

Franklin County Quilters Guild

SUGARHOUSE GAZETTE

Saint Albans, Vermont

<http://www.franklincountyquilters.org>

franklincountyquilters@gmail.com



Volume 11, Issue 9
May 2020

President

John Rouleau

Vice President

Teri Brunelle

Secretary

Helen Short

Treasurer

Deb Dusablon

Newsletter

Sharon Perry

Librarian

VACANT (future needs TBD)

Programs

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Penny LaRochelle

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

Spring Greetings to you all,

I hope this letter finds you well and well fed, both physically and emotionally. Sheltering in place has shifted a lot of what used to pass for everyday living with others to Zoom meetings, facemasks and social distancing. While it has kept us relatively safe, it has also disrupted our human contacts, including our monthly meetings. I miss the fun and palaver of our get-togethers.

I am grateful that Governor Scott has provided clear guidance for us all as we move through this pandemic, and it appears to me that, given the pace of re-opening life for meetings, we will not be meeting for quite a while yet. I would like to think that we could contemplate a meeting in August, but we've seen enough official predictions go off the rails when it comes to the COVID-19 virus that I don't think we can know at this point when it might be safe for us to get together again.

But within the uncertainty of the future, here are some things that we might want to think about.

Perhaps we should consider holding our next meeting outdoors, where social distancing is easier to practice and the likelihood of infection is less than it is in a crowded room indoors. Maybe we could meet at the St Albans beach at a time when it would be sparsely populated. Plenty of logistics to consider, but just a thought.

As for the delayed raffle quilt drawing due to our not having an in person quilt show this year, I think we should postpone that drawing to next year's quilt show. The economic and social disruption we are likely to experience for some time means this is not a good time for us to be asking people for money for raffle tickets. Even though some people who have already bought tickets may be disappointed by postponing the drawing to April 2021, I think they will be understanding.

I end this letter as I began: I miss the comity of our meetings and work together. I wish I could be more definitive about our next steps but as I consider the consequences of missteps and the depth of the effect of the pandemic it seems that uncertainty is the word of this day.

Sincerely yours,

John Rouleau, 2019 - 2020 President

2019 – 2020 Guild Calendar

September 18th Ice Cream Social

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

January 15th Project Linus
with Joyce Irvine

February 19th Cathedral Windows
with Denise Chase

March 18th Batik with Amanda Bates
CANCELLED (CNX)

April 3rd Quilt Show Set-Up (CNX)

2019 – 2020 Guild Calendar

April 4th – 5th Quilt Show (CNX)

April 17th Quilt Restoration (CNX)
April 18th Make Your Own Pattern
(CNX)

May 20th Trunk Show (CNX)

May 23rd Workshop (CNX)

June 17th Potluck & Teacup Auction
(CNX)

RECIPE CORNER: MAPLE WALNUT RHUBARB CRISP

Ingredients

6 cups of rhubarb - cut in one inch pieces
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup pure maple syrup
2 tablespoon water
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon kosher salt
5 tablespoons soft butter
1 cup quick oats
 $\frac{2}{3}$ cup all-purpose flour
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup brown sugar, firmly packed
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
 $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon kosher salt
1 cup toasted walnut pieces

Directions

- 1. Generously butter a 2-quart flat-bottomed baking dish. Preheat oven to 350°.**
- 2. Place the rhubarb pieces in the prepared baking dish, and sprinkle the salt over them evenly.**
- 3. In a 1 cup measuring cup, mix together the syrup, water and vanilla.**
- 4. Pour the mixture over the rhubarb.**
- 5. In a medium bowl, use a pastry cutter to combine the butter, oats, flour, sugar, cinnamon and salt. When the mixture is nearly uniform, add the nuts and go over everything a bit more with the pastry cutter to get the nuts incorporated. Alternatively, you can combine everything by pulsing it together in a food processor, but wait till the very end to add the nuts, and only pulse 1 or 2 times once they have been added.**
- 6. Spread the butter mixture (it will look like big, coarse crumbs) evenly over the rhubarb.**
- 7. Bake at 350° for about an hour and 10 minutes - until the topping is nicely browned and the fruit is very bubbly around the edges.**
- 8. Cool for at least an hour or more before serving. Leftovers can be stored in the refrigerator for 2 or 3 days.**

