

On Point!

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www.northernstarquilters.com

A Message from the President



April at the Guild is just like Spring! Everything just starts to happen at once. Super Saturday will be over by the time you read this and I am confident that a good time was had by all. Nine different classes running at once and 84 members having lunch together. How could this not be great?

Our travelers will be getting ready to board the bus to go to Lancaster. There will be more looking at quilts, dining with quilters, slumber partying and late-night Show 'n' Tell of the day's shopping bounty.

We were so lucky to have had Libby Lehman here last month, and what a pro she is! She gave a polished performance both in the lecture hall and in the classroom! There have been emails and phone calls about her fantastic workshop and all the knowledge that she shared.

While some of you are dreaming of stitch regulators, long arm machines or overlapping design walls for your studios, a few Board Members have been fantasizing about capital improvements for the Guild. The tiny camera that Libby used to project her demonstrations onto the wall so that everyone could see exactly what she was doing is one piece of technology that we have been discussing. It was perfect that so many of you got to see this equipment in action in our own setting. The ability to view a sewing machine or a hand technique the way we do on television, could revolutionize our hands-on programs, Super Saturday and our member demonstrations at the Show. Ease of use and dropping prices will make this a possibility for us soon. Some research and assistance from knowledgeable members, and a strong finish to our financial year might be all we need.

We expect an equally exciting program from Margaret Miller this month, as her reputation for teaching excellence is well-known. There are still spaces left in her workshop for anyone who can squeeze in another activity. It really could be an opportunity that you will regret if you miss it.

Our Program budget has been excellent so far this year because of totally full workshops. Do yourself and the Guild a favor by planning to take the workshops that we offer, instead of taking them when you are away at shows. You don't have to take your supplies out of town, and the more workshops we fill, the more programs we can offer. We can schedule almost any speaker or teacher if you let us know your interest.

Finally, our Quilt Show is only a few weeks away, and promises to be our best Show ever. The 2006 World of Quilts Show Pin will be available at this month's meeting, and will be a great addition to your pin collection! You can buy it at a discount at the meeting before it goes on sale for everyone at the Quilt Show.

**April Meeting:
Tuesday, April 18th**

JFK High School, Somers, NY

Special Interest Groups: 6-6:45PM
Appliqué, Art Quilt, Beginning Quilters

General Meeting: 7:15PM

Guest Speaker:

Margaret Miller

**"Never Use Two Fabrics
When You Can use Twenty"**

Don't Forget Snacks!

Members whose last names begin with S, T, U

Raffle Table prizes generously given by
Quilt Essentials in Wilton. Barbara Dierolf, owner.

A special thanks to The Nimble Thimble
for bringing nice prizes for the Raffle Table
last month. We regret this error
in last month's newsletter.

Don't forget to go to the website and print a color poster for any bulletin boards in your neighborhood. This is something every member can do to help.

Whoever prayed for the weather last year did a great job, so please deliver the same mediocre kind of day again: hazy, cloudy, slightly cool and with no precipitation!

Volunteer and be a part of our Show. It is what we are about!

Fondly,
Susie Andersen, PRESIDENT

**By Law Revisions:
Question and Answers,
pages 5-6**

Membership Report

Membership currently stands at 263. We welcome our new members to the Guild and encourage each of you to meet some new friends by joining a special interest group and/or volunteering for a job. There will be many opportunities to get involved as the Quilt Show approaches.

The Art Quilt Group, Applique Group and Basic Training group will be meeting this month between 6:00 – 6:45PM. Let me know if you have any ideas for additional groups. We'd like to further expand this program next year.

Carol Sterk, csterk@optonline.net
Degen Sayer, degensayer@aol.com

NSQG Members Published In Journal Quilt Project Book

The Journal Quilts Project will become a Journal Quilts book in time for the Houston International Quilt Festival. The Project revolves around making one 8 1/2 x 11" quilt per month for a year. As an exercise in both creativity and discipline, the best five are physically sent to be exhibited at the Houston International Quilt Festival and other venues.

This year a compilation book of the five years' worth of Journal Quilts will be created, and six NSQG members' work will be included:

Deirdre Abbotts, February and June 2005
Elizabeth Poole, January 2006
Jeri Riggs, September 2003
Norma Schlager, May 2004 and February 2006
Maria Weinstein, January 2006
Vivian Zeph, August 2004 and January, 2006

You can see the Journal Quilts from 2003 at <http://www.quiltart.com/journals/>, and you can read a about it by doing a Google™ search using the phrase "journal quilts project".

