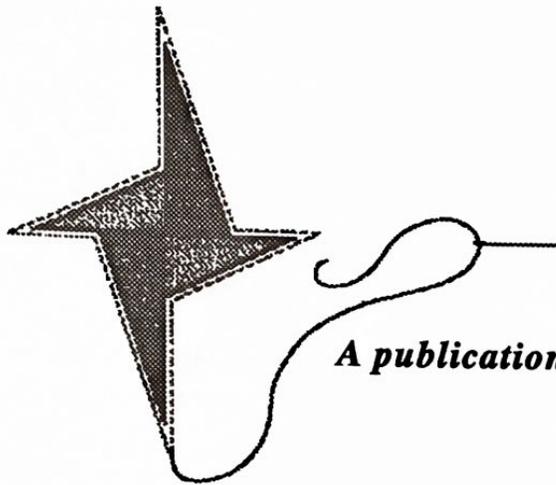


Millie Clinton, President
Alice F. Garrard, Editor
Somers, New York
April 1996



On Point!

A publication of the Northern Star Quilters' Guild

President's Message

Hurray! Spring seems to have finally arrived. Not an instant too soon for most of us. The March meeting consisted of an inspirational slide show by Joen Wolfrom, a fantastic "Show and Tell" and a return of refreshments thanks to our new hospitality co-chairwomen.

Super Saturday and the trip to Lancaster will be over by the time you read this but we will be nearing the completion of planning for the quilt show. If you have not signed up to work at the quilt show, call Ann Fitzell at (914) 962-3132 to volunteer.

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered their time and skills towards making this guild function. The April meetings (both business and programs) will be held in the Auditorium.

Emiko Toda Loeb will present a program on "Culture and Quilting." I've always been awed by her (and her students work) so come and be challenged on April 16th.

Enjoy quilting...even with those impending deadlines.

Millie Clinton

**Welcome, Emily Milkman
of Heritage Hills.**

NSQG Calendar

4/12 & 4/13	Lancaster Trip
4/16	NSQG General Meeting
4/17	Newsletter articles due
4/17	Comfort Quilts
4/19	Quilts to arrive at B. Power's home
4/20	Drop off at Sue's Fabric World
4/23	NSQG Bd. of Directors' meeting
4/24 - 28	Trip to Paducah
4/24	Drop off at Pinwheels
4/27	Drop off at Country Quilter
5/3	Heirloom Machine Quilting
5/3	Boutique Drop off
5/3	Set-up for "The Show"
5/4 & 5/5	WORLD OF QUILTS XVII
5/6	Heirloom Machine Quilting
5/7	Precision Paper Piecing
5/9	Comfort Quilts

Hospitality

Teri and I would like to thank everyone who brought food and good wishes to the hospitality table at the March meeting. Also, we would like to thank all who helped to clean up after the break.

Four people have signed up to bring snacks to the April meeting, but all treats will be appreciated. Don't forget to bring your own mugs. See you all in April!

*Sari Langlois &
Teri Anzalone*

'95 -'96 Board of Directors

President - Millie Clinton	(914) 279-5613
VP Programs - Catherine Neri	(914) 248-7309
VP Membership - Liz Doyle	(914) 232-3040
VP Quilt Show - Brenda Strauss	(914) 277-3884
Rec. Secretary - Carol Alt	(914) 245-2697
Corr. Secretary - Phyllis Solar	(914) 628-3293
Treasurer - Karen Abramson	(914) 452-2468
Education - Judith Rosenberg	(914) 232-4971
Library - Kathleen Sambora	(914) 279-8354
Newsletter - Alice Garrard	(203) 938-9661
Special Events - Linda von Ahn	(914) 628-5380
Boutique - Madeline Horr	(914) 248-7454
Hospitality - Teri Anzalone	(203) 327-4121
Sari Langlois	(914) 835-0180

On Point!, NSQG's newsletter, is published monthly, except for a combined July/August issue. Subscription and mailing are included in the annual \$25 membership fee.

