

# CONCORD PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD

## DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

### GRAPEVINE

*Editor: Barbara Kozenko*

Wednesday December 10, 2025 in Person/Zoom (Hybrid) Meeting  
6:45 PM Socializing, 7:15 PM Meeting

If you'd like to attend our guild meeting or visit virtually, please contact [membership@concordpiecemakers.org](mailto:membership@concordpiecemakers.org)

Programs: – Please join us for our annual Holiday Party!

We ask members to **optionally** bring the following to the December Party:

- A sweet or savory finger food to share.
- A wrapped swap gift worth \$20 or less. Please include your name inside so the recipient knows who to thank.
- Lots of Show and Tell quilts or bags.
- We will also be collecting items for Household Goods. Household Goods provides a full range of donated furniture and household items, free of charge, to help people in need make a home. This year they are serving roughly 3000 families. In the spring they collect a lot of donated items when students move out of Boston Dormitories. But those stocks typically dwindle at this time of year. If you'd like to bring a new or gently used small household item to the December meeting it would be much appreciated. This might be a good time to declutter your kitchen drawers or linen closet. Suggested items include: kitchen spatulas, knives, measuring cups, dishes, glasses, pots, towels, bedsheets, blankets, quilts, afghans, lamps, fan, toaster or other small appliance. Please ensure the donated items are clean. For further ideas, see their website.



## The President's Message

Beware new toys! There are so many fun ideas and improvements in technology in our shared quilt world, that it can be tempting to take on new pieces of equipment, get hooked on YouTube videos showing new ways of doing things or a new notion or ruler, a new way to look at an old favorite block. Beware!

This year I bought a Cricut in innocence. I bought it to cut out applique pieces for machine embroidered applique blocks. Many embroidery patterns include SVG files which will cut out the pieces for you on a Cricut. There are lots of other similar machines and similar file types to make perfect cuts. Come to find out though (YouTube rabbit hole!), they can make greeting cards and gift bags and things to iron on to t-shirts and coffee mugs. They will even make a picture of a loon to transfer to the side of my Son-in-Law's boat! Be careful of what you wish for this season: you may not have time left over for all your other toys!

Whether naughty or nice, see you all on Wednesday!

Eileen Ryan



## Anyone Interested?

According to the Boston Sunday Globe on November 23, there is an exhibit at the Emily Dickinson Museum in Amherst. Going through some artifacts that had not been on exhibit, a poet and an artist found, "a large collection of geometric pieces of fabric intended for quilting. To maintain their shape, each fabric section was backed with a fragment of paper cut from letters, periodicals, and other ephemera, leaving random words and phrases exposed." You read that here! Emily was a paper piecer! The exhibit is open only until December 21, so we gotta move! Anyone interested in a field trip to Amherst, please call Marla Richmond. Soon!

# Quiltathon

March 14 is coming before you know it!

Right now, you are busy making all the last-minute additions on your holiday presents. But there is all that left over fabric, what are you going to do with it? Well, we have the CPM Quiltathon coming up on March 14. What is a Quiltathon? Every member of the guild makes a quilt top to donate to comfort quilts. Bring your top and some backing that doesn't look too bad with it to St. Matthews' Church in Acton. We get together and pin, sew and add labels to quilts-to-be. While doing that, we laugh, eat, go through the trash (always some good strips left), etc. It is a wonderful team building day, my favorite every year! But right now, your job is to make a quilt top for a twin size bed, lap quilt, or larger. Try something you've never done; use colors you don't usually use. Have fun with it! Meanwhile, start thinking about your comfort quilt! More information as the time gets closer! Happy holidays!

## Comfort Quilts

Leslie Garrison

I will miss everyone at the December meeting this year. If you need batting, fabric, or labels for comfort quilts, please email me, and we can arrange a time to connect.

As you cozy up to your sewing machine this winter, here are the most needed sizes of comfort quilts. Please have a completed top ready for the Quiltathon on March 14.

### Comfort Quilts – Most Needed Sizes

#### Biggest Need:

- Twin bed size for Acton Household Goods, family shelters, and other organizations
  - 55 x 70" minimum up to 68 x 86" ideal size
- Quilts with kid and teen themed fabric for Emerson Pediatrics
  - between 32 x 40" and 40 x 50" for most, and smaller for little kid themed fabric
  - Must be machine quilted, not tied

#### Smaller Need:

- Throw blanket size for nursing homes, Acton Household Goods, and other organizations
  - around 48 x 60"
- Quilts of Valor for service members and veterans (Bedford VA is overwhelmed with donations)
  - 60 x 80" ideally, but no smaller than 55" x 65", must also have gender neutral, patriotic fabric and be machine quilted (not tied)
- Double and queen bed sizes for Acton Household Goods
  - 80 x 85" minimum for double and 85 x 95" minimum for queen

## Quilt Show 2026, Friday & Saturday, October 16 & 17

Please put these dates on your 2026 calendar now!

