

Wayside Quilters

Newsletter ~December , 2020

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DATES FOR GUILD MEETINGS FOR 2020-2021

Meetings will be held via zoom until it's safe for us to be together. Meetings will run 7:00 to 8:30PM

December 7

January 4

February 1

March 1

April 5

May 3

June 7

A NOTE FROM PAT:

I'd like to focus on Outreach for my note this month. If you look at our website or even our application for nonprofit status, Outreach quilts figure prominently. In some past years we have donated 100 quilts. The need is even greater now and we are just not turning out quilts in the number we used to! (Except for Janet Columbus - thank you!) I challenge each and every one of you to make an outreach quilt this winter - maybe even two! These can be simple, and they can be tied or machine quilted. At the Detash event I ended up with a baggie stuffed full of rose flowered strips and after staring at them and came up with a drag race quilt - and it came out twin size!!!

Our outreach chairs, Susan and Lulinda need our help in other ways. Because Outreach is core value of our guild, their jobs have expanded until they are simply unmanageable. We all need to jump in and do some of this important work. Please check out the outreach articles - there are tasks as simple as arranging to drop off a donation at a shelter, accept quilts and put labels on them, and when we can be together, be on the committee to run an outreach day. Every member needs to find a way to be involved in this important work.

Our outreach quilts may not be our most technical work - but for sure we will showcase them in our April show and tell. I love to experiment with a new pattern or watch a Missouri Star Tutorial and copy it or use some odd bits of fabric left from other projects. The quilts that we make and donate make such a huge difference to the folks who get them! Let's get quilting!

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Making a Quilt for Outreach - Make it BED READY!

Your quilt can be any size, any pattern, and can be tied or quilted. And, each and every quilt must be BED READY! That means it's clean (wash and dried), is complete, has all the threads clipped off, you triple-checked for leftover pins, and it has a label on it! Before you bring your quilt to be donated, please take a photo of it and email the photo to waysideguild@gmail.com. Put "outreach" quilt in the subject line. And please send it only once and if you know how, crop your photo to highlight the quilt. This will get your donation up on the website and into the April show and tell. By doing these steps, we can save our outreach chairs a lot of time! You can request labels from Sue Thomas at susan@thomasandcompany.com - she will mail them right to you (and save her time by putting your address in the email). Or you can pick them up when you pick up batting. Outreach can also accept pieced quilt tops that can be put together at our next Outreach day, or by volunteers.

If you are looking for inspiration - try the Missouri Star Tutorials - they put up a new you-tube video with an easy pattern every week. You could grab a book off your shelf that you haven't used in a while and try something new - you could get inspired by some fabric you've got hanging around or that you picked up at the Destash.

Outreach needs everyone one of us to participate!

In addition to making quilts, some very specific tasks are in high demand. There are jobs that can be done once (and done) or something more ongoing. Take a look at the list and figure out how you are going to

contribute to this important core value of our guild:

1. Complete top that has been donated.
2. Drop off completed quilts in either Framingham or Waltham
3. Volunteer to be the drop off site for donated quilts
4. Volunteer to be on the committee to plan our next Outreach event (let's completely re-imagine this!) when we can be together again

And we needed a volunteer to cut batting as needed, but thank you, Carol Bradford, for volunteering for this important task. If you would like batting for an outreach project, email Carol Bradford at noyesnurse@verizon.net and she will cut what you need and you can pick it up on her porch in Sudbury.

Take a look at the list and decide where you can help - we all can do something!

Outreach Day Pandemic Version

Watch for details - we will be picking a weather appropriate day in January or February and letting everyone come to the storage unit (in Marlborough on the Sudbury line) and grab whatever fabrics you want to use to make into Outreach quilts. And you will be able to drop off your completed BED READY Outreach quilts at the same time. The announcement will come out by email without a lot of warning because we need to pick a nice day - think January thaw!

Susan Thomas and Lulinda Tucker

Live Auction is coming!

