



**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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### **President's Letter**

We have amazing volunteers that help run our guild smoothly. Some elected terms are up and some committee chairs decide to step down. So it is that time of year when we ask for your help.

Our amazing treasurer, Maryann, has completed her two terms and the treasurer job is open! You can work with Mayann for the rest of the year to learn the ropes. And, of course she is a phone call away if you have any questions next year. This is a job that needs to be filled!

Lisa has been doing an amazing job doing block of the month (BOM) for Vet quilts. However, we

welcome anyone who wants to bring it back to its traditional form. This can be more than one person if you and a friend want to do it together.

We do not have an historian at this time. If you attend the meetings regularly and can take pictures this is for you!

You will find brief job descriptions for these positions in the newsletter along with Quilt Show info and all the things planned for the next few months.

*Karen*

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Remember to bring to our in -person meetings

- Your name tag
- Finished vet and kids quilts
- Money for goodie baskets if you wish to purchase tickets (3 for \$1)
- Fat quarters if you want to be in the drawing
- Finished BOM for vet quilts
- Show and tell

### **Upcoming Meetings**

**March 7th** via Zoom meeting starts at 7:00, “doors” open at 6:30

**April 4th** – in person - meeting starts at 7:00, doors open at 6:30

**May 2nd** – in person – meeting starts at 7:00, doors open at 6:30

**June 6th** – our annual potluck party – held at the South Schenectady Fire Department pavilion Details will be in the summer newsletter

## **Fat Quarters**

Mar. - spring flowers

April - Disney characters

May - stars in the sky at night

June - Red, white. blue.

Bring your March fat quarter to our in person April meeting. We will do two drawings, spring flowers and Disney Characters

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## **We need you!**

Please contact Karen Smith, at [karen@smith-online.org](mailto:karen@smith-online.org) or 518-312-7395 for more detailed information.

**Treasurer** – 2 year term - Pays bills, keeps a written account of transactions, gives an annual report at the end of the fiscal year and has books audited. Check PO box.

**Block of the month**- Purchases and cuts fabric for blocks to be sold at meetings. Collects blocks from previous month and holds a raffle.

**Historian** – Collects our history, writes a summary of our year and takes pictures of Show and Tell and meeting highlights to store in our guild scrapbook.

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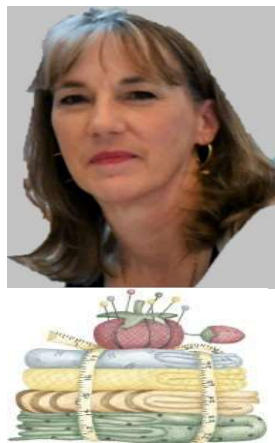


## Program Committee

Ready to learn new things and refresh your existing skills? Read on! Offerings include Fridays and Palm Springs, California. Their colorful projects and contemporary designs are reflected in the project we will work on at their March 9th full day virtual workshop, “Colourbugs & Curves.” This will include two techniques in one workshop. Linda will first guide us through her liberating and fancy free “slash ‘n sew improv” technique while making cute colourbug blocks – no ¼” seams to follow, no rules and stress free piecing. Then she’ll lead students through sewing perfect curves with her handy tips and tricks.

We’ll be back in person in **April**. At our April 4th guild meeting The Live Notions Department will return. This interactive activity will have members actively sharing their some of their favorite “notions” with the group. Then we’ll do something that’s not quite a scavenger hunt, and not quite “Let’s Make A Deal.” So, in addition to bringing a favorite quilting tool or technique or two to tell us about, bring some things that might be useful in an **Emergency Quilting Situation**. No other hints. Use your iMaGiNaTiOn .... ;) Did I mention that we’ll also be interviewing President Karen Smith?

Our April meeting will finish up with our very knowledgeable member, Kathie Lutz, who will share some great information about getting ready for the October quilt show. And two days later, on Saturday, April 6th, Kathie will hold a useful



workshop called “Starting Up or Brushing Up.”

If you are newer to quilting it will help you in your



efforts to get started. If you are a long time quilter it will help you brush up on your skills, and, maybe learn some new ones! Participants will practice these skills and create a quilt notebook to use as a reference in the future. You’ll find more details in the registration link at the end of this article. (Maximum enrollment is 10 so don’t delay!)

Our May meeting will also be in person and will feature Bobbie Bergquist of QuiltersTreasure.com. Her May 2nd lecture is called, “Not Your Traditional Quilting Techniques” and will cover innovative techniques that she has developed over the past 23 years. Her Friday, May 3rd half day workshop is on one of them, her Stained Glass technique. Watch for more information soon!

