

CONCORD PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD

MARCH 2026 NEWSLETTER

GRAPEVINE

Editor: Barbara Kozenko

Wednesday March 18, 2026 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

Programs: – Veruschka Zarate (via Zoom) Finding Pride and Joy in Quilting

Finding Pride and Joy in Quilting, spans 60 minutes and delves deeply into my personal journey through the art of quilting. Beginning with traditional quilting practices, I explore my evolution into designing intricate, large-scale Foundation Paper Pieced (FPP) quilts and patterns.



The President's Message

Quiltathon, I love looking at all the generously donated quilts. I always get ideas for other comfort quilts to make during the year. And with spring coming (right?!), light, bright quilts always come to the top of the idea list. Even the pillowcases are an inspiration in color and combinations.

I've been on the road for a couple of weeks and I've seen spring! I know it's coming. Along with spring comes our annual meeting. The annual meeting is what allows us to exist as a 501c3 organization. It is the technical side of all those beautiful quilts we give away and all the show and tell and our quilt show and even the FYN sale. It allows us to buy books for our library and have inspirational speakers all year long.

I remind you of that because it's time to step forward and allow us to continue to exist. We need two positions filled and then I'll add a couple of other places we could use help.

We must have someone to look after our web presence. I understand the software is quite easy to manage. This job would be perfect for someone who is busy with other obligations because the work can be done on your own schedule, fit in where you can. Tina will help you get acclimated and will even support you after she moves.

Programs is one of the most fun positions of all. You get to pick the speakers you'd like to hear and learn from. The process is well run already and, again, is something that can be worked on when your schedule allows. Introductions can be made by anyone, but your work would be to pick a speaker and get the contract signed. Leonie has taken on some other jobs, but has even said she'd stay an extra year if needed.

We are also looking for someone to take over the tying of comfort quilts. There is a small group to do the work, but none have the room. Do you?

Please help us continue as an organization and see if you can make one of these jobs fit into your life and the life of your art.

Eileen Ryan



Membership

Lola Chaisson and Robin DeMott

Our Annual Membership Drive kicks off in April. Dues for 2026-2027 are \$35. Next year includes the Quilt Show and a packed schedule of speakers thanks to the hard work of our Program Chairs. The membership renewal form can be found on the Concord Piecemakers website under Becoming a Member.

Getaway Weekend!

Marian Bressel

The Getaway, in spite of being truncated by a major snow storm, was great. Thanks to our 2 teachers, Tina and Léonie, for their classes, and to Maura and Cathy for once again doing a pillowcase tutorial. And thanks to everyone bowing to the inevitable with good grace and leaving Sunday. See you all next year.

(And we thank you, Marian, for another great Getaway!)

THE QUILTATHON IS ALMOST HERE!!!

The Quiltathon, which is held on **March 14th, from 8 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.** at St. Matthew's in Acton cometh! It may be the most important day in the CPM year! We will gather to make quilts for folks who really do need them. Please bring a quilt top, a back that goes with it, and a piece of paper with the dimensions, and tie it up together. We will make quilts to give to cancer patients, hospice patients, kids who are ill or traumatized. It feels great! Also please bring a snack (breakfast, salad, dessert) to share with 10 hungry quilters.

OK, so you didn't finish your quilt top. We forgive you this time. But there is still plenty to do! Spread out quilt tops on batting (the guild supplies) and pin it together with the backing. Next it goes to the sewing machine to be stitched together and get a label. Then back to the standing workers to turn it inside out and back to the sewing machines to sew the last of it. Some are machine quilted; some are tied. We also help decide what to do to which quilt. You may learn a lot about the process; you will certainly learn about your co-guild members! The guild supplies lunch, water, and coffee/hot chocolate.

There will be a station that will even pin baste the quilts you want to machine quilt yourself. We'll even provide the pins if you don't have enough.

Joy Sussman, Marla Richmond, Léonie Davis

UFO Challenge

Léonie Davis

Calling all UFOs! June is just around the corner. These cold days are the perfect time to get those UFOs finished!

The information is on our website. Feel free to bring completed slips to the March meeting or email me the information at (please see your membership book for Léonie's email address).

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

We want to thank those members who have signed up to participate in our Quilt Show. This couldn't be a success without the help of our membership.

Please think about making items for the Boutique. Perhaps Christmas ornaments, table runners, trivets, coasters, bookmarks, bags, knitted items -- think of things you've bought at other shows. These proved to be good money makers at the 250 show.

