



Along the Towpath

Letter from our Presidents

Spring has finally arrived and the "busy bees" on our quilt show committees are hard at work getting ready for our "Blooms Along the Towpath" show. We are very excited to see all the wonderful quilts our members will be presenting. All the talent, love and labor that goes into each of our projects is what makes our show so special.

As "Ann and Ann Co-Presidents", we have enjoyed working and learning alongside our fellow members. The time is approaching to turn the reins over to Barbara and Arlene who will be looking for your help to make the coming quilt year all they hope it can be. We encourage each and every one of you to consider chairing a committee or just joining one, becoming an officer or simply taking part in any way you feel comfortable. You will not only be helping the guild but it is a great way to make new "quilting" friends. Quilters never hesitate to help and encourage each other, share their own particular talents and push each other out of their comfort zones.

Since we joined Towpath we have both honed our quilting skills through guild classes and assistance from other members. The financial successes of our quilt shows have made all of our programs possible. Here's hoping this year's show is a huge success and we can continue to have terrific speakers and workshops to help us along our quilting path. A special thank you to everyone who is working so hard on this endeavor. We are the envy of many other guilds.

Thank you for allowing us to work alongside you this year as your Co-Presidents.

Ann and Ann



**Service Project Day
January 2019**



Blooms Along the Towpath July 12 -13, 2019

Canastota High School

Our 2019 quilt show is shaping up to be one of our best yet. Our new spacious site is allowing for a floor plan that will make it easy for visitors to move from place to place and enjoy the show. Invite all your friends and family to join us in July.

Things to do in these last two months before the show:

- **Finish all registered quilts**
- **Put together a small project or two for sale at the boutique**
- **Volunteer to do a demonstration**
- **Talk to your friends about putting together a raffle basket**
- **Be sure you are signed up to work at one or more of the show displays**
- **Check your small projects for a mini quilt for donation to the Silent Auction**
- **Deliver a stack of postcards to venues in your neighborhood**

* **Collect examples of the projects you do for community service to be displayed at the SCRAPS display**

Contact any of the show co-chairs if you have questions about how you might become involved.

Ann Rowland'
Alexa Carter
Gaynell Dorrance
Wynne Shaul

Quilt Show Set Up

Calling all members to join the fun helping to set up the quilt show on Thursday July 11th. Stay tuned for the starting time. Come for 2 hours or longer. This is when we see all our work and planning come together into our spectacular quilt show. We need members to help with:

Taking quilts into the gym to the assigned location.

Hanging quilts, over 100 to hang.

Putting labels next to the quilts on the poles.

You also get a preview of the show and remember if you volunteer, you have free admissions to the show.

Don't miss out on the fun.

Getting the Word Out!

With a new location and time, it is very important to let as many people know about our Quilt Show. I need help:

Identifying new locations near Canastota and Chittenango, as well as greater

Syracuse, such as, camp grounds, Sylvan Beach, stores, community bulletin

boards etc. Put your thinking caps on and email me at stankersatwcny.rr.com.

Having members distribute flyers and postcards in May, June and July.

Have fun distributing posters, go on a road trip with a friend and reward a job well done with lunch or stop at your favorite quilt shop.

It is up to all the members help make this the best attended show.

Suzy Tankersley



2019 Towpath Monthly Programs

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&vimeoalbumid=>

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

All workshops are \$30

Last month **Alice Gant** gave our guild a wonderful small sampling of her amazing banners. Later that week an online article appeared in the *Ithaca News* announcing the purchase of her banners of the Suffragettes for the Seneca Falls Women's Rights Park where they will hang on permanent display. Check out the website below which includes a visit to her studio and a video of Alice describing her process.

<https://www.ithacaweek-ic.com/stitching-out-stories-the-work-of-alice-gant/>

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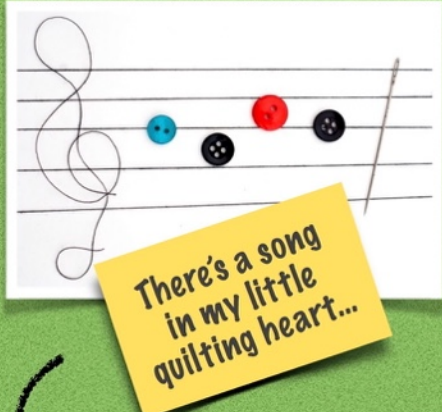


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Bonnie Crosby

Bonnie Crosby, who travels many miles to faithfully attend Guild meetings, lets our climate dictate how she spends her free time. In the summer she can be found doing the gardening. Winter time will find her either quilting or curled up with a good book.

