

Franklin County Quilters Guild

SUGARHOUSE GAZETTE

Saint Albans, Vermont

<http://www.franklincountyquilters.org>

franklincountyquilters@gmail.com



Volume 18, Issue 3
November 2025

Co-Presidents

Jean Anne Branch
Cindy Metayer

Vice President

Bonnie Evans

Secretary

Deb Trahan

Treasurer

Deb Dusablon

Newsletter

Sharon Perry

Programs

Helen Short
Cathy Carlson

Project Coordinator

Sandy Lane

Membership

Penny LaRochelle

Quilt Show

Diane Kane
Beth Mouser

Website

Scott Perry

Comfort Quilts Coordinator

Denise Chase

2026 Raffle Quilt

Denise Chase & Helen Short

2026 Charity Quilt

BINGO Quilt made by
FCQG members

President's Piece

It's November! Cooler, darker days partnered with the barren landscape can be depressing. Depressing not only because it exists, but because it goes on and on, day after day. The beauty of October, blue skies and gloriously colored leaves, is a fleeting memory.

How do we accept November for what it is? How do we bring color to our days while living in a dreary environment? We quilters figured the answer out decades, even centuries, ago! Make quilts! Get out the most vibrant colors you have and sew, create! It is so good for the soul and our sight!! And, the joy we feel is exactly what we hope for every day! Finishing a UFO or starting a new project is exhilarating and brings a smile...every time!

November also brings the opportunity to give thanks for our many blessings. Remember to thank the people in your lives for the joy they bring to you. As we near the winter days, pull those you care about a little closer for a cup of tea, a noontime meal or a sewing afternoon! And hold on while enjoying the easy days of November..... the holidays are on the way!

Happy quilting!

Jean Anne Branch
2025-2026 Co-President

Cindy Metayer
2025-2026 Co-President



2025 – 2026 Guild Calendar

September 10th Novelty Ice Cream Social and
"Snip, Rip, Drop, & Pass"

October 17th Stripology Trunk Show
with Linda Leszcynski

October 18th Stripology Workshop with
Linda Leszcynski (Making the Zoe quilt by
GE Quilt Designs)

November 12th Panel Play

Brown Bag Exchange

(November 2026 Reveal)

December 10th Holiday Potluck
with Gift Exchange and Canned Goods for
Vermont Family Foods MTG STARTS AT 6PM

2025 – 2026 Guild Calendar

January: NO MEETING

February: NO MEETING

March 11th: What Do Judges Look for When
They Examine Your Quilt? with Denise Chase

April 8th: TBD

April 10th: Quilt Show Set Up

April 11th – 12th: Quilt Show

May 13th: The Process of Getting Your Quilt
into a National Quilt Show with Linda Wells

June 10th: Potluck and Trunk Sale

July 8th: The Temperature is Burning
Strip Poker

2025 – 2026 Guild Calendar

August 12th: TBD

September 9th: Novelty Ice Cream
Social and TBD

October 9th: "Thread, What's the Big Deal"
with Nina Clotfelter

October 10th: How to Free Motion Quilt on
Your Domestic Machine Workshop
with Nina Clotfelter

November 11th: More with Panel Play (Reveal)
and QOV Presentations

December 9th: Pot Luck
with Gift Exchange and Food Shelf Drive

Franklin County Quilters Guild

Co-Presidents: Jean Anne Branch and Cindy Metayer

Location: Holy Trinity Church, Swanton, VT

Minutes from the General Meeting

Friday, October 17, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:28 pm by Jean Anne Branch for our monthly meeting. Cindy opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming early as socialization is very important for us all. She noted that we are going to do the program first tonight to allow our presenter Linda and her husband to return to their hotel room as they had a long drive up.

Program: Cathy Carlson introduced Linda Leszczynski who is a Certified Stripology Educator. Linda is also known as the LSquared Quilter on her website. Linda had a trunk show of quilts made using the Stripology rulers. She also discussed the workshop that she will be teaching on Saturday, the 18th. It was an excellent presentation.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made by Penny LaRochelle and seconded by Denise Chase to accept the September 10, 2025 Secretary and Treasurer reports. All in favor, motion carried.