There are two challenges, in addition to the UFO challenge:

1. Don't Touch, Please! How many have seen these clever and creative signs telling people not to touch the quilts at quilt shows? We enjoy seeing them as much as we do the quilts on display! Here's the challenge: Create your own version of a Don't Touch, Hands Off... sign that can be donated for guild use. They should be no larger than 8"x10" and need to be hung at our show. Gayle will have samples to see at the meeting. Let your imagination run wild!

2. Duo Fabric Challenge—For this challenge, the Quilt Show Team has purchased ten sets of two beautiful batik fat quarters. To accept this challenge, all you have to do is to create a quilt, any quilt, that includes some of the two fabrics provided. One is a beautiful pinkish, purplish red batik, and the other batik is a mix of pink, yellow, and orange. Think autumn, or not! The quilt is not to exceed 20" on a side. (The cost of the set of fat quarters is \$7.) There are only three packets of fat quarters remaining, so contact Carol MacFarlane if you want to reserve a set. They will be available at the March meeting.

Remember, we will be using the hanging procedure used by Quilter's Connection and Quilt 250. It is at the end of this newsletter and will be demonstrated soon.

Thank you from your quilt show committee... Gayle, Carol, Leonie, and Joan

Nickel Squares – 5" Squares

Our nickel squares committee is starting to collect squares in earnest now. Here are some of the popular categories of fabrics to inspire you to cut 5" squares:

- I Spy, stripes, polka dots, geometrics, solids, children's themes, sports, holidays,
- "reads" solid, beach, neutrals, and whites, black and white, Australian, Batik, Kaffe.

Please cut the squares exactly 5" using clean unscented ironed fabric, current fabrics, no lint, or threads. When we have enough squares, we will start packaging them into bundles of 100.

Cont...

Look for an email asking for volunteers to meet for 2–3-hour sessions.

In the past jelly rolls sold well. These are made of 2 ½” width of fabric strips coordinated by types of fabric or colorways.

We start collecting squares at the March meeting.

Lori Redman, Andi Steele, Barbara Weiss



Programs Team

Is there a speaker or workshop you would love to have the guild sponsor? Here's your chance to help make that happen. We are looking for 2 or more people who would be interested working on the Program Committee next year. There is a list of future potential lecturers along with a list of past activities that we can pass on to the new team. Ideally, we'd like 2 or more people to sign up soon so that we can help you transition into the role by working together on the 2026 slate. If you're interested, please contact Léonie and Tina.

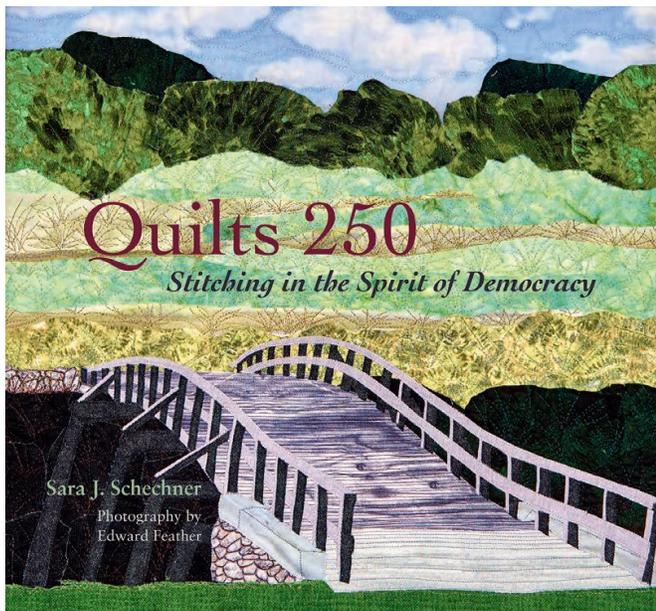


Website Management

Tina is looking for someone interested in taking over the CPM website. It uses WordPress and is fairly easy to edit. If you are interested in taking over this job sometime in the next few months, please contact Tina.

Quilts 250 – Book Sale

Gayle Coit



Book Launch Party!

Come join us for light refreshments, view a few quilts brought back for the festivities and enjoy the quilt artists talking about the inspiration for their quilts. Your pre-purchased books may be picked up here or at our April meeting.

- **When:** April 11, 2026
- **Where:** Harvey Wheeler Community Center
- **Time:** 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

If you would like to volunteer for an hour to white glove at this event, please contact Gayle Coit. *Thank you!*

Pillowcases for Children at Emerson Hospital

Sue Colwell and Nanette Moffa

WOW!! Thank you to all who contributed. We received 49 pillowcases at the Getaway and 11 from Joanne in Virginia via mail, for a grand total of **60**. Thank you to all who contributed! The need continues, so we'll keep asking for child themed cases. If you have questions or need instructions please don't hesitate to ask.

