

TEWKSBURY PIECEMAKERS  
 Box 617, Tewksbury, MA 01876  
 175 Chandler St., Tewksbury, MA 01876  
[www.tewksburypiecemakers.com](http://www.tewksburypiecemakers.com)



Meeting, January 9, 2018 7:00 PM

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**BOARD MEMBERS**

**NEWSLETTER AND MEMBERSHIP**

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**REFRESHMENTS**

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**RAFFLES**

Dianne Judd

**WEB LIASON**

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**HISTORIAN**

Carol Calistro

**MUSEUM LIASON**

Carol Calistro

**SUNSHINE**

Maureen Cohen  
 978-453-4220

**CHARITY COORDINATOR**

Louise Kelley

**WEEKEND GETAWAYS**

Fall – Karen Mauriello  
 Spring – Mary Renn

**PROGRAM**

**COORDINATOR**

Marlene Levesque

**DOORS OPEN AT 6:15 PM**

Hi all

Hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a happy New Year!

January is our charity meeting. Don't forget sewing kit, glasses and good spirits.

This is a way to help our community.

love ya,

Ida

Don't forget

1- Your show and tell

2- money for the raffle table

3-bring a friend

4-Have fun!

**REFRESHMENTS FOR JANUARY**

Jane Crane, Dianne Crowell, Claire Crowley, Nan Davidson, Valerie DeBlois, Rosemary Dickinson, Susan Doherty, Pam Dougherty, Marie Dube and Susan Elias.

If you cannot bring a refreshment, please contact Teresa Grignon @ 978-656-8323

**JANUARY IS OUR ANNUAL CHARITY MONTH**

Once a year we try to help our Angels. Not all of them will be at the meeting, but, I hope you are.

No heavy lifting. A chance to sit and stuff and sew a small seam while chatting and having a snack. Bring some small scissors, needles and thread (color not important), your favorite thimble and Please, don't forget your glasses.

How can you help the Angels among us? See below.

**ANGELS AMONG US**

**This one is from Lynda Harrington**

I started by requesting quilt kits at quiltsforkids.org. I would do a couple of kits and some tops of my own, send them back and then I found out about the South Shore chapter donating quilts to the Boston hospitals. I reached out to the South Shore chapter and the first year I donated over 100 quilts to the South

Shore Chapter for kids, and that's when I decided to start the chapter here. Our local hospitals were not receiving any donations of this kind, and I started the chapter in 2015.

I was able to work with Sew Together to have workshops every month and there many hands helped. In 2015 I was able to provide 207 quilts to our area hospitals and in 2016 the group was able to donate 294 quilts for the year. As of March 2017, we have donated 94 quilts surpassing what we donated to this date previously. Many helping hands make this possible from our hand sewing group on Thursdays, to

individuals taking their time to help out. So, to date we have delivered over 595 quilts – not bad for a small group. We have had many many donations of quilt/novelty fabrics that has helped us get the quilt tops made.

With my retirement and purchase of a long arm – I am confident to double the numbers. Lowell gets about 80 patients a month, and New England Pediatrics has 80 beds. So there is a lot of work to do and when you love to sew, this just makes sense to do. I so enjoy working with all the colorful fabrics that I really don't know how to buy "grownup" fabric anymore! Just knowing we are bringing 'smiles' to children is all we need, many of our thank you notes express the gratitude the parents feel for us to think of them while their child is hospitalized.

If anyone would like to help or pick up a kit to sew, please contact me at [merrimackvalleyqfk@gmail.com](mailto:merrimackvalleyqfk@gmail.com) or call Lynda Harrington at 978-905-0899.

### **ANOTHER ANGEL AMONG US**

#### **Jonathan Wolf Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Was established by our family in 2008 as a legacy and tribute to Jon's life and his strength of personal character.

The fund recognizes the positive spirit that enabled Jon to overcome challenges and serve as a role model for his peers and family members. Each year we grant several scholarships to local students furthering their education.

Money raised for this fund is through an Annual Fundraiser with multiple donated raffles, a quilt, and sewn items sold throughout the year. I am proud to announce that we have allocated over \$16,000 to date. All this is possible through the generosity of many people.

Every year the Tewksbury Piecemakers do a charity night, where we stuff and sew together comfort Heart pillows to donate to MGH ICU (critical cardiac care unit). These pillows are used for post-surgical patients and are well received.

I feel that it is a way of giving back to the community and supportive team at MGH.

