



Along the Towpath


Presidents' Letter

The 2018-2019 quilt year is off to a great start. We are excited to have over 90 members and look forward to welcoming new members as the year goes on.

Lest anyone forget this is a Quilt Show year! The quilt show committee has already spent countless hours in preparation. While the Quilt Show is the highlight of our year, we have many other exciting events and programs planned. All of which cannot occur without members who are willing to chair them, help make them happen and attend them. Here is where you come in-- help is always needed and appreciated. Please consider getting more involved in the guild by volunteering in some way. In our personal experiences we have found that by getting involved we have met lots of terrific people, made new friends, had fun and hopefully have added something to the success of the guild.

Enjoy the beauty of fall in CNY and keep on quilting.

Ann and Ann

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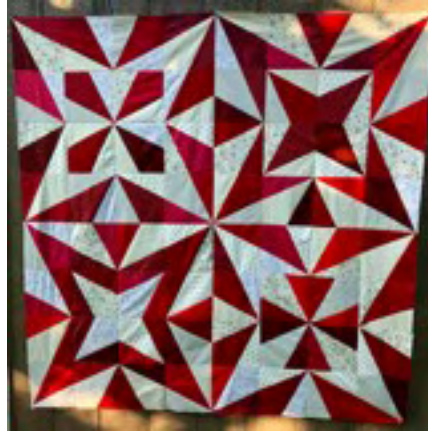
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Towpath Programs 2018/19

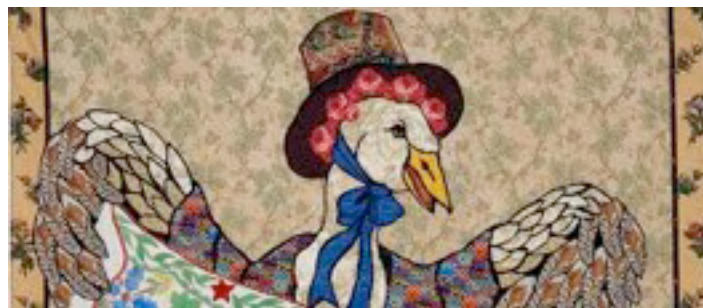
November 13 & 14: Ron Stefanak is from Fulton, NY. He has been creating and designing quilts with a very unique point of view. His lecture “My Magical Quilting Tour- Design Exploration from May 2013 to Present” will show design progression from his first sewing in 2013 to present. He will showcase his quilt designs, patterns, and future ideas (AND he has a lot of these!!) Please join me in welcoming Ron to our group.

His workshop “**Magical Transformations of a One Block Wonder-Beyond the Block**”, is based on a book in the works and an upcoming national class! We will have fun making our own quilting projects using his Magical Transformations block. So many design possibilities from one block!!



March 12: Our own **Julia Graziano** will give a lecture to us and show some of her inspiring quilts. It is always great to hear what our members are doing outside of our guild circle!

April 9: Alice Gant will be our speaker. Alice uses a technique of her own called “neo-reverse applique”. Along with commissions and smaller works, the artist has a long-term project to make banners about influential and interesting individuals.

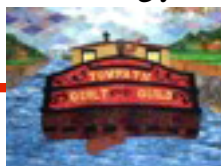


May 14 & 15: Susan Sato is second generation Japanese American. She has been sewing since age 14. She will be giving us a trunk show on Japanese shibori & sashiko techniques. Her quilting inspiration came from finding her grandfather's kimono one day. She has had commissions in the Brooklyn Museum of Art.

Susan's workshop will be working with the Sashiko technique. This is a traditional Japanese hand sewing technique.

<http://www.easypiecing.com/gallery.html?folio=PRODUCTS%20AND%20WORKSHOPS&gallery=Sashiko%20Snowflakes&vimeouserid=&vimeoalbumid=>

All next day workshops begin at 9:30am. Bring your lunch/snack. All workshops are \$30



BLOOMS ALONG THE TOWPATH

JULY 12-13, 2019

Preparations for the show are moving ahead on schedule. Committee chairs have visited our new site and are firming up plans and lay outs. We've secured a traveling Modern Quilt show and soon many of us will be making barn quilts to use as decoration at the site.