Comfort Quilts

Leslie Garrison

Emerson Hospital has asked for comfort quilts for their new program called "Three Wishes" where patients with serious illnesses can select items to provide extra comfort including lap-size blankets - knitted, crocheted, or quilted. This program is part of palliative care at Emerson, which focuses on providing comfort and symptom relief while patients receive treatments for severe illnesses. The quilts for this program would ideally be 40x60" or 48x60", but they are working with blankets as small as 40x45". I estimate that I can redirect about 25 quilts per year to this program. At the March meeting, I will ask for your interest in increasing the number of quilts that we make.

I'm looking forward to seeing all the comfort quilt tops at the Quiltathon. For those who need a quick reminder on sizes, here is another reference.

- Made with kid's fabrics (must be machine quilted): 32x40" to 40x50" for Emerson or twin bed size 55x70" minimum for Household Goods.
- Made with any fabrics: 40x45" to 68x86", with the 48x60" and 58x72" as the most popular sizes.

Solid Color Workshop with Barb Vedder

Tina van Roggen and Léonie Davis

- Last call for the April Color Workshop. We have now opened it up to other guilds.

This new Modern workshop is a great introduction into making quilts with solids. Students will supply inspiration photos, use a quilt block or work in the abstract. Barb will guide us on how to use color and composition to make a small quilt or the start of a larger project. This is an opportunity to play with color and the focus is to have fun and experiment.

- **When:** 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Thursday April 16th, 2026
- **Where:** Sudbury, MA
- **Cost:** \$60, pay ahead to get your spot. Please email Léonie Davis to confirm that there is still space
- **Limit:** 20 people

Further details will be provided after payment is received.



Current ZoomBee



Friday ZoomBee, 2:00 P.M.

Join us on Zoom for an hour or so of sewing and chatting.

Our current project aka Elana's obsession (!) and Moira's procrastination project (!) is:

➤ The Stardust Quilt

String-pieced squares for a group Bonnie Hunter Stardust Quilt. Join us and make as many or as few as you like. Elana and Moira will combine them into a single comfort quilt.

True to Bonnie's scrappy tradition the more variety the better so anything that will read as a blue and/or white solid-ish at a distance is fair game. We're planning for the colors to read:

- blue rather than aqua or teal
- white rather than beige or brilliant white

The pattern is available on the Bonnie Hunter's website, quiltville.com and can be seen on her blog. We have purchased a copy for the comfort quilt project but if you'd like to make your own version, we ask that you buy your own copy. Bonnie is running a business after all!

When you have completed squares pass them on to Elana or Moira. No need to trim or remove paper we can do that for you.

Happy Sewing
~Elana and Moira

Household Goods Sewing Kits

Tina van Roggen

I continue to make sewing kits for Household Goods in Acton. I especially need donations of hand sewing needles and white dress shirt buttons. But I could also use thread, tape measures, scissors, pins, other 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 March meeting. Thank you!



Rosie's Place

Kathleen McIsaac

- Travel-size or full-size shampoo, conditioner, lotion, toothpaste, deodorant, body wash
- Toothbrushes, floss, Chapstick, Disposable shaving razors
- Hairbrushes, picks combs, Elastic hair ties
- Socks, Underwear, Sports bras (all new & in original packaging) - No clothing donations
- Paperback and hardcover books (new & like new, no textbooks)
- Yarn (unused) and crochet hooks (new & like new)
- [\\$25 Gift cards](#)** to Target, Old Navy, Walmart, CVS, and Walgreens

We'll be collecting items at the March meeting.

News from the New England Quilt Museum

Martha Supnik

Opening Tuesday, January 13 through Saturday, April 11, 2026

Blue on Blue: Quilts from 1825 to 2025

"Blue color is everlastingly appointed by the deity to be a source of delight."

John Ruskin (1819 – 1900)

Blue holds a unique place in our human consciousness. It is an elusive color, rarely found in nature, and yet universally associated with the sky and the sea. In our imaginations and the art we create, it manifests as wide horizons and starry nights, peaceful waters, and powerful waves, the royal and the divine.

The quilts selected for this exhibition by NEQM Curator, Pamela Weeks, span 200 years and range from exceptional antique quilts to cutting-edge contemporary works. They not only illustrate a diverse range of techniques and styles, but also display an extravagant variety of blue textiles--deep indigo, Prussian blue, turquoise, cobalt, and cornflower, to name just a few. The works are complemented by informative curatorial research on the intriguing, lesser-known, and often brutal, history of this captivating color.