RECIPE CORNER: STRAIGHT-UP RHUBARB PIE

Ingredients

FOR THE CRUST:

2 cups all-purpose flour
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt

2 teaspoons sugar
 $\frac{2}{3}$ cup vegetable shortening + 2 tablespoons
6 tablespoons ice water

FOR THE FILLING:

5 cups sliced rhubarb
1 $\frac{1}{4}$ cups sugar
5 tablespoons flour
 $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon cinnamon
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoons butter

Directions

- 1. Preheat the oven to 425 degrees. Combine the flour, salt and sugar in a large bowl and fluff with a fork. Cut the shortening into the flour with a fork or pastry blender. Stop as soon as the sheen of the shortening disappears and the mixture is a bunch of coarse pieces. Sprinkle a tablespoon of water at a time over the dough, lifting and tossing it with the fork. When it begins to come together, gather the dough, press it into a ball and then pull it apart; if it crumbles in your hands, it needs more water. Add a teaspoon or two more water, as needed.**
- 2. Gather dough into two slightly unequal balls, the larger one for the bottom crust and the smaller one for the top. Flatten the larger ball, reforming any frayed edges with the sides of your hand. Dust with flour and roll the dough, starting from the center and moving toward the edges. Take a knife or thin spatula and quickly work its edge between the crust and the counter top. Lift the dough to the side; dust the dough and counter top with flour. Roll again until the diameter is an inch or 2 larger than that of the pie pan. Lay the rolling pin a third of the way from one of the edges. Roll the crust onto the pin and then unroll the crust into a 9-inch pie pan and press it into place. Place in the freezer.**
- 3. Make the filling; in a large bowl, blend the rhubarb, sugar, flour and cinnamon. Pour into the crust-lined pie pan. Dot with butter.**
- 4. Roll out the top crust. Dab the rim of the bottom crust with water to create a glue. Then place the top crust over the rhubarb; trim, seal and cut several vents. Bake for 15 minutes; reduce temperature to 350° and bake 25 to 30 minutes more, or until a bit of pink juice bubbles from the vents in the crust.**

2020 – 2021 SLATE OF OFFICERS

- President – John Rouleau
- Vice President – Teri Brunelle
 - Secretary – Helen Short
 - Treasurer – Deb Dusablon
 - Newsletter – Sharon Perry
- Librarian – **VACANT (STATUS TBD)**
 - Membership – Penny LaRoche
- Project Coordinator – Helen Bicknell & Lucie Fortin
 - Programs – Natalie Wood & **VACANT**
 - Quilt Show Co-Chairs – **VACANT**
- Charity Quilt Coordinator – Denise Chase

PREPARING FOR THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP YEAR

The “Stay Home, Stay Safe” order issued by Governor Scott in March has turned the guild operations upside down. So far, the guild has cancelled the 2020 quilt show and meetings through June. It’s also unclear what the 2020 – 2021 membership year will look like.

Right now, the guild is navigating uncharted water, but plans are underway in hopes that members will be able to meet again come September. As Governor Scott continues to relax his March order, the guild will see if monthly meetings are able to resume later this year and what precautions the guild will have to take to keep all members healthy and safe. However, the guild also realizes some members may choose not to come to monthly guild meetings to protect their own health and well-being even if the guild can resume monthly meetings.

Despite all the unknowns, planning is continuing behind the scenes so that the guild will be able to welcome back members if allowed to do so in September. As part of that planning, the guild needs to identify next year’s slate of officers. Normally, a nominating committee is appointed in March and the proposed slate of officers is presented to guild members in May and voted on in June. To keep it simple, guild president, John Rouleau, with help from Sharon Perry, contacted everyone who is currently filling a position this year to see if they would be willing to serve another year. Thankfully, most everyone agreed. But we do have two positions to fill. Those positions are the Quilt Show Chair(s) and the “helper/understudy” to the Program Director. Nancy LaPointe feels it is her time to move on and bring someone on board with a new perspective and fresh ideas. Rolande Fortin also will not be able to continue as a Quilt Show Chair. She personally has a full year of personal activities which will require her attention and focus.

