
DISPATCH

A Publication of the Nutmeg Quilter's Guild of Ridgefield, CT No. 159

JULY/AUGUST 2009 www.nutmegquilters.org

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, July 8th, 2009

Ridgefield Parks and Rec

Rt 35, Ridgefield, CT

Doors open at 6:00 pm

Meeting begins 7 pm

President	NQGPresident@gmail.com	Gail Berman
Vice President	NQGVPresident@gmail.com	Margo Bacon
Secretary	NQGSecretary@gmail.com	Janice Kelly
Treasurer	NQGTreasurer@gmail.com	Betty Licarie
Programming	NQGPrograms@gmail.com	Debbie Buescher
Newsletter	NQGNewsletter@gmail.com	Gina Spiaggia
Librarian	NQGLibrarian@gmail.com	Cheryn Kwasnik
Raffle	NQGRaffle@gmail.com	Peggy Wildman
Shop-On-Site	NQGShop@gmail.com	Peggy Giumarra
Website	NQGWebmaster@gmail.com	Sharon Morrissey
Community Service	NQGCommunity@gmail.com	Carolanne Keely

PRESIDENT'S Letter

So Much Rain... Sew some sunshine!

Dear Guild Members,

It's that time of year when we look forward to the summer sunshine and our scrumptious July potluck. In addition, it brings to mind the end of our busy guild

year, the coming elections and exciting opportunities for the approaching new season. Let's first review the year.

This past year, we have had consistently good response and attendance at our hands-on meetings. Each meeting featured an interesting workshop where members huddled closely to catch every instruction of our gracious and knowledgeable member demonstrators. We made origami boxes, bed warmers, the 'X' block, and discovered all sorts of applications for printing images on fabric. We also introduced the concept of Mini-groups. The Round Robin group took off with the idea, and I look forward to seeing the fruits of their labor when they complete their final round. And if that's not enough activity for each meeting, let me add that some members used this time to work on their own projects, and / or simply to enjoy the camaraderie of the informal atmosphere. Hands-on meetings were a joy to attend.

Our guild meetings were filled with speakers from near and far. We began the year learning about miniature quilts. We learned about color and values, enjoyed a winter potluck, learned different sewing and embellishing techniques from our fellow members, and viewed some antique quilts.

We also discussed our guilds' fiscal situation and I hope members continue to look for ways to make the guild stronger. Let's look at what we've done so far and peek into new efforts underway.

- We have reduced our room expenses by trimming down and utilizing only one room at the Ridgefield Rec center.
- We have created a new special theme raffle basket which should be lots of fun, and our first basket raised \$62! Of course, to continue this effort requires some gracious donations from guild members. All members will be asked to participate at some point during the year. Read more about it in this newsletter.
- Finally, we have made some changes to our expectations. That is, we now have a few more requirements and expectations for our membership. For instance, the board has increased the membership fee, but more importantly, the board is requiring volunteer efforts by the membership. The guild simply cannot continue much longer without each member donating their fair share of volunteer efforts. Throughout this and subsequent newsletters, you will find when and where each member is requested to help the guild, such as for committee service, donations to the special theme raffle basket, donations of fat quarters for the regular meeting raffle, and snack.
- On the membership registration form you will also find a survey asking your opinion about which programming topics you find interesting AND which topics you would be willing to lead or teach.

On another note, elections are quickly approaching. Please consider volunteering to serve in one of the critical roles of the organization. Positions are listed in the newsletter.

We are going to try something new in October. This is an experiment. It is only an experiment. We will add to our regular line up of guild and hands-on meetings. In addition to our regular night time meetings, we are introducing a day time meeting in October. IF...IF...IF... the response is favorable, we will consider nurturing and "growing" a monthly meeting for those who would like to meet during the day. This is only a test. If this were an actual ongoing occurrence, we would be listing a schedule. Since this is only an experiment, we will be setting up a sign-up sheet and requesting some input. (See the membership registration form for more information and come to the July meeting to sign up and to hear this message again.)

I recently had the pleasure of viewing two very interesting exhibits. The American Folk Art Museum in New York City is hosting an exhibit of Paula Nadelstern's kaleidoscope quilts, and the museums' branch location is hosting "Textural Rhythms, Constructing the Jazz Tradition", Contemporary African American Quilts exhibit. Both exhibits were fascinating and well worth a trip into the city. I hope you will consider visiting these exhibits, too.