Now is the time for each of us to work on our Challenge Quilts as well as the other quilts we hope to show. It's the perfect time to clean out our sewing rooms, measure those unused lengths of fabric and label and bag them for the Boutique fabric sale. As we create those small hand quilted items to give as Christmas presents, we can make one or two extra to sell at the show. This year we also have a 20" x 20" mini quilts to think about for the Silent Auction. So much to do, and now is the time to get to it.

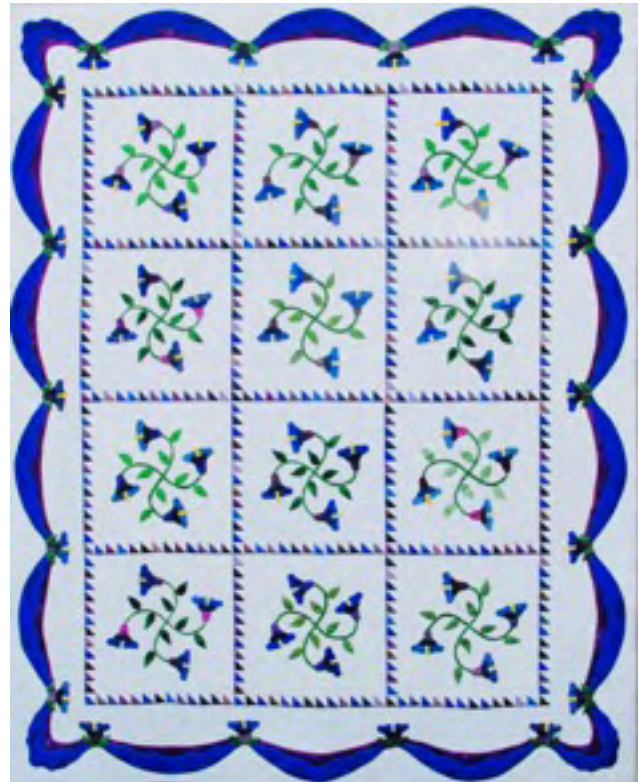
The Raffle Quilt is available to travel. Please contact any of the 4 co-chairs if you know of an event that would welcome our quilt. We will find folks to sit with it and sell tickets.

Ann Rowland tabroland@hotmail.com

Gaynell Dorrance nelldorrance@gmail.com

Wynne Shaul catsquilt@twcny.rr.com

Alexa Carter alexacarteralexa@icloud.com



Quilt Challenge 2019

We hope everyone is working on a challenge quilt for the big show next July. Please turn in a registration form as you would for any quilt and bring your quilt to the May meeting for member judging

- * A flower must appear on your quilt--either as motif or in a print
- * Must use some appliqué--traditional, raw edge, zigzag stitch, buttonhole stitch, or fused
- * The color lavender must be on your quilt
- * The color green must be on your quilt
- * One fabric must be recycled fabric--from an article of clothing, scarf, handkerchief, home decoration, or another quilt
- * A three inch sleeve must be attached to the back

A New Generation Discovers the Joys of an Old Technique – English Paper Piecing

Debra Maloney

One of the techniques that seems to have grown in popularity lately is English Paper Piecing (EPP). EPP is a slow method of piecing a quilt: using card stock geometric shapes, fabric is then basted (or glued) to the shapes before being hand-stitched together to form patterns.

Of course, before the widespread availability of sewing machines, all quilts were hand-pieced, but EPP from its beginning was as much an art form as a practical means to provide warm coverings. The earliest surviving example of EPP is a British coverlet from 1718, whose creator is unknown except for the initials “EH”. The coverlet is a complex piece with a variety of shapes, although it relies on triangles and squares. By the 1790s, EPP designs included hexagons, diamonds, and various triangles, and some historians attribute this to improvements in mathematics education for girls. In the 1820s, prison reformers in England introduced EPP instruction to female prisoners, arguing that this particular method of piecing could provide “spiritual nourishment”. Even sailors and soldiers took up EPP as a way to relieve boredom!

While traditional EPP quilts used a variety of materials (it’s a great way to use up scraps!), today’s EPPers can produce dynamic, modern-looking quilts with new fabric lines such as those of designer Kaffe Fassett. Although English Paper Piecing seems much too slow for many quilters, one of the reasons for its continued popularity is its portability; EPP is also appealing because it forces the quilter to slow down and just enjoy the feel of the fabric and the motion of hand-sewing. As an EPPER myself, I am always looking for new patterns and new fabrics.

