



Thimbles & Friends Quilt Guild Newsletter

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Greetings from Hanson

The holidays are here and for once I tried to keep things simple in deference to the spirit of the season (and my serenity). I went to a smaller, artificial tree, started my Christmas sewing early and did not stray too much from my list. (Hint, the more steps you write down, the more things you get to cross off when done!) The packages are in the mail and the only thing left is trying to find that something special for the hubs. Once that is done I can put my feet up and enjoy my tree!

Happy Holidays to all of our amazing guild members. Enjoy your special day with family and friends and if you are travelling, have a safe journey.

I look forward to seeing everyone in January for the beginning of a wonderful quilt-filled New Year!

- Jill

From the Chair

Happy Holidays! I trust most of you are getting ready for the upcoming set of seasonal celebrations, trying to get everything done. My family and I will be celebrating Christmas and New Year's in El Paso, Texas this year. It will be a very large break with our traditional New England Christmas, yet we may be colder than you, the way the weather has been! We will spend Christmas morning with little ones (my son-in-law's niece and nephew), so that will be a joy, whatever the weather! As far as preparations, we are giving each other the trip, (read "not carrying presents") and we didn't put up a tree in our home! I am blissfully free to work on "the wedding quilt" and I've also made ornaments (see photo on left) to keep the Christmas spirit!

I'm hoping all of you have a lovely holiday season, enjoy the company of family and friends, and get well-deserved rest and relaxation! We will be back together on January 9th, sewing faux-piped bindings with Chris!

- Jeanne



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

Freecycle Table

The Freecycle Table item for January is fabric. If you have any you no longer want, bring it to the January meeting. Please be sure it is quilting fabric only.

- Sue-Ellen, Sally, and Barbara

Pat's Fabric

Thanks to all who purchased Pat Loftus' fabrics. You helped me follow her wishes to offer the fabrics to Thimbles & Friends first. Pat's family is very touched by your out pouring of support and the grandchildren are so thankful she had such great friends. I have a couple of bags left if anyone is interested, please call me.

- May

January Workshop

The Faux Piped Binding technique has many of Ricky Tims' ideas that were adapted by Margo J. Claybo. Her tutorial is available on [YouTube](#) and through [The Quilt Show](#) under the title TQS FAUX MINI PIPING. I will provide you with copies of her instructions and will also demonstrate parts of the technique NOT included with the written instructions, but seen on her tutorial.

Supply List:

- A notebook to take down directions, tips, and illustrations
- Sewing machine (don't forget extension cord and foot pedal!)
- Basic sewing kit of scissors and thread etc.

While I normally use monofilament thread for the final attachment of the binding, you may want to use a thread you can more easily see. I use just regular thread to attach the binding to the quilt top.

- 18" to 20" square quilt sandwich with batting of your choice. Baste the layers of your sandwich with a few pins, some adhesive spray, or thread.

We will plan to do a 2.5" binding. You will need:

- About 3 strips WOF 1-1/2" that you want to be your binding. About 3 strips WOF 1-3/4" that you want to be your pipng. The final result works best when the colors have a good deal of contrast.
- Please assemble the binding strips and the piping strips as you would for any binding.

We'll also need a couple of irons and ironing boards. Please let me know if you're able to bring one for group use.

-Chris





Our new member Maria with her latest creation.

Meeting Dates

Here are the meeting and event dates for our upcoming year. Meeting times are 10:15 AM – 2 PM. Looks like we have a busy season scheduled! (Be sure to check back often for updates.)

Jan. 9	Faux Piped Binding Workshop – Chris Thierfelder
Feb. 6	Prep for Retreat – Joanne Donovan and Pat Delaney
Feb. 12-14	Retreat in Plymouth!! – Joyce H, Janice O’Gara, Sue-Ellen Hewitt
March 5	TBA
April 2	Shop Hop? Tracey Phillips and Janice O’Gara
May 7	End of the year party – TBA



Julia won some fat quarters at a Left Center Right game and turned them into this wonderful quilt.



Jeanne, Chris and Rose with their awesome table runners!

Have Something to Say?

Send newsletter submissions to
 Julia at Julia.Blanchard@comcast.net and
 Jill at scruffsmom@comcast.net

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

Retreat Reminder

Our annual retreat will be here before you know it. It will be held February 12-14, 2016, at the Radisson / Hotel 1620 located at 180 Water St. in Plymouth.

The nightly group rate of \$91 is still being offered, but you **must make your reservation before January 12, 2016** by calling 508-747-4900 and mention that you are with the Thimbles and Friends Quilt Guild.

Please be sure to let me know if you have any food allergies.

- Joanne Donovan

Retreat Activities

The "Retreat Fun Committee" is planning a "Keep it Simple/Back to Basics" theme this year. The past themes have been more than wonderful, but we thought everyone would welcome lighter festivities after we all put so much effort into the quilt show. Themed costumes are not needed. More details will follow in the January newsletter about fat quarter swaps and such! For this retreat it will be: Sewing and socializing! Simple!

- Joyce, Janice and Sue-Ellen



Confetti Quilting by Donna

Shop Hop

At the last guild meeting Janice O'Gara and Tracey Phillips suggested that the guild participate in the April 2016 Schoolhouse Shop Hop, which coincides with our April 2nd meeting date. This outing would involve generating costs, including renting a bus. At our December meeting about 20 members indicated interest; hopefully after reading this newsletter, more members will be interested.

For many years some New Hampshire and Massachusetts quilt shops have banded together for a quilt shopping and learning experience that encourages visiting all of the participating stores. Each shop has demonstrations, free fat quarters, free patterns, and prizes. The following shops are involved:

- The Bunkhouse Quilt shop Lydenborough, NH
- Cobblestone Quilts Townsend, MA
- Quilted Threads Henniker, NH
- The Quilted Crow Boxborough, MA
- Red Barn Sewing and Yarn Center, Merrimac, MA

Last year a few guild members participated and visited all the shops in about 9 hours; they reported the experience was worthwhile and fun. Janice recommends that we allow a longer visit to the largest quilt shop, Quilted Threads, than to some of the smaller shops.

There is a registration payment of \$8.00, due in January, which includes an information booklet, free quilt pattern, and tote bag (while they last). I have been given the preliminary fee of \$99.00 per hour from the bus firm we usually use for a bus that seats 33 people. For a 10 hour day, including the time the bus travels to our pick up area, this means a cost of about \$1000.00. I am working with the bus company for the discount we have had previously and will bring "firm" bus costs to our January meeting.

At the January meeting we will discuss this further and vote on whether the majority of the guild members:

- Want and agree to do the April 2nd shop hop
- Agree to renting a bus
- Decide on how to address the \$8.00 registration fee
- Decide on how to pay for the bus---? cost per member and ?cost from guild fund
- Open the trip to non-Thimbles and Friends members and at what charge

Please visit <http://www.schoolhouseshophop.com/> for additional information.

- Tracey