



November/ December 2024 Newsletter

The bonds formed within a quilt guild are woven with threads of kindness and shared experiences~

I joined the guild a few years ago to improve my quilting skills, to be involved with charity projects and to forge meaningful connections. There are many ways to get to know other members of the guild. Volunteer to assist a committee, attend workshops or a Sunshine Bee. This December the Charity Sit and Sew will involve stuffing/sewing support pillows and writing cards of well wishes. The group table setting will provide the opportunity to engage in conversations with fellow members as you work on the pillows and cards. Find a table with members you are not familiar with, introduce yourself and share your love of quilting.

Mark your calendar for the Anniversary Fundraiser on January 13, 2025. Check out the volunteer table at our general meetings to sign up for a task to assist the Committee Chair, Beth DiDomenico. I assisted with this project last year and it was a fun evening! We enjoyed pizza and dessert after all the baskets were assembled.

I want to wish everyone a Joyous, Healthy and Safe Holiday Season.

Best Wishes,

Christine



A Mother Is Like A Quilt

A mother is like a quilt.

She gathers the threads of her life, and the lives of her children, and their children,
Weaving them together with her love, knowledge, caring and patience,
Creating a thing of beauty, warmth and love.

A mother is like a quilt.

She is always there when you need warmth and comfort.
Holding together all the varied pieces of her family's lives,
She helps create a strong patchwork based on love, trust, caring, giving and
forgiving.

A mother is like a quilt.

Her life is multicolored and full of interesting patterns.
Family stories of the past give loft and substance to the love that comes from her
heart.

A mother is like a quilt.

She begins her life's project with ideals in mind,
-personal, familial and worldly.
Some pieces of the fabric of her life come out just as she envisioned,
Others need rethinking and careful revision,
Others may not work themselves into the design at all.
Still others, while they may be full of sorrow, will make their way into the quilt's
design because they too are part of the character and essence of her life.

A mother is like a quilt.

She is warm, comforting, cuddly and full of color.
A wealth of memories held together by family ties,
Strong enough to last for generations:
Threads of silver and gold, black and white, and every color in between.

A mother is like a quilt - a blanket of love.

By Ginger Scott
February 2002

General Guild Notes

Membership: Our new registration process is online at www.gardenstatequiltersguild.com. The option to pay by credit card, check, or cash at the meeting is now available. Please wear your name badge at every meeting so all members new and returning see your name. New name tags will be available starting at our October meeting. Access to the 'members only' on our guild website is available when your renewed membership is paid. Sign up now! A late fee of \$10 will be assessed for membership dues paid after October 21st. New members are excluded from the late fee. If you have any questions about the new signup process or change in contact information, please see Jan Martin or Lori Darnulc. You may also reach Jan at jmartinnj@comcast.net. We know with meetings ending late it may be getting difficult for some members to drive after dark. If you need driving assistance, please let us know. It may be possible to establish a carpool. Please contact Jan Martin (908) 616-9843 to look into this.

General meetings are in person at Grace Church, unless otherwise noted on the website. Dates are listed on pages 12 & 13. From 6:45 – 7:15 pm is the time to chat with other members, visit each of our tables (membership, programs, quilt show, library, Sunshine, etc.) and to go to Drop and Shop. **Meetings will start promptly at 7:15 pm.** **Board meetings** are also in person two weeks prior to the general meeting, unless noted beforehand. Please let us know if you will attend so we can give you meeting information in advance. Dates are listed on pages 12 & 13.

President, Christine Courtney will hold on to any item left at the GSQG meeting. She will bring it to the next meeting or you can contact her to arrange a pickup. Christine's email is: ccourtney1717@gmail.com, or you can reach her on her cell phone at 201-841-7036.

The Friendship Quilt: This year's Friendship Quilt celebrates the United States as we head into a presidential election with the colors red, white, blue, and gold. We will be giving you the gold. You will need red, white, and blue 2.5 inch wide strips in shades similar to our flag. They do not need to be solid colors, but they should read as sort of a solid color. The block is based on a Bento Box pattern, but put together in a different arrangement. There will be sample blocks and instructions at the first meeting. If you have extra fabric, please bring it to the swap with others.

Drop and Shop: Drop and Shop will be open every month except January for our annual January birthday Basket celebration. Clean out your quilting room, storage bins, closets and bring fabric, quilting tools, books, thread, patterns etc. and drop them off at our table. We have such a wide selection of items, you are bound to find what you were looking for. Then fill up your own bag with quilt goodies for \$10. The price increase reflects our commitment to contribute to GSQ's financial health.



Fabric Raffle: With the fabric raffle such a success last year, we're continuing it at each membership meeting. We had some incredible fabric bundles that were raffled last year. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Hospitality: Hospitality has gone back to what was done pre-pandemic. Members with last names beginning with A-M, then N-Z, are asked to bring a food item to share for alternating months. Members are asked to bring their own beverage to the meeting. Listed on pages 12 & 13 are the general meeting dates which members are asked to bring something to share according to the first letter of your last name.

