

December 2010 NSQG Newsletter

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Northern Star Quilters' Guild Newsletter

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- Dec 1 (Wed) Comfort Quilts meets at North Salem Volunteer Ambulance Corp., 14 Daniel Road, North Salem (Future Dates: Jan 5 & 19)
- Dec 7 (Tues) Board Meeting
- Dec 18 (Sat) Dear Jane SIG meets 10 am at the Apple Bank for Savings, 666 Columbus Avenue, Thornwood.
- Dec. 14 (Tues) General meeting with **Melanie Testa : *Art and Ideas***, a progression of Melanie's artistic pursuits.

All Guild members are invited to bring a treat for the goody table and a \$10 quilt-related gift for the Gift Exchange!

Library Sale too!

Letter From The President

Take a few moments during December to do something for yourself that you really enjoy! There are many great quilting possibilities for Northern Star members. Guild Challenge participants are creating a fabric interpretation of their favorite musical theme. Silent Auction quilts are being readied for the Show. Quilt blocks are being completed for the 2012 Raffle Quilt.

Each year we create a raffle quilt to support a charity. This year we are raising money for the Children's Cancer Fund. Each quilt is unique, never a repeat, and takes many volunteers to complete. Members work together and contribute by sewing a portion of the raffle quilt. We take great pride in the result.

Similarly, each year we create a governing Board made up of a new combination of members. Many help by doing a portion of the task. The jobs are more easily accomplished by working together. The result is a year that we can all reflect upon with great pride.

So enjoy December, and as you take time for some quilting amidst the festivities, please also reflect on how you will contribute to the Guild in 2011. Deanna Fei writes in her book *A Thread of Sky*, that "holidays are ordinary days brightly packaged and stuffed with meaning." May this holiday season provide you with meaningful memories and may they definitely include quilts. Hope to see you at the next meeting, December 14.

Susan Wilterding, President, susanw.nsqg@gmail.com

Programs

Meeting

December's speaker is one of Northern Star's former members, **Melanie Testa**. Melanie is well known as a textile and fiber artist. Melanie's presentation is Art and Ideas, a progression of her artistic pursuits. The lecture will feature her inspiration and approach to making an art quilt art, designing fabrics and embellishment. Visit her website at <http://www.melanietesta.com>.

Workshop

Bring your calendar and cash or checkbook to sign up for two more outstanding workshops. You will need to pay when you sign-up.

- **New York Beauty Quilts-Simplified** — [Linda Hahn](#) on **Monday, March 14**. \$50 class fee and \$22 kit/pattern fee. Make this gorgeous block using ONE PIN (yup, ONE pin) with Linda's out-of-the-box piecing technique. You'll learn an easy way to quickly paper piece the arc foundations, and then easily and quickly set in the pie and background shapes with ONE pin. There's a WOW factor to this technique (but we can't tell you here).
- **Small Landscape Class II**—[Cynthia England](#) on **Wednesday, April 13**. \$50 class fee and \$30 kit/pattern fee. Create a pictorial landscape. No tracing involved, templates are pre-printed onto freezer paper. Fabric selection, organizational skills and construction methods will be addressed in class

Remember that fees are non-refundable so check your calendars and choose carefully. Refer to **OnPoint!** for more details.

Carolynn Young, VP Programs, Programs@northernstarquilters.com

Membership

Thank you to the **Dear Jane Special Interest Group** for displaying their beautiful blocks and quilts for the November Member showcase. Here are some photos of the display.



The December **Member Showcase** will highlight the **Art Quilters Special Interest Group**. Please bring an item to be displayed.

A warm welcome to **Sheila Margolis** who has joined NSQG.



Photo by Helen Boland

Happy Holidays!
Patti Calautti, VP Membership, Pattic0312@gmail.com

Education

Special Interest Groups

Art Quilt Group did not meet in November because of the Boutique. In December the group will meet as usual in the Library at 5:45. Bring Show & Tell. **Deirdre Abbotts** will talk about putting together a blog. The **Member Showcase** at the December meeting will feature works by the Art Quilt Group.

Hand Applique Group did not meet in November. In December, there will be a demonstration of different methods of making stems.

Dear Jane Group The work of the Dear Jane Group was highlighted in the November Member Showcase and the display was varied and wonderful. The group will meet December 18th at the Apple Bank in Thornwood.

