

# Franklin County Quilters Guild

## SUGARHOUSE GAZETTE

### Saint Albans, Vermont

<http://www.franklincountyquilters.org>

[franklincountyquilters@gmail.com](mailto:franklincountyquilters@gmail.com)



Volume 16, Issue 8  
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#### President

Laurel Schaap

#### Vice President

Bonnie Evans

#### Secretary

Diane Kane

#### Treasurer

Deb Dusablon

#### Newsletter

Sharon Perry

#### Programs

Deb Trahan

Cathy Carlson

#### Project Coordinator

Lucie Fortin

#### Membership

Penny LaRoche

#### Quilt Show

Helen Short

Teri Brunelle

#### Website

Scott Perry

#### Comfort Quilts Coordinator

Denise Chase

#### 2024 Raffle Quilt

Sharon Perry & Denise Chase

#### 2024 Charity Quilt

Laurel Schaap & Gale Weld

#### President's Piece

Dear Guild Members,

This is my third attempt at writing this article. As you know, I was not at the meeting in March. I understand that it was an interesting meeting in regard to the quilt show. I guess I picked the right time to be away! Just kidding!! (Sorry, Sharon.)

For the sake of clarity, I'm going to address the issue. I feel like it's helpful to summarize and explain. There were some rules made for the cancelled 2020 show in an attempt to address past complaints about what vendors could sell at our quilt show, and the role of the boutique. As came out at the meeting, those rules affected folks in different ways. Some members were happy because they had an opportunity to sell items at the show, which they had not been able to do before. Other members were angry because the rules seemed arbitrary and put them at a personal disadvantage.

I'm not Solomon. Frankly, I'm not sure what is the best answer. I do wish this issue had been addressed differently, directly with the quilt show committee instead of at a general meeting. Be that as it may....

The Quilt Show committee tossed the ball to me, so I'm going to make a decision. Yes, that member may sell her quilts, and other vendors may sell homemade items. The boutique will also be selling homemade items, so there's a certain amount of competition, but I think there's enough room for everyone to participate.

If anyone wants to discuss this decision with me, please give me a call. My phone # is 219-629-2036. (I don't always have a cell signal, so don't think I'm sidestepping your call if I don't answer right away.) Or email me at laurelschaap@gmail.com. Please don't wait until the next meeting to ask, I will not be discussing it there.

The next quilt show committee may make a different decision. If so, I hope those involved will be gracious in dealing with this. You can always volunteer for the committee if you want to be a part of the decisions that need to be made. The quilt show is a huge job and relies on many volunteers.

I'm hoping that mud season will be over by the time I get back to Vermont! Happy spring, everyone.

Piecefully,

Laurel Schaap, 2023-2024 President



#### 2023 – 2024 Guild Calendar

September 20<sup>th</sup> Ice Cream Social  
Brown Bag Exchange & Strip Poker  
(Doors open at 5:30 pm; food at 6 pm)

October 13<sup>th</sup> Trunk Show  
with Norma Ippolito

October 14<sup>th</sup> Quilting Workshop  
with Norma Ippolito

November 15<sup>th</sup> Quilt Market Wrap-Up  
with Tina de la Bruere, Owner of  
Vermont Quilter's Schoolhouse

December 13<sup>th</sup> Potluck and Gift Exchange

#### 2023 – 2024 Guild Calendar

January 17<sup>th</sup> What Makes A Quilter Tick  
with David Sirota, Quilt Maven Dave

January 20<sup>th</sup> "No More Tears" Paper-  
Piecing Workshop with David Sirota,  
Quilt Maven Dave

February 21<sup>st</sup> Trunk Show with  
Andrew Lee, The Combat Quilter

March 20<sup>th</sup> Spring Members' Demos

April 5<sup>th</sup> Quilt Show Set-Up

April 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Quilt Show

#### 2023 – 2024 Guild Calendar

April 19<sup>th</sup> MacDuff Bag and Jacket  
Trunk Show with Janice Roy at NMC

April 20<sup>th</sup> MacDuff Bag Workshop  
with Janice Roy at NMC

May 15<sup>th</sup> Pillow Talk Trunk Show  
with Diane Comeau, CaDi Corners

May 18<sup>th</sup> It's a Wrap! Workshop  
with Diane Comeau, CaDi Corners

June 12<sup>th</sup> Trunk Sale



## Franklin County Quilters Guild Wednesday, March 20, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Sharon Perry for our monthly in-person meeting.

**Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Helen Bicknell and 2nd by Jean Anne Branch to accept both the Treasurer's report and Minutes of the February 2024 meeting. No discussion. Motion carried.

### Chair Reports:

**Membership (Penny LaRoche):** Penny reported that we have two new members and two returning members. The guild has 60 paid members to date. A total of 36 members were in attendance.

### Comfort Quilts (Denise Chase):

- Denise brought some quilt kits for people to take. Quite a few of the kits are for quilting only and some of them are for piecing. Please sign them out so that Denise can keep track of the kits. Members are welcome to pick up a kit at her home in St. Albans.
- A call came in today from a coordinator for Habitat for Humanity. Quilts are needed for families who are new homeowners in Franklin County. Would Franklin County Quilters Guild be a sponsor of Habitat for Humanity and donate quilts for 2-3 families per year? There are usually parents and children per home who would need quilts. Following a brief discussion, Helen Short made a motion for FCQG to be a sponsor to both Franklin and Grand Isle Counties Habitat for Humanity, 2nd by Penny LaRoche. Motion passed. Denise noted that Habitat for Humanity will give us the children's ages and genders to help guide the patterns for the quilts being donated.
- Besides the quilts for Habitat for Humanity, Denise reminded the guild members that queen-size quilts are needed for people affected by fires. Sharon Perry suggested members go to the local fire department in their community and let them know that the FCQG donates quilts, and leave the contact information of a member so that the fire department members will be able to reach out with requests for donations.
- Bonnie Evans reminded guild members that the hospital (NMC) has a room available on weekends. There was a brief discussion about possibly having sew-ins on Sundays at NMC to make comfort quilts.

### 2024 Raffle Quilt (Sharon Perry and Denise Chase):

Sharon is collecting money and raffle ticket stubs. Members are asked to sell at least two books of tickets (or 6 tickets). The tickets are 1 ticket for \$2 or 3 tickets (one book) for \$5. Sharon will send an email to members who have not turned in their tickets to remind them that money and tickets are due back to Sharon by the quilt show weekend. The money from ticket sales by members and ticket sales at the quilt show are tallied separately.

### Quilt Show (Helen Short and Teri Brunelle):

- On April 6 & 7, 2024 with set-up on Friday, April 5.
- Helen reported there are 3"x5" cards and a few posters available to put up in public places. If a member knows of someone with an AirBnB, please hand out the cards to

have at the rentals. There are expected to be a large number of out-of-town guests in the St. Albans area for the total eclipse on April 8th.

- Helen asked members who have items for the boutique to see Teri Brunelle for tags, safety pins, and an inventory list for their items. Until March 30th, members are welcome to sign up for putting items in the boutique.
- Please get your quilt card paper from Jean Anne Branch. Please review the paper and if any changes need to be made, email Penny LaRoche with the changes.
- Quilts must be dropped off at St. Albans City Hall on Friday, April 5th between 10 AM and 12 Noon. Jean Anne demonstrated how to package your quilt before dropping it off; put each quilt in a clear plastic bag with the card showing.
- Helen reminded members that Northwest Career and Technical Center Building Trades Program students will be volunteering to help set up the quilt show on Friday, April 5th.
- One of the members who will have a vendor table at the quilt show asked about selling quilts at her booth during the show. There was a discussion around this and it was decided that the quilt show committee will address the issue and will get back to the vendor.

### 2024 Charity Quilt (Laurel Schaap and Gale Weld):

- Three charity quilts are being made this year, one by Laurel and Gale to go to the Enosburg Food Shelf, one by Denise Chase and Helen Short to go to the Meeting House on the Green in Fairfield, and one by Helen Bicknell and Lucie Fortin to go to Rock Steady Boxing in St. Albans to benefit patients with Parkinson's Disease.
- Bonnie Evans suggested the guild commit to one charity quilt next year and vote on which charity will receive the quilt (as in years past).

