



# Thimbles & Friends Quilt Guild Newsletter

Volume 15 • Issue 9 April, 2016

## Inside This Issue

1. May Tea Party
2. From the Chair
3. Raffle Quilt
4. Planning Ahead
5. Available Workshop Topics
6. A Quilters Gathering Announcement
7. Annual Membership Dues
8. Charity Quilts
9. 2016 Schoolhouse Shop Hop
10. Wavy Line Quilting

## 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

## Board Members 2016-2017

**Chair:** Jeanne Aurelio  
**Co-Chair:** Tracey Phillips  
**Treasurer:** Joanne Donovan  
**Treasurer Assistant:** Cathy Hodges  
**Secretary:** Pamela Kingsman  
**Charity Co-Ordinator:**  
Joyce Hochstrasser  
**Facilities:** Pat McCollem  
Backup: Pat O'Leary  
**Membership/Hospitality:**  
Josephine Abbott  
**Newsletter Editors:**  
Julia Blanchard/Jill Lillie

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**Web Site:** Rose Perry

## Greetings from Hanson

Happy spring ladies! Like many of you (well, maybe only some of you), I get the urge to clean out some of the clutter this time of the year and once again I tried to hone in on my sewing room. On my hands and knees I pulled boxes out from behind my sewing table, ruthlessly threw fabrics into (numerous) donation and guild auction piles, and found several unfinished projects I don't remember starting. I pulled together packets for future charity quilts and placemats, reduced my pattern collection by half, and took a bag of scraps to the dump. I gave away some quilts stored under the bed. Unfortunately, I had to slap my hands to keep from returning stuff back into my stash. Does all of this sound familiar?

There is a point to this little story...If you are cleaning out, your hard work doesn't count if you sneak stuff back in! Heed the warning, ladies...it has to leave the house as soon as you put your hands on it, or you're doomed to clean it out again next year! You need all the space you can find for your Shop Hop purchases!

- Jill



Fun on the Shop Hop and congratulations to Wendy who won the Quilted Threads gift certificate!

## **May Tea Party**

Here is the food list for all who signed up for the May tea party. If you want to dress up a bit, hat, gloves, pearls, (Downton Abbey look), please do so. Be sure to bring your favorite tea cup. We look forward to a Social Time with guild members and of course good things to eat. If you want to share some happy memories of the guild year, that would be nice also (but keep it to a minimum of a minute or two). Look forward to seeing you all in May!

Pat M	appetizer
Wendy M	North Dakota puffs
Joanne F	dessert
Brenda C	cheese /crackers
Sue-Ellen H	dessert
Jeanne A	ginger scones
Pat D	brownies
Josephine A	main course
Susan C	appetizer
Donna B	Kugel
Joyce H	fruit
Shirley M	fruit
Janice O	salad
Tracey P	water
Nancy M	cupcakes
Sue W	dessert
Joanne D	chicken dish
Chris T	Quiche
Pam K	tuna pasta salad
Linda A	Quiche
Maria H	shrimp dish
Linda R	sandwiches
Rose P	appetizer

-Josephine and Cathy

## **Raffle Quilt**

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

## **Have Something to Say?**

Send newsletter submissions to

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

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

**Guild Website:**

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

## **From the Chair**

Happy Spring!

Well, that Shop Hop was really fun! I had a delightful time catching up with people, looking at eye candy, and of course making purchases. I bought something at every shop, which I'm sure is helpful to the shopkeepers, if not my budget! One really cool part of the day was watching the pigs play with each other outside one of the shops! You know, you rarely see pigs! Cows, horses, sheep and even goats, yes, but not pigs! Everyone kept saying they frolicked around like puppies! Very cute!

On a serious note, we need to determine if we want to do the Shop Hop again next year, so we'll be discussing this at the May meeting. I am in favor of it and we'll see what you think too. In any event, thanks so much to Tracey and Janice for coordinating the bus, the route, the gift bags, and the bus chocolate and water. Well done!!

I've included in this newsletter a list of the Board Members for next year. These were voted in at the March meeting. Thanks go out to all who filled these roles this year; without you, we would not have the smooth-running, fun guild we do! Special thanks to Chris and Gina, who are leaving the Board this year. Superb job, both of you!

Finally see below for a refresher on the topics we decided to cover at our meetings next year and the following one, and a list of available dates. One of the advantages of having a small guild is that everyone gets to participate in all kinds of things, including coordinating and running meetings. We are counting on you!