Finally, at the last meeting when we concluded the Health Quilt Challenge, I spoke briefly about the theme of my quilt, 'Brain Fitness'. As my term as president is nearing an end, I would like to offer my own little public health service announcement, hopefully, to help our guild members' maintain healthy, sharp, and focused brains. Also, in response to interest by some members, I would like to repeat some of the information I previously mentioned. There are some exercises you can do for your brain that have been clinically shown to improve audio and visual processing, memory, focus, and concentration. There are two computer programs, which are very easy to use, that are made by a company called Posit Science. The two programs are: *The Brain Fitness Program* (which exercises the audio cortex), and *Insight* (which exercises the visual cortex). If you visit the website, you will find demonstrations of the two programs, a list of the clinical research trials and their results, and more information, including how to purchase the programs. If this interests you, you may want to visit: www.positscience.com. I do not work for this company and do not benefit in any way from sharing this information with you.

Enjoy some quilt shows and exhibits this summer. I'll see you at the potluck.

Cordially,

Gail Berman
President, Nutmeg Quilter's Guild

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

Thanks are due to the following board members and committee chairpersons who so graciously contributed to our first ever Special Theme Raffle Basket:

Margo Bacon, Janice Kelly, Betty Licarie, Debbie Buescher, Gina Spiaggia, Carol Anne Keely, Cheryn Kwasnik, Joy Lavon, and Gail Berman. We are very pleased that our first theme basket raised \$62 for the guild!

Thanks are due to the following members who provided snacks at our May guild meeting : **Eleanor Prokupek, Rita Phillips, Kay Santuro, Janice Kelly, Diana Larson.**

Thank you **Sam Morrissey**, for giving your time and so graciously sharing your knowledge at our June Hands-On meeting, by demonstrating how to print images on fabric using a computer and printer. Members also learned various applications for printed imagery, providing interesting time saving methods for some quilting techniques.

Programming

GENERAL MEETING: July 8th, 2009

POT LUCK SUPPER: All members are reminded to please bring a dish or beverage to share.

We will have our annual summer potluck "picnic" at the Ridgefield Parks and Rec. Just bring your favorite picnic dish and also bring either the first quilt or an early quilt you've made to share at Show and Tell. When you present your quilt, explain your quilt and how you first became interested in quilting. Should be fun and interesting to see how everyone started!

NO MEETING IN AUGUST.

General Meeting--Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Tentatively scheduled, but not finalized is a program by Jane Davila, co-author of Art Quilt Workbook (Country Quilter, Somers, NY co-owner) who will do a lecture entitled Elements of Design. She will also be vending this meeting with art quilt supplies, books, and patterns.

Special Theme Raffle Basket

The following people are requested to bring "Summer Fun" items to contribute to the July Special Theme Basket:

Carol Ancona
Winifred Balboni
Linda Bates
Sandra Dadik
Pia DeLuca,
Hilda Downing
Mary Eddy
M J Fitzgibbon
Maureen Flanders
Mildred Foster

A special theme raffle basket is a basket filled with items by our members, and raffled to raise money to support guild activities which are beyond the reach of our annual membership dues. Our goal is to have an overflowing basket at each guild meeting, and so approximately 10 members will be asked each meeting to support the effort by contributing an item to the basket. The annual schedule of member contributors for future special theme baskets and their assigned themes follows. **All items contributed must be new, unused, and contemporary (please do not clean out your closets for this). The value of the item must fall within \$5 - \$10 in value and meet the criteria of the theme assigned during your month.**

Example 1: If your last name begins with 'A', please bring *summer fun* related items to the *July* guild meeting to contribute to the July special theme basket.

Example 2: If your last name begins with 'M', please bring a *spa* item to the *November* guild meeting to contribute to the November theme basket.

Example 3: If you are a member of the board or you are a committee chairperson, please contribute a *gardening* item to the *May* theme basket. If you missed the May 2009 basket, please follow the alphabet schedule below.