For more information about English Paper Piecing, there are two “must-have” books: Jessica Alexandrakis’ *Quilting on the Go* (great for getting started with the technique) and Flossie Teacakes’ *Guide to English Paper Piecing*, which is a treasure trove of history, techniques, and inspiration!

Alan and Marsha (315) 676-7737
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Towpath Guild Website

Towpath members: Have you ever looked at the website? Did you know that the complete list of library books is available there? If you look at the list and want to take out a book you will need the number and author to find it on the cart. Also there is a list of programs, fat quarters, and pictures of many events. If you are interested in taking on a job as a member of the guild- the complete job descriptions are also available on the site. You can find the By Laws and Standing Rules there.

Did you forget the rules for the challenge for this quilt show? It is also there. Were you unable to make a meeting and wondering what was on the monthly minder? You can find that there as. Yes there is a password for the members only section- ask a guild friend or it is usually announced at meetings. And if you take any pictures at meetings or events we can add them. Check it out- there is a lot of information for you.

Robin Brennan

Book Review

Many Towpath members are avid readers and there are series of books written just for them. Tracy Chevalier writes historical fiction and puts an emphasis on accurate descriptions of how things are made. Her most famous book is *The Girl with the Pearl Earring* in which the reader learns much about how paints were mixed and how Vermeer set up the props and costumes for his paintings. In her book *The Last Runaway*, her main character, Honor Bright, a modest English Quaker, moves to Ohio in 1850 with her sister who dies on the way. Alienated and alone in a hostile environment she finds solace in her meticulous quilting, which is English paper piecing. She also finds friendship with part of the community that is organizing the underground railroad for slaves escaping to Canada. This book brings the history of this struggle to life and gives the reader a wealth of quilting tips and techniques.



Holiday Party

The Holiday Party will be Tuesday December 11. Join us for fun, conversation, sharing and delicious food. Coffee/Tea and treats will be served at 9:30 am. Lunch will follow the meeting.

Bring your place settings and a dish to share. (Salad or Dessert) It would be lovely to bring a beloved family holiday favorite.

For more information contact Barbara Smith or Christine Lotto



A Quilt Goes International

Carol Long, a long-time member of the Towpath Quilt Guild, has a quilt in Denmark. It hangs in one of the 17 Danish homes of the Eden Alternative, homes for the elderly. The quilt's story took place over several months and involved a number of people.

Carol's son-in-law, Samite Mulondo, was born in Uganda and escaped to Kenya when Idi Amin Dada became the dictator. Samite began playing his African instruments and music for the children who were in the refugee camp with him, giving them some joy. Samite continues his music fellowship today and has established a charity, Musicians for World Harmony.

For one of the fund raising galas for Musicians for World Harmony, Carol made a quilt of the months, called "What Month Is It?", designed by Pat Sloan. One of the men attending bid to win the quilt and took it to a silent auction in Atlanta, GA, to benefit Eden Alternative. Karin Dahl, from Eden in Denmark, fell in love with it but the bidding went higher than she could afford, no matter how she calculated things, so she gave up. The auction was won by a man who knew how much Karin loved the quilt and he gave it to her as a gift! Karin was moved to tears. She put it in her carry-on bag to ensure that it was safe but she loved it and would have thrown away things to get it in her suitcase.

Karin and her team at Eden in Denmark decided to make the quilt a symbol of international cooperation among the Eden Registry Members in Denmark and are hanging the quilt at each of the 17 facilities for 6 months at a time. A logbook will follow the quilt so the Eden staff as educators may learn about the joy it brings to viewers from the comments written. So ends this chapter about the quilt but correspondence continues between participants, so this may not be the end of the story.



Mini Quilt Silent Auction

Instead of a variety of items for the silent auction, we thought it would be fun to have a mini quilt auction for our 2019 Quilt Show. (Items left over from the 2017 Silent Auction will be donated to the Boutique.) We would display quilts of various sizes each day of the show for bidding. The highest bidder by the end of each day of the show is the winner of the quilt. The goal would be 25 quilts each day, for a total of 50 quilts.

Guidelines:

- * There is no specific theme.
- * Quilts can be appliqued, pieced, paper-pieced, or a combination of techniques.
- * Total perimeter should not exceed 80 inches.
- * There is no minimum perimeter.
- * Quilts can be square, rectangular, round, or even an irregular shape - quilter's choice., as long as the perimeter doesn't exceed 80 inches.
- * Quilts should have a sleeve or some type of hanger at the back.
- * Label your quilt, or pin your name on the back.
- * Hopefully, all quilts will sell. If not, quilts will be returned to the quilter.

