



Concord Piecemakers' Grapevine DECEMBER 2018

Susan Coulter, Editor

Wednesday, December 12, 6:30 pm
At Harvey Wheeler Center, 1276 Main St, Concord, MA 01742

President's Message Suzanne Knight

Piecemakers' Calendar
2018 - 2019

Dec 12 - Holiday Party
6:30pm
Jan 16 - Sisters in Stitches
Jan 18-21 - Getaway wknd
Feb 13 - TBD
Feb 23 - Quiltathon
Mar 20 - Valerie Flanagan
Apr 17 - Janice & David
Jones
Apr 20 - Workshop
May 15 - Tina Craig
Jun 12 - Ginny Radloff
Jun 13 - Workshop

*Things to bring to the
meeting:*

- ✓ **QUILLO entry gift**
- ✓ **Non-perishable
Food items**
- ✓ **NAMETAGS**

I hope to see you at the December meeting where we will enjoy chatting and relaxing over a catered dinner and activities. Remember:

1. It would be lovely if you could contribute monetarily to the dinner.
2. Bring non-perishable foods to benefit Open Table – both Maynard and Concord pantries will benefit.
3. Bring a pot-luck dessert, if you wish.
4. Bring an item (or more) for around \$3.00 – sewing supply/ gift card for coffee, etc. to “buy” a card for a game that will play like Bingo.

In December there is a date that slips by with little fanfare called the Winter Solstice. The word solstice comes from two Latin words meaning “sun” and “stationary”. In ancient times, many people feared the sun would set and might not rise again. This fear contributed to the building of the Neolithic era structures, such as Stonehenge (England) and Newgrange (Ireland). The axes of these structures are aligned with the winter solstice sunrise (Newgrange) or sunset (Stonehenge). Ancient cultures in the northern hemisphere such as the Celts and other Northern people developed rituals to assist the sun in fighting off the darkness and rising again the next morning. These rituals included all-night bonfires, singing, feasting, and drinking until dawn as the sun made its appearance on the horizon. Celtic priests (Druids) cut stems of mistletoe that grew only on oak trees and gave them to celebrants as blessings. The word “yule” appears to come from an Anglo-Saxon term “Jul” that means wheel, representing the way the seasons cycle as if on a wheel. We continue to use similar but modified rituals this time of year such as the burning of a Yule log (or eating cake shaped like a log), lighting candles, and hanging mistletoe. In my Swedish family we were given oranges to symbolize the return of the sun.

Living as we do in the Northern climes, performing simple rituals with our own personal meaning helps us to better appreciate this time of the year and cope with the darkness. It is important for me to make time to experience the season's beauty - outside. A few days ago it was cold and gray outside and I stood at the kitchen window and looked at our snow-covered crabapple tree when a beautiful male bluebird landed in the midst of

the bright red crabapples and white snow; his feathers were brilliant indigo blue and he sported a dusty orange vest. He sampled a crabapple but apparently it was not to his liking as he soon flew off. My response was to put on a jacket and hat and follow the bluebird's reminder get outside and see the beauty of this season in person rather than through a window.

I suggest you do the same - bundle up and get outside – you may start to notice small yet beautiful things around you and begin to enjoy the quietness and calm that we all need this time of year. Create a ritual of your own for the winter solstice. The event will occur at 5:23 PM EST on December 21st and will bring the longest night of the year. Of course, on the 22nd, the days begin to lengthen again – automatically - without any help from us.

Enjoy your holidays, your family and friends, and I'll see you on the other side of winter solstice.



PROGRAM

Wednesday, December 12, 2018: Holiday Dinner & Quilo

HOLIDAY DINNER & GAME FOR DECEMBER

We all know the game Bingo but, have you ever heard of Quilo? This is the quilter's version so, when you have a winning card you would say, "I have a Quilo". We will be playing this entertaining game during our December holiday meeting. In order to have a Quilo card (1 per player), you have to 'pay' for your card with something used by a quilter or a gift certificate. For example - Clover clips, an ergonomic seam ripper, fabric (current please), self-threading hand needles - suggested \$3 limit. Do not wrap your item(s). For each game played, you have to "buy" a card and some of those items will be given out to that game's winner(s). Can't wait to see what you ladies come up with!!

For the evening, please come at 6:30 and help set up; we hope to eat around 6:45. Contributions for dinner are gratefully accepted. Also, if you'd like, please bring a dessert to share and a non-perishable food item for Open Table food pantry.

Elana





THE QUILTATHON IS COMING!!!!!! THE QUILTATHON IS COMING!!!!!!

Marla Richmond and Cassy Bosworth



February 23 is the high point in the Piecemakers' year! We all gather at St. Matthew's Church in Acton and spend the day putting together quilts for Comfort Quilts. We ask each member to make a quilt top (preferably twin or lap size) bring a piece for the back of the quilt, bring a little something to eat to share. In return you get to spend the day with a bunch of great people, eat a supplied deli lunch, drink all the coffee (decaf or high test), water and tea you want, lay out and pin quilts, tie quilts, quilt quilts and feel good that you are doing something for someone who really needs a "quilter's embrace".

We begin at 9 and work until 3. You can spend any part of the day with us, you can spend the whole day with us. If you are busy that day, you can give your comfort quilt to be finished to Marla or Cassy. This is a time to go wild with your comfort quilt. Use colors you never use and you may find that they are not that bad after all (or not). Use a different pattern that you were planning to use on a King sized wedding quilt, now you can see if you really like it. You never have to see the quilt again, and someone else will really love that you cared enough to make it. As soon as the holiday quilts are done, put some of your scraps together and find something beautiful. You don't have to wait until the last minute to start (though some of us always will). See you there!



The guild has a few members who are very sensitive (allergic) to scents. Please remember to NOT wear scented products/perfume when attending guild meetings.

CPM BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are open to all members on these dates, at 7:00 PM.
Please contact Suzanne Knight for the location.

Jan 2, Mar 6, Apr 3, May 1