Our January meeting will feature a live auction of the remaining 11 items! There are some amazing things in this list - a Christmas Quilt kit, one of Jill's dolls with a huge wardrobe, a Go Cutter machine, a notion treasure trove, two members have donated certificates for machine quilting, a portable

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design wall, a bundle of patterns and kits for American Girl dolls, and a Eureka quilt kit!

Pat Lukens and Carol Bradford

Workshops on ZOOM? One person's thoughts...

I will admit, I was skeptical. Sitting down looking at a computer all day sounded pretty miserable to me, and so I was surprised how much I enjoyed Saturday's zoom workshop! Let me share what I liked about it...

The instructor had several cameras set up, so when she was demonstrated something on her machine we could all see it quite closely. Compare that to in-person workshops when 15 people crowd around the instructor at her machine, and only a small handful actually see anything. And when she was speaking I was sitting at my machine sewing, or working on a project... filling the time, not just sitting and listening. I could move around my room and still listen to her and I enjoyed that freedom. (Most of us turned our cameras off and were on "mute" until we wanted to say something.) She did a nice job of talking, giving us something to try, and then letting us go try it on our own for 20 or 30 minutes. So I really didn't feel like I was sitting in front of my computer all day at all! And we all went around and shared what we were working on - so we did have some sense of being with colleagues.

The one thing I missed was visiting with friends and fellow quilters, but given the situation today, this style of workshop worked really well. If you are skeptical about trying this format, I encourage you to give it a try next time it is offered!

Sue Blaney

CREATIVITY AS OUR SALVATION; WHAT INSPIRES YOU?

Introducing our WQG HOPE PROJECT.

WHAT INSPIRES YOU? As quilters, we are fortunate because our creativity will be something that can sustain us, keep us uplifted and moving forward during the upcoming winter months. As a Guild made up of imaginative and inspired quilters who share creative passion and special skills, we are offering a special project that hope you will participate in... it is a way to stay busy and positive during the winter months.

WQG's Winter "HOPE" Project

Have you begun to think about how you might represent your pandemic experience in a quilted project? **How do you find hope?** One way I find hope from December 21 all through the winter, is that *after December 21 every day is longer than the day before it!* I have always noticed that by late January I can really see a difference in the length of the days. I can't promise, but you might just see this lengthening of the days as a part of my "HOPE" project come spring. Remember we will reveal our projects at our April meeting Show & Tell.

What inspires you?

PANDEMIC-INSPIRED

WINTER

PROJECT: Our unprecedented quarantine has inspired new ways of thinking, new ways of experiencing our lives and more. Where will you find HOPE over the winter months? What positive outcomes will you experience during this time? What have you learned

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during this experience? How can you represent this in a quilted project?

Project parameters:

- Between December 21 and March 21 please create a quilted project of any kind that represents your pandemic experience in a way that brings you hope. Aim to complete it by the start of Spring, and we will have an unveiling/Show & Tell at our Guild's April meeting. We hope EVERYONE will participate. During the winter months in the meantime we can share what we are working on and get help and input from our fellow quilters.
- As we have done in the Brown Bag Challenges, we will require the following:
 - o Circumference must be 72" or less
 - o Must have three layers: Top, batting and back
 - o Needs to be bound
- We hope to present an impressive array of our Guild's creative expression by showcasing these pieces in the future... Surely at our next show, but perhaps there will be a venue where they can be showcased in the spring of 2021.

Questions or thoughts? Contact Sue Blaney

Here is the news from Outreach:

13 quilts were delivered to Pathways Shelter in Framingham on Tuesday afternoon. Pat Lukens contributed a beautiful quilt. A queen size quilt was donated that Kate and Tom Whelan did the long arm and Janet Columbus did the binding. I put one together from a

pattern that Janet demonstrated last year. Janet contributed all the rest, 10, total!! Thank you Janet, Pat, Kate and Tom.

