

# Franklin County Quilters Guild

## SUGARHOUSE GAZETTE

### Saint Albans, Vermont

<http://www.franklincountyquilters.org>

[franklincountyquilters@gmail.com](mailto:franklincountyquilters@gmail.com)



Volume 15, Issue 4  
December 2022

#### 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 LaRoche

#### Quilt Show

Helen Short

Teri Brunelle

#### Website

Ali Boren

#### Comfort Quilts Coordinator

Denise Chase

#### 2023 Raffle Quilt

Penny LaRoche

#### 2023 Charity Quilt

Helen Short & JeanAnne Branch

#### President's Piece

When I'm thinking about what to write for my monthly newsletter article, I sometimes think about a word. I like words. I like to look into their various meanings. I end my article with the word "piecifully" which is, of course, a quilt related play on the word "peacefully".

The word and concept of Peace is all around us at this time of year. We wish for Peace on Earth. We sing about it. We sometimes even try to promote Peace among ourselves and our families.

As quilters, I think we promote peace and kindness all year round when we give our quilts away to others, both friends and strangers. We don't question someone's beliefs or lifestyle before handing them a quilt.

Another aspect of the word Peace is calm in the midst of storm. In the middle of busyness. In the presence of chaos. There is so much going on all around us. Is it more than usual? Maybe. It's probably different for each of us.

I hope you'll think a little bit about Peace. I hope you'll experience some Peace this month. It doesn't mean stopping all activity (although it might) but taking a step away from the busyness to embrace a moment of calm. A mental break, if you will.

Wishing you Peace this holiday season. And maybe some piecing, too!

Piecifully yours,

Laurel Schaap, 2022-2023 President



#### 2022 – 2023 Guild Calendar

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

October 19<sup>th</sup> Christmas in October  
with Member Demos

November 16<sup>th</sup> Patriotic-Themed  
Quilters' 2½" Strip Poker

December 14<sup>th</sup> White Elephant  
Gift Exchange

January 11<sup>th</sup> Trunk Show **on Zoom**  
with Emily Taylor, Collage Quilter

#### 2022 – 2023 Guild Calendar

February 8<sup>th</sup> "Confessions of a Fabric  
Whisperer" Trunk Show **on Zoom** with  
Ellen Lindner, Adventure Quilter

February 11<sup>th</sup> Double Reverse Appliqué  
Workshop **on Zoom** with Ellen Lindner,  
Adventure Quilter

March 15<sup>th</sup> Tips & Tricks for Quilting  
Studio Organization

March 31<sup>st</sup> Quilt Show Set-Up

April 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quilt Show

#### 2022 – 2023 Guild Calendar

April 19<sup>th</sup> Singer Featherweights and  
Other Vintage Sewing Machines  
With Barb & David Morgan

May 12<sup>th</sup> "My Quilting Journey" Trunk  
Show with Norma Ippolito

May 13<sup>th</sup> Workshop, "Introduction to  
Free-Motion Quilting with Rulers"  
with Norma Ippolito  
on Domestic Machine

June 21<sup>st</sup> Teacup Auction

## Franklin County Quilters Guild November 16, 2022

President Laurel Schaap called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed members attending.

Helen Short moved to accept the Consent Agenda; motion seconded by Sharon Perry. The motion carried.

### Programs:

- Gale Weld explained that the December meeting will have a White Elephant Gift Exchange. Gifts are to be valued at no more than \$15.00.
- Gale went on to discuss the January and February meetings which will be zoom meetings.
- She also indicated the dates of the meetings are NOT on the third Wednesday as usual. See the newsletter for additional information and dates.

### Comfort Quilts:

- Denise Chase has kits available. Denise stated that members need to sign out and sign in kits that they take.
- She would also like feedback from members about how to organize the quilts. Should she continue to make kits with a specific pattern included. Or should she just put coordinated fabric in a "kit" and let the member choose the pattern.
- Denise also indicated that the Bingo quilt needs to be quilted. Denise made a "matching back" for the Bingo quilt. Diane Comeau offered to quilt the Bongo quilt.

