

On Point!

January 2009
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PUBLICATION OF THE NORTHERN STAR QUILTERS' GUILD
www.northernstarquilters.com SOMERS, NEW YORK

A Message from the President

Happy New Year! New Year's is a time of reflecting where we have been and making plans for the New Year. It is a time to finish that UFO and peer through the library of books to plan the next quilt. The December meeting gave us a taste of Old Man Winter. I would like to remind members to refer to the Meeting Cancellation article in case of inclement weather or other emergency.

The January meeting will be a bustle of activities. **Carol Sterk, Janice Nastasi, and Georgia Heller** have planned a special night of 10 demonstrations on various tools & techniques featuring, ***The Cutting Edge: What's Hot for 2009***. I hope you are ready to hand in your Challenge quilt or pick up a registration form to enter a quilt in the Quilt Show Quilt Exhibit. **Debbie Bein** will be our featured Member Showcase. It is a meeting not to miss!

January is also sign-up time for Super Saturday. **Denise Isherwood** and **Susie Andersen** have rounded up a wonderful assortment of classes to choose from. No matter how experienced you are, you are sure to leave having learned something you can put to use in your own work. Don't miss the chance to make new friends and hone new skills.

Soon we will be organizing the Nominating Committee and looking for a number of members to lead the different activities for the 2009-2010 year, so now is the time to let us know if you would like to be involved in the Guild in some new way.

January is a time to take advantage of all these activities. Have a safe and happy new year.

Carolynn Young, President

January Meeting

Tuesday, January 20

JFK High School

Somers, NY

Special Interest Groups

5:45-6:45 pm

Art Quilt Group-Library

Not for Beginners Only-Cafeteria

Hand Appliqué-Cafeteria

General Meeting: 7:00 pm

"The Cutting Edge:

What's Hot for 2009"

Due this Month!

2009 Challenge: Going Green

**Members whose last names
Begin with J, K, L please bring snacks**

Board meeting January 13

In Case of Bad Weather

In case of inclement weather or other emergency, please follow these steps to find out if there is a meeting:

1. Check the website at www.northernstarquilters.com.
2. Listen to radio station WHUD (100.7 FM or online at www.whud.com) to find out if the schools are closed. If Somers schools are closed, there will be no meeting. If the weather is questionable for the evening hours only, we will also contact WHUD to make a public announcement.
3. If you cannot find out through any of the above means, please feel free to contact a Board Member

Member Showcase: Debbie Bien

I think of myself as an 'accidental' artist. I began sewing my own clothing and home decorations at age 14 with my new Singer and have never been far from a machine or needle work. A demanding executive career and raising three daughters commandeered most of my time until the nineties, and I wasn't really obsessed by any of it until my hobby - collecting, restoring and using antique and vintage sewing machines - collided with my love of fabric in 2000 when I stopped at a quilt shop out of curiosity. Many (unfinished) quilt tops later, stitching contentedly away in what I thought was a very satisfying hobby, a friend dragged me (kicking and screaming!) into an on-line postcard exchange in 2006. Well, literally ONE POSTCARD later I was HOOKED! I discovered what it was like to PLAY again, like a child, and I never want to be a 'controlled adult' again! Feeling very much like Grandma Moses reincarnated, at 61 years of age and quite by accident, I found creative fulfillment through the exciting new art quilt medium. No longer a hobby, making art has become my raison d'être!



I am fascinated and curious about all art and quilting techniques, but I seem to be led quite helplessly, and often accidentally, in the direction of discharge and rust dyeing fabrics, fused applique, playing with frayed edges, and fiber collage. Inspiration for my work also seems to evolve as a progression of serendipitous 'accidents,' my personal emotional and intellectual responses to the forces that rule our world - from serious to whimsical - as I endeavor to define, remark and, perhaps, influence the complex universe through my artistic expression. My work has been juried into exhibits at Fiberplay in Midland, MI, the Brush Art Gallery in Lowell, MA, the Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA) exhibit, 'A Sense of Time,' which hung in Houston in October 2009, and most recently, the SAQA Transformations '09, 'Reflections' exhibit which will be featured at the Festival of Quilts in Birmingham, England, in August 2009.

One of my proudest achievements will always be the five ribbons bestowed on three of my works in our NSQG show last year. Membership in Northern Star since 2001 has influenced my life dramatically - by helping to shape my transformation from quilter to artist, as well as being the source of cherished friendships and happy memories. I have served on the Show Committee for two years as Lecture chair, been an active member of the Art Quilt Special Interest Group, and I'm the 'trips person' who suffers from 'foot-in-mouth' disease when handed a microphone at our monthly meetings to deliver an update on our Guild trip activity. Being invited to show my work to the Guild this month is especially gratifying to me - thanks to you all for being such a fun and vital part of my life!

The Salon Seven Exhibit

Salon Seven, Benedicte Caneill, Beth Carney, Georgia Heller, Jeri Riggs, Elizabeth Rosenberg, Linda Schoenfeld, Susan Schrott, are all members of the Northern Star Quilters Guild. Their newest exhibition, *Stitching it Together* runs from Saturday, January 3, 2009, through January 24, 2009 at New Rochelle Public Library.

