

Franklin County Quilters Guild

SUGARHOUSE GAZETTE

Saint Albans, Vermont

<http://www.franklincountyquilters.org>

franklincountyquilters@gmail.com



Volume 15, Issue 9
May 2023

President

Laurel Schaap

Vice President

Helen Short

Secretary

Helen Bicknell

Treasurer

Deb Dusablon

Newsletter

Sharon Perry

Programs

Gale Weld

Deb Trahan

Project Coordinator

Diane Comeau

Lucie Fortin

Membership

Penny LaRochelle

Quilt Show

Helen Short

Teri Brunelle

Website

Ali Boren

Comfort Quilts Coordinator

Denise Chase

2023 Raffle Quilt

Penny LaRochelle

2023 Charity Quilt

Helen Short & JeanAnne Branch

President's Piece

What do you miss when you're away from home? What do you look forward to when you get back?

I think first on the list is people. Family, friends, neighbors, maybe your church, other groups, like quilt guild. It's different now, with the ease of phone calls, video calls, and Zoom meetings, but those are not a substitute for being together. I met a lot of nice folks when I was gone. But it's work, getting to know new people and feeling comfortable with them. It's so good to be able to stop by a friend's house.

My own space. This is big. Having a place to keep things, even if disorganized, is so comfortable. I need to spend time getting things back in their places after being away. It's an opportunity to rearrange stuff a little bit. I acquired a few things while I was gone and now they need to find a home. And probably weed out another round of stuff I can do without.

My house. You see things a little differently after being away. There are a few things to rearrange in the house, too. My house is not large, so I need to rethink some of the spaces. My plants are in need of some TLC.

Familiar places. The grocery store where I know the location of everything. The post office. My hair stylist. The coffee shop.

It feels good to be home.

Piecefully,

Laurel Schaap, 2022-2023 President

P.S. I can't help but think of the many refugees in our world who don't have a home to return to. Let's give a thought, a prayer, a contribution for the victims of war in many places of our world, including those in our own country.



2022 – 2023 Guild Calendar

September 21st Ice Cream Social
Potholder Exchange & Bingo
(Doors open at 5:30 pm; food at 6 pm)

October 19th Christmas in October
with Member Demos

November 16th Patriotic-Themed
Quilters' 2½" Strip Poker

December 14th White Elephant
Gift Exchange

January 11th Trunk Show on Zoom
with Emily Taylor, Collage Quilter

2022 – 2023 Guild Calendar

February 8th "Confessions of a Fabric
Whisperer" Trunk Show on Zoom with
Ellen Lindner, Adventure Quilter

February 11th Double Reverse Appliqué
Workshop on Zoom with Ellen Lindner,
Adventure Quilter

March 15th Tips & Tricks for Quilting
Studio Organization

March 31st Quilt Show Set-Up

April 1st – 2nd Quilt Show

2022 – 2023 Guild Calendar

April 19th Singer Featherweights and
Other Vintage Sewing Machines
With Barb & David Morgan

**CHANGE!!! May 12th BOM Reveal and
GE Designs Trunk Show with Diane
Comeau, Lucie Fortin, Sharon Perry &
Deb Trahan**

**CHANGE!!! May 13th Guild Sew-In for
BOM Quilts, Stripology Rulers, and GE
Designs Patterns**

June 21st Teacup Auction

Franklin County Quilters Guild
April 19, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Laurel Schaap.

Beth Brault moved to accept the Consent Agenda. Cindy Metayer seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Membership: Lucie Fortin reported (in Penny LaRochelle's absence) that 25 members were present.

Mystery Quilt: Diane Comeau and Lucie Fortin showed us the new block. We only need to complete two blocks. The link to the directions is available on the Guild's website.

Programs:

- May – Gale Weld reported that the May meeting will be held on Friday, May 12, at 6:30 p.m. at Church of the Rock with Norma Ippolito presenting. The workshop, with Norma, will be held on Saturday, May 13, at 8:30 a.m. (at Church of the Rock). The workshop is currently full.
- June – Teacup Auction
- Gale introduced our guest speakers for tonight's meeting. Barbara Fraser and David Morgan will present their program on Singer Featherweight machines.

