



**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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NOVEMBER 2025

***President's Message***

Greetings,

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season and finds some time to work on a quilt project or two. I am hoping to finish a quilt for our show at Proctors next year and encourage everyone to consider submitting something in the show. The guild is collecting food at the end of the year holiday party which will be distributed by the First Reformed church of Scotia. Please remember

to bring a Fat quarter or an equivalent to the holiday party on Thursday December 4 th . We will use the fabric for a fun game. In January we will meet over Zoom .

Happy quilting everyone.

Virginia Hunt, President

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**Guild Meeting & Holiday Party**  
**Thursday, December 4, doors open at 6:30**

Join us for our “Sweet and Savory” holiday party! Bring your own beverage and, if your last name begins with A – L, a sweet or savory appetizer, dessert or snack to share.

Bring a fat quarter or the equivalent for some party fun!

We will also be collecting non-perishable food items (not packaged in glass) to our venue host, the First Reformed Church of Scotia, to support their Backpack Program, Emergency Food Distribution, Community Cupboard and the Scotia-Glenville Food Pantry. Here are some examples:

Canned meats and fruits	Beans	Pasta	Juices
Shelf stable milk	Rice	Pasta sauce	Toilet paper

See you in December!

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**Hospitality**  
*Currently vacant*

**We are currently in need of a Hospitality Chair.**

The duties involved are:

*Make arrangements for refreshments and related supplies to be at each meeting. Announces whose turn it is to bring in refreshments as needed. Is responsible for Holiday Party and End-of-the Year Party. The Hospitality Chair also works with the VP to arrange end of the year token gifts for committee heads.*

Anyone interested in serving in this important position should contact Virginia Hunt.

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## **The Program Committee**

*Connie Trigger, VP Program*

### **Take a workshop and add to your quilting “tool kit”!**

Quilters gain experience by gathering new techniques to use, new tools to try, new patterns to explore. We flex our brains with imagining, designing, planning and problem solving. Participating in workshops and listening to lectures expands our knowledge base and exposes us to different options and experts. All these elements enhance our “tool kit.” And subsequently sharing the outcomes of all of the above spreads warmth and love and comfort! Below are the opportunities we’ve organized for you through the end of the guild year.

Connie Trigger

## **DECEMBER**

### **Guild Meeting & Holiday Party**

Thursday, December 4, doors open at 6:30

Look elsewhere in the issue for all the details!

### **Linda Cary – Rotterdam, NY**



Saturday, December 6, 9:00 – 1:00 – In Person Workshop: Zen Quilting

By popular demand, Linda is teaching a second Zen Quilting class. At the November session she led us through various patterns and techniques, reminding us to relax and not be intimidated! “Yes, you can!” was her frequent refrain. There are a couple of spots left in this free motion quilting (FMQ) class.



**Fees:** Members \$25.00, Guests \$35.00

Contact Connie at [QUILTSPROGRAMS@gmail.com](mailto:QUILTSPROGRAMS@gmail.com) to sign up

## JANUARY



**Linda J. Hahn, Easley, SC**

Thursday, January 8 – 6:30 Zoom “doors” open, 7:00 business meeting: Guild meeting

**Lecture: New York State of Mind**

The New York Beauty block, what Linda is known for, can be as versatile as a Nine Patch!! Linda will show us traditional, modern, whimsical and fun quilts all made using the basic New York Beauty block. She'll also show miniature versions made using the scraps and cutaways of the main project.

Saturday, January 17, 8:30 – 3:00: Zoom Workshop: Brooklyn Blues

This small, manageable project allows students to learn Linda's ONE PIN technique for creating perfect New York Beauty blocks. The project is suited to coordinate with many different fabric style preferences and can easily be made larger. Note that this workshop will take place a week later than the guild meeting to allow those inspired by Linda's lecture time to gather materials.



