



Thimbles & Friends Quilt Guild Newsletter

Volume 27 • Issue 4 December, 2025

Board and Committee Members 2025– 2026

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Co-Chair: Julia Blanchard

Treasurer: Joanne Cummings

Co-Treasurer: Suzanne Kresser

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Facilities: Pat McCollem

Membership/Hospitality:
Phyllis Barry

Newsletter Editors:
Wendy F., Beverly C & Taryen

Web & Social Media: Sarah Norris

Programming Coordinators: Sheila & Taryen



Guild Website

<http://www.thimblesandfriendsquiltguild.org>

Newsletter Note: Just click on the picture of any quilt to see the Web page it came from.

Newsletter Submissions

All guild members are invited to submit articles for this newsletter. Please write your own articles and e-mail them to both of us no later than the 20th of the month to allow us time to process each article before distribution by the 25th. If there is no newsletter in any particular month, we will save your article for a future publication.

- Taryen, Wendy Foley & Beverly

Meeting Dates

Here is the meeting information for our remaining guild year. Meeting times are 10:15 AM – 2 PM.

Dec 6th	Holiday Party
Jan 3rd	Ruler Work Workshop with Wendy M.
Jan 31	Sashiko Class
Feb 12-15	Retreat
March 7th	Freezer paper Workshop with Joanne C.
April 4th	Workshop with Dianna Annis
May 2nd	Tea Party



From the Chairman

The Quilter's Night Before Christmas*

'Twas the night before Christmas when all through the guild
Every quilter was cursing, all projects were stilled.
The blanket stitch was crooked, the seam ripper missing,
Thoughts of long arm quilting just some purple thang dissing.
It seemed so easy, the green Irish Chain quilt
But that was before the tea on the batting was spilt.
The wing clipper ruler was not to be found
No doubt lost under shabby fabrics, all in a mound.
With few hours left for the jolly fat quarter to hail
The quilter moves to churn dash to leave the snail trail.
The Janome moves fast like those bright flying geese
Gutterman thread will glide with its magic on piece after piece.
And, lo, before midnight in a Christmas miracle for sure,
The quarter seam is perfect, praise worthy, according to her.
The quilt can be wrapped, it's beautiful, they will say
Little will they know it was really a quilt in a day!

* With apologies to Clement Clarke Moore and a nod to all quilters who get projects done against great odds! **Merry Christmas** to all!

I hope this little (perhaps slightly exaggerated story) brings a smile to your face. It could also bring a prize if you can successfully guess the number of quilting terms, patterns, and member names that are in the story! The person who provides the guess closest to the number will win.

- Doris



Thimble and Friends News

Thimbles and Friends Approved for Non-Profit Purchasing at [New England Quilt Supply](#)



GREAT NEWS! Thimbles and Friends have been approved to shop as a non-profit at New England Quilt Supply in Pembroke. This will be a tremendous benefit for our raffle quilt, raffle basket items, and our "Buck a Block" projects.

To place an order, members must coordinate with **Wendy Moore**, who is listed as the primary contact for New England Quilt Supply. Please note:



- Fabric may be ordered by the full bolt (15 yards).
- Half bolts (7.5 yards) may be ordered for an additional \$2.00 charge.
- We are optimistic that this partnership will help us reduce the cost of our batting as well.

For more information or to begin an order, please contact **Wendy Moore**.

Programing

December 6th.



January Programing 2 in 1 Month 1/3 & 1/30

Demonstration & Workshop: Ruler Work on Domestic Sewing Machines

Wendy Moore will present a demonstration of ruler work on a domestic sewing machine on **January 3, 2026**. She will show several quilts that feature ruler work and explain the tools and techniques involved.



Following the demonstration, Wendy will offer an optional hands-on workshop for anyone who owns quilting rulers and would like guidance on how to use them.

What to Bring:

Just curious? Simply bring yourself—no supplies needed.

