



Tewksbury Piecemakers Newsletter

Meeting is March 12, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Tewksbury Senior Center

IMPORTANT NOTICE: DOORS CANNOT OPEN BEFORE 6:30

FOOD PANTRY. The Food pantry was elated at the type and amount of snacks we donated.

For March's meeting please bring peanut butter, jelly and jam (all flavors), marshmallow fluff, toilet paper, paper towels, dish liquid. As always, children's snacks and cereal (hot or cold) are always needed. Please bring to meeting room and place them on the table for all of us to see.

There is a lot of information throughout this issue. Please read it all.

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PRESIDENTS LETTER

Stepping up to March. Wow! I can't believe we are almost through the winter . . . Yeah for longer days!

I attended a round table meeting at the Tewksbury Public Library. The purpose of the meeting was to bring local groups and organizations together to share information about upcoming events and fundraisers. It reminded me of how and why I joined the Tewksbury Piecemakers Guild 25 years ago.

A group of women were getting together to work on a raffle quilt to fundraise for the new Tewksbury Library. I went to the meeting and was greeted by Carol Calistro who proceeded to hand me a quilt block. It was an applique piece which I had very little experience with, but I managed to finish it, and it was added into the quilt. That was just the beginning — I was hooked and joined the Guild.

I loved everything about the Guild. The people, speakers, show and tell, workshops, recipes, quilt shows, and week-end retreats. I wasn't always an active participant because sometimes life got in the way, but little did I know how much I would need this group. I developed lifelong friends and a comradery that means a lot to me. The meeting tonight also reminded me that I joined the group to be an active member of the community and to help people with different needs.

There are many groups in our town that could benefit from the donation of a quilt. A quilt can be raffled off, given to a family in need, offer pleasure to a young child, or be displayed as a work of art. I propose that we take up a collection of quilts that can be donated to some of our local groups. It will help get the word out about our guild and create interest in the community for our upcoming quilt show.

After all, don't we want to provide the opportunity for education, appreciation, and advancement of the art of quilting, service, and fellowship, as the Constitution of the Tewksbury Piecemakers sets out as its mission?

March Guest Speaker

This month, Judy Becker will join us as our guest speaker. Judy is known for her quilted canvas series called Fragments. I am really excited to hear her speak and hope you all will attend.

Upcoming Events

*NEQM date change to Sunday, March 17th, 10:00 a.m. Carol Calistro is collecting for this event. (Please cash only). There will be a small fee (\$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for non-members) which will include the cost of lunch. This is really a fun and informative time at the museum. It's a great resource for all.

Also, last call for the Quilt weekend on March 21st – 24th at the Franciscan Guest House in Kennebunk Maine. Please see Mary Renn if you have not paid for this week-end.

IMPORTANT! Members needed to sit at MQX quilt show for raffling tickets for our fundraising Raffle quilt. Please see Terry Maimone for schedule. April 11th through the 13th.

Quilt Show applications are being accepted by Karen Vines or Gina Maniscalco, or any other board member. The earlier we can get the applications in, the easier it is for planning. Have you started your 11-22-33 Challenge?

Don't forget Show and Tell, food for the food pantry, cash for NEQM and for raffles! Your Show and Tell does not need to be something current. It can be something you enjoyed making years before, and would like to share with the Guild. Don't be shy! We all benefit from these exchanges.

Make sure you check the table at the back of the room as there may be sign-up sheets, patterns, and information available to all.

Happy Sewing!

Pat

REFRESHMENTS FOR MARCH Susan Elias, Lillian Ferreira, Polly Flanagan, Barbara Forrestall, Elaine Fubel, Anna Gallo, Louise Gearty, Janet Giunta, Helen Gloor, Gerry Graham.

Can't bring any? Teresa will not be at this meeting so please Contact ME and let me know. 978-604-4434
meanswell@comcast.net

MARCH BIRTHDAYS 2nd, Charlotte Sargent, 5th, Elaine Walsh, 12th, Sue Elias, 15th, Linda Reid, 16th, Mary Seikman, 23rd, Kathy Kinsella, 24th, Ann Buskey, 25th, Maureen Mullen, 26th, Nancy Kelley, 30th, Denise Miano, 31st, Anita Hogan. A very Happy Birthday to all of you.