Fees, required kit: Members \$53.00, Guests \$63.00

Watch your email for the registration link

## FEBRUARY

**Straight From The Heart Kids' Quilts Sew-In**

Thursday, February 12: Guild meeting and sew-in

Come pitch in with all the quilt making tasks for this worthy cause. Details and the pizza and salad sign up link will be sent out prior to the event.

## MARCH



**Rachel Derstine, Philadelphia, PA**

Thursday, March 5, 6:30 Zoom “doors” open, 7:00 business meeting: Guild meeting

**Lecture: Artful Couching: Texture and Definition**

Rachel will show us the many ways that couching (adding cording, yarns and metallic threads) can be used to take your quilting to the next level.



Saturday, March 7, 9:00 – 12:00: Zoom Workshop: Artful Couching

Learn the art of couching with yarns to create texture, flow and extra pizzazz. This half day class will focus exclusively on mastering couching techniques. Students will bring a quilted sandwich of striped batik or gradient fabric to make a 18" x 45" table runner size quilt. Rachel will show you the many ways to use couching for definition and sparkle.

**Fees:** Members \$30.00, Guests \$40.00

The registration link will be emailed to the membership prior to the workshop.

## APRIL

### Amy Friend, West Newbury, MA



Thursday, April 9, 6:30 doors open, 7:00 business meeting: Guild meeting

#### **Lecture: Alternate Grid Work and Negative Space**

Amy will use examples of quilts that help to define alternate gridwork and negative space, two principles of modern quilting that will give us some ideas when it comes to planning our quilt layouts.

Friday, April 10, 9:00 – 3:30 – In Person Workshop: Designing Paper Pieced Curves

Amy will lead us through a series of exercises where we will design 6 paper pieced blocks, each with a different type of curve. Because we will be drawing our own blocks, everyone's finished piece will be unique! We will also learn about modern quilt layouts that include negative space and alternate grid work. Using our paper pieced curves, negative space and alternate gridwork, we'll each create an 18" mini quilt or pillow cover.



**Fees:** Members \$45.00, Guests \$55.00

Watch for the registration link!

## MAY



### Marge Tucker, Norwell, MA

Thursday, May 7, 6:30 doors open, 7:00 business meeting: Guild meeting

#### **Lecture: Improv and Abstraction in Antique Quilts**

Some of our quilting ancestors were ahead of their time! We are not the first generation of quilters to discover improvisational quilting, but we may be the ones who have embraced it and made it mainstream. In this trunk show, Marge will display antique and

vintage quilts that are improvisationally constructed. So much inspiration and some great lessons can be learned from these graphic and abstract “antiques.”

Friday, May 8, 9:00 – 3:30 – In Person Workshop: Harlequin Diamond Romance

Let’s use up all those leftover strips and strings from previous projects and turn them into a fantastic quilt! Improvisationally pieced rectangles make light and dark diamonds when placed together. This results in a visually graphic layout, and with very little cutting and prep, we can get right to the fun. No one would ever think this is a scrap quilt!



Fees: Members \$45.00, Guests \$55.00

Registration link to come!

**JUNE**

### **End of Year Potluck**

Thursday, June 4, 6:00

Potluck dinner at the South Schenectady Fire Department Pavilion, Member Challenge vote, election of officers ... More details to come!

*The \$20.00 One Time Workshop Credit for members has been renewed until June 2027.  
Questions? Interested in teaching a workshop?: [QUILTSPROGRAMS@gmail.com](mailto:QUILTSPROGRAMS@gmail.com)*

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

*Arilee Bagley, VP Membership*

The guild welcomes new members! Membership dues are \$30 for the 2025-2026 guild-year, which runs July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. 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 2025-2026 membership dues is: <https://forms.gle/EJi2S7U1F8SWqjeE9>

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.

