

On Point!

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A Message from the President

This is the most difficult President's Message that I have had to write, as some events that took place at the last meeting upset nearly everyone in the room. They involved the manner in which discussion of the By-Laws would take place. It forced the body into the very awkward situation of not being able to complete the business of the General Meeting in a timely manner and made a very poor impression on the many new members in our audience.

This was frustrating to all those who have given their time over the past two years to make all members feel welcome and encourage them to become more involved. It was embarrassing to the members who brought us our most expensive speaker of the year, and interfered with the sign-ups for both the coming workshops and the Quilt Show.

In the next few paragraphs and elsewhere in the newsletter, I and other members will present some information that I hope will help to clear the air so that we can put this aside and enjoy a joyous weekend with our friends at our 27th World of Quilts Show.

Besides some basic legal requirements, our By-Laws are intended to make it effortless for us to operate as a Quilt Guild. They are a peace-keeping tool, and not something to fight over. The problem at the meeting occurred because the Board didn't think the membership would want to spend the better part of a meeting discussing the proposed By-Law changes line-by-line. Instead it was decided that the recommended revision of the By-Laws would be printed in the March newsletter. Specific questions raised by the membership would be answered in the April newsletter, as well as a discussion session would be scheduled at the April meeting to address any further concerns that the membership might have.

Some members questioned the Board's strategy and stated that a line-by-line discussion was necessary under *Robert's Rules of Order* before a vote could be taken. The motion to that effect and to continue the discussion past the Annual Meeting was soundly defeated. A 45-minute period has been scheduled for the beginning of the May meeting in order to give members an additional chance to express their opinions.

I have asked the By-Law Review Committee to make the necessary arrangements so that Guild members interested in submitting Amendments to the proposed By-Law revision can do so in an efficient manner. I think I can speak for the current Board, the nominees of the 2006-2007 Board, and the members of the By-Law committee, when I say that we are quite upset that a portion of the membership felt that we hadn't been adequately forthcoming about the nature of the changes. A great deal of effort has gone into providing information and avenues for members to express their thoughts.

It is my responsibility to understand your concerns and determine how you wish to proceed. The function of *Robert's Rules of Order* is to ensure that the minority is heard and the majority prevails. The rest of the book is suggested methods for getting there fairly. The bright side of this story is that we now have a much higher level of interest in and understanding of the issues, and of each other.

I hope to see all of you at the Show and at next month's meeting. The Guild has a lot going for it, and we are lucky to have so many members who care so deeply about it.

Susie Andersen, PRESIDENT

By Laws

These amendments will be in effect on the date of the proposed By-Law revision. It is requested that you bring them to the meeting by the date indicated.

Amended By-Laws

Chairman: Susan Andersen

PO Box 248

Watkinsville, NY 13597

advis@northernstar.com

Amendments may be sent to the attention of Susan Andersen, PO Box 248, Watkinsville, NY 13597

Changes to the By-Laws may be submitted to the By-Law Review Committee meeting scheduled for 6:30pm on May 15th, 2006 at the High School during which time the Committee will review the Amendments received.

On The Road Again...

Lowell Quilt Festival in August

Lowell, Massachusetts is having a Citywide Celebration of Quilts and wouldn't it be nice if we were there? Well, all you need to do is sign up!

We'll be at The Quilt Festival on Friday, August 4th to Saturday, August 5th. The Tsongas Arena will have a juried Quilt Show and there will 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 exhibit, organized by the American Quilter's Society, is titled *Blending the Old and The New: Quilts by Paul Pilgrim*. There will be shuttle buses running between all the exhibits and plenty to see.

We'll stay at The Best Western Hotel, which has an Outdoor Pool, Fitness Center, Sauna and Jacuzzi for those of us who need to unwind after seeing all the quilts. All this, and a Continental Breakfast, too!

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.

Let's all make plans to have a great trip! We will be making pickups in Elmsford, Brewster, and Danbury for this one.

Hope you can join us! ————— Thanks, Kathy Vanacoro
608 S. Lakeshore Drive, Lake Carmel, NY 10512
kathy913quilter@yahoo.com, 845-225-0047

Fat Quarters for our President

As most of you know, the May meeting will be Susie's last meeting as President of our Guild.

