



Thimbles & Friends Quilt Guild Newsletter

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Board and Committee Members 2020– 2021

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 Shannon/Wendy Foley
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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 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 10:15 AM – 2 PM.

Nov 7	"No More Tears" Paper Piecing – Kathy Connors
Dec 5	Holiday Party – Joyce Hochstrasser
Jan 9	Open Sew?
Jan 30	Charity Workshop – Shirley MacLeod
Feb 11-14	Retreat? Retreat Fun, Committee: Taryen Shannon, Wendy Foley, Sue Warchal
March 6	TBD
April 3	TBD (formerly Cheryl Martel Trunk Show)
May 1	Tea Party – Julia Blanchard (formerly Lori Pires/Hat Lecture)



From the Chairman

I'm always searching for new ideas and quilt blocks. Have any of your folks heard of Edyta Sitar of Laundry Basket Quilts? If not, you need to check out her Web site: <https://www.laundrybasketquilts.com/about-edyta.html>.

She can also be found on YouTube. You need to check out her studio, it is AMAZING! I just love the lighting in her studio. After organizing my sewing room, I now have to share it with my work office. Looking forward to seeing everyone at our Zoom Meeting.

- Sheryl

Wendy's Corner

I hope everyone is well. Having our meetings by Zoom has been interesting and new. I recently attended a webinar by the New England Quilt Museum to help guilds with their Zoom meetings. I learned lots of useful information to help make our meetings a success. Please bear with me, I am still learning. Just think of learning your new sewing machine—same concept.

One of the tools I learned was to have members send pictures of their quilts to me, I will identify them, put them in document form, then share them from my screen on Zoom. This will help make the quilts easier for everyone to see. And it be much better than trying to maneuver the quilt or item into the little camera lens. I hope members will send pictures at least **5 days before the meeting time**.

In addition, the NEQM has teachers that are "Zoom" ready and will deliver lectures and trunk shows through Zoom.

Retreat: We will try a poll in the next meeting to see exactly how many people will attend the retreat.

Keep quilting, sewing, embroidering and all other creative outlets!

- Wendy

Quilt Show Blocks

Ladies,

We have picked up the white-on-white fabric for our quilt show squares.

Barb and I will be at the Abington Library on Saturday, October 31st from 10-12. We will have a half yard of fabric and the pattern for you.

If you can't make it that date and time, please get in touch with us to set up a time and place to meet.

Piece,

- Barb and Sue-Ellen

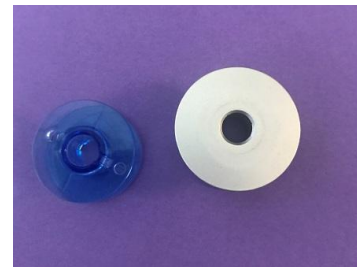


Things you might not know about Bobbins

"Bobbin!" is a swear word in my house. My husband and I both make quilts, so we have two sewing machines and our mid-arm quilting machine to run out of bobbin thread. The wise women say that you should always wind 5 bobbins at the start of any quilt. What they don't tell you is that the last one will always run out anyway!

Given how often that word gets used, I decided to do a little research into bobbins. This article won't tell you everything you need to know about bobbins. You would need a book for that. However, it can make you aware of what deserves your further attention.

In history, bobbins were made to hold wire, yarn, and thread in sewing machines, cameras, and electronic equipment. In other fiber arts, bobbins are also used in spinning, weaving, knitting, and lacemaking.



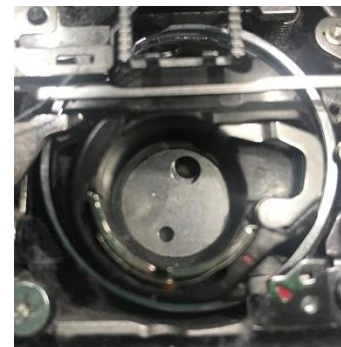
Bobbins come in different sizes, shapes, and materials. They come pre-wound, or you can wind them on your machine or use a separate bobbin winder. Some come with holes, some don't. They have names like "L" for the regular sewing machine or "M" for a long-arm.

