

CONCORD PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD

APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER

GRAPEVINE

Editor, Barbara Kozenko

Wednesday April 21, 2021 Guild Meeting to be held on Zoom
6:45 PM Socializing, 7:15 PM Meeting



Program: Robin Ruth Designs

This month we will be having Robin Ruth Designs. She will show us what is possible with her method of strip piecing a Mariner's Compass quilt block using her special ruler. For a preview of the possibilities watch her three-minute video.

<https://www.robinruthdesign.com/guilds>

Join our Guild Zoom Meeting

If you'd like to visit our virtual guild meeting, please contact president@concordpiecemakers.org for the Zoom link

The President's Message

Carol MacFarlane

Change is in the air. Many, if not most, of us have had at least one vaccine and can begin to plan our first post-vaccine vacations. Hooray! Those of us completely vaccinated have begun to hug again. Hooray! Soon there will be trips to visit the grandchildren. Hooray! Hmmm. Maybe less time for quilting. Oh, well. I'll take it!

Speaking of changes, now that we are all so proficient (more or less) on Zoom, the Board is proposing a change in our bylaws, which we will vote on virtually this month. The Board proposes that we replace the outdated scrapbooking Historian Board position with a flexible, forward-thinking Member-At-Large Board position. A year ago, we voted on a slate that included Marian Bressel as Historian but explained to you, the membership, that she would be really serving as a member-at-large. We felt that it would be better to make the bylaw change in the fall when we met again in person. Well, little did we know, then, that we would not be meeting in person for at least another year. Let's make this change now, so that the Nominating Committee can present to us a complete and accurate slate on which to vote at our May business meeting.

And don't forget that we now have a Tuesday evening Sit and Sew ZoomBee, especially for those of you who are not available during the day. Here's the link.

If you have questions about this ZoomBee, please contact president@concordpiecemakers.org

Those of us who have participated in the ZoomBees have really enjoyed them. If you haven't yet tried one, tune in. I think you'll be glad you did!

-Carol



SLATE OF OFFICERS 2021-2022

PRESIDENT	MARIAN BRESSEL
VICE PRESIDENT	ANN BONSETT
MEMBERSHIP	ROBIN DEMOTT, LOLA CHAISSON
HISTORIAN	None
TREASURER	MARY JELANEK
SECRETARY	JUDY JAKOBSCHKE
PROGRAMS	CAROL MACFARLANE, GAYLE COIT

CompletingYourUFOs ZoomBee (Friday mornings)—We shifted gears and are now using this time working together and completing some of those UFOs. Join us! Please note that this is a NEW ZOOM LINK.

Time: Fridays, 10:00 AM - 12 noon

If you have questions about this ZoomBee, please contact president@concordpiecemakers.org

Improv ZoomBee (Monday afternoon)

The ZoomBee group has decided to begin our exploration of Improv with the "Liberated Log Cabin". Our first session will be Monday April 19 at 1:30. You are welcome to join us. Feel free to work in a single color working with value or make yours scrappy with all colors.

Here are some links to show you what we are thinking.

<https://www.quiltingdaily.com/improv-log-cabin-quilts/>

<https://carolelylesshaw.com/island-batik-improv-log-cabin-tutorial/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ExcqzILsMNY>

Time: Mondays 01:30-3:30 PM

If you have questions about this ZoomBee, please contact president@concordpiecemakers.org

Programs

Elana Schreiber, Sally Duscha

Save the date: May 22 and 23 All Star Virtual Sampler from 3-6 p.m. These two Global Connection's zoom meetings are free to all our members. Have you tried a zoom workshop? Join in for as long or short as you wish.

An All-Star cast of 18 quilt teachers will demonstrate some of their favorite quilting techniques over two different days. They will be showcasing a wide variety of styles and techniques, from traditional to modern and art quilting techniques. Something to please everyone! You will be able to download a PDF that includes written instructions to go along with each teacher's demonstration, as well as a page with tips for making the most of live Zoom workshops. A schedule will also be provided ahead of time so you won't miss your favorite quilter.

It is free to you because our guild is joining this event for a very small fee--\$50! What an opportunity!

[The New Global Quilt Connection Website!](#)

We are thrilled to announce that [our new website](#) is now live! We worked really hard to make it easy for you to navigate and find the resources and virtual teachers you're looking for.

New Features Include:

- A new library of [downloadable, printable, documents](#) that are pre-sorted by subject or delivery method. All the documents include teacher emails and live links to their websites.
- A [sortable master list](#) that includes teacher locations, time zones, techniques, contact information, website links and more
- The new [online teacher directory](#) has links directly to the teachers websites and the webinars that they presented at.