We're looking forward to having a variety of quilts. This may be a chance to try something new or rethink some orphan blocks! Quilts can be given to either of us at our monthly Guild meetings from now up to our June meeting.

Below are some quilts that were auctioned at a quilt show in Sarasota, Florida.



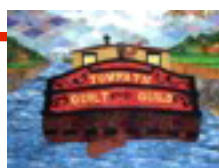
Jennifer DeVivo and Pat Mattessich



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Shirley Robinson

Shirley Robinson, a long-time Guild member, tells us that her free time finds her choosing from many activities, such as games with family, handwork—primarily appliqué—and watercolor painting. Her love of color comes through in both the quilting and painting, and, as a youngster, her favorite thing was a new box of Crayolas—the bigger the better!

Traveling with her friend, Barbara Christen, to Boston and the surrounding area is at the top of her favorite trips. They visited the New England Quilt Museum, Plymouth Plantation, and historic homes and landmarks. Added “adventure” to the trip was driving in Boston, where, Shirley says, street signs seemed to be optional!

Shirley’s blessings are listed as being an American citizen, her family, and her ‘can-do’ attitude. She attributes that attitude to examples shown by her parents. They built their home in West Virginia from a kit and did all the labor to finish the house. Shirley earned a penny for each nail she hammered until blisters prevented her from continuing.

Being an introvert is Shirley’s best-kept secret. Since she figured that introverts don’t generally get rewarded, she learned to behave as an extrovert in her journey through life.

No embarrassing moments come to mind as she imagines that she has repressed any and all!

Shirley’s high school years were divided between time in Baldwinsville and Scottsdale, Arizona. The transition from a rural/semi-suburban experience in New York to a much larger and more sophisticated environment proved most difficult and those memories are not happy ones. She can, however, happily recall the sock hops, dances, time served on the Student Council, and friends from her first two high school years.

A bucket list shows a stay of at least a week in a cottage on the coast of Maine, preferably with daughters and their families; a visit to the historical museum in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to see the Eby family bible which was printed in 1598 and brought from Germany by Shirley’s ancestor, Mennonite Bishop Durst Eby, in 1726; and a climb of an Adirondack peak with her grandson. This was once delayed due to her knee surgery. We expect that Shirley will accomplish all of these wishes and we will look forward to hearing about them in the future.





At the October meeting Sue Beevers talks about color and the ways to use patterns. Here she is pointing out hidden dragonflies, and showing how block arrangement and value variation can produce a large variety of quilt looks from one pattern.

JUST FOR EWE Wenda Coburn

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Find me on Facebook: Just For Ewe, Wenda Coburn



Catherine DiBernardo, Former Co-President

Cathy enjoys traveling, driving and reading in her free time. She enhances her love of reading by belonging to a book club. Cathy admits to driving somewhere nearly every day and no place is too far to go.

Cathy's recent 12-day trip to Italy was special but her best trip was to Ireland, traveling with the Irish rock band, The Elders. She spent a week and a half traveling around Ireland with them and watching the band perform. She still wants to go to Cuba, to Brazil to see her niece and to Machu Picchu and the Galapagos. Going to concerts is a great joy; she has been to about 200 and just went to see Earth Wind and Fire for the eighth time.

In high school Cathy loved math; however the CYO dances on Friday night and the school dances on Saturday were the most fun. While Cathy adores her son and grandsons, her greatest blessing is her husband, Mario, who shares her interests, is so kind, takes care of her, and is an excellent housekeeper.

Something that may surprise you about Cathy is that she was fluent in Portuguese and Spanish. With her first husband she lived in Portugal for two years and translated Spanish at school when translators weren't available. Over time these language skills have faded, yet Cathy finds them returning after a couple of days in Portugal or Spain.



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Deb Mahoney

Deb Maloney, who recently joined the Guild, states that her favorite activities are knitting and sewing. She jumped right into our activities by participating in the appliquéing of the current raffle quilt.