**Sugarhouse Gazette (Sharon Perry):** The newsletter can be found online here. Each newsletter comes out at least 2 weeks before each meeting. Items for the next newsletter are due to Sharon by March 27th, which is the last Wednesday of the month.

**24 in 2024 Challenge (Sharon Perry):** Sharon reminded members of the form on the website and in the newsletter for the 24 in 2024 Challenge. This challenge is for more than members' UFOs, it can be for all types of sewing projects.

**Block of the Month (Lucie Fortin):** The BOM for March is a Disappearing Half-square pattern, with white and pastel colors. The pattern will be posted online on the guild's website.



**March 20 Guild Meeting Minutes (Cont.)****Program and workshop announcements for 2023-24 (Deb Trahan and Cathy Carlson):**

- Deb said for the April program, Janice Roy will give a MacDuff Bag and Jacket Trunk Show on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. The meeting may be in the conference room at NMC in St. Albans. Janice's MacDuff Bag workshop will be held on Saturday, April 20th at 9:30 AM, most likely in the same location. There are two sizes for the MacDuff bag, large and mini. If you want to attend the workshop and you buy the kit for the bag (\$50 for the large bag; \$35 for the mini bag), there is no additional charge for the class (the kit includes the instructor's fee, pattern, fabric, lining, and dowels). If you decide to not buy the kit, the cost for the workshop is \$30 (to pay for the instructor and the pattern). There is no limit to the number of people attending, but if you are interested, please contact Deb a few weeks prior to the April 20th workshop so that Janice has time to put together the kits.
- The May 15th program is Pillow Talk Trunk Show with Diane Comeau of CaDi Corners. A workshop with Diane will be on the following Saturday.
- For the June program, there will be a members' trunk sale. Members are welcome to bring quilt-related items for sale. Sale items will stay in people's car trunks and members will go out to the parking lot to purchase items. Funds will go to the guild.
- Also, the brown bag projects will be due at the April meeting, which will be distributed during the meeting.

**Other Business:**

- The nominating committee will report at the May membership meeting.
- Bonnie Evans is coordinating a raffle for the NMC Auxiliary. The quilt being raffled is a queen-size medallion quilt made by Teri Brunelle. Tickets are \$5 for a book of 3 tickets. Please see Bonnie for tickets.
- Helen Short handed out labels for Quilts of Valor.

**Program:** Thank you to members Gale Weld, Lucie Fortin, Helen Bicknell, and Beth Brault who will each be giving a demonstration of a sewing technique. People are welcome to rotate to the different demonstrations.

**Drawings:**

- Holly Bessette won the membership door prize.
- Helen Short won the comfort quilt door prize.
- The Block of the Month (BOM) door prizes were won by: January - Helen Bicknell; February - Cindy Metayer; March - Cathy Carlson. Congratulations to the winners!

A motion was made by Denise Chase to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Mary Jane Marchelewicz. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Kane, Secretary

**QUILT SHOW: 7 DAYS AND COUNTING**

The quilt show is a week away! Continue reading to see how you can help.

**-We have the quilts!!!** Thanks to everyone who has entered a quilt. Penny reports there are 116 quilt registered. With all those quilts, the City Hall auditorium will truly be ablaze with color.

**-We still need help getting quilt show posters posted and cards out!!!** April Walker has posters and cards for the quilt show, and she still needs help getting them out into our communities and to quilt shops throughout Vermont and in neighboring states. The cards can be left with local B&Bs, AirBnBs, and VRBOs as well. To get posters and/or cards, please call April, 802-933-5149, or email April, [dawalker328@gmail.com](mailto:dawalker328@gmail.com), to get some posters/cards.

**- We still need a few more volunteers too!!!** Shirley Babcock is in charge of getting volunteers for all the jobs. You can find the list of jobs still open [here](#). If you've already signed up for a job or two and cannot remember the specifics, you can look at this list [here](#). It is organized alphabetically by last name.

