

On Point!

MARCH 2008
VOLUME 26, No. 7

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

A Message from the President

As I am driving home, I feel blessed by the wonderful, talented NSQG members who give of their time, talent and enthusiasm in making **What's Hot for 2008** and **Super Saturday** a success. Thank you to Carol Sterk, Janice Nastasi and Georgia Heller for their great ideas and hard work in making the January and February programs incredible and to Denise Isherwood, Sister Barbara and Janis Tobias in making Super Saturday a success. Old Man Winter could not deter a NSQG quilter!

Congratulations to all the winners of this year's **Challenge**. A list of winners is published in this newsletter. Many thanks to Margaret Phillips for coordinating the event. I look forward to viewing the exhibit at Lancaster and our Quilt Show in May. I hope all participants will bring their entries to the May meeting where we can applaud all quilters and their entries at Show and Tell.

The ides of March the first day of Spring will soon be upon us. We will have our own "happening" at the March meeting. Internationally renowned quilt artist, Christine Fries-Ureel, will present **Quilting Is More Than Happiness**. Check out her website at www.loveabideth.com. We are thrilled to have her as our March speaker.

The **Quilt Show** is less than 2 months away. Sign up for your special volunteer opportunity (my favorite is white gloves). Remember that each member is expected to volunteer *at least* 2 hours at the show.

And now, a word on volunteering in general: Our guild has grown tremendously. We all need to find a way to contribute a portion of our time to the guild. I hate to sound like a broken record, but **Many Hands Make Light Work and Good Friends**. We hope you will share your successes (and trials) with us. Our nominating committee will be making phone calls soon and perhaps you would consider serving on the board yourself. All we ask is that you be willing, do your best and when life gets in the way, we will work it out together. Consider being a bigger part of NSQG.

Carolynn Young, President



March Meeting

Tuesday, March 18
JFK High School,
Somers, NY

General Meeting: 7:00 pm

Christine Fries-Ureel
"Quilting Is More Than Happiness,
It's Ecstasy"

Special Interest Groups:

Art Quilts: Discharging Fabric demo by
Debbie Bein 5:45 pm
Hand Appliqué 6:00 pm
Basic Training 6:00pm
No Beading meeting

Don't Forget Snacks:

Members whose last names begin
with P, Q and R

Remember to bring Show and Tell

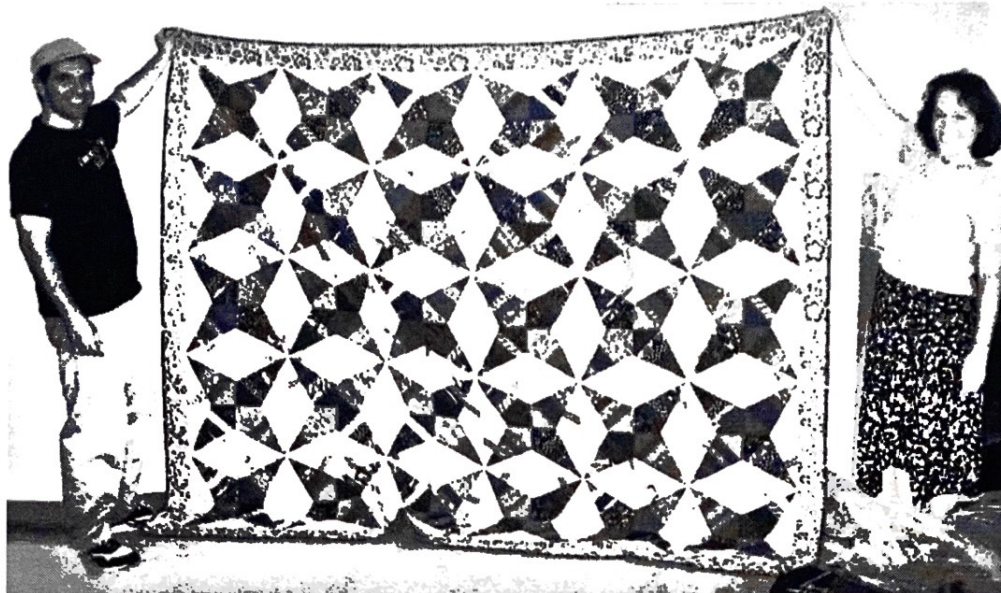
Board Meeting: March 11



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information on their shop*
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MEMBER SHOWCASE: Pooa Bloomberg