- Jeanne

## **Planning Ahead**

During the upcoming May meeting, we need to fill our meeting schedule for the next year. Actually, the next two years are open, but we definitely need to fill next year at our May meeting. We decided what we want to learn, then rank-ordered our choices on a questionnaire. Now we need to complete the process by stepping up to the plate and teaching a workshop! I suggest two people for each session. So if you have the know-how for one of the skills listed on the [Available Workshop Topics](#) list, or would like to coordinate one of the other topics, the May meeting will be the place to sign up! Look over the topics and the meeting dates, talk to fellow guild members, and SIGN UP! PLEASE! We can make Thimbles and Friends one of the most exciting guilds around with this line-up!

- Jeanne

### Available Workshop Topics

Fabric Bowls	Bargello Quilting
Marge Tucker	Landscape Quilts
Machine Applique**	Using Scraps
Gadget Multitasking	Fabric Painting
Ruler Class	Kaleidoscope Quilts
Fabric Organization	Sewing Machine Feet
Sewing Room Hop	

\*\*Pat Delaney is teaching one method. You may have another, like appliquéing with fusibles.

### A Quilters Gathering Announcement

For 27 years, since 1989, a focal point of the quilting community was A Quilters Gathering, held the first weekend in November. It featured amazing quilt displays, vendors, and wonderful classes. Unfortunately without a venue, dates, or teaching staff in place for 2016 along with a careful analysis of ongoing shifts and changes in the quilting world, the Gathering committee decided to suspend the conference. It will be dearly missed.



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

### Annual Dues

Annual membership dues for guild year 2016-2017 in the amount of \$35.00 payable to Thimbles and Friends must be paid at the May meeting, per the bylaws. If you are not attending the May meeting, please mail your check to Cathy Hodges.

- Cathy

We have a two year schedule to fill. Please consider contributing your time and talent to one of these events:

### **2016 – 2017**

Date	Event	Meeting Coordinators
September 17, 2016		
October 1, 2016		
November 5, 2016		
December 3, 2016	Holiday Party	Joyce Hochstrasser Julia Blanchard
January 28, 2017	Color Workshop	Pat Delaney Helper: Jeanne Aurelio
February 4, 2017	Retreat Prep	Joanne Donovan
February 10 -12	Retreat at Hotel 1620 in Plymouth	Fun Committee: (3-4 needed)  Mary Davis Sue Warchal
March 4, 2017		
April 1, 2017	Schoolhouse Shop Hop	
May 6, 2017	Annual Tea Party	Janice O'Gara Linda Austin

### **2017 – 2018**

Date	Event	Meeting Coordinators
September __, 2017		
October 7, 2017		
October __ to __, 2017	Quilt Show	Chris Thierfelder Linda Robbins
November 4, 2017		
December 2, 2017	Holiday Party	
January __, 2018	Machine Applique	Pat Delaney Helper needed:
February __, 2018		
February __ to __, 2018	Retreat	Fun Committee: (3-4 needed)
March __, 2018		
April __, 2018	Schoolhouse Shop Hop	
May __, 2018	Annual Tea Party	Sue Warchal





## **Charity Quilts**

For guild year 2015-2016, we received an amazing total of 78 charity items (quilts, sweaters, afghans, hats and mittens) which were donated to the South Shore Hospital, Homecare and Hospice Division. This organization serves 1500 patients in the South Shore area. Thanks to everyone who contributed and to our charity quilt co-ordinator Joyce Hochstrasser, and her mom Joanne Fruzzetti and sister Shirley MacLeod who assisted with the delivery of these items. If you have not donated this year, please consider doing so, as these items are very much appreciated by their recipients.



## **2016 Schoolhouse Shop Hop**

The bus filled with our intrepid band of quilters left Rockland promptly at 8:00am. Goodie bags were handed out with our itinerary, a nail file, a packet of Cotton+Steel fabric, along with an assortment of patterns for 5" squares, these donated by Ann's Fabrics in Canton. And of course, chocolate! We were also given labels with our name and phone number preprinted to speed up registration at each shop. Janice and Tracey thought of everything!

We arrived right on schedule at the Red Barn Sewing & Yarn Center in Merrimac, MA. It was all very organized. The shop owner met us on the bus with books already stamped, and we collected our Shop Hop totes, stuffed with a fat quarter and two patterns. The Hugs and Kisses pattern, which each shop made and displayed in their own fabric choices, and a quick cuddle scarf pattern, including tips on how to work with cuddle fabric. There was also a demo with cuddle fabrics. The shop had a wide variety of beautiful fabrics and a lot of batiks!