**- We need your raffle tickets!!!** Sharon Perry is collecting your raffle tickets and money. **Please bring them, in an envelope clearly marked with your name on it, to the quilt show.**

**- We need member donations to the guild boutique!!!** Members can sell their items in the boutique. But if you don't want to sell your items, you can always donate items with all proceeds going to the guild.

**Quilts entered in the show need to be dropped off at the City Hall Conference Room between 10:00 am and noon on Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.** *If you cannot deliver your quilts during that time, please give your quilts to another member or arrange with a friend or family member to deliver them before noon on Friday.*

**MONTHLY MEETING FORMAT**

Unless otherwise noted, the monthly guild meeting will follow the following format.

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 6:00 pm | Doors open  |
|         | Sign in at membership table                                   |
|         | Sign up for BOM raffle if you made a block                    |
|         | Sign up for monthly drawing                                   |
|         | Sign up for comfort quilt drawing if you made a comfort quilt |
| 6:30 pm | Business Meeting  |
|         | Show and Tell   |
|         | Short Break as appropriate                                    |
|         | Program for the evening                                       |



**TREASURER'S REPORT FOR APRIL 2024****FRANKLIN COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD****Treasurer's Report -- April 19, 2024**

Opening Balance		\$7,763.41
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## Funds Collected

Raffle ticket	\$340.00
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Membership	\$100.00
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April workshop	\$250.00
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<i>Total Funds Collected</i>	<u>\$690.00</u>
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<i>Subtotal</i>	\$8,453.41
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## Funds Paid Out

Andrew Lee, Combat Quilter presentation	\$100.00
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April Walker, QS Publicity	\$96.33
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<i>Total Funds Paid Out</i>	<u>\$196.33</u>
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<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$8,257.08</b>
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2024 YTD Collections: \$1,185.00

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah L. Dusablon, Treasurer

**HOW TO MAKE AND ATTACH A QUILT SLEEVE**

The following links provide visual references for the proper construction of a quilt sleeve and how to attach it properly to the back of your quilt. If you've never made a quilt sleeve, check out these to see how.

[http://quilting.about.com/od/decoratingwithquilts/ss/quilt\\_sleeve.htm](http://quilting.about.com/od/decoratingwithquilts/ss/quilt_sleeve.htm)

<http://www.empirequilters.net/pdf/sleeve01.pdf>

<https://www.americanquilter.com/hanging-sleeve-instructions>

<https://createwhimsy.com/projects/how-to-make-a-hanging-sleeve-for-a-quilt/>

<https://jacquelynnesteves.com/how-to-make-a-hanging-sleeve-for-a-quilt/>

**APRIL MEETING FEATURES  
TRUNK SHOW WITH JANICE ROY**

Janice Roy will be the guest speaker for the April guild meeting **on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, at the NMC Conference Room**. She'll be doing a trunk show of MacDuff Bags and jackets she has made. Janice will also be conducting a **workshop on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, also at the NMC Conference Room**. Participants will be making a MacDuff or MiniDuff Bag.

If you buy a kit from Janice for either the MacDuff Bag (\$50) or MiniDuff Bag (\$35), the kit fee includes the workshop and pattern. If you choose to use your own fabric and dowels to make the bag, it costs \$25 for the

workshop and pattern. You can find the kit pricing sheet and supply list [here](#).

**MAY MEETING FEATURES TRUNK SHOW  
WITH DIANE COMEAU, CADI CORNERS LLC**

Guild member, Diane Comeau will be doing a trunk show at the May meeting showing ways to "amp" up your household décor with quick and easy throw pillows and other ideas. Diane will conduct a **workshop on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, at the NMC Conference Room** called "It's a Wrap!" Information for Diane's workshop can be found [here](#).





Join in the fun and make 24 quilted projects by the end of 2024 and your name will be entered into a special drawing held in December 2024. If you'd like to participate, fill in your name and 24 projects you'd like to finish this year on the list below. This is your list...you can add to it throughout the year if need be to have 24 projects or you can remove a project, or swap out projects, etc...you just have to have ***24 Finishes in 2024*** AND you must show each project at one of the guild's monthly show and tell. You can show multiple projects in one month. You also don't have to show a project every month, you just have to have ***24 Finishes in 2024!*** You will maintain your own list, but you must let Sharon Perry know you are participating.