By-Laws Update: Sharon Perry, Sandy Lane and Jean Anne Branch worked on updating the by-laws this summer. Administrative items such as meeting schedule and dues will be removed and put in a separate document called "Standing Rules for the FCQG." Both of these will be available for review via links in the newsletter. These should be reviewed by all before the next meet as we will be voting on them. The Standing Rules were reviewed by the Executive Committee and were approved with a few small amendments.

Charity Quilt: Cindy read an email from Enosburg Food Shelf requesting consideration for receiving the charity quilt.

Quilt Show (Beth Mouser/Diane Kane):

- Beth said that she is looking for volunteers for picking up and return the poles.
- Peggy Paradee let us know the status of the volunteer sign up. She said that there were 51 open spots and started circulating the sheet. We must sign up by the December meeting since there will be no meetings in January and February.
- Calling all pet photos! If you have a pet that "helps" with your quilting, bring in a photo. Mary is going to make a collage of these to be displayed in the lobby at the quilt show.
- There will be a scavenger hunt for younger people. Let Penny know if you have something unique on the quilts you are submitting so it can be added to the scavenger list.
- It was noted that the organizers of the VT Quilt Show in June will be looking for volunteers to work the show.

Comfort Quilts (Denise Chase): •Denise announced that she had a great response on the request for baby quilts. Current needs have been met. The Oncology Department at UVM were interested in receiving quilts. Denise delivered 9 lap quilts and they were very excited to get them. The quilts are given to chemo patients when they start their therapy. They need more lap quilts that are masculine. She brought lots of

items that could be chosen to work on. Please help yourself to the kits. Don't forget to sign out when you take or return something. We are looking into giving quilts to the fire victims in Highgate.

Programs (Helen Short, Cathy Carlson): In November, Cathy said that we will exchange the brown bags that we brought filled with a panel and some yardage of coordinating fabric. Consider the size of the panel when adding yardage. The project you make will be due back in November 2026 with a completed project.

Membership (Penny LaRochelle): • Penny announced 60 paid members, 1 new member, Rebecca Sylvester, and we had 2 guests: Gabi and Noreen. Present at meeting: 41

Block of the Month (BOM) (Sandy Lane):

- Sandy presented a sample of the November Block of the Month called "Economy Block" and will use 3 fabrics in fall colors which can be prints or solids.
- Instructions will be posted on the FCQG under "Projects." Sandy demonstrated how the block will be assembled with a final size of 12 1/2 ". Members are encouraged to bring completed blocks to the November meeting.
- October BOM: There were 51 blocks that are each fairly large so Sandy drew two names. Winners: Carol Parks and Pat Fabretti.
- 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.

Newsletter (Sharon Perry): It was noted in Sharon's absence that the newsletter articles are always due on the 3rd Wednesday of the month unless specified otherwise.

Drawings:

- Membership Winner: Sue McGregor
- Comfort Quilt: Cindy Metayer

Show-n-Tell: A wonderful display of talent within the guild members. Always fun to watch.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Helen Bicknell and was 2nd by Cindy Metayer. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at approximately 8pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Trahan, Secretary



TREASURER'S REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2025**FRANKLIN COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD**

Treasurer's Report -- November 12, 2025

Opening Balance \$12,902.51

Funds Collected

Membership	\$250.00
Raffle ticket sales - Enosburg HF	\$260.00
Boutique sales - Enosburg HF	\$15.00
Raffle ticket sales - Montgomery MHS	\$37.00
Boutique sales - Montgomery MHS	\$54.00
QS '26 Vendor fee	\$50.00
Rec'd Insufficient Fund put (trunk show)	\$20.00
Sponsors (3 checks & 1 gift card = \$500 & will deposit \$450)	\$450.00
Oct Stripology Workshop (6)	\$150.00
<i>Total Funds Collected</i>	\$1,286.00
	<i>Subtotal</i> \$14,188.51