How is your 2024 Guild Challenge project coming? This is a project using piecing and quilting techniques of your choice with a finished perimeter of 96” illustrating the theme, “My Favorite Time of Day,” to be ready to display at our June 2024 meeting. Is your favorite time of day something that you can express with a particular block pattern? Or fabric selection? Or technique?

Here are links for more information on our upcoming events:

March 9 Linda Sullivan workshop registration: <https://forms.gle/giJHucaKg5JVMijT8>

April 6 Kathie Lutz workshop registration: <https://forms.gle/ThzA89tKkiAM6etNA>

2024 Guild Challenge info sheet: <http://quiltschenectady.org/?p=5256>

*Mary and Connie*

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### **Autumn Inspirations Show 2024**

Planning for the show is in full swing and all work in progress is on time! We met in person in January and by Zoom in February. Our next meeting is March 6th by Zoom as most of the upcoming meetings will be held.



Our Quilt Show is the primary fund-raising event help to support guild activities including meeting room rentals, speaker fees/travel, Straight from the Heart Kids and Veterans Quilts. If you want your guild to remain strong, please consider how you can contribute your time and talent to this event. There are two chair positions yet to be filled: Catalog Layout/Design/Printing – typing skills are needed for this task, and Odds & Ends –

this position helps as needed and obtains fall decorations to enhance our venue. It's an easy job and a great way to get to know your fellow guild members.

I want to thank you for your generous donations to the Boutique collected at the February meeting. Remember, we are accepting quilting fabric (yardage, fat quarters, kits, panels, etc.), wool penny, and quilting notions such as rulers, cutting mats, rotary cutters, pins, etc. Quilting books and magazines will not be included in the sale.

Please contact me by email ([dgmccintosh@nycap.rr.com](mailto:dgmccintosh@nycap.rr.com)) or phone (518-369-2649) to let me know what your questions are or to volunteer.

*Debbie McIntosh*  
*Show Chair*

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### **Straight From The Heart Quilts For Kids**

Our annual "tie-in" (or "Quilt Finishing night") was held on Thursday, February 1st. Approximately 40 members attended who cut and sewed bindings, pieced backings, machine quilted tops, cut scrap pieces of fabric into strips and squares, and pin basted quilts. As an added bonus, Connie Trigger demonstrated quilt basting using pool noodles. A big thank you to Judy Fregoe who brought her Accuquilt to cut strips and oversaw the management of all the leftover

scraps. Thank you also to Karen for managing the pizza and salad dinner and to those members who provided delicious deserts that sustained us throughout the late afternoon and evening.

Many of the accumulated tops are now in various stages of completion and all of them require machine quilting, although members did take home a fair share of the tops worked on during the evening. We will be hosting another machine

quilting workshop in April where members can learn the basics of simple machine quilting and designs they can use. Stay tuned for additional details.

As a reminder, 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 and Maggie*

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### **Block Of The Month**

I hope you've been enjoying our Block of the Month kits for Veterans Quilts. I've had SO much fun selecting fabric, putting them together, writing patterns, and incorporating different techniques. The next BOM will be available at the April 4th meeting. Remember, the BOM is FREE. We just ask that you return the completed block as soon as you can so the quilt top can be assembled. If you have BOM kits from September-February please remember to bring them in April if possible. If you aren't able to complete them for whatever reason, feel free to return the kit to me. (No judgement!) If you're having trouble with a kit or have questions, you can call/text me at (518) 852-0584 or email me at LPiseczny@nycap.rr.com.



Our very first Veteran's BOM quilt has been pieced and is ready to be quilted. It's the blue and white Disappearing Hourglass Medallion quilt and it will be available at the April guild meeting if someone would like to take it home and quilt it. I must say, it is SO pretty...it definitely calls for free motion or long arm quilting.

*Lisa Wend*

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### **VETERAN'S QUILTS**

On Friday, January 12th, about a dozen guild members got together to put together veteran's quilt kits. The group outdid themselves. Not only did they make more than I anticipated but they put together so many lovely combinations of fabrics and patterns.

In January, Pat McGurn and I had the pleasure of delivering 22 quilts to veterans at the Albany VA Hospital who were either inpatients or were receiving infusion therapy. We also delivered 8 quilts to the Fisher House where military and veteran families can stay free of charge while their loved one is in the hospital. The family can choose a quilt for their veteran. The total quilts donated this year is 67 quilts. I know by the end of this year we'll easily exceed the goal of 80

quilts.

