

Franklin County Quilters Guild

SUGARHOUSE GAZETTE

Saint Albans, Vermont

<http://www.franklincountyquilters.org>

franklincountyquilters@gmail.com



Volume 16, Issue 3
November 2023

President

Laurel Schaap

Vice President

Bonnie Evans

Secretary

Diane Kane

Treasurer

Deb Dusablom

Newsletter

Sharon Perry

Programs

Deb Trahan

Cathy Carlson

Project Coordinator

Lucie Fortin

Membership

Penny LaRochelle

Quilt Show

Helen Short

Teri Brunelle

Website

Scott Perry

Comfort Quilts Coordinator

Denise Chase

2024 Raffle Quilt

Sharon Perry & Denise Chase

2024 Charity Quilt

Laurel Schaap & Gale Weld

President's Piece

Merry Christmas! No, really! It's that time when we need to start working on our homemade Christmas gifts, right? Do you have friends and family who look forward to seeing what you have come up with each year? Doesn't it get harder and harder to come up with something creative AND useful? Well, maybe not useful if it's an ornament or a decoration. I'd love to see on our Facebook page, found [here](#), some of your previous years' ideas -- so I can steal them. Ha! I don't think I can even list all the stuff I've made over the years. Lots of ornaments, placemats, coasters, table runners, small wall hangings, etc. I just took a needle felting class and some special folks may be getting little gnomes or Santas, but they're a lot of work. I recently made 20 Scandinavian folded stars for a quilt retreat, and they were more work than I expected. Pillow cases and lap quilts for family members. Lap quilts are nice because you can gift one per family.

Seriously, I love to make gifts for Christmas, but I usually start too late and end up stressed out and not enjoying the process. I'm thinking about needle felted ornaments. I'll try to get my act together and post some pictures of past projects. Of course, the quilt shops usually have cute patterns for things like my reindeer and snowman ornaments, and it's good to give the shops some business. While there are tons of ideas online, often the instructions are minimal, not like the patterns you might buy. I'd love to see some ideas for orphan blocks, as I have a pile of them I'd like to use for something.

Sorry to those of you who may think I'm rushing the season, but I am starting to see Christmas ads on TV. Plus, making stuff takes time, right? So I wish you a lovely Thanksgiving and a little reminder to get to work!

Piecefully,

Laurel Schaap, 2023-2024 President



2023 – 2024 Guild Calendar

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

October 13th Trunk Show
with Norma Ippolito

October 14th Quilting Workshop
with Norma Ippolito

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

December 13th Potluck and Gift Exchange

2023 – 2024 Guild Calendar

January 17th What Makes A Quilter Tick
with David Sirota, Quilt Maven Dave

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

February 21st Trunk Show with
Andrew Lee, The Combat Quilter

March 20th Spring Members' Demos

April 5th Quilt Show Set-Up

April 6th – 7th Quilt Show

2023 – 2024 Guild Calendar

April 19th MacDuff Bag and Jacket
Trunk Show with Janice Roy

April 20th MacDuff Bag Workshop
with Janice Roy

May 15th Pillow Talk Trunk Show
with Diane Comeau, CaDi Corners

May 18th Pillow Talk Workshop
with Diane Comeau, CaDi Corners

June 12th Trunk Sale

Franklin County Quilters Guild
Friday, October 13, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Laurel Schaap, who then invited Helen Short to give an introduction of the venue where this month's meeting was being held (Holy Trinity Church in Swanton, VT).

Consent Agenda: Treasurer's report and Minutes of September 2023 meeting; a motion was made by Helen Short and 2nd by Jean Ann Branch to accept both Treasurer's report and September meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Membership (Penny LaRochelle): Penny LaRochelle reported the guild currently has 50 paid members to date. A total of 18 members were in attendance, with two guests (Kathy Guinness and Rick Weld).