### Mystery Quilt:

- Diane Comeau and Lucie Fortin demonstrated the next block.
- The new block is a Friendship Star variation. We need to make eight blocks.
- Diane also noted that Fabric B needs to have four strips cut.

### Quilt Show:

- Helen Short updated members and encouraged members to volunteer for the Friday set up; Members Boutique; and any other available positions.
- Quilt registration forms are available [here](#) and need to be given to Penny LaRochelle by March 1, 2023.
- Helen also reported that Dresden Plate challenge information is in the newsletter.

**Raffle Tickets:** Sharon Perry is still looking for items to sell at the Montgomery Craft Show on December 10 where she and Penny LaRochelle will be selling raffle tickets. She is willing to help arrange pick up of the items that anyone might want to donate. Sharon is hoping the items will draw shoppers to the raffle tickets.

**Membership:** Helen Short reported in Penny LaRochelle's absence that there were 29 members present plus two guests. Diane Comeau indicated that two members were online.

**2023 Charity Quilt:** JeanAnne Branch reported that 98 blocks have been completed by members. Members MUST return their blocks by the December meeting.

**Sugarhouse Gazette:** Sharon Perry indicated that submissions must reach her by November 30.

**New Business:** VQF is looking for a minimum of two quilts from each Vermont guild. Sharon Perry moved that the Covered Bridges Quilt (now housed at the St. Albans Museum) and the Bingo Quilt be put on display at the Vermont Quilt Festival. John Rouleau seconded the motion. The motion was carried. The Guild hopes the Bingo Quilt might be sold to benefit the Franklin County Quilters Guild.

At this point we adjourned the meeting to have the presentation by Lynn Carrier who organizes the Quilts of Valor program here in Vermont. It was a very informative presentation.

Members then played Left, Right, Center with the strips that members brought into the meeting. The final center player "won" the strips from each game.

This game was followed by Show and Tell.

John Rouleau won the door prize for comfort quilts. Cathy Carlson won the door prize for membership.

Sharon Perry moved to adjourn the meeting. Lucie Fortin seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Helen Bicknell, Secretary

Santa Claus



Is coming to town!  
Are you ready???

**TREASURER'S REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2022****FRANKLIN COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD**  
**Treasurer's Report -- December 14, 2022**

Opening Balance \$5,867.69

## Funds collected

Feb 2023 Workshop (2) \$70.00

*Total Funds Collected* \$70.00*Subtotal* \$5,937.69

## Funds paid out

Gerald Perry, Dec room setup \$35.00

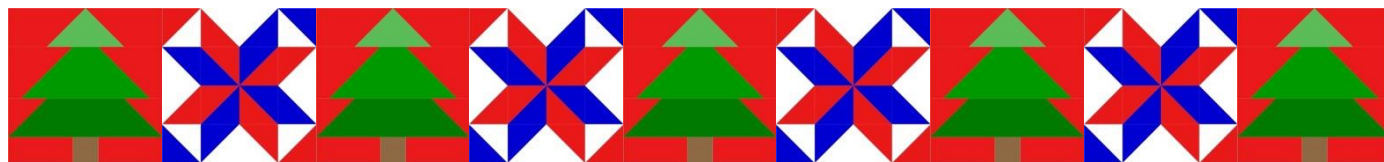
*Total Funds Paid Out* \$35.00**Grand Total** **\$5,902.69**\$96.00*Comfort Quilt /  
Supplies Donations**Guild Funds**Available* \$5,806.69

2022 YTD Collections: \$4,149.00

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah L. Dusablon, Treasurer**DECEMBER WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE**

The program on **Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**, is a white elephant gift exchange. Bring a small wrapped, quilt-related gift for the exchange. Gifts should have a value about \$15; handmade gifts are welcome. The goal of the gift giving is to entertain party-goers rather than to gain a genuinely valuable or highly sought after gift.

Please note the **date change for the December meeting**. It is the **2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday** and **NOT** the **3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday**.

