

Franklin County Quilters Guild

SUGARHOUSE GAZETTE

Saint Albans, Vermont

<http://www.franklincountyquilters.org>

franklincountyquilters@gmail.com



Volume 17, Issue 10
June 2025

Co-Presidents

Jean Anne Branch
Mary Jane Rossi

Vice President

Bonnie Evans

Secretary

Gale Weld

Treasurer

Deb Dusablom

Newsletter

Sharon Perry

Programs

Cathy Carlson
John Rouleau

Project Coordinator

Carol Stanley

Membership

Penny LaRochelle

Quilt Show

Mary King
Beth Mouser

Website

Scott Perry

Comfort Quilts Coordinator

Denise Chase

2025 Raffle Quilt

Laurel Schaap

2025 Charity Quilt

Sharon Perry & Denise Chase

President's Piece

Greetings quilters,

"Make it a habit to talk about blessings more than burdens." (Zen Tao. Buddhism)

What an appropriate focus for this year's final article. There were moments when sitting in the president's chairs felt like a burden; however, seeing those moments through with a team of caring and thoughtful quilters turned those burdens into blessings.

In September, we learned we would need to find a new meeting place. Yikes! After some momentary panic, Bonnie Evans and we set out to explore options. Thank you to those who offered suggestions. We truly appreciated your input. While it took a fair amount of patience (does voting on Zoom ring bells?), we landed at the American Legion with no incurred cost! What a blessing! Thanks to all who searched, recommended, waited, voted and finally, endured!

The quilt show! As always, many hands together created a memorable event. The welcoming greeting in the lobby set the stage for what was to come. The quilts, first and foremost, were beyond description. The "oohs and ahhs" we heard as visitors ambled through the rows of beautiful quilts sounded like success. It was wonderful to watch the energy and excitement build from Thursday afternoon to the opening of the show. All of us, together, making that magic happen is a blessing, for sure.

Thank you to each and every one of you for making this year such a pleasure. We have enjoyed growing with you as we tried to stay the course of our Guild's mission through a few stormy moments. We made it!

Enjoy the summer and continue quilting as we prepare for another season together.

Piece by piece,

Jean Anne Branch
2024-2025 Co-President

Mary Jane Rossi
2024-2025 Co-President



2024 – 2025 Guild Calendar

September 18th Trunk Show
with Debi Montgomery
& light refreshments

September 19th Mystery Quilt
Workshop with Debi Montgomery
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church (Swanton)

October 16th Trunk Show with
Denise Chase, Ice Cream Social,
and Brown Bag Exchange

November 20th Trunk Show
with Karen Abrahamovich

2024 – 2025 Guild Calendar

November 23rd Workshop with Karen
Abrahamovich, NMC Conference Room

December 18th Holiday Potluck
and Gift Exchange--MTG STARTS AT 6PM

January 15th Virtual Trunk Show
with Linda Diak ON ZOOM

February 19th Pam Weeks' Lecture on History of
Soft Protest Storytelling in Textiles ON ZOOM

March 15th Workshop with Nanc Ekiert, NMC
Conference Room RESCHEDULED

March 19th Guild Members'
Skill Sharing Session

2024 – 2025 Guild Calendar

March 22nd Quilted Jacket Workshop with
Janice Roy, NMC Conference Room CNX

April 4th Quilt Show Set-Up

April 5th & 6th 25th Annual Quilt Show

April 9th Strippers Night!

Left-Right-Center Strip Poker Game

May 14th Modern Quilts with Jess Peck
Brown Bag Exchange (return)

June 11th Potluck & Trunk Sale
All proceeds to benefit the guild
(Doors open at 5:30 pm; potluck at 6 pm)

Franklin County Quilters Guild

Co-Presidents: Jean Anne Branch and Mary Jane Rossi
Location: American Legion, 100 Parah Drive, St. Albans, VT

Minutes for General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by Jean Anne Branch for our monthly meeting. She greeted all members in attendance with a warm welcome. She then told a short story about Hummingbirds to include several facts and ended with a Native American reading entitled, *"Healer Between Heart Beats"*.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made by Denise Chase and seconded by Bonnie Evans to accept the April 9th Secretary's Report and the May Treasurer's Report. All in favor, motion carried.

Presentation of Charity Quilt: The 2025 Charity Quilt is for the Commission of St. Johns in Highgate. Kay Benedict and Sandy Kenyon, Chair of the Commission to restore and vitalize St. John's Church, arrived to receive the quilt. Kay shared information about their restoration plans as well as ongoing and future programs. Kay and Sandy both thanked the group for their generous donation to support their cause. They have yet to organize a raffle. They were both welcomed to return to the guild to sell tickets should they decide.

