

Franklin County Quilters Guild

SUGARHOUSE GAZETTE

Saint Albans, Vermont

<http://www.franklincountyquilters.org>

franklincountyquilters@gmail.com



Volume 11, Issue 4
December 2019

President

John Rouleau

Vice President

Teri Brunelle

Secretary

Helen Short

Treasurer

Deb Dusablon

Newsletter

Sharon Perry

Librarian

VACANT (future needs TBD)

Programs

Natalie Good

Kris Kilburn

Project Coordinator

Helen Bicknell

Lucie Fortin

Membership

Penny LaRoche

Quilt Show

Nancy LaPointe

Rolande Fortin

Comfort Quilts Coordinator

Denise Chase

2020 Raffle Quilt

Denise Chase

Sharon Perry

2020 Charity Quilt

Jean Anne Branch

Carol Stanley

President's Piece

Dear Quilt Guild Members,

Well, the windy chill of winter really has set in for the now. The woodstove barely has a chance to cool off overnight before starting its chores the next morning. Still, if it keeps the thermostat from calling on the furnace it is a cheery and economical part of the day.

The November meeting was fun and interesting. I enjoyed the presentations by Nanc Ekiert and Kay Benedict. They were so persuasive in urging us to try new things that I hearkened back to when Becky was a child and we made buttons and things out of Shrinky Dinks. They still sell them and I used them to make tiny ornaments to hang on the decorations I made for our entry in the Christmas Tree Showcase at City Hall.

I am looking forward to our December meeting, particularly to the potluck supper – lots of conversation and lots of delicious food. **Please note that the doors will open at 5:30 pm to accommodate the meeting starting at 6:00 pm with the potluck.** Also, please keep in mind that we will have a gift exchange at the meeting as well.

Hoping you get enough snow to keep your yard and countryside looking beautiful without having so much that you have to dig out the car in the morning.

Sincerely yours,

John Rouleau, 2019 - 2020 President



2019 – 2020 Guild Calendar

September 18th Ice Cream Social
(6:00 pm start! Doors open at 5:30 pm)

October 18th Beyond Fabulous: Rotary
Cut Appliqué with Sue Pelland

October 19th Hearts and More
Workshop with Sue Pelland

November 20th Intro to Art Quilts:
Art Possibilities with
Kay Benedict and Nanc Ekiert

November 23rd Ornament Workshop

2019 – 2020 Guild Calendar

December 18th Holiday Potluck Party
(6:00 pm start!!!)

January 15th Project Linus
with Joyce Irvine

February 19th Cathedral Windows
with Denise Chase

March 18th TBD

April 3rd Quilt Show Set-Up

April 4th – 5th Quilt Show

2019 – 2020 Guild Calendar

April 17th Quilt Restoration
with Stephanie McCall

April 18th Quilt Consultations
with Stephanie McCall

May 20th Trunk Show
with Diane Comeau & Cathy Rayes

May 23rd Workshop
with Diane Comeau & Cathy Rayes

June 17th Potluck & Teacup Auction
(6:00 pm start!!!)

FRANKLIN COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD

Minutes of November 20, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President John Rouleau at 6:30 pm. There were 37 members present. Of the 37 present, 4 were new members.

The **Consent Agenda** to accept the minutes of the October meeting and the November treasurer's report passed with a voice vote on a motion by Sharon Perry, seconded by Linda Nadeau.

Quilt Show will be held on April 4th and 5th with set-up at St. Albans City Hall on April 3rd, 2020. To date there are 9 quilt entries. Kay Benedict is hoping for 50 entries by the December meetings so she can start thinking about how to display them. In order to enter a quilt, it should be quilted and bound as the size can sometimes be altered with quilting. Entry forms are available on our website. Carol Stanley brought up the frequency of the Quilt Show, perhaps every other year, due to fewer members volunteering. Discussion ensued about: the availability of City Hall if we went with an every other year quilt show; our membership being stable with last year's numbers; and the comradery and fun the Quilt Show brings the members. Bonnie Evans, who schedules the volunteers, said she does not have a problem finding members to work.