Articles for the newsletter are usually due one week after the general meeting. However, the deadline for the May issue will be April 17th, the day after the general meeting. Written contributions and E-mail are welcomed. Send to:

Alice F. Garrard
11 John Applegate Road
West Redding, CT 06896
Fax: (203) 938-9823
E-mail: PWHG @ AOL.com

Contributing Editors:
Elizabeth Rosenberg, Sondra F. Shapiro and
Anonymous

Membership

It was good to see all of you again at the March meeting. I hope you liked the new sign-in sheets. We had a total attendance of 185 people including six guests and one new member. Our membership is now at **318**.

Having been a member of the Guild since 1983, I sometimes forget what membership actually means. For the price of \$25, you are entitled to attend our meetings from September through June. Meetings always include a time to socialize, to sign up for additional activities, a business meeting and a program by an outside speaker or a hands-on presentation. You can sign up for a workshop at a bargain rate of only \$25. You can attend Super Saturday for only \$10 including lunch!!! You can go on trips to quilt shows at reasonable rates.

You can borrow books from our wonderful library for a whole month. You receive 11 newsletters throughout the year. We have a boutique twice a year, where you can sell your quilt related items. (The guild receives a very small percentage of what you charge and all you have to do is volunteer a couple of hours.)

In exchange for all these wonderful benefits, here is what the guild asks of you. We ask that you volunteer two hours of your time helping a standing committee, or at a Super Saturday, or at the meetings. We ask that you volunteer to work at the quilt show for only 2 hours (and you get free admission in exchange). We ask that you buy or sell two books of raffle tickets for our annual show raffle.

Now I know that sometimes we can't always be as active in a group as we would like to be. We all have lives outside of the Guild. But I think for what you receive as a member, you should be able to give back a little time in return... Oh, I forgot to mention the most important benefit of being in the Guild, **FRIENDSHIP!!!**

New members, don't forget to pick-up your blue folders. I will have an updated correction/additions list available at the next meeting which everyone is encouraged to take.

Liz Doyle

P.S. Before moving into the Auditorium, please return the chairs to their proper place and check for any trash where you were sitting, so that board members don't have to. We would like to get home at a reasonable hour, too.

Show Committee

It's hard to believe the show is only a few weeks away. Your Show Committee has spent the time working diligently and enthusiastically on the Show. Please help us out -- if you haven't already done so, volunteer to work at the show. Contact Ann Fitzell for further information. Get out and sell those raffle tickets!

The Hospitality Committee, ably chaired by Barbara Lerch, is looking for casseroles and desserts for the Friday evening supper. Last year over 160 people were fed -- this includes our workers, speakers and vendors. Lots of food is needed. Even if you are not able to work that evening, please arrange to send a casserole or dessert with another Guild member. The pot luck supper adds to the fine reputation that surrounds our Quilt Show.

I hope you are all working to get your projects finished in time to display at the show. Don't forget your unfinished projects for the "Works in Progress" room!

Thanks to Luran Fowks for volunteering to post the quilt show signs. Thanks also to Mary Rossetti for agreeing to handle next year's beautiful raffle quilt. For those of you who missed last month's meeting, Gloria Hartley donated a wonderful quilt top she pieced. Gloria, we really appreciate your generous contribution -- it seems as though you cannot stop contributing to the Guild you were so instrumental in founding. Such an appropriate and generous parting gift -- we will miss you!!

Brenda Strauss

In Stitches with Sondra Shapiro

Hooray, it's spring and I'm looking forward to the 2-day trip to Lancaster and our own 17th annual show on May 4 and 5. Somehow I managed to finagle permission to introduce the speakers at our show again. I love having a captive

audience, and members and visitors tell me they've enjoyed my humorous touch. I feel that I owed my fans a return performance. This year, however, I will be prepared with notes in advance to tell those in the auditorium about the exits, etc.