Mary Jane Ross proceeded:**Announcements:**

- We need to make a motion to approve the proposed change to the Guild's Bylaws. You will recall that it is a generic change to Article VI Meetings Section 1. Members had been presented the change in writing for consideration during the April meeting. It was also detailed in the May newsletter. Motion to amend the Guild's Bylaws: Helen Short, 2nd by Peggy Parade. All in favor, motion carried.
- We need to make a motion to approve the change in the meeting schedule that will start in the 2025 – 2026 membership year. Vote to add meeting months of July and August, no longer meeting during months of January and February. Motion to change meeting schedule: Denise Chase, 2nd by Carol Stanley. All in favor, motion carried.

Presentation of Proposed Officers:

- Nominating Committee: Cindy Metayer and Carol Parks
- We will vote on the proposed slate of Officers and Program Coordinators for next year during the June meeting.
- The proposed individuals are as follows:

2025-2026 Proposed Slateof Officers and Program Coordinators

Co-Presidents: Jean Anne Branch & Mary Jane Rossi

Vice President: Bonnie Evans

Secretary: Deb Trahan*

Treasurer: Deb Dusablon

Newsletter: Sharon Perry

Programs: Cathy Carlson, Helen Short*

Project Coordinator: Sandy Lane*

Membership: Penny LaRochelle

Quilt Show: Diane Kane*, Beth Mouser

Comfort Quilt Coordinator: Denise Chase

*Denotes new position in 2025-2026

Programs (Cathy Carlson, John Rouleau):

- Cathy announced they will be distributing brown bags with completed projects to each member during the presentation, with a reminder not to open the bag until the end of the meeting.
- June program will include a "Trunk Sale" in the left side parking lot. Also a potluck. Bring a cold or warm dish to share.
- Cathy introduced our guest speaker, Jess Peck of Vermont Modern Quilters Guild. Jess announced that her Aunt owns Yankee Pride Quilt Shop in Essex Jct. Jess has been a quilter for 14 years. She presented some background on modern quilts. The Vermont Modern Quilters Guild started in 2013. They meet at the Vermont Commons School, 75 Green Mountain Drive in South Burlington. All are welcome to attend a meeting. Information about the guild is located on their website as well as FB. She presented many completed block examples as traditional and then with a modern take of that traditional block. Very inspirational!

Membership (Penny LaRochelle): Penny announced 71 paid members and 3 guests. Present at meeting: 47

Block of the Month (BOM) (Carol Stanley):

- Carol Stanley presented a sample of the June BOM called "Baby Kisses" by Missouri Star Quilt Company. You should make 4 blocks, sew them together resulting in a 9½" block using scraps with a white corner piece.
- Instructions will be posted on the FCQG website under "Projects".
- Maggie Stockwell pointed out there's also a YouTube video tutorial by MSQC. You can find that video [here](#).
- Members are encouraged to bring completed blocks to the June meeting.
- May BOM: Approximately 114 blocks. Winner: Alice Bushey
- It was announced that one paper copy of the BOM will be set on each table during the meetings. You can take a picture of the printed copy for reference. This will save on cost and an excess of printed copies.

Comfort Quilts (Denise Chase):

- Many thanks to guild members for donating several quilts building our inventory!
- Special thanks to Sally Krupp for machine quilting so many of the comfort quilts!
- Kits available to be taken. Some for piecing and some to be quilted.
- Comfort quilt labels available for pick up.
- Please consider donating quilts that are gender neutral.
- Please refer to quilt size graph for exact sizing. This was made available by Sharon Perry.
- Several quilts are being donated to Spectrum Youth program. Each quilt donated goes with each youth upon their departure.
- Donation of quilts to Women's Shelter – Voices Against Violence, St. Albans – 5 twins (Moms), 2 baby, 4 toddler, 1 for an 11-yr old girl. Each quilt donated will go with each individual.
- Denise Chase mentioned there are 27 completed twin quilts for donation.

(Minutes continued on page 4)



TREASURER'S REPORT FOR JUNE 2025**FRANKLIN COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD****Treasurer's Report -- June 11, 2025**

Opening Balance \$12,149.95

Funds Collected

Membership \$40.00

QS Poles deposit refund \$50.00

Total Funds Collected \$90.00

Subtotal \$12,239.95

Funds Paid Out

Catherine Carlson, Jess Peck presentation \$53.94

Total Funds Paid Out \$53.94

Grand Total **\$12,186.01**

2025 YTD Collections: \$4,988.00

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah L. Dusablon, Treasurer

**POTLUCK AND TRUNK SALE AT JUNE MEETING**

The June meeting will feature the end-of-year potluck dinner and a trunk sale. **Members are asked to bring a dish to share for the potluck. The potluck dinner will start at 6:00 pm with doors open at 5:30pm. Don't forget to bring a serving utensil.** We will not have access to the American Legion's kitchen.