Comfort Quilts: Denise explained that if a member finishes a quilt top and can't quilt it the quilt should be returned so another member could quilt it. The Guild will furnish or pay for the batting. Denise has fabric that is suitable for backing available at her home. The family that lost their home and their children in Grand Isle will be receiving a quilt. Alyce Bushey announced that the **New England Federal Credit Union** will be collecting quilts and blankets during the month of December to be given to charitable organizations for distribution. Diane Comeau announced that **Teen Challenge**, a residential substance abuse rehabilitation program in Vermont, is opening a home for women and is seeking twin sized quilts. Previously, the program has had a home for men. Both the men and women get to keep the quilts they are given at the homes. The program is also looking for volunteers to teach life skills, such as sewing. If you are interested in learning more about Teen Challenge contact Diane or Helen Short. The program accepts people of all ages.

Membership: New name badges were available at the meeting. From now on, if a member comes without their badge they will place 25 cents in the bucket. There currently are 61 paid members.

Program: Some members brought ornaments to the meeting. Members will gather at Natalie Good's house on Saturday, November 23rd, to make ornaments for the Guild's tree for the Festival of Trees. Tree decorating will take place on December 5th at City Hall. The

December program will be a potluck and gift exchange. The **doors will open at 5:30 pm with the meal to be served at 6:00 pm.**

Projects: The Block of the Month is **Fall Fancy**. The colors are white background with brown and either yellow or orange. A challenge has been issued. For the members who win a set of monthly blocks and finish a quilt out of those blocks by the May meeting, their names will go in for a special drawing for a prize. Kris Bachand won the Block of the Month.

Meeting Times: The variation in meeting times was brought up. For now the meetings will start at 6:30 pm with doors opening at 6:00 pm, unless there is food or a speaker that require an earlier start time. The change in time will be noted in the newsletter.

2020 Raffle Quilt: Sharon Perry and Denise Chase showed the **2020 Raffle Quilt** top. Bev Cook of Treasured Moments Quilting will quilt it.

Birthday Fat Quarters were available compliments of Diane Comeau of CaDi Corners.

Program: Nanc Ekiert and Kay Benedict gave an inspiring program about making art quilts.

Charity Quilt and members' show and tell was held. Nadine Froebel won the membership drawing.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Short, Secretary



December	1	Elaine	Magnan
December	14	Diane	Kane
December	16	Nancy	LaPointe
December	18	Rose	Rixon
December	19	Janice	Crane
December	20	Cathy	Carlson

...and many more!!!

DECEMBER PROGRAM

Our program on Wednesday, December 18th, is the traditional potluck & gift exchange. Bring a dish to share and a wrapped gift (with a value about \$10-\$15; handmade welcome). We will enjoy a meal together & exchange those gifts in a fun & exciting way. **Doors open at 5:30 pm & dinner is at 6:00 pm.**

As a program update, Michelle Hiatt is not coming in March. We are trying to re-schedule with her hopefully for the 2020-21 season. March program is to be determined.

DECEMBER 2019 BLOCK OF THE MONTH PATTERN: FALL FANCY



Pattern from www.quilterscache.com

If you have any questions,
call Helen Bicknell, 285-6741, or
Lucie Fortin, 782-8260.

Click the link below for the
Fall Fancy pattern

<http://www.quilterscache.com/F/FallFancyBlock.html>

Be sure to continue to page 2 at this link:

http://www.quilterscache.com/F/FallFancyBlock_Page2.html



2020 Charity Quilt

(Organized by JeanAnne Branch and Carol Stanley in grays and scrappy squares)

QUILT TIPS

- Carefully press the seams in quilt blocks by lifting the iron and placing it down on each new area without moving the iron across the fabric so you avoid stretching or distorting your fabric.
- Take photos and keep a written record of all your completed quilts. Make sure you label each of your quilts properly too on the back, so there is always a permanent record of who, when, and for whom the quilt was made.
- When doing stitch-in-the-ditch quilting, stitch as close to the seam as possible so your quilting remains largely invisible.
- Use small stitches and the correct thread tension when appliquéing, so as to not distort the shapes of smaller pieces.
- Be careful to press seams that meet in opposite directions so as to reduce the bulkiness, and allow more accurate machine piecing.
- When you begin a machine-quilting session, warm up on a practice piece first, before you start on your quilt.
- Wool batting is a good choice for hand quilting, as the lanolin in the wool helps the needle slide through more easily.
- When sewing by hand, if your thread tends to kink, you may be rolling the needle. The easiest way to prevent this is to rotate the needle every few stitches to 'unwind' the thread as you go.
- When sewing appliqué by hand, stitch closely to, or just under the fold of the piece being appliquéd, which will help hide the stitching.
- Chocolate is a favorite quilting notion!