As usual our "Thank You" to Susie will be a basket of fat quarters donated by the membership. There will be a basket at the Registration Table where you can drop off your fat quarter. Thanks, Sue McMachan

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By-Laws Review

I am chairperson of the By-Laws Review Committee. In light of the circumstances of our last Guild meeting, I feel it might be beneficial to recap how the committee did its work and why the revised By-Laws document was presented in the format that it was.

Our committee began meeting last September, charged with the task of reviewing the current By-Laws and if necessary, drafting amendments to it. We started with Article I, intending to proceed by analyzing each article, identifying the issues, and making appropriate changes. It became apparent early on that this would not be sufficient — some restructuring and reorganization of large portions of the document were going to be necessary to make it clearer and ultimately more useful to the Guild.

We presented our revised By-Laws Document to the Board in February, at both a regular meeting and a special meeting. We explained the process, our rationale for each change, summarized the substantive changes, and recommended that because of the extent and interconnectedness of the changes, the document be presented to the membership to be voted on as a whole. The Board agreed and the document was published in the March newsletter and mailed to all members.

Because the review resulted in a proposed revision and not a series of Amendments, the Board was committed to getting it to the membership as early as possible so that everyone could have ample time to review the document, assess its merits, and ask for clarifications prior to a vote at the Annual Meeting in May.

It was hoped that members would study the new document, get answers to any questions, and then decide for themselves whether any specific section or sections they disagreed with would prevent them from accepting the document as a whole. If that were the case, they would choose to vote against the proposed By-Laws. On the other hand, if the document's overall merits outweighed any specific objection or objections, they would choose to approve the proposed By-Laws.

Although this procedure may be acceptable to a majority of the members, it clearly does not satisfy everyone. Therefore, the President has requested the By-Laws Review Committee to schedule a Committee Meeting for the purpose of reviewing any amendment to the proposed By-Laws revision submitted to it by the membership. This meeting has been scheduled for the evening of Monday, May 15, 2006 at 6:30pm at JFK High School, and any Guild member interested in sitting in on this meeting is welcome to attend. For the Committee to effectively do its work, we are requesting that Amendments be submitted, in writing, by twelve noon of that day.

This review will help insure that each Amendment submitted is in the correct format for presentation to the membership, and will allow the Committee the opportunity of determining its possible impact on other sections of the proposed By-Laws. Receiving the proposed Amendments in writing will also help us make the most of the 45 minutes of discussion scheduled, at the membership's request, for the May 16th general meeting.

Andrea Winter

2006 A World of Quilts XXVII Show

This newsletter will be arriving close to Show time. Our judging will be complete, the ribbons awarded, the Winner's List out to the printer, and we will be preparing for set-up and another amazing Show.

I would like to thank everyone. I have met so many of the members in my capacity as Show Chairman. Your dedication and cooperation are evident at every turn. This Guild is a wonderful institution, and the success of the Show is all due to the enthusiastic commitment of all!

If you are lucky enough to win a ribbon at the Show, be sure to bring your quilt and ribbon to the May meeting. The photographs of the winning quilts will be up on the website soon.

Mary Cannizzaro, QUILT SHOW CHAIRMAN

Membership Report

The membership registration form for 2006-2007 will be included in next month's newsletter. We encourage you to give your full attention to filling it out. The Membership Committee and Board have made extensive use of information on these forms this year to locate volunteers with particular talents and interests, to plan Super Saturday and to gain direction from you in program planning.

The Special Interest Groups will meet at 6:00 PM. A demonstration on the use of vinyl overlays will be presented at the Appliqué Group. The Art Quilt Group's presentation will feature the ins and outs of machine satin stitching, and members participating in the latest postcard exchange will bring in their postcards for Show 'n Tell.

A decision to end at 6:30 rather than 6:45 in order to attend a discussion of By-Laws changes will be at the discretion of each group.

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



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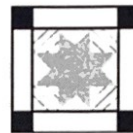


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NSQG 2006-2007 Slate of Officers – Candidate Biographies

Mary Cannizzaro – Candidate for President

My husband and I have lived in South Salem for 32 years and have two adult daughters. I have been sewing for as long as I can remember. My sister and I own and operate a window treatment workroom where we create custom designs for interior designers throughout the Tri-State area. I am a sustaining member of the Hopp Ground Garden Club in Bedford, where I have served in many administrative positions.