Comfort Quilts (Denise Chase):

- Home Health called Denise looking for quilts to refill their supply. Denise was able to donate a Quilt of Valor, plus about 10 other quilts that FCQG members had made. Home Health was very pleased with the donations, especially with the Quilt of Valor.
- Denise brought with her to the meeting 2 complete kits with fabric for members to take home to make quilts. She also has available 2 kits that need quilting only and 2 kits that are Quilts of Valor. Members who would like to make quilts to donate are encouraged to make twin-sized quilts (for Spectrum and Welcome Home).
- A question came up about what size quilts are needed by each organization that FCQG donates to. Sharon Perry said that a Members' Booklet has been emailed to all members and that booklet has a description of the sizes of quilts for each organization.
- Denise received a large donation that included rulers, fabric, patterns, and books. These items can be sold in the 2023 Quilt Show boutique, with 100% of the profits going back to the guild. What a generous donation to our guild!

Quilt Show (Helen Short and Teri Brunelle):

- On April 6 & 7, 2024 with set-up on Friday, April 5.
- Helen reported that Shirley Babcock has stepped forward to be the 2024 quilt show volunteer coordinator. Thank you, Shirley!
- Penny LaRochelle reported that the number of quilt registrations for next year's show has doubled, to 2 quilts! Quilt show registration form can be found [here](#).
- Helen made available the Quilter's Boutique Registration Form. Members are invited to make items for the show. Fabric (that is not made into an item) will NOT be allowed to be sold at the boutique. Hand bags and tote bags were hot sellers at the last show. The guild takes 10% of what the members earn. Any donated items will be sold with all the money going to the guild.

- Vendors so far are Country Thyme Vermont in Troy and The Quilters' Corner at Middlebury Sew-N-Vac.
- April Walker reported that posters for advertising the quilt show have been ordered. The posters will be distributed at the December meeting. Sharon Perry is sending out notices to magazines and other publications. Helen Short suggested having Amtrak promote our quilt show, since the St. Albans train station and a downtown hotel are within walking distance to City Hall.
- Laurel Schaap reported that many members came together last Friday to move the donated VQF poles, plus items that have been stored at peoples' houses, into a storage unit in Fairfax, VT (just outside of St. Albans). This storage unit had been voted on by the board when the unit in Hyde Park was determined to be unavailable. The Fairfax unit is a larger unit that has room to store additional quilt guild supplies that may be in members' homes/garages. Our guild will need the pole bases, which may be put together by members over the next few years, but for now, will be rented from the Champlain Quilt Guild for this year's show.

2024 Raffle Quilt (Sharon Perry and Denise Chase):

- Sharon Perry and Denise Chase showed off this year's raffle quilt completed top.
- Sharon handed out raffle tickets to members, who are asked to sell at least two books of tickets (or 6 tickets). (Per FCQG Bylaws: Section 4: Any member of the Franklin County Quilters Guild shall be eligible to take part in the workshops by quilt instructors paid for either in part or all by the Guild if: "... 4. They have sold 2 books of raffle tickets...").
- The tickets are 1 ticket for \$2 or 3 tickets (one book) for \$5.
- Penny LaRochelle is challenging everyone to sell at least 99 tickets, her personal goal!

2024 Charity Quilt (Laurel Schaap and Gale Weld):

- Two letters of interest have been submitted to the guild, one from The Meeting House on the Green in East Fairfield and the other from the Enosburg Food Shelf. Laurel suggested that two different charity raffle quilts be made this year.
- Denise Chase stepped up and volunteered to make the 2nd quilt (the first one is being made by Laurel and Gale Weld).

Sugarhouse Gazette (Sharon Perry): The newsletter can be found online [here](#). Each newsletter comes out at least 2 weeks prior to each meeting. Items for the next newsletter are due to Sharon by October 25th.

23 in 2023 Challenge (Sharon Perry): Reminder to complete the form found in the newsletter of the 23 items you have/are completing in 2023. There will be a drawing of prizes for participants who turn in their forms to Sharon Perry at the end of 2023.

