

CONCORD PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD

APRIL 2026 NEWSLETTER

GRAPEVINE

Editor: Barbara Kozenko

Wednesday April 15, 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: – Barb Vedder, Sensational Solid Quilts

This month's program speaker, Barb Vedder, will be presenting on Sensational Solid Quilts. Barb will explore the origins of Solid Quilt Design and what might have inspired them. Sensational quilts made with solid fabrics from early quilt making in America through the Modern Quilt Movement of today will be shown along with her own trunk show.



This will be followed on Thursday 4/16 by her Solid Color Workshop. There are a few spots still available. If interested please email Léonie Davis ASAP. (See below for workshop information)

The President's Message

It is starting to look a lot more like Spring, with all its birth and renewal. The birds have their Spring songs going, I've heard peepers, and the daffodils are definitely up, if not already blooming. I find this a season of creativity and blossoming ideas. Our craft is always improved with new teachers, new patterns, new lines of fabric and new techniques (and, for me, new notions!). Have you signed up for anything new?

Many of us have quite a stash already and don't need much new. But there are so many vibrant or challenging, or even easy ways to use that fabric in new and exciting ways. Sometimes one fat quarter can inspire a whole new way to use the things we have. Remember, any experiment that was only meant to learn a new technique or see if those two colors really can be made to work together, can quickly become a comfort quilt. Samples can be an inspiration anywhere down the road -- maybe even belong with other samples we collect. We've seen some of our members put together orphan blocks and orphan fabrics to make exciting and vibrant new combinations.

Don't forget our UFO challenge, too, and break out some of those unfinished projects to try out your new ideas and new ways of looking at things you once turned away from. Maybe laying it out in a new way is enough to get you excited all over again. And get outside and enjoy those sounds of Spring.

Eileen Ryan

Membership

Lola Chaisson and Robin DeMott

We welcome new member Karen Stier from Newfields, NH. She is a friend of Lola Chaisson's and has attended the Getaway for two years.

Our Annual Membership Drive kicks off in April. The renewal form is attached to this newsletter. Next year includes the Quilt Show and a packed schedule of speakers thanks to the hard work of our Program Chairs. Renew by May 20th 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."

New Feature: For your convenience, we now accept credit cards for membership fees.

Solid Color Workshop with Barb Vedder

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: 9am-3pm Thursday April 16th, 2026 in Sudbury, MA
Cost: \$60, pay ahead to get your spot. Make a check out to Concord Piecemakers and return to Léonie Davis. Please see membership book for home address.
Limit: 20 people



*** Upcoming Workshop***

3-Card Holder Workshop with Tina van Roggen

Please come to a workshop to make 3-card holders for the New England Quilt Museum. The 3-card holders sell well in their gift shop, so they are always looking for more. I will provide all supplies and the pattern. Please join me on **Sunday April 19th, 9-1pm and the Stow Pompositticut Community Center, 509 Great Rd, Stow, MA**. Bring your sewing machine.

***Please email Tina to let her know you're coming.

Programs Team

We are **still looking** for one or two members to step up and take on the position of Programs for next year. We have a working head-start on the year to get things going and are happy to assist to make the transition smooth.

THE QUILTATHON

Thank you everyone who took part in the Quiltathon!!!! We had about 60 members and about 65 quilts. I know that you have heard that this is a drop from previous years, so we need to get going! We have a new size being requested by Emerson Hospital (40x60" or 48x60", but they are working with blankets as small as 40x45"). When you find scraps, make something different and exciting! Keep up the good work! We love to donate quilts to the folks who really need them.

Joy Sussman, Marla Richmond, Léonie Davis

UFO Challenge

Léonie Davis

The UFO Challenge ends as of June 1st. I will be at the April and May meetings to receive your slips. Alternatively, please email Léonie.

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

Saturday, May 9, Placemat Workshop for the Boutique, 9AM to 3 PM

Please join us at the Sit and Sew (Harvard Congregational Church), as we learn various designs for making a set of placemats for the boutique. We will bring some fabric to use, but I suggest that you bring your own as well, perhaps a bit more than stated below.

For a set of 4 placemats, 18" x 13", you will need the following:

Feature fabric—26"

Dark coordinate—18"

Light coordinate—15"

Backing—31"

45" wide batting—31"

Binding—10"

Last call for our accepting the Duo Fabric Challenge

Carol MacFarlane will bring to our April meeting the last three sets of two beautiful batik fat quarters for whoever wants 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.