Comfort Quilts: Comfort quilts were collected to be given to Denise Chase.

Sugarhouse Gazette: Laurel stated that Sharon Perry would like all newsletter entries by Wednesday, April 26.

23 in 2023 Challenge: Laurel reminded members to continue recording their 23 in 23.

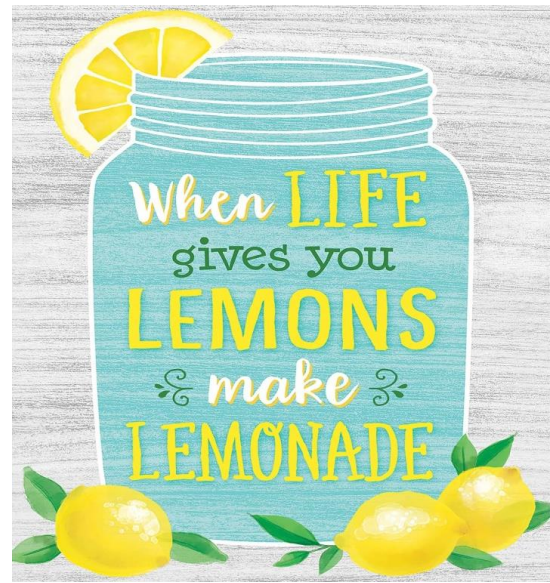
As several members were absent, there were no reports from Comfort Quilts, the Quilt Show, or the Charity Quilt which is to be presented in either the May or June meeting. We look forward to hearing from these committee chairs at the May meeting.

Other Business: Laurel reported that we still need people to fill the position of President and Vice President for the 2023-2024 year.

Drawings: Linda Nadeau won the membership door prize. Bonnie Evans won the Comfort Quilt door prize.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Bicknell, Secretary



LEMONS: Norma Ippolito has taken a bad fall and was informed by her doctor to rest easy for a while. She has had to postpone her guild presentation and workshop scheduled for May 12th and 13th until October. Norma said,

"Please let them know that I was really looking forward to our time together and that I am disappointed it will need to be at a later date. Their kits are made and waiting for them. Use this additional time to practice their free motion quilting skills! They should keep all the documents I've already sent in a folder and I will check in with them prior to our workshop, sending two additional documents to help them and their machine be ready for class. In the meantime, if they have any questions, feel free to contact me."

MAKE LEMONADE: Diane Comeau and Lucie Fortin will be revealing the Mystery Block of the Month at the May meeting. Diane, along with Sharon Perry and Deb Trahan, will also be doing a trunk show, of sorts, of quilts the three have made using patterns from GE Designs following the BOM reveal. If you have any Stripology rulers and/or GE Designs' books or patterns, they'll be showing you some of the amazing quilts you can quickly and easily construct using the Stripology rulers.

On Saturday, May 13th, there will be a sew-in for all guild members at the Church of the Rock from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. All members are welcome to attend. Diane and Lucie will be available to help members working on their BOM quilt. Additionally, Diane, Sharon, and Deb will be showing the many ways the Stripology rulers can make your quilt-making more productive and efficient. For fun, there will be some games and drawings throughout the day.

So, despite the lemons the guild, and Norma too, were given, there will be some delicious "lemonade" for guild members to enjoy Friday night and Saturday.



TREASURER'S REPORT FOR MAY 2023**FRANKLIN COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD****Treasurer's Report -- May 12, 2023**

Opening Balance		\$7,723.08
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Funds Collected

QS Vendor (1)	\$50.00
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Membership	\$20.00
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<i>Total Funds Collected</i>	<u>\$70.00</u>
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<i>Subtotal</i>	\$7,793.08
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Funds Paid Out

Helen Short, gift cards	\$250.00
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Teri Brunelle, QS pins & tags	\$19.08
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Gale Weld, Morgan presentation gift card	\$50.00
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<i>Total Funds Paid Out</i>	<u>\$319.08</u>
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Grand Total	\$7,474.00
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<u>\$96.00</u>