October 13 Guild Meeting Minutes (Cont.)**Block of the Month (Lucie Fortin):**

- Gale Weld stepped in for Lucie and showed off the next Disappearing Four Patch pattern. The colors for this month's block are autumn colors (think yellow, red, orange, green). The link for directions to the blocks of the month is under "Projects" on the FCQG website and can be found [here](#).
- Carol Parks was the winner of the 40 yellow and blue squares brought in by members to this month's meeting. Congratulations Carol!

Program and workshop announcements for 2023-24 (Deb Trahan and Cathy Carlson):

- November's program is on Wednesday, November 15th: Quilt Market Wrap-Up with Tina de la Bruere, Owner of Vermont Quilter's Schoolhouse. Tina will have recently returned from Houston after attending the national Quilt Market show, which is for owners of quilt shops and will be sharing the latest quilting tools and ideas on the market.
- Laurel Schaap stepped in for Deb and encouraged members to work on their Brown Bag Mystery. Completed projects are due back at the April 2024 membership meeting (changed from the March meeting, since both January and February's meetings are virtual.)

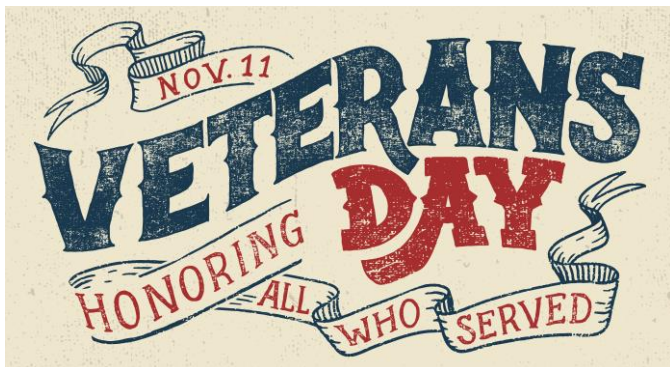
Program: Gale Weld introduced Norma Ippolito, an award-winning Vermont quilter from Chester. Norma inspired all of us with her trunk show of her stunning quilts.

Drawings:

- Mary King won the membership door prize which included, among other items, a pack of 5" squares, generously donated by our guest speaker, Norma Ippolito.
- Helen Short won the comfort quilt door prize.

Adjournment motion made by April Walker to adjourn meeting, seconded by Cindy Metayer. Motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Kane, Secretary



NOVEMBER MEETING TO FEATURE QUILT MARKET WRAP-UP

Tina de la Bruere, of Vermont Quilter's Schoolhouse, will be showing us the newest and greatest from the 2023 International Quilt Market in Houston. Quilt Market is the trade show for the quilting industry and is Mecca for quilt shop owners throughout the US.

QUILT TIPS

- When you have to match seams, use a dab of fabric glue (tube or stick) within the seam allowance instead of pins. From the right side, you'll be able to clearly see whether the seams match with no pins in the way. The bond is not instant so you'll have time to separate the pieces and try again if necessary. Then stitch away.
- After basting your quilt, roll the backing edges over the batting and pin to the quilt. This will enclose the excess batting and help to defray snagging or picking up unwanted stray threads.
- When paper piecing, use removable tape to hold the fabric onto the paper. Be sure to remove the tape before pressing. The tape can be reused several times before discarding.
- An empty Altoids tin makes a great pin holder.

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN...MEMBERSHIP DUES!

September marked the start of a new membership year for the guild.

Here are the details for this year's membership dues:

- The FCQG 2023-2024 membership form can be found [here](#).
- Your completed membership form and your \$20 check, payable to FCQG, should be sent to Penny LaRoche. Penny's address is included on the membership form OR you can bring your form and check or cash to the November meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2023**FRANKLIN COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD
Treasurer's Report -- November 15, 2023**