We'll have several of these new quilt kits available for you to sign out at the April meeting as well as quilt tops that need to be quilted or tied. All of our kits include fabric for the top, backing, binding, batting and a blank fabric label. Unlike the kid's quilts, we do ask that you put a label on Veteran's quilts that thanks the recipient for their service...something like:

***Thank you for your service.***

***Made by Jenny Johnson***

***Q.U.I.L.T.Schenectady Quilt Guild***

***February 2024***

We recently received a donation of fabric from

Wayne Smith, husband of Marilyn Smith. Marilyn was a former member of our guild who passed away 14 years ago. Although she made many quilts for our Straight from the Heart comfort quilts project most of her fabric was ideal for veteran's quilts. We are grateful for the donation and celebrate Marilyn for continuing to make an impact on the lives of others.

I now feel ready to accept donations of fabric for Veteran's quilts. Most urgently, we are looking

for yardage (1 yd cuts or larger) to be used for backings but we can also use cuts ¼ yd or larger, fat quarters, layer cakes, jelly rolls, and pre-cut squares or rectangles 5" and up. Fabric should be 100% cotton but preferably NOT patriotic as we are finding that MOST veterans do not want patriotic quilts.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Lisa Wend

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**The Q.U.I.L.T.S. Tool Library** is a great resource for specialty rulers, templates and stencils.

If you are in need of one of these tools, check out the guild's tool library listings on the website to see if there's something that might help you with cutting various shapes or with marking quilts for machine and hand quilting. Visit [www.quiltschenectady.org](http://www.quiltschenectady.org) and click on either the Monthly Meetings tab on the menu bar at the top of the page or the Pages tab on the right-hand side. Then click on Tool Library to view the stencils and ruler spreadsheets. Templates are included on the ruler listing.

If there's a tool (or tools) you're interested in and need more information, contact me via email or text. I can take a picture of the tool and send it to you. And if you want to use any of the tools and don't want to wait until the next in-person meeting to get them, we can make arrangements to meet somewhere so I can give them to you.

Kathy Hermance, Guild librarian  
email: [khermance1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:khermance1@nycap.rr.com)  
text: 518-355-2185

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### **Pet Bed Sew In**

***Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9AM to 1PM***

Small room next to kitchen. Please bring whatever food and drinks you may want and I will bring some treats! [\(518\) 346-0910](tel:5183460910) leave message if you can come please. We will be stuffing a lot of fabric bags, plan on getting covered with fabric dust! I will need a couple of people to volunteer to sew the bags shut please! No real limit of number of people to come, we will be sitting around bags/tubs of stuffing, plenty of room for a chair circle!

**Thank you So much for considering to come help, it will be greatly appreciated!**



### **How To Make A Pet Bed**

Size: Any where from a Fat Quarter and up - lots of different size pets

Shape: Square or Rectangle depending on size of fabric you are using

Fabric: Cotton, Blends, Light Weight Corduroy, Upholstery fabric, and Denim

- **PLEASE** NO knits, wool or heavyweight fabrics , Stuffing: Craft Batting, Shreadable / Pull Apart Batting , Fabric Scraps Hand Size and Smaller.

- **PLEASE** NO clothes or parts of clothing Inclusive of T-shirts or yardage of fabric- donate to Boutique this year
- Thread is ok to include
- **PLEASE** be very careful NOT to include papers or iron on fabric stiffener scraps
- **PLEASE** double check for anything sharp!

I GREATLY APPRECIATE all of these requests being followed! My name goes to where they are donated, as well as Q.U.I.L.T.S. because I always tell the places that get the beds who makes them! We need to maintain the Public's trust for a safe bed for their pet.  
Please continue to drop the completed beds to my house, front porch.  
No need to call ahead to drop off, I will find them.

Thank you SO Very Much for all of the wonderful beds you have already donated!!

*Jane Martinec  
425 Charles St, Scotia  
Red house on the corner*

*Jane Martinec, Pet Beds*

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### **Membership**

The membership dues are \$30 for the 2023-2024 guild-year, which runs July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The membership roster is distributed with the November newsletter.

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 which can be submitted by mail with a check or if one wishes to pay using the PayPal link.

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 asked to wear a hand-made name tag to all meetings. Wearing a name tag helps to break the ice in meeting other members 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>

Congratulations to Deb West who won the name tag drawing in February. Many thanks to Adirondack Quilt Shop and Dianne's Quilted Square for sponsoring our name tag drawings!

Arilee

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

Website: [www.QUILTSchenectady.org](http://www.QUILTSchenectady.org)

Programs: [QUILTSprogram@gmail.com](mailto:QUILTSprogram@gmail.com)

Newsletter: [QUILTSnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:QUILTSnewsletter@gmail.com)

Webmaster: [QUILTSwebsite@gmail.com](mailto:QUILTSwebsite@gmail.com)