Library: The GSQG library is open in September, and as always reach out to Laura Wagner (lajawagner@gmail.com) with any requests or suggestions of books you think the guild ought to own. The listing of books that are currently owned by the guild is in our Member's Only section on the website.

Newsletter: As in past years, we run a newsletter every 2 months and anyone in the guild may contribute (see “Member News” section that is usually in the newsletter near the end of the document). We ask that contributions be sent to Cindy Koziol-White at cynthiakoziol27@hotmail.com. The schedule for submission of information is listed below:

Newsletter	Information Submission Date
January-February 2025	December 15, 2024
March-April 2025	February 15, 2025
May-June 2025	April 15, 2025

Razzle Dazzle: Bring a fat quarter (FQ – 18” x 22”) to each meeting according to the schedule below and get a ticket for each FQ that you bring towards the drawing to win all the fat quarters brought in that night. In the past, there were meetings where we had so many participants that we were able to have 2 fat quarter bundle winners!

Razzle Dazzle Schedule for 2024-2025	
November	Purple
December	Stripes
January	Black and White
February	Hearts
March	Words
April	Plaids
May	Neutrals
June	Nature

Garden State Quilt Challenge 2024-2025

In keeping with our president's goal of fostering community by getting to know each other better, this year's challenges are designed to encourage sharing something about ourselves with other members of the guild. Use this challenge as both an opportunity to introduce yourself to us and as a form of self-reflection. At our challenge Show and Tell meeting, you will explain how your project offers a glimpse into who you are.

We have 2 opportunities for you to share:

- February meeting (for early birds and over-achievers).
- May meeting (for the rest of us).

Challenge 1 – Selfie Sampler

Create a sampler of at least 4 blocks, each of which relates to an aspect of your life, your background, your interests, your family, your beliefs, your personality etc.

Examples: state block of your birth state; a block related to your birth month; a block highlighting your favorite color; a block related to your profession or hobby; a block depicting your pet. Make at least one block that will be a surprise even to those who know you.

Challenge 2 – Maker Mirror

Instead of a sampler, create a sewn project that reveals an aspect of your life and personality. It can be a single block, a table runner, a bag, an article of clothing, a wall hanging, a mug rug, etc. Again, dig deep and make this item a true mirror of you.

Programs

For November, the guild has invited Andrew Wiginton (<https://www.quilt.doc.com/>). He presents a demonstration at the **November 11** guild meeting. The next day, **November 12**, he will run a workshop on Enlightened Crumb Quilting at Grace Episcopal Church from 9 am – 3:30 pm. You will learn to use your scraps in unusual ways and have lots and lots of fun! Andrew offers a variety of services to quilters but also imparts his unique artistic perspective to foster a community that thrives on shared creativity, tradition, and innovation.



The Quilt Doc

On **December 9**, the guild will hold its annual Charity Sit and Sew. Sunshine will be hosting, and members will be helping to assemble and sew comfort pillows and heart pillows that the guild will be donating during the holiday season.



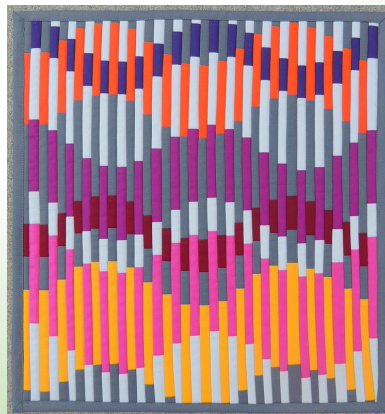
On **January 13, 2025**, the guild will hold its annual January Anniversary Fundraiser and a celebration of the new year!



On **February 10**, the general meeting will be our Members Teaching Members meeting. At our **March 10** meeting, the guild will host Karen Fricke (<https://karenfrickequilts.com/>). She will be giving a Stitch a Sketch lecture about how to turn a picture into a sketch with free motion embroidery. Karen is an art quilter who uses a variety of techniques to create dynamic images on fabric. On **March 17** from 4-7 pm at Sew Jersey, Karen will be teaching guild members at a workshop entitled “ Thread Sketching on a Photograph: Sewing Notions Bag”.



On **April 14**, Mel Beach (<https://melbeachquilts.com/>) will speak about “Let’s get rolling on your creativity goals”. She will then teach a workshop over zoom called Intriguing Interleaving on **April 19** from 11 am – 3 pm, and a follow-up zoom session on **April 23** from 7-9 pm.



All lectures and workshop dates are listed in the events calendar on pages 12 & 13. Please see/contact Carol Mann (cmanconso@yahoo.com) with any questions, need further information, or would like to suggest lecturers, workshops, etc for later this year or next year. We would love member input!

Sunshine

It was so nice to see 2 new faces at the September Bee. We had 15 people in all and much got done! We now have the Bee dates for 2025 so you can mark your calendars. For Bee dates, please refer to pages 12 & 13 for the guild's yearly calendar. Please note that in February and March the Bees are on a TUESDAY.

We meet at the Chatham Library from 1-4 PM in the Women's Club room.