Next we were off to Quilted Threads in Henniker, NH. We were welcomed on the bus, Check in was upstairs. The pattern given out was Mix & Match Stars. There was a brief demo of a stylus tool. Tables were set up to relax. Great soup! Many finished quilts were displayed with kits and patterns available. Lots and lots (and lots!) of beautiful fabrics, nicely displayed. Also a great selection of books, 25% off. (Did anyone leave without a bag?) A large shop, so much to see. Highly recommended!

Over the river and through the woods to our next stop in Lyndeborough, NH. (Queue the banjo's!) We arrived at the Bunkhouse Quilt shop and found ourselves in competition with another bus, already there! This was a rustic shop featuring traditional fabric designs. There was a demo for the Kite Ruler and Magic Mirror. Another pattern and fat quarter for the bag. There was an area to sit and take a break and meatball subs. Fortunately we were able to leave in the opposite direction, avoiding the narrow windy roads, and were back on the highway in no time.

Cobblestone Quilts in Townsend, MA was our next stop, with a friendly staff, well organized. There was an interesting Dresden plate templet demo with plenty of completed samples. Lots of fat quarters and coordinating fabric bundles. The shop featured a large collection of 30's fabrics. Bean soup with pasta. A lot packed into a little shop!

Our final stop was the Quilted Crow in Bolton, MA. We all registered for the Grand Prize and received a small Olfa rotary cutting mat and a coupon for 20% off a future shopping spree for completing the Shop Hop. There was a clever demo of the Stripy ruler. Delicious corn chowder (and brownies!) Lots of books and patterns. A big shop, lots of beautiful fabric collections, including wools.

There was something for everyone on this trip. We left with slightly thinner wallets, but with plenty of new fabric, notions, patterns, books and ideas. We shopped until we dropped, and a good time was had by all! Thanks to Janice O'Gara and Tracey Phillips for all of their work coordinating this trip!

- Linda Austin

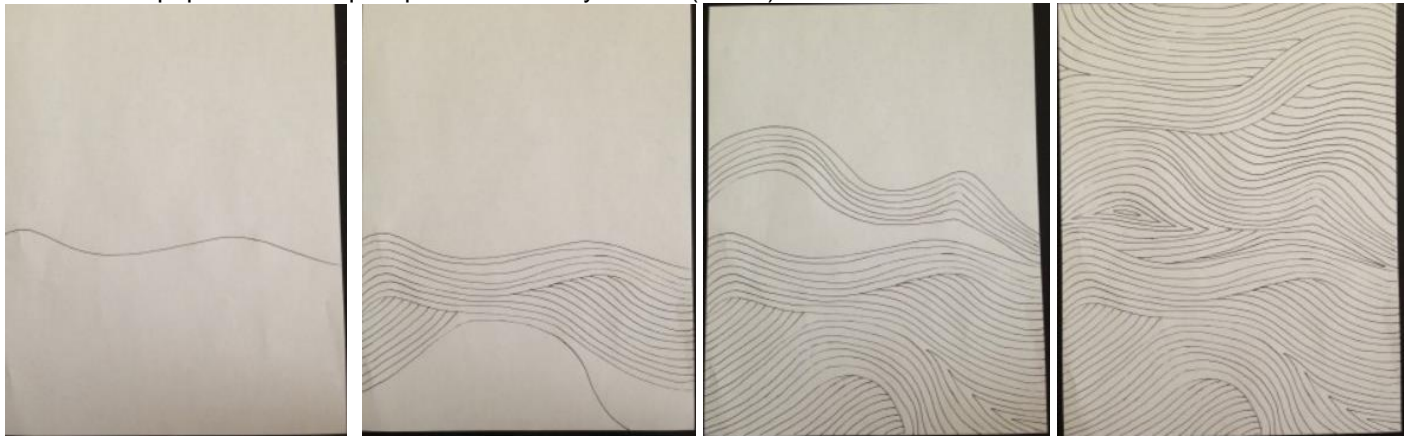
## Wavy Line Quilting

For those of us who run in fear at the words “machine quilting”, I stumbled across this blog by Janice Ryan which might help.

<http://betteroffthread.com/2013/03/06/ultra-wavy-quilting-tutorial/>



Starting with a single wavy line, Janice’s tutorial is based on echo quilting and filling in negative spaces. I referred to the guides she drew on paper and was quite pleased with my results (below).



Janice suggested using the walking foot, however my Designer 1 was able to sense the quilting layer thickness allowing me to experiment with several of my other feet until I found one that worked best for me.



Here are my results! Jill