I have a personal favor to ask. I'm returning to writing for the northern Westchester editions of *The Reporter Dispatch*, this time as a free-lance reporter. I'm searching for historic houses for short profiles, and if you have any ideas for stories about a person, a volunteer or an organization,, please call me at (914) 276-1073. I thank you in advance for your help. I figured I should earn some fabric money.

I was so pleased to see four NSQGers and their quilts represented in issue #53 of *Quilting Today*. Soft-spoken Karen Eckmeier, Fayette Wester (not Webster) and "basket lady" Julie Mazurek's **A World of Understanding** quilt was featured. This raffle quilt, which depicts the 500 year old Bedford Oak, raised \$2000 for the Bedford Village Elementary School, which the quilters' children attend. Talk about quilts with a message, Adrienne Yorinks focused her talents on the 75th anniversary of a woman's right to vote. **The Resistance to Tyranny is Obedience to God** quilt makes Adrienne's point dramatically. Congratulations, my friends.

Boutique

Time to put the finishing touches to your fabric or quilt related items to sell at the Boutique. Remember **all items must be quilt-related and must be made by you.**

Be sure to sign up with Ann Fitzell and volunteer your two hours anywhere at the show. Inventory Sheets will still be available at the April meeting.

Drop off Boutique items on Friday, May 3 from 5 PM to 7 PM at JFK. We cannot accept late arrivals.

Madeline Horr

Challenge Alert

Don't forget to bring your Challenge Quilt to the April meeting. Attach the winner ribbons if you received any. Bring the quilt to the Challenge Committee and get a "Quilt Show Receipt" in exchange. You must present this receipt at the check-out table to leave the gym with your quilt after the Show.

If you are not picking up your own quilt, please be sure to designate someone else on your registration form when you give us your quilt.

Call Joyce (914) 277-3832 if you cannot bring your quilt to the April meeting, so we can make other arrangements. Also call Joyce if you have any question or if you would like to be on next year's Challenge Committee. It is fun, not too time consuming and a good way to get involved and meet people.

Challenge Committee

*Joyce Sullivan - Chairperson,
Linda Lim, Cobb Stewart,
Mary Ellen Lanigan,
Kathy Schiano*

Comfort Quilts

Comfort Quilts will now meet twice a month -- the First Thursday and a Wednesday in between, from 9 AM to 3 PM (or as long as you can spare during that time span). Thursday meetings are definitely at the **Katonah First Presbyterian Church**, but the Wednesdays in between are still in negotiation. Wednesday, April 17th will either be at my house in Brewster or the church. I will announce where at the April meeting, or call (914) 279-8840 if you miss the meeting.

WATCH THIS SPACE for a special announcement in the May newsletter!

Pat Baker

Treasurer's Report Northern Star Quilters' Guild Treasurer's Report For the Period February 19, 1996 through March 24, 1996

Opening Balance29,403.30

General Account Opening 17,125.02

INCOME:

Membership	240.00
Challenge	16.00
Classes	950.00
Trips	13,280.00
Super Sat	70.00

TOTAL INCOME 14,556.00

EXPENSE:

Programs:

Speaker	839.63
Raffle	300.00
Workshop	1,069.67
Newsletter	217.28
Treasury	36.00
Trips	11,500.00
Super Saturday	11.35
Library	34.22
Show	79.12

TOTAL EXPENSE 15,097.27

General Fund 1/29/96 16,583.75

Quilt Show Acct. 12,278.28

Guild Balance 3/24/96 28,862.03

Karen Abramson

Library News

Along with the more traditional April showers, we have received a shower of member-donated books this month!