Please contribute an item if :

MONTH	THEME	LAST NAME BEGINS WITH
July 2009	Summer Fun	A, B, D, E, F
Sept 2009	Fall Frolic	G, H, I, J
Nov 2009	Spa Items	K, L, M
Jan 2010	Chocolate	O, P, Q, R
March 2010	High Tea	C, S, T, W, Z
May 2010	Gardening	Board / Committee Chairpersons
July 2010	Patriotic	To Be Announced

Please note, at the time this schedule was determined there were no members whose last names began with N, U, V, X, or Y. Adjustments may be needed for the new membership year. An effort was made to balance the year so that 10-11 members are contributing items for each month. If a board member or committee chairperson contributed toward the first theme basket in May 2009, they are exempt from contributing again until the next 2010 Board basket. This was taken into consideration when balancing the rest of the year.

Block of the Month

Nutmeg Quilter’s Guild Health Quilt Challenge

The Health Quilt Challenge was due at our May guild meeting but if you are still working on it, consider sharing it with us at our July guild meeting during Show & Tell. This challenge quilt should represent a health issue that is important to you. Try a new skill or style that you have not tried before. The quilt can be as small as 12” x 12” or as big as 36” x 36”.

Nutmeg Quilter’s Guild Mystery Quilt

At the May guild meeting, the second and final set of instructions for a **Mystery Quilt For the Adventurous** was distributed. This is a small quilt that offers you the opportunity to tip toe down the artistic quilting path while you learn or practice sewing gentle curves. It should only take a couple of hours to complete the top. Complete and share this simple project in time for Show & Tell at our July guild meeting.

Mini-Groups

Mini-groups consist of members who share an interest in a particular quilt style or technique. Members in the group determine whether to share a challenge or simply work on their own individual projects of this style or technique.

Mini-groups meet at our regular meeting location at the Ridgefield Rec Center.

The **meeting times for mini-groups** are:

Guild Meetings (odd months)	6:00 to 7:00 pm
Hands-On Meetings (even months)	6:00 to 9:00 pm

As the interests of our members change, so too, do the mini-groups. The following are the Nutmeg Guild’s three official mini-groups:

Paper Piecing, Round Robin, and Appliqué.

If you don’t see a mini-group that interests you, you can create your own mini-group. There are “Create-Your-Own Mini-Group” sheets for you to fill out to define your group. If you can get three members to sign-up, you can qualify as a mini-group.

Community Service

Carolanne Keely

www.NOGCommunity@Gmail.com

There is a need for lap quilts, Baby quilts, and twin bed quilts. The social service agency would like placemats for shut-ins to be given out when they deliver meals on holidays. There is also a group called hug for homeless animals that collect small quilt for animals in the shelters. Also, the Family and Children's agency would like quilting supplies. They have a hand-quilting group for the women coming in for help. They find that quilting helps to get the women talking. So any donations you would like to make will help someone! If you are interested in more information let me know.

Lots of fabric has been given out and we cannot wait to see what has been created! We need donations. Please consider donating anything from quilts to place mats. If you have extra blocks from other projects, we can use them. If you are cleaning out your fabric stash, we can use that too. We will take donations of other crafts, such as knitted items, as well. Please help with our community service. If you are interested in helping to make kits from our supplies please contact me. If you would like to get together and work on projects for donating let me know! If you want to be involved there is something you can do.

Library News:

Cheryn Kwasnik
www.NOGLibrarian@Gmail.com

The library is coming out of the closet .

There is a white 3 ring loose leaf binder that has complete lists of our books by author, title, subject, and numerical order. The binder also has complete instructions on how to take out and return books.

Please keep books out for a *reasonable amount of time* – meeting to meeting would be two months – very reasonable indeed.

Nutmeg Quilter's Guild 2009 / 2010 Elections

There are openings on the board of directors for 2009 - 2010, as well as, opportunities to coordinate specific activities for the guild. Please consider stepping forward to fill one of these vital roles in support of your guild.

The following members are running for election for the board positions of:

President **Open**
Vice President Margo Bacon

Newsletter Gina Spiaggia
Secretary Janice Kelly
Treasurer Betty Licarie
Programs **Open**

The following members are running for election for the Committee Chairmanships in the following roles. The positions in bold type are official chairmanships, the others are functions or activities that require coordinators if the guild desires these activities :

Fundraising Joy LaVon
 Special Theme Basket Raffle Coordinator Open
 Meeting Raffle Coordinator Open
 Raffle Quilt Coordinator Open
 Quilt Show Coordinator Open
 Show Booth Coordinator Open
 Craft Boutique Coordinator Open

Public Relations Joy LaVon
Community Service Carol Anne Keely
Librarian Open
Webmistress Open
Snack Coordinator / Hospitality Open
 Trip Coordinator Open
 Block-of-the-Month Coordinator Rita Phillips
 Challenge Quilt Coordinator Open
 Mystery Quilt Coordinator Open
 Mail Pick-Up Rotating Team Open

QUILTING EVENTS OF INTEREST

Greenwich Historical Society

The Greenwich Historical Society is having a Quilt Exhibit in the fall. They are looking for volunteers from our guild to help with the attaching of sleeves onto old quilts. This would probably take place in the summer. Please contact Susan Reich for further details at 1-860-868-0028.

