



Concord Piecemakers' Grapevine January 2016

Susan Coulter, Editor

Wednesday, **January 20**, 7:00 pm
At Harvey Wheeler Center, West Concord, MA

Piecemakers' Calendar
2016

Jan 20- Judy Severson

Jan 23-25- Getaway
Wknd

Feb 20- Quiltathon

*Things to bring to the
meeting:*

- ✓ **NAMETAG**
- ✓ **Library Books**
- ✓ **Pillowcases**

President's Message Pam Cincotta

Happy New Year Piecemakers! Traditionally this is the time of year for resolutions and improvement. I've decided this year will be my year of organizing and de-cluttering. Last year our guild welcomed Joan Ford who gave wonderful ideas on organizing our mountains and bins of scraps. A visit to the Vermont Quilt Show last June provided the opportunity to attend a lecture by Bonnie Hunter, another genius when it comes to organizing and using up scraps. And then, the icing on the proverbial cake, someone recently referred me to a very popular book that speaks on the magic of de-cluttering.

After each of these lectures I spent time organizing, putting to use some of the fabulous ideas presented by these amazing quilters, so my sewing room is not total chaos. But after reading this thought-provoking book on de-cluttering I'm viewing my fabric stash in a whole new light. I have to admit that while my fabric is organized I have so many "what was I thinking" fabrics mixed in with my "simply adore, had to have" fabrics that it isn't always easy to find the perfect fabric for my projects. After years of taking up space, the "simply adore" fabrics eventually turn into "what was I thinking" fabrics or "I have no idea how I will ever use these" fabrics. It's a vicious cycle that needs to stop. After all, I am a quilter who loves to pop into the local quilt shops when starting a new project rather than "shop" from my stash. I want to work with fabric that is fresh and on-trend. An important part of the quilting process for me is spending time handling, cutting, and piecing fabrics I love.

Now that I have a renewed focus on my fabric stash the question is "What do I do with this wonderful, but no longer my cup of tea fabric?" Looking at the guild schedule for 2016 I get my answer. The Yard Sale! My challenge this year is to weed out those fabrics that have been hanging around for years but no longer bring me joy, measure, mark and donate to the guild's Fall Yard Sale. Why not challenge yourselves to a similar endeavor. The Yard Sale is the guild's big money-maker for 2016 and provides the perfect opportunity to organize your stash while at the same time benefit the guild.

Next month all members have the opportunity to attend our Annual Quiltathon. This is a fabulous day of quilt making and socializing that is huge in replenishing our comfort quilt stash. In lieu of this Saturday guild sponsored event, there will be no February guild meeting, nor a February newsletter.

THE QUILTATHON IS COMING! THE QUILTATHON IS COMING!

Marla Richmond

Concord Piecemakers will hold our annual Quiltathon on Saturday, February 20, 2016 at St. Matthew's Church in Acton. Doors are open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., but come when you can and stay as long as you like. Bring friends, kids, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, high school kids who need public service, everyone!

We make comfort quilts to be distributed wherever comfort is needed. The guild purchases batting and coffee/tea, has thread to tie the quilts and supplies a deli lunch for all. Members are requested to bring a finished quilt top with a back that fits it and a pot luck munchie (fruit, veggies, dessert, etc.).

Please inform me at the January meeting if you will be bringing your sewing machine, or e-mail me. We need to know how many sewing machines are coming. We sandwich the quilts, machine sew them, tie them and put labels on them. No experience necessary! It is a simple process and a lot of fun. How else can you spend a day with fellow quilters, eat, laugh, talk and finish quilts for people really in need of a "quilter's embrace"? Get working on that quilt top! Try something you've never done, use colors you never use, there is someone out there who will love it! We accept everything from baby quilts to king size, but twin is the most in need. Any question? Contact me, I'd love to help. For me this is the high point of the CPM year!

Nickel Squares

The cycle starts again as we accept nickel squares this month for the 2017 quilt show. Hope you have fabric scraps to spare for our popular 5 inch squares. Please save your selvage strips and contribute them with your squares. We will use them to tie the bundles. Nothing goes to waste!

Suggestions for fabrics: Background fabric in beiges, yellows and light blues; character fabric, 30's, civil war reproductions, batiks, florals, oriental, flannel, modern. Try to make the fabric squares of current material.

Barbara Weiss, Suzanne Knight, and Linda Merwin - and anyone else who wants to sort and package. Please get in touch if you want to volunteer.



Message from your Librarians

Sheila Macauley and Janet Rich

Would anyone with books out 3 months or more, please try to remember to return them at the next meeting. Also, if there are any books you would like me to buy for the library, email Sheila with the name of the book. I will order it and put your name on it and you will be the first person to borrow it when it comes in.