Thank you Alice Garrard for a bundle which included the following: Infinite Stars, by Gayle Bong, Tricks with Chintz, by Nancy S. Breland, Heirloom Machine Quilting, by Harriet Hargrave, Lessons in Machine Piecing, by Marsha McCloskey, More Template-Free Quiltmaking, by Trudy Hughes, Building Block Quilts and Stars and Flowers, both by Sara Nephew, Stitching Free by Shirley Nillson, Nifty Ninepatches, by Carolann Palmer, The New Lone Star Quilt Handbook, by Blanche Young and Helen Young Frost, Royal Stars of the States, House of White Birches, and Great American Quilts of 1994, Oxmoor House, compiled by Carol L. Newbill.

From Janet Broad comes Rodale Press' brand-new Fast, Fun & Fabulous Quilts, a collection of 30 projects from several well-known designers. Most have a traditional look, with quick and easy cutting and piecing. Several patriotic wallhangings make this a good choice for 4th of July quilting. Thank you, Janet!

Get out your iron, and prepare for perfection with Press For Success, a new release from *That Patchwork Place*, by Myrna Giesbrecht. This last of the "Joy of Quilting" series is a wealth of information on the best techniques for pressing and piecing accurate seam allowances.

Quilting Up a Storm, Linda Quigley's new and updated versions of *Storm at Sea*, is a second colorful and inspiring offering from *That Patchwork Place*. Directions for rotary cutting, as well as tips on selecting fabrics, and piecing with speed and accuracy, make these block interpretations smooth sailing.

From the same publisher is Mirror Manipulations: Hidden Images - Unique Quilts by Gail Valentine. Once a magician's assistant for her father, Mrs. Valentine has since discovered the magic of mirrors in creating exciting and border

designs, as well as new blocks and quilt patterns. This books reflects a great deal of imagination and creativity.

That Patchwork Place has been so generous about sending their new releases, that I have made very few purchases thus far. If there are titles you would like to see in our collection, please let me know, and I will certainly consider them.

At the March meeting, 79 books were checked out. Seventeen are now overdue. Please make every effort to return them at the April meeting, so that others may enjoy them.

Kathleen Sambora

Last Chance this year.....

Name badge kits will be available at the April meeting for those new members who were unable to attend the February meeting. Come to the meeting early (7 PM) and Edith Pryor will show you how to construct the badge. It will take only 5-10 minutes and you will then be able to finish the badge at home.

Wonderful Quilting Tips from Kathy Sica

1. If you are having a problem quilting in a hoop, it may be due to the quilt being pulled too tightly. Unlike embroidery or cross-stitch, which must be pulled taut in the hoop, a quilt should be placed on a hoop a bit more loosely. Then push up you fist underneath. This will give the quilt some bounce, making it easier to needle.

2. When removing thread from your sewing machine, never take the spool off by pulling the excess up out of the machine. The thread is meant to travel in one direction and it will eventually damage to the tension discs. Instead cut the thread at the top for the thread guide and pull that down through the bottom, near the needle.

**Editor's note: We look forward to reading several more next month. Thanks, Kathy!*

Ravelings

The pressure is building -- the show is only a month off and you must get that quilt quilted and bound. Too often quilters short-change a beautiful quilt by rushing through the binding process, so here are tips for newly minted quilters.

First, learn how to miter; it's not that hard, and there are references galore on how to do it, Mimi Dietrich's Happy Endings being one of the best. Second, keep your stitches small when you sew the binding. Judges down-grade even stunning quilts with long, loose stitches in the binding. Third, be sure to sew that little mitered corner shut. Judges always check to be sure it is sewn.

A Response to the March column by Jeanne Homan:

Several years ago, while piecing a quilt, I discovered that a seam was twisted, one end sewn in one direction and the other in the other direction. Thinking it wasn't important, I didn't rip it out. The finished product turned out well, so I entered it into our show. I was proud of the honorable mention awarded my quilt and of the judges' comment sheet, which noted that the quilt's design and color was excellent, the quilting stitches were especially fine, and that overall, the quilt was lovely.

Later, though, I was told that the judges asked the assisting guild members to inform the quiltmaker that a twisted seam visible through the light colored top made it impossible for them to award my quilt a first place ribbon, although they felt it was otherwise deserving of the honor.