Making a Hanging Sleeve for your quilt

At our May meeting, the quilt show committee will demonstrate our new technique for hanging the quilts. It is the same procedure that we used at the Concord 250 Quilt Show and that Quilter Connections uses. So, you will want to use at least a 5" inch wide strip when making your hanging sleeves.

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

NICKEL SQUARES & JELLY ROLLS FOR THE QUILT SHOW SALE

The committee has started collecting nickel squares and jelly roll components to be sold at the quilt show this fall, but we need your help!

We are currently looking for these categories cut into **5" squares OR jelly roll size (2-1/2" x width of fabric):**

- I Spy
- Polka dots
- Geometrics
- Solids
- Holidays
- Beach/Vacation
- Black and Whites
- Heather Ross brand
- Ruby Star Society brand
- Children's Fabrics
- Stripes
- Batiks
- Sports
- Botanicals (flowers, leaves, etc.)
- Neutrals
- Kaffe Fassett brand
- Tula Pink brand
- Moda brand

Please make sure this is **clean, unscented, ironed fabric**. We really want them to sell, so we encourage current fabrics and kindly request that they are lint-free and do not have any loose threads. Please be cautious in cutting the squares to **exactly 5"** and jelly rolls to **exactly 2-1/2" x the width of the fabric**. Note that we will not be selling layer cakes (10x10 inches) this year due to low demand in previous sales.

Please reach out to Lori Redman, Andi Steele, or Barbara Weiss with any questions. Thank you!

Shop Hop Excursion

Tina van Roggen

I am looking for someone in our area who would be interested in taking ownership of my Shop Hop Reports. These are a series of .docx and .pdf files that you can see from this [page](#). If you or anyone you know would be interested in maintaining these files (in any form you choose) and making them available to others, then please email me.

WEBSITE MANAGEMENT

As you have probably heard, **Tina van Roggen** is moving out of the area and is transferring CPM website and Facebook support to **Lori Redman**. First, we would like to offer our sincere thanks to Tina for her many years of support on the website and Facebook page. She has worked quietly and diligently in the background to keep communications up to date - posting photos, links, events, and new information for both the guild and the public. We owe you many thanks, Tina! Please know that you will be missed but we wish you all the very best in your adventures in Washington!

Lori is excited about her new role and has already started making updates to energize our website and Facebook page. When was the last time you were on the website? Or the Facebook page? It's time to check out what's new!

We need your help for 3 items this month!

- 1) Go to www.concordpiecemakers.org to experience the new look and feel of the website.
 - Note that the new sidebar highlights **Important Dates** and a **Currently Seeking** list.
 - Each presenter from our **2025-2026 Calendar** tab has been updated with photos and links to their respective pages to make it easy to learn more about them.
 - The **2026 Quilt Show** tab is streamlined into general public information and **Quilt Show Resources for Guild Members**. Volunteer opportunities for the Quilt Show will be added there soon.
 - We've added an **About Us** page.
 - More updates and exciting things are coming. Please keep an eye on it as it continues to evolve!

- 2) We are going to be adding additional photos to the website. At the membership table in our monthly meetings, you are going to be asked to sign (or decline to sign) a waiver that allows us to share photos of both you and/or your quilts. Please make sure you complete this as soon as possible.

- 3) Finally, if you have **ANY** updates, requests, or announcements that you would like to make to the guild, please make sure to keep Lori informed. We'd like to keep the website as useful and up to date as possible.

Thank you!



Comfort Quilts

Leslie Garrison

Kits!! At this month's meeting, we will have kits available at the sign-in table for comfort quilt tops. There will be a range from easy to a bit more involved, and the fabric is included. We have received a lot of good quality fabric in recent donations. Please consider making a quilt top to bring to the June meeting when we will have backing fabric and batting available for comfort quilts.

For those who like quilting more than piecing, I will bring some sandwiched quilts ready to be machine quilted to this month's meeting. I have both the traditional type basted with safety pins as well as those bound using the pillowcase method. The latter type requires a good shaking out and a few safety pins before starting quilting. Any slack or mismatch between the top and bottom layers can be left in the borders.

Thanks again for everyone's support!