2020 Raffle Quilt

(Organized by Denise Chase and Sharon Perry)

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2019**FRANKLIN COUNTY QUILTER'S GUILD****Treasurer's Report -- December 18, 2019**

Opening Balance		\$7,571.93
Funds collected		
Membership dues	\$160.00	
Quilt Show Sponsorships	\$250.00	
<i>Total Funds Collected</i>	\$410.00	
	<i>Sub-Total</i>	\$7,981.93
Funds paid out		
Gerald Perry, Nov room set-up	\$35.00	
Deborah Dusablon, Directnic web domain fee	\$47.52	
Natalie Good, Guild member presentations	\$40.00	
<i>Total Funds Paid Out</i>	\$122.52	
	Grand Total	\$7,859.41
	Comfort Quilt/	
	Supplies Donations	(\$158.09)
	Guild Funds Available	\$7,701.32

2019 YTD Collections: \$7,202.81

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah L. Dusablon, Treasurer



*Are you on the
Naughty or Nice List?*

**LINK TO FRANKLIN COUNTY BARN QUILT TRAIL**

The Franklin County Barn Quilt Trail, previously found on the FCQG website, can now be accessed at <http://www.barnquiltsfornorthernvermont.org/>.

Deadline for articles for next newsletter:

Monday, December 30th, 2019

Please email articles to Sharon Perry, vtquilter@gmail.com,
or mail to PO Box 517, Montgomery Center VT 05471

No Cookies or Milk
by Becky Erdman

Santa took off on a cold winter night
 To begin his annual Christmas gift flight
 At the first house he found no cookies and milk
 Instead in a chair sat a lovely warm quilt

Oh my how warm this quilt will be
 How kind that someone made it for me
 But at the next stop was a house so poor
 A child lay shivering, asleep on the floor

Sadness filled his heart for the poor little child
 Who whimpered and cried out every once in a while
 So Santa took his quilt, and covered her on the floor,
 And gently left feeling joyful once more

At the next house again no cookies and milk,
 But a red white and blue, and star laden quilt
 How beautiful and warm this quilt makes me feel
 With pride of country and honor, with love so real

But his sleigh took a detour and went to a home
 And in it lived a man all alone
 His legs were gone, lost in a war
 On the wall hung his medals, from days of yore

This man was once a child full of laughter and joy
 Looking at him now, Santa remembered the boy
 He had loved to dance, and he loved to give
 And now all alone, he struggled to live

Santa knelt by his side and whispered in his ear
 I have watched you lovingly through all the years
 Be proud of what you have done and who you are,
 And quietly wrapped him in a quilt filled with stars

And so it went on that cold frigid night
 Santa gave gifts to the children, which was his right
 But in house after house, instead of cookies and milk
 Santa found much love turned into quilts

He was quite late finishing up his rounds
 But at last he stood upon his North Pole ground.
 With eyes full of tears, he told the of no cookies and milk
 But instead he had found such beautiful quilts

I wish, he said sadly, that more would think
 That instead of leaving for me a nice little drink
 That people would give quilts to some stranger
 Like the Wise men who brought gifts to the Manger
 So perhaps you are a quilter who has read this tale
 And will now make a quilt, if you are able
 And give it to someone you do not know
 And Bless them with kindness that will show
 That the world is kind, and people do care
 That someone has answered their unspoken prayer
 Wrap them in comfort and warm their hearts
 You will be happier, much happier, for doing your part.