MONTHLY FAT QUARTER Polka Dots type fabrics please.

OUR RAFFLE QUILT IS ON THE MOVE

MQX Quilt Festival is coming to Manchester April 11th, 12th, and 13th. We will need table sitters and white glovers. There will be a sign-up sheet at the February meeting. Sign up early to get your favorite time. The website for the Festival is <http://www.mqxshow.com>. If you're thinking of taking a workshop(s), consider some table time around that schedule.

We need two people to volunteer additionally each show day (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) for a 2 hour slot of either White Glove or Admission Door (seated job). If you would like to sign up for this, tell me what day and two hour time slot you would like and I will send it to the volunteer coordinator for MQX who will try to fill slots on a first come first served basis.

Thursday, April 11th 10-5

10-12: OPEN

12-2: Sue Pedersen & Elaine Fubel

2-5: OPEN

White Glove or Admission Table 1 (2 hrs): OPEN

White Glove or Admission Table 2 (2 hrs): OPEN

Friday April 12th 10-5

10-12: OPEN

12-2: Krista Rose & Della Walsh

2-5: OPEN

White Glove or Admission Table 1 (2 hrs): OPEN

White Glove or Admission Table 2 (2 hrs): OPEN

Saturday April 12th 9-5

9-11: OPEN

11-1: OPEN

1-3: OPEN

3-5: OPEN

White Glove or Admission Table 1 (2 hrs): OPEN

White Glove or Admission Table 2 (2 hrs): OPEN

Thanks,

Terry Maimone

QUILT SHOW

Our quilt show is only 3 months away and your quilts are needed! We need quilt entry forms submitted by the end of March in order to create a beautiful floor plan. Remember that this year's theme is about the journey... There are no perfect quilts on the journey; only fun and special ones!

(Also, please volunteer. We need set up, tear down, and kitchen volunteers. You can even help by sitting on your rear at the raffle quilt, raffle basket, admission, or boutique tables. So easy :)

-Karen

"CHOOSE YOUR INSPIRATION" Magazine Challenge

Now that the busy holiday season is over, and the stormy winter days are here, it's a great time to stay in and sew. Why not make a Challenge quilt? Just pick any magazine (other than a quilt magazine) and check out pages 11, 22 and 33. Surely you will find something there to spark your creativity and turn your idea into a quilt. If not, feel free to choose a different magazine and try again. Let your imagination be your guide. Here's a reminder of the guidelines:

- Each participant must submit a copy of their magazine page, along with a written explanation of how their page inspired their quilt.
- The total perimeter of the quilt must be **less than or equal** to 144 inches, (*for example 36 X 36"*)
- Any technique or combination of techniques are allowed.
- The quilt must be quilted.
- The quilt must be made of fabric, but non-fabric embellishments are okay.
- Have some fun!

TEWKSBURY PIECEMAKERS CALENDAR, March 2019

Our March meeting will feature quilt artist Judy Becker. Judy currently lives in Newton, MA. The New England Quilt Museum featured the works of Judy and her CRIT colleagues in 2017. During our Piecemaker tour of the museum that year, we were mesmerized by Judy's FRAGMENT collection, which she will be sharing with us.

Donations for the GIZMO SILENT AUCTION will be collected at the March meeting.

Do you have gadgets/gizmos that you purchased, and have never used? Have you purchased a gadget that worked wonderfully during a demo, but not so much when you tried at home? You can donate your new, or gently used gadgets to our GIZMO SILENT AUCTION. Gadgets will be collected at the March meeting, only, and the auction will be held at the April meeting. All proceeds will benefit the Piecemakers' treasury.

Donations for the YARD YARD SALE will be collected at the March meeting.

Do you have fabric that has lived in your stash for months, perhaps years? Every time you cull your fabric, you keep it, thinking someday the fabric will be perfect for the yet unknown project? You can donate this fabric to the YARD YARD SALE. Fabric will be collected at the March and April meetings. The sale will be during the May meeting. All proceeds will benefit the Piecemakers' treasury.

Please cut fabric into one yard pieces. Package each yard into a gallon size baggie. If you have a four yard piece, you will be donating four baggies. Yes, of course, you may donate multiple baggies.