Opening Balance		\$7,272.32
Funds collected		
Membership	\$60.00	
October Workshop	\$50.00	
Raffle tickets	\$80.00	
	<u>Total Funds Collected</u>	<u>\$190.00</u>
		<i>Subtotal</i> \$7,462.32
Funds paid out		
Norma Ippolito, Oct Lecture & Workshop	\$1,022.35	
Sharon Perry, QS Raffle fabric & Tickets	\$149.33	
	<u>Total Funds Paid Out</u>	<u>\$1,171.68</u>
		Grand Total <u>\$6,290.64</u>

2023 YTD Collections: \$7,678.83

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah L. Dusablon, Treasurer

TIPS FOR PREPARING YOUR QUILT FOR THE LONGARMER

- When piecing a backing, please keep the seam horizontal instead of vertical. It helps to align the quilt on the longarm machine and allows for a smoother finish and fewer potential puckers.
- Be sure to cut off the selvage when seaming your backing.
- Square and trim the backing.
- For your backing, include 4 inches minimum on all 4 sides (i.e. cut your backing so it is 8 inches to the wider than the quilt top and 8 inches longer than the quilt top).
- Press the quilt top and backing.
- Clean the threads off the backs of both the quilt top and backing.

MORE QUILT TIPS

- Use the correct needle for your thread and project.
- Cut thread on a 45 degree angle for easier needle threading.
- Always use ruler lines and not cutting mat lines to get the best straight rotary cuts.
- Read the instructions through from start to finish before you start cutting and sewing.



**BLOCK OF THE MONTH (BOM):
DISAPPEARING 9-PATCH**

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

Each month Lucie will provide instructions for completing the BOM to include color choices. This month's BOM is the Disappearing 9-Patch in fall colors; instructions for the block can be found [here](#). Members are encouraged to make a block each month and turn it in for the BOM raffle the following month.

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

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



SUNSHINE CARDS FOR GUILD MEMBERS

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

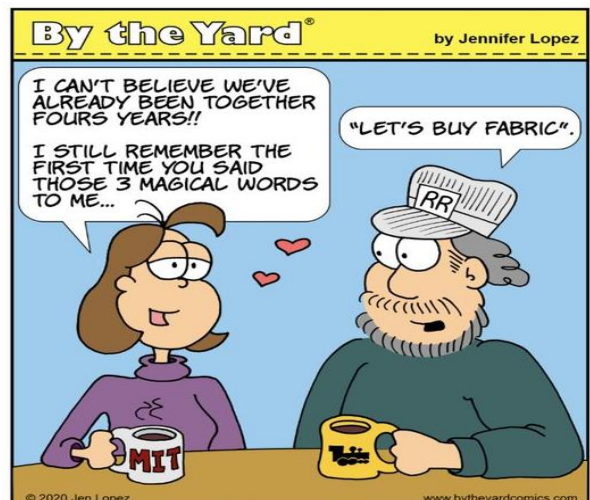


*A messy house is the sign
of a happy quilter!*



Sharon	Perry	November	2
Mary Ellen	Therrien	November	5
Kris	Bachand	November	8
Bonnie	Evans	November	10
Pat	Jarvis	November	22
Maggie	Stockwell	November	24
Nanc	Ekiert	November	28

...and many more!!!





RECIPE CORNER

MAKE-AHEAD TURKEY GRAVY

2 turkey wings (1-1/2 to 2 pounds)
 2 medium onions, quartered
 2 cartons (32 ounces each) reduced-sodium chicken broth, divided
 2 medium carrots, cut into 2-inch pieces
 2 celery ribs with leaves, cut into 2-inch pieces
 4 fresh thyme sprigs
 ½ cup plus 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
 1 tablespoon butter
 ¼ teaspoon pepper

Place turkey wings and onions in a greased 13x9-in. baking pan. Bake, uncovered, at 400° for 1 ¼ hours, turning once.

Transfer wings and onions to a Dutch oven. While 13x9-in. pan is still warm, carefully add 2 cups broth. Using a spatula, gently scrape any brown bits off bottom of pan; pour into Dutch oven with wings. Add 4 cups broth, carrots, celery and thyme to Dutch oven. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered, about 45 minutes.