Kids Can Quilt! – If you're interested in joining, please contact **Melanie Darensod**.

Long-Arm Quilters' Group will be starting in January. We'll be getting together periodically at each other's houses for demos; we're going to schedule classes and we're going to pool our resources in other ways. There are no requirements for membership. Even if you don't have your own machine but are interested in the subject, you're invited to join us. Just email me and I'll put your name on the list and send you details about the first meeting.

Show and Tell

Please remember to bring in your quilts for Show and Tell.

January Program

HOW Did She Do THAT? Members will demonstrate different and unusual techniques that they have used and we'll be able to view their work and ask questions. The demonstrators will span the quilting spectrum, from art quilts to traditional quilts.

February Program

WHY Did I Buy THAT? Member demonstrations will afford you the opportunity to learn to use all those tools you needed to buy at quilt shows but have never used and couldn't figure out how to use if your life depended on it. And just in case you didn't actually buy these tools in a past buying spree, we will make available information on where you can get them if the demonstration convinces you that you

need them now.

If anyone is interested in doing a demonstration in January or February, please talk to me or email me.

Diane Linker, VP Education, dianelinkernsqq@verizon.net

Charitable Activities



2011 Raffle Quilt

Thank you to members who stopped by the check-in table and picked up raffle tickets for ***Pastel Bubbles***. If you haven't yet received your tickets, please pick up your envelope at the December meeting. If you need more books of tickets let me know in advance of the meeting. Thanks for your support of the **Children's Cancer Fund**.

2012 Raffle Quilt

Thanks so much to all of the NSQG members who picked up block kits for the 2012 raffle quilt. The kits are due at the January meeting but you may return your finished block to **Denise Isherwood** in December if you like.

Comfort Quilts

Upcoming Meetings: December 1, January 5 and 19. Comfort quilts meets at North Salem Volunteer Ambulance Corp., 14 Daniel Road, North Salem. Dates are subject to change. Please verify the date if you have a question with **Carol Auer** auerwein@gmail.com or **Karen Carlson** quiltingkarend@aol.com.

Barb Tatera, Charitable Activities, patchwork15@gmail.com

Special Events

2011 Challenge: "Music Makes Me Create"

The challenge is to create a new album (CD) cover for your favorite: Song or Album/CD or Artist or Genre. The finished quilts must be a 12 x 12, the size of a vinyl album cover.

One quick change: NO Sleeve. Quilts must be labeled on the back with:

- Title of quilt
- Quilter's name
- Address
- Phone number or email.

Quilts will be displayed at the NSQG meeting on **February 15th**. Ribbons will be given based on the secret ballot of NSQG members who attend that meeting.

Do you have an embroidery machine? Do you have an embroidery digitizing program? Have you used them yet? In this class, Kendell will show you how to digitize a design using your computer in order to create an embroidered nametag, bookmark or anything you can think of. You will learn how to save the designs as embroidery files for many brands of sewing machines.

The second half of class will cover basics of machine embroidery including stabilizing projects, thread choices and hooping the projects successfully. We will stitch out the design and give the result to one of the lucky students!

This is a great class for anyone that owns an embroidery machine with an embroidery program for creating designs. If you are “afraid” of breaking the machine or just haven’t mastered the idea of machine embroidery yet, take this class. If you have a laptop computer with your digitizing program loaded and able to open, I will be able to get you started using your own program to do some of the things we will learn in class.

Suzanne Sunday – FREE MOTION QUILTING A REVERSIBLE TABLE RUNNER

This class is for people who have never free motion quilted or who need to work on their free motion quilting. We will practice several motifs on muslin (or other fabric that won’t be used for the table runner) to work on skills. Then, we will work on the elements of a reversible table runner. If you do your cutting and preparation before the class, you should complete most, if not all of the project (except the binding) during the class. Sewing machine capable of free motion quilting is required.

Barbara Sferra – BEADING ON QUILTS AND WEARABLES

Using beads on quilts, wall hangings and wearable art can enhance and define your design. The beading can be the focal point of the design or simply add the finishing touches to your work. (Think Designer evening bag.) No sewing machine required.

Patricia Loquet – ARABIC LATTICE QUILT

This large block machine pieced geometric quilt using partial seams can be traditional or modern depending on the fabric chosen. Templates will be provided. Sewing machine required. Fast, fun, gorgeous and easy!