Also featured at the June meeting is a Trunk Sale. This is a sale of books, patterns, fabric or any quilt/sewing related items. For those who have items for sale, please park at the left lot when you arrive. It was mentioned you can either price your items or that members can simply make a donation based on item purchased. All donations benefit guild programs.

Members who want to purchase items will buy tickets from the guild: \$1/ticket or \$10/15 tickets. Each ticket will be worth \$1. As stated above, items for sale will stay in people's vehicle trunks/hatchbacks, and members will go to the parking lot to purchase items. All proceeds will go to the guild. In case of rain, items will be brought inside. Hint: having your items in totes will make carrying them easier.

Don't forget the new meeting location is at the American Legion, 100 Parah Drive, St Albans, VT, on June 11th, the 2nd Wednesday of the month.



MONTHLY MEETING FORMAT

Unless otherwise noted, the monthly guild meeting will follow the following format for in-person meetings.

- 6:00 pm Doors open
 Sign in at membership table
 Sign up for monthly drawing if you haven't won this year
 Sign up for BOM raffle if you made one
 Sign up for comfort quilt drawing if you made a comfort quilt
- 6:30 pm Business Meeting
 Program for the evening
 Short Break as appropriate
 Show and Tell



May 14 Guild Meeting Minutes (Cont.)

- We can cover all of the Shelters in need. She will assess her inventory and report where there is a specific need for more quilts for donation.
- Discussion about Fire Departments and how we can support those in need after a fire. Jean Anne suggested to members that they reach out to their community FD to inform them that when there is a need, to please let us know by providing specifics (with no names) and how many.

Jean Anne Proceeded:

New Business

Quilt Show:

- Members were informed the first weekend in April 2026 is Easter. We need to make a motion to approve a change in dates to 2nd weekend in April. A motion was made to change the dates to April 11th and 12th. Motion: Mary King, 2nd by Helen Short. All approved. Motion carried.
- City Hall to be reserved for those dates ASAP.
- Volunteers are needed so please consider how you can help, and sign up at the June meeting.
- Penny LaRochelle announced a change will be made to the quilt categories with specific size requirements. This will help with quilt display planning and hanging. Change will be outlined on the "new" submission forms. Also, there will be specific instructions on how to submit your completed form(s) and photo(s) to Penny.

June Meeting Reminder:

- Trunk Sale – This is a sale of books, patterns, fabric or any quilt/sewing related items. For those who have items for sale, please park at the left lot when you arrive. It was mentioned you can either price your items or that members can simply make a donation based on item selected. All donations benefit guild programs.
- Potluck: Meeting begins at 6 pm; doors open at 5:30 pm.
- Don't forget to bring a serving utensil. We will not have access to the American Legion's kitchen.

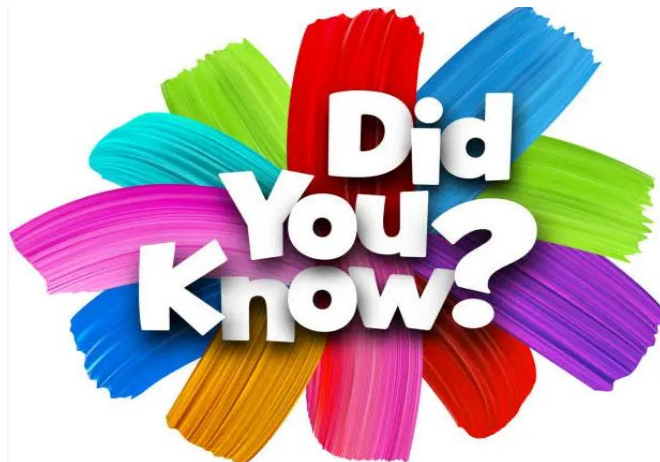
Monthly Drawings:

- Membership Winner: Andrea Blaisdell
- Comfort Quilt: Cindy Metayer

Brown bag reveal. Amazing!

Show-n-Tell: Amazing!!