Strain; discard wings and vegetables. (Can be made ahead to this point and stored in the refrigerator for up to 2 days.) Skim fat from cooking liquid. Add enough remaining broth to measure 3 ½ cups.

In a large saucepan, whisk flour and ¾ cup remaining broth until smooth (if any broth remains, save for another use). Gradually stir in cooking liquid. Bring to a boil; cook and stir until thickened, about 2 minutes. Stir in butter and pepper.

CRANBERRY SAUCE WITH MAPLE SYRUP

2 cups fresh or frozen cranberries
 ½ cup maple syrup
 ½ cup honey
 1 tablespoon grated orange zest
 Additional orange zest, optional

In a large saucepan, combine the cranberries, syrup, honey and orange zest. Cook over medium heat until the berries pop, about 15 minutes. Cover and store in the refrigerator. If desired, top with additional orange zest before serving.

CAULIFLOWER GRATIN

1 large head cauliflower, cut into florets
 2 tablespoons olive oil
 1 teaspoon salt, divided

1 teaspoon pepper, divided
 4 tablespoons butter, cubed
 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
 2 cups 2% milk
 1 cup shredded Swiss cheese
 ½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
 ½ teaspoon onion powder
 ½ teaspoon ground mustard
 ½ teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
 ⅓ teaspoon cayenne pepper
 Chopped fresh thyme, optional

Preheat oven to 375°. Place cauliflower on a rimmed baking sheet. Drizzle with oil; sprinkle with ½ teaspoon salt and ½ teaspoon pepper. Toss to coat. Bake 8 minutes. Stir; bake until crisp-tender and lightly browned, 7-8 minutes longer.

In a large saucepan, melt butter over medium heat. Stir in flour until smooth; gradually whisk in milk. Bring to a simmer, stirring constantly; cook and stir until thickened, 2-3 minutes. Remove from heat. Stir in next 6 ingredients and remaining ½ teaspoon salt and ½ teaspoon pepper until smooth.

Pour ¾ cup cheese sauce into a greased 2-qt. baking dish. Top with cauliflower and remaining cheese sauce. Bake, uncovered, until bubbly and lightly browned, 30-35 minutes. If desired, sprinkle with chopped fresh thyme.

CRANBERRY JALAPENO CHEESE SPREAD

1 cup dried cranberries
 ½ cup packed brown sugar
 ½ cup orange juice
 4 teaspoons chopped seeded jalapeno pepper
 1 tablespoon lemon juice
 1 teaspoon grated orange zest
 ¼ teaspoon Chinese five-spice powder
 1 package (8 ounces) reduced-fat cream cheese
 Assorted crackers or sliced sweet yellow and orange peppers

In a small saucepan, combine the first 7 ingredients. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered, for 10 minutes or until thickened. Remove from the heat; cool completely.

In a large bowl, beat cream cheese until fluffy. Beat in cranberry mixture until blended. Serve with crackers or sliced peppers.



NOVEMBER NIGHT by Adelaide Crapsey

Listen...

With faint dry sound,
Like steps of passing ghosts,
The leaves, frost-crisp'd,
Break from the trees
And fall.

FEATURED VIDEO TUTORIAL FOR NOVEMBER:

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

Dashing Star Quilt

Missouri Star Quilt Company

UPCOMING EVENTS

Craft Vermont Fine Craft and Art Show, November 17th – 19th: At the Double Tree by Hilton in South Burlington. Show hours: Friday, 10 am – 6 pm; 10 a-5 Saturday, 10 am – 5 pm; and Sunday, 10 am – 4 pm. \$10 admission valid for all three days. Sunday admission: \$8. Children under 12 are free with an adult. Admission is cash only.

Merry Barre Holidays Craft Fair, November 25th & 26th: The best crafters from all over Vermont at the Barre Auditorium. Free Parking. Free Admission. Handicap accessible. Door prizes both days. Food, refreshments & seating available.

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, November 22nd, 2023

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



November is Aviation History Month



*November always seemed to me the Norway
of the year." ~ Emily Dickinson*