Jonathan is gone from our vision, but his spirit remains positive on this earth helping students who are following in his footsteps (tire tracks) ...

If you are interested in acquiring a scholarship for a high school student. Please get in touch with me.

Pat Wolf

### **RYAN'S CASE FOR SMILES**

When Cindy Kerr went to visit her son, Ryan, in a Philadelphia hospital where he was being treated for cancer, she brought a pillow case for him. Ryan was all excited and so were the other children in his room. Cindy went home and got back to sewing while she was filled with the excitement of the other children sharing the hospital room with Ryan.

So... what else could she do but go back the next day with pillow cases for the other children. This open attitude of sharing has now gone across each of the United States, Canada and some European countries as well. The project name "Ryan's Case for Smiles" can be found on the internet with many stories and background.

Here in our area, Marie Nader is the local director/supervisor arranging for the hospital visits and the distribution of pillow cases. We visit with children in the "Child Care" section of Boston Children's Hospital, Mass General Hospital for Children, Floating Hospital for Children, Ronald McDonald House, Yawkey Way Family Inn, Shriner's Hospital for Children, Spaulding Rehabilitation for Children and the Franciscan Children's Hospital. Marie brings the sewing machines, fabric and completed pillow cases.

The donated completed pillow cases are washed and put in quart plastic bags. These are distributed by the nurses to children who cannot leave their hospital rooms. Then...the children who can leave their hospital room come to the "Child Care" room where we sit with them and either help them make their own pillow case as they sit beside us or they will help us make a pillow case for them. They pick out their fabric from the "kits" we bring. Just to mention two incidents: a six-year old girl did such a wonderful job making her own pillow case that her mother said she was going to get her a sewing machine for the six-year old's birthday. Then there was the teen aged boy scout who went home and used this for his Eagle Scout Project, getting his troop mates to make pillow cases as well.

It is very heartbreaking to sit with these children who are being treated for cancer or other serious illnesses, but it is rewarding to share in their excitement of having made their own pillow cases. And I do mean excitement!!!

The Boston Chapter has contributed more than 50,000 pillow cases over the past ten years. From my exposure, either pillow cases or fabric have been donated by quilt guilds in our area. You may also see notices from Fabric Shops announcing a pillow case workshop to be held in their shop. This has also been very helpful.

Contact Joyce Lloyd for more information.

#### **PIECEMAKERS TUESDAY CHARITY GROUP**

We meet on Tuesday mornings, 11:00 AM until 2 or 3 PM, at the Tewksbury Senior Center (except for meeting night).

We have worked on many projects over the years, including prayer shawls, hats and scarfs for the homeless, shrugs for wheelchair patients, lap quilts, dam\* it dolls, emergency kits for Police and Social Workers to have on hand for the children they deal with, stuffed animals for the same reason, pillow cases for cancer patients.

One ongoing charity is near and dear to Ann Newton's heart. Making doll clothes. We have worked with her cutting out the clothes which, after sewing and embellishing, she sells and donates all proceeds to Lahey Hospital Cancer Center.

There are just too many projects that we have undertaken for me to list.

If you have a project that you would like us to consider, please contact me, Louise Kelley @ 978-658-5369.

Please join us. Many hands make light work. Louise Kelley / Beverly Collins

#### **BIRTHDAYS FOR JANUARY**

3<sup>rd</sup>, CeeCee Paquin; 5<sup>th</sup>, Mary Grenda; 5<sup>th</sup>, Pauline Surette; 9<sup>th</sup>, Mickie Bertrand; 14<sup>th</sup>, Linda Naugler; 19<sup>th</sup>, Helen Gloor; 20<sup>th</sup>, MaryRose Borelli; 20<sup>th</sup>, Gail Zechner; 21<sup>st</sup>, Roberta See; 25<sup>th</sup>, Rosemary Dickinson; 27<sup>th</sup>, Ida Morrison; 30<sup>th</sup>, Dianne Crowell. A very Happy Birthday to all!

**RAFFLE BASKETS FOR CRAFT SALE.** We have a theme. "ENJOYING LIFE". That's going to open a lot of opportunities for our baskets. They are always an awesome part of our shows/sales. Sign up sheets at meeting!! Thanks for your participation last year!! Looking forward to doing it all again, Roberta See. 978-319-5772

**SIGN UP SHEETS!!** sign up at January meeting for CRAFT YARD SALE IN APRIL. We will need your help manning the fabric tables as well as raffle baskets. Thanks for your early participation. We will remind you but please add to your April calendar!