IDEAS FOR THOSE LAST MINUTE GIFTS

Pinwheel Star Placemats:

<http://thecraftyquilter.com/2013/08/christmas-in-august-pinwheel-star-table-runner-placemats-and-more/>

Matching Pinwheel Star Table Runner:

<https://weallsew.com/make-it-merry-coasters/>

Holiday Coasters:

<https://weallsew.com/make-it-merry-coasters/>

Holiday Forest Pillow:

<https://olfa.com/craft/blog/holiday-forest-pillow/>

Very Merry Wall Quilt:

<http://www.jedcraftgirl.com/2016/12/very-merry-wall-quilt.html>

Noel Mini Quilt:

<http://www.jedcraftgirl.com/2015/12/noel-mini-quilt.html>

Scrappy Christmas Stocking:

<https://www.diaryofaquilter.com/2012/11/christmas-stocking-tutorial.html>

Gingerbread House Ornament:

<https://www.downgrapevinelane.com/2013/01/tutorial-gingerbread-house-ornament.html>

Christmas Hexagonal Table Topper:

<https://frommycarolinahome.com/2014/12/01/christmas-hexagonal-table-topper/>

Granny Square Tree Skirt:

https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0086/8410/9904/files/tree_skirt.pdf?9703

Modern Improv Christmas Wreath:

<http://quilterinthecloset.blogspot.com/2016/06/modern-improv-christmas-wreath-ho-ho-ho.html>



**Merry
Christmas**



QUILT TIPS

- Rubberized shelf protectors are wonderful to prevent your sewing machine foot pedal from slipping all over the place. Just cut a piece larger than your foot pedal and place it underneath the foot pedal. Also, if you have trouble with your sewing machine 'walking' across your table, this same product will help.
- Keep your old rotary cutter and mat if you buy a new one. Use the old one to cut paper patterns, photos or other craft things.
- Loosen the paper backing of fusible web to remove it from appliques by scoring the paper with a straight pin.
- Use a medium gray or taupe thread for all patchwork piecing except very light-colored fabrics.
- Small paintbrushes come in handy to clean lint from the bobbin case area of your sewing machine.

UPCOMING EVENTS

11th Annual Festival of Trees, November 30th – December 8th, 2019: A week-long event ushering in the Holiday Season with activities, entertainment, dancing, and more in downtown St. Albans. Visit www.vtfestivaloftrees.com/ for more information.

Holiday Market, December 7th, 2019: Explore artisans and vendors selling handmade gifts, clothing, woodcrafts, jewelry, mead, wine, and more at the Champlain Valley Expo. Show hours: 11:00 am – 6:00 pm.

Collins Perley Craft & More Holiday Blizzard, December 7th – 8th, 2019: Craft show with over 50 vendors at the Collins Perley Sports and Fitness Center. Show hours: Saturday, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm; Sunday, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. FREE admission.

Holiday Tractor Parade in St. Albans, December 13th, 2019: The parade begins at 6:00 pm, but the fun starts at the St. Albans Co-op store at 4:00 pm! Parade begins at the Co-Op Store, 138 Federal Street in St. Albans, up Main Street by Taylor Park and back to the Co-op Store. Activities for the kids, snacks, a visit with Santa and more. Bundle up and join us for this much-anticipated annual tradition. Bring a non-perishable food item for our neighbors in need! Donations will be collected at the front entrance of the Co-Op Store.

Holiday Craft Fair, December 14th, 2019: Fund-raising craft show for the Relay for Life Franklin County at St. Albans City Hall, 100 North Main Street. Over 40 vendors with all varieties of handmade and homemade goods, just in time for the holiday season. Show hours: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Last Night St. Albans 2019, December 31st, 2019: In locations throughout St. Albans City and Town. Activities begin at 4:30 pm and run until Midnight. The Gala at City Hall is the final event on the schedule. Admission is with a Last Night Button. Button costs: Individual, \$5; Family, \$20.

And don't forget to check out the FCQG Tree decorated for St. Albans Festival of Trees. The Tree Showcase is open to the public for viewing this Saturday, December 7th, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, and Sunday, December 8th, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm. FREE admission.

DON'T FORGET for the next meeting...

1. **Potluck dish to share**
2. **Wrapped gift for the gift exchange (\$10-\$15 value)**
3. **Completed quilt entry forms (with photos) for quilt show**
4. **Fat Quarter and Teacup Auction donations for quilt show**
5. Completed Charity Quilts
6. Items for Show and Tell