A honeymoon trip that she considers very special was driving to New Brunswick. She and her new husband used a tent that her father had made which went on the top of their station wagon!

Meeting her husband in college and being married for 65 years are what Bonnie considers her greatest blessings.

She did not share any 'secrets' about her life, but she did state that painting rooms in her home brings much satisfaction as she enjoys seeing the colors change.

Bonnie's bucket list is right on target—to enjoy every day.

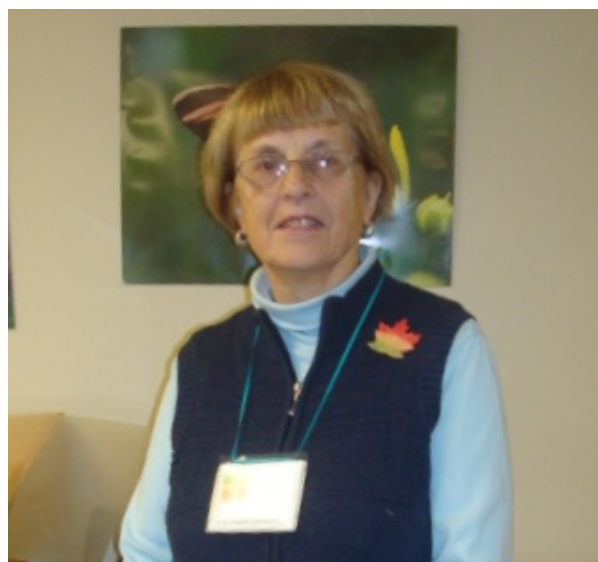
Pat Messina, a long-time Towpath member, enjoys reading, taking walks, quilting and working on hand-embroidery projects during her free time.

She tells us that her second trip to Ireland stands out as a favorite. Her younger daughter accompanied her, and they enjoyed a multitude of activities including watching an Irish Dance competition, walking along the River Liffey and crossing its many bridges, touring the Dublin Zoo and visiting the Waterford Crystal Company. (She didn't share whether or not she returned with some crystal purchases in her luggage!)

Being a good listener and willing to help others have always been among Pat's character attributes.

Things that we may not know about Pat are that she is claustrophobic and that she swam across Owasco Lake.

Her bucket list shows two top priorities—attending a Yankee baseball game and going on a Viking Cruise on the Rhine River. This last item will be checked off this June when Pat steps aboard the ship. We wish her a wonderful trip!



Pat Messina

August Workshops

Join us for August workshop on Tuesday August 13, 2019 at the Fayetteville United Methodist church. There are four offerings and Open sew. Workshops begin at 9:30 AM. Registrations are available from Robin Brennan.

Shadow Quilting with Jo Coon. Join Jo to learn a new way to add dimension to your appliqué. Using a translucent fabric over your design will create a shadow effect.

Quilt as you Go with Carol Holladay. A machine quilting method, putting smaller quilted units together into larger finished quilts. Learn several techniques with Carol.

Log Cabin Santa with Gaynell Dorrance. Join Gaynell in making these cute, quick Santa's with scraps and a few embellishments.

Rope bowls or hot pads with MJ Trencansky. This popular class returns this summer. Join MJ as she shows you how to turn scrap strips and clothesline into hot pads or bowls.

OPEN SEW Bring a project of your own and spend the day making some real progress.





Welcome In
Julia Graziano
2019

Sarah's Guest House

Sarah's Guest House, on Robert Avenue in Syracuse, NY, provides lodging, transportation, meals and comfort to patients and families of patients receiving medical care. The inspiration came from a young man, Billy, who was diagnosed with Acute Leukemia in his twenties. When he traveled out of state to receive complex care, his family was able to stay at hospitality houses serving patients and families. His wish was to establish a warm and caring place for families who traveled to Syracuse for medical treatment.