I am part of a weekly quilting group, *Birds of a Feather*. We have made many raffle quilts for community groups and enjoy the wonderful friendships that quilting has made possible. I have served on the Quilt Show Committee for several years and am currently on the Board as Vice President, Quilt Show. As the chairman of the Quilt Show, my goals have been to update the appearance of the Show, tap the talents of more Guild Members, and reorganize the Show's publicity in order to improve our attendance, and thereby increase our profits.

It has been an honor to be a part of the Board for the past two years. The Board has been active in organizing the Guild policies and procedures, managing the finances, approving By-Law Revisions, focusing on what is important to members, and making new members welcome. I have found this to be very stimulating work and want to follow in this path of working hard to make each part of the Guild better. I look forward to serving as your next President. NSQG is a vibrant, exciting Guild of many diverse individuals with a common thread of quilting.

Kay Marcarello – Candidate for Treasurer

In 1991 the South Salem Library asked for volunteers to help make a quilt for their fund raising raffle. I said "Why not?". Thus I began quilting and frankly I haven't stopped. At first I could only machine piece, but now find I enjoy a variety of techniques, especially hand appliqué. Perhaps the most rewarding aspect of quilting are the great friends I've made, and I look forward to making and working with even more as part of my expanded involvement with Northern Star.

In my other life I work for an investment advisory group and deal with financial accounts on a daily basis. I'm not shy about taking on responsibility, but I much prefer to remain in the background and quietly get things done. During the past year, I have been the Quilt Show Treasurer and have learned the ins and outs of our bookkeeping system. I now look forward to working for the Guild as Treasurer and with this Board.

Andrea Winter – Candidate for Recording Secretary

I joined the Guild in 1996 and have served in a variety of positions, including 5 years on the Quilt Show Committee, and on the Board as Recording Secretary, Librarian, and currently as Hospitality Chair. I look forward to serving on the Board again as Recording Secretary.

I am married to my high school "sweetheart" and have 4 children, who have been kind enough to present me with 8 grandchildren and a reason to learn to quilt. Quilting nurtures my creative side – one I didn't even know I had, while the friends I have made nurture the rest.

The Guild is a wonderful organization and I feel lucky to be able to share in the work of keeping it as vibrant and successful as it has been.

Barbara Sliter – Candidate for Corresponding Secretary

I have been a member of the Guild since the late '80's, with 2000-2002 off during the illness and death of my husband. In that time I have twice served on the Board: once, when I was a young member as Newsletter Chairperson, then Corresponding Secretary, and lastly as Recording Secretary for the past two years. I have always been impressed by the vitality of the Guild and its many activities. The members have always been an inspiration to me as my quilting has progressed in fits and starts.

It has been a pleasure to give back by serving on Boards striving to make the Guild an even better organization. I am pleased by the opportunity to once again be asked to serve as Corresponding Secretary.

Dorothy Scalice – Candidate for Vice President, Programs

Born in the "Big Apple", my love for color was developed during the many years I spent creating new products for the cosmetic industry. I often refer to this as "My Life: Part 1."

In 1982 I relocated to Connecticut, where "My Life: Part 2" started with a visit to a local quilt shop – and that's when all the fun began. Short on time and long on wanna do quilts, I set out to learn every shortcut in the book and am constantly looking for new tools and techniques. I started out with traditional quilts but always with a twist and a tweak. After teaching my first class, I had no doubt I'd found my own piece of heaven. Now I enjoy creating quilts of my own design, and give classes, trunk shows and lectures for quilt shops, guilds and schools in an effort to spread the passion.

Carol Sterk – Candidate for Co-Vice President, Membership

I've been a member of NSQG since January 1982 and have witnessed its evolution from a small group of women who learned by sharing with each other to a large organization committed to bringing its members cutting edge speakers and workshops. As Membership Co-Chair this year, I have helped facilitate the development of special interest groups, and, if elected, plan to work towards expanding this project over the coming year. My hope is that the Guild will be able to pull together the best of both worlds, and bring back the small group feeling that creates in each of us the experience of being a special part of the whole, and motivates involvement at a deeper level. Thank you for the honor of trusting me with the responsibility that comes with being a Board Member.