SIT ‘N’ SEW- For members who would just like to hang out with their sister quilters and work on their own projects. Must be willing to allow others to adore your work during the course of the day.

Carol Mayefsky, Super Saturday, cmayefsky@gmail.com

Trips

A few spaces are left for the AQS Lancaster Quilt show on March 18-19 2011 This

Jen Cannizzaro Jen51573@verizon.net
Kelly Lockwood, VP Special Events, lockypt@aol.com

Hospitality

A reminder that *all* Guild members are invited to bring a treat for the goody table for December. Please also bring a \$10 quilt-related gift for the Gift Exchange!

Holiday-related quilts for the table are needed - contact me if you would like to lend yours!

Carolyn Thye, VP Hospitality, carolynthye1@optonline.net

Library

It was a very busy month at the Library last month. A special thanks to both **Chris Roche** and **Micki Tedeschi** for all their help this year. We have had quite a few donations to the library so we are planning to have a **SALE** of books at the December meeting. **Brenda Strauss** has donated about 40 books and **Sandra Lovas** has donated over 200 books. So we hope you will support our endeavor this month.

Hardcover books are \$2 and Softcover books are \$1. Looking forward to seeing you all.

Joan Weth, Librarian jweth112@optonline.net

2011 Quilt Show

The Registration Form will soon be available on the Guild's website. This year, for the first time, you will be able to fill out the form electronically and send it from the website. Your registration will automatically be sent to **Diane Linker**, Quilt Registrar, at dianelinkernsqq@verizon.net. You will still have to pay the registration fee directly to Diane, by check, either in person or by mail. Your registration won't be complete until the money is received. However, the date and time of receipt of your emailed form and picture will be your registration date.

A Special Invitation to our Members

Do you have an antique quilt that has been waiting to have its story told? Do you have a family quilting history to share? Well, here is the perfect opportunity. For part of this year's Invitational Quilts, we are displaying antique quilts (circa 1800s to 1940). We would like as many of them to come from our Guild members as possible. This could be great grandma's quilt that you are lucky enough to own, your Mom's baby quilt, or even a quilt that you found in an antique store that called your name. If you are fortunate enough to have a photo of the quilt maker and could give us a bio on her, we would love to include it in our display. If you would like to be part of our Stitches in Time exhibit, please tell us about your treasure.

Chris Roche, edward.roche2@verizon.net
Marie Sugar, msugar156@optonline.net

Caryl Castellion, VP Quilt Show, caryl.castellion@gmail.com

Find Us Here

Congratulations to **Mary Cannizzaro**, whose quilt, **Flow Blue**, made it into the video of the Houston show! [See more Find Us Here on our website.](#)

For Sale

Antique drunkards path variation. Low price/negotiable, call **Pat Baker** 845-279-8/840. [Click here](#) to see what else our members are selling.

Notes On Fiscal Responsibility

To keep the Guild vibrant and current, the Board periodically makes changes to meet the circumstances. Past Boards have amended the By-Laws and modified Policies, and we continue to do so. In 2006 the Guild implemented QuickBooks, which is a software tool that provides computerized financial management and reporting. At the end of the last fiscal year, the Board took this idea one step further and purchased a computer for centralizing our financial records.

The transfer of QuickBooks data to the Guild computer took place over the summer and highlighted some situations that need to be addressed. The current Board has contracted with a QuickBooks specialist, who will make the necessary modifications to the QuickBooks application which will provide for complete, accurate accounting and reporting of the Guild's financial situation. The Board believes that retaining a QuickBooks specialist for this function at present is in the best interest of the Guild and will ensure that financial and budgetary decisions are made by the Board going forward based upon full and accurate financial information.

Continuity and consistency are important considerations for a Treasurer and the use of QuickBooks aids in both. The current situation of a QuickBooks specialist and a Treasurer is not necessarily permanent. When the Board feels confident that the computer procedures have been established and the forms for all reports have been tailored to the needs of the Guild, it will revisit our needs.

Our financial position is positive. Last year's budget was tight and we held to it carefully, finishing the year with a small surplus. We expect to do likewise this year. We maintain a reserve amount decreed by Guild policy, which provides a cushion in case of a lean year of fund-raising. This is good fiscal responsibility and encouraged by our CPA.

The goal of the Board is to provide continuity of accurate financial records and reports going forward.

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