Pam Weeks says: "In the main galleries there is an entire room with nineteenth century indigo and white quilts from the collections of Sharon Waddell and Debra Grana, all Albany NY area. The exhibition is very eclectic--masterworks of traditional applique on cotton and silk; Modern quilts; art quilts, and a previously unknown Molly Upton quilt, dated 1976."

Cont...

19th Century Blues: The AQSG Quilt Challenge

The American Quilt Study Group (AQSG) is a membership organization that provides opportunities for quiltmakers, enthusiasts, collectors and academics to study, research and publish findings that advance the knowledge of quilts and related subjects.

For this exhibition, participants were challenged to select a nineteenth-century quilt that fit specific guidelines, and then create a smaller replica, interpreting the elements of the original quilt in a new and fresh way. The intended goal is for the quiltmakers to research the assigned topic in general and their chosen study quilt in particular. Twenty-five of the fifty quilts made for this challenge were selected by AQSG to travel nationally. The NEQM Genre Gallery features these creative and meticulous quilts accompanied by photographs of the original inspiration quilts, personal statements about what the quiltmakers learned during the process, and their reflections on the original quilts that inspired them.

Blue Quilts from the Permanent Collection

Continuing the theme of the color blue, the Donahue gallery will display nine blue quilts from the museum permanent collection dating from the 19th century through contemporary living artists on the walls and antique bed and more blue fabrics in the drawers we hope you'll open.



Preparing Your Quilt for the Show

First make a sleeve.

Make a tube that is at least 4 inches wide and 1" less than the width of the quilt.

Make a finished $\frac{1}{4}$ inch hem on each short edge.

There are two different ways to attach the sleeve:

1. For a permanent sleeve, after making the tube, center the sleeves to the width of the quilt and line up the raw edges of the sleeve and sew it down on the binding seam line (before slip-stitching your binding down). Then, slip-stitch the binding at the top edge of your quilt, going through the sleeve to catch the quilt backing in your stitches. Carefully slip stitch the remaining three sides (two edges and one bottom) of the sleeve to the back of the quilt, catching only the quilt backing and not the quilt front.
2. To make a detachable sleeve, sew the tube from above, and turn it right side out. Center the sleeve across the width of the quilt. Line the sleeves approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the top of the binding and pin all the way around. Carefully slip stitch all four sides (two edges, one top and one bottom) of the sleeve to the back of the quilt, catching only the quilt backing and not the quilt front.

Before attaching your sleeve, you may wish to press it flat, then roll one of the long edges up $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and press again. This will open up the sleeve a bit to hold the hanging rod helping your quilt to hang flat.

Second you need wood slats.

To hang your quilt for the show, you will need wood slats or lattice moulding. For smaller and lighter quilts, you can use one "LWM 265 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 1-11/16" Pine Lattice Moulding." Another one you can use is "WM 267 which is $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 1-5/16" Solid Pine Lattice Moulding."

For heavier quilts (twin size or larger), heavier moulding is necessary. A good choice is "WM 8144 11/16" x 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " Solid Pine Nosing" moulding. This has been available at Home Depot and other lumber shops, but if you cannot find it, you may substitute a so-called 1" x 3" board (whose actual dimensions are less than $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ").

You do not have to use the above, but it needs to look like a slat (see below), and make sure



that the wood is strong enough so that it does not bow or break under the weight of the quilt. Also, make sure that the slat is not too wide to fit into the sleeve (i.e., that it is less than 4").

After you have identified your slat, measure the width of your quilt, and subtract $\frac{1}{2}$ ". This is the number that you will use to cut the wood's length.

Cut the wood.

Drill two holes in your slat.

The outer edge of first hole will be about $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the left edge of the slat; the outer edge of the second hole will be about $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the right edge (see below). Holes should be between $\frac{3}{8}$ " to $\frac{1}{2}$ " in diameter.



NB: If your quilt is small and you prefer to use a dowel or rod with screw eyes attached, that is okay.

Mark your slat with your name and the name of your quilt just in case the slat and your quilt get separated.

Third, you will need a label.

All quilts need a cloth label. The label should include your name, town, and quilt title. Feel free to add the date of the quilt or other information. Please sew the label to the bottom left or right side of the back of the quilt.

Roll your quilt.

Before you drop off your quilt, please insert the slat into the sleeve and roll up your quilt so that the label shows. This will speed up your drop off.

Further instructions for times and locations to drop off and pick up your quilt will be sent separately by email.