GUILD IN NEED OF 2021 QUILT SHOW CHAIR(S)

As mentioned above, Nancy LaPointe and Rolande Fortin are both stepping down as the Quilt Show Chairs. For Nancy, the 2020 show would have been the fifth show with Nancy at the helm as one of the Quilt Show Chairs. With Nancy’s departure from the job, the guild will have some big shoes to fill. With that in mind and knowing the guild will not be meeting before September at the earliest, Sharon Perry is working to update the resources the guild has to guide the Quilt Show Chair along the way for a successful show. Ultimately those resources will be posted on the guild’s website so any interested members can look the materials over and see what the job entails. Maybe by seeing the resources available and the specific responsibilities of the position beforehand, a guild member might be willing to step up for the job.





With the “Stay Home, Stay Safe” Order issued by Governor Scott in late March, now is a perfect time to join in the fun and make 20 quilted projects by the end of 2020. If you have **20 Finishes in 2020**, your name will be entered into a special drawing held in December. If you’d like to participate, fill in your name and 20 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 20 projects or you can remove a project, or swap out projects, etc...you just have to have **20 Finishes in 2020** AND you must show each project during one of the guild’s monthly show and tell...a picture will NOT suffice! You can show multiple projects in one month. You also don’t have to show a project every month, you just have to have **20 Finishes in 2020!** If you hadn’t previously given your list to Kris Bachand, you can mail your list to Kris, PO Box 49, St Albans Bay, VT 05481.

 Cut along dotted line

NAME: _____

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MANY OF OUR BELOVED VERMONT QUILT SHOPS NOW OPEN FOR IN-STORE SHOPPING!

As Governor Scott continues to relax the “stay home” order for Vermont, many quilt shops throughout the State are open once again for in-store shopping. There are restrictions which the State has placed on the individual stores to reopen. Please abide by those restrictions so that the quilt shops can remain open for us all.

A Quilter's Garden, 342 River Street, Route 302, Montpelier

(802) 223-2275, www.aquiltersgarden.net

A Quilter's Garden is now open for in-store shopping with some restrictions. Shopping hours are Tuesday – Saturday, 10 am – 3 pm. Curb-side pickup and shipping is still available. Contact the shop through Facebook, email or phone.

Barnyard Quilting, 232 US Route 5 North, Fairlee

(802) 333-3566, www.barnyardquilting.com

Barnyard Quilting is now open for in-store shopping. Shopping hours are Wednesday – Saturday, 9 am – 4 pm. Please wear a mask when shopping at the store. The shop is happy to continue offering curb-side pickup if you are uncomfortable coming into the shop.

CaDi Corners, LLC, 20 Diamond St, St Albans City

(802) 310-1837, www.cadicorners.com

CaDi Corners is open for in-store shopping. Please call first to schedule a time to visit where social distancing can be observed. Face masks will be required for in-store shopping. Also, all the shop's fabric, notions, and ready-made items are posted to their online store on the website. If someone still wants curb-side pickup, customers can order online and choose "Local Pickup" at the checkout on shipping methods or choose to have the order shipped to their homes. As a note, with all the mask making and “stay at home” sewing, CaDi Corners' inventory for some fabrics is running low. If you find a fabric online you want to order, Diane suggests calling to make sure she has enough fabric on hand for your needs. The shop currently has many fabrics on sale. Diane also has special supplies for making face masks. She has been working closely with Pam Cross to make sure the St. Albans Face Mask Group has the supplies the group needs to continue to make masks for the community. Diane adds, “I want to thank the members of the guild who have been making purchases. Everyone has been so generous. Thank you and Happy Stitching from CaDi Corners. Stay home and stay healthy!”