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 a gift certificate to a local quilt shop. While the guild has adopted a pattern for the name tag (thanks to Shirley Hedman for her

design), any hand-made name tag is acceptable. Here is the pattern for the guild nametag: [QUILTS Name Tag.pdf \(quiltschenectady.org\)](#)

Arilee Bagley  
VP Membership

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## **Autumn Inspirations 2026**

*Linda Tripoli & Sonya Nachbar, Co-chairs*

As we have previously stated, we are fortunate to have secured a full show committee, comprised of former chairs and members who are new to their positions. **We would like to encourage new and old members alike to consider shadowing and working with one Chair** in order to learn their job duties, with the goal of perhaps assuming that role in the future (everyone deserves a break after a while!). Volunteers would not be responsible for running that committee but would instead, assist the current Chair and become familiar with the role.

Working together to showcase the guild during the show is a great way to meet other guild members and join in the camaraderie that the show generates. The 2026 show will be no different-we will have a great time and a great show! Please find the duties of each show committee at this link:

<https://www.quiltschenectady.org/QuiltShows/2024/Quilt-Show-Responsibilities.pdf>

We already have volunteers for Hospitality, Judging & Vendors. Please find the Chairs of each committee here:

### ***Autumn Inspirations 2026 Committee***

Advisor/Proctor's Liaison:	Kathleen Morris
Treasurer:	Brian Kenny
Boutique:	Paula Ross
Boutique Assistant:	Christina Wagner
Registration:	Debbie West
Catalog Layout/Design/Printing:	Arilee Bagley
Door Prizes/Awards:	Carol DiNuzzo
Quilt Demonstrations:	Linda Tripoli
Hospitality:	Janet Mattis Felicia Campo
Judging and Awards:	Kathie Lutz Mary Albers
Member Block Challenge:	Connie Trigger
Northern Rivers Family Services:	Maggie Katz
Odds & Ends:	Sharon Nicpon
Publicity:	Lisa Wend
Raffle Quilt:	Kathryn Larkin
Raffle Tickets:	Mary Wade
Supervisor-Adm Membership & Raffle:	Susanne Bernadt
Show Design/Set up of quilts:	Lisa Wend
Signage:	Sandi Butcher
Vendors:	Maureen Colose
Veteran's Quilts:	Pat McGurn
Volunteer Recruiting:	Debbie McIntosh
Featured Quilter:	Linda Cary

Please reach out to the Chair of the committee you are interested in working with or you can always reach out to Sonya Nachbar or Linda Tripoli to facilitate that connection.

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## Veterans' Quilts

*Lisa Wend, Chair*

Thank you to all who continue to make Veterans Quilts. We plan to make a delivery to the Stratton VA Hospital and the Fisher House in December. If anyone is interested in going with us to hand out quilts, please let me know. It is truly a heartwarming experience.

For anyone who may not know, the guild provides Veterans quilt kits (free) at each guild meeting to guild members who would like to take one to make. Kits include fabric for making the quilt top, backing, and binding as well as batting and a fabric label. Alternatively, you can use your own pattern and fabric. Guidelines are below. We can provide a 60" x 80" batting. There is a brief history of this service project on our website [https://quiltschenectady.org/?page\\_id=53](https://quiltschenectady.org/?page_id=53) if you would like more information.

The next **Veteran's Quilt Sew-in** is being planned for Wednesday, January 14, 2026 from 10-4 at the Rotterdam Community Center, 705 Curry Road in Rotterdam. This will be the first of our themed sew-ins. For this one we will be sewing quilt-as-you go string quilt blocks. For every 35 blocks our group makes we will put together a quilt. Demonstrations on how to make the blocks and how to attach the blocks will be given. Batting squares, backing fabric and fabric strips will be provided but feel free to unload your scraps if you want. Fruit, chips, and a dessert will be provided. Bring your own lunch and beverage along with your sewing machine and usual supplies. A sign-up sheet will be available at the Veteran's Quilt table at the December and January guild meetings. For the March themed sew-in I'm planning Jelly Roll Races! How fast can YOU complete a Jelly Roll Race (aka Lasagna) quilt? How many quilt tops can you complete at one sew-in? Not to brag (okay, I'm bragging) but I've made one in 47 minutes.