Susan

What's New at the New England Quilt Museum

Sale in the museum shop! The shop is offering 25% off all purchases for NEQM members and 15% off for everyone else through December 30th. Come and shop for vintage and new quilts, fair-trade items, and assorted gift items. Socks with contemporary and historic women heroines are hot right now!

The current exhibits are continuing until December 30th: "The Quilted Canvas III: Still Here!"; "Baltimore Album Quilts", and "Sew Many Pieces!" Always check the museum website for current hours and Covid restrictions before visiting. The museum has not been crowded! <https://www.neqm.org>

An Outreach Opportunity

Wayside Quilters has received a request from the Dementia Friendly Sudbury Action Team for fidget mats. These will be put in baskets with other items to be given to families dealing with dementia in a loved one. The fidget mats are for baskets to be given in January. Jill has some already made that she is donating. I could use a few more donations. For more information, or if you are willing to make/donate a mat or two, please contact Laura Lane at pete.lane@comcast.net.

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More from Laura Lane:

Want to learn a little quilt history or see some antique quilts? Here are two short videos put together by the American Quilt Study Group. The AQSG is an international group of quilt historians, museum professionals, antique dealers and others who are interested in quilt history. The group has an annual seminar which rotates locations around the country. The 2020 Seminar was held virtually. The 2021 Seminar is scheduled for Harrisonburg, Virginia, in the Shenandoah River Valley and home to the Virginia Quilt Museum. Enjoy!

Fading of 19th Century Greens to Blue:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kNfguiHLNCA&feature=youtu.be>

Virtual Show of 19th Century New York Quilts:

<https://youtu.be/Zu8WrBShL54>

Activities Corner— Moira Ten-Hove B-O-M anyone?

This is the time of the year when we see lots of shiny block-of-the-month programs. BOMs come in many varieties — often designed to encourage us to buy more fabric and equipment! BOM kits are more likely to grow up to be quilts, though, so there is that. It's good to have encouragement along the way but it's even better if you can achieve or learn something beyond the quilt itself. Here are a few programs that have caught my eye recently:

[Amy Friend](#) — paper-piecer extraordinaire —has enlisted a buddy —Erina White PhD, MSW, MPH — to remind us how to nurture ourselves this pandemic year with info on different aspects of self-care. Those blocks look versatile, too.

<https://duringquiettime.com/product/fill-your-cup-block-of-the-month-for-2021>

[Debby Brown](#) is offering to help you with your scrap problems: 12 quilts — yes quilts!!! that use 8" scrap color blocks in different settings, one each month. She's a fabulous machine quilter and will be solving your quilt-as-desired issues, too. I predict ribbon candy will play a starring role.

<https://debbybrownquilts.teachable.com/p/2021-scrap-quilts-color-blocks/>

Want to make a triangle quilt but need support? Then [Rebecca Bryan](#) may have just the thing. She champions modern triangles which are strip-pieced, foundation-pieced and just-plain-pieced. This year she is working with equilateral triangles for her Wildflower BOM. Lots of color support here, too. <https://rebeccabryan.mykajabi.com/wildflower-bom>

[Sarah Fielke](#) designs the most amazing quilts for the hand appliqué crowd and next year's offering — Rainy Days and Sun Rays — looks to be spectacular. She offers lots of video support so this could be the year to try your hand.

<https://www.sarahfielkeblockofmonth.com>

If appliqué isn't your thing then [Helen Godden](#) in Australia may have something for you: Painted quilts! No word on a 2021 quilt yet but stay tuned.

<https://helengodden.com/product-category/education/block-of-the-month-bom/>

Finally, I had a big win on the WIP front this past month: I finished and mailed my Lepidoptera quilt to a great friend of my eldest daughter. Lepidoptera is one of [Elizabeth Hartman's](#) insane designs. The top had languished after I discovered it was too large to be a companion to her Fancy Forest quilt that I'd made in a Block of the Month

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program run by Quilter's Way. After I finished it, I told my husband to commit me if I ever attempted another. He didn't listen.

Pictures from the Marge Tucker Workshop from Laura Lane