When my children were young, I worked from my home as a dressmaker. Over time I accumulated many scraps of fabrics from clients and my own. I pieced my first quilt (log cabin) in the 80's using some of these scraps after I saw the work of a quilter at the Clearwater Festival, at Croton Point Park on the Hudson. I just figured out the way to sew it on the machine and came out with something pleasing, if not perfect. Soon after that I stopped sewing altogether and switched careers. This lonely quilt waited to be finished for many years, and finally was done in 2000 when I went to live in Angola. While there I embarked on hand quilting my quilt and started a needlework course for street girls in an Italian-financed school. Two years later I went to live in Vietnam where the fabrics in the markets dazzled me. That was when I bought books and some basic equipment on my home visits to the US, and started my passion for quilting. It turned out what I really liked was not fashion or making clothes, it was the beauty of fabrics.

During my three years in Vietnam I went to markets and bought scraps by the kilogram and accumulated a whole cupboard of fabrics. The ideas for my quilts come to me from books, design magazines, and my surroundings. Since I am self-taught, every quilt is basically a study in a new technique. I let the fabrics talk to me when I put things together.

I used to call myself "The Approximate Quilter" because I don't like working with templates and could not get points to meet on my strip quilts. Nowadays I make more of an effort at accuracy, although what I strive for is the overall look and blend of the different fabrics and prints and not the tiny piecing details. Up to now all my quilts were hand quilted. I am teaching myself to machine quilt, but not loving it.

In my show, I will try to show my progression as a self-taught quilter from my first quilt, to the Oriental influence and onto my current unfinished, more precise quilt. Most of my quilts are spread around the world with family and friends, but there are a few still around. Hope you enjoy them and please feel free to give me your ideas and constructive criticism.

Pooa Bloomberg



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Trip Update

VERMONT QUILT FESTIVAL & SHELBURNE MUSEUM

June 27, 28, and 29, 2008

A Northern Star Quilters' Guild BUS TRIP

Now accepting definite and 'PERHAPS' sign-ups!

HIGHLIGHTS of the TRIP (detailed itinerary is posted on our website):

- ❁ HISTORICAL MANCHESTER VILLAGE
- ❁ STRAWBERRY & RHUBARB Quilt Shop in Williston, VT. New shop. Tempting PROMOS
- ❁ CHRISTMAS TREE SHOP
- ❁ ALL DAY SATURDAY at the VERMONT QUILT FESTIVAL
- ❁ SHELBURNE MUSEUM QUILT EXHIBIT TOUR
- ❁ PLUS 3 HOURS to view the MUSEUM at your leisure

\$250 (40 trippers minimum) includes bus, two nights at the Fairfield Inn, Show and Museum Admission, Museum Tour, breakfast on Saturday and Sunday. All lunches, dinners and breaks are on your own, many choices available.

CHECKS DUE on APRIL 15.

For more information, contact me.

Debbie Bein, Trip Coordinator

Education

Bravo! to Maggie Kolvenbach, Diana Sharkey, Georgia Heller, Barbara Powers, Ellen Purdy, Jeri Riggs, Nancy Goodman, Maria Weinstein, Joyce Sullivan who willingly offered their time and expertise to make our February meeting a very special event. If you were at the meeting and enjoyed the program, I hope you will take a moment to offer them your thanks and appreciation. It's only through the generosity of spirit of our members that we are able to maintain a vital, exciting organization.

The following Special Interest Groups will meet in March:

Hand Applique Group

Carol Sterk will present a demonstration of freezer paper appliqué.

Art Quilt Group

Debbie Bein will demonstrate discharging fabric.

