



# Thimbles & Friends Quilt Guild Newsletter

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## Board Members 2015-2016

**Chair:** Jeanne Aurelio

**Co-Chair:** Tracey Phillips

**Treasurer:** Cathy Hodges

**Treasurer Assistant:** Joanne Donovan

**Secretary:** Chris Thierfelder

**Charity:**

Joyce Hochstrasser/Jo Fruzzetti

**Facilities:** Pat McCollem/Pat O'Leary

**Membership/Hospitality:**

Gina Stone

**Newsletter Editors:**

Julia Blanchard/Jill Lillie

**Web Site:** Rose Perry

**Programming:** Member Volunteers



## Greetings from Bridgewater

I'm in a funk. I can't sew because all my stuff is packed up in boxes waiting for the new sewing room flooring to be installed. I suppose I could lug everything to the dining room and set up there but the very thought of all that mess makes me crazy. Plus, there isn't enough space. On the other hand, I'm getting so much other stuff done! Stuff I normally put off to sew is now getting crossed off my To Do list like there's no tomorrow. I guess there's a silver lining to everything, just like they say. Even so, can't wait to have the darn floor in so I can play! ☺

- Julia

## From the Chair

Quilting Sisters,

Are you getting ready for our Shop Hop? I know I am, Why, I haven't bought fabric for at least a week! I confess to having a problem, especially when some fabric is particularly appealing to me, or on sale, or both! And online shopping? I'm out of control! I have been known to buy fabric and supplies in the wee hours after a couple glasses of wine! And then there's my pastime of filling a shopping cart to see if there's enough stuff I like to justify the shipping charge or to see if I can get free shipping. More than once, I have hit the "Buy" button by mistake -- I currently have a charm pack, a layer cake, and a jelly roll of the same fabric, because I was going to decide later!

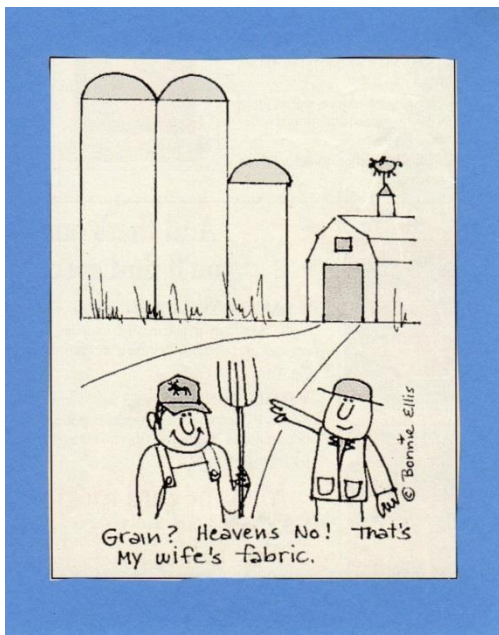
Speaking of precuts, I am starting to be overrun with them. But just today I realized that if I don't use them soon, I will have a ready stash when I get too old to be trusted with a rotary cutter! One must plan for the future...

So there are plenty of rationalizations, I mean reasons, to buy a lot at the Shop Hop. Yardage, fat quarters, precuts, supplies, rulers, gizmos -- it's all good! We need to fill those extra seats on the bus!

- Jeanne

## **Tips and Tricks**

- Use the machine foot with the single hole for more precise piecing, along with machine quilting – Tracy P.
- I like to first stitch in the ditch along the structural lines of a quilt so that I can remove all safety pins when doing free motion quilting. And another thing I just tried on a small quilt--I didn't close the safety pins! Saved two steps and my fingers! – Jeanne A.
- Inspired to do some spring cleaning and reorganization in my sewing room, I searched "Quilt Studio Organization" and found an inexpensive, space saving way to store all my quilting rulers. I purchased peg board, spray-painted it white, and attached it to the inside of my sewing room door. At Lowe's, I found all the peg board accessories and even some wire baskets specifically for peg boards! Any directions that accompany a specialty ruler can be binder clipped and hung with the ruler. Now I have my rulers, scissors, and rotary cutters, all in one place! – Joyce H.



## **Shop Hop**

The SchoolHouse Hop is Saturday, April 2, 2016.

Please arrive a little early for the head count. The bus will be leaving at 8:00 am sharp from Rockland's park and ride, which is located on Hingham St. across from the Rockland Home Depot.

Here is a list of ideas to make this event an extra special one.

- Bring some non-perishable snacks, but each shop will have food and snacks also.
- Be well rested to really enjoy this long, fun shopping trip.
- Consider having a shopping list or a good idea of what items/fabric you may want to purchase.
- You might want an extra shopping bag even though a tote will be provide to all of us at the first shop.