**THE COLLAGE QUILTER AS GUEST SPEAKER IN JANUARY**

Emily Taylor, The Collage Quilter, will be joining us from Sandy, Utah, and will be discussing her quilting journey into collage quilting through a trunk show of her quilts. To learn more about Emily visit her website [here](#).

Please note, Emily's trunk show will be on **Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**. This is the **2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in January!**

**As a reminder, the January meeting will be on Zoom.**



### 4 MONTHS AND COUNTING... UNTIL THE 2023 QUILT SHOW

The 2023 Quilt Show is 4 months away, and the planning and preparations continue behind the scenes. As the event draws near, we depend on all guild members to ensure the quilt show is a huge success. Continue reading to see how you can help.

**- We need QUILTS!** It's all about the quilts!!! Penny LaRoche has volunteered as the Quilt Registration coordinator and she wants to have the quilts registered sooner rather than later. So let's help Penny out and get ALL the quilts registered well before the March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. The quilt registration form can be found [here](#). The quilt show chairs, along with Penny, challenge each guild member to enter at least one quilt in the show. But don't stop there; we need lots more quilts to fill up the auditorium at the City Hall. **As a reminder, all quilts, including those in the Small/Miniature category, must have a sleeve sewn (not pinned) to the back. The sleeve must be at least 4" wide.**

**- We need volunteers!!!** Jean Anne Branch is in charge of getting volunteers for the quilt show. She began sign-ups at the October meeting. She will have the list at the December meetings as well. As an English proverb says, "Many hands make light work." There are many jobs from which to choose. Be sure to take a look at the volunteer list found [here](#). Bring your calendar to the guild meeting and sign up for a time that fits your schedule. If you cannot make the December meeting and would like to volunteer, please contact Jean Anne.

**- We need your raffle tickets!!!** Denise Chase is the raffle ticket coordinator this year. Denise asks that each member return the raffle tickets and money for the tickets in an envelope with the member's name written on the outside. Denise wants to be sure to properly credit the returned tickets and money to the correct member and avoid spending time tracking down unreturned tickets. As a reminder, to remain a member in good standing and eligible to take guild workshops, each member must sell 2 packets of tickets. The tickets are 1 ticket for \$2 or 3 tickets for \$5. Once sold members can bring their sold tickets and money to a guild meeting **OR** send the tickets and money (check(s) payable to FCQG) to Denise Chase, 55 Barlow Street, St Albans, VT 05478. Be sure to include your return address on the envelope so Denise can properly credit the ticket sales to your name.

### 2023 CHALLENGE QUILT

The 2023 Challenge Quilt will feature the Dresden Plate. An entire plate is not required. However, you must have a minimum of 4 sections of the plate. Those 4 sections do not have to be sewn together into a unit. Your plate

sections do not have to be the same size nor made out of the same fabrics. The perimeter of your Challenge Quilt must be no more than 96 inches. **A sleeve for hanging is required.** Let your imagination run wild!

### DID YOU MAKE THE 2021-2022 SUGARHOUSE SAMPLER MYSTERY QUILT?

Or are you currently working on one? The Quilt Show committee plans to have a **special display of members' completed Sugarhouse Sampler Mystery Quilts at the April 2023 quilt show.** If you haven't finished yours yet, there's still time to complete your sampler quilt and have it be part of this special display. Don't forget to put a 4" sleeve on the back of your quilt so it can hang at the quilt show.



### FEBRUARY MEETING AND WORKSHOP ON ZOOM

With the success of staying connected with Zoom meetings during the pandemic in 2020 and 2021, the guild's executive board decided to conduct future January and February meetings on Zoom. Part of the reasoning behind that decision was due to the consideration of members' driving safety in light of weather uncertainty in the dead of winter and to the availability of and ease of scheduling many quilt instructors to make presentations on the Zoom platform.

Ellen Lindner, the Adventure Quilter from Melbourne, Florida, will entertain us with her lecture, called *Confessions of a Fabric Whisperer*, on **Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in February.** Ellen will also conduct a workshop, **Double Reversible Appliqué, on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>.** For more information about Ellen and her workshops and lectures, visit her website [here](#).