Over the last 25 years this hospitality house has grown because of the work of many volunteers. After a long and complex battle this young man died from complications of his illness. But his wish to give back to his community did not fade. His loving aunt and many volunteers established and staffed a residence for families in need. Sarah's Guest House has served hundreds of families and has become a thriving hospitality house. The staff is small but the committed and loving volunteers have worked to create a warm and inviting place.

In September I received a phone call from the fundraiser and event planer for Sarah's Guest House, Renee. She had been given my contact information by a mutual acquaintance who knew I made quilts. This was to be the 25th anniversary of the Guest House and they wanted to recognize the founder, Mary, the loving aunt, who loved quilts. There are many quilts throughout Sarah's Guest House adding a feeling of welcome and an atmosphere of home. They also wanted to have a quilt made as a fundraiser.

Renee had no idea who I was or if I could help in her endeavors to recognize the commitment of Aunt Mary, to mark the 25 years of service, and to raise funds to improve facilities at the Guest House. She reached out and asked if I knew how she could get this accomplished. Little did she know that in my previous life I was a Nurse Practitioner and had cared for Billy.

This is how my journey to create "Welcome In" began. It may actually have started 25 years ago but life sometimes comes full circle. The quilt will hang at Sarah's Guest House.

Julia Graziano



Debbie Bender, who has served in several capacities in the Towpath Guild, says that she enjoys spending her free time quilting (of course!), reading, biking or hiking the Old Erie Canal Towpath and in Green Lakes State Park.

When asked about a favorite trip, she was unable to decide between ones taken to Alaska and Hawaii. She and her husband spent two months driving their camping van to Alaska and around the state, traveling to the Arctic Circle on the longest day of the year. Their 50th wedding anniversary was celebrated in Hawaii with the Road Scholar program, spending three weeks exploring five islands. They have now visited all 50 states!

She considers her greatest asset having empathy, a sense of caring for others. Volunteer work has always been an important part of Debbie's life, and she has served 26 years for the Make A Wish Foundation. She states that she and Marilyn Sanson have impacted the lives of over 135 individuals and their families over these years.

Debbie shared an embarrassing moment that occurred early in her married life. The young, associate pastor of their church was invited to dinner. While taking the roast from the oven, it flipped onto the floor—in front of the pastor and Debbie's husband. She invoked the five-second rule and served the roast!

A trip on her bucket list was to happen in March of this year. That was a cruise on the ill-fated Viking Sky from which passengers had to be rescued. Debbie's husband had a heart attack prior to the time of the trip, so they had canceled their reservation. Maybe, instead of rebooking that trip, they will consider a trip closer to home or perhaps Iceland.



Debbie Bender



Towpath Show Hosting



Towpath Quilters- At the quilt show, if you sat down next to me in front of your quilt, what would you say? Why you made that particular quilt? Why you chose those colors? Was it hard? How long did it take? Did the dog throw up on it? Tell me the story. I really want to hear it, and so do our guests at the show. They love it when I say "would you like to hear a little something about that quilt?" No one has ever said no. and I've met so many people that way. Please email or mail me the stories of your quilts, or hopefully I'll be at the next meeting and you can simply hand them to me. Thank you!



Jan Sernett

Jan Sernett, a member who “jumped” right in and has volunteered for many positions in the Guild, states that her favorite ways to pass free time are reading, gardening, and sewing—both quilts and clothing. She has been known to “whip up” an outfit for a special occasion in no time at all!

Her favorite trip was the first trip to England taken by the family. The special occasion was her 25th wedding anniversary. As a result of that trip, both of her children then spent semesters in London. Jan’s second favorite trip was the drive she and her husband took to the West Coast and back. She marvels at the wonderful and amazing country in which we live.

Jan considers her family to be her greatest blessing, and she feels that her greatest asset is how her parents raised her by instilling their expectations, values and experiences. Most of us may know that she has a very identical twin sister. One fact that is not so well known is that Jan began her teaching career at age 19. In her college dorm were four ‘Jans’ so last names were used to differentiate these ladies. Since Jan’s last name was Rosenwinkel, it quickly became shortened to Periwinkel. Maybe this is why she enjoys gardening and the results of that work!