Noreen Graham – Candidate for Co-Vice President, Membership

I began quilting about 20 years ago, basically learning from television shows and books. Then about four years ago, I started taking classes and still do as often as I can because quilters are great for sharing what they know. After my youngest son left for college in 2004, I fulfilled my goal of joining NSQG. It has been an encouraging, eye-opening experience that has allowed me to become braver in my quilting choices. I still remember the overwhelming feeling of my first Guild Meeting, and hope to carry on the good work Degen Sayer and Carol Sterk have done with Membership. The bonus for me is all the wonderful people I will meet working with new Members.

continued on page 6

continued from page 5

**Barbara Sferra –
Candidate for Co-Vice President, Quilt Show**

I began sewing when I was 10 or 12 years old, taught by my Mother, who started me off on a box-pleated skirt...not the easiest of projects! I continued to sew and make clothes for myself through high school, college and after. When I had children, I made overalls and dresses for them, as well as machine appliqueing "comforter covers" over purchased baby comforters.

When I moved to Goldens Bridge, I lived across the street from a quilter, Linda Sandella, who used to belong to this Guild. I was eager to join her small group, but my youngest was a baby.

When she was two years old, I found a nursery school that she could attend a couple of days a week and I joined the group in 1990! There was much to learn, so I took classes at the Country Quilter, watched every TV show I could find and learned from the small group. About 1992, I joined NSQG, took numerous workshops and really found it a great and stimulating place to be.

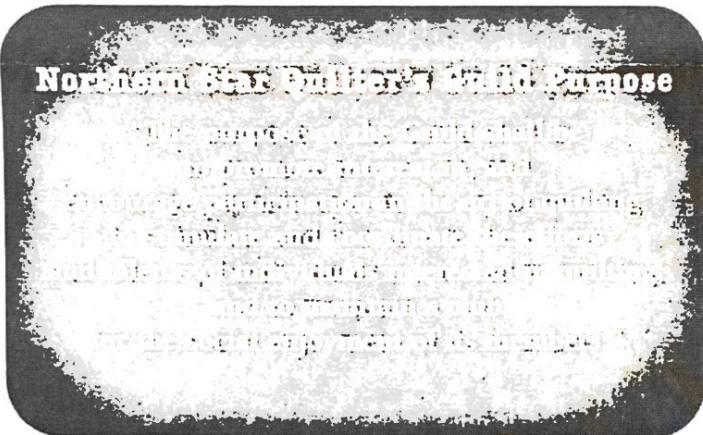
I have served on the Show Committee for about 6 years, beginning as JFK Liaison for 3 years, and really learned how the Show functioned. For the last 3 years I have been the Outdoor Sign Person. I think that Kathy Vanacoro and I can break new ground by being Co-Chairpersons of the Quilt Show and do it very well. Such a huge job could benefit from two people working in concert. I believe Kathy and I will work well and put together a great Show.

**Kathy Vanacoro –
Candidate for Co-Vice President, Quilt Show**

I am honored to be asked to serve NSQG under the leadership of Mary Cannizzaro and I look forward to working with Barbara Sferra and the rest of the Board Members. I have served in many capacities in the Guild, including VP Programs, Show Committee, VP Membership and most recently Trip Coordinator, which is a job I truly enjoyed and highly recommend.

I have a very supportive husband, Matt, and two very talented children, who are grown and on their own. I work full time as Secretary to the Principal of a Middle School in Carmel, NY, and I look forward to coming home and putting a little time in on my sewing machine to relieve the stress of some very long days. My husband and I have the house to ourselves and we both enjoy our hobbies immensely. His include photography, hunting and fishing, and mine include quilting and making jewelry. I am a big fan of traditional quilting, but I do so admire the talent I see in Art Quilts today.

I am taking on this job with the hope that I can count on past and present Committee Members for their help and guidance. Our Quilt Show is a wonderful event, and I look forward to working with all the Guild Members who work so hard to accomplish this!



