



# Thimbles & Friends Quilt Guild Newsletter

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## Board Members 2013-2014

**Chair:** Rose Perry

**Co-Chair:** Sheryl Briggs

**Treasurer:** Shirley MacLeod

**Co-Treasurer:** Cathy Hodges

**Secretary:** Sue Warchal

**Charity:** Joyce Hochstrasser

**Facilities:** Pat McCollem

**Membership/Hospitality:** Louise Wilson

**Newsletter Editors:**

Julia Blanchard/Jill Lillie

**Programming:** Member Volunteers



<http://www.ericas.com/quilting/patterns/misc2.htm>

## Greetings from Hanson

The holidays came and went, hopefully with special memories of time spent with those who mean so very much to us. January is now here and it didn't take long for Mother Nature to find us. Fortunately, we are hardy New Englanders and for the most part can handle what she may decide to leave behind, especially when being snowbound means more time to sew and think about grooving with our sewing sisters at our February retreat on beautiful Plymouth harbor. What a great way to chase away the January blahs!

Stay well, happy sewing, and see you at the Radisson!

— Jill

## From the Chair

Dear Ladies,

There is so much happening with the guild! A workshop in February, a movie in March, and a speaker in April! Oh my! And the February Retreat! I can't wait! There is so much energy in that room, it just makes you want to stay and sew late into the night. The great advantage for new members is that you get to know so many people in the guild so much better. Come and join the fun.

On January 11<sup>th</sup>, we had a very animated and productive E Board meeting. What a dedicated bunch of quilters! Most of the time was spent planning for the 2014-2015 Guild year. A survey about programming was sent out to you by email; please either email back or turn in your responses at the February meeting. We need your input. Please let us know what you'd like for programming, and if you'd like to run a program. Everyone has something to share. See you in February.

— Rose

## **MFA Pilgrim/Roy Exhibit**

Don't miss the upcoming Museum of Fine Arts "Quilts and Color" exhibit featuring 60 distinctive quilts from the Paul Pilgrim / Gerald Roy collection. The exhibit runs from April 6 through July 27, 2014. Your local library may have museum passes available for a significant saving on the admission fee. Here is the link for this exciting exhibit:

<http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/quilts-and-color>



## **Charity Quilts**

Joyce has received over 25 quilted items since September! She has been adding the labels to those that do not have them, but it would really help if each of us added a label to our contributions before giving them to Joyce. She suggests the labels read:

Donated by  
Thimbles and Friends Quilt Guild  
Abington, MA  
2014

## **Retreat Centerpieces**

Donna Babcock is collecting new or slightly used, but in good condition, notions to make centerpieces for the retreat. These can be (but are not limited to) items such as:

- spools of thread - any kind, any color, new/used
- bobbins -with thread or without
- sewing needles - packages with all needles intact or just a few. Please make sure that needles are at least attached to a card or piece of paper for safety reasons.
- fat quarters
- small scraps in a luncheon size baggy
- small rulers no larger than 6 1/2 x 6 1/2 (otherwise they won't fit)
- rotary cutters
- thimbles
- safety, basting, common or any kind of pins
- ribbon/elastic
- wonder under
- basting glue
- embroidery thread/cotton
- pin cushion
- marking pens/pencils/markers

Please bring items to the February meeting. If you can't make it to the meeting, call Donna to make arrangements so she can get them before the retreat.

617-794-5231 - cell during the day

508-697-9109 - home at night usually after 6:00 PM.

- Donna



<http://www.ericas.com/quilting/patterns/misc.htm>

## "Sew-In" News

Here are some updates for our getaway:

Place each of your swap items in a separate brown paper lunch bag, mark the theme on the outside, and bring to the getaway. If you wish to participate in the swap, these are the items:

- chocolate candy
- "flower power"/floral fat quarter
- "old & ugly fat quarter

If you want to play the "Left Center Right" dice game, please bring themed fat quarters, not in a paper bag unless you need that for transporting! One fat quarter is needed for each game (all three if you want to play 3 times). These are the themes for each game:

- red/white/blue
- kid's novelty
- dots

To play the game, you put a fat quarter in the center of the table, play the game, and possibly win all the fat quarters that have been contributed to the game for that theme. If you win, you could make a coordinated quilt with the winnings!

Since Friday February 14 is Valentine's Day and also the first day of our retreat, the retreat committee moved the Ice Cream Sundae Party from Friday night to Saturday night to accommodate anyone who may be on a date with her husband.

Joyce

## Quilt Blogs

A blog is a personal website on which an individual shares opinions, regularly updates the blogs, and provides links to other sites, etc.

A quilt blog is a website compiled by a fellow quilt enthusiast where quilters can obtain inspiration, information, tutorials, patterns, etc. on quilting.

Quilt blogs are fun, free, and fearless! Much like a commercial website, quilt blogs are easy to find and easy to navigate. A word of caution, they can be addictive as magazines, artists, guilds, and quilters all have blogs on the web. The number of blogs out there is endless as are the topics. Because so many quilters have websites with a ".com" suffix and they blog, often their website is their blog. Some sites have "blogspot" after their blog name and others may have "wordpress" which is just a different platform for their blog. The most notable difference that I see between a website and a blog is that the blog is usually chronological, much like a journal, and it is updated regularly with new information. Also, blogs are very personal so they will be based on opinion and the blogger often shares information from their life, like other passions, interests, family photos, etc. Many quilt blogs offer free tutorials, free patterns, give-a-ways, block of the month, etc. so have fun as you search for your favorite blog!