          Cut along dotted line          

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

1.	13.
2.	14.
3.	15.
4.	16.
5.	17.
6.	18.
7.	19.
8.	20.
9.	21.
10.	22.
11.	23.
12.	24.

**CTR' CTR' CTR' CTR' CTR' CTR' CTR' CTR'**  
**DONE DONE DONE DONE DONE DONE DONE DONE**

## BLOCK OF THE MONTH (BOM): DISAPPEARING HALF SQUARE TRIANGLE BLOCK

Lucie Fortin is the project coordinator for this membership year, and she's bringing back the traditional Block of the Month (BOM) projects.

Each month Lucie will provide instructions for completing the BOM to include color choices. This month's BOM is the Disappearing Half Square Triangle Block in pastel colors (think Spring); instructions for the block can be found [here](#). Members are encouraged to make a block each month and turn it in for the BOM raffle the following month.

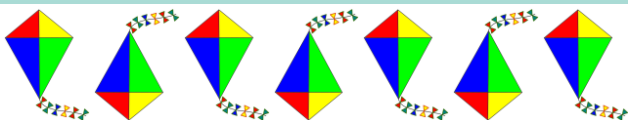
If you turn a block in, you get to enter your name in the BOM Drawing. You can make as many blocks as you want and enter your name a corresponding number of times. If you win all the blocks, they are yours to keep.

You can only win the blocks one time in a membership year which runs from September through June. If you win, you're asked to continue making the monthly BOM so the other winners have a similar number of blocks.



## SUNSHINE CARDS FOR GUILD MEMBERS

If you know of a guild member who is in need of encouragement or comfort due to an illness, bereavement, etc., please contact Diane Comeau, 802-310-1837. She will send out an appropriate card.



Sharon	Witbeck	April	17
April	Walker	April	19

*...and many more!!!*





# RECIPE CORNER

## PECAN PIE

- 1 9-inch pie crust
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 3 tablespoons light brown sugar
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup light corn syrup
- ¾ teaspoon vanilla extract
- ⅓ cup salted butter, softened or melted
- 3 eggs
- 1 ½ cups pecan halves (chop the pecans or leave whole)

Refrigerate pie crust while you prepare the pecan pie filling.

In a large bowl mix together sugar, brown sugar, salt, corn syrup, and softened (or melted) butter. Mix in the eggs and vanilla.

Reserve a few pecans and stir the rest into the batter. Pour into unbaked pie shell. Add a few of the reserved pecans on top of the pie in any empty spots, to make it look pretty. Use a small spoon to cover them with batter.

Bake at 425 degrees for 10 minutes, then lower the oven temp to 350 degrees F and continue baking for about 40 minutes. Check the pie half way through cooking and tent a large piece of greased aluminum foil over the top of the pie. (tent it high so it doesn't touch the pie filling).

The pie is done when you can shake it gently and it is not overly jiggly. If it jiggles a lot when shaking, continue cooking until the center is more set, 5-10 more minutes.

Allow pie to cool completely for several hours before cutting and serving. Or refrigerate for 1-3 days, until ready to serve.

## CANDIED PECANS

- ½ cup granulated sugar
- ½ cup light brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 16 ounces unsalted pecans halves, (about 4 cups)
- 1 large egg white
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon water

Preheat oven to 300 degrees F. Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper.

Add granulated sugar, brown sugar, cinnamon, and salt to a bowl and stir to combine.

In a separate large bowl, beat the egg white, vanilla, and water until stiff peaks form.

Add the pecans to the egg whites mixture and gently toss to coat. Add the cinnamon sugar mixture and stir gently until the pecans are well coated.

Spread the pecans into a single layer on the prepared baking sheet. Bake for about 40-45 minutes, stirring every 15 minutes.

Remove from the oven and allow the pecans to cool completely on the baking sheet.

When completely cool, store in an airtight container for up to 1 month.

