



Thimbles & Friends Quilt Guild Newsletter

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Membership/Hospitality:

Josephine Abbott

Newsletter Editors:

Julia Blanchard/Jill Lillie

Web Site: Rose Perry

Programming: Member Volunteers



Greetings from Bridgewater

As some of you know, my step-mother passed away recently. Cathy was a life-long artist and an art teacher by profession, and left many pieces of pottery, enamelwork, fiber art, and watercolors behind. It got me thinking of the legacy that we quilters will leave behind for our friends and family. I'd like to think that just as we cherish Cathy's artwork around our home, my loved ones will cherish the quilts made lovingly for them.

Quilts are beautiful, creative, keep us warm and comforted, and are a lovely remembrance of the artist who sewed them, whether they are still with us, or have gone on to the next world. In a very tangible way, our quilts reflect who we are, and express our love and caring for others. I just love that.

- *Julia*

From the Chair

Hi everyone!

What a strange and wonderful fall—warm and lovely! I could do with a winter like this too! That probably won't happen, but I am enjoying this weather.

Last month's meeting inspired a couple things for me. One, I cut up my batik scraps into 5 inch dark and two and a half inch light squares to make the "hugs and kisses" quilt (see block at left.)

Two, I used so much Best Press, the blocks were really stiff and flat! Thanks for the tips, Gina, Shirley, and Nancy!

I won't be seeing you at the November meeting because I will be in Houston at the International Quilt Festival! Can't wait! I try to go every other year for a massive quilt fix! It's really wonderful.

See you in December,

- Jeanne

[Help Wanted](#)

We need someone to take over the monthly raffles for the year. Please speak to Jeanne if you are interested.



[Freecycle Table](#)

The Freecycle Table will be open for business at our November meeting. Please bring in any GADGETS or PATTERNS (not books or magazines) that you no longer want or find useful. As always, you are free to drop off anything on the Freecycle Table at any time, whether sewing related or not, but this month we are focusing on gadgets and patterns.

Thank you to those who contributed to the table at our October meeting. Quite a lot was dropped off and quite a lot was picked up. Our quilters walked away with a lot of scraps and fabric that tickled their fancy and it was all free! We like that price and it helps to recirculate materials that might otherwise go to a landfill or clutter our sewing rooms.

Thank you for making the table a success!

As always, your Sister in Sewing,

- Gina Stone

[Retreat News](#)

Hello Ladies, I know "The Retreat" is in February, but never too early to start thinking about it. It will be held at the same place (Plymouth), but the hotel has a different name: Hotel 1620. We have the sewing room from noon on Thursday, February 9 to 6:00 pm Sunday, February 12. The nightly rate has gone up to \$109, but we haven't had an increase in quite a few years. All reservations must be made by January 10, 2017.

There are a limited number of rooms for Thursday night as the majority of the members arrive on Friday. Please let me know if you are thinking of checking in on Thursday night and if you will be sharing a room with another member (who is also coming in on Thursday). This will give me some idea if the hotel has set aside enough rooms for Thursday.

It is still too early to let you know anything about the luncheon on Saturday and the brunch on Sunday. We will put the information in the Newsletter as details are firmed up.

Happy Halloween and see you all on November 5th!

- Joanne Donovan

[New England Quilt Museum](#)

Have you ever been to the New England Quilt Museum? Thimbles & Friends is a Supporting Guild for the NEQM. As such, we receive several complimentary admission tickets each year. Please see me for tickets.

The current show is called *America's Appliqué Quilts*. It features a collection of antique and vintage quilts from the collection of Pat and Arlan Christ. The exhibition includes Baltimore Album styles, four-block quilts, rose appliqué patterns and modern appliqué designs. This is a must-see for appliqué enthusiasts and anyone who values the extraordinary skills displayed in antique quilts. This exhibition runs through December 31st.

NEQM regularly hosts Brown Bag Lectures. The next one is *Star Quilts*, featuring a lecture and trunk show by Bonnie Dwyer on Thursday November 3rd at 12:30. For more information, check [NEQM website](#).

The New England Quilt Museum will hold its *Annual Meeting of Guild Representatives* event shortly. The museum is open privately for this event, featuring a guided tour of the current exhibition, and a behind-the-scenes look at new acquisitions to the museum's permanent collection. The *Annual Meeting of Guild Representatives* will be held on Monday, November 7th from 10:30-2:30.



Out and About

Need a road trip? Check out these upcoming events:

- [Connections](#) Quilt Festival November 10-12 – Holiday Inn, Nashua, NH. Admission \$12/day or \$15.00/multiday pass. Pat Delaney will be teaching!
- [Pinwheel and Friends](#) Quilt Show November 10-12, Sturbridge Host Hotel and Conference Center, 366 Main St, Sturbridge, MA. Admission \$12.