Pillowcases for Children at Emerson Hospital

Sue Colwell and Nanette Moffa

The need doesn't end. So, if you're visiting a quilt show or shop this spring do check out the children's fabric. Thank you!



Household Goods Sewing Kits

Tina van Roggen

As many of you know, my family will be moving to WA state later this year. So, I will be stopping production of sewing kits for Household Goods in another month. I will be making kits with the remaining items I currently have - so I will no longer be accepting donations. If you are interested in making sewing kits yourself in the future, you can find my notes on how I do it on the website's community service page - [here](#).

Current ZoomBee



Friday ZoomBee, 2:00 P.M.

Our current 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.

~Elana and Moira

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, April 14 through Saturday, June 27, 2026

Tiny Pieces – Vast Visions

Tiny Pieces unites four contemporary art quilters, showcasing their mastery of the medium and the transformative power of “piecing.” Offering quilts that captivate with intricate detail and vast visuals, the artists invite viewers to explore the boundless possibilities of this traditional method turned dynamic art form.

Deb Cashatt’s “wonky,” intricately pieced, and slightly humorous work she calls “ymbography” focuses on pictorial material or icons reminiscent of the graphics used in the computer world.

Susan Lapham’s *Playland* series captures vibrant, complex compositions using small fabric bits, depicting the exhilarating joy of exploring an amusement park, reflecting moments of friendship, thrill, and laughter.

Niraja Lorenz crafts stunning fabric compositions, employing thousands of fabric pieces that evoke multiple perspectives, drawing inspiration from celestial images for creations like “Edge of Chaos.”

Irene Roderick’s “Bloom,” initially conceived as a workshop sample, grew into a complex piece, drawing inspiration from a photograph of a sidewalk crack hosting a resilient flower, symbolizing the will to thrive against all odds.

Soul Stories: Threads of Existence: Quilt Artists Respond to the Urgent Stories of Our Time

On view April 14 through July 18, 2026

This exhibit presents 22 quilts and one 3-D piece created by 23 different textile artists from five different countries that speak to the urgent stories of our time. Each work carries a message expressed through fabric and thread that invites viewers to pause, reflect, and engage. The [Soul Stories](#) artists use their artwork to illuminate the realities of climate change, homelessness, endangered species, and human hardship, while also exploring resilience, healing, feminism, spirituality, and the legacies of history.

These compelling works provoke engagement with the viewer, asking us to look closely, to consider deeply, and to reflect on our own place within these shared struggles and hopes.

Concord Piecemakers Membership Registration

For Membership Use Only

Check # _____

Date Rec'd _____

_____ Renewal _____ New Member

Membership Benefits

Your \$35 dues payment includes attendance at meetings, exhibiting in Quilt Show, workshops, newsletter (emailed), printed yearbook, and voting rights

Name (Please Print Clearly) _____

Make check payable to Concord Piecemakers

Return this form along with dues on or before the annual meeting in May. Membership Year is June 1st through May 31st.

-- OR --

Mail your completed form and check to:

Membership Chair, c/o Concord Piecemakers, P.O. Box 1381, Concord, MA 01742

Complete the following information **ONLY** if it has changed from last year's yearbook or if you are a new member. **Please print clearly.**

Street _____ P.O. Box _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Is this a cell or home phone? _____

Email _____

Please indicate your interest in the following guild opportunities. Check all that pertain.

Activities

____ Quiltathon

____ Yard Sale

____ Raffle Quilt

____ Quilt Show

____ Programs

____ Chair a Committee

____ Be a board member

____ "More Before" demos

____ Donate Nickel Squares

____ Hospitality

____ Open Sew

Charity

____ Make Comfort Quilts

____ Bind Comfort Quilts

____ Make Pillowcases

____ Quilts of Valor

____ Make String Blocks

Other Interests _____

Special Interest Groups

____ Wearable Arts

____ Daytime Comfort Quilts

____ Machine Embroidery

____ Miniature Quilts

____ Art Quilts

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 ¼ 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 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 ¼ 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 ¼" x 1-11/16" Pine Lattice Moulding." Another one you can use is "WM 267 which is ¼" 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 1 1/16" x 1 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 ¾" x 2 ½").

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 ½". 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 ¼" from the left edge of the slat; the outer edge of the second hole will be about ¼" from the right edge (see below). Holes should be between 3/8" to ½" 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.