PROGRAMS

Jan 2016 Judy Severson Trunk Show

Our speaker for the January Meeting is CPM guild member, Judy Severson, a recent transplant from the San Francisco Bay Area. Judy brings with her the love for Broderie Perse quilts. She wrote the book, *Flowers in Appliqué*, in 1998, showing how to make new quilts in this style. Judy has taught at the Academy of Applique in Williamsburg (formerly Elly Seinkeiwicz Applique Academy) for seventeen years where she continues to teach today. Judy loves to design her own quilts with printed motif fabrics, using flowers, birds and butterflies. Along with Broderie Perse she adds garlands, pieced work, swags, English paper piecing, border edging and quilted feathers.

Most recently, a sampling of Judy's work could be seen in a special exhibit at the Concord Public Library.



MEMBERSHIP

Cassy Bosworth

The new year finds us with two new members that joined during our holiday dinner meeting in December. Please give a warm welcome to Ruth Schemel and Eadyie Davis. We are now at 131 members.

At January's meeting you can pick up a sheet to add to your year book with the contact information for the new members that have joined since the beginning of September, and don't forget to wear your name tags.

Welcome to our newest members!



Opportunities for Active Guild Participation

Barbara Kozenko

The following guild positions are currently in need of your assistance. Please give serious consideration to volunteering for one of these slots. The guild does not run on its own. Without co-chairs for our 2 major fundraisers we are in jeopardy of not being able to hold these wonderful events.

Historian – Sue Lee will be vacating this position as of May 2016.

Librarians – we possibly have one person to fill half of this slot but are still looking for one more book lover to co-chair this committee.

Yard Sale – Sue Lee is looking for two individuals to train with her during this year's Yard Sale preparation with the intent of taking on this fundraiser as co-chairs for the 2018 season.

Raffle Quilt Team – we are planning to make a pattern selection for our next raffle quilt at the Getaway weekend, and find we are lacking a team to take on the organizing and development of the raffle quilt. We have one volunteer but are looking for at least 2 others. Without a team to take this on, we will no longer be able to carry on the guild's Raffle Quilt tradition.

Quilt Show 2017 – we are in need of co-chairs to run this major fundraiser.

Raffle Quilt Pattern Selection

Ever wonder how the pattern is selected for the guild's raffle quilt? Since this is the year it will be selected, this is information you will all want to know. Members are asked to bring books, magazines, or pictures of quilts/patterns they think will make a lovely raffle quilt to our Getaway Weekend in January. It's key that the pattern is easily adapted to Paper Piecing since this ensures all blocks will be the same size. If you will not be attending the Getaway but have a great idea on a pattern, be sure to pass it along to someone attending the weekend event so it will be considered for our Raffle Quilt. The guild members at the Getaway will review the offerings for patterns on that Saturday and take a vote the next day. Keep in mind, as yet we do not have a Committee for the Raffle Quilt. We are being optimistic our members will come through and fill these slots!

IMPROV SMALL GROUP

Elana Schreiber and Rita Robinson Guides

Book Group study of The Improv Handbook for Modern Quilters <http://daintytime.net/improv/>

This month the Improv Book Group will meet at the West Concord 99 Restaurant at 5:00 on January 20 before the Piecemaker's meeting at Harvey Wheeler.

Since none of us did any work before the December meeting we will work with any one of the next three Scores. Score 4 p 51 is very open ended and may not be one people are comfortable with. Score 5 p59 has more structure in it so I thought people would be more comfortable with it. Score 6 p 71 is very similar to score 6 so I did not feel it would be necessary to do both 6 and 7. It would be wonderful if you could read all three scores and then do one. If you want to do all three that would be awesome. Maybe you will want to do this for the beginning of your Round Robin.

If you did not have time to do the first assignment, do not let that hinder you doing the later ones, just jump right in.

Plan for Round Robin (February)

If you want to work on the Improv Round Robin we decided to do that at the Open Sew on February 6th. This will also be our Improv meeting for February since February is the Quiltathon. See page 43 for directions

- Round Robin will be done in one day.
- Fabric - about 3 yards they can be large scraps, fat quarters or edge to edge cuts. You will want a cohesive group of fabrics
- One center square or piece that you have prepared using your fabrics to begin the round robin. It could be the center or a strip or whatever you want to do.
- 1 yard of signature fabric something you will use on all the quilts that you work on. I chose my fabric. First I was thinking I would get black, white or gray so it would go with everything but I changed my mind and said I am not a black, gray or white person "I am color".
- Container or bag to pass your quilt in

Each round will be 20 to 30 minutes long and you will work on the member's quilt. We must agree to add to the outside of the quilt