Country Thyme Vermont, 23 Meadow Lane Circle (corner of VT Route 101), North Troy

(802) 744-2795, www.countrythymevermont.com

The shop is now open for in-store shopping. For now, Country Thyme is open Monday – Saturday, 9:30 am – 5:30 pm. As summer nears and progresses, shop hours will be adjusted. Look for updates to the hours on Facebook or call the shop. For your protection and the safety of others, the shop requires that all visitors wear masks. The shop will be limited to 4 visitors at a time.

Country Treasures, 12 The Common, Chester

(802) 875-4377, www.vermontquilting.com

Country Treasures is open for in-store shopping by appointment only, Wednesday – Saturday, 10 am – 1 pm. Face masks and proper social distancing is required. The shop is still accepting phone or email (sue@vermontquilting.com) orders for curb-side pickup.

Norton House Quilting, 30 West Main Street, Wilmington

(802) 464-7213, www.nortonhousequilting.com

No update available. Shop's answering machine indicates the shop is still closed for in-store shopping. Please call the shop for updated information.

Quilt-a-way Fabrics, 190 Back Westminster Road, Westminster

(802) 722-4743, www.quiltaway.com

The shop could not be reached for an update. There is also no updated information the website. On a Facebook post, it appears that the shop was open on May 21st, 10 am – 2 pm. No further information was posted. Please call the shop for updated information.



IN-STORE SHOPPING (CONT.)**Quilting with Color**, 21 Taft Corners Shopping Center, Williston(802) 876-7135, quiltingwithcolor.weebly.com

The shop is now open for in-store shopping. Shopping hours are Tuesday – Saturday, 10 am – 4 pm. To help keep everyone safe, please help by following the new operating procedures the shop has put in place: 1) Three customers will be allowed in the shop at one time. 2) Face coverings are required by all customers. All employees will be wearing face masks. 3) All customers are required to use hand sanitizer which we are providing. All employees will be using hand sanitizer. 4) Please do not come to the shop if you are experiencing any symptoms - fever, cough, sneezes, etc. Employees will not be coming to work if they have symptoms. 5) Please observe at least 6 feet of physical distance from others while in the shop and while waiting outside the shop. Please be patient and respectful of others. 6) Employees will be cleaning and sanitizing all high touch surfaces in the shop, but are not able to clean every item that a customer might touch. Please avoid unnecessarily touching products that you do not wish to purchase. The shop will continue to work with customers to provide curb-side and mail-order service for those who are not comfortable with these new operating procedures.

Sewin' Love Fabric Shoppe, 101 Depot St., Route 5, Lyndonville(802) 427-3070, www.sewinlovefabric.com

The shop is now open for in-store shopping. The shop is limited to 4 visitors at a time to maintain proper social distancing. Face masks are encouraged. Shopping hours are 10 am – 4 pm, Monday – Saturday.

The Quilters' Corner at Middlebury Sew-N-Vac, 260 Court Street, Suite 4, Middlebury(802) 388-3559, www.middleburysewnvac.com

The shop is now open for walk-in business once again! Please maintain "Sewcial Distancing" of 2 yards apart when in the store!! Shopping hours are Monday – Friday, 10 am – 5 pm, and Saturday, 9 am – 1 pm. The shop will be closed on Sundays through the summer months. There are Covid-19 guidelines posted on the shop's door. Please wear a mask while in the store. If you don't have a mask, the shop can provide one for you. Curb-side service is still available if you do not feel comfortable entering the store. As always, feel free to shop here on their website!

Vermont Quilter's Schoolhouse, 6529 VT Route 100, Troy(802) 744-4023, www.vtquiltersschoolhouse.com

Vermont Quilter's Schoolhouse is now open for in-store shopping. No more than 4 shoppers at a time. Please come in through the rear entrance. Also, please wear your mask and use the hand sanitizer as you come in. Shopping hours are Monday, 10 am – 3 pm, Wednesday – Friday, 10 am – 4 pm, and Saturday, 10 am – 3 pm. The shop will continue to offer curb-side pickup and machine drop-offs during the shop hours. Please place your order online in advance for curb-side pickup. Upon arriving, please ring the doorbell or honk your horn and someone will bring your package to you.