**MINUTES FROM BOARD MEETING, 12/12/15**

Cheryle Laffey, Gina Maniscalco, Ida Morrison, Dianne Judd, Cam Michallyszyn, Marlene Levesque and Pat Wolfe.

Everyone seemed to have fun making the ornaments.

Next meeting for January will be a charity meeting. We will be making heart pillows. Everyone will need to bring needles, thread and scissors. If anyone has Polyfill stuffing they can bring that.

What is the Tuesday Charity Group working on? Ida will call Bev Collins and ask.

Suggested that the charity group do a show and tell before the regular show and tell. It would be nice to see what they are making.

Looking for suggestions for charity projects. Possibilities pillowcases for nursing homes.

The scissor man will be coming in February.

February meeting will be game night. Everyone bring 25 buttons.

March – Speaker is Dave?

Remind everyone yard sale tables are \$25.00

Look for a committee to do a raffle quilt.

March 14<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday) will be a workshop with Michelle Banton. It will be 1<sup>st</sup> come 1<sup>st</sup> serve. Cost to be determined.

Raffle baskets - need to think of ideas of themes?

Raffle winners:

Valentine fabric – Sandy Matthews

Iron – Ida Morrison

Purple fabric – Carol Saber

Ruler – Sue Doherty

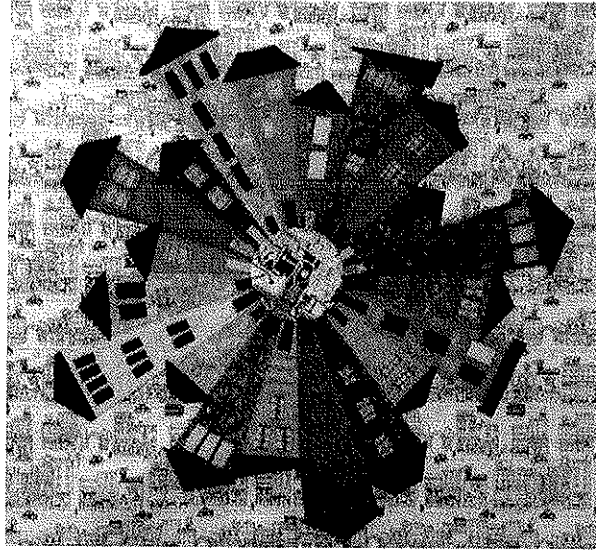
Fabric panel – Maryann Rossetti

Door Prize – Deb Rauseo

Gina Maniscalco, Secretary

## WORKSHOP

I am excited to announce that we have a workshop scheduled! The project we will be making is the "Dresden Neighborhood" quilt, and it will be taught by Michelle Banton of Little Pup Designs. The finished quilt measures 24 X 24".



The date for the workshop is Wednesday, March 14, 2018, and the cost is \$40, which includes a copy of the pattern. The workshop will be held at the Senior Center, beginning at 9:30 a.m., and run approximately 6 hours. Here is a preliminary list of supplies needed for the class. A more detailed list will be given when you sign up for the workshop.

- Dresden Plate acrylic ruler/template – bring one of your own, or you can purchase one from Michelle.
- Background – 2/3 yard of background fabric
- Houses – 20 scraps, approximately 4" x 10" for houses
- Doors & Windows – small amounts of scraps for these
- Roofs – 20 scraps, approximately 4" x 2" for roofs – can all be one color, or scrappy.
- One scrap approximately 4-5" square for the center.

The class size is limited to 20 people, and I will be taking signups at the next meeting on a "first come first served" basis. The class fee must be paid at the time you sign up.

-Marlene

**Spring Quilt Weekend 2018**

**Franciscan Guest House**

**Kennybunkport Maine**

**March 22,23,24,25**

Hi everyone, The spring 2018 quilt weekend will again be at the Franciscan Guest House in Kennybunkport, Maine. I have not yet received the pricing at this time. I will let everyone know as soon as I find out. The price will include lodging and 3 breakfasts but no lunch or dinner. I will need final payment by February 13, 2018 at our monthly meeting. I will not be at the January as I will be recovering from hip surgery but I am planning on being there in February. You may put your name on a list that I will give to Ann LeBourdais to reserve your space.

If you have any questions I can be reached at home (603)260-6590 leave a message and I'll get back to you. I have moved my new address is 11 Apple Blossom Dr. Londonderry NH 03053 Mary Renn