They have names like "15" and "15J" for different brands of sewing machines. Some are flat, some are more domed. The number of holes can vary from none to many. Some are plastic, some are metal. Some are aluminum, some are steel. Some bobbins drop in from the top and some insert from the front.

What you need to know is that **THEY ARE NOT INTERCHANGEABLE!**

The purpose of the bobbin case is tension. The sewing machine must have this tension for the bobbin thread to interlock with the top thread to create a stitch. If the bobbin is the wrong size or type or material, the bobbin case can't do its job. If you have more than one machine, please remember to mark your bobbins or store them separately! We bought blue tinted bobbins for my husband's machine and clear for mine, and we do store them separately.

If you purchase a secondhand machine, it may come with the wrong bobbins or no bobbins at all. You must do the research to get the right bobbins. A local quilt shop may also be able to help you.



Here's a quick list of ways that your bobbin can stop your machine:



- Cleaning the bobbin case of the machine is critical. The dust that accumulates can be the size of a dust bunny!
- Plastic bobbins can overheat and distort.
- If you normally use plastic bobbins, a heavier metal bobbin can change the tension.
- For your bobbin winder, the rubber ring can become worn.

For the advanced sewer, I want to mention something called "bobbin work". This is a technique that uses a decorative thread in the bobbin to create stitches that embellish the quilt.

On the good side, bobbins can be worn as jewelry. Folks make earrings and necklaces. At our last Bee retreat, we initiated the new retreaters with a bobbin necklace and a pledge to uphold the purpose of the retreat. We called this the "Order of the Bobbin"! This creates some humor in the inevitable cry of "bobbin" at retreat!



- From Quiltinghub.com

At the NEQM - Celebrating 100 Years of Women's Suffrage

Through October 31, 2020

The [New England Quilt Museum](#) is showing a national premier of this invitational exhibition organized by Sandra Sider, Curator of the Texas Quilt Museum, and our NEQM Curator, Pamela Weeks. Twenty-eight award-winning artists from across the United States have created new works to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution, granting women the right to vote.

Deeds Not Words: Celebrating 100 Years of Women's Suffrage



Arturo Alonzo Sandoval . Unsung Heroines of African-American Suffrage (2019)

Road Trip!

Last weekend my husband Dennis and I went away for a little 4-day jaunt to Vermont and New Hampshire. It was so nice to get a change of scenery after months and months of staying at home. We took the back roads whenever we could, so we could slow down and see more of the countryside (which was absolutely beautiful). Well, I was driving along a little road in Fairlee, Vermont, when all of a sudden I took a sharp right into a parking lot. "Quilt Shop!" I yelled, and Dennis laughed about how quick I was to spot it. We went in and what a pleasure it was. This little shop had every gadget known to sewing (some of which I've never seen before!) and the most beautiful fabrics everywhere I looked, at very reasonable prices.

The owner, Sharon, knew everyone who walked in, except us, of course, but it didn't take long before we were chatting merrily away. She showed me her gigantic 16-foot long-arm machine (pictured below); she started out quilting for people and it grew into this thriving business, Barnyard Quilting. They run classes and retreats as well—the pattern collection for the collage class was impressive. Abby was running a class while we were there, but the picture didn't come out. :-)

The shop had a lot of wonderful products and services, but what made it stand out for me was the friendly atmosphere and the homey feeling. The saleswoman, Martha, showed me all kinds of items I was interested in and made me feel so welcome! It was just such a pleasure being there. Please check out their [website](http://www.barnyardquilting.com) and if you can, support this small-town shop run by local women. Orders over \$25 get free shipping! It's a win-win!

Barnyard Quilting (802) 333-3566
232 US Route 5 N
Fairlee, VT

staff@barnyardquilting.com
www.barnyardquilting.com



Such as cute sign!



A happy class member



Sharon at her machine



Martha smiling behind her mask