“Kaleidoscope Quilts: The Art of Paula Nadelstern”

Now thru Sept 13, 2009
 American Folk Art Museum, 45 West 53rd St, NYC
 212-265-1040 www.folkartmuseum.org

“Textural Rhythms - Constructing the Jazz Tradition”

Now thru Oct 11, 2009
 American Folk Art Museum, Branch Location at 2 Lincoln Square
 (Columbus Ave between 65th & 66th Sts., NYC)

212-595-9533 www.folkartmuseum.org

Opulent Ornaments Workshop with Paula Nadelstern & Katherine Knauer

Thursday, July 30, 2009, 10:30 am - 2:30 pm , cost: \$75
The American Folk Art Museum, 45 West 53rd St, NYC
212-265-1040 or publicprograms@folkartmuseum.org

Radka Donnell Gallery Talk

July 11, 2009 at 1 pm
New England Quilt Museum, Lowell, MA
978-452-4207 www.nequiltmuseum.org

Pine Tree Quilters Guild's 32nd Annual Show

July 24 - 25, 2009
Augusta Civic Center, Augusta, Maine
www.mainequilts.org info@mainequilts.org 207-415-4417

Quilt Odyssey 2009

July 30 - Aug 2, 2009
Hershey Lodge & Convention Center
Hershey, PA
717-423-5148 www.quiltodyssey.com

Lowell Quilt Festival

Aug 6-9, 2009
The Tsongas Arena
www.lowellquiltfestival.org

**Sisters In Stitches By The Cloth presents 2009 Bi-annual Quilt Show,
"Telling Our Story In Quilts and Tapestry"**

Aug 28 - 29, 2009
Boys and Girls Club of Roxbury
115 Warren St, Roxbury, MA
617-320-8132 www.SISTERSINSTITCHES.org

Quilt Odyssey Retreat 2009

Sept 24-27, 2009
Checkout : www.quiltodyssey.com/QORetreats.htm
For application / registration forms, contact:
Quilt Odyssey, 15004 Burnt Mill Road, Shippensburg, PA 17257
OR email quiltodyssey@embarqmail.com

25th Anniversary Quilt Show, Proper Bostonian Quilters Guild

Oct 2 - 4, 2009
Monsignor Donahue Hall, Saint Theresa School
40 Saint Theresa Ave, West Roxbury, MA
www.rc.net/boston/st_theresa/ (directions)
pbquilters@yahoo.com

Cocheco Quilters Guild 28th Annual Show

Oct 17 - 18, 2009

Rochester Community Center

150 Wakefield St, Rochester, NH

www.CochecoQuilters.org

Hospitality

The Guild is in need of someone to step forward and be our hospitality chairperson. If you would like to 'apply' for the job, please talk to one of the board members at the meeting. If you want to share the position of being the chairperson, this would work, as well.

Snack Volunteers

No volunteers are needed this month due to the POT LUCK SUPPER.

Publicity

We need to publicize our guild and so we are in need of someone to step forward and be our Publicity person. If you would like to 'apply' for the job, please talk to one of the board members at the meeting. All this requires is the writing of a few articles about our Guild and the submitting them to the local newspapers.

Directions to Ridgefield Parks & Recreation

Coming from the north on Rte. 7 south, turn right onto Rte. 35. Go about 2 miles. The entrance to Ridgefield Parks & Recreation is on the right-hand side, opposite the Fox Hill Pond and condominiums.

Coming from the south, take Rte. 7 north to Rte. 102 in Branchville. Turn left onto 102 and proceed about 4 miles to Route 35. Turn right onto Rte. 35 and proceed about 3 miles through Ridgefield town center. Ridgefield Parks & Recreation is on the left-hand side after you pass the Copps Hill Shopping Center. The entrance is opposite the Fox Hill Pond and condominiums.