BOYS' CLUB CHARITY QUILTS

We have charity "packets" ready to go. Each packet contains a completed quilt top, batting, and backing. We are looking for volunteers to quilt a packet. These will be available at the March meeting, but if you would like to start on one now, please contact Sue Pedersen, to arrange delivery.

Thanks, Sue Pedersen

NEW! Workshop scheduled



Marlene Levesque will be teaching a workshop for this cute House quilt. The workshop will take place on Tuesday, April 23 from 6:30 to 9:00 at the Senior Center. The cost of the workshop will be \$25.00 and the pattern is included. Sign-ups (with payment) will begin at the February meeting.

BLOCK OF THE MONTH Tewksbury Piecemakers BOM Participants: Important update from Karen

We hope everyone is enjoying the "Half Square Triangle Sampler" Block of the Month. It's fun to see everyone's progress when they show their blocks at our meetings. Remember that one lucky winner will get to have their BOM quilt quilted by Karen Ivas, if they have their top completed by the April meeting. I won't be at the next meeting so this info is extra important to get out...

At the March Meeting, all Block of the Month Participants will receive the final installment of instructions to complete their Block of the Month Quilt Tops. The instructions for sashing and borders will be included. The layout of the blocks is totally up to you. There is no special order; do whatever looks most pleasing to you. Borders such as inner and outer borders can be as the pattern shows or you can use your own creativity. Please bring your completed top to the April Meeting! Everyone that brings a completed top to the April meeting will have a chance to have their quilt top quilted by me! You must also have your backing prepared! (backings need to be five inches bigger than the quilt top on each side). We will draw one name and the lucky winner will have their top quilted. I will bring it to the May meeting so you can bind it and put it in our Quilt Show. If you have any questions, please email me at kivas1@verizon.net. Karen Ivas

ON GOING CHARITY GROUPS

Lynda Harrington – Quilts for Kids Ongoing project that can always use a helping hand. Merrimack Valley Quilts for Kids

Carol Calistro and I went in early December to meet with the director of the Pregnancy Care Center in Lowell that assists young women who are pregnant. This organization is housed in the rectory building next to St. Rita's. They outlined what it is they do to help these young girls. The program is truly marvelous and so many have reached out to help. These young women get everything they need up to a year and the items are mostly new and donated items for their child. They are supplied with absolutely everything that is needed from food/formula, cribs, strollers, toys and clothes and they even have a boutique for the women. It truly is an amazing program counseling these young mothers.

We donated 6 baby themed quilts for their active clients who are due soon. We will continue to help this worthy organization.

We will have our usual deliveries to Winchester Hospital, New England Pediatrics, and children in DCF custody during the month of January- we are back at it again after a brief respite over the holidays.

We continue to serve our community through this program and with your help this is possible, and we are so very grateful.

ALSO To Membership - if any of you know of a child, a family in crisis or in need of a little help to brighten their day- contact me and we will certainly send them a nice cheery quilt. Judging from the letters when we hear from families, all the children love their quilts that they receive from us. We just want to share some happiness

for the children and their families. Please help us help our communities.

If you would like to help in any way please contact me at merrimackvalleyqfk@gmail.com or 978-905-0899.

or 978 455 6193

Thank you - Lynda Harrington

Pat Wolf - Heart Pillows

Stuffing heart pillows to donate to MGH ICU (Critical Care Unit). An ongoing project. Hundreds of these are done every year. If you would like to assist, see Pat Wolf. Stuffing for these pillows is always welcome

Joyce Lloyd - Ryan's case for smiles.

Another worthy project and one that Joyce works on all year.

Pillow cases are done for kids in any kind of stress all over the world. Want to help? See Joyce Lloyd at a meeting.

SUNSHINE

When we are hurting, either from an illness, the stress of caring for or the loss of a loved one, it is nice to get a card to know we are not alone. That we, as a group, care. Unfortunately, very few of you let me know who could use a hug. I know a card is not a physical hug, but it is a hug of sorts from all of us in the guild. It makes us feel good inside and maybe, for a moment, to smile. Please send me an email, text or call me. Cheryle
meanswell@comcast.net 978-604-4434

Minutes from February 19, 2019 Board Meeting

Attendees (7): Kathy Graham, Sue Pederson, Marlene Levesque, Sue Doherty, Cam Michallyszyn, Pat Wolf and Cheryle Laffey.