Respectfully submitted,
 Gale Weld, Secretary



SHALL I KEEP MY SCRAPS? (From the Quilting Hub)

Did you know? You don't have to keep ALL your quilting scraps! It's true, but have you been unsure which ones to keep, which to use to make new quilts, and which ones to donate for charity projects?

Keeper Scraps: If you have made a quilt for a loved one that gets used and washed regularly, it is a great idea to keep the quilt scraps so that if accidents occur you can fix that special comfy quilt. This is especially a good idea if the quilt was made for a baby or small child that may ultimately hold onto their quilt for many years using it as a "lovey" and dragging it with them wherever they may go. These quilts get lots of time in the washer and dryer and are subject to developing "character" over the years especially if there is a four-legged friend in the house. Those preserved scraps might be just what are needed to give those well-loved quilts a bit more life and cover a few of the scars that it develops over time.

Scraps to Use: If you have accumulated a large number of scraps from quilting projects that you have made and sold, or gifted to charities, these are perfect for use in another quilt. Also, scraps that are left over from small projects like wall hangings, masks, and table runners are fair game to use to make another item of beauty as they are much less likely to be needed for repairs to small projects.

Scraps to Donate: If your scrap assortment contains lots of "odd" color fabrics or ones that don't coordinate well with your other fabrics, these may be perfect for donation to charity quilts, dog bed fillers, cat mats, etc. in some cases charities will purposefully ask for "ugly" quilts so that they will not be fought over when they are given away to the homeless. Small scraps are great for use in dog beds and since they will not be seen, it makes no difference what colors or sizes they are.

The most important thing to remember is that your scraps can be used, so there is no reason to throw them ALL away. Keep them for potential repair of lovelies, make a new quilt that is a great collection of memories from past projects, or bless others by using your scraps for donations.



Join in the fun and make 25 quilted projects by the end of 2025 and your name will be entered into a special drawing held in December 2025. If you'd like to participate, fill in your name and 25 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 25 projects or you can remove a project, or swap out projects, etc...you just have to have ***25 Finishes in 2025*** 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 ***25 Finishes in 2025!*** You will maintain your own list, but you must let Sharon Perry know you are participating.

 Cut along dotted line

NAME: _____

1.	14.
2.	15.
3.	16.
4.	17.
5.	18.
6.	19.
7.	20.
8.	21.
9.	22.
10.	23.
11.	24.
12.	25.
13.	

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DONE DONE DONE DONE DONE DONE DONE DONE

BLOCK OF THE MONTH (BOM)

The block featured at the May meeting is called Baby Kisses; instructions for the block can be found [here](#). Carol Stanley, this year's Project Coordinator for the guild, says to use white on white fabric for the smaller squares and medium to dark scrap prints for the 5" squares. Bring your blocks to the June meeting.

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.

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.



QUILTING TIPS

- Use a scrap piece of batting to pick up stray pieces of thread.
- Use a picnic silverware organizer to organize your rotary cutter, scissors and marking pens.
- Schedule 15 minutes every day to quilt. It's amazing how much you'll get done by doing this! 15 minutes can stretch into an hour and progress is quickly realized both with your projects and your techniques.
- Chocolate is a quilting notion!



Christy Hamel	June	1
Peggy Paradee	June	3
LeAnne Hankel	June	4
Annette Pierce	June	6
Fran Murray	June	17
Jean Anne Branch	June	19
Deb Dusablon	June	22
Sue McGregor	June	24
Lucie Fortin	July	2
Mary King	July	15
Denise Chase	July	28
Joan Wood	July	28
Krissy Kilburn	July	31
Beth Brault	August	3
Penny LaRoche	August	29

...and many more!!!





RECIPE CORNER

CHOCOLATE-COVERED STRAWBERRY CHEESECAKE

For the cheesecake:

Cooking spray
 2¼ cups graham cracker
 6 tablespoons salted butter, melted
 1¼ cups plus 2 tablespoons granulated sugar, divided
 1 cup coarsely chopped fresh strawberries
 4 (8-oz.) packages cream cheese, softened
 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
 4 large eggs
 1 large egg yolk
 1 tablespoon grated lemon zest (from 1 large lemon)
 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
 1 to 2 drops soft pink food coloring gel

For the chocolate ganache:

6 ounces semisweet chocolate chips (about 1 cup)
 ¼ cup salted butter
 4 teaspoons light corn syrup
 ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
 Fresh strawberries (about 2 cups total) for garnish

For the cheesecake:

Preheat oven to 325°F. Lightly coat a 9-inch spring form pan with cooking spray. Wrap outside of pan with heavy-duty aluminum foil. Stir together graham cracker crumbs, melted butter, and 2 tablespoons of the sugar in a medium bowl. Press mixture on bottom and 1 inch up sides of prepared pan. Bake in preheated oven until set, 7 to 8 minutes. Transfer to a wire rack; cool completely, about 30 minutes.