January 22 – Wednesday

February 18 – Tuesday

March 18 – Tuesday

April 23 – 4th Wednesday

May 21 – Wednesday

June 18 – Wednesday

Any questions, please feel free to send an email to jstubaus@optonline.net or call me at 973-476-8561. Looking forward to seeing you soon!



Block of the Month

Greetings fellow Quilters!

Happy Autumn!

For November we will make a “HST Nine Patch” and a “December 2023 Redux” for December 2024. I will be posting the early 2025 blocks in November for those of you who want to jump ahead. I will be giving out a part of the February block at the December meeting so that the February Block will have a common fabric tying them together. Stay tuned!

I would really love a block with curves for this year, but I don't know how! Looking for a “BOM Featured Guest” to help with this one (and teach me how!). Thank you for participating in BOM! 🌸 Marisa

Below are the November and December 2024 blocks of the month that are available for download at: <https://www.gardenstatequiltersguild.com/block-of-the-month>

Any archived BOMs will require members to log into the website with your email address and password used to create your member account.

November 2024 – HST 9 patch



December 2024 –
12/2023 Redux



January Fundraiser

Activities are well underway to make this year's fundraiser a huge success. Now accepting donations from members – any items (big or small) are welcome, and it does not have to be packaged as a full individual item since we get a lot of small individual items that can be packaged together into one larger basket. Feel free to bring your items to a meeting – or if you forget or cannot travel, I am available to pick them up at your home (usually on a weekend).

I am also looking for volunteers to cellophane wrap the baskets – likely sometime in December on a weekday evening. If you think you may be able to help – depending on the date - please let me know. I won't hold you to the commitment since I do not have a specific date in mind yet.....but it won't be Christmas week. I live in West Orange if that is helpful.

Please call or text Beth with your name and phone # if you'd like to help. 862-812-3108. Looking forward to a fun evening on a cold January night!

Thanks sew much, Beth



Calendar of Events - 2024/2025 Guild Year

<u>DATE</u>	<u>Event</u>
November 11	Guild Meeting – Andrew Wiginton Lecture Hospitality: Last names A-M
November 12	Andrew Wiginton – Enlightened Crumb Quilting 9 am – 3:30 pm at Grace Episcopal Church
November 18	Board Meeting
November 20	Sunshine Bee
December 9	Guild Meeting – Charity Sit & Sew Hospitality: Last names N-Z
December 15	Newsletter deadline for Jan/Feb issue
January 6	Board Meeting – over zoom
January 13	Guild Meeting – January Anniversary Fundraiser!! Hospitality: Last names A-M
January 27	Board Meeting – over zoom
February 10	Guild Meeting – Members teaching members Hospitality: Last names N-Z
February 15	Newsletter deadline for March/April issue
February 24	Board Meeting – over zoom
March 10	Guild Meeting – Karen Fricke – Stitch a Sketch Lecture Hospitality: Last names A-M
March 17	Karen Fricke Workshop – Threadsketching on a Photograph: Sewing Notions Bag 4-7 pm at Sew Jersey
March 31	Board Meeting
April 14	Guild Meeting – Mel Beach Lecture – Let’s get rolling on your creativity goals! Hospitality: Last Names N-Z
April 15	Newsletter deadline for May/June issue
April 19	Intriguing Interleaving Workshop (over zoom – Saturday) 11 am – 3 pm
April 23	Intriguing Interleaving Workshop Follow-up (over zoom) 7 – 9 pm

Calendar of Events (continued)

2024/2025 Guild Year

<u>DATE</u>	<u>Event</u>
April 28	Board Meeting
May 12	Guild Meeting – lecture TBA Hospitality: Last Names A-M
June 2	Board Meeting – Lundt Room
June 9	Guild Meeting – Strawberry Supper Hospitality: Last names will be assigned to appetizers/main course/desserts as we get closer to the event for potluck supper

Board Members

Executive Board (2024-2025) – 1 year appointment		Committee Positions (no term expiration)	
President	Christine Courtney	Library	Laura Wagner
Vice President	Ginger Scott	Raffle Quilt	Sue Adams, Ginger Scott, Sue Schmerler
Treasurer	Molly Adams	Block of the Month	Marisa Austenberg
Secretary	Sarah Holman	Fabric Raffle	Marisa Austenberg
Programs	Carol Mann & Mary Toscano	Friendship Quilt	Alix Martin Ria Wolff
Trustees			
Membership	Jan Martin & Lori Darnulc	Historian/ Show 'n Tell	TBD – Volunteer?
Nominating	Marisa Austenberg	Drop & Shop	Paula Raimondo & Sue Schmerler
Newsletter	Cindy Koziol-White	Razzle Dazzle	Sue Schmerler & Paula Raimondo
Sunshine	Jean Stubaus	January Party	Beth DiDomenico
Grants & Scholarship	Wannetta Phillips	Social Media	Cindy Koziol-White
Quilt Show	Marisa Austenberg, Blanca Peereboom	Quilt Challenge	Jackie Laba
Webmaster	Cathy Tyrell	Sunshine Committee	Pat Buikema, Emily Egerter, Mindy Mathisen, Liz Merson