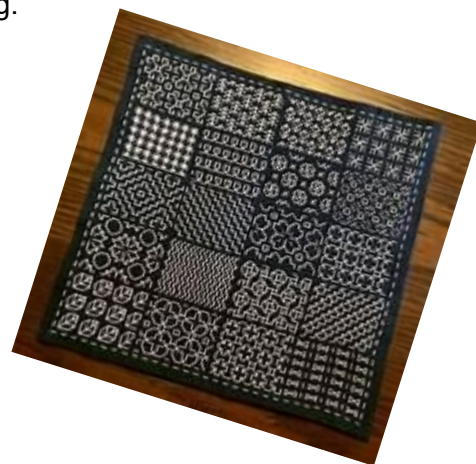
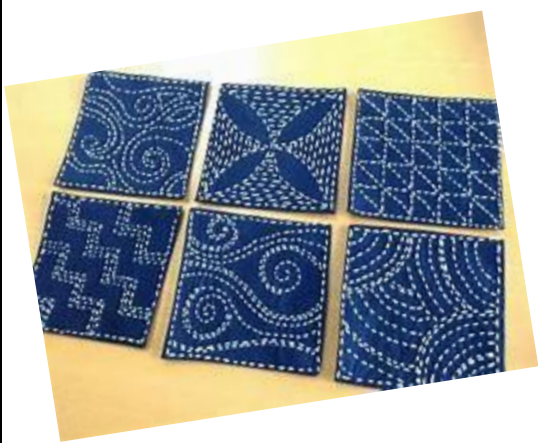
Want to try ruler work with your own tools? Bring your sewing machine and rulers for personalized, one-on-one instruction.

Not sure yet? Wendy will have her own machine and a variety of rulers available for you to try.

Registration is not required

Programing Our Sashiko Workshop will be held on **January 31st.**

Members must be signed up and submit payment at the December meeting. Sheila will be available for questions and collection of payments.



Retreat 2026

Retreat Update

The retreat is officially **at full capacity!** We have **37 members** and **3 potential members** attending, for a total of **40 participants**.

If you have not yet reserved your sleeping room, please do so as soon as possible. The hotel will be releasing our room block soon. **Be sure to call the hotel directly at 508-747-4900** to make your reservation.

Any remaining balance for the retreat is **due by January 3, 2026**. If you will not be attending the meeting on that date, you may mail your payment to me. If you are unsure of your balance, feel free to call, text, or email me and I will be happy to provide it.

Please make checks payable to **Thimbles and Friends Quilt Guild**.

At the January 31 meeting—once all payments have been received, I will make the **seating chart** available.

Wendy Moore
Flagg Street
Bridgewater, MA 02324-3302
Wmoore143@gmail.com
774.222.5936



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Title Jonathan/Xander Fabric

Wendy Moore has LOTS of fabric for \$2.00 per yard. Much of it is Disney fabric including super heroes, Princesses, Tinkerbell, Stitch, Peter Pan, Micky and Minnie Mouse, Scooby Do, Monsters Inc, Wall-E, Batman, Star Wars, LION King, Pokémon, Minions, Beauty and The Beast, Moana, and many, many more! Please call or email me to come and pick out your fabric soon as this fabric will not last long.

Wmoore143@gmail.com 774.222.5936

Wendy M

The South shore Nurses

Donation quilts and bags



- Wendy M

SCENT HEARTS

Scent Hearts are given to parents whose infants are cared for in the Newborn Intensive Care Unit at LPCH. Parents wear these hearts next to their skin, absorbing their respective scents. Mothers may choose to wear a heart inside a bra and Mothers and Fathers may choose to pin a heart to the inside of a blouse or shirt. The hearts are taken to the NICU and placed in the isolates with the infants whereby the infants can continue to bond with the parents even when the parents are unable to be present. The nurses in the NICU will further instruct Parents on the use and handling of the Scent Hearts. Directions: Scent hearts are made from 100% cotton flannel measuring approximately 5 inches by 5 inches (see pattern below). (Note: a 4-yard cut of fabric will yield approximately 4 hearts.)

Wash fabric using unscented detergent, dry and iron the fabric. Cut two hearts from fabric using pattern provided. With right sides together, sew hearts together using a 1/4-inch seam and leaving a one-to-two-inch opening on the lower side (as shown on the picture below). Clip around curves. Turn right side out and gently press with warm iron. Hand-sew the opening closed.



THE HEART PATTERN CAN BE FOUND IN THE PDF ATTACHED TO THIS EMAIL



Sheila and I went to the NEQM for their “speed dating” event. We met so many talented quilters!
We also chose a workshop for April 4th with Dianna Annis- more details to follow.

Along with meeting amazing quilters that day, we enjoyed the museum’s wonderful quilt displays. Click on this link to go to the sight. I’m confident there will be at least one or two exhibits you’d love to see. Rember our guilds membership gives us 8 passes each year all you need is to show your current membership card.