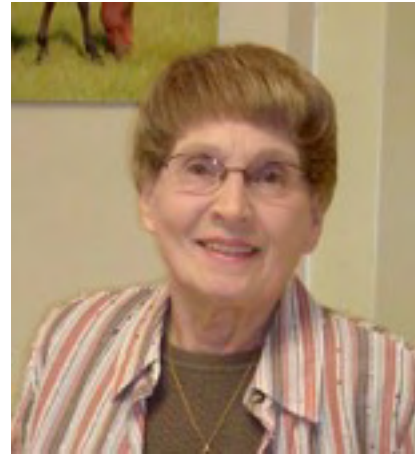
Memories of her favorite trip include days spent in Newport, Rhode Island, where she and her husband rented a sailboat and sailed around Narragansett Bay. Her comment—"It was perfect, as was the entire trip."

She counts three blessings in her life, and they are her two sons and her husband. Another blessing to be added would result from what her bucket list includes, and that is holding a grandchild of her own; but she says that one is beyond her control! Also on the list are a river cruise in Europe (in the planning stages) and a visit to the Shetland Islands.

One thing most do not know about Deb is that she was mugged when living in New York City. We are happy that she is well and living among us now!

In her words, "I have too many embarrassing moments to share."

Unfortunately, high school does not bring back happy memories, so Deb tries to not think about that. Instead, quilting, knitting, family and friends are her focus now.



Diane Yeager

Diana Yeager has been a member of Towpath Quilt Guild for several years and recently shared information about herself. Naturally, one of her favorite ways to spend free time is quilting! She is also an avid reader of mystery stories.

A safari trip in Kenya, Africa, stands out as her favorite trip. It proved to be quite exciting as the vehicle she was riding in was charged by a mother elephant when her baby ran at the car. Also, when the vehicle got stuck in the mud, Diana was elected to stand watch for lions while others pushed the vehicle back to dry ground.

As a widow, Diana states that her greatest blessing is her rescued toy poodle who keeps her company at all times.

A well-kept secret that she shared is, as a teenager, she skated with the Penguin Figure Skating Club in Pennsylvania.

The story of Diana's most embarrassing moment is best quoted. "My most embarrassing moment happened about 40 years ago when my oldest son was in high school and he played in the county band recital. Just as we arrived at the concert he handed me his tape recorder and told me to press this button to record the featured performer. I had never used his tape recorder. Sitting in the second row of a very quiet auditorium, when the man raised his clarinet to start playing, I pressed the button and out of the recorder came the sound of my son playing his clarinet. I immediately pressed the stop button and tried to disappear under the seat."

A fond memory of high school is having entered the Science Fair and winning the medal for biology.

Diana's bucket list includes finishing quilts—one that has been waiting about 20 years to be quilted and another made of her husband's T-shirts. We will be watching for the finished quilts at a future Show and Tell.



Jane and Bob Tracy

This beautiful logo for our Towpath Quilt Guild was designed and executed by Jane Tracy, a long-time Guild member. Jane’s many contributions include her sharing of her talent by teaching at our workshops, serving as president two times, chairing the quilt show, and enthraling us with a trunk show of her many beautiful quilts. She has produced well over 100 of these quilts which are shared with family and friends, with some still being stored in the closet! Members may recall one story Jane told when showing a particular quilt that had hands appliquéd in all four corners. Her mother always admonished Jane to hold her sister’s hand when they were out and about. Of course, this quilt was made in honor of that sister. Jane’s first needlework expertise was embroidery. Her first quilt included fabulous blocks of embroidery, but she was not familiar with batting and the beautiful quilt weighed about ten pounds. In addition to her fine applique, piecing, handquilting, Jane was a virtual encyclopedia of quilt patterns and history.

For many years Jane served as Town of Onondaga historian, but her priorities listed Towpath as her first love.

Jane’s husband, Bob, has been an honorary member of Towpath for the years that he has served as our web master where he posts our “comings and goings”.

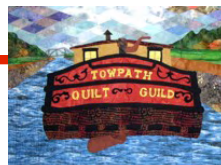
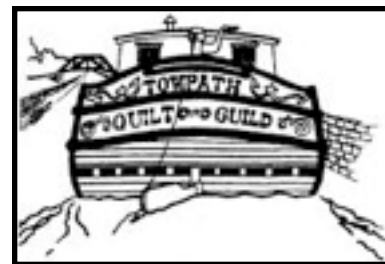
Our Guild sincerely appreciates the contributions of both Jane and Bob Tracy.