*Comfort Quilt /
Supplies Donations*

<i>Guild funds available</i>	<u><u>\$7,378.00</u></u>
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2023 YTD Collections: \$6,354.83

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah L. Dusablon, Treasurer

QUILT TIPS

- When washing your material to test for coloring fastness, put in a plain piece of muslin. Even if the water turns color it doesn't mean that the dye will run. But, if the muslin picks up the color then you will know the color will attach itself to other fabric.
- For paper piecing, make all photocopies at the same time and on the same copier, if possible. Photocopiers can distort the image to some degree, and that's okay, but to minimize this distortion, always photocopy from the same original.
- For paper piecing, small stitches are important. Set your stitch length to 2.0mm and use a 90/14 needle. The combination of larger needle and small stitch length will make removing the papers easier.
- For paper piecing, fabric should be cut at least 1" larger than the area you are trying to cover. It does not have to be cut to the right shape, just larger than you need. You'll see our suggested patch sizes listed right on the foundation pattern.
- For paper piecing, lay paper pattern right side up on your surface to audition fabric over the sections and hold your paper pattern up to the light to make sure fabric is in the correct spot and will cover the area.
- Chocolate is a quilting notion!

UNCONVENTIONAL QUILTING TOOLS

From the Quilting Hub

Chopsticks: These great little wooden tools are very helpful to “poke” out corners when turning stitched shapes.

Binder Clips: Those little (or not so little) black and silver colored clips are a great way to hold seams together that you don’t want to pin and they also are great for holding bindings in place for your quilts.

Magnetic Tray: Those little bowls or trays are commonly found in automotive departments. They can be quite helpful to hold straight pins and safety pins near your workspace, but beware if you have a computerized machine or thumb-drive as the magnets can be quite powerful and may erase the memory in your devices.

Telescoping Magnet: This tool can also be found in the automotive section of many stores. Some even have an LED light. They can be great when you have lost your needle or pins on the floor and you can just swish the telescopic magnetic tool back and forth over the furniture or flooring to help locate the illusive items before you get stuck!

Flashlights: Flexible flashlights that wrap around things can be quite useful in your quilting studio to add extra light in just the right places. Sometimes they can wrap around your machine or even stick to it, other times you may want to wrap it around a curtain rod to light up your workspace.

Sandpaper: Sandpaper can be used to hold your fabric still while you write or draw on it. Or small dots of sandpaper can be glued to the back of rulers to help hold them in place while you are cutting.

Gardening Gloves: Gardening gloves with rubberized palms and tips can be very useful when free motion quilting to help you move your quilt around more easily. They can also be useful when trying to get a grip on a stubborn needle when hand quilting through thick seams.

Vodka: Now I know you probably will not find this at the local quilt shop! But, some recipes for pressing sprays use “cheap” vodka. Others find it particularly helpful to “loosen-up” before free motion quilting.

Pool Noodles: Yes pool noodles those foam noodles that children and adult alike use to float around a pool are great for quilting. You can purchase a new one and wrap your quilt around it for transport so that it will not get creases. Some machine quilters also wrap their quilts around them to keep the excess fabric controlled while they are working on the other side of the quilt.

Rubber Finger Tips, Tweezers, Needle-Nosed Pliers, and Hemostats: Some of us have a hard time getting used to thimbles or have dexterity issues that make pulling needles through fabric more difficult and rubber finger tips can help. When those are not quite strong enough, tweezers, needle-nosed pliers, and hemostats (traditionally used for surgery) can be used.

TV Tray Tables: They are not just for eating anymore!

Wooden TV tray tables can be covered with batting and ironing board fabric and used as an extra pressing surface, or just a staging area beside your sewing machine. They are fairly inexpensive and a great take-along for additional workspace at retreats also.

Design Walls: Design walls can be fairly pricey when purchased for their intended use, but there are less expensive options. A flannel-backed tablecloth pinned or taped (with painters tape) to your wall will hold your blocks in place so that you may move them around and get the design just right. Another option is to purchase a piece of foam insulation and cover it with batting and flannel. This is a more “permanent” option if you have a dedicated stitching space.