### **General Guidelines for our Veterans Quilts**

Size: Approximately 50" x 70".

Fabric & Design: 100% cotton fabric. Colors and patterns are your choice. However, most recipients are men and they don't often choose the patriotic ones. Please take this into consideration when making your selections.

Label: Please place a label on the back of the quilt with your name, Schenectady Q.U.I.L.T.S. and a brief thank you. Example: "Thank you for your service. Made by Mary Smith, Q.U.I.L.T.Schenectady, December 2025". It is a means to identify the origin of the quilt and often we will receive a thank you note from the recipient. We also attach a note from the guild to each quilt.

Lisa Wend



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### **Join us for Wednesday Quilting @ the Rotterdam Community Center**

Weekly quilting has resumed at the Rotterdam Community Center, 705 Curry Road, every Wednesday from 1:00-4:00 pm. Whether you're an experienced quilter, an intermediate who wants to expand your skills, or you're just starting out, come sew with us!

We meet in the Friendship Hall which is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. There is [usually] a working elevator to help transport heavy items. Tables, chairs, an ironing board, iron, cutting mats, rotary cutters, and acrylic rulers are available for all to use. Participants may work on any sewing project, by machine or hand, that they wish. There is no obligation to attend every week or to stay the entire 3 hours. Best of all, there is no fee to attend!



In keeping with the mission of the RCC, this is a supportive learning environment where more experienced quilters share their knowledge, tips, and techniques with less experienced quilters. We offer a Learn-to-Quilt component where beginners can learn to make a quilt before investing a lot in fabric, tools, and notions. They only need to have a working sewing machine and have a basic understanding of how to sew on it.

Through a partnership with the Q.U.I.L.T.Schenectady quilt guild, Veterans Quilt kits are available for beginners. Experienced quilters in the group help teach the beginner quilter how to make the quilt, and provide ongoing support through all phases of the quilt making process. Once the quilt is completed, the quilt is returned to the guild to be donated to the VA Hospital or the Fisher House.

There is no need to sign up, just show up. However, if you have questions, you can contact Lisa Wend at (518) 852-5084 or [LPiseczny@nycap.rr.com](mailto:LPiseczny@nycap.rr.com). For more information about the Rotterdam Community Center check out their website at <https://rotterdamcc.org/> and their Facebook page. Spread the word!

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## Pet Beds

*Jane Martinec*



I would like to thank Cindy Ryan, Diane Kona, Sheila McGlin, Debbie Cieslak and Peggy from Quilt North for helping to stuff and sew just under 60 Pet Beds during the November 14th Workshop! These beds and more will be given to Malta Curtis Lumber for their 2026 Petapalooza! Everyone who adopts a pet from one of the participating rescues gets a pet bed free!

Please note: I will no longer be accepting bags of scraps. Please use them to make a pet bed to donate. If you need fabric to make the cloth bag let me know, I have plenty to give out! The scraps that you stuff the bags with

need to be cut up into pieces no bigger than your hand please. Also please no towels or clothes in the beds. I greatly appreciate everyone who helps to make the beds, and the people who get them free love them! Please leave all completed pet beds on my porch at any time!



Thank you,  
Jane Martinec

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## Straight From the Heart Kids' Quilts

*Maggie Katz, Chair*

Thank you to all who participated in the November sew-in. Stay tuned for fabric-cutting and kit-assembly workshops to be scheduled. A reminder to those making quilts on their own.

### Guidelines for quilts:

**Fabrics:** Colorful, child/teen-oriented fabrics such as sports, animals, flowers, trucks, fishing, space, princesses, dinosaurs, etc.