The day at the New England Quilt Museum in Lowell will be on Sunday March 17, 2019 at 10:00 AM. The cost is \$10 per member and \$15 for non-members. A light lunch will be served. Please give cash to Carol Calistro before or at the March 12, 2019 meeting.

Sue Pederson will be collecting yardage material (one yard or larger) at the March and April guild meetings.

Judy Becker will be the speaker for the March meeting.

Pam Weeks will be the speaker for the April meeting.

The board voted to pay \$20 to the "Register" to list our Quilt Show Event.

The next board meeting will be on Thursday March 14, 2019 at 6:30 PM at the Senior Center.

For the March Food Pantry donation, peanut butter, jelly, fluff, cereal and school snacks would be appreciated.

Respectfully,
Kathy Graham

ARTICLE FROM QUILTS FOR KIDS

Hope from the Ashes

If anything good comes out of disaster, it's what happens next: the warmth and caring from people all over the country helping to heal, comfort and re-build.

Our Silicon Valley chapter in California jumped right in to provide a quilt to every child in the Paradise School District who had lost everything. We were delighted to ship boxes of quilts from headquarters and happier still to hear that the mission was a success!



A note from mom:

"Thank you for the quilts for my girls who were affected by the Camp Fire. They received them today from school and they are beautiful! My oldest actually lost hers in the fire so this means a lot. Thank you from the bottom of my heart."

Thank You

It's always such a joy for us to hear from the family of a hospitalized child that a QFK quilt made a difference. We so appreciate the effort it takes to find time to send an email during a period of such upheaval. For every photo we receive, we know that thousands more children and their families are receiving their own quilts...heartfelt gifts that mean someone cares.



"What a wonderful way to bring a bit of joy to his room.
Thank you for your ministry."

Quilt Storage Available



What does this picture say to you?

Hint: It's the quilt room at QFK. Good news? Yes!

If the quilts aren't stacked up in here, they are where they are supposed to be: in the arms of children in hospitals, shelters, temporary housing, foster care, anywhere there is a need for a warm hug.

Not to worry, though. Our wonderful, generous volunteers keep the quilts coming in, up to 50 a day. So the shelves are looking better. (We do like to have a couple hundred on hand for emergencies.)

Our goal this year is to keep the quilt room almost empty. In the month of January, 2019, alone we shipped or delivered **796** quilts!

And now, a few more numbers...

In order for us to maintain our non-profit status, one thing we have to do is keep track of every kit that goes out, every quilt that comes in and every quilt that is donated to children all over the country, in hospitals, shelters, temporary housing because of flood and fire, foster care and Habitat homes.

We are very proud of the 2018 total.

Including Headquarters and our 92 chapters, last year we comforted at least **21,371** children and their families.



Note from the Editor: I know this article may have been a little long, but I thought it was important to see just where and why the hours that you have spent sewing, quilting and putting on bindings is important. We don't often get to see what the hard work and time means to the ones that receive these quilts. The smiles on these children's faces is a big hug to all of you.

UPCOMING

March 17th Trip to the New England quilt Museum in Lowell. Carol Calistro will be collecting the money at the March meeting. \$10.00 for museum members and \$15.00 for non- museum members. Cash only!

This is in green for a reason and don't forget to wear yours on this day, lol!

Hands All Around Quilt Show

April 6-7, 2019

UMASS Amherst Campus Center

One Campus Center Way at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst MA

10:00-4:00 each day

(opening for physically challenged at 9:30 am)

Adults - \$10.00, 12 and under FREE (when accompanied by paid attendee)

Student and Military - \$5.00 (must show ID)

**SHOW EVENTS: Raffle Quilt Raffle Baskets Vendors Mini-Quilt Sale Viewer's Choice Quilt Challenge
Demonstrations Multiple food concessions are available in the same building as the show.**

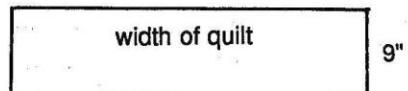
www.handsacrossthevalley.org

MQX Quilt Festival is coming to Manchester April 11th, 12th, and 13th. Onsite garage: Validated parking \$6 for the day (bring ticket to the admissions or to the machine at the front of the Expo Center for validation) www.mqxshow.com.