An exciting event for your guild!



All Star Virtual Sampler Platter Event!

Saturday May 22, 2021 3-6pm (eastern)

Sunday May 23, 2021 3-6pm (eastern)

Do you still have some Zoom-phobic members? We are here to help you alleviate the fears and worries of your reluctant Zoomers with a jam-packed exciting virtual event that is sure to be a rollicking good time for everyone! We will give your members the chance to experience some of the best teachers the virtual world has to offer.

In this live Zoom meeting an All-Star cast of 18 quilt teachers will demonstrate some of their favorite quilting techniques over two different days. We'll be showcasing a wide variety of styles and techniques, from traditional to modern and art quilting techniques. Something to please everyone! You will also receive a PDF to share with your guild members that includes written instructions to go along with each teacher's demonstration, as well as a page with tips for making the most of live zoom workshops.

[Click here for more information about this event](#)

Nickel Squares

Sally Duscha and Barbara Weiss

If you are doing any spring cleaning, please consider cutting some 5-inch nickel squares or 10-inch layer cake squares from your unwanted scraps. Fabric must be current, clean, unscented, and any style. We are preparing bundles for the yard sale in the fall. Please deliver to Barbara Weiss or Sally Duscha. If that is difficult, contact Sally (see email address in Membership book). She is looking for reasons to get out of the house!

Thank you.



Comfort Quilts

Eileen Ryan

Yes, it's getting warmer and we all want to be outside enjoying spring. There will be a few days, however, where we just need to stay inside. How about a quick quilt to distract you? There are three 3-yard quilt patterns on our web page (or call me for your personal copy) that might entertain you. I have fabric arranged in kits for those patterns, as well as fabric kits for the quick trips pattern. I have batting for your comfort quilts. And don't forget our little black and white baby mats.



Membership

Lola Chaisson and Robin DeMott

Our Annual Membership Drive kicks off in April. Follow this link to our Membership form. <https://concordpiecemakers.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Membership-Renewal-Form-2020-2021.pdf>

Next year includes the Fabric, Yarn, and Notion Sale (formerly the Yard Sale) and a packed schedule of speakers thanks to the hard work of our Program Chairs. Renew by May 19th and you will be entered in the raffle for free membership. Please make sure to update any address or email changes for the new yearbook. The membership renewal form can also be found on the Concord Piecemakers website under Becoming a Member.

Our Membership Survey results are in! The results of our membership survey can be found at the end of this newsletter.

The Board is recommending a dues increase of \$5 for the 2022-2023 membership year. This will be discussed and voted on at the May meeting.

Household Goods Sewing Kits

Suzanne Knight and Tina van Roggen

There is an ongoing project for creating sewing kits for Household Goods in Acton. We are especially looking for scissors and tape measures right now. But the following is the full list:

Sturdy containers (metal, plastic) with lids to hold the supplies, tape measures, scissors (particularly 6" or less, though all sizes are fine. No pinking shears please), thread (any color, partial spools are fine), pins, safety pins, needles, or buttons that you are going to throw away. Also useful are very tiny boxes for pins, and bobbins or small embroidery floss cardboard organizers to wind thread on.

Please - no general crafting supplies, however.

Contact Tina or Suzanne if you have any donations.

Thank you!

Survey Results

70 Surveys Completed

Question 1

"In the past year, I have participated in the following (check as many as apply):"

- 65 Zoom Guild Meetings
- 30 ZoomBees
- 24 Virtual Getaway
- 30 Virtual Quiltathon
- 8 Other Virtual Quilting Activities (please specify below)
 - 1 Machine Quilting
 - 6 Workshops and lectures on Zoom
 - 1 Visited Lowell Museum

Question 2

"Once Massachusetts allows in-person meetings, I would prefer: "

- 12 All in-person meetings
- 2 All virtual meetings
- 58 "A mix (for instance, virtual meetings in January, February, and March)"

Comments

Having zoom meetings during winter time would allow us to have meetings even when weather is bad.
Speaker could present less complicated presentations during the zoom meetings for easier enjoyment.
"How difficult would it be to have even the in-person speakers on zoom for ""shut ins""
I don't live close enough to come to in person meetings

I like being able to have well known people from a distance

"If the variant virus kicks up, then virtual meetings"

It would be great to have an option for virtual attendance for ALL meetings for those who have trouble attending in person. A mix of meetings would allow speakers from far away without the expense of getting them here.

Prefer zoom for far away speakers only

Winter months would be good virtual

Question 3

**"Would you attend a virtual meeting, other than January, February, or March,"
for a speaker we could not otherwise bring to the Piecemakers?**

66 Yes

4 No

Comments

Absolutely!