Jane Tracy



Sometime around 2005, Jane adapted the Towpath Quilt Guild logo into this quilt which is displayed at our quilt shows and other events.





CALL FOR ENTRIES

Still Crazy After All These Years

2018- 2019 QCNYS Quilt Challenge

[Click here for Entry Form](#)

The QCNYS Board is pleased to invite you to participate in a themed challenge.

In keeping with the goals of the Travel Club the quilts resulting from the challenge will be made available to member guilds for exhibition at quilt shows in 2019 and 2020 and be included in the Best of NY Quilt Show in September 2019.

Participation is limited to those who belong to QCNYS in any membership category including all members of Member Guilds, Individuals, Non-profit or Business.

Title: Still Crazy After All These Years

- The challenge is open to your interpretation of crazy quilting. Go crazy!
- Will it be traditional or modern?
- Will it be hand-embellished or machine-embellished?
- Embroidery or not?
- Never made a crazy quilt? Go crazy and enter the first-time crazies category!

Theme: Explore and celebrate the diversity crazy quilting

Categories: Traditional, Modern/Contemporary, Art, and First-time Crazies (beginner, never entered a quilt in a show or challenge)

Eligibility: Entrants from all QCNYS membership categories – Guild members, Non-Profit, Individual or Business member.

Requirements:

- Must be a minimum of three joined layers
- All entries shall be 24" x 24" square (will allow a 1/2" difference but prefer exact size).
- 4" minimum Sleeve must be securely applied to back of quilt; sleeve must allow for the use of hanging rod without distortion on the quilt and must not show beyond the edges of the quilt.
- Label with the following information must be securely applied to bottom: Title of piece, Name and Address of quilter, Title of exhibit, Date Completed
- Entry form must accompany completed quilt

Note: Quilts that do not meet labeling, sleeve and packaging requirements will not be accepted.

In the interest of assisting compliance with these needs, the December 2018 Quarterly Membership Meeting will include a short demo or example of each requirement.

Restrictions: No three-dimensional items accepted (shipping concerns)

One entry per participant.

Entries must be received by deadline date of March 20, 2019

Fees: No entry fees. Return shipping shall be the responsibility of the quilt artist.

Shipping: Entries may be shipped as directed or brought to the December 2018 or March 2019 Quarterly Membership Meeting. Return shipping shall be the responsibility of the Quilter; QCNYS will however return quilts at QCNYS meetings where that is convenient for the Quilter.

Insurance: Shipping insurance is the responsibility of the Quilter. QCNYS shall provide \$500 insurance coverage for each entry from the date of receipt to the return date. Specific quilts that are valued in excess of \$500 must be accompanied by a certified insurance appraisal and appropriate proof of insurance.

Judging: Shall be done by a panel of independent judges. Cash prizes will be determined by the judging. All entries shall be evaluated for technical and visual merit during the judging process.

Information Contacts: Ann Hawkins qcnys.org@gmail.com or Val Schultz vjs749@twc.com

Along the Towpath...

Towpath Quilt Guild meets at 9:30 AM on the second Tuesday of the month at United Methodist Church of Fayetteville, Genesee Street, Fayetteville, NY. In the event of bad weather, we follow the Fayetteville-Manlius school closings.

Annual dues are \$30.00 payable at the September meeting. Members save \$5.00 by registering by mail before September 1st. Guests are welcome to attend a maximum of two meetings at \$3.00 per meeting. After that time the fees may be applied to the annual dues.

The guild newsletter, *Along the Towpath*, is published four times a year and is included in the annual dues.

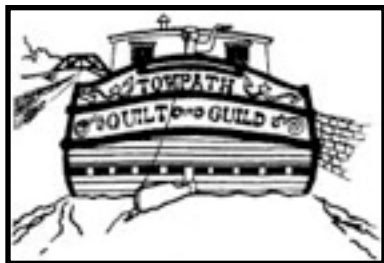
Non-members may subscribe to the newsletter for \$5.00 per year by contacting the editor. Cut off dates for receiving new material are, Jan. 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15.

Ads will be published at the following per issue rates:

Classified-3 line	\$5.00
Business card size	\$8.00
1/4 page	\$14.00
1/2 page	\$20.00
Full page	\$26.00

(Each member can place one free 3-line ad per year)

TOWPATH QUILT GUILD
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