Funds Paid Out

Beaver Valley Storage for 10/25 - 09/26	\$1,080.00
CVQG, QS '26 pole rental	\$350.00
Joan Wood, QS '26 sponsor postage	\$59.28
Denise Chase, Refund for lifetime membership	\$25.00
Country Thyme Vermont, Comfort Quilt batting	\$160.00
L Squared Quilter, Stripology Presentation/Workshop	\$801.20
Deb Dusablon, Holiday Inn Express for Sinology presenter	\$121.00
<i>Total Funds Paid Out</i>	\$2,596.48
	Grand Total \$11,592.03

2025 YTD Collections: \$8,192.00

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah L. Dusablon, Treasurer

**2025-2026 PROGRAMS...OCTOBER RECAP, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER**

The October program with Linda Leszcynski was engaging. She enjoyed her time with our guild. Pictures of the workshop are posted on Gudrun's Quilt Crew Facebook page. We thank Holy Trinity for the use of their space.

Our November program is entitled "Panel Play". Kay Courson from County Thyme will present various ways quilters can incorporate panels into quilts. She will bring some quilts made from panels, and we ask members to bring quilts that they've made out of panels to help us become inspired. Kay will have some panels for members to purchase. The Brown Bag Exchange Swap of a panel, coordinating fabric, and the form with your name and other information will take place at the end of the November meeting. If you didn't pick up a paper bag at the October meeting or have access to the form, both will be available at the November meeting. Forms can be found on the Franklin County Quilters Guild website as well. As Kay is traveling over the Mountain from Troy, her portion of the program will be held at the beginning of the meeting in order to help her get back home at a reasonable hour.

The December program is a Holiday Potluck with gift exchange. The gift should cost no more than \$15. A collection of canned and dry goods for Vermont Family Foods will also be held.

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



Franklin County Quilters Guild

Co-Presidents: Jean Anne Branch and Cindy Metayer
 Location: Holy Trinity Church, Swanton, VT

Minutes from the Executive Committee

Wednesday, October 17, 2025

Standing Rules: The Executive Committee met before the general meeting of the FCQG to discuss the Standing Rules that were prepared by Sharon Perry, Sandy Lane and Jean Anne Branch as part of the overhaul of the By-Laws. Diane Kane and others noted a few items that needed a little clarification. These will be made in the version posted on the website to be reviewed by the general membership and voted on in November's meeting.

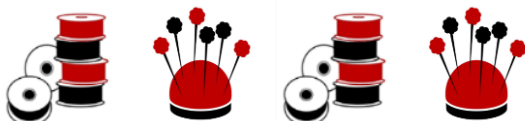
Sandy Lane made a motion to approve the standing rules as amended. Cathy Carlson 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Cathy Carlson made a motion to adjourn at 6pm, Deb Dusablon 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

MEMBERSHIP VOTE ON BYLAWS AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING

Guild members will be voting on the changes made to the bylaws at the November meeting. The Executive Committee approved the new standing rules on October 17, 2025. Guild members can read the proposed bylaws [here](#); the approved standing rules can be found [here](#).

Both documents will be effective on January 1, 2026.



TIPS FOR QUILTING FOR SHOW

Design every element of the quilt yourself and make it new. Quilt show judges have seen everything a million times before. By designing something fresh and new, your quilt will catch the judge's eye.

Make a Wholecloth Quilt. Wholecloth quilts are a lot less common than pieced or appliquéd quilts. Most quilters begin learning piecing techniques first, then learn appliqué, and THEN learn quilting. Because a wholecloth is entirely created with your quilting design, it's has a perception of being a harder type of quilt to create.

Learn how to hide mistakes. There are a lot of tricks to hiding your mistakes in your show quilt.

MERRY MOMENT

(Excerpt from joyfulandmerryquilting.com)

A dear friend of mine gave me a chalkboard sign that brings me joy each and every day. It's displayed next to my sewing machine with a quote that says: "Good friends are like quilts. They age with you, yet never lose their warmth."