Look for more information starting next month as we start gearing up for the upcoming show!

## Quilts 250

The Quilts 250 book has entered the next phase of production! It is now in the hands of our book designer and is scheduled to head to the printer mid-January! There will be a formal book launch to be held at the Concord Arts Association on March 28th. Mark your calendars! More information to follow.



## Current ZoomBee



### **Friday Block of the Month ZoomBee, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM - (Bonnie Hunter ZoomBee)**

#### **Calling all mystery quilt lovers: LUPINE & LAUGHTER started Nov 21, 2025**

We meet on Zoom at 2:00 on Fridays to work on this year's Bonnie Hunter Winter Mystery or any other project you may have going on.

We are not the quilt police so we are fine if you are working on this year's Bonnie mystery, a previous year's mystery, something else entirely or just coming to chat.

Our regular gathering is a great way to spend some quality time with and get to know your fellow guild members.

Come sew with us on Fridays at 2 p.m. on Zoom.

~Moir and Elana

## Rosie's Place

Kathleen McIsaac

In addition to the usual list, here is a tutorial if you are interested in putting together a Care Package which consists of full-size items. If you cannot fill the bag, send it along anyway as I will fill it with items I already have.

Below is a link to Rosie's Place showing how to put a Care Package together. (There might be a short ad that runs first but you can quickly skip it.)

[Rosie's Place Care Package Tutorial](#)

## Household Goods Sewing Kits

Tina van Roggen

I continue to make sewing kits for Household Goods in Acton. Their clients take more than 50 kits per month. I especially need donations of tape measures and small scissors (because most containers are small). But I could also use thread, needles, pins, buttons, safety pins, small boxes for pins or buttons, and empty spools and bobbins. If you have extras of any of these items, please bring them to the meeting. Thank you!



## News from the New England Quilt Museum

Martha Supnik

**September 9 through December 31, 2025**

### **A Walk in The Woods: Quilt Artists Respond to Nature**

NEQM Curator, Pamela Weeks, has selected twenty diverse works from eight renowned American quilt artists for this exhibition. A Walk in the Woods is much more than a showcase of its artists' remarkable interpretations of the natural world. It is a poignant reminder of nature's extraordinary ability to restore and transform us.

Cont...

## **To Every Season: Works by Salley Mavor**

“My aim is to create universal and playful narratives that offer people of all ages a way to experience the brilliance of nature.”—Salley Mavor

This exhibition is a unique opportunity to take in the exceptional detail and 3-dimensional quality of Salley Mavor’s bas-relief embroideries. It consists of a wide selection of seasonal landscapes that capture the wonder and magic of the natural world. Rarely seen early works on loan from private collections are included, as well as recent pieces, including her Four Seasons series.

The award-winning artist has spent four decades developing her signature style and working methods, carving out her own niche within the children’s book world and the fiber art community. Seeing her artwork up close is like being immersed in an enchanting miniature world full of characters, props, and scenery, all created by hand with stitching, fabric, beads, wire, and found objects.

On view are framed tableaux, original picture book illustrations, and sculptural objects from the past 40 years, including dioramas inhabited by wee folk characters set up in display cases.

## **Susan Gaylord’s Spirit Books**

“The Spirit Books merge my response to the mystery and miracle of nature with the long-standing tradition of books as testaments of faith and belief. Working with handmade papers, natural materials, beads, and stitching, I create contemplative objects that straddle the boundary between sculpture and book. The Spirit Books remind us of what is at stake in today’s world. Acknowledging the strength and the fragility of nature, they are both celebration and reflection.” —Susan Kapuscinski Gaylord

A visual artist since the late 1970s, Susan Kapuscinski Gaylord’s most recent works include handmade books, calligraphy, digital compositions, and the series of Spirit Books which are the focus of her NEQM exhibition. This evocative and meditative installation invites viewers to slow down, engage deeply with the art and appreciate quiet contemplation.

Gaylord’s work is in the library collections of the Museum of Modern Art, the University of Arizona, Wellesley College, and Yale University. She has been featured in solo and group exhibitions in museums and galleries throughout the United States and in Canada and Korea.

## **Opening on September 23 in 2 galleries – Best of the NEQM Collection**

Selections from the museum’s permanent collection including contemporary works by artists with ties to New England and New York including Ruth McDowell, Nancy Halpern, Michael James, Jeffrey Gutcheon, and Carol Anne Grotrian, and antiques dating as far back as 1800.