Waterwheel House Quilt Shop, 6795 Route 100, Londonderry(802) 824-5700, www.waterwheelhouse.com

The shop will be opening for in-store shopping on Tuesday, June 2nd. Face masks will be required as will proper social distancing. Shopping hours will be Tuesday – Saturday, 10 am – 4 pm, and Sunday, 12 noon – 5 pm.

Yankee Pride Quilts, 9 Main Street, Essex Junction(802) 872-9300, www.yankeepridequilts.com

The shop is tentatively planning to reopen on June 1st. The online shop will remain open, and a staff member will process orders on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Also those days, the staff member will be returning voicemails, filling orders, and answering phones. If you have questions or concerns esurient, please feel free to email. The shop is also loading more fabrics on the website for online shopping.



**Remember those
who sacrificed
everything...**



MORE RECIPES

With all the rhubarb Denise Chase recently harvested and posted on Facebook, I thought it only fitting to provide more recipes using rhubarb.

**RECIPE CORNER:
RHUBARB SPRING PUDDING**

**8 slices of bread, toasted 1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 C. butter 2 C. diced rhubarb
5 eggs, slightly beaten 1/2 C. packed brown sugar
1 1/2 C. sugar 1 1/2 C. milk
1/2 tsp. cinnamon**

- 1. Generously butter a 2-quart flat-bottomed baking dish. Preheat oven to 350°.**
- 2. Place the rhubarb pieces in the prepared baking dish, and sprinkle the salt over them evenly.**
- 3. Cut toast into 1/2" cubes; place in buttered 1 1/2 qt. casserole.**
- 4. In sauce pan, scald milk. Add butter; stir until melted.**
- 5. Pour over toast cubes; allow to stand for 15 minutes.**
- 6. Combine eggs, sugar, cinnamon, salt, & rhubarb; stir into bread mixture.**
- 7. Sprinkle top with brown sugar. Bake at 350 degrees for 45-50 min. Makes 8 servings.**

**RECIPE CORNER:
RHUBARB PUNCH
(from Denise Chase)**

**8 cups rhubarb
5 cups water**

Bring to a boil and simmer until well cooked. Strain in cheese cloth.

**To each gallon of juice, add
2 cups sugar
1 6-oz orange juice concentrate (or 1 quart orange juice)
2 tablespoons lemon juice**

**RECIPE CORNER:
STRAWBERRY RHUBARB COFFEE CAKE**

**Filling:
3 cups sliced fresh or frozen rhubarb (1/2 inch pieces)
1 quart fresh strawberries, mashed**

**2 tablespoons lemon juice
1 cup sugar
1/2 cup cornstarch**

Cake:

**3 cups all-purpose flour
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup butter (or margarine), cut into pieces
1 1/2 cups buttermilk
2 eggs
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract**

Topping:

**1/4 cup Butter (margarine)
3/4 cup all-purpose flour
3/4 cup sugar**

- 1. Generously butter a 2-quart flat-bottomed baking dish. Preheat oven to 350°.**
- 2. In a large saucepan, combine the rhubarb, strawberries and lemon juice. Cover and cook over medium heat about 5 minutes. Combine sugar and cornstarch; stir into saucepan. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly until thickened; remove from heat and set aside to cool.**
- 3. In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, and salt. Cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Beat buttermilk, eggs, and vanilla; stir into crumb mixture. Spread half the batter evenly into a greased 13 x 9 x 2 inch baking dish. Carefully spread filling on top. Drop remaining batter by tablespoonful over filling.**
- 4. For topping, melt butter in small saucepan over low heat. Remove from heat; stir in flour and sugar until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Sprinkle over batter.**
- 5. Lay foil on lower rack to catch any juicy fruit spillovers! Place coffee cake on middle rack; bake at 350 degrees for 40 - 45 minutes. Cool in pan. Cut into squares. Enjoy! Yield: 16-20 servings.**



MAY 2020

BLOCK OF THE MONTH PATTERN: STAR AND PINWHEELS



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 pattern

<https://www.quilterscache.com/S/Star&PinwheelsBlock.html>

Be sure to continue to page 2 at these links:

https://www.quilterscache.com/S/Star&PinwheelsBlock_Page2.html



2021 Raffle Quilt

(Organized by Denise
Chase and Sharon Perry
and quilted by Bev Cook)

As indicated earlier in this newsletter, guild operations have been turned upside down by COVID-19 and the resulting “Stay Home, Stay Safe” order. A question about the 2020 Raffle Quilt had been raised shortly after the guild meetings and quilt show were cancelled in March...was the guild going to raffle the quilt in 2020, and if so, when?