## MAPLE-PECAN PORK CHOPS

- 2 tablespoons spicy brown mustard
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- ½ cup maple syrup, divided
- 4 bone-in pork loin chops (¾-inch thick, 8-oz each)
- 1 tablespoon butter
- ½ cup unsweetened apple juice
- 1 cup pecan halves

Mix mustard, pepper and 2 teaspoons syrup. Lightly drizzle over both sides of pork chops.

In a large nonstick skillet, heat butter over medium heat. Brown pork chops 2-3 minutes on each side. Add apple juice. Reduce heat; simmer, covered, until a thermometer reads 145°, 15-20 minutes. Remove chops; let stand 5 minutes, keeping them warm.

Add pecans and remaining syrup to skillet; cook and stir until blended, 1-2 minutes. Serve with pork chops.

## CARAMEL-PECAN APPLE SLICES

- ⅓ cup packed brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 large apples, cut into ½-inch slices
- ¼ cup chopped pecans, toasted

In a large cast-iron or other heavy skillet, cook and stir brown sugar and butter over medium heat until sugar is dissolved. Add apples; cook, uncovered, over medium heat until tender, 5-7 minutes, stirring occasionally. Stir in pecans. Serve warm.

*April is National*



*Month*



## 2024 QUILT SHOW

*"Seams Like Spring"*



2022 Show

*Judged Competition - Vendors  
Raffle Totes - Raffle Quilt*

.....

*Featured Artist -*

*Karen Abrahamovich*



*Champlain Valley Quilters Presents :*

2024

## QUILT SHOW

*"Seams Like  
Spring"*



*Friday April 26 9 - 5*

*Saturday April 27 9 - 5*

*Sunday April 28 12-4*

*Essex Junction, Vermont*

*Holy Family Parish Hall*

*30 Lincoln Street*

*Admission \$8.00 Under 12 Free*

*For more info & to enter a quilt*

*[www.cvqgvt.org](http://www.cvqgvt.org)*

### BARN QUILT EXHIBIT AT BILLINGS FARM & MUSEUM FEATURES ONE OF FCQG'S OWN

Billings Farm & Museum is bringing the rural artistry of barn quilts to its scenic site from April 4 – December 1, 2024. Collaborating with Vermont artists as well as artisans from the Chelsea Barn Quilt Project and the Franklin County Barn Quilt Trail who have been working to highlight barn quilts in Vermont, each space will host a uniquely crafted piece inspired by nature, math, agriculture, and the history of the Billings Farm site.

The guild's own, Sharon Perry, will be one of the featured barn quilt artists at this exhibit. For her barn quilt, she has painted 4 maple leaf blocks set on point. The center of the 4 blocks features the stylized face of a Holstein cow affectionately called Bessie. The formal name of Sharon's submission is "Moo-nlight in Vermont."



**APRIL IS A BABY**

by Annette Wynne

April is a baby—laughs and cries and plays;  
Has a thousand different moods through her thirty days;  
Golden-haired and blue-eyed—what has she to do  
But laugh and cry and bloom and grow her whole life through!  
April is a baby—growing with the flowers,  
Laughing, crying, laughing—so she spends the hours!

**FEATURED VIDEO TUTORIAL  
FOR APRIL:**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=688q4krO224>Tea & Cookies for Two April Placemats  
Shabby Fabrics**LINK TO BARN QUILT TRAIL OF NORTHERN VERMONT**<http://www.barnquiltsfornorthernvermont.org/>

**NEWSLETTER IDEAS WANTED:** Do you have a recipe you'd like to share with guild members? Or maybe you've found a great quilting website or blog you'd like to share. Or you've visited a quilt shop within an easy drive which had bargains or a fabric selection no quilter should miss. If so, send an email to [vtquilter@gmail.com](mailto:vtquilter@gmail.com), and the newsletter editor will do her best to include it in the next newsletter. Although welcome, your input doesn't have to be a complete article. It could be a few bullets which convey your message. The editor will fill out the article as needed.

**Deadline for articles for next newsletter:****Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024**Please email articles to Sharon Perry, to [vtquilter@gmail.com](mailto:vtquilter@gmail.com),  
or mail to PO Box 517, Montgomery Center VT 05471*April is National Frog Month*

*"April is a moment of joy for those who have survived  
the winter [and mud season]." — Samuel Johnson*