

## November 2023 Monthly Minder

Presidents' Greeting: Carol Holladay & Vicki Swanson

The approaching Thanksgiving holiday is especially meaningful this year as our televisions and radios remind us that there is little to be thankful for in some parts of the world at present. We are fortunate to live our lives in relative peace and prosperity. As members of the Towpath Quilt Guild, we are especially fortunate to have a fellowship with other kind-hearted and generous people who share a passion. Join us in giving thanks for our families, our friends, and our good fortunes in this season of Thanksgiving!

PLEASE NOTE there will be a lot of SIGN-UP information shared at Tuesday's meeting. We will be using the desk near the elevator for this purpose.

### TOWPATH QUILT GUILD AGENDA for November 14, 2023

Past President: Donita Whelan

Vice Presidents: Berta Keeler & Jeannine Lloyd

Treasurer: Jane Stopher

Recording Secretary: Christine Lotto

Corresponding Secretary: Marilouise Mattson

Membership & New Members: Carol Long & Janet Sernett

Program Committee: Lee Anne Wilking

January Service Project: Berta Keeler

Optional Activities:

- Fat Quarter Exchange: Fran O'Donnell
- Wednesday Stitchers: Barb Christen
- Other

Quilters' Consortium of NYS: Michele Ricci

Newsletter: Noel Keith

Librarian: Karen Arnold

Email Liaison: Barbara Western

Webmaster: Berta Keeler

NEW BUSINESS

- Quilt Show Raffle Quilt

PROGRAM

- Beading with Marilyn Urciuoli of Divine Threads

### FAT QUARTER EXCHANGE

Just a reminder that November colors for our fat quarter exchange is **green**. And for those that want to plan ahead, December will be blues.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

October 2023

Balance 10/1/23	18,530.82
Deposits	+480.00
	19,010.82
Expenses	-1,017.87
Balance 10/31/23	17,992.95

## PROGRAMS

**November program** - Marilyn Urcioli, guild member and owner of Divine Threads, will talk about being a business owner and more. Join us as Marilyn talks about her journey with quilt fabric, patterns and beading supplies, quilt shows and Etsy shops. Marilyn will have a mini-shop setup for shopping.

Marilyn will teach a beading class the following day Wednesday for members who have previously signed up and paid for the class. The class list is on the Members Only section of the guild website under Workshops/class Lists.

The November meeting is your last chance to purchase a kit for the March 2024 zoom class on making mailable postcards. \$5 cash or check made out to Towpath Quilt Guild.

### ***It is never too early to think spring!***

Our April speaker is Karen Miller from Redbird quilting. She is going to be giving a lecture on thread and a trunk show (different than the last time). We will also be having 1/2 day class in the afternoon. The club is paying for Karen for the class but there is a kit that needs to be purchased for \$48. Kathy Tedford ([ktedford@twcny.rr.com](mailto:ktedford@twcny.rr.com)) is coordinating the event and starting sign ups at the November meeting - please sign up early! We are limited to 20 people in the class. Please make checks payable to Towpath Quilt Guild.

## SERVICE PROJECT

20 quilts have been donated, so far, to Quilts of Comfort for Hospice and Palliative Care. We don't have a minimum or maximum size but try to keep them within 40-60" inch width and a 48-72" length since they are for kids from toddler to 18.

We will have more kits available on Tuesday at the meeting and batting for those who have requested. We will also have kits and batting available at the December meeting. Email Berta Keeler, [bertk1@aol.com](mailto:bertk1@aol.com), with the batting size needed.

A sign-up sheet will be available on Tuesday for the January Service Project Day, January 9, 2024 from 9:30-3:30. People to sew (bring your machine) and people to cut/iron will be needed. Kits will be available, or bring your own project. We will provide cutting boards, rotary cutters, ironing boards, irons and **door prizes**. You bring lunch, snacks to share, basic sewing items/machine if you're a sewer. We look forward to having another fun, successful project day!

## ITEMS FOR SALE

if you would like to sell a sewing related item through the Monthly Minder. send your "ad" only, no pictures, to Berta Keeler. Your listing should include the name of the item and a brief description and/or mention of its condition. Please end your listing with your contact information. The fee structure has not changed: the first time you list an item, there is no charge. Subsequent listings for that or other items will cost \$5 each per month, payable to our treasurer.