Basic Training

Linda Ostrander will be there to answer your appliqué, piecing and construction questions.

Beading Group

The beading group will not meet in March.

Carol Sterk, VP Education



How did she DO that?



Presenters at the February meeting

Maggie Kolvenbach, Diana Sharkey, Georgia Heller, Barbara Powers, Ellen Purdy, Jeri Riggs, Nancy Goodman, Maria Weinstein, Joyce Sullivan

Programs

Tired of being cooped up all winter without a breath of fresh quilting techniques? Now's your chance to break out and try some new workshops for spring!

April brings us Sharon Pederson's **Sensational Sashiko** class, a quick and easy *machine* method for achieving those delicate undulating patterns associated with fine Japanese quilts.

In May, we are fortunate to have **Barbara Barber** and **Marilyn Belford** as guest lecturers at our World of Quilts Show. Barbara's show topic will be **Award Winning Quilts and How to Make Them**. Her workshop, *Really Sharp Piecing* (Monday, May 5) will feature her distinctive foundation piecing method for achieving really sharp points in curved designs. Learn more about this world-renowned artist at www.barbarabarberbritishquilts.com.

Marilyn's lecture, **Techniques of the Art Quilt**, will include a step-by-step presentation of her method for making realistic fabric portraits. Although her workshop won't take place until SATURDAY, October 21, 2008, spaces are going fast. You can see samples of her work at www.marilynbelford.com.

For our regular May meeting, we are delighted to have **Trish Hodge** of Batik Tambal to explain to us the meaning of various batik panels and fabrics and how to use them in our quilting. Many of you will remember Trish's fabulous collection of copper stamps and oil sticks from our January meeting. Find out more at: <http://www.batiktambal.com>.

Stay tuned for more information about some of next year's presenters: Elizabeth Poole and her amazing Halloween fashions; Mary Ellen Kranz' Blending Photos with Fabric; Ann Johnston's two-day fabric dyeing class and Sharon Schamber's amazingly intricate machine quilting.

Carol Mayefsky, VP Programs
cmayefsky@gmail.com (914) 238-5728

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Member to Member

QUILTERS INSPIRATION - SWITZERLAND

Join me for an 8-day guided Swiss journey tour. Gain inspiration and ideas for future quilting projects: museums, alpine scenery, delicious cuisine, possible Bernina factory tour. Call Bernice Strauber for details 914-245-3581 or email BStravel@aol.com

I love the projects in Quilting Arts magazine but need motivation and companionship. Seeking people to meet monthly or more frequently (my sewing room in Westport available) for synergy and stimulation.

Contact Barbara Jay to discuss possibilities
203-226-1710 bj@jpus.org

Want to post your ad? Send it to newsletter@northernstarquilters.com or give a written copy to a Communications Committee member at the monthly meeting.

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Membership

Please join me in welcoming new members Diane Evans, Schenectady, NY; Caroline A Higgins, Blauvelt, NY; Jane Kreiswirth, New Rochelle, NY; Meg Wynne, Stamford, CT; Linda Stern Schattschneider, Mt Kisco, NY; Lieselotte Burke, Katonah, NY; Rona Spar, Ossining, NY; Diane Linker, Scarsdale, NY; Lisa Finney, Yonkers, NY; Helene Reda, Carmel, NY; Marilyn Faust, Ossining, NY; Elaine Conroy, Rye Brook, NY; Mary Gay Leahy, North Salem, NY; Lynn Savage, Goffstown, NH; Bethany Morelli, Closter, NJ; Maria Carlino, North Salem, NY; Ellen DeJong, Mohegan Lake, NY; Beverly Kostrinsky, Purchase, NY; Laura Marie Lovello, Stamford, CT; Kathryn Malloch, Stamford, CT; Gail Pantezzi, North Salem, NY; Mary Schneidman, Katonah, NY; Sylvia Smith, Somers, NY; Inge Stahl, Carmel, NY; Margaret Zottola, Carmel, NY; Kate Creedon, Cross River, NY; Jennifer Lind, Brewster, NY; Kathleen Wilbert, New Fairfield, CT; Dee Plouffe, Somers, NY; Janis Hardy, Oxford, CT; Barbara Fotiades, Port Jefferson, NY; Janine Cannizzaro, South Salem, NY; Susan Isherwood, Norwalk, CT; Dorothy Ritsko, Mt Kisco, NY; Ellen Belson, Armonk, NY; Wendy Baharian, Norwalk, CT; Patricia Lightner, Somers, NY; Fredda Lynn, Somers, NY; Jennifer Cannizzaro, Rockland, MA; Miriam Vogelmann, Teaneck, NJ; Rita Dieck, Newtown, CT; Ellen Yamaguchi, New York, NY; Patti Calautti, Katonah, NY and Susan Hammer, Old Tappan, NJ.