Light Table Option: If you don’t really have space for a dedicated tracing table, you can always just purchase a component. Removing a leaf from your dining table, place a lamp underneath the opening, and then place a piece of Plexiglas on top, and like magic, you have an instant light table that is great to use to trace your patterns.

Graph Paper/Freezer Paper: These papers are great to draw out new designs and color them in to see how your block will look after stitching.

Parchment Paper: When you want to protect your work surface from pressing sprays, adhesives, etc. Parchment paper can help you keep your work surface clean and dry. It can also act as a pressing sheet when in a pinch.

Extension Cords/Surge Protectors: Don’t forget to purchase a good extension cord with a surge protector. Our irons and machines can call for a lot of power, and we have to protect them whether at home or on retreat, don’t forget the surge protector!



Happy Mother's Day

ANOTHER QUILT TIP

When you are making half square triangles (HST) sew a SCANT $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the center diagonal line so the fabric will have a bit more room to flip over when you press it. Most times you can cut your initial squares one inch larger (rather than the standard $\frac{7}{8}$ inch) and then trim them down to the finished size + $\frac{1}{2}$ inch for the seam allowances.

2023 CHARITY QUILT



Organized by

Jean Anne Branch & Helen Short

Quilted by Julie Cowles, Meander My Way

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.

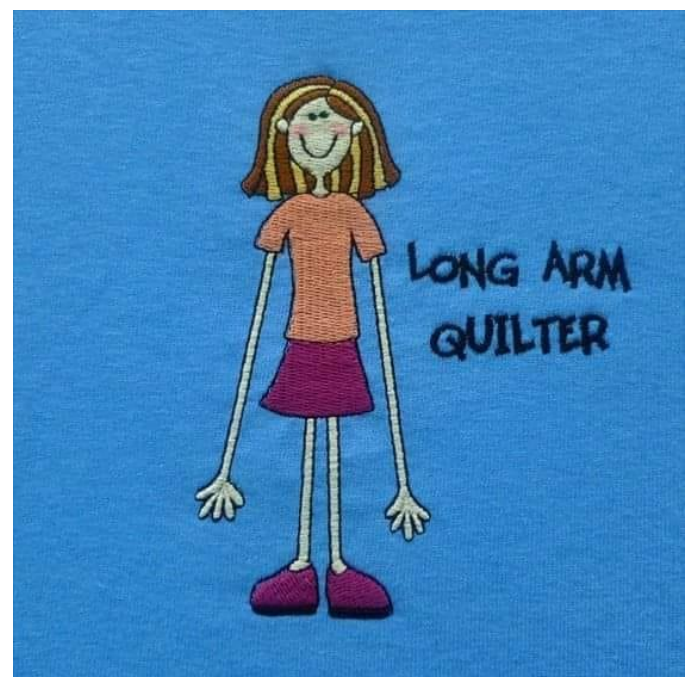


"I will not buy any more fabric until I use up the stash I have at home," I said. And then I laughed and laughed.



Shirley	Babcock	May	3
Rolande	Fortin	May	19
Kay	Courson	May	20
Connie	Lane	May	30
Jennifer	Thompson	May	31

...and many more!!!



MYSTERY QUILT

2022-2023



MYSTERY QUILT PROJECT FOR 2022-2023 MEMBERSHIP YEAR

Diane Comeau and Lucie Fortin have been working together over the summer to bring guild members another fun and unique mystery quilt with blocks presented each month during the 2022-2023 membership year. It sounds like another stunning quilt. If you missed out on making the FCQG Sugarhouse Sampler this past year, you can join this year's mystery.

Diane plans to handle the distribution of the instructions for each month's block(s) a little different from last year's mystery quilt. She will still have the current month's BOM in paper version at each guild meeting and any past months where there are extras for those members who would prefer a paper copy.