I was amazed that the judges, without x-ray eyes, noticed the "dreaded twisted seam"!!! I would strongly suggest quilters wishing to have their quilts judged take the time to re sew twisted seams to avoid the possibility of a lost ribbon.

So please, do sew your seams in one direction! I wouldn't want to see another hapless quilter fall victim to a judge's critical eye.

In Response to Jeanne Homan:

It is true that if your fabric is very light in color and transparent enough, a twisted seam will be visible to judges. But most of our fabrics are not see-thru, so what was said before stands. And it was never meant to imply that we should not try to keep our seams flat; there is always the element of judgment in deciding whether to rip or not is worth the time and effort. Each person must answer that for him or herself. Thanks for the comment, Jeanne.

Anonymous

Education

Workshop Information

Heirloom Machine Quilting, taught by Harriet Hargrave. We've been able to extend the class size limit from 20 to 25 in each session. As of this writing, there are **five openings** on May 3 and **one opening** on May 6. (All levels).

Precision Paper Piecing with Mary Golden, May 7; spaces are available. Class gives comprehensive course for sewing patchwork to paper designs, stressing precision, strength, and speed. (All levels).

Off-Center Pleated Log Cabin with Linda Tapfar, June 8; spaces available. Learn an easy technique for making a pleated log cabin that looks curved. (All levels).

To register: date check, payable to NSQG, with workshop month; include SASE for each workshop; mark check and envelope with workshop name, mail to :

Karen Eckmeir
PO Box 139
Bedford, NY 10506

or drop in reservations box. The fee for each workshop is \$25.

Judy Rosenberg

ON POINTS OF INTEREST

THE FOLLOWING IS A PARTIAL LISTING OF CONTESTS AND SHOWS THAT MIGHT BE OF INTEREST TO OUR MEMBERSHIP. EVENTS ARE LISTED AS ACCURATELY AS POSSIBLE, BUT WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU CALL AHEAD. THESE LISTINGS DO NOT INFER ENDORSEMENT BY NSQG.

Contests to Enter

Heritage Quilters of the Hudson Palisades
Judged quilt exhibit June 6-12, 1996. *For registration form, send SASE to Lee Mouacdie, 54 Ruhe Lane, West Nyack, NY 109994.*

Nice Threads! National Juried Show for original wearable art. Entrance fee: \$15. *Deadline 5/24/96. For info send SASE to Gallery Ten, 514 E. State St., Rockford, IL 61104.*

Fantastic Fibers '97. Jury for invitational show including art quilts, fiber sculptures, etc. *Deadline 6/30/96. For info send SASE to Yelser Art Center, 200 B'way, Paducah, KY 42001-0732.*

Dynamics of Design. Juried & judged show 11/96 at Quilters' Gathering, Westford, MA. *Deadline 9/1/96. For info send SASE (\$.55) to East Coast Quilters Alliance, Dynamics of Design Contest, PO Box 711 Westford, MA 01886.*

Quilt Shows

April 20-21. *An April Shower of Quilts VI* by the Trumbull Piecemakers. Trumbull High School, 72 Strobel Road, Trumbull, CT. *For more info call Jean Laskey, 203-372-5109.*

April 27-28. *The Quilt Show* presented by Athens Schoolhouse Quilters & Hudson Valley Quilters. Columbia-Greene Community College Gym, Rt. 23, Hudson, NY 12534. *For more info contact Mary Ann Peters, 21 First St., Athens, NY.*

May 17-18. *Quilt Show* sponsored by Trinity Women's Fellowship & Willoughby Wallace Library Quilters at the Trinity Episcopal Church of

Bradford, 1109 Main Street, Bradford, CT. *For more info call Ann Collier, 203-488-5735.*

May 18-19. *City Blocks.* Quilters Guild of Brooklyn's third annual show. P.S. 321, 7th Avenue, Park Slope, Brooklyn. For more info call 718-633-9326.