2005-2006 NSQG Board

- President**Susie Andersen, manderse@optonline.net
- Vice President, Programs**.....Suzanne Sunday, sSunday@bestweb.net
- Vice Presidents, Membership**Degen Sayer, degensayer@aol.com
Carol Sterk, csterk@optonline.net
- Vice President, Quilt Show**..Mary Cannizzaro, antmaryc@optonline.net
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2006-2007 Nominating Chairperson

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One Woman Show — Susie Andersen

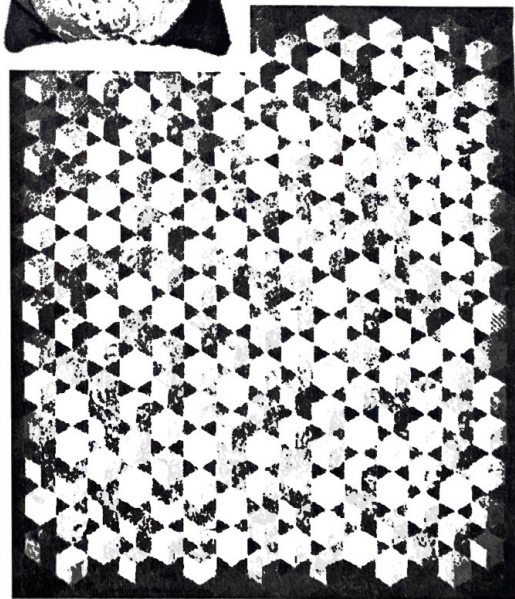
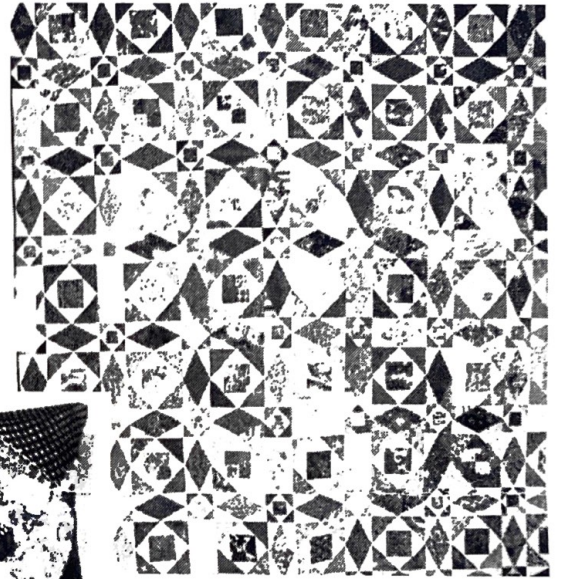


Having the outgoing President of the Guild present the One Woman Show in May seemed like a really nice idea at the time when I was asked to exhibit my work. However, being the President and being under construction at my home for almost two years has interfered with my actual quilting! Now that I have a beautiful clean sewing space, and you will soon have a new President, I hope to really get organized and begin new projects.

In 1991 we moved to Texas and while I had been quilting since 1973, this was my first experience in a Guild. I became a member of a small community Guild and the 800-member Quilter's Guild of Dallas. Gabrielle Swain was the local quilting teacher. I sat next to her at meetings, watched her work, and learned to needle-turn appliqué. I learned to crazy quilt from one of the local members there as well. I have been crazy quilting ever since, and have taught it at The Scarsdale Adult School, The Museum of American Folk Art, and a few other local venues.

In my pieced work I use the whole color wheel, as I love the variety and the opportunity to use my almost legendary scrap box. I often work in a block format and limit my work to a few basic sizes and shapes, which allows me to focus on the manipulation of color, value and texture. Using the full color wheel forces me to place each fabric scrap into the perfect position within that pre-designated grid. Each piece is pinned together or placed on a design wall and evaluated before any fabric is sewn.

Working on a quilt, a house, a garden, or a committee all involve this process of piecing together many different textures, colors and personalities into a pleasing workable whole. Finishing is not my goal, as it is the process I love. My display will include some UFOs, but I don't really consider them UFOs unless they span more than a decade.



I work for Loretta Stagen Floral Design. I have learned so much about color, texture, variety, teaching and life in general from her that it has definitely improved my two-dimensional work. I also do wedding-related sewing work for her. I am grateful to have the opportunity to be around so many creative people to inspire and encourage me to continue growing my skills.

May Meeting:

Tuesday, May 16th

JFK High School, Somers, NY

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

Early Meeting: 6:30-7:15PM
JFK AUDITORIUM

Discussion of By-Law Revision

Annual Meeting: 7:15PM

WORLD OF QUILTS XXVII REPORT

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2006-2007

TREASURER'S REPORT

VOTE ON BY-LAWS

SPECIAL SHOW 'N' TELL FROM OUR QUILT SHOW RIBBON WINNERS

Guest Speaker:

Judy Allen

"Feather Quilting, The Comfort of My Soul"

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