Comfort Quilts

Comfort Quilts will meet at the Katonah Presbyterian Church on Thursday, May 11 and Wednesday, May 24th. Please note the change of days.

Remembering 9/11—Pat Baker has five more patriotic inspired quilts to donate to a Firehouse in your community. If you are interested, call me at 914 533-6655 to make those arrangements.

Carolyn Langevin, Charitable Activities



Congratulations

Shakespeare in Stitches



Northern Star Quilters' Guild 2006 Challenge Winners

Congratulations to Benedict Caneill, who also received a Third Place in Most Innovative Category.
Norma Schlager

On The Road Again...

Lowell Quilt Festival in August

Our next trip is to the Lowell Quilt Festival's Citywide Celebration of Quilts on Friday, August 4th to Saturday, August 5th. The Tsongas Arena will have a juried quilt show and special exhibits presented by the New England Quilt Museum Auxiliary. The Lowell Memorial Auditorium will have an exhibit curated by Gerald Roy entitled *Variations on a Theme*, and the New England Quilt Museum's exhibit, organized by the American Quilter's Society, is titled *Blending the Old and The New: Quilts by Paul Pilgrim*.

Since our Guild does not meet during the month of July, I must have all payments received by the June meeting. The cost of this trip will be \$160.00.

Hope you can join us!

Thanks, Kathy Vanacoro

608 S. Lakeshore Drive, Lake Carmel, NY 10512
kathy913quilter@yahoo.com, 845-225-0047

Show Pins

Show pins will be on sale at the April Meeting for \$4.00.

If you wait to get them at the Show, the cost will be \$5.00.



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2006 A World of Quilts XXVII Show News

Saturday, May 6, 2006 • 10AM to 5PM

Sunday, May 7, 2006 • 10AM to 4PM



I hope everyone is looking forward to the show. Here are some things you need to know.

Quilt Drop off Dates:

April 27th: Noon to 1:30

Pinwheels, Croton-On-Hudson, New York

April 29th: 1:00 to 4:00

The Country Quilter, Somers, NY

April 30th: 2:00 to 3:30

The Quilt Shop, Danbury, CT

Any questions or concerns, email or call Caryll Castellion

Show Pins: Will be available for \$4 at the April meeting only. After the April meeting it will be \$5.

Raffle Quilt Tickets: Call Linda Schulz if you need more.

Volunteers: As Guild members, you are expected to volunteer two hours to benefit the Show. Two hours earns you admission to the Show for one day; four or more hours, admission to the Show for both days. Members should sign in at the Admissions Table when you arrive to volunteer, no passes are needed. I hope that you have already signed up for your spot to help.

Shopping: Vendors will be open at 9:00AM on Saturday for Guild Members only. The Show opens at 10:00AM to the public.

Workshops: Check out the details on our website for Lonni Rossi's classes at the Show. We'll have a workshop later on in the year with Karen Eckmeier.

I have to thank so many members for suggesting great ideas to simplify and modernize our systems. Among the things that are new for this year:

- Carolyn Salon will be conducting a tour of the Show.
- Anniversary Celebration: Look for the special exhibit and video presentation celebrating 25 years of NSQG.

• The quilt display will have a new look. All quilts will need to have a sleeve for our new hanging system.

• The Sweepstakes and great prizes! Fun drawings!
• More of the school will be open to accommodate more wonderful vendors.

• Large maps with "You Are Here" signs are going to keep us all oriented.

• Sack Sitters will lighten the load of busy shoppers.

And all the things we've come to expect at A World of Quilts:

- Wonderful judges to scrutinize our quilts.
- Mouth-watering Friday night Pot Luck Supper.
- Awesome judged quilt display.
- Helpful white glove ladies to explain and show the quilts.
- Invitational displays from speakers who will visit the Guild next year as well as members' group projects.
- Inspiring lectures.
- Interesting workshops.
- Fascinating demonstrations.
- Beautiful Show Pin.
- Tempting Membership Boutique.
- Beautiful Raffle Quilt with the net proceeds going to *The Support Connection*.
- Complete security with the help of our guards.
- Flawless help and support from the staff and students at JFK.
- Lastly and certainly most important...our volunteers.

Mary Cannizero, VP QUILT SHOW

Quilt Show Boutique

Any NSQG member in good-standing may sell items at the Boutique. Items submitted for sale must be made by an NSQG member and can be quilted, constructed of fabric and/or fiber, or quilt-related. Explore new techniques and stretch your imagination. Create new items as well as stock up on the usual big sellers.

