

President's Letter - Art Experimentation for Everyone

Although I'm a novice quilter, I have quite a few books on the subject and love to flip through them. Colors jump off the pages, designs draw me in, and before I know it, I'm adding to my list of quilts to make "some day."

"Some day" doesn't get it done. In my professional life, I always face deadlines. Seems like I need them for my hobby, too. Only when Ellen Beeber proposed and conducted a batik swap and Guild challenge last year, did I finally get around to trying an Amish-style quilt. I got started late, but I chose a quick cutting and piecing technique I'd seen in one of my books and hoped that it would allow me to finish on time.

Well, I almost did. Along with other challenge participants, I presented my quilt top in January. But I'd been pushed along—happily—to try something new, and though it's still not quite finished, my Amish-style quilt pleases me very much,

For those of us who want to explore or expand our talents as quilt artists, Nutmeg Quilters Guild is providing us an opportunity to experiment, to get out of our comfort zone, to try a new technique or approach to design. Best of all—for people like me, anyway—there's a deadline. Through a special arrangement with White Silo Farm in Sherman, CT, and the generosity of JT Trading, owned by Guild member Jennifer O'Brien and her husband, Nutmeg Quilters Guild will be offering an exhibit and sale of art quilts during this year's holiday season. You'll find all the details inside.

This is an extraordinary opportunity for Guild members to show the amazing diversity of their talents; for the entry requirements allow a wide range of interpretations of quilt art. For inspiration, our Programs Committee has arranged for quilt artist Tina Marie Rey to speak at our May meeting.

Spring is a great time for experimentation. Everything is blooming. With the White Silo Farm exhibit "deadline" as incentive, I'm hoping my inner artist will do the same!

Angela

Meeting Information

All meetings — Ridgefield
Parks and Recreation
Route 35, Ridgefield, CT
(see page 3 for directions)



General Meeting Wednesday, May 9

Art Quilter—Tina Marie Rey
See pg 3 for artist profile

Doors Open: 6:30 pm
Meeting Begins: 7:00 pm



Hands-On Meeting Wednesday, June 13

Quilting Fun!
See inside for details
7:00 pm



Board Meeting
Wednesday June 13
6:30 pm





Treasurer's Report

2/1/07—3/31/07

Beginning Balance	\$8,507.46
Income	\$438.00
(Membership, meeting guests, meeting raffle, library book sales)	
Expenses	\$756.22
(Newsletters (2), postal box, valentine day event, program, meeting raffle, raffle quilt)	
Ending Balance	\$8,189.25



Library News

We had a wonderful book sale with the books that we culled from our library.

Many thanks to Cheryn Kwasnik, Marian Quinn, and Peggy Giumarra for helping with this big project. We made \$101 on this sale and everyone seemed to enjoy it. Since it was such a fun thing to do, I thought maybe you all might be interested in having another sale in the future. We all have books, magazines and patterns, maybe even quilting tools, etc. that we are finished with and no longer use. If enough people are interested we could collect these articles and either have a sale to benefit the guild or to benefit the donor, whichever you think is best. I know that I would be willing to donate some books that I am finished with. What do you ladies think?

We believe that our list of books that have been loaned out to members is not complete. The book crates have not all been available at recent meetings and I believe that some books have been returned but not actually "checked in". Please return all library books to the May meeting and speak to me if you have any questions.
— Dorothy Lawlor

Board of Directors—2006-2007

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	Mary Larocca
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Hospitality for May 9th

A reminder from the hospitality sign-up sheet for the May meeting:

Cheese & crackers: Amy Trompetter, Barbary Jay, Peg Wildman, Sam Morrissey.

Cookies or cakes: Libby Kasimer, Peggy Giumarra, Linda Ostrander, Caroline Gardner.

Fruit or veggies: Amy Trompetter, Kay Santuro, Gail Berman, Diana Larson.

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Interim Vice President's Report

Our March meeting was a wonderful parade of quilts provided by our own member Amy Trompetter. Her very personal story of her motivation for first taking quilting lessons and the visible evidence of what an accomplished quilter she has become were extremely interesting and motivational to us all. Thank you Amy for bringing all those quilts to our meeting and sharing your stories.

There were 37 members at our March meeting. We welcomed Irma Irizarry, Carol Harding, Pam Bowles, and Marilyn Lonergran as our guests. Please come back and visit again or join us. We also welcomed new member Gail Berman from Weston, CT.



Thanks in advance for our May Pineapple Ladies Amy Trompetter and Libby Kasimer.