So check your calendars and mark down the change in meeting dates in both January and February so you won't miss the programs. Also take advantage of Ellen's workshop in **February** for the **opportunity to learn how to do double reversible appliqué.**

*December is*







## 2023 RAFFLE QUILT



Organized by Penny LaRochelle;  
Quilted by Diane Comeau, CaDi Corners LLC



Mitten Tree Day is celebrated on December 6 as a fun holiday that encourages using and giving mittens. Mittens are the perfect solution to keep our hands warm when playing in the snow and building snowmen. But mittens are also the perfect gift for those who do not have a heater or fireplace to keep them warm.

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

September marked the start of a new membership year for the guild. The FCQG 2022-2023 membership form can be found [here](#).

Your completed membership form and your \$20 check, payable to FCQG, should be brought to a guild meeting **OR** sent to Penny LaRochelle. Penny's address is included on the membership form.

### Renew Your Membership



Diane	Kane	December	14
Nancy	LaPointe	December	16
Rose	Rixon	December	18
Cathy	Carlson	December	22

*...and many more!!!*

*For those doing the Bonnie Hunter mystery quilt,  
this one's for you...*



### 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.





# 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 3 pattern and instructions handed out 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): <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>.

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 as shown in Figure A below. 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 handed out 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 handed out 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 handed out 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>



### QUILT TIPS

- When doing stitch-in-the-ditch machine quilting, stitch as close to the seam as possible, so that your quilting stitch remains largely invisible.
- Using spray starch on the backing of your quilt is a popular trick to help the quilt move more easily through your machine when quilting by machine.
- Be sure to wipe the blade and clean your rotary cutter properly after each cutting session, otherwise lint will build up on it and affect its cutting performance.
- It is best to select a busy print for the backing if you want your quilting stitches to be less easily seen on the backing.
- Chocolate is a quilting notion!



# RECIPE CORNER

## TEXAS SHEET CAKE COOKIES

### For the cookies:

½ cup semisweet chocolate chips  
 1½ cups all-purpose flour  
 ¼ cup unsweetened cocoa powder  
 1 teaspoon baking powder  
 ¼ teaspoon baking soda  
 ¼ teaspoon kosher salt  
 1 stick salted butter, at room temperature  
 ⅓ cup granulated sugar  
 ⅓ cup packed light brown sugar  
 1 large egg, at room temperature  
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
 ⅓ cup buttermilk  
 ¾ cup chopped toasted pecans

### For the glaze:

6 tablespoons salted butter  
 ¼ cup milk  
 2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder  
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
 2 cups powdered sugar, sifted

Preheat the oven to 350°. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper. For the cookies: Put the chocolate chips in a microwave-safe bowl and microwave at 50 percent power in 15-second intervals, stirring between each, until melted and smooth. Let cool slightly.

Combine the flour, cocoa powder, baking powder, baking soda and salt in a medium bowl and whisk.

Combine the butter, granulated sugar and brown sugar in a large bowl and beat with a mixer on medium-high speed until smooth and light, about 2 minutes. Add the egg, vanilla and melted chocolate and beat until well combined, about 30 seconds. With the mixer on low speed, beat in half of the flour mixture, then the buttermilk, then the remaining flour mixture until smooth. Mix in the pecans.

Drop heaping tablespoonfuls of dough on the baking sheets about 2 inches apart. Bake, rotating the pans halfway through, until the tops of the cookies are puffed and the edges are set, 8 to 10 minutes. (Don't overbake; you want the centers to stay fudgy.) Let cool 5 minutes on the baking sheets, then remove to a rack set over a separate parchment-lined baking sheet.

For the glaze: Melt the butter in a small saucepan. Remove from the heat and whisk in the milk, cocoa powder and vanilla until smooth. Add the powdered

sugar and whisk vigorously until smooth. Spoon the glaze over the cookies. Let the glaze set, about 1 hour.

## OREO TRUFFLES

38 chocolate sandwich cookies, such as Oreos, broken into large pieces

1 8-oz. package cream cheese, at room temperature

8 oz. white chocolate, chopped

8 oz. bittersweet chocolate, chopped

Sprinkles or nonpareils, for garnish

Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper. Add the sandwich cookies to a food processor and pulse to make fine crumbs. Add the cream cheese and pulse until completely combined and almost pasty.