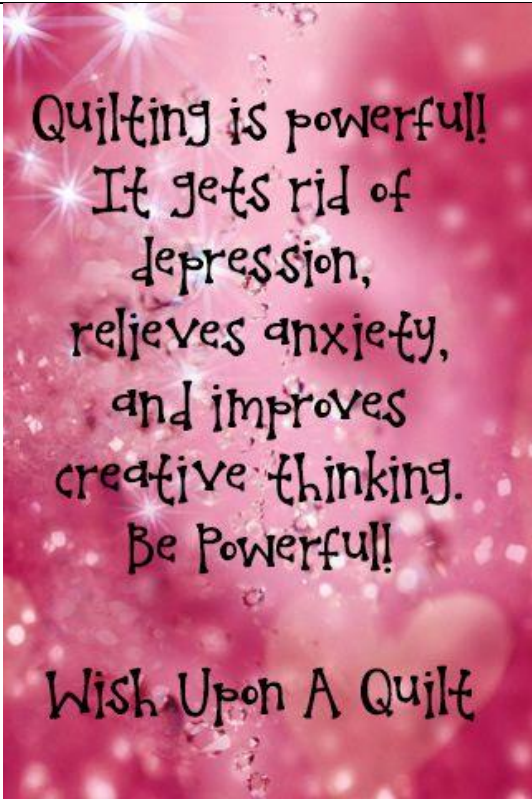
Water will be provided on the bus. We will be brainstorming a theme for the next quilt show as we roll along!

Please visit [www.schoolhouseshophop.com](http://www.schoolhouseshophop.com) for more information.

So looking forward to this adventure,

- Tracey and Janice





**Newsletter Note:** Just click on the picture of any quilt to see the Web page it came from.

**Meeting Dates**

Here are the meeting and event dates for the remainder of the year. Meeting times are 10:15 AM – 2 PM.

April 2	Shop Hop – Tracey Phillips and Janice O’Gara
May 7	End of the year party – JoJo and Cathy

**Raffle Quilt**

Linda R. passed out instructions for the raffle quilt at the last meeting. There are two different blocks and we should have 4 of each made by the May meeting. For more information, see Linda.

**Shop Hop Itinerary**

7:45 – 8:00	Leave from Hingham Street parking lot across from Home Depot in Rockland, MA.
8:00 – 9:00	Bus ride from Rockland, MA to Merrimac, MA.
9:00 - 10:00	<b>Red Barn Sewing and Yarn Center</b> at 116 W. Main Street, Merrimac, MA 01860.
10:00 – 11:10	Merrimac, MA to Henniker, N.H.
11:10 – 12:45	<b>Quilted Threads</b> 116 Main Street, Henniker, N.H. 03262.
12:45 – 1:30	Henniker, N.H. to Lyndeborough, N.H.
1:30 – 2:15	<b>The Bunkhouse Quilt Shop</b> at 352 Center Road, Lyndeborough, N.H. 03082.
2:15 – 3:00	Lyndeborough, N. H. to Townsend, MA
3:00 to 3:45	<b>Cobblestone Quilts</b> at 10 Elm Street, Townsend, MA 01469.
3:45 – 4:30	Townsend, MA to Bolton, MA.
4:30 – 5:15	<b>The Quilted Crow</b> at 626 Main Street, Bolton, MA 01740.
5:15 – 6:15	Bolton, MA to the Hingham Street parking lot in Rockland, MA.



## **Meeting Dates – Planning Ahead**

Here are the potential meeting dates for our guild year 2016 - 2017. Think about what you can do to fill these spots with a workshop or guest speaker!

September 17	
October 1	
November 5	
December 3	Holiday Party
January 7	
January 28	
February	Retreat
March 4	
April 1	
May 6	Tea Party



## **Have Something to Say?**

Send newsletter submissions to

Julia at [Julia.Blanchard@comcast.net](mailto:Julia.Blanchard@comcast.net) and

Jill at [scruffsmom@comcast.net](mailto:scruffsmom@comcast.net)

**Guild Website:**

<http://www.thimblesandfriends.org/>

## **10 Thoughts Every Quilter Has While Fabric Shopping**

From AllPeopleQuilt.com

If you're a quilter, you probably make (frequent, daily) occasional trips to the fabric store to buy goodies (just because, for fun) for a project you're working on. And we know what you're thinking while you're there!

1. "Where is the clearance rack!?!?"
2. "This fabric is so pretty, but I have no plans for it. I'll take 5 yards!"
3. "I just came for interfacing, but this fabric looks really good with it. I should get both."
4. "That woman is buying the same fabric as me. We're obviously BFFs and soulmates."
5. "Are they hiring? What is their employee discount?"
6. "I think I'm going to need a bigger cart! And someone to push it for me."
7. "I don't need any help getting that fabric on the top shelf."
8. "What time is it? I can't believe I've been here three hours!"
9. "Don't tell me my payment total. Just take my money and pack it up!"
10. "I'll sneak all the fabric in after hubby goes to bed tonight."