Meanwhile, process chopped strawberries in a food processor until completely smooth, about 1 minute, stopping to scrape down sides as needed.

Beat cream cheese with a stand mixer fitted with a paddle attachment on medium speed until creamy, 1 to 2 minutes. Gradually add flour and remaining 1¼ cups sugar, beating until smooth, about 1 minute. Add whole eggs, 1 at a time, beating on low speed just until blended after each addition (do not overbeat). Add egg yolk, and beat just until incorporated. Beat in zest, strawberry puree, and 2 teaspoons vanilla on low speed just until combined. Gently stir in food coloring gel until desired shade is reached. Pour batter into prepared pan, and place on a large rimmed baking sheet.

Bake in preheated oven just until center is set, 1 hour and 10 minutes to 1 hour and 20 minutes. Turn oven off, and let cheesecake stand in oven, with door closed,

15 minutes. Remove cheesecake from oven, and gently run a knife around outer edge of cheesecake to loosen from sides of pan. (Do not remove sides of pan.) Cool completely in pan on a wire rack, about 2 hours. Cover and chill 8 to 24 hours.

For the chocolate ganache:

Place chocolate chips, butter, and corn syrup in a small microwavable bowl. Microwave on medium (50%) power until melted and smooth, 1 to 2 minutes, stirring every 30 seconds. Stir in ½ teaspoon vanilla.

Remove sides of pan, and transfer cheesecake to a serving platter. Pour chocolate ganache over top of cake, spreading to edges using a small offset spatula and allowing some to drip down sides. Chill cheesecake until ganache is firm, about 20 minutes. Garnish cake with whole and halved fresh strawberries.

FROZEN STRAWBERRY LEMONADE

1 (12 oz.) container frozen lemonade
 1 cup frozen strawberries
 1 teaspoon sugar
 1 teaspoon lemon zest
 1 cup ice
 1¼ cups club soda, divided

Fresh strawberries and lemon slices for garnish

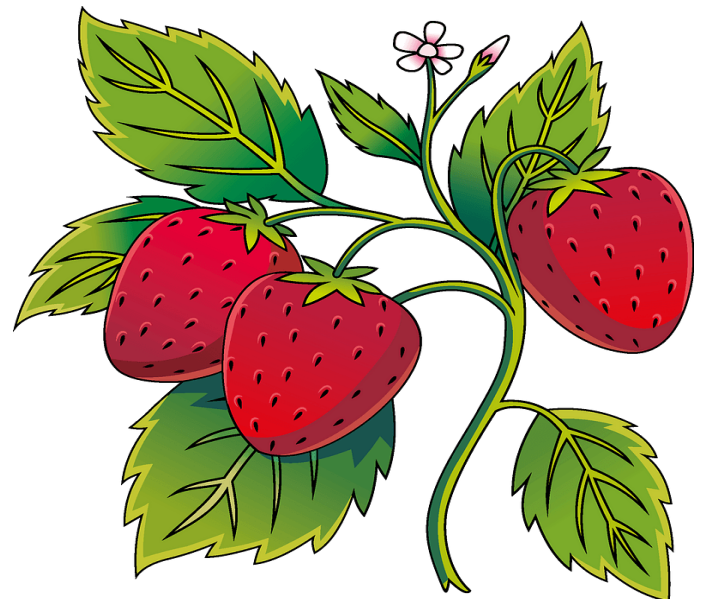
In a small bowl, combine frozen strawberries with sugar; let sit for at least 10 minutes.

In a blender, combine frozen lemonade, ice, lemon zest, and ½ cup club soda; blend until smooth. Transfer to a pitcher; set aside.

In the clean blender, combine strawberries and ¾ cup club soda; blend until smooth.

Layer frozen strawberries and lemon slush in cups. Stir to gently combine.

Garnish cups with strawberries and a lemon slice.



JUNE

by Harvey Carson Grumbine

Out on the hills,
Away from the throng,
Where the fountain spills
And the days are long,
There let me linger and learn to forget
The city's mordant hurry and fret,
For it is June.

FEATURED VIDEO TUTORIAL FOR JUNE:

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

Pint Size Table Runner – June
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, 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:

3rd Wednesday of the month, August 20th, 2025

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



June is Dairy Month



*"June is the pearl of summer, shining with warmth
and joy." ~ L.M. Montgomery*