As I think about all the quilts that I have made over the years, each one was made for a particular purpose. Some were made for family, some for friends, and some to celebrate a milestone, while others were created to offer comfort following a loss. The patterns, fabrics, and colors I incorporate into my quilts are always symbolic, chosen specifically for the individual recipient.

I will always remember the advice another quilter shared with me when it comes to gifting a quilt. She said that she and her children always hug each quilt she makes before it is gifted. The purpose of this ritual is to fill the fabric and fibers of the quilt with their love. Then, when the recipient wraps the quilt around their shoulders, the warm hug of comfort they feel is the love the family sent with their handmade gift. Isn't that a beautiful sentiment?

So, once my quilts are pieced, quilted, bound, and labeled, I give them a big hug as I transfer MY love through the fabric and the fibers of the quilt. The entire process makes me very joyful and merry. Maybe you'd like to do the same?

...I am ALWAYS trying to be joyful, but I will always be merry!



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: _____

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

CTR' CTR' CTR' CTR' CTR' CTR' CTR' CTR'
DONE DONE DONE DONE DONE DONE DONE DONE

BLOCK OF THE MONTH (BOM)

The block featured at the October meeting is called the Economy Block; instructions for the block can be found [here](#). Sandy Lane is this year's Project Coordinator for the guild. She says to use scraps and consider fussy-cutting the center square. Bring your blocks to the November 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 for this year runs from September 2025 through December 2026. 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.

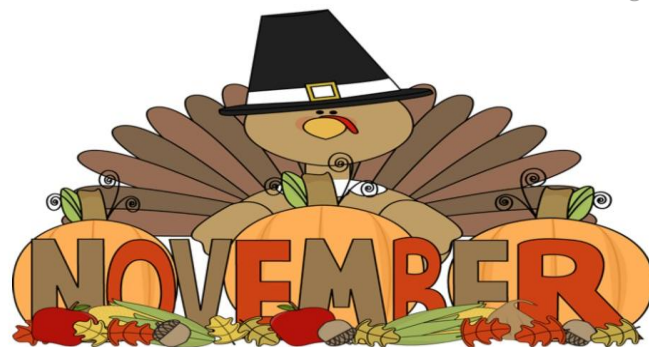


IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN...MEMBERSHIP DUES TIME!

September marks the start of a new membership year for the guild. This membership year will run from September 2025 through December 2026.

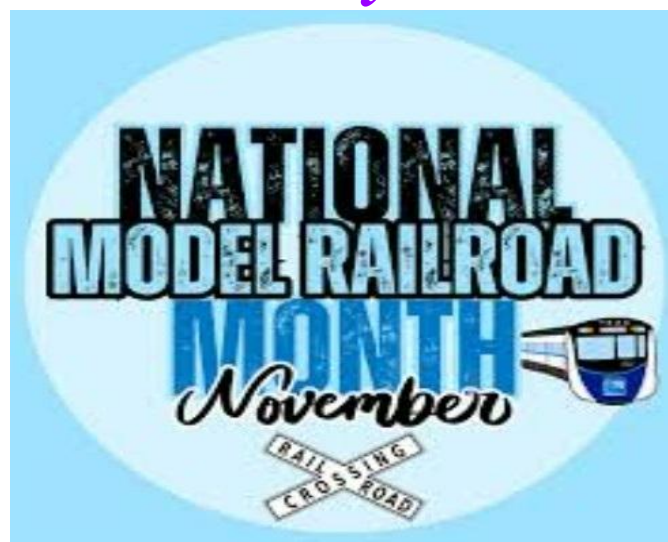
Here are the details for this year's dues:

- The 2025-2026 membership form can be found [here](#).
- Your completed membership form and your \$25 check, payable to FCQG, should be sent to Penny LaRochelle. Penny's address is included on the membership form. You can also pay your dues at a meeting; please still fill out the form for guild records.



Sharon	Perry	November	2
Diane	Verrett	November	2
Mary Ellen	Therrien	November	5
Linda	Dodd	November	6
Bonnie	Evans	November	10
Mari Jo	Hanbury	November	17
Maggie	Stockwell	November	24
Dorothy	Pratt	November	26
Nanc	Ekiert	November	28

...and many more!!!