Top Ten Reasons to Belong to NSQG

I joined:

- ♣ To learn to quilt (my only creative outlet)
- ♣ To learn more about quilting techniques and historical quilts
- ♣ To spend time with people I enjoy

I stay:

- ♣ To see what other are working on
- ♣ To be a part of the wonderful tradition of quilt making
- ♣ To be inspired and awed by other members' talents
- ♣ To meet new people
- ♣ To improve my skills and keep learning
- ♣ To help keep the Guild "working"
- ♣ To stay connected with friends

Susan Wilterding, Membership

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World of Quilts XXIX

Quilt Show News

Saturday, May 3, 2008 - 10:00am to 5:00pm

Sunday, May 4, 2008 - 10:00am to 4:00pm

It is less than two months away! Our committee has really been hard at work during the last few weeks taking care of the countless details that contribute to a successful show. Here is some important information.

Quilt Registration is closing on March 31st. Once again, we require a 4-inch sleeve on every quilt entered in the show, and also on those hanging in the special exhibits. Margaret Phillips will not be at the March meeting. Please send your registrations ASAP

Drop-Off Day: Drop off day is Saturday, April 26th at The Country Quilter in Somers, NY from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. If you cannot be there, you must either mail it or make other arrangements with Margaret Phillips, our registrar.

Postcard Challenge: Entry forms will be available at the Guild meeting. Please pick up a form and enter a postcard or two in our special display. Information and the form can also be found in the September newsletter. No sleeve is needed for these. Contact Joan Weth or Lori Light-DeMarco

Show Posters: We have a wonderful poster this year with the beautiful raffle quilt on it. Please go to the web site and print one for display in your neighborhood deli, office, train station, etc.

Volunteers: We *always* need volunteers. We are very short handed on Friday afternoon/evening for the following positions: Assisting our Vendor Chair (marking vendor spots), Friday night supper (set up, serving, cleanup), Quilt Hanging, Frame Setup/Takedown. If you are interested in Quilt Hanging please contact Mayann Weinberg; for Frame Set-up/ Takedown, Suzanne Sunday. If you help out on Friday, you have all Saturday and Sunday to shop and listen to lectures/demos.

Please remember that it takes the contributions of each and every one of you to put on a great show. Every member is expected to volunteer at least two hours at the show. Many members volunteer much more than the two hours and we always appreciate all you do. Thank you for volunteering.

*Barbara Sferra and Kathy Vanacoro
Co-Chairs – Show Committee*

Sweepstakes: Please continue to bring in donations for the sweepstakes. We can use practically anything, so be creative. Your donated fabric and other items are being grouped with others to make nice theme packages. We are working on cats, bears, Christmas, Halloween, children, patriotic and vintage combinations so far.

We would also like to make mixes or bead stews so if you have any unwanted buttons, beads, charms or anything with a hole in it we will take it! We all know how beautiful these are at the shows when grouped by color or in pretty combinations.

We are also planning a small gallery of "Tiny Treasures" from our many talented members. So consider donating one or more small art pieces to our display. A pincushion, sewing caddy, postcard, trading card, jewelry or small quilt are some examples. Previous challenge quilts, teaching samples or workshop projects are ideal. You are welcome to sign the piece and attach your business card or tag if you choose.