—Marlene Gerhard



[Planning] More Hands-On Fun

The April 11th Hands-On meeting offered a nice variety of activities for members of all experience levels and interests, with an orphan-block/strip exchange and open invitation to bring unfinished projects, work on the Guild's raffle quilt, and/or assist Millie Foster with community service quilts. Observers were welcome as the board worked in three task forces to address hot topics—one being the format for our Hands-On meetings.

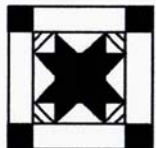
Keep checking here, in *DisPatch*, at our website (www.nutmegquilters.org) and in your e-mail for updates about activities offered at specific Hands-On meetings. Our next one is Wednesday, June 13th, and we look forward to seeing you there!

Speaker Profile: Artist Tina Marie Rey

At our May 9th general meeting, guest speaker Tina Marie Rey, of Lake Ariel, PA, will show how she combines traditional aspects of quilting in her artwork. The same way a painter uses canvas and paint, Tina uses fibers, textiles, glass beads, dyes, paints and found objects to create unique art quilts. In her artist's statement, she says, "I find the texture of fabrics and fibers add a layer of depth and beauty to my ideas as I work with them."

Tina's works have been displayed in a number of online and public venues, including the Greater Chicago Quilt Exhibition, Quilters Heritage Celebrations (2002, 2004, 2006 and 2007) and quiltart.com. She has studied with such noted fiber artists as Robbi Joy Eklow, Jo Diggs, George Siciliano, Brenda Papadakis, Jan Krentz, and Katie Pasquini-Masopust.

A self-described "SAHM [stay-at-home-mom] of four great kids" with a "super husband who loves my work", Tina is currently completing her degree in elementary education. Despite a very full schedule, she continues to create art, displaying and selling her work through her blog (www.tmrey.blogspot.com) and website (www.tmrey.com).

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Meeting Location and Directions

Location: Ridgefield Parks and Recreation, Route 35, Ridgefield, CT

Directions: Take Route 7 north or south to Route 35 in Ridgefield, CT. Take Route 35 toward Ridgefield. Look for green sign on right 193-195 Ridgefield Park and Recreation, (about 1/2 mile before Copp's Hill Plaza), Look for street Light over entrance road. Building is on the left hand side of the parking lot.



Upcoming Programs & Workshops

May 9 general meeting: Our guest lecturer will be Tina Marie Rey from Lake Ariel, PA. Her lecture titled *Your camera is an essential quilting tool* will use slides to demonstrate how she takes a photograph and transforms it into an amazing quilt.

July 11 general meeting: Summer Picnic Pot Luck Bring your favorite picnic dish and have fun in the moonlight with your favorite quilting buddies.

September 12 general meeting: Guest Lecturer Susan Reich/"Quilts with a Message and Story to Tell"

What's Happening?

A World of Quilts XXVIII - May 5-6, 2007

Northern Star Quilter's Guild, Ltd.
John F. Kennedy High School, Rt. 138, Somers, NY
www.northernstarquilters.com

Mountain Laurel Quilters 2007 Show—June 9-10

New Milford, CT
msbugatti@earthlink.net

Vermont Quilt Festival, June 29-July 1, 2007

Champlain Valley Expo, Rt. 15, Essex Junction, VT
www.vqf.org

Lowell Quilt Festival -Images 2007

August 2-5, 2007
www.lowellquiltfestival.org. Presented by the New England Quilt Museum Auxiliary and NEQM Board of Directors to benefit the New England Quilt Museum.



Notes & Such

Guild Prepares for Elections — As in the past, Nutmeg Quilters Guild will hold its elections at the July meeting. Preparations are already underway. Current board members have updated the descriptions of their roles. These descriptions will be available at all our meetings, so that members can easily see what's needed for each role.

None of the positions is particularly demanding. Past board members always help new ones to learn the ropes and find helpers to form a committee if needed. Nominations are being accepted now for people who would be interested in taking on a board position. If you are open to giving back to the Guild in this way or know someone whose skills and interests seem a great fit for a position, please speak to a current board member.

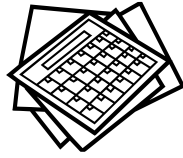
June 11 — Deadline for submission of articles for the July/August *DisPatch*

ANITA AYOOB Owner	19 Sugar Hollow Rd. Danbury, CT 06810 (203) 792-5252 Fax (203) 748-1695
FabricTree <i>The Fashion and Decorating Center</i>	
Fashion, Quilting & Decorator Fabrics Custom Work & Shop at Home Service www.fabrictree.com	

News from the Fabric Tree: The Fabric Tree will host its annual quilting weekend May 4th & 5th. This year's workshop will teach you how to make a quilt with a complex pieced border. We will be making the *Twisted Ribbon Table Runner* in your choice of three sizes. Rotary cutting makes it simple and easy. A pattern is required. Friday May 4th from 10 to 5 at the Fabric Tree — Cost is \$35 with snacks provided. Saturday May 5th from 9 to 5 at the Newbury Congregational Church — Cost is \$45 with snacks and lunch included. Sign up for both days and save \$10.00. Contact the Fabric Tree for further details and directions.