If she is too far to come and a new technique

It was great to have Kathy from Australia that we could never get to come to guild. I think we should do more of these. Maybe even partner with another guild on these.

Not my first choice

Not sure

Question 4

Are you interested in attending workshops offered by the Piecemakers?

"If so, would you prefer:"

11 All in-person workshops

2 All virtual workshops

35 A mix of in-person and virtual

20 I am not interested in workshops

Comments

Depends on subject and time of day

Depends when they are

"I am interested, however, I work during the week, so I look forward to them in the future"

I need to think about this.

If and when we are SURE it is safe!

If I ever get through my UFO's, I could change my mind

It would depend on the workshop.

It's so much easier from my studio

Most workshops I cannot attend because I work full time

Problems during work shop are much easier in person. Zoom only for bad weather.

Strongly prefer in person

Totally depends on the workshop. I much prefer in-person but if it's with a teacher we would normally not be able to afford I would consider virtual

Question 5

Would you participate in the ZoomBees post-COVID?

20 Yes

15 No

32 Possibly

Comments

"Depends on what subject and convenience of time., "

"I would have liked to participate in ZoomBees but they were all during the day, nothing offered in evenings for people who work. Looks like they had fun working together"

No because I work

Not sure what these are

The camaraderie of the ZoomBees has been wonderful. They are like mini getaways and we have gotten to know each other better by participating.

YES! I love the ZoomBees. I believe my 9 patches would still be in a box if not for the ZoomBees.

ZoomBees are the best!

Question 6

Is there someone specific you would like to have speak at Piecemakers?

10 Yes

48 No

Comments

A thread painting quilter as well as a fused collage quilter

Cannot think of any at the moment.

Cindy Taylor the Collage Quilter

"Francis Holliday Alford, from Vermont, does wonderful collage and art quilts"

I would like a speaker who specializes in antique quilts.

I would like to see more speakers on traditional quilting

Jenni Smith of the UK about Quilting with Liberty Fabrics might be fun. She is delightful to begin with!

Louisa Smith does great stuff. Since she used to live in MA, she often schedules visits to the area. She is excellent with workshops and lectures.

"Lynn Thibault is an excellent instructor. She is local in the Leominster, MA area"

"Lynne Tyler does liberated piecing, including alphabets. She is based in New Hampshire and has a presence on Etsy."

Mary Pal

"Members of the ""Sisters in Stitches"" guild mentioned in recent Globe Magazine article ""Threads of Memory"" / Susan Moeller. 03/14/2021"

"Meri Henriques Vahl. Zoom probably, she is in California. Unusual Landscape quilts"

No one person in particular but it would be interesting if each member could share a "best practice" with regards to sewing or machine embroidery

Pride and Joy Quilting: Veruschka Zarate (FPP artist)

"Rosemary Bawn, from Stow, MA is known for her fabulous Red Sox quilts. She would be wonderful too."

Some of our members together or single.

Tara Faughnan

Will look into & send suggestions to Elana

Question 7

What topics would you like to see in future programs?

Can you recommend someone for the topic? (Select as many as you want)

17 Applique

32 Art and quilting

23 Cultural quilting traditions

9 Dyeing with commercial dyes (such as Procion mx)

- 9 Dyeing with natural dyes
- 10 Eco-printing
- 12 "Embellishments (beading, bling)"
- 29 Improvisational piecing
- 39 Modern quilts
- 43 New techniques
- 15 Painting on fabric
- 10 Pictorial quilts - animals
- 21 Pictorial quilts - landscapes
- 14 Pictorial quilts - people & portraits
- 18 Quilt history
- 13 Quilting humor
- 6 Realism
- 18 Sashiko
- 16 "Slow stitch, Boro, Kantha"
- 17 Thread-painting / tapestry by machine
- 26 Traditional piecing
- 19 "Wearables (quilted jacket, tote bag, handbag)"
- 10 Other topics

"I am still mostly enjoying the mix of speakers we have been having. Those that I have not been so keen on, I appreciate that others have loved. We are all different. I am still learning so much. The person planning for the speakers can relax and continue, it is working fine"

I like tote bags but not interested in quilted clothing

I would like to see a more varied set of programs

I'm open to just about anything!

Machine embroidery- maybe Suzanne Fuller

New techniques and review of old techniques in popular use

"Not sure if I can go back...but some ideas for speakers for virtual are Melinda Bula, Emily Taylor (collage quilter), Leni Weiner portrait quilts, Jen from Red Thread Studio...I did a workshop with her on organizing your UFOs and she is a great speaker"

Raw edge collage quilting

Scrap quilts

Shiva paint sticks and interesting embellishments for wearables and art quilts would be interesting too.