Email us if you have any ideas, questions or wish to get in on the fun!

Susie Andersen Manderse@optonline.net and
Noreen Graham Nina1351@aol.com,
Sweepstakes coordinators

Boutique: Any NSQG member in good standing may sell items at the Quilt Show Boutique. Items submitted for sale must be made by a NSQG member and can be quilted, constructed of fabric and/or fiber, or quilt-related. Explore new techniques and stretch your imagination as well as stocking up on your usual big sellers. Vendors must volunteer at least two hours of time to work at the boutique, in addition to volunteering two hours at the show to meet your guild obligation. Information and inventory forms will be available at the general meeting.

*Stephanie Santangelo and Judy Jones, Boutique
Coordinators*

Art Quilt SIG Display

Members of the Art Quilt Special Interest Group will be submitting small works which showcase one, two or more art techniques that quilters have incorporated into their quilt art play.

Please submit your work as follows:

SHOW THEME: **UP CLOSE and PERSONAL**

SIZE: **6X6 or 8X8**

DETAILS: Include your **NAME, TITLE, TECHNIQUES** in order of importance in the piece

SUBMISSION: Include \$3 with each submission (maximum of two) to help defray the cost of showing our work in an attractive and cohesive format at the show.

DEADLINE: All pieces are due to be submitted at the March meeting. If you are interested in participating and weren't at the February meeting to sign up, please contact me to aid us in planning our exhibit.

Debbie Bein 845-849-0458 or dbein@hvc.rr.com



Library

Thanks to the members who have mailed your overdue books to me. There are many members with books that need to be returned. If you cannot get to the next meeting please try to send your books with a friend who will be able to attend. If not, pack them up and get to the post office and send them to me. I will try to contact each of you this month to remind you again what books you have to return.

I want to thank my terrific helpers Marilyn Faust and Jane del Villar for your help at the meeting. Have a good month everyone.

Noreen Graham, Librarian





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Special Events

2008 Initial Challenge

Of 29 remarkable entries (they just keep getting better every year!), the following four quilts were singled out for awards:

- First Place:** Biological Cantata by Benedicte Caneill
- Second Place:** Complicated Spirit by Carolyn Spiegel
- Third Place:** Traveling Girl by Terri Gavin
- Fourth Place:** Caritas Aeternum by Carol Auer

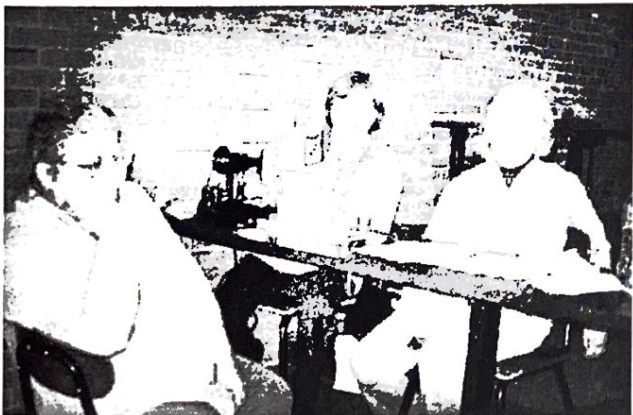
The quilts will be displayed at the Quilters' Heritage show in Lancaster and then return in time for display in the Challenge exhibit at our guild's show in May.

Margaret Phillips did a fabulous job running this Challenge and wanted to extend thanks to Terri Gavin, Andrea Winter, Jenny O'Shea, Denise Isherwood and Susie Andersen for their efforts in running this Challenge and to Deirdre Abbotts for taking pictures for the website. Outstanding work, ladies!

Thanks to all who participated!



Jacket Making with Marv Cannizzaro and Carolyn Young



Postcards with Lori Light-Demarco, Bernice Strauber and teacher Joan Weth.