RECIPE CORNER

COWBOY LASAGNA

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 pound lean ground beef chuck
- 1 pound sage-flavored sausage, in bulk or removed from casing
- 1 pound sliced pepperoni
- 1 can (16-ounce) diced fire-roasted tomatoes
- 1 can (12-ounce) tomato paste
- 1 tablespoon dried oregano
- Pinch salt
- Pinch freshly ground black pepper
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 16 ounces lasagna noodles
- 16 ounces ricotta cheese
- 16 ounces mozzarella cheese, shredded
- 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese

In a large, heavy skillet over medium heat, add the oil and lightly brown the ground beef and sausage. Be sure to keep the meat chunky, not finely separated, while cooking. Add the pepperoni, tomatoes, tomato paste, oregano, salt, pepper, garlic, onion and 2 cups water. Bring to a simmer and simmer, uncovered, for 30 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.

Bring a pot of water to a boil. Cook the lasagna noodles according to the package directions and drain.

In the bottom of a 9x13x2-inch baking pan, spread a layer of the prepared sauce. Top with a layer of the lasagna noodles and the ricotta, mozzarella and Parmesan cheeses. Repeat, ending with the sauce, noodles and cheeses.

Bake until lightly browned and bubbling, about 40 minutes. Allow the dish to stand for 15 minutes before serving. Cut the lasagna into 3-inch squares and serve.

TURKEY RICE CASSEROLE

- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 celery rib, chopped
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 cups whole milk
- 1-1/4 cups uncooked instant rice
- 2 cups diced cooked turkey
- 1 can (10-3/4 ounces) condensed cream of mushroom soup, undiluted
- 1 cup seasoned stuffing cubes
- 1 can (4 ounces) chopped green chiles, drained
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese, divided

In a 2-qt. microwave-safe dish, combine the onion, celery and butter. Cover and microwave on high for 1½ to 3 minutes or until butter is melted. Stir in milk. Cover and cook on high for 3-5 minutes or until milk is steaming (do not boil). Stir in rice. Cover and let stand for 2 minutes.

Add the turkey, soup, stuffing cubes, chiles and 1/2 cup cheese. Cover and microwave on high for 3-6 minutes or until heated through, stirring once. Sprinkle with remaining cheese. Cover and let stand for 5 minutes.

PUMPKIN FRENCH TOAST CASSEROLE

- 1 loaf (1 pound) cinnamon-raisin bread
- 1 package (8-ounce) cream cheese, cut into small cubes
- 8 large eggs
- 1 can (12-ounce) evaporated milk
- 1 cup canned pumpkin
- 1/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup milk
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/8 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans

Optional: Powdered sugar and warmed maple syrup

Cut each slice of bread into quarters. Arrange half the bread in a greased 13x9-in. baking dish; layer with cubed cream cheese and remaining bread, pressing down slightly.

In a large bowl, whisk eggs, evaporated milk, pumpkin, brown sugar, fat-free milk, spices and salt. Pour over top. Refrigerate, covered, overnight.

Preheat oven to 350°. Remove casserole from refrigerator while oven heats. Bake, covered, 40 minutes. Uncover; sprinkle with pecans. Bake, uncovered, 25-30 minutes or until lightly browned and a knife inserted in center comes out clean.

Let stand 5-10 minutes before serving. If desired, dust with powdered sugar and serve with maple syrup.

Casseroles



HOW HAPPY I WAS IF I COULD FORGET

By Emily Dickinson

How happy I was if I could forget
To remember how sad I am
Would be an easy adversity
But the recollecting of Bloom
Keeps making November difficult
Till I who was almost bold
Lose my way like a little Child
And perish of the cold.

**FEATURED VIDEO TUTORIAL
FOR NOVEMBER:**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=anaIkjDs-0k>**Pint Size Table Runner – November
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, November 19th, 2025**

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

*November is Peanut Butter Lovers Month*

*"How sad would be November if we had no knowledge of the
spring." ~ Edwin Way Teale*