## CONSORTIUM NEWS:

Any member of our Guild is a member of the NY State Consortium. Their website is: [www.qcnys.org](http://www.qcnys.org) and their FACEBOOK pages are: Quilters Consortium of New York State and QCNYS Friends & News Group. Please check their website for all of this information.

For anyone who has a completed Quilt Show Passport booklet, I will be collecting the back page of your book & will be mailing them in next Tuesday after the meeting. If you have even one stamp, you are eligible for the drawing for a prize. If your book is at home, please mail the completed back page to the address indicated before December 1st. They have to be received by the December Consortium meeting on December 5th. All Quilt Shows are over this year.

There is a Quilt Challenge this year (monetary prizes). Entry deadline with photo of quilt is 12/15/23. Voting will be online. Applications for Educational Scholarships of \$100 each to take quilting classes will be chosen by lottery (deadline is 12/1/23). QCNYS 2024 MYSTERY QUILT. Sign up info. is on their website. Fee is \$10 & will include a ZOOM meeting every month for tips & discussions. Clues will be received by e-mail address. It looks like a lot of fun.

## FEBRUARY WORKSHOPS

There's a great line up for our February Workshops. Have a look and decide what you would like to do. Signups soon.

Offerings for February Workshops  
February 13, 2024 from 10 AM to 3 PM

MACHINE APPLIQUE with Carol Holladay: Spend time perfecting the skills of fusible applique (a la McKenna Ryan), buttonhole stitch, and turned edge with invisible stitching.

ENGLISH PAPER PIECING with Arlene King: Learn this traditional hand held method, perfect for a portable project.

QUILT AS YOU GO with Wynne Shaul: This time saving technique allows you to secure front, back and batting with one line of stitching.

TURNED EDGE PIECING with Vicki Swanson: This class will result in a 10" X 10" wall quilt using curved piecing without using applique.

QUILTSMART MONDO BAGS with Barb Smith: You've seen these fun bags with their 2 1/2 squares before, All three sizes will be available, Bitty Bag, Midi Bag and Mondo Bag.

OPEN SEW: Bring your current big project to spread out on big tables and sew with friends.

## NEW MEMBER PROFILE



Lee Ann Wilking joined Towpath earlier this year and immediately decided to “jump in” by taking on the job of Program Chair! She is enjoying this and gives much credit to other committee members. She was friends with a former charter member but was unable to attend guilds during that time. Now she is looking to improve her quilting skills, take in new ideas and enjoy making new friends. She keeps busy supplying her family of three children and five grandchildren with quilts. Her favorite aspects of quilting presently are choosing fabric, learning new patterns, piecing, doing applique, and free-motion quilting.



We welcome new member, Deb Greenspan, who returned to the Syracuse area two years ago. She is a seasoned world traveler and now has her own RV which takes her to more new and exciting places. These travels included stops at lots of fabric shops and textile museums. A local quilt shop gave her the name of Towpath, and when she attended our recent quilt show, she was impressed with the welcome she received and the friendliness of all. So, she decided to become a member. She brings with her a background in quilting and experience in other quilt guilds. She says that she is still learning but enjoys Bargello style and the more modern aspects of quilting.



Karen Grimm has been quilting for 45 years and loves free motion quilting and the artistry of painting with thread. She now uses a 16” Viking sit-down mid-arm quilting machine. She has finished more than 12 quilts with a great deal of free motion quilting. She would like to meet other free motion quilters. Karen has been a woodworker for 35 years and is a Habitat for Humanity volunteer. She worked with refugees for 15 years with Interfaith Works and many of these families call her “Grandma”. Her stories about these experiences are heartwarming.



Some of you may already be working with Kate Toole, as she is leading the group that will make the quilt for our next quilt show. She has designed Block of the Month quilts and for 4 years taught classes at a small quilt shop in Rensselaer Falls. She loves color, enjoys piecing quilts and has a BFA in Art. Kate taught pottery at Binghamton University for 13 years but arthritis has caused this to end. Kate is eager to learn more about quilting from our Towpath members.