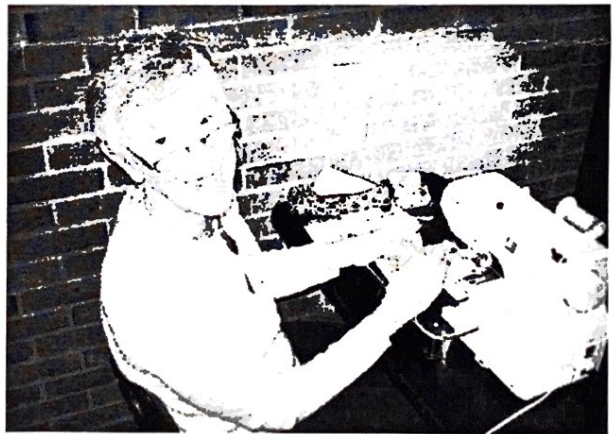
Super Saturday 2008

Many thanks to Denise Isherwood for all her hard work and superb organizational skills in making Super Saturday such a tremendous



Carol Bless with her Flower Pounding

success! Denise and I also thank all the excellent teachers who shared their talents and time to make this day so enjoyable: Harriet Bertsche, Mary Cannizzaro, by Carolyn Young, Caryl Castellion, Tamar Drucker, Linda Ostrander, Margaret Phillips, Ellen Purdy, Jeri Riggs, Carolyn Salon, and Joan Weth. Thanks to Carolyn for all her phone calls about the weather and for checking that the roads were passable.



Carolyn Langevin sewing postcards

Thanks to Deirdre Abbotts for the quick updates to the website to make sure everyone knew the latest status. Thanks to Noreen Graham and Susan Isherwood for handling registration of teachers and attendees at the door, to Vicki Romaine Cohn for photography, and to Sister Barbara for having everything ready for us despite the bad weather on Friday. Finally, thanks to all our attendees who helped clean up at the end of the day. It was a wonderful day thanks to all of you!

Janis Tobias, Special Events

Activities of Interest

Here are some upcoming shows and events that you might like to check out:

The Quilters' Guild of Brooklyn on March 8-9, 2008 at the Block Institute, 376 Bay 44 Street, Brooklyn, New York. The hours are Sat 10:00 am - 6:00 pm, Sun 11:00 am - 4:00 pm. Admission is \$7.00 / \$5.00 seniors. www.quiltbrooklyn.org


A Spring Shower of Quilts XII, April 5 & 6, 2008, Seymour Middle School, 211 Mountain Road, Seymour, CT Hours, Saturday, 10:00 - 5:00 Sunday 10:00 - 4:00 Admission: Adult \$6 - 1 day, \$10 - 2 days, Children 12 and under \$3, www.ctpiecemakers.org

Machine Quilter' Exposition, April 14-19, 2008, The Center of New Hampshire/ Radisson Hotel 700 Elm Street Manchester, NH, www.mqxshow.com

Quilters' Society, Inc. April 12 & 13, 2008 at the Freeport Recreation Center 130 East Merrick Rd. Freeport, Long Island. The hours are Sat. 10 am - 5 pm, Sun. 10 am - 4 pm. Admission is \$8. www.liqs.org

Art Quilt Elements (formerly ArtQuilts at the Sedgwick) April 4 - May 18, 2008 at Wayne Art Center, 413 Maplewood Ave, Wayne, Pennsylvania. The hours are Mon-Fri: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm; Wed: 10:00 am - 7:00 pm; Sat: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.

Franklin County Quilter's Guild 10th Annual Show on April 5th & 6th, 2008 Saturday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm; Sunday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. St. Albans City Hall, 100 N. Main Street, St. Albans, VT Admission is free. www.vtmooses.us/fcqq.html



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Charitable Activities



Each guild member is encouraged to sell at least two books of tickets for the Annual Raffle. They may be picked up at the March meeting. After that we will have to mail them to everyone. Please help us save the cost of postage by picking up the books at the next meeting. Returns can be made at that time, or by sending your checks directly to me at the address listed in the directory.

Comfort Quilts will meet on March 19, April 2 and April 16th.

Carolyn Langevin, Charitable Activities



February 2008

On Point!



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