Written information will be available at the April meeting, or go to the NSQG website and look under Quilt Show Boutique. If you need a personal ID number or need additional information about selling, contact me by email. I'm looking forward to a successful Show Boutique.

Carolynn Young, BOUTIQUE CHAIR, cjyoung@suscom.net

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Proposed By-Law Revisions: Question and Answers

Why do we need so many Vice Presidents?

What will the VP of Communication do?

Part of the goal of restructuring the Board was to return the balance between the number of officers elected by the membership, and the number of positions appointed by the new President. Equalizing the responsibilities and clarifying the job descriptions of all Board Members will eventually make it easier to find qualified candidates for these important positions. The proposed Board structure is comprised of eight elected officers (President, Treasurer, Secretary, five Vice Presidents) and five appointed positions. The Board is currently made up of 7 elected officers and 7 appointed positions. We believe that the membership should have the ability to elect a majority of the Board. This provides for one less Board Member, but the titles of those remaining positions allows for more flexibility for covering the needed tasks. Another appointed position could be created in the future, should that be necessary.

The Board structure is built upon the By-Laws. Having the five VP's have similar titles simplifies further policy writing. The Vice Presidents' jobs are to fulfill our purpose, and each determines priorities for a different segment of the budget.

Article II, Section 2 articulates how we are to do that:

- a. *"By establishing lines of communication among member for the stimulation of thought, exchange of ideas, mutual assistance and enhancement of individual strengths."* This is the job of VP Membership and VP Communications. The new VP Communications position will manage those who publish the newsletter, maintain the website, sell ad space, provide technical assistant to other Board Members and assist with the technology functions needed to maintain our database and mailing lists. Their income comes from dues and ad sales and they cover the overhead for all operations of the Guild plus provide a portion of the money for programs.
- b. *"By providing educational activities related to quilting to help members achieve their highest level of technical proficiency and artistic expression."* This is the job of VP Programs and VP Education. They work together to provide all the activities that take place at our meetings and guild sponsored workshops. Their only direct income is from the raffle table and workshop fees. They are dependent on funds from both dues and the profits from the Quilt Show.
- c. *"By sponsoring an annual Quilt Show, open to the public."* This is the job of the VP Quilt Show. The Show promotes interest in, and encourages participation in the art of quilting, attracts new members to our Guild and raises funds to provide our educational programs.

Each Board Member should develop a committee of members of the various skills and time commitments needed to fulfill their function. Serving on committees allows members to learn about the various jobs before moving into the leadership position. Being able to contribute to different committees allows members to become familiar with various Guild functions and to more quickly find a niche. Those with specific skills maybe able to contribute the same skill to several different committees or help the Guild solve a particular problem. There would be no need to have these people attend Board Meetings nor would you want them to be subject to term limits. The Web Master is the perfect example.

What Will The President's Assistant Do?

This person could handle special projects, solve problems or fill in where needed when other Board Members may not be able. This year a good example could have been the By-Law Review, the review of contracts or updating our insurance policy. During the year, vacancies on the Board may arise and someone will be already in place to help fill in until a replacement can be found, or until that person can recover from an illness, family or career crisis. Very few of us can plan what is going to happen to us tomorrow. This also gives the President the flexibility to fill out the necessary skills on her Board after all the other positions are filled.

What are the Term Limits for Board Members?

The portion of the current By-Laws which determine term limits are disorganized, confusing and increasingly difficult to interpret. They are different for elected than for appointed positions. There is evidence that they have not adequately met the needs of the Guild for many years and make it more difficult than necessary.

Officers are elected for one year at a time. They may not serve more than two years in any one position. We chose not to recommend any further change in this at this time through many favored just making a single two year term as that has become the norm for the Guild and eliminates a lot of process.

The term for appointed positions is much less clearly defined. Depending on how you intrepret Article VI, Section 1: *"Chairpersons of Standing Committees shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the majority of the elected officers, and their tenure shall terminate with the installation of the new President."*

Are the appointees automatically reappointed when the President is re-nominated to a second term, or are there new appointments that need to be approved by the newly elected officers?

By-Law Revisions: Question and Answers

continued from page 5

The next sentence states the maximum term limit: "These chairpersons shall serve on the Board of Directors not more than four consecutive years."

This statement negates or circumvents the previous statement: "An individual may continue to serve as a chairperson for more than these four consecutive years, but may not be a Board member for a minimum of one year succeeding these four years."

