



Thimbles & Friends Quilt Guild Newsletter

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Board and Committee Members 2020– 2021

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Co-Chair: Wendy Moore

Treasurer: Claudia Cummings

Co-Treasurer: Barbara White

Secretary: Sue Ellen Hewitt

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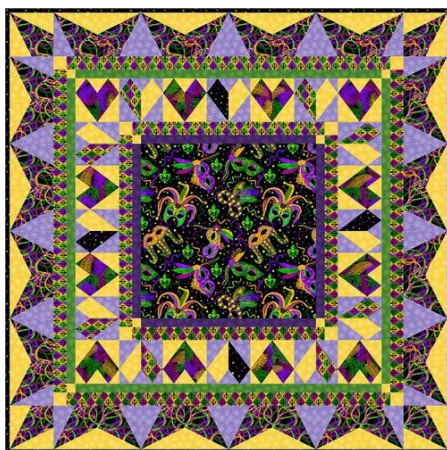
Facilities: Pat McCollum

Membership/Hospitality:
Phyllis Barry

Newsletter Editors:
Julia Blanchard/Taryen
Shannon/Wendy Foley

Web & Social Media: Sarah Norris

Programming Coordinators: Nancy
Moynihan/Joyce Hochstrasser



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 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 any particular month, we will save your article for a future publication.

- *Julia, Taryen & Wendy*

Meeting Dates

Here is the meeting information for our remaining guild year. Meeting times are 10:00 AM – 2 PM.

March 6	Barbara Graceffa-In honor of Harriet Tubman's birthday in March, will present a lecture and slide show on Quilts of the Underground Railroad.
April 3	TBD (formerly Cheryl Martel Trunk Show)
May 1	Tea Party – Julia Blanchard (formerly Lori Pires/Hat Lecture)
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[From the Chairman](#)

It is hard to believe that we are more than halfway through our meetings. The Virtual Retreat was amazing. Thank you for everyone that was involved, in putting the retreat together. I had the pleasure of sewing with my sisters and Mom, for 2 days during the retreat. We took Friday off from work and went to Jo's house. We invaded her space. Used all her machines and fabric. Between the four of us we finished 35 charity quilts. We tag teamed with the sandwiching of the quilts, quilting, and binding. It is amazing that many hands make light work. It also helped to have Shirley as the supervisor, pushing us to get the work accomplished. Joyce also had a sing along to get our Dad to remember back when, so he had a good time too, and the Sundae Pack from Peaceful Meadows also made a big hit.

I have been watching a lot of YouTube videos. You need to check out "Power Tools with Thread." The lady is from Texas. She was sewing with all the snow that they got recently; it has shut down the state. A big 2 inches of snow, but they don't have snowplows, ice melt, or ice scrapers, for their cars. Their pipes are freezing up, doesn't sound like fun to me. She did do a video of a quilt shop in the area. What an amazing shop. I think more Quilt Shops should advertise by doing videos of what they have to offer at their shops. It was like going on a shop hop. Can you tell I'm tired of being locked up in the house? See you soon.

- Sheryl

[Wendy's Corner](#)

All about Batiks. The history of batiks goes back 2,000 years, probably originating in Asia. The original fabric background was probably silk as expressed in beautiful silks batik screens in Japan. Batiks are hand-dyed and use a wax resist technique.

- Wendy



[March Program](#)



Quilts of the underground railroad:

Presentation from Barbara Graceffa

In honor of Harriet Tubman's birthday in March, Barbara Graceffa will present a lecture and slide show on Quilts of the Underground Railroad.

Although the validity of the oral history is debated, Barbara will recount how the hidden meaning of quilt blocks informed African-American slaves when to start the journey to freedom, how to navigate their path, where to find safe houses, and other clever encoded messages.

On a side note, if you haven't seen the 2019 bio-pic Harriet, you owe it to yourself to see it (available on Netflix). The actress TOTALLY deserved the best actress award she earned, says Barbara.

[Gee's Bends Quilts](#)

The famous Gee's Bends quilts are now for sale online for the first time. See [article](#).

Gee's Bend Quiltmakers

The women of Gee's Bend—a small, remote, Black community in Alabama—have created hundreds of quilt masterpieces dating from the early twentieth century to the present. Resembling an inland island, Gee's Bend is surrounded on three sides by the Alabama River. The some seven hundred or so inhabitants of this small, rural community are mostly descendants of slaves, and for generations they worked the fields belonging to the local Pettway plantation. Enlivened by a visual imagination that extends the expressive boundaries of the quilt genre, these astounding creations constitute a crucial chapter in the history of American art. – From [Souls Grown Deep](#).



By Aestean P. Young 1936-2001

Retreat Committee

Our retreat wouldn't have been such a success without all of you. From all of us in the retreat committee we like to say **thank you** to everyone for joining us.

- Wendy Foley, Sue Warchal, Doris Furness, and Taryen Shannon



Art From the Heart: Expert Quilt Collector and Historian Gerald Roy Talks Denim Quilting



Quilting is having a major moment. And denim has an unquestionable place in quilting history.

[Quilts and Color: Quilts from the Pilgrim/Roy Collection is currently on display at the MFA Boston](#), and is not to be missed. The exhibit features 58 selected quilts from the Pilgrim/Roy collection and is designed to show how 19th century quilt makers were way ahead of the mid-20th century Abstract Expressionists in their use of color.