At first, the consensus seemed to be to continue with raffle ticket sales and try to hold the raffle later in the year. But as the situation has developed, thoughts about holding the raffle this year have changed.

With the current Vermont unemployment rate at 15.6% through the end of April and expected to increase for May, many felt it was not the appropriate time to ask people to buy raffle tickets. Families throughout Vermont are struggling to put food on the table and do not have additional income to buy nonessential items at this time.

No one could have anticipated the impact COVID-19 would have on our country or our State. With the future months and activities still somewhat uncertain, the guild will hold the next raffle in 2021, hopefully concurrent with the guild's quilt show. If anyone has any questions, please feel free to call or email John Rouleau.

SEND IN YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS

Penny LaRochelle has agreed to coordinate the raffle ticket sales for next year. Many members may still have sold tickets, along with money, in their possession. Penny is happy to take those tickets and money off your hands.

Members can send the tickets and money to Penny LaRochelle, 40 Meade Road, Fairfax, VT 05454. Be sure to include your return address on the envelope so Penny can properly credit the ticket sales to your name.



Simonne	Boucher	April	7 th
April	Walker	April	19 th
Linda	Nadeau	April	25 th
Shirley	Babcock	May	3 rd
Frances	Morong	May	6 th
Carol	Mahoney	May	17 th
Rolande	Fortin	May	19 th
Connie	Lane	May	30 th
Jennifer	Dusablon	May	31 st

...and many more!!!

EDITOR'S NOTE: I forgot to include April's birthday list in last month's newsletter so I am including it here. I hope Simonne, April, and Linda had a Happy Birthday despite having to celebrate at home with few people gathered. I hope the May celebrants also have a Happy Birthday!

2021 CHARITY QUILT

With a new membership year starting in September, hopefully the guild will be able to meet together again even if under social distancing restrictions. One of the jobs the guild usually asks for a volunteer this time of the year is to find a member (or members) to make the next year's Charity Quilt.

The annual Charity Quilt is given to a local charitable organization, which the guild members choose. The quilt is intended to help the organization raise funds for its charitable endeavors. The quilt makes its debut at the quilt show in April. The guild usually relies on fabric donations from guild members to make parts of or the entire quilt.

If anyone is willing to volunteer to make the 2021 Charity Quilt, please contact John Rouleau. The guild has not yet chosen the recipient. That will be one of those tasks the guild gets to once able to meet together again.

5 Common Issues with Rotary Cutters (From the Quilting Hub)

Have you ever been cutting out a new quilt and encountered problems with your rotary cutter like skipped threads, shredded edges, and wonky cuts? Here are five potential solutions:

1. Old Rotary Cutter Blade

How long has it been since you treated yourself to a new rotary cutter blade? If you have cut miles of fabric since the blade was last changed, it may be time for a nice sharp new blade. Remember, your cutting mat will thank you because it will last longer!

2. Nicked Rotary Cutter Blade?

Have you accidentally cut your metal or plastic template with your rotary cutter, or just run in to them really hard? Just a time or two of that rotary cutter blade contacting surfaces other than your fabric and mat can cause a tiny nick in the blade which will lead to threads not being cut as you roll past that nick. Ultimately this can also cause mat damage, so change that blade and save time and aggravation.

3. New Rotary Cutter Blade Installed and New Problems?

More than one of your quilting friends has experienced this issue! Check carefully to see that you only installed one new blade – they come packaged in multiples sometimes and stick together so closely that you do not even notice that you have installed two blades until you get a shredded edge when you make that first cut.

4. Inaccurate Cuts After Changing Your Rotary Blade

Now your cuts are not accurate despite having changed the blade! Check to make sure that you have installed the blade on the proper side of the rotary cutter handle and with the correct side of the blade pointing outward (contains wording). There is a position that can be used for lefties as well as right-handed cutters.

