

CONCORD PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD
SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER
GRAPEVINE

Editor: Barbara Kozenko

Wednesday September 20, 2023 In Person/Zoom (Hybrid) Meeting
6:45 PM Socializing, 7:15 PM Meeting

Harvey Wheeler Center, 1276 Main Street, Concord, MA 01742

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

Programs: – The Quilts of Ann Brauer, “Exploring Abstract Landscape Quilts – My Journey”

For the past 34 years Ann has been making contemporary art quilts that use color, fabric and the traditions of quilt making to create abstract landscapes. Her work can be found in private and public collections and is also available at her studio in Shelburne Falls, MA. and online.

Ann will explain her process and the fabrics she uses. She will address questions such as, “How do you start? Did you find surprises? What went right and what could you do better?”



The President's Message

Donna Morales-Oemig

Welcome back after a very soggy summer. I always want to be outdoors more than I am, but am definitely a fair-weather outdoors person. This time last year, the yard was brown and crunchy, while this year, we need a herd of sheep to keep it neat and trimmed. It's a good thing I have quilting to keep me busy making scraps while the sun doesn't shine.

This Guild year will feature scrappiness. Many of our speakers and workshops will show us different ways to use scraps. I'm excited for both the Julia Graves and Timna Tarr workshops and hope you are, too. I already have made a couple of sweatshirt jackets. Those of you who are signed up will have a lot of fun playing with fabric choices and layouts. A controlled palette of scraps works very well for jackets.

Next month is a crucial fund-raising event for the Guild. Our FYN Sale (formerly the Yard Sale) gives us the biggest financial bang for the buck in terms of cost to rent the space and hours of operation. We still need your donations and help sorting and staffing the Sale to make it a success. Please also help us advertise to your fiber-loving friends and family. Bookmarks and posters will be available at the meeting on the 20th.

Happy Quilting,

Donna M-O

Membership

Robin DeMott and Lola Chaisson

Welcome to our new quilting year! We have 95 members. The final electronic version of the membership book will be emailed to members on September 19. Booklets will be available at the September 20th meeting for those who want one. If you haven't paid your 2023-24 membership dues, please bring your check to the meeting. We're looking forward to seeing you all again!

Nickel Squares

Sally Duscha and Kathy Becker

Please bring any nickel squares (5"X5") you have to our next meeting. On Monday September 25th we'll be making nickel fabric packs for the FabricYarnNotions Sale this fall (and at the Quilt Show the following year) at Sally's house at 10AM. Anyone interested in joining, please reach out to Sally.

FabricYarnNotions - Sale

Our biennial FYN sale is coming up soon (October 21) and believe it or not, we need more FABRIC. Please go through your collection and see what you can part with - after all, that will free up space for new fabric!

Please make sure your fabric is washed and labelled with the amount. Remember, we round down, so anything less than a 1/2 yard becomes 1/4, etc. If you are donating a pre-done collection, all sorted and wrapped with a ribbon, like a collection of fat quarters, you do not have to undo it and wash it.

You can drop off your donation in the church basement. We have a big bin at the entrance to our storage area.

Our FYN sale is a BIG money-maker, but only if we have lots of fabric to sell!

Marian Bressel

Comfort Quilts

Leslie Garrison

Have you been busy quilting this summer? The summer mystery makes a perfect size for a comfort quilt on a twin bed! I will be at the September meeting with my big car to pick up any quilts that you have finished. Please remember to attach labels! If you need backing or sashing fabrics, batting, or labels for comfort quilts, please let me know. I can even bring options to the meeting if you ask ahead of time.

Eileen and I made a couple deliveries this summer. We brought 14 quilts to the VA and another 6 quilts to Emerson Pediatrics along with 3 black-and-white baby mats and 45 pillowcases. If you are interested in making baby mats, please ask Eileen for fabric squares to get you started. For information on pillowcases, please talk to Nanette as I just help with their delivery. Happy sewing!