The embarrassing moment that Jan shared happened when she showed up at a meeting at Carol Long’s home—a week early! She says that Carol graciously gave her a cup of coffee before she left. Then she did attend the meeting the next week at the appointed time.

Latin and Physics were her least favorite subjects in high school. Math was a favorite, and she took calculus. Thereafter, in college Jan earned money by correcting math papers for a professor.

Another trip to England tops her bucket list. And that will happen in early summer. A second goal is to finish a quilt with embroidered tractors and barns that is to be for her husband. We will be looking forward to seeing this finished quilt at an upcoming Show and Tell.



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Julia Graziano
jrgraz@twcny.rr.com

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Wynne Shaul

Wynne Shaul spends her free time learning new things, enjoying time with her cats (some of us may have noticed Wynne's email address!), spending time in the woods and reading. She neglected to mention quilting, but recently we saw a beautiful piece she displayed for Show and Tell.

Her list of trips is noteworthy: Newfoundland, Caribbean (sailing and scuba diving), St. Johns, British Virgin Islands, Cozumel, Curacao. Perhaps she would like someone to carry her luggage?

Wynne considers her greatest blessing of having friends who listen and support her and provide new insights.

She is a PADI scuba instructor, has finished Reiki 1, and has been a Canastota volunteer fireman for 16 years. Thank you for your service, Wynne!

In high school, Wynne enjoyed playing bass in the band and performing with the All City orchestra at the Montreal Expo.

Her bucket list shows a visit to Germany during Christmas bazaar time, a trip to Alaska and one to Banff, Canada. Based on Wynne's travel record, we expect that all will be accomplished!



Sally Beckwith

Sally Beckwith loves using her free time to sew and create with fabric. She loved her family trip to Wales, Ireland, Scotland and England to help her sister meet family there and discover more about the genealogy of their mother's side of the family. Sally's greatest blessing is her children and friends.

The most embarrassing moment Sally relates happened when she was walking a group of students down the hall. She was walking backwards and managed to put one foot in a wastebasket! (She really found it difficult not to laugh.) Sally played the clarinet in high school and enjoyed playing in the marching band, especially the precision of the routines.

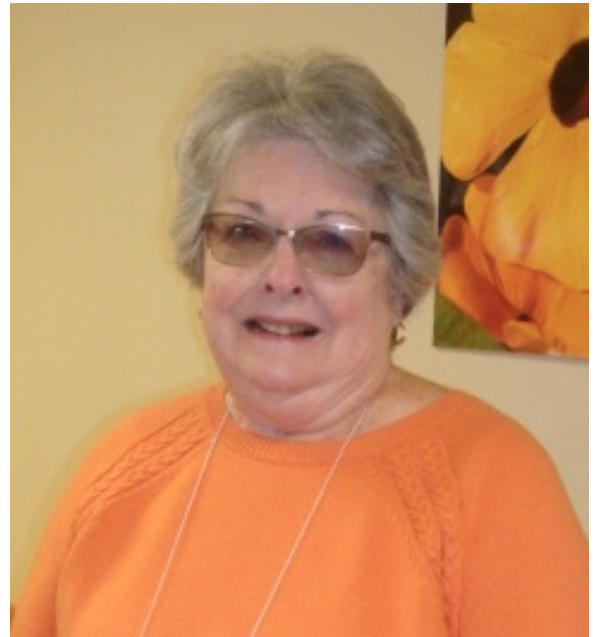


JOAN HARTMAN

Joan's favorite way to spend her free time is with family; her son, two daughters-in-law and three granddaughters are loved, adored and cherished. In Joan's words, "Having lost a son makes them all appreciated so much more."

Her bucket list includes trips to Italy and Jerusalem. Coming from Bergen County, NJ, she admits to having difficulty adjusting to living in Syracuse. However, Joan is now a cheerleader for the quality of life in our community.

Joan has been sewing since the age of 8 and loves the camaraderie with fellow quilters. One thing others may not know about her is that she loves doing laundry!



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Save Your Scraps

Keep the rescued pets comfortable - first of all I would like to thank all of you who have given me and Kathy Lee your leftover quilting scraps. They have been repurposed into pet beds for local pet rescue groups. The groups have been appreciative for the beds that provide some comfort to the cats and dogs. Batting, fabric, even t-shirt parts are useful. I use larger pieces for the outside and then stuff the smaller stuff inside. There is no need to chop the material into small pieces. All types of leftover fabrics can be used (think polyester, corduroy, linen, etc.).