5. Problems Persist With A Thread Here and There Not Being Cut

Try turning your rotary cutter mat ¼ turn. Does this solve the problem? If so, your issue lies with your mat and not your rotary cutter. Dull blades and use have probably led to a mat with fibers caught in the grooves. Follow the manufacturer's directions to wash the mat and let it dry flat so that it can "heal itself."

FACE MASK MAKING CONTINUES...

Congratulations to the St. Albans Face Mask Group for all the masks the group has made for local communities and organizations throughout Franklin County. Many FCQG members are part of this awesome group. One guild member in particular, Shirley Babcock, has made over 1000 masks herself for the group (as of May 20th). She has made over 1100 masks total. At the time, Shirley's contribution to the group represented 10% of all the masks the group has made. It's been a week since Shirley crossed those milestones. Today, she's probably quickly approaching 1500 masks made.



5 REASONS TO SHOW AND SHARE YOUR QUILTS (From the Quilting Hub)

Do you attend Guild meetings, workshops, retreats, or classes? Do you participate in Show and Tell? Here are a few reasons why you really should participate.

1. Showing is Sharing

Do you know that when you show your work you are sharing and helping your quilting friends to grow in their art? When fellow quilters share their work and tell us a little bit about the process they have used, they are helping others to be inspired to try new techniques or color combinations in their quilts. This is a great way to help your fellow quilter to break out of their "box" of quilting knowledge.

2. Showing to Teach

Show your quilt and tell what tools you used for your construction. Letting your fellow quilters know about tools that worked well for you, or ones you found challenging and not worth the money, can be very helpful to them. We have all looked at tools at shows or online and wondered if there were really as good as they were marketed to be, by sharing your experiences using these tools, others will know if they should save their money for something else or that this would be a great purchase for them.

3. Sharing for Feedback and Ideas

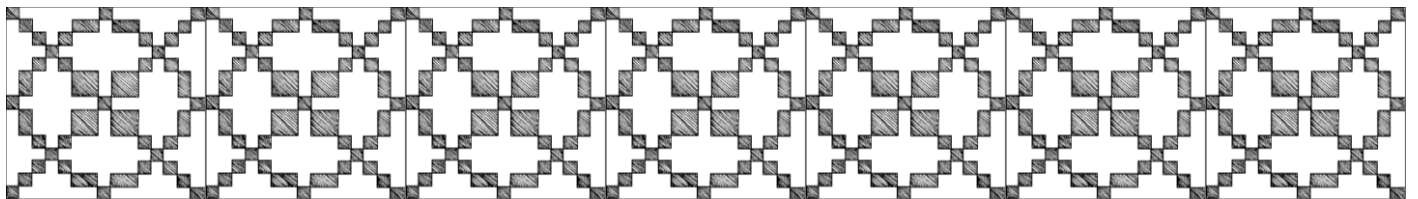
Have you been working on a quilt and you just keep feeling like it needs "something else" but you can't decide what that is? Show and Tell time at your Guild meeting, workshop, retreat, or class can be the perfect time to ask for feedback and ideas of what that "extra little something" could be. Believe me, quilters are more than happy to share their opinions and experiences with you, if you just provide them the opportunity.

4. Sharing to Meet Like-Minded Quilters

Are you fairly new to your quilting group and want to make friends with quilters who have similar interests? Getting up during Show and Tell and sharing your quilt with others will let them know what kind of quilting you enjoy, and possibly lead to a good conversation and a new quilting bestie. Even if that does not happen, you are likely to receive some nice "oohs and aahs" for your quilt and you could be invited to a bee where you can meet even more quilters.

5. Sharing for Encouragement

Let's face it, there are some people who are ever present at meetings, but that you never hear from because they are shy, or concerned that their work "isn't good enough". But, by seeing that there are lots of people sharing their quilts of all different skill levels, you may encourage them to share for the first time, so go forth and show that beautiful art that you have created and invite your friends to do the same.



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:

Wednesday, June 3rd, 2020

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