Pillowcases for Children at Emerson Hospital

As Concord Piecemakers we use our sewing skills to make things for donations to multiple charities. Making colorful pillowcases for children in the hospital is just one of those charities.

Unfortunately, there is always a need for more. Please consider making just one (it can become an addiction!). We do have instructions, or a hands-on demonstration if needed. Don't hesitate to connect with either of us for help or questions. Thank you!

Sue Colwell and Nanette Moffa

Two Upcoming Workshops:

Wearable Workshops: It's not too late to join in as our own Marian Bressel will teach us how to make a sweatshirt jacket. This is a two-part workshop with homework in between. Where: Harvey Wheeler from 9 am – 12 noon. Please mail your \$60 check made out to Concord Piecemakers to Gayle Coit, (see address in membership book) or give her your check at our next meeting. Don't miss out on the fun and buy your sweatshirt now!

September 23: Wearable Workshop I

October 7: Wearable Workshop II

****Wearable Workshop Sweatshirt Jacket instructions are at the end of this newsletter****

November 18:

Amazing Abstracts Workshop via ZOOM with Julia Graves:



Create an abstract quilt that has amazing movement and drama, using the techniques pioneered by Ursula Kern. Go from inspiration to a simple sketch, then have fun “coloring” your sketch with bits of fabric to create a mock-up of your design – see before you sew! The design is gridded and blocks are foundation pieced using an easy sew and flip method with room for creativity and improvisation. Lots of discussion of design principles and how to use color and value to create the drama and desired effects.

Note: On-line classes will be conducted in two parts – Part 1 will develop the design and Part 2 will focus on sewing.

Julia Graves – Quilter, Longarmer, Teacher and Artist, Julia started her quilting business, Special Occasion Quilts LLC, in 2007. She won Best Longarm Machine Workmanship Wall Quilt Category at the 2016 Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival. Her quilts have been published in books by Gloria Loughman, Katie Pasquini-Masupust and MJ Kinman. Julia was an Artist in Residence at Empty Spools in 2019, and taught at Empty Spools in 2021 and 2022. Julia has made more quilts than she can count, many for charity, and is partial to scrap quilts and working with color to achieve amazing results. Julia lives in Leesburg Virginia.

Making such an abstract quilt may not appeal to you and may take you out of your comfort zone, but it may be just the ticket for making a quilt for that young person in your life who isn't overly excited with traditional quilts. This workshop presents a novel way to use scraps, perhaps learn a new quilting technique, and will teach you how to make a quilt that is entirely different! I can't wait to see what we all create! Please mail your \$60 check made out to Concord Piecemakers to Gayle Coit, (see address in membership book). **Please sign up early for this workshop, as I need to send the list of participants to Julia by Oct 18th!**

2023 Summer Mystery

Twenty-one people signed up for the summer mystery quilt so theoretically we should have 21 tops/quilts to show at the September meeting! It's fun to see the same quilt made in different fabrics and sizes. Did the quilters add the border, skip the border, or change anything along the way? The summer mystery quilt is designed by Debby Caffrey who is known for her careful directions that are free from errors. She uses somewhat larger pieces in her designs than the Bonnie Hunter, the designer for the winter mystery. They make wonderful comfort quilts.

Our next mystery will be the Bonnie Hunter's holiday mystery. Shop the Fabric, Yarn and Notions Sale at Saint Matthews on October 21st for neutrals and fabulous fabrics. You can adapt Bonnie's pattern to your favorite colors or wait for her colors which will be announced on Bonnie's blog on Halloween--- with the first sewing clue coming the Friday after Thanksgiving.

If you like a mystery and sewing with little pieces please join us on Fridays at 1 p.m. on Zoom. Some of us work on mysteries for a mysteriously long time!

Elana, Sally, and Kitty



Current ZoomBees



If you have questions about our ZoomBees, please contact membership@concordpiecemakers.org

Tuesday Project ZoomBee, 1:30 - 3:30 PM – Starting September 26

For this fall's project we have the option of beginning with either a log cabin variation or an optical illusion quilt. Join us Sept. 26 to discuss the options, so that we can be ready to go the first of October.