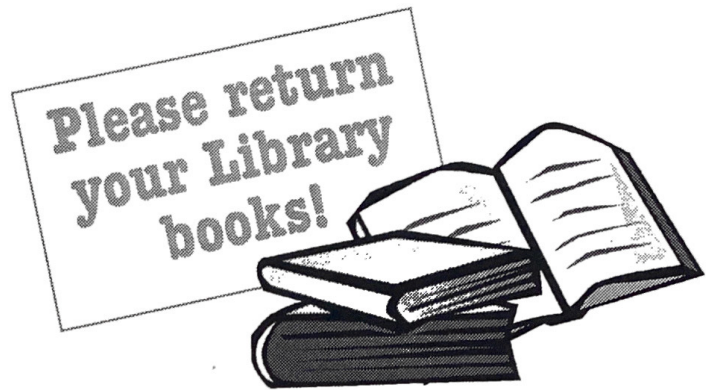
We currently have several persons who were appointed to interim positions or are serving as co-chairs. How do you count their terms? We believe as people become busier and the geography of the Guild continues to expand this trend to share jobs will increase thus requiring a higher maximum term limit for those actually serving part-time. The maximum term would be six years regardless of the portion or the percentage of the year served.

What about the change from 4 years to 6 consecutive years on the Board?

The intent is to make those persons who have served on the board 3-4 years in any combination of positions an eligible candidate for President who could still serve for two years. The change increases the consecutive term limit for the officers if they do several different jobs. It more firmly limits an appointed position to six years maximum requiring that they take a break and give someone else an opportunity.

Additionally, it eliminates any potential confusion over who fills the seat on the Board during this one year; how many Board Members there are; and what is the necessary Quorum at a meeting.

Board Members will be available from 6:30 to 7:00 before the April meeting to further clarify any of your questions.



PINWHEELS

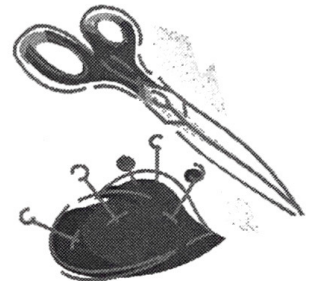


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April's One Woman Show: Carole Hoffman



I was born in the Bronx and grew up in the Pelham Parkway section. I remember my first sewing experience: elementary school, 5th grade — the girls were supposed to make a skirt. Boy, was it ever ugly and never finished, I might add.

My mother sewed and made many of my clothes as we didn't have much money. There was never enough fabric and so I always had false hems and facings.

I started my adult life as an actress and model. Eventually I married and we adopted two infant girls (one at a time, of course).

I gave up acting and began to study painting. I've been a knitter, worked in crewel,

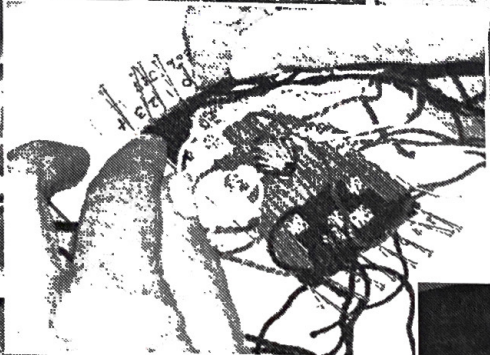
a jewelry maker, an expressionist painter, a botanical painter and now a quilter.

One day a friend who was working at Hartsdale Fabrics said, "Let's make a quilt." So we drew templates, bought some fabric and cut triangles and squares. I sewed and she pressed. I even hand-quilted the thing.

After a few years I traded in my old portable machine for a new Bernina and a quilter was hatched. I'm still trying to find my quilting voice, so to speak, by incorporating some of my paintings with my quilts.

I love collecting fabrics. It's like having all the paint colors in the world at my fingertips.

Super Saturday: What fun!



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Nominations

The Nominating Committee wishes to present its nominees for the 2006-2007 NSQG Board:

President	Mary Cannizzaro
VP Programs	Dorothy Scalice
VP Membership	Carol Sterk*
	Noreen Graham
VP Quilt Show	Kathy Vanacaro
	Barbara Sferra
Treasurer	Kay Marcarello
Recording Secretary	Andrea Winter
Corresponding Secretary	Barbara Sliter

*incumbent

Respectfully submitted, Melanie Darensod, CHAIRPERSON
Susie Andersen, PRESIDENT
Janice Nastasi, Carolyn Salon, Susan Schrott



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