Thanks.

Cindy Griffin



ARLENE KING

Arlene admits that she spends more time in her sewing room than anywhere else. She loves to embellish her creations and is willing to spend a lot of time looking for the one that is perfect. Such feelings may have begun in high school where she liked Home Economics best and received an award for Future Homemaker of America. She was also an active member of the swim team.

Arlene counts her two children and grandchildren as her greatest blessing; they share many special moments. She received a special bonus last Thanksgiving when her Great Granddaughter Nova was born. Arlene's favorite trip was a train trip to Alabama with her 75 year old Aunt Mary. They were to visit Arlene's parents and her Aunt Mary did not want to go by plane. Neither of them had ever been on a train; the adventure included her aunt losing her ticket along the way and a wheel breaking on Arlene's suitcase while waiting to make the train connection in Grand Central Station. Arlene is able to visit memories of this trip easily as she kept a journal. Her bucket list includes a trip to see the Japanese gardens, a drive along the west coast, and buying a convertible.

When Arlene lived in Denver, Colorado, she was a foster parent for 10 teenage girls who had been in the Department of Institutions, the Jefferson County lock-up. The first three she had taught her a lot – the girls ran away, stole, and skipped school. One, arrested for shoplifting, was brought home in handcuffs. Arlene



let the police take her away, teaching the others a lesson.

Arlene's most embarrassing moment happened when she chaired a convention with 1600 people in attendance. She was nervous and when it was time for her to speak, first a box had to be found on which she could stand. Then she realized she had forgotten her speech and had to go to her room to get it. Back at the podium, when she reached in her pocket for her glasses, she did not have them. She confessed all to the audience and does not remember what else she said.

Theresa McDonald

Theresa and her husband have Green Lakes "in their back yard" and love walking there, sitting near the water and enjoying the view. A visit with the grandkids brightens their day and they go to Nantucket for sun and sand. Theresa counts good health as her greatest blessing and hopes it continues until she is "very old." Theresa loves to read for pleasure, not for work.

Theresa related an embarrassing moment that happened when she worked in Labor and Delivery. She

was asked to find the father of the triplets that the doctor had just delivered. She found a father but not the father of the triplets. Needless to say, both those fathers needed time to recover. Her bucket list includes more traveling, more reading and more visiting with family and friends. Theresa says high school was soooooo long ago that she remembers enjoying most the friendships that developed and continue even now.



Elaine Lyon has been a member of Towpath for seven years and served as Recording Secretary for two years, which she feels helped her learn about the talented members of the group. She has sewn and done needlepoint for many years but quilting is a new venture for her. Elaine has both a BA and an MLS from Syracuse University and worked for the Liverpool Public Library for over 20 years. She retired in 2001 and spends her free time reading, playing bridge and Mah Jongg, doing genealogical research, golfing and listening to classical music.

While active in the American Library Association Elaine was able to travel to major cities in U.S. for meetings. She recently took a two-week river cruise to Eastern Europe. Elaine keeps busy and has chaired four high school reunions and served as a library trustee and literacy volunteer. This next year she will help chair Membership for us. Elaine counts her family as the best thing in her life right now but her 2 sons and families live in Wisconsin and Colorado. She thinks that people do not know how organized she is – she has maintained a list of books she has read since the ninth grade and even arranges the spices in her cupboard alphabetically!



Elaine Lyon



National Quilting Day

Five baby blankets were delivered to the Ronald MacDonald House on March 25th in celebration of National Quilting Day. They were thrilled to get the blankets. While I was there a toddler was running around and I wanted to take one of the blankets and wrap around him but thought I'd better not. The ladies working at the house were all smiles to receive the blankets.

Thank you to our wonderful Towpath Quilt Guild for the generosity to continually give to good causes.

Barbara Western



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The Retreat



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 \$25.00 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 Officers 2018-2019

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Co Vice Presidents Barbara Western - Arlene King
Recording Secretary - Jeannie Lloyd
Corresponding Secretary - Missy Albert
Treasurer - Bonnie Haaland

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TOWPATH QUILT GUILD

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