Sharing is Caring

If you've taken a class or visited a new quilt shop, please consider sharing it with the guild. Send your submissions to Jill and Julia and we will post it in the Newsletter. Thanks to Linda Austin and Jo Abbott for this month's interesting articles!



I'm unable to attend this event, but if one or two of you would like to represent Thimbles & Friends please contact me for more information.

- Linda Austin



The New England Quilt Museum

18 Shattuck Street, Lowell, MA 01852
(978) 452-4207

Quilt Show 2017

There will be a Quilt Show meeting directly after the guild meeting on November 5 in the library conference room. All current chairs are requested to attend, and any other members are welcome too!

Voting results have decided on the theme "Quilts Color our World." Sheryl Briggs will be telling us about the challenge for this theme soon.

Major kudos to Rose Perry for getting all the quilt show positions and supporting documentation on our [Web site](#)! Please check it out!

We are still looking for someone to chair the show book ads. Please consider filling this role, or perhaps sharing it with a friend or two.

Quilt Show Co-Chairs,

- Chris Thierfelder and Linda Robbins

Guild Website:

<http://www.thimblesandfriends.org/>

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

14,287 Pieces of Fabric

Behind the painted picket gate
There lived a quilter known as Kate
She had one son, a boy named John:
One daughter, whom she doted on.
She had one husband and one house
One pup, one cat, one little mouse....
And 14,287 pieces of fabric

A Treasure - Mildred Hatfield

It's more than a coverlet
More than a spread,
This beautiful quilt
That graces my bed.

It's laughter and sorrow,
It's pleasure and pain,
It's small bits and pieces
Of sunshine and rain.

It's a bright panorama
Of scraps of my life –
It's moments of glory,
It's moments of strife.

It's a story I cherish
Of days that have been.
It's a door I can open
To live them again.

Yes, it's more than a cover,
This much-treasured quilt.
It's parts pieced together
Of the life I have built.

Meeting Dates

Here are the meeting and event dates for our upcoming year. Meeting times are 10:15 am – 2 pm. It looks like we have a busy season scheduled!

Nov. 5	Bali High – Chris Thierfelder
Dec. 3	Holiday Party – Joyce H. and Nancy M.
Jan. 28	Color Workshop – Pat Delaney and Jeanne Aurelio
Feb. 4	Getting Ready for the Retreat – Joanne Donovan and Anne Marchetta
Feb. 10-12	Retreat at Hotel 1620 at Plymouth Harbor – Fun Committee: Mary Davis, Sue Warchal, Pat McCollum
March 4	Virtual Sewing Room Tour - Rose Perry and (1 needed)
April 1	Schoolhouse Shop Hop - Karen Howard and (co-chair needed)
May 6	May tea party – Josephine Abbott and Cathy Hodges



And now for something completely different...

A quilted lobster!



Jeanne found this at the Tradewinds Resort in Rockland, Maine. LOL!

Quilts Shows This Year

I thought I would write a short article for the newsletter regarding the Quilt Shows I have attended this year. First it was the Bayberry Quilters of Cape Cod in Harwich this August. I attended the show with some of my quilting sista's from Thimble and Friends, and just being with my friends was actually the most fun. Sharing fabric, quilt ideas, and of course food makes the long ride very worth it. We started out early and got there in time to see all the quilts, which were wonderful and of course spend time at the vendors. More fabric, just what I need. My thoughts are that this guild is still alive and well and producing great work.

Next was the Herring Run Quilters' Guild, which is my old guild and many of their members are friends as well. I believe that their work is some of the finest I have seen in the area, and their show is a success because of good management and the fact that everyone pulls together. I attended this show with a quilting buddy, Sue Conant, and enjoyed seeing old friends and meeting new.

Today was the Plymouth County Cranberry Quilters show. Rose Perry and I started out early so had plenty of time to slowly look at every stitch in the quilts and be inspired. I have been attending this quilt show for over 25 years, and love it. They changed venue and held the show for only one day, due to the rising costs of renting space. Vendors were different and not very plentiful. Quilts were beautiful as usual. Their theme was "Stitch it Forward" so there were quilts made by the children and grandchildren of many members—a nice touch.

My final thoughts are we should all attend as many quilt shows as possible in order to support all the guilds and shops that we can. Quilting is my chosen craft and sharing it with others of like mind is still the best way to keep it alive. Sharing ideas with other guild members keeps me inspired and of course spending time with my quilting friends makes me happy.

Happy Quilter,

- Josephine Abbott

Have Something to Say?

Send newsletter submissions to

Julia at Julia.Blanchard@comcast.net and

Jill at scruffsmom@comcast.net

Content is due no later than the 20th of each month.