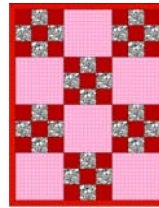


Mark Your Calendars— Upcoming Events



May 9	General meeting
May 12	Art Quilt Workshop— CANCELLED,
June 11	July/August <i>DisPatch</i> article submission deadline
June 13	Hands-on meeting
July 11	General meeting— Summer Picnic Pot Luck
August	no hands on meeting
Sept 12	General meeting

Community Service



I want to thank all who brought in quilts. The response of the Guild to my plea for more quilts was huge, and we had many quilts to give away.

Eight of these quilts were given to Family and Children's Aid, and two to

Stamford Hospital Neonatal Unit. Two other quilts will be held in reserve for a while. We have several places that have indicated a need, so please keep up the good work.

We have found that extra fabric cannot be kept at our meeting place, so I am again asking for you to take home fabrics to use either in a quilt for yourself or for Community Service. Barbara Bucciarelli kindly donated fabric at the last meeting and we need homes for it.

—*Millie Foster*



Twist & Shout!

Block of the Month for the July 2007 meeting is *Twist & Shout*

SEE SEPARATE FILE on the website under Block of the Month Link



Art Quilt Exhibit and Sale

Nov 30, Dec 1, & 2

Dec 7, 8, & 9

Dec 14, 15, & 16

This quilt exhibit will be held at the White Silo Farm, Sherman CT. We hope this opportunity to exhibit your art quilts will get you interested in doing more or trying this type of quilt for the first time. Work will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis. The coordinators have the option to exempt a piece from this show if it does not meet the art quilt tradition, or if it is damaged or dirty. The entry cost for members is first piece free, \$5.00 for each additional piece, and \$15.00 per piece for non members. All work must be for sale and a sales commission of 15% is paid to White Silo Farm. All work must be made for displaying on the wall and must be ready to hang or be wearable fiber arts (ex: jewelry and garments). Work can be framed, on stretcher bars, or hung from a rod. If your work is not ready to hang it will not be displayed. Maximum size of work for this show is 100" around the perimeter of the piece. This is so there will be space for everyone.

This show will run for 3 weekends and each weekend is 3 days (Fri, Sat, Sun). We will need: 1) Quilt entries, 2) Members to help bake and organize an opening reception, and 3) Members to sit the show and maybe work on a project during that time.

Please contact Jennifer O'Brien with any questions and all offers to help.

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Raffle Quilt

The wonderful news this year is that Amy Trompetter donated a beautiful appliquéd quilt to be used as our raffle quilt. Thank you, Amy! Now what we need is for you all to sign up to hand quilt it. A sign-up sheet will be available at the May meeting. If you are interested in signing up for helping to finish this beautiful quilt, please either sign up at the May meeting; or call Terry Jannelli at 203-744-5968. Terri would like to know where the quilt is at all times, therefore please sign both sheets so that she'll always have one copy of the sign up sheet and one copy can always remain with the quilt. Thanks.

—Sam Morrissey



Block of the Month for May Flag Block

A paper piecing pattern for the flag block was in the March/April 2007 newsletter. If you don't have your copy of the newsletter, the pattern can be found on the website (nutmegquilters.org). Click on the block of the month link. (Remember to print at full size: use the File Menu—Print Setup to keep the printer from "scaling" or "shrinking to fit" the image to a size it likes rather than 6 1/2 inch unfinished size that you will need for an accurate block. Change scaling to 100% and/or uncheck the box labeled "Shrink to Fit".)

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News from The Quilter's Alley: The Quilter's Alley has just celebrated its one year anniversary. To mark this occasion, we are moving directly across the courtyard to 422 Main Street Lower Level. This move will triple the size of The Quilter's Alley, increasing our collection of fabric proportionately. The Quilter's Alley will become a Premier dealer of Husqvarna Viking sewing machines. We wish to thank our loyal customers for their continued support.

For more information or directions call 203-431-0023 or visit www.TheQuiltersAlley.Com. The Quilter's Alley is owned by local Ridgefield residents Roxanne & Stuart Lasky.