Here are some of my favorite blogs/websites noted with the search that I used:

### "Quilt blog"

[www.aquiltinglife.com](http://www.aquiltinglife.com)  
[www.crazymomquilts.blogspot.com](http://www.crazymomquilts.blogspot.com)  
[www.diaryofaquilter.com](http://www.diaryofaquilter.com)

### "Scrap quilt blog"

[www.crazymomquilts.com](http://www.crazymomquilts.com)  
[www.quiltville.com](http://www.quiltville.com)  
[www.blog.maryquilts.com](http://www.blog.maryquilts.com)

### "Modern quilt blog"

[www.vintagemodernquilts.com](http://www.vintagemodernquilts.com)  
[www.ohfrannson.com](http://www.ohfrannson.com)  
[www.freshlemonquilts.com](http://www.freshlemonquilts.com)

So never fear, quilt blogs are here! And who knows, we may be reading your quilt blog in 2014!

Peace - Joyce

### Recipe Corner: White Bean Chili

1-2 boneless skinless chicken breasts  
Olive oil  
1-2 chopped onions  
5-6 cloves garlic minced  
1 can chicken broth  
1 can cream of chicken soup  
1 can butter beans  
1 can navy beans  
1 can great northern beans  
1 can black eyed peas  
1 can Rotel (tomatoes and chilis)  
1 can chopped chilis  
1/4 - 1/2 tsp cumin  
1/2 tsp oregano  
Salt and pepper to taste  
Crushed red pepper to taste

Saute chopped onion in oil. Cube chicken and add to onion with garlic, salt and pepper; sauté 5-10 minutes. Drain beans and add to chicken and onions along with remaining ingredients and spices. Simmer and stir occasionally until done, about an hour. Good with cornbread or over rice. Better the next day.

(Adjust ingredient amounts to your liking.)



### 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/>

### Meeting Dates

Here are the remaining meeting & event dates for the year.

Feb. 1	Rotary Cutter Mat Tote – Rose and Josephine
Feb. 14 - 16	Retreat in Plymouth!! – Wendy, Pat M., Joanne F., Joyce, and Donna
March 1	Movie: “Stitched” – Joanne D. and Pat D.
April 4	Jessica Leger lecture and trunk show – Pat Delaney
May 3	End of the year party – Jo Abbot and Susan Conant



*Bug Light – Plymouth Harbor*

### Help Wanted: 2015 Quilt Show

There will be sign-ups at the February meeting for members to help with advance planning and coordination of the 2015 Quilt Show, Raffle Quilt, and Challenge.



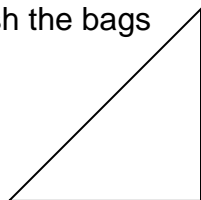
**February Workshop – Rotary  
Cutter Mat Tote Bag**

To prepare for the February workshop, here are the material chart and cutting instructions for two sizes of tote bags. You will also need to bring your sewing machine, rotary cutter and ruler, matching thread, and basic sewing kit. Cutting boards, irons and ironing board will be provided.

When you have finished cutting, lay out two sets of 12 scrap strips (four sets for large bag). Vary the sets, using some different fabrics and different order. Sew together the two (four) sets of 12 strips the long way. Iron seams in one direction.

Make a cardboard or plastic triangle template, 6 7/8" x 6 7/8" (the diagonal will be about 9 3/4").

By preparing ahead of time, we should be able to finish the bags during the workshop.



If you don't plan to make a bag, please feel free to stay and sew on your own projects, or get projects ready for the February retreat!

	18" x 24" Bag	24" x 36" Bag
<b>Materials</b>		
Batting	27" x 42" rectangle, two 1 3/4" x 27"	40" x 56" rectangle, two strips 1 3/4" x 31"
Fabric #1 (lining)	1 1/4 yd	2 yd
Fabric #2 (back)	7/8 yd	1 1/4 yd
Scrap strips	24 strips, 1 1/2" wide x width of fabric (selvedge to selvedge).	48 strips, 1 1/2" wide x width of fabric (selvedge to selvedge).
<b>Cutting</b>		
Fabric #1	One piece 27" x 40.5" for lining	One piece 40" x 56" for lining
	Two strips 1.5" x 21" for front border	Two strips 2" x 28" for front border
	Two strips 1.5" x 25" for front border	Two strips 2" x 37" for front border
	Two strips 1 3/4" x 27" for handles	Two strips 1 3/4" x 31" for handles
Fabric #2	One piece 27" x 21" for bag back	One piece 40" x 28" for bag back
	Two strips 1 3/4" x 27" for handles	Two strips 1 3/4" x 31" for handles
	One piece 8" x 9" for inside pocket (opt)	One piece 8" x 9" for inside pocket (opt)



<http://www.ericas.com/quilting/patterns/tabletoppers.htm>