Scoop and roll the cookie mixture into 1-inch balls; you should have about 36. Refrigerate until chilled, about 30 minutes.

Melt the white and bittersweet chocolates separately in double-boilers set up over low heat, 3 to 4 minutes. Stir until smooth and let cool slightly. Using a fork, dip half of the balls in the bittersweet chocolate and place on a prepared baking sheet; repeat with the remaining balls and the white chocolate. Let set for a few minutes, then drizzle the tops with contrasting chocolate or top with sprinkles or nonpareils, if desired. Refrigerate until the chocolate is set, about 10 minutes. Store in a tightly sealed container in the refrigerator for up to 4 days.

## CHOCOLATE COCONUT BALLS

1 cup toasted chopped Macadamia nuts

1 cup sweetened condensed milk

1½ teaspoons almond extract

8 ounces sweetened shredded coconut

One 12-ounce bag semisweet chocolate morsels, melted

1 tablespoon shortening

In a bowl mix together the nuts, condensed milk, almond extract and coconut. Using your fingers, press the mixture into balls about ¾-inch round. Place onto sheet trays and let rest at room temperature for 4 hours or in the refrigerator for 1 hour.

After the balls have set up, melt the chocolate and shortening until smooth. Dip into the chocolate to coat evenly and lightly. Place onto a parchment or foil lined sheet pan to dry.





**A QUILTER'S NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS**

Author Unknown

'Twas the night before Christmas  
 As I sat by the tree,  
 Wondering what Santa would bring just for me.  
 Fabric, patterns, scissors and lace  
 "Or, a new sewing machine" I thought with a grin on my face.  
 Suddenly I saw him, "Hi Santa" I said  
 He snickered, "Good little girls should be in their bed."  
 "Oh, Santa forgive me, I know I've been caught,  
 But I was just so excited to see what you've brought."  
 "Well, let's take a look around this room where you work."  
 He shook his head quickly and turned with a jerk,  
 I heard him exclaim as he put it in gear,  
 You've got enough Crap, I'll see you next year!"  
 Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**QUILTER'S 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS**

Twelve UFOs unfolding,  
 Eleven purchased precuts,  
 Ten Hoarders 'a heaping,  
 Nine quilters quilting,  
 Eight bobbins bouncing,  
 Seven scissors snipping,  
 Six geese 'a flying,  
 Five wedding rings,  
 Four Featherweights,  
 Three spools of thread,  
 Two tapes and trims,  
 And a partridge in an appliquéd tree!

**FEATURED VIDEO TUTORIAL FOR DECEMBER:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w74r5fcx4A>

"Santa's Silent Night" Quilt

Missouri Star Quilt Company

**FEATURED PATTERNS**

Christmas Gifts Tree: <https://www.quiltersworld.com/pdfs/christmasgiftstree.pdf>

Hanging Out With the Homies: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fn4-MyjWfVvNq9hLZyTp294nYlsJS4j3/view>

Flurry: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B7NAJIVzfxCCdWZwcXpXa2JtUk0/view?resourcekey=0-PIpGlasPG30Itu58j7NHag>

Peppermint Forest Tablerunner: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/28jdg7vgor4j5qn/Peppermint%20Forest%20Quilt.pdf?dl=0>

Puppy Paw Stocking: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/vwokehwxlw0jywd/modkid-paw-stocking.pdf?dl=0>

Starflakes Stocking: [https://www.fabshophop.com/downloads/freepatterns/stocking-starflakes\\_maywood.pdf](https://www.fabshophop.com/downloads/freepatterns/stocking-starflakes_maywood.pdf)

**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](mailto: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, December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Please email articles to Sharon Perry, to [vtquilter@gmail.com](mailto:vtquilter@gmail.com),  
 or mail to PO Box 517, Montgomery Center VT 05471



*December is National Fruitcake Month*



*"December, being the last month of the year, cannot help but make us think of what is to come." - Fennel Hudson*