Exhibits

April 19-25. *Fiber Collage Quilts: Three Artists' Insights.* Works by Niki Bonnett, Marge Malwitz* & Florence Suerig at the Bruce Kershner Gallery at Fairfield Public Library, 1080 Old Post Road, Fairfield, CT. *For more info call 203-256-3156.*

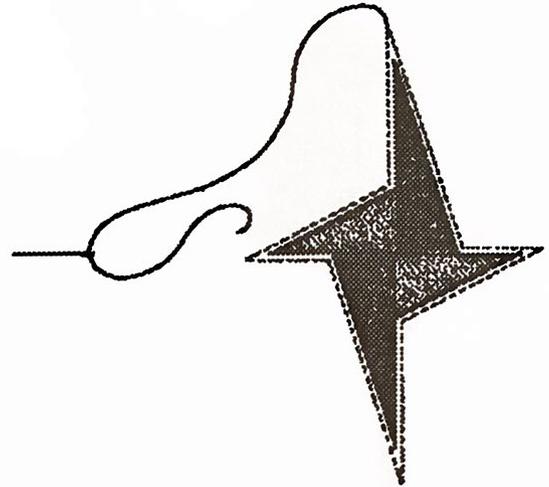
April 28 - May 29. Barbara Lydecker Crane, Art Quilts. Art Gallery of UU Congregation at Shelter Rock, 48 Shelter Rock Rd., Manhasset, NY 11030. For more info call 516-627-6560.

Planning Ahead....

June 7-8, 1996. *A Quilting Sampler.* Sponsored by Eastcoast Quilting Alliance. Workshop with Ellen Anne Eddy, Sampler Series, Lecture: American Antique Quilts. For more info send SASE (\$.55) to EQA Sampler, PO Box 711, Westford, MA 01886.

October 9-14, 1996. *We Folk of Cloth.* Doll Making, paper, clay, fabric painting & miniature doll workshops. For more info send \$2 to NeedleArts Adventure, L.I.C. PO Box 331, Crownsville, MD 21032.

**Editor's note: Marge was a wonderful guest at our Guild several years ago!!!!*



First Class Mail

Northern Star Quilters' Guild
PO Box 232
Somers, NY 10589

Don't Leave Barbara in the Lerch

Now hear this, guild members. I need your help to provide enough food for our quilt show volunteers' dinner Friday, May 3. In the past members have pooled their culinary skills and produced an eclectic combination of dishes. Let's do that again this year. Please make us one of your tasty casseroles or to-die-for cakes and bring them to JFK High School around 5:30. If needed, we will chill or heat the food for you. The guild will provide hot and cold beverages. I appreciate your attention to this matter.

I said that pretty nicely, didn't I? My tone was polite, courteous, considerate, tactful, refined, elegant, cultivated, civil, genteel and mannerly.

However, I don't want you to miss my message, so I'll put in everyday language. Get off your buttocks, see. I need food and you're gonna bring it to me. Or I'll have to hurt you. I volunteered for this job and you have to help me make it a success -- again, see?

Friday night volunteers need not contribute food for the dinner, although we will greedily appreciate if they do. The responsibility then falls on the rest of the guild's shoulders. So go though your recipes, choose something easy, or a gourmet concoction. Buy it, if that'll get you to contribute. It's up to you, or else Dirty Harry (Barbara) may just show up at your hacienda. Don't call me, fax me or bother me at all. I'm just counting on you to be there with the food. You don't -- I repeat, don't -- want to end up on my hit list.

The last person added to my list is now doing time in the Piecers' Penitentiary in Lancaster! The one before that you all know as Itchy Fingers, well she fingered my fabric with fudgy digits one-too-many times. Since she's been detained in Fabric Pinchers Prison awaiting trial -- the place has gone to pieces with quarter inch seams. So this is your final warning "Show Up With the Grub!!!"

Barbara Lerch