Thursday Sit and Sew ZoomBee, 10 AM - 12 noon

Join us on Thursday mornings to sew and chat, sharing ideas and progress on your current project.

Friday Block of the Month ZoomBee, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Until the Bonnie Hunter Mystery begins at the end of November, we will work on either UFO's or scrap binge quilts. Come join us!

CPM Member News:

On August 23d, CPM members Barbara Weiss, Erna Berg, Donna M-O, Moira TenHove, and Gayle Coit joined Joy Sussman in viewing her wonderful quilt representing the guild at the New England Quilt Museum. I hope more were able to see and vote for her quilt! Afterwards, we ate lunch at a vegetarian restaurant across the street and had a great time! I hope we can arrange more little CPM field trips in the future!

Congratulations Joy!!



New England Quilt Museum News

Martha Supnik

Current and Future Exhibits at the New England Quilt Museum

The Quilts of Timna Tarr: on view July 18 through September 30, 2023

Animalia: The Animal Kingdom in Quilts and Textiles on view September 12 through December 30, 2023

Medallion Quilts: by the American Quilt Study Group on view October 3 through December 30, 2023

Rosie's Place

Kathleen McIsaac

Rosie's Place is starting new classes for its residence They will be online, Zoom, or otherwise. So, in addition to our generosity with toiletries they would appreciate so much if we could provide the new students with wire bound, lined notebooks and pencils/sharpeners. For those of you who attend the meetings virtually, I would be happy to accept your donations at your house.

Household Goods Sewing Kits

Suzanne Knight and Tina van Roggen

This is an ongoing project for making sewing kits for Household Goods in Acton. We need...

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, and 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.

***Partial spools of thread - all types, colors are VERY welcome. Some of the thread only needs enough length to sew on a few buttons or make a hem.

Contact Tina or Suzanne if you have any donations. All donations can be delivered to either Suzanne's or Tina's house. Please see addresses in your membership book.

Sweatshirt Jacket

Instructions and supplies for first class

Sweatshirt

Before buying your sweatshirt, decide if you want to patch it, like my 30's jacket and Donna's black jacket, or if you will cover the entire jacket with fabric. If you are patching, you will see the base color around the patches. If you are covering the whole jacket, remember that the sweatshirt comes with ribbing on cuffs and neck. They can be cut off later if you wish. Otherwise, ribbing will match the sweatshirt.

Purchase 1 sweatshirt, 2 sizes bigger than you usually wear, *not a hoodie*. If you run out of ladies' sizes, go to men's. I used a man's XL for my 30's jacket.

Heretical statement: 50% cotton, 50% poly sweatshirts work fine. Don't obsess on 100% cotton. Many more colors in the 50-50.

Having purchased your sweatshirt, wash and dry it twice. That gets rid of everything on it, including a lot of fuzz, possible dye problems, and shrinkage. Yes, the 50-50 ones shrink a little.

Do not cut the sweatshirt; bring it whole to class.

Fabric

One of the nice parts of these jackets is that they are washable, so please wash your fabric. You do not want it shrinking after it is on the jacket. If you are patching, cut lots of patches. 3-6-inch squares work nicely, but the patches can be any size or shape. Lots of small patches will require lots of stitching to hold them on. This is a great place to use decorative threads.

If you are covering the whole jacket, start "making fabric" by stitch and flip until you have pieces that will cover maybe 1/4 to 1/2 of a side or arm of the sweatshirt.

Other supplies

Sewing machine in working order, wind several bobbins, 90/14 needle. You will be going through thick fabric. If you want to use decorative threads, a 100/16 topstitch needle will make life easier. If you want to zig-zag or use your machine's decorative stitches, make sure to have a wide plate and presser foot.

Good shears: you will eventually be cutting the sweatshirt.

Pins, thread of your choice (consider using decorative threads as well as construction thread).

Source - Clotheshoponline has a large selection of colors up to women's 3xl for reasonable prices. Or google women's sweatshirts.