The art quilts included in this exhibition exhibit a breathtaking range of styles, textures, colors and subjects yet remain true to the quilt making tradition. Each member of this group has her own way of using textiles, and each uses fabric, thread, and batting to create her distinctive artwork.

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Education

Special Interest Groups

Not for Beginners Only

You've spent countless hours making a fabulous quilt that delights your heart. Why not spend a little extra time finishing it off with beautifully mitered borders? Linda Ostrander will show you how easy it is to make perfect miters with simple tools.

Hand Appliqué Group

The hand appliqué group didn't meet last month due to the stormy weather. The good news is that you didn't miss anything! The demonstration planned for Dec. will be carried over to this meeting. **Amy Trompetter** will demonstrate her method for doing inside points.

Art Quilt Group

Lynda Long will present a demonstration on silk painting and silk burning.

January Program

Mark your calendar for this month's exciting program, **The Cutting Edge: What's Hot for 2009?** A fantastic lineup of shops, including several new to many of us, will participate in this program, each one offering ongoing 15 minute demonstrations of a great new quilting tool or technique. These tools and related items will be available for purchase so put some of your holiday gift money aside to spend on those "must have" items. We have taken care to make sure that both traditional and contemporary quilters' interests are represented and hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to learn something new without taking a class.

Shops and Demonstration Topics:

The Country Quilter - Photo transfer techniques – use of a variety of fabrics and an assortment of materials including gel medium, transfer paper and transparencies to create different effects

The Nimble Thimble – quick and easy thread painted embroidery

Woodstock Supply - demonstration of computer software for kaleidoscope quilts

Quilter's Crossing – Guidelines Ruler

Batik Tambal - use of Indonesian thaps to create designs on rayon velvet

Ready, Set, Sharp - scissor sharpening

Quilt Basket - demonstration of Storm-at-Sea templates

Beadwildered Women – crazy patch bead embellished bags and such

The Quilt Shop – Simply Crazy Ruler demonstration

The Happy Quilter – use of computer-directed embroidery attachment to create embroidered pieces for quilt embellishment - "Incorporating Machine Embroidery into Quilts"

February 2009 Program News

Our February meeting, **The Use of Color in Quilts**, will be an exciting new take on a theme that many quilters find challenging. It has been designed to appeal to both beginning and advanced quilters and everyone in between. The idea of this program is to give our members a chance to view "up close and personal" a group of outstanding quilts that illustrate exceptional understanding of how color can be used to achieve maximum impact, and, in the process, bring a quilt to a new level. By learning something about how each quilter went about conceptualizing and planning her use of color to achieve the desired effect and having a chance to ask questions, the Education Committee hopes that participating members will go home equipped with inspiration and some concrete strategies for approaching color choices in their future quilts.

Program Topics and Presenters:

Susie Anderson – Color Strategies for Scrap and Charm Quilts

Melanie Darendod – Variable impact of the use of warm and cool colors in quilts

Jane Eyes – Monochromatic color schemes

Lynda Long – Creation of color gradations using tulle

Nancy Mirman – Effective selection and use of clear and muted color palettes

Maxine Oliver - Creating depth in landscape quilts through the use of color

Jeri Riggs – "Color without Fear"

Suzanne Sunday – Use of multiple threads to create shading

Johanna van Ritbergen and Lori Light – Black and White: Make your quilt sing!

Sue Wilterding – The meaning and use of color in Japanese quilts and clothing

Please join me in thanking all of our own very talented members who have generously agreed to share their talents with us.

Don't forget to bring Show 'n Tell!

Carol Sterk, VP Education

Special Events

Challenge: *Going Green* -- Take the Challenge and go green! **Quilts to be entered in the Challenge are to be handed in at the January meeting.** Details and the entry form are available on the Guild website and at the meeting. If you have questions, contact our Challenge Coordinator, Norma Schlager. The quilts will be displayed and voted on at the February 2009 meeting.

Trips -- It's not too late to sign up with Debbie Bein, our Trips Coordinator, for our trip to Lancaster (April 3-4, 2009) -- Cost: \$150. This trip is presently filled, but Debbie is still accepting names for the waiting list so don't delay (there are always some cancellations)!

Checks made payable to NSQG are **due on or before the February Guild meeting.**

Super Saturday -- Denise Isherwood has assembled a great line-up of classes for Super Saturday (to be held at the JFK High School on Saturday, February 28, 2009).

This event is open to Guild members and is a super deal: \$20 covers one class and lunch. Descriptions of the classes were listed in the December newsletter and can also be found on the Guild website, or you can sign up with Denise at the January Guild meeting. Don't miss this fun day!

Janis Tobias, Special Events Chairperson



Linda Speidell
President (914) 962-3328

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Library

Thanks to Jane Davila for her generous donation of her DVD to the NSQG library. I have also



arranged to purchase her new book for the Guild when it is released in January. She was such an interesting and entertaining speaker, I think her book will be of interest to many of our members.

I apologize to Jane del Villar whose name was written incorrectly in the last newsletter as Jane Davila.