In addition to the paper copy available at the meeting, Diane will also have a pattern available on her website for each month's instructions. Diane will provide a link each month for that month's

pattern. Here is the [link for the month 8 pattern and instructions presented at the April meeting](https://www.cadicorners.com/shop/c/p/Mystery-Block-of-the-Month---8-x65794795.htm): <https://www.cadicorners.com/shop/c/p/Mystery-Block-of-the-Month---8-x65794795.htm>.

When you click on the link, it will direct you to Diane's business website. Even though there is a "price" for each month's pattern, guild members will have a coupon code to enter which will zero out the "price" for the pattern.

To access the pattern, click on the link in blue above. Once you access Diane's business page, click "Add to Cart." Now go to your cart and under the word Subtotal, click on Enter Coupon. **Enter BOM2023 then click Apply. Once you click Apply, the "price" for the pattern will be \$0.00. The coupon code (BOM2023) will be valid until July 31, 2023,** so Diane encourages all 2022-2023 members to use the code upon the release of the pattern each month. If anyone missed out on a paper copy or would prefer a paper copy, please contact Diane at 802-310-1837.

You will be required to enter your email address so the system can send you a link to download your file. The file will be available for an unlimited number of downloads.

Here are the links to all the blocks so far:

- BOM presented at the September meeting: <https://www.cadicorners.com/shop/CaDis-Quilt-Corner/Books-and-Patterns/Mystery-Block-of-the-Month/p/Mystery-Block-of-the-Month---1-x65791129.htm>
- BOM presented at the October meeting: <https://www.cadicorners.com/shop/CaDis-Quilt-Corner/Books-and-Patterns/Mystery-Block-of-the-Month/p/Mystery-Block-of-the-Month---2-x65794682.htm>
- BOM presented at the November meeting: <https://www.cadicorners.com/shop/CaDis-Quilt-Corner/Books-and-Patterns/Mystery-Block-of-the-Month/p/Mystery-Block-of-the-Month---3-x65794779.htm>
- BOM presented at the December meeting: <https://www.cadicorners.com/shop/CaDis-Quilt-Corner/Books-and-Patterns/Mystery-Block-of-the-Month/p/Mystery-Block-of-the-Month---4-x67240928.htm>
- BOM presented at the January meeting: <https://www.cadicorners.com/shop/c/p/Mystery-Block-of-the-Month---5-x65794785.htm>
- BOM presented at the February meeting: <https://www.cadicorners.com/shop/c/p/Mystery-Block-of-the-Month---6-x65794788.htm>
- BOM presented at the March meeting: <https://www.cadicorners.com/shop/c/p/Mystery-Block-of-the-Month---7-x65794791.htm>
- BOM presented at the April meeting: <https://www.cadicorners.com/shop/c/p/Mystery-Block-of-the-Month---8-x65794795.htm>



YET MORE QUILT TIPS

- Take a plastic coffee stirring stick, and insert a little piece of pipe cleaner shaped into a loop. It is great for cleaning lint out of your sewing machine.
- Use leftover cotton batting for removing nail polish instead of cotton balls. It works great.



RECIPE CORNER

THE PERFECT GREEK SALAD

- 3 cups romaine lettuce, chopped
- 1 cup grape tomatoes (or cherry tomatoes)
- 1 cup red onion, chopped (roughly 1 small red onion)
- 1½ cups cucumber, sliced and chopped into quarters (roughly 1 medium cucumber)
- 1 medium green pepper, chopped
- ¼ cup whole Kalamata olives
- ¼ cup feta cheese, crumbled
- Greek Salad Dressing
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1 + ½ tablespoons freshly squeezed lemon juice
- ½ teaspoon dried oregano
- ¼ teaspoon sea salt
- ¼ teaspoon ground black pepper (or more to taste)

In a large bowl, combine the romaine lettuce, cherry tomatoes, red onion, cucumber, olives and feta cheese.

In a small bowl, make the lemon Greek salad dressing by whisking together the olive oil, lemon juice, oregano, salt and pepper.

Pour dressing over the salad and toss to combine. Add more black pepper to taste.

SPINACH AND STRAWBERRY SALAD

Pecans:

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1½ cups pecan halves
- ½ cup sugar

Melt butter and sugar in heavy skillet, stir in pecans and cook until coated and browned slightly (burns easily). Cool on waxed paper or foil.