SIDE NOTES: Karen Ivas sent her update to late for the printed issue. Please pass the word to anyone that gets hard copy. Be sure to check the refreshment list, if you're not coming please let me know. Also check the list for the food pantry. Items have been added. Please bring cash for the museum trip, gadgets for Sue Pedersen, money for raffles, and show and tell.

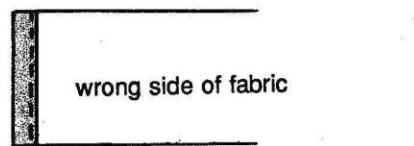
MAKING A SLEEVE

Cut fabric for sleeve 9" x the width of your quilt.

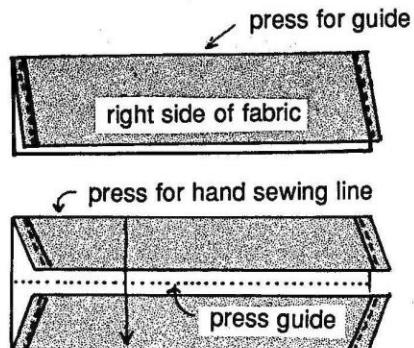


Fold the 9" ends under twice and sew close to the folded edge.

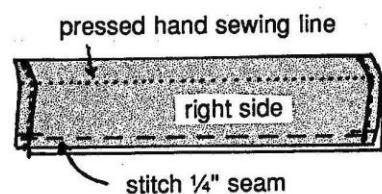
Fold sleeve in half lengthwise, wrong sides together, and press. This press line will be a guide only.



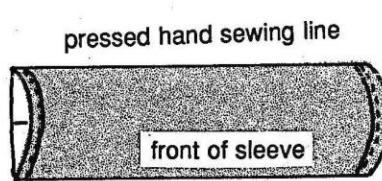
Open sleeve and fold the edges to the middle press line, wrong sides together. Press these new lines in firmly. They will be your hand sewing lines.



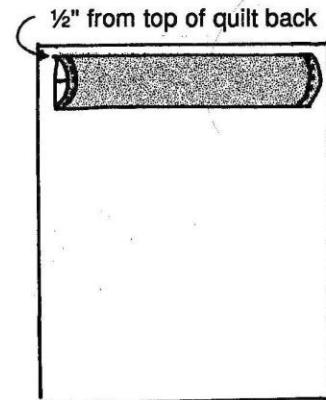
With wrong sides together, sew a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam the length of the sleeve. Begin the seam about $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the end, backstitch, continue seam to the end, then backstitch. This prevents the tails of thread from hanging out the ends of the sleeve.



Press the seam to one side, taking care not to press over the previous pressed edges. The sleeve will be convex on the side without the seam.



Pin sleeve along pressed edges to the quilt back. The top of the sleeve should be about $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the top of the quilt. Hand sew, being careful not to stitch through to the quilt front.



QUILT SHOW ENTRY FORM

Tewksbury Piecemakers Guild

A QUILTING JOURNEY

June 1 & 2, 2019

Please make 2 copies of this form and give to show chairperson:

Karen Vines, 16 Briarwood Rd, Tewksbury, MA 01876

Or email to karen.c.vines@gmail.com

Include a photo of your quilt!

FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 3/31/19

Submitter's Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

Quilt Maker's Name _____

Title of Work _____

Is the Quilt for Sale? _____ Price to be Marked _____

ACTUAL SIZE (in inches) Across the Top _____ Down the Side _____ Hand Pieced Machine Pieced Machine Embroidered Hand Appliqued Machine Appliqued Hand Embroidered Hand Quilted Machine Quilted by _____**CHECK IF:** _____ Challenge Quilt _____ First Quilt Ever _____ Junior Member's QuiltPlease describe front color category Summer Fall Winter Spring

Please list main colors of quilt _____

Please describe backing (color, solid, print, etc.) _____

QUILTER'S STATEMENT:

2019 QUILT SHOW ENTRY RECEIPT 2019 QUILT SHOW ENTRY RECEIPT

Name _____ Name _____

Phone _____ Phone _____

Title of Work _____ Title of Work _____

Entry # _____ Entry # _____