltswebsite@gmail.com

Q.U.I.L.T.S. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
Quilters United in Learning Together-Schenectady Guild

NAME: _____ BIRTHDAY: _____
(Print Name) (Month/day)

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO: _____
(NAME/PHONE #)

New Member Renewing Member Returning Member (not a member last year)

Cash _____ Check (Payable to Q.U.I.L.T.S.) _____ Check # _____

Date: _____

2022 – 2023 Q.U.I.L.T.S. Membership

If you would like to use the PayPal option, here is the link - tinyurl.com/QUILTSmembership. You can type this link into your browser and it will take you to a page with the membership form and a link to pay by PayPal. A \$1 convenience fee has been added.

You may pick up your membership card at our next guild meeting, or, if you wish to receive your membership card by mail, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.