Dressing:

- ¾ cups white vinegar
- ½ cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 2 teaspoons mustard (Dijon recommended)
- 3 - 4 scallions chopped
- 2 cups vegetable oil
- 2 teaspoons poppy seeds

Salad:

- 1 pound fresh spinach, washed and thick stems removed, then torn
 - 2 cups sliced celery
 - 1 pint fresh strawberries, hulled and sliced
- Assemble salad ingredients.

Dress and add pecans at last minute.

RECIPE NOTE: Dressing recipe makes too much for salad, so add to taste.

PASTA SALAD

- 1 pkg. (16-oz) rotini pasta, tri-color
- 1 cucumber, diced
- 1 tomato, diced
- 2 carrots, sliced
- 1 small stick pepperoni, sliced
- 6 slices ham, cubed
- 6 slices Swiss cheese, cubed
- Olives (black or green), sliced
- Radishes, sliced (optional)
- 1 sm. Bottle Zesty Italian dressing
- 1 tablespoon oregano
- 1 tablespoon Italian seasoning
- 1 tablespoon cheese salad seasoning
- Dash of pepper

Cook and drain pasta according to package directions; set aside and let cool.

Add oregano, Italian seasoning and cheese salad seasoning to bottle of Italian dressing; shake well.

Toss pasta, vegetables, meats, and cheeses together. Pour dressing (with added spices) over pasta mixture. Toss thoroughly. Add pepper to taste. Marinate in refrigerator for at least 3 hours, overnight recommended. Toss before serving.

MAPLE BALSAMIC VINAIGRETTE

- 1 teaspoon dry mustard
- ½ teaspoon dried basil
- 3 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- 2 tablespoons maple syrup
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

In a small bowl, combine mustard, basil, garlic, salt, and pepper. Add vinegar, maple syrup and lemon juice. Whisk together. Add olive oil and whisk until emulsified.



MAY HAS DECKED THE WORLD

By Annette Wynne

May has decked the world, that we
 May bring the brave on land or sea
 Earth's glory on Memorial Day,
 The lovely meadow gifts of May.

Brave dead, who saved our country, we
 Come with flowers; O living brave, on land or
 sea,

We wave the bright Red, White and Blue
 And bring May meadow gifts to you!

**FEATURED VIDEO TUTORIAL FOR MAY:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4xtOqWHAgp8>

“Time Flies” Quilt

Missouri Star Quilt Company

FEATURED PATTERNS

Pretty Baskets: <https://www.rileyblakedesigns.com/assets/images/freepatterns/quiltpatterns/ToNorwayWithLoveFreePattern.pdf>

Spring Quartet:

<https://www.rileyblakedesigns.com/assets/images/freepatterns/quiltpatterns/SashingStashSpringQuartetFreePattern.pdf>

Baskets of Fun: https://windhamfabrics.com/images/project/Baskets%20of%20Fun_RS.pdf

Berry Nice: https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/2197/5951/files/P_BBerryNice_1Final.pdf?6532271241030361219

Flower Basket: <https://windhamfabrics.com/images/project/Flower%20Basket%20Tested.pdf>

May Candle Mat: <https://www.connectingthreads.com/free-download/991523>

Baby Basket: https://drive.google.com/file/d/15a1pyvnnC_PDNAo8PnC-pRG5WQRK6o3d/view

Scrap Baskets*:** <http://www.caroldoak.com/pdfs/comp Scrap.pdf>

Celebration Wreath*:** <https://www.caroldoak.com/userfiles/file/CelebrationWreath.pdf>

Pat’s Lily Basket*:** <https://www.caroldoak.com/userfiles/file/LilyBasketlegal.pdf>

Scrappy Carrots*:** <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aVnK-WD7TV0cc-T2xKp9ILRYH9FxlNpc/view>

*** denotes paper-pieced patterns

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, 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, May 31st, 2023

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



May is National Bike Month



*“I’ve got sunshine on a cloudy day. When it’s cold
 outside, I’ve got the month of May.” ~ Smokey Robinson*