**Quilt Sizes:**

36" x 36"/40" (baby/toddlers)

42" x 48" (children approximately 4 – 7 years old)

48" x 54"/60" (children approximately 8 – 12 years old)

54" x 72" (12 – 18 years old)

**Design/Pattern:** Entirely up to you!

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**Fat Quarters**

*Anita Paul*

Fat quarter themes for the remaining guild year:

December - Holiday: Eid, Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, Diwali, Chinese New Year

January - Bright solids

February - Pastel solids

March - Green

April - Lavender & purple

May - Florals

June - Red/white/blue prints

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**Block of the Month**

*Sandi Butcher & Sue Baron, Co-Chairs*

Thank you to all who have purchased and completed a Block of the Month kit! We hope you find the patterns and colors fun! There are enough kits each month for the winner to be able to make a quilt top. So, be sure to bring your completed block to the next meeting so you have a chance to win and make the fastest quilt top ever!

If, however, you are unable to complete the block by the next meeting, just bring back the kit and it then can be given to the winner of the monthly drawing.

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**Goodie Baskets**

*Janet Mattis & Felicia Campo*

Thank you for your continued support of the goodie bag raffle! As a reminder, each strip of 3 tickets is \$1.00. That's a small investment for the chance to win some great quilting items! All proceeds support the guild. Stop by our table to say hi, grab a few tickets, and join in the fun! There are many more quilting items coming your way in the next few months!

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## **Guild Tool Library**

*Kathy Hermance*

I'd like to once again remind everyone about the Guild's Tool Library. It's a great resource for specialty rulers, templates and stencils. 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 the Tool Library to view the listing of stencils and rulers. 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 to see if it's something you might be able to use. You can either pick the tool up at my Rotterdam house or we can meet at a mutually agreeable location.

*Kathy Hermance, Guild librarian email: [khermance1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:khermance1@nycap.rr.com)*

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### **Membership Meeting Dates 2025-2026**

- December 4th - Holiday Party
- January 8th - Zoom
- February 5th - Sew In
- March 5th - Zoom
- April 9th
- May 7th
- June 4th - South Schenectady Fire Department

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### **Quilting Services Offered by Our Members**

#### ***Chrissy's Contemporary Quilting***

Computerized Long-arming services

Quick turn around time approx 3 to 4 weeks

Call or text Chrissy 518-605-3813

-Long arms services

-Large selection of edge to edge, block designs and thread colors.

#### ***Michael Palitsch***

832-693-3701

[Michael\\_palitsch@yahoo.com](mailto:Michael_palitsch@yahoo.com)

Located in Stillwater,

32 Olympia Ct Mechanicville 12118

## Officers and Committee Heads for 2025-2026

- President – Virginia Hunt
  - Vice President – Anita Paul
  - VP, Membership – Arilee Bagley
  - VP, Program – Connie Trigger
  - Treasurer – Cathryn Larkin
  - Secretary – Kathy Wagner
  - Newsletter – Debbie West
  - Webmaster – Kathy Wagner
  - Quilt Show Co-Chairs – Linda Tripoli & Sonya Nachbar
  - Straight From the Heart Kids' Quilts – Maggie Katz
  - Veterans Quilts – Lisa Wend
  - Block of the Month – Susan Baron & Sandi Butcher
  - Fat Quarters – Anita Paul
  - Goodie Baskets – Janet Mattis & Felicia Campo
  - Library – Kathy Hermance
  - Historian – currently vacant
  - Pet Beds – Jane Martinec
  - Hospitality – currently vacant
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## 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)



Let's celebrate travel!

**2026 Q.U.I.L.T.S. Member Challenge:  
"On The Road!"**

**Requirements:**

- Depict a mode of transportation  
– plane, train, boat, automobile, etc.
- Submissions must be 24" by 24".
- Any piecing, quilting or embellishment techniques may be used.
- Entries are due at the June 4<sup>th</sup> end of year picnic.

Motor down a highway

**Launch us into the sky on a plane.**

*Sail away on a ship.*

Will you include what one would see if traveling that way?

Is the travel adventurous? Common place?

Who is traveling?

Where are you?

*Will your piece be traditional?*

*Modern? Abstract? Contemporary? Realistic?*