This is the list of members with books three months overdue: Elizabeth Poole (3), Vicki Romaine Cohn (3), Kathy Kaplan (1), and two months overdue: Carol Kilian(3), Barbara Powers (3), Deirdre Abbotts (1).

Noreen Graham, Library Chairperson

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World of Quilts XXX News

Ready – set – go!

Our quilt Exhibit is such an important part of the Show. Our Registrar, Margaret Phillips will have the forms and instructions available at the January meeting. Please be sure to read the instructions carefully as there are some changes. Every member has 3 opportunities to be a part of the quilt exhibit, creating whatever type of quilt they wish to make. We hope everyone will try to enter at least one quilt in the Show. If you have not entered before, we especially hope that you will participate this year.. If you have any questions about the registration process or the categories, please contact Margaret directly at: registerquilt@optonline.net

I am pleased to announce that Carolyn Salon has invited Beverly Fine and Sandra Dorrbecker to judge our quilts. We also have a bright and shiny new venue for judging day.

Please keep in mind that Susie Andersen is busy preparing her beautifully packaged fabrics and goodies for the Sweepstakes booth. This fun and popular feature of our show relies on the membership to bring in all items that they no longer need or want and allows visitors at the Show to win a prize of their own choosing! All donations of fabrics, books, notions, art supplies, gifts, beanies and nearly anything else are happily received at each meeting and maybe dropped off at the first round table near the library corner.

We are getting ready to sign up volunteers. Please mark the Show weekend on your calendar and be generous with your time. It is imperative that everyone help in some way to make the Show run smoothly. Don't forget that 2 hours of volunteer time gets you into the Show at no charge that day.

Mayann Weinberg, VP Quilt Show

Comfort Quilt Activities

Meeting days until summer:

Jan. 7 & 21 Apr. 1 & 15
Feb. 4 & 18 May 6 & 20
Mar. 4 & 18

These dates are all at the North Salem Ambulance Corps Building at 14 Daniel Road, North Salem NY. Exit 9 off 684. We are in need of batting; any donations of batting are greatly appreciated.

The trip to drop off quilts at Westchester Medical Center (WMC) was, as usual, a success. It is very rewarding—getting a chance to see and hear how our quilts are appreciated. And lunch afterwards was a great way to celebrate together. Thanks to Barbara Powers and Patricia Loquet for putting it together.

And thanks to all the regular (and irregular) Comfort Quilters. Each of you brings something special to Comfort Quilts.

Happy New Year, Karen Carlson

Susie Andersen, Charitable Activities
Chairperson



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Shows and Exhibitions

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*Quilt Fest of New Jersey V, March 5-8, 2009, Garden State Exhibit Center, Somerset, NJ; <http://www.quiltfest.com>.

**"Urban Inspirations," March 21-22, 2009, Fashion Institute of Technology, Seventh Avenue at 28th Street, New York City; SASE to Empire Quilters, Old Chelsea Station, PO Box 1293, New York, NY 10113; <http://www.EmpireQuilters.net>.

*Machine Quilters' Exposition LLC, classes begin April 13, show April 16-18, 2009, The Center of NH/Radisson Hotel, 700 Elm Street, Manchester, NH; 603-778-6994; MQXShow@comcast.net, <http://www.MQXShow.com>.

**"Reach for the Stars!," April 18-19, 2009, Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk High School, Route 9W, Ravena, NY; <http://www.timesunion.com/communities/quilt>.

*Vermont Quilt Festival, June 19-21, 2009, Champlain Valley Exposition and St. Michael's College, Colchester, VT; info@vqf.org, <http://www.vqf.org>.

**"Flights of Discovery," October 10-11, 2009, Dutchess Community College, 53 Pendell Road, Poughkeepsie, NY.

Other Events

* "The Essential Art of African Textiles: Design Without End" (lectures, in association with the exhibition, on "The Visual Language of African Textiles," "Weaving West African Cloth," and "Seeing and Naming African Textile Patterns," February 1, 2009, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street, New York City; 212-570-3764; <http://www.metmuseum.org>.

* Hudson River Valley Fiber Art Workshops, March-December 2009; 1-888-865-0044; <http://www.fiberartworkshops.com>

World Wide Web Sites

- * American Museum in Britain at <http://www.americanmuseum.org>
- * Bruce Museum at <http://www.brucemuseum.org>
- * Jersey City Museum at <http://www.jerseycitymuseum.org>
- * Metropolitan Museum of Art at <http://www.met.org>
- * Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Art at <http://www.risdmuseum.org>
- * Chris Lynn Kirsch at <http://www.ChrisQuilts.com>
- * Jake Finch at <http://www.JakeFinchDesigns.com>
- * Jeana Kimball at <http://www.JeanaKimballQuilter.com>
- * Jeanne Raffer Beck at <http://www.JeanneBeck.com>
- * Marci Baker at <http://www.AliciasAttic.com>
- * Of the Young & the Restless at <http://www.oftheyoungandtherestless.com>
- * Sharon Chamber at <http://www.SharonChamber.com>
- * Wendy Rieves at <http://www.WendyQuilts.com>
- * Accuquilt at <http://www.accuquilt.com>
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Nancy Hantman

Happy New Year



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