April 8-11 2026 [Venue:](#) The Connecticut Convention Center,
100 Columbus Blvd. Hartford CT



Guild Recommendations

The Quilt Story



Tony Johnston and Tomie dePaola

Looking for a cute story to share with a young person

Quilters and young readers alike will enjoy this tender story about love, family, and finding comfort in a new home.

- *Taryen*



We'd Love to Hear Your Stories

How did you fall into the wonderful world of sewing, quilting, crafting, or creating? Was it love at first stitch? A happy accident? A late-night hobby gone wild? Tell us your story—make it fun, make it whimsical, or just tell it like it is! You can sign your name... or keep us guessing and let everyone try to figure out who the mystery maker is. It's a lighthearted way for us to share, laugh, and get to know each other a little better. Thanks for considering sending in a story for the newsletter!

- *Wendy F, Beverly & Taryen*



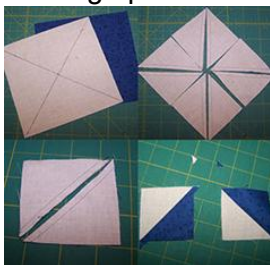
10 quick quilting tips



Whether you're just getting started or are a quilting expert, it's always a good idea to be looking for tips and tricks to add to your repertoire. We asked our circle of ambassadors to share their favorite life-saving quilting tips. Here are a few of our favorites!

1. Sew and mark your own squares

QuiltingTip1



Instead of cutting individual bias triangles, cut triangles out of squares. This is much more accurate and efficient. You can get eight half-square triangles from a single square!

2. Use water-soluble glue or pressing sheets instead of pinning

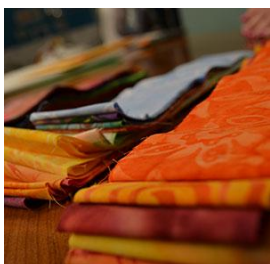
QuiltingTip2



Pinning is time consuming and sometimes unreliable. By using water-soluble glue, you can line up your pieces precisely and quickly. When finished, just wash your quilt and the glue will be gone! You can use pressing sheets to iron fabrics together, which will also wash out afterwards.

3. Apply bias strips to bind your edges

QuiltingTip3



Got a lot of curves in your quilt? Don't want mitered corners? Cut some bias strips to bind your edges and help your needle grab the fabric. This helps your edges to look cleaner and prevent gathering.

4. Swap out your scissors

QuiltingTip4



Scissors aren't always the best tool for cutting fabric. Get a rotary cutter to make trimming quilts faster.

5. Strip quilting

QuiltingTip5



If you're feeling spontaneous, give strip quilting a try! Strip quilting requires no patterns and is a great way to use up some fabric scraps. Quilt as you go by sewing strips onto batting in your order of choice. Additionally, this is a great technique for creating ombre effects or landscapes!

6. Spinning intersections

QuiltingTip6



When sewing four-patch squares, the fabric can easily become bulky instead of laying flat. To remedy this, you can make a spinning intersection. Break the thread in the middle seam of the square and fold up. Press so that the seams are all rotating around the square in the same direction.

7. Use a walking foot for machine quilting

QuiltingTip7



Different quilting techniques call for different sewing machine feet. You can use a quarter inch foot for sewing small seams and piecing together your quilt. However, using a walking foot for your binding and heavier quilting will better feed the fabric through the machine.

8. Fine line chalk markers

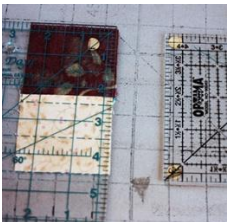
QuiltingTip8



There is some debate on what tools are best for marking fabric. If you are worried about quilt markers not washing out, fine line chalk markers are a great option. Especially if you want to do more detailed, finer designs.

9. Squaring up blocks at the earliest point when assembling a quilt

QuiltingTip9



Sounds like a no brainer, huh? But sometimes the easiest tips make the biggest difference. If you square up your blocks immediately, you won't run into problems later! Ensure that your blocks are the same size by using your quilting ruler at every point of quilt construction.

10. And last but not least...

Do your best! Nobody's perfect!

Quilting can be tough, but